

# TARIFF-INDUCED CONSTRUCTION COST ESCALATION ANALYSIS

## MUNICIPALITY MODELLING TOOL

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AMO

**Model guide and overview**

May 2025


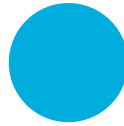


# Municipality Modelling Tool

## Primary objective

A user-friendly Excel model that will help individual municipalities make an initial estimate of the expected impact of tariffs on their construction budget for FY26 and FY27.

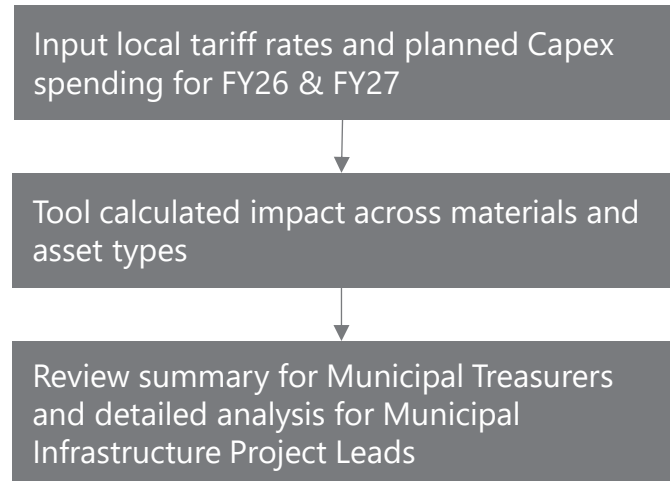
## Key User Personas:

-  **Municipal Infrastructure Project Leads** who will use the tool's analysis to inform project decisions. They will support their teams to input data, analyse detailed results and interact with tariff inputs and Capex data entry.
-  **Municipal Treasurers** who need clear summaries for budget planning and focus on the aggregate impacts and key takeaways.

## Key Benefits:

- **Customisable:** Each municipality inputs their own data for personalized estimates.
- **User-friendly:** Provides both high-level summaries and detailed breakdowns.
- **Time-saving:** Quickly generates initial tariff impact assessments.
- **Comparative:** Shows which factors have the highest contribution to cost increases.

## How It Works



# What's in – what's out?

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## Use cases included

### **Early Impact Overview**

Quickly assess potential tariff effects on construction costs with approximate percentage increases to support early budget framing.

### **Preliminary Budget Discussion**

Use initial estimates to guide budget conversation, flag at-risk projects and begin stakeholder engagement with ballpark figures.

### **Preliminary Tariff Screening**

Enter basic tariff rates and estimated Capex to generate early-stage impact assessments and support planning decisions.

### **Initial Comparative Analysis**

Identify which construction materials and asset types are more exposed to tariffs to prioritise detailed review.

### **Scenario Testing**

Explore alternative tariff scenarios to estimate cost ranges, document assumptions, and identify projects that may require further analysis.

## Use cases excluded

### **Estimate the impact on maintenance and operating budgets**

Does not estimate effects on maintenance or operating budget – the tool is limited to the impact on capital expenditure budgets only.

### **Supply substitution**

Does not evaluate potential supply substitution from domestic or alternative import sources due to the complexity and project-specific inputs required.

### **Impact of indirect effects**

Does not consider other indirect impacts (i.e. exchange rate shifts) – instead the model focuses on the direct effect of the import tariffs




# Model overview

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Association of  
Municipalities  
of Ontario



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ECONOMICS

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## Municipality Modelling Tool

### Estimating Tariff Impact on Municipal Construction

*A user-friendly tool to help individual municipalities make an initial estimate of the expected impact of tariffs on their construction budget for FY26 and FY27.*

Please navigate this workbook using the links below

Section	Tab	Description
<a href="#">Inputs &gt;&gt;&gt;</a>	<a href="#">Core Inputs Interface</a>	Input planned Capex spending by asset category and local tariff rates
	<a href="#">Optional Project-Level Input</a>	Additionally, if you'd like to customize your input with project-level details, fill out the table below — this is entirely optional.
	<a href="#">Glossary</a>	A consolidated list of descriptions for terms and categories used throughout the tool
<a href="#">Outputs &gt;&gt;&gt;</a>	<a href="#">Summary</a>	Estimated tariff impact by asset and material type
	<a href="#">Detailed Breakdown</a>	Detailed breakdown of estimated tariff impact by asset and material type
	<a href="#">Downloadable Outputs</a>	A machine readable output table that can be imported into other visualisations or software packages
<a href="#">Model &gt;&gt;&gt;</a>	<a href="#">Model Calculations</a>	This sheet features all calculations used to estimate all outputs
<a href="#">Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) contact details</a>		<a href="#">Oxford Economics contact details</a>
Karen Nesbitt		Daniel Crook
Senior Manager, Policy		Lead Economist, Due Diligence & Freight
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End of Home Page

## Purpose

*Provides the user key information and a centralised place to help navigate the tool*

## Key Features

- Model name and purpose
- Model navigation links & descriptions
- Contact details for key parties involved (AMO & Oxford Economics)



# Core Inputs Interface

Core Inputs Interface

Input planned Capex spending by asset category and local tariff rates

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Municipality:

Combined Ontario Municipalities

Analyst Name:

Daniel Crook

Last updated:

23/04/2025

Step 1: Please confirm that the local tariff rates for the following materials in the **green input cells** below still apply:

Material	FY26	FY27
Reinforcing bar	25%	25%
Structural steel	25%	25%
Quarry Material	25%	25%
Concrete	25%	25%
Masonry	25%	25%
Wood	25%	25%
Electrical wire	25%	25%
Glass	25%	25%
Roofing	25%	25%
Interior	25%	25%
Bitumen	25%	25%
Polyethylene pipes	25%	25%
Plant and equipment	25%	25%
Electrical equipment	25%	25%
Road equipment	25%	25%
Water equipment	25%	25%
Vehicles	25%	25%
Machinery & Equipment	25%	25%
Office Equipment & IT	25%	25%
Diesel	10%	10%

[Link to useful Canadian Government website with the latest tariff developments](#)

Step 2: Please enter your Municipality's expected capital expenditure (\$mn) by the following asset types for FY26 and FY27 in the **green input cells** below:

Additionally, if you'd like to customize project-level details, explore the [Optional Project-Level Input](#).

Asset Type	FY26	FY27
Roads		
Bridges & Culverts		
Other Transport		
Water assets		
Storm/Sanitary Sewers		
Non-Residential Building		
Residential Building - low density		
Residential Building - medium density		
Residential Building - high density		
Vehicles		
Machinery & Equipment		
Office Equipment & IT		
Total Municipal Capital Expenditure	24,841	26,075

Daniel Crook

Gravel roads; HCB Roads (concrete/asphalt) - Alternatively Arterial and Collector roads; LCB Roads (surface treated or chip seal) - Alternatively most Local roads; Sidewalks & Curbs; Appurtenances (Road Signs, Streetlights, Traffic Signals)

03 April 2025, 5:33 PM

@mention or reply

End of Core Inputs Interface

## Purpose

An intuitive user interface for **Municipal Infrastructure Project Leads** to input expected capital expenditure & local tariff rates

## Key Features

- Easy to understand 2-step process with clearly labelled **Input** cells to guide the user to allow the user to change:
  - Local tariff rate by material type
  - Expected capital expenditure by asset type
- General admin notes in case the analyst completes the assessment and then shares the workbook with Municipal Treasure or other stakeholders
- Added comments to each of the asset types to help with understanding

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- Intuitive input table that then links into the model
- Allows user to adjust material intensities
- Allows users to input "other" construction inputs
- Comments in each of the column headings to user navigate the inputs

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# Glossary

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Glossary

A consolidated list of descriptions for terms and categories used throughout the tool

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Term/Category	Description
Asset	Asset category (i.e. roads, non-residential building, vehicles)
Material/Input	Construction input
Year	Fiscal year; 1 April to 31 March
Asset Capex (\$mn)	Total capex for the Asset Category (i.e. Roads)
Share	The material's share of Capex for the Asset
US Import Exposure	Share of supply imported from the US
% Retail	Difference between wholesale price and retail price
Tariff	Local import tariff rate for the specified material
Impact (\$mn)	Direct increase in cost as a result of the tariff
Baseline Capex (\$mn)	Expected annual capital expenditure for each input before tariffs were applied
% increase	Relatively increase in capex for the material as a direct impact of the tariffs
Roads	Gravel roads; HCB Roads (concrete/asphalt) - Alternatively Arterial and Collector roads; LCB Roads (surface treated or chip seal) - Alternatively most Local roads; Sidewalks & Curbs; Appurtenances (Road Signs, Streetlights, Traffic Signals)
Bridges & Culverts	Bridge (over 3m span, falls under Ontario Structure Inspection Manual), Culvert (under 3m span)
Water assets	Mains, Valves & meters, Pump/lift stations, Treatment plant, Hydrant
Storm/Sanitary Sewers	Mains, Catch basins, Manholes, Ponds (wet or dry), Treatment plant
Non-Residential Building	Municipal buildings (includes administrative offices, town hall, park facilities, arenas, firehalls, libraries, museums etc.)
Residential Building - low density	Social Housing - low density
Residential Building - medium density	Social Housing - medium density
Residential Building - high density	Social Housing - high density
Vehicles	Light & Medium vehicles (Pickup truck, SUV, Van), Heavy vehicles (Dump Truck, Street Sweeper, Vacuum Truck – over 4500kg and require safety inspections), Fire Truck, Buses
Machinery & Equipment	Light equipment (small motorized equipment like lawnmowers, small utility vehicles, etc.), Medium equipment (mid-sized motorized equipment like riding lawnmowers, ice resurfacing, sidewalk plows, etc.), Heavy equipment (large motorized equipment like backhoe, bulldozer, excavator, grader, loader, tractor, etc.), Trailers
Office Equipment & IT	Computers, desks, chairs

## Purpose

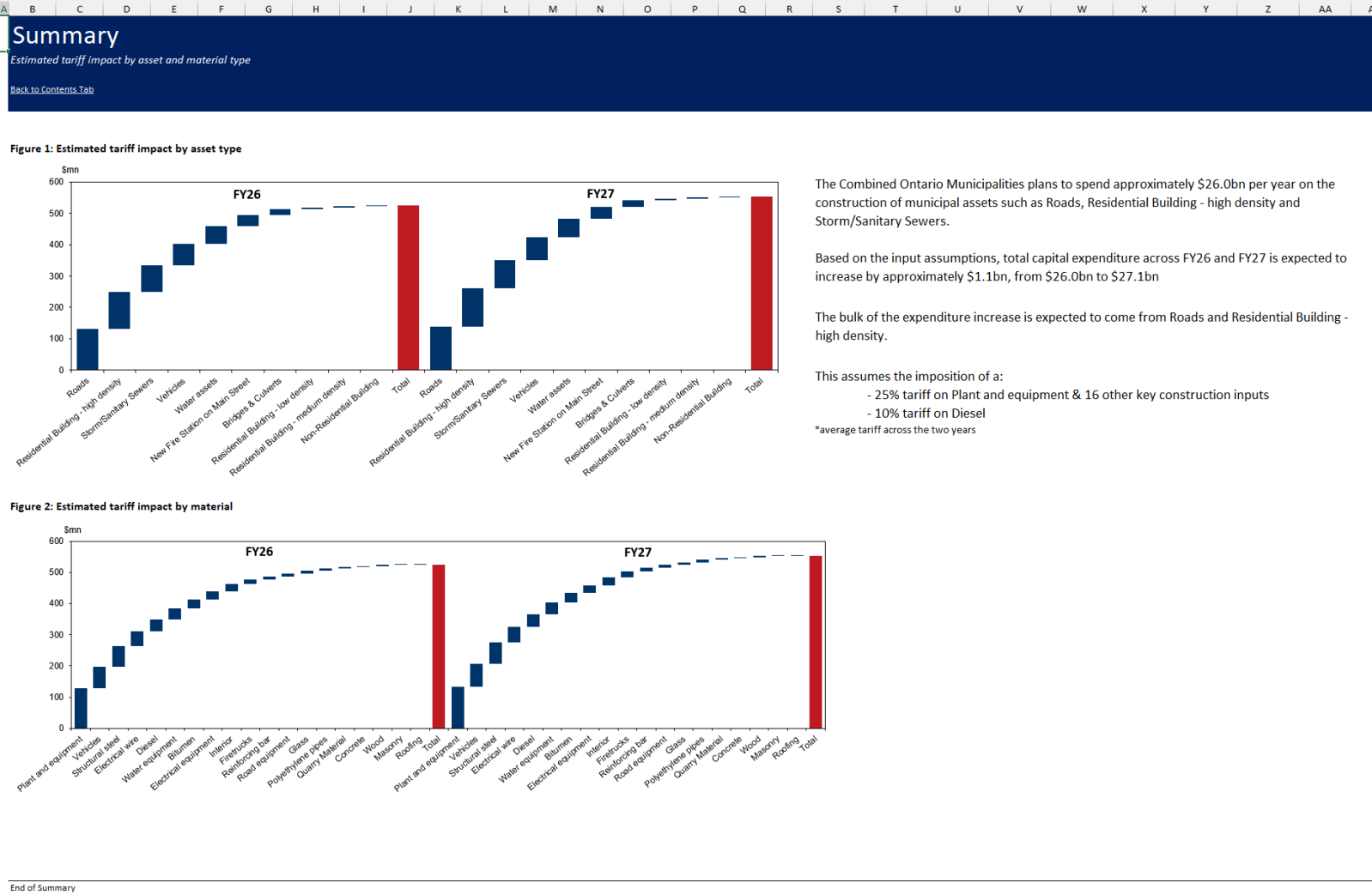
A consolidated list of descriptions for all terms and categories used throughout the tool

## Key Features

- Compiles the list of descriptions featured throughout the model



# Outputs - Summary



## Purpose

High-level summary of key results, highlighting what is most important for **Municipal Treasurers**

## Key Features

- Easy to find headline numbers
- Simple visualisation breaking down the impact by year, asset and material type
- Automated text designed to highlight key findings
- Short summary of tariff assumptions

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*Provide a detailed breakdown of the material cost increase for each asset type for **Municipal Infrastructure Project Leads***

- Detailed table with key assumptions & impact by year
- Visualisation breaking down the impact by year and material type
- Automated text designed to highlight key findings
- Drop-down toggle to change between asset types with table, chart and text updating automatically
- Comments in each of the column headings to user navigate the outputs

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# Outputs – Downloadable Outputs

Downloadable Outputs											
A machine readable output table that can be imported into other visualisations or software packages											
<a href="#">Back to Contents Tab</a>											
Asset	Input	Year	Asset Capex (\$bn)	Shar	Exposur	% Retal	Tariff	Impact (\$bn)	Baseline Capex (\$bn)	% increas	
Residential Building - high density	Labour	FY26	5500.00	40%	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	2172.50	0.0%	
Residential Building - high density	Engineering design	FY26	5500.00	2%	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	110.00	0.0%	
Residential Building - high density	Reinforcing bar	FY26	5500.00	8%	8%	60%	25%	5.55	440.00	1.3%	
Residential Building - high density	Structural steel	FY26	5500.00	4%	53%	60%	25%	17.33	220.00	7.9%	
Residential Building - high density	Concrete	FY26	5500.00	10%	1%	60%	25%	0.95	550.00	0.2%	
Residential Building - high density	Masonry	FY26	5500.00	1%	10%	60%	25%	0.81	55.00	1.5%	
Residential Building - high density	Wood	FY26	5500.00	1%	14%	60%	25%	1.14	55.00	2.1%	
Residential Building - high density	Electrical wire	FY26	5500.00	2%	81%	60%	25%	13.31	110.00	12.1%	
Residential Building - high density	Glass	FY26	5500.00	4%	24%	60%	25%	7.99	220.00	3.6%	
Residential Building - high density	Roofing	FY26	5500.00	9%	0%	60%	25%	0.02	467.50	0.0%	
Residential Building - high density	Interior	FY26	5500.00	5%	54%	60%	25%	22.30	275.00	8.1%	
Residential Building - high density	Polyethylene pipes	FY26	5500.00	1%	13%	60%	25%	0.53	27.50	1.9%	
Residential Building - high density	Plant and equipment	FY26	5500.00	7%	32%	80%	25%	22.56	357.50	6.3%	
Residential Building - high density	Electrical equipment	FY26	5500.00	3%	49%	80%	25%	16.02	165.00	9.7%	
Residential Building - high density	Diesel	FY26	5500.00	5%	45%	60%	10%	7.48	275.00	2.7%	
Residential Building - high density	Labour	FY27	5780.00	40%	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	2283.10	0.0%	
Residential Building - high density	Engineering design	FY27	5780.00	2%	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	115.60	0.0%	
Residential Building - high density	Reinforcing bar	FY27	5780.00	8%	8%	60%	25%	5.83	462.40	1.3%	
Residential Building - high density	Structural steel	FY27	5780.00	4%	53%	60%	25%	18.21	231.20	7.9%	
Residential Building - high density	Concrete	FY27	5780.00	10%	1%	60%	25%	0.99	578.00	0.2%	
Residential Building - high density	Masonry	FY27	5780.00	1%	10%	60%	25%	0.85	57.80	1.5%	
Residential Building - high density	Wood	FY27	5780.00	1%	14%	60%	25%	1.20	57.80	2.1%	
Residential Building - high density	Electrical wire	FY27	5780.00	2%	81%	60%	25%	13.99	115.60	12.1%	
Residential Building - high density	Glass	FY27	5780.00	4%	24%	60%	25%	8.40	231.20	3.6%	
Residential Building - high density	Roofing	FY27	5780.00	9%	0%	60%	25%	0.02	491.30	0.0%	
Residential Building - high density	Interior	FY27	5780.00	5%	54%	60%	25%	23.43	289.00	8.1%	
Residential Building - high density	Polyethylene pipes	FY27	5780.00	1%	13%	60%	25%	0.56	28.90	1.9%	
Residential Building - high density	Plant and equipment	FY27	5780.00	7%	32%	80%	25%	23.70	375.70	6.3%	
Residential Building - high density	Electrical equipment	FY27	5780.00	3%	49%	80%	25%	16.84	173.40	9.7%	
Residential Building - high density	Diesel	FY27	5780.00	5%	45%	60%	10%	7.86	289.00	2.7%	
Residential Building - medium density	Labour	FY26	186.00	42%	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	77.19	0.0%	
Residential Building - medium density	Reinforcing bar	FY26	186.00	3%	8%	60%	25%	0.07	5.58	1.3%	
Residential Building - medium density	Structural steel	FY26	186.00	2%	53%	60%	25%	0.29	3.72	7.9%	
Residential Building - medium density	Concrete	FY26	186.00	4%	1%	60%	25%	0.01	7.44	0.2%	
Residential Building - medium density	Masonry	FY26	186.00	2%	10%	60%	25%	0.05	3.72	1.5%	

## Purpose

Provide users with the raw outputs that can be imported into other visualisation software

## Key Features

- Output table that allows users to download the outputs themselves, and then import into their preferred visualisation or software package
- Comments in each of the column headings to user navigate the outputs

# Model Calculations

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1		Model Calculations																						
2		This sheet features all calculations used to estimate all outputs																						
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## Purpose

*If the user wishes to dive deeper into the background calculations they are all accessible*

## Key Features

- Stores all the background calculations on a single worksheet – organised by function and purpose
- This allows interested users to understand the calculations that take place between the inputs and outputs
- This allows them to also adjust core input assumptions should they wish (i.e. material intensity or US import share).

# Contacts

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