

# Climate Change and Smart Development in Calgary

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# **How do smart development choices or poor development choices impact our climate readiness?**

- Sprawl is known to be a poor choice for climate readiness and resiliency.
- Communities on extended, stretched infrastructure networks can not as effectively prepare for the impacts of climate change
- Sprawl increases dependency on fossil fuels and increases GHG emissions, inhibiting our ability to take decisive climate action as a city.
- Building to increase emissions weakens the impact of our Climate Emergency Declaration and goes against the Climate Strategy.

# **Flooding will be more frequent as the climate crisis worsens**

- Sprawling development exacerbates this by increasing the area of impervious ground covers such as paved roads and parking lots
- Loss of wetlands and other natural water containment bodies also increases the effects of flooding
- Sprawl reduces public service capacity and increases vulnerability to these affects

# Water Shortages

- Water shortage and drought are expected as the climate crisis worsens
- As sprawl lessens public service capacities, a clean water supply becomes less reliable
- Storms and increased demand brought on by the evolving climate crisis can expose these vulnerabilities and jeopardise the city's ability to provide clean water to Calgarians

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# **Building out limits our ability to achieve net-zero emissions**

- Large new communities with little or no access to public transit means more cars, more roads, and more emissions
- This budget does not have room for enormous transit upgrades to provide service to new communities
- Suburbs drain tax resources and leave established areas fighting for even basic maintenance, let alone climate preparation measures

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# **In a climate emergency, we must turn away from the status quo and take bold action**

We must use resources wisely to limit suffering and exposure to the impacts of climate change.

Build up, not out.

- Remove 80% of the tax, reserves, debt support, and other revenue proposed for new subdivisions
- Reallocate the money to the Established Area Investment Fund
- Focus on infrastructure, truly affordable housing, and mitigation

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