## Financial Risk Assessment

Citizens Oversight Panel 10/31/2019



### Purpose of today's discussion:

# To review the updated financial risk profile and its implications for financial capacity.

- The financial risks have evolved since the adoption of the ST3 plan.
- Risk assessment is one of the tools we use to monitor risks, and better understand changes and their implications.

# Risk assessment helps to define risks and better understand changes

- 1. Highlight key risk areas and potential outcomes
- 2. Identify opportunities to improve assumptions and mitigate risks
- 3. Illustrate how risk profile changes over time



### Risk Assessment - How it Works

- Use historical trends, correlations and other factors to forecast outcomes
- Determine major variables that impact the financial plan. Some of the risk variables include:





# Risk Assessment Comparison: 2016 vs 2019

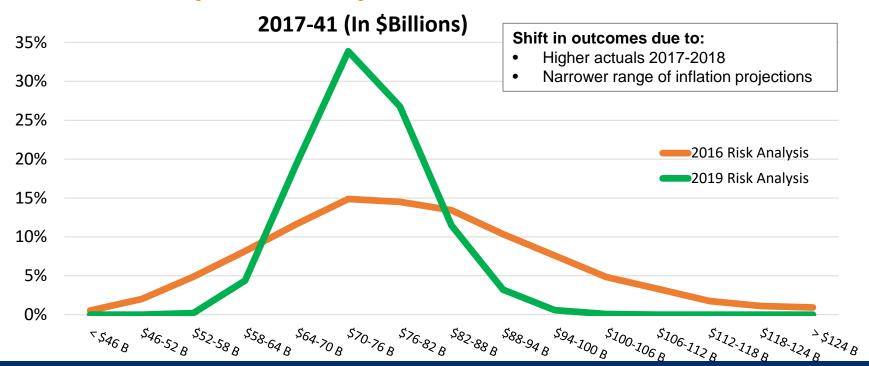
- In 2016, ST engaged WSP to conduct a risk assessment.
  - Results were presented to the Board and ST3 Expert Review Panel
- In 2019, risk assessment updated with latest information.
  - Incorporating 2016-2019 actuals
  - Reflecting current market trends



### Comparison of Risk Assessment Outcomes

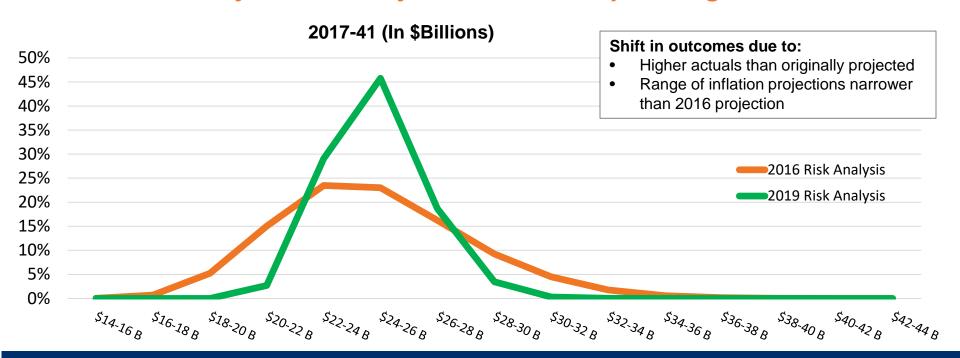
#### - Tax Revenues:

#### More certainty about likely outcomes of tax revenues



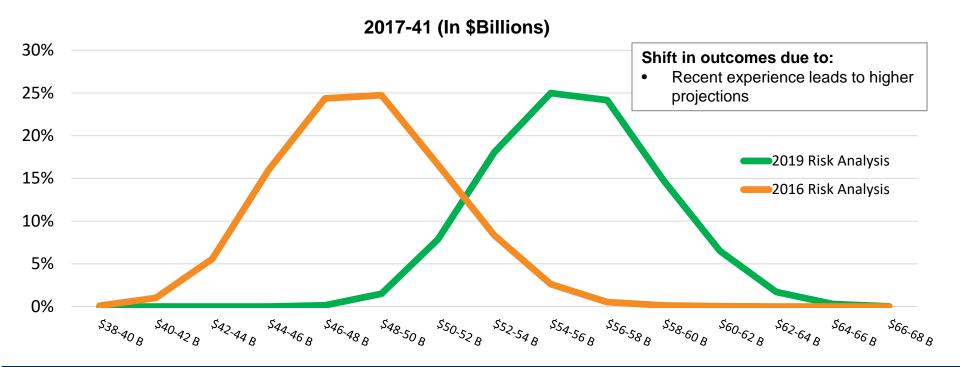
# Comparison of Risk Assessment Outcomes – Operating Expenses:

More certainty about likely outcomes of operating costs



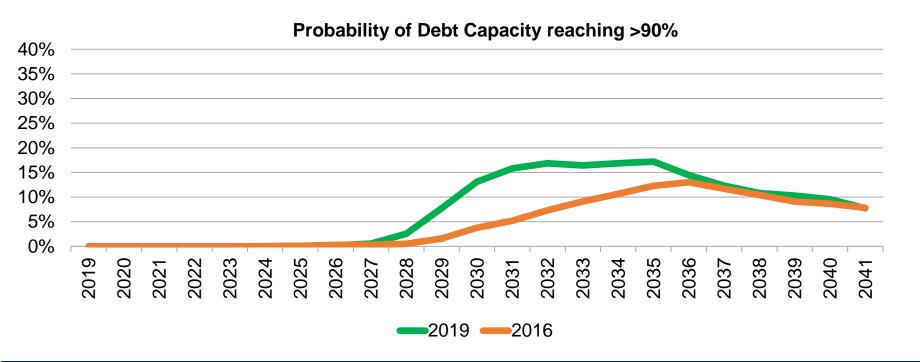
### Comparison of Risk Assessment Outcomes

- Capital Costs: Higher probability of higher capital costs



### Capacity Measure: Legal Limit (1.5% of AV)

Probability of debt reaching above 90% of legal limit has increased



## **Takeaways**

### Evolving Financial Risk Profile

- Expenditures are the largest drivers of future capacity uncertainties
- Increased risk of reaching financial capacity limits.
  - Legal Debt Capacity is no longer the only likely capacity constraint
  - Higher costs and more projected borrowing create pressure on coverage ratios.
- Likely higher interest cost, due to higher probability of lower financial capacity and debt coverage ratios.

## Financial Risk Management Considerations

- Scope discipline remains an imperative
- Contain operating cost growth to ensure program affordability
- Continuously evaluate assumptions and manage risk
- Closely monitor all three capacity measures and triggers for potential program adjustments



## Thank you.



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