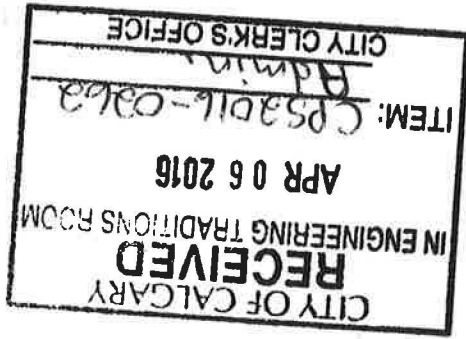


Calgary



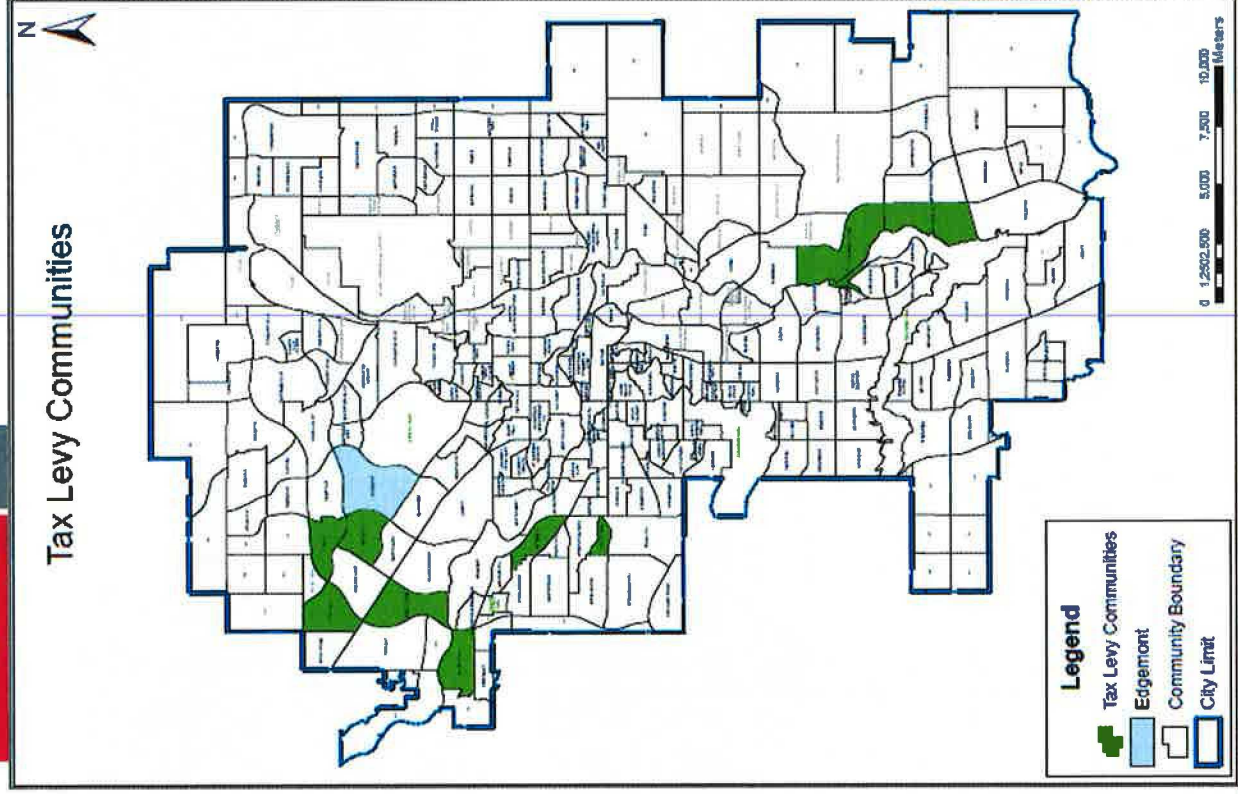
Proposed 2016 Special Tax Bylaw – Edgemont

CPS2016-0262

SPC on Community &
Protective Services
2016 April 6



Background



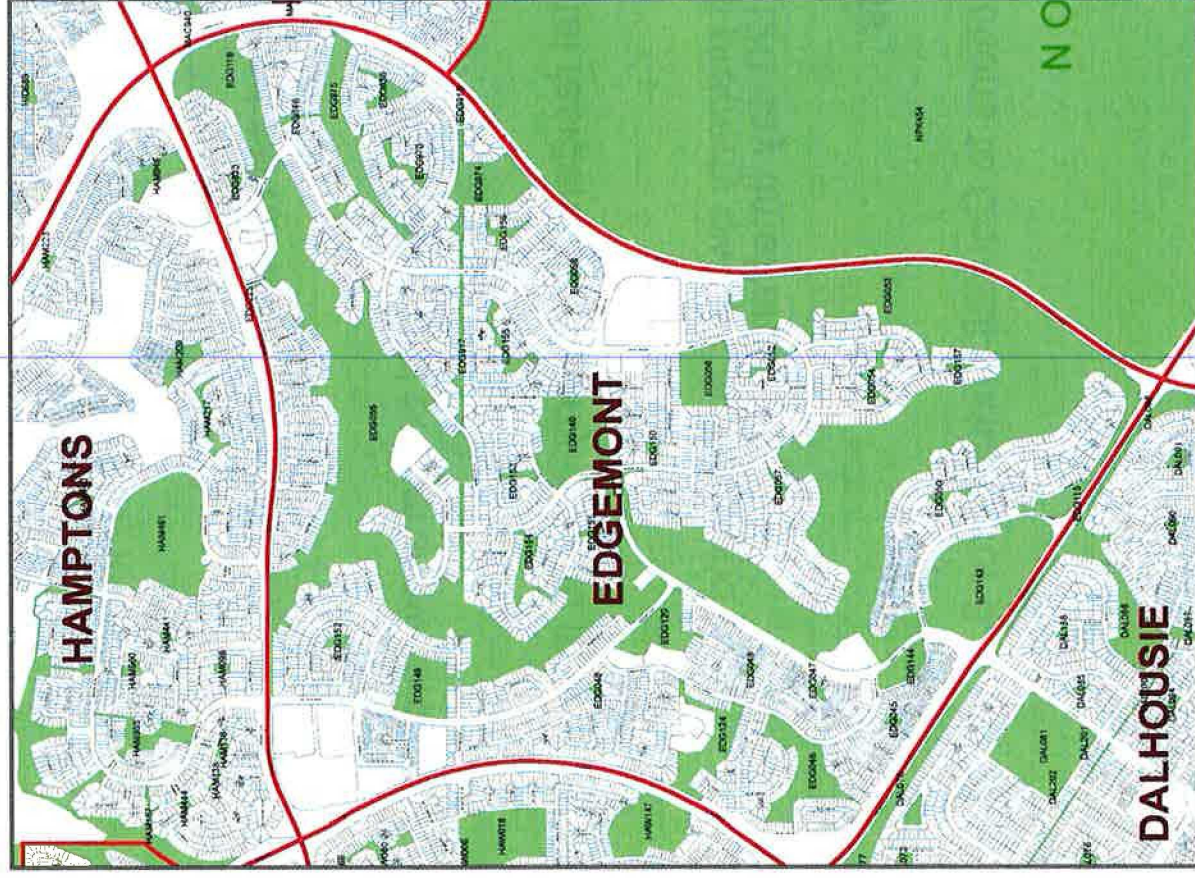
- Process for enhanced landscape maintenance has been in place since 1996
- On 2016 March 14, Council passed the Special Tax Bylaw for 10 other communities
- Review of enhanced landscape maintenance program is underway

- Community group (Community Association or Residents Association) initiates request to City
- City & Community determine desired enhanced services and estimated annual cost
- City information taken by Community to petition all residential property owners (120 day timeframe)
- Successful petition requires >66.67% of total residential property owners in favour
- Affected property owners can re-petition all property owners against and require >66.67% of total again (additional 120 day timeframe)
- All petitions are validated by Calgary Roads
- Administration recommends successful petitions to Council annually for 3 readings of Bylaw

PROPOSED URGENT BUSINESS



Edgemont



- Edgemont is new to the Special Tax Levy program in 2016
- Proposed Tax Levy: \$84 / property
- Total Proposed Budget: \$447,804
- Results of Pro-Levy Petition: 67.67%
- Results of Counter-Levy Petition: 11.7%

That the SPC on Community and Protective Services recommend that Council:

1. Give three readings to the proposed 2016 Special Tax Bylaw For Edgemont (Attachment); and
2. Receive this report as an item of urgent business at 2016 April 11 Council meeting.

PROPOSED URGENT BUSINESS

Good Morning Members of the Committee:

My name is Roy Blair and I am a member of the group labelled RECALL which stands for Residents of Edgemont Community Against Leaf Levy and I have been a resident of Edgemont in excess of 31 years.

Today I would like to draw your attention to the fact that not all canvassers that took part in soliciting signatures for the LEAF PETITION did so in an ethical and forth right manner despite what some of the PRO LEAF 'ERS have stated.

Since becoming a member of RECALL I have been made aware of many e-mails, letters and calls to members of our group wherein they were complaints of:

Not being fully informed of all pertinent information that was contained, or should have been contained in the Petition:

- The levy of \$84.00 per year (contained)
- The levy could be increased at a compounded rate of 3% per year (not contained)
- The initial duration for the levy is 5 years (not contained)

This lack of information resulted in a number of complainants wanting to have their name removed from the For Petition once all of this relative information became known.

Some of the complainants said they were approached more than once following their initial rejection (not willing to sign the For Petition) despite their requests that they not be approached again.

One of these emails/ letters in particular caught my attention that made me say to myself this is not right. The letter stated the following: and I quote (Eileen's letter).

In my opinion the foregoing was not only harassment but also a form of bullying as the 3 individuals intimidated this person into signing their petition.

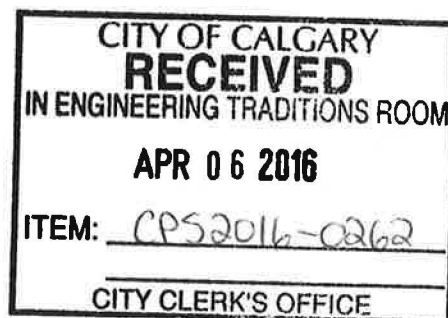
Another letter reads and I quote (read Hismat Shenuuda's letter)

These letters are but a small sampling of what the RECALL group has received complaining about the harassment by the Pro LEAF canvassers.

Should this committee approve the Leaf Program, then by extension, and contrary to the anti bullying T shirts this council was so proudly displaying only a few short weeks ago, they are indicating that they approve of the bullying tactics used in securing signatures on the For LEAF Petition and this would be hypocritical to say the least.

Copies of any or all of the fore mentioned e-mails/ letters will be made available to the members of this committee upon request.

Thank you for your attention.



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

2016.02.12.

CANDESSERS CAME TO MY HOUSE

FIVE TIMES ASKING TO SIGN.

PETITION FOR HEAF. DAUGHTER

ANSWERED EVERYTIME AND

FINALLY ASKED THEM TO NOT


KNOCK ON THIS DOOR AGAIN


BECAUSE THEY WOKE UP MY 1 1/2

YEAR OLD GRANDSON & HE

WAS SCARED & CRIED. I REFUSED

TO SIGN PETITION.


WITNESS
MERVIN L. HENKECHMAN.


HISMAT SITENUOVA

136 EDMONTON PL NW
CALGARY, AB. T3A 2J9



Stephen Webster <sjwebster29@gmail.com>

Leaf Levy Discredit

Eileen Wang <sunlife96@hotmail.com>

17 December 2015 at 21:54

To: "theweaver@shaw.ca" <theweaver@shaw.ca>

Hi Stephen,

We spoke over the phone the other day and you asked for a summary of my comments through e-mail so I have provided them below:

1. I saw no purpose in the initiative originally, and did not want to sign the petition
2. I was approached no less than 3 times at my door
3. The day I was pressured into signing the petition, 3 individuals showed up at my door (which was extremely intimidating and potentially threatening) and stated "that I was the last one to sign", which was apparently a lie and absolutely misleading.

Cheers,

Eileen Wang

"For thousands of homeowners, polybutylene plumbing has become a recurring nightmare."

- Ed Bradley, CBS-60 Minutes

Polybutylene (also known as PB or Poly-B) pipe is a flexible, grey pipe that was used in several million homes built from 1970 to the mid-1990s. Due to problems with leaks, Poly-B water pipes are no longer accepted by United States or Canadian building codes and have been the subject of class action lawsuits in both countries. Poly-B fails without warning because it breaks down from the inside of the pipe over time, which can result in sudden catastrophic damage or severe structural damage including mold if a pipe has been leaking for some time without detection. The older the pipe, the more likely it is to fail. Not replacing Poly-B in a home has a 60% probability of failure within 20 years, which further increases over time.

Modern West Plumbing & Heating specializes in the complete turn-key removal of Poly-B in your home by a professional, courteous, and experienced team including a Master Plumber. Replacing this pipe in your home will protect your investment and your personal belongings, save thousands on repairs, and add significant value to your property.

Call today to schedule your **FREE** consultation & evaluation

Erwin Knoll

Modern West Plumbing & Heating

Specializing in Fixtures, Repipe, Hot water tanks, Boilers & Custom Home Renovations

403-988-5945

"Making your home better than new!"



**MODERN WEST
PLUMBING & HEATING**



"Making your home better than new"

\$500⁰⁰ OFF
**ANY HOUSING
REPIPE OR
BOILER SYSTEM**

Limited Time Offer - Call Today!

Dear Editor:



I volunteered many hours to canvas residents of Edgemont to explain the LEAF program. Many negative statements concerning the conduct of the canvassers and merit of the program have been written.

1. When language barriers were identified, the LEAF Program administrators ensured persons with the appropriate language skills were put in touch with the identified resident.
 2. The Hawkwood Community Association advised the \$50.00 annual cost was insufficient to sustain the LEAF Program. Compared to other communities surveyed it was determined that \$84.00 was not an excessive annual fee.
 3. We did have concrete planters in our medians and public spaces filled with flowers when Carma Developers regarded Edgemont as it's "flagship community".
 4. All residents canvassed were advised of the annual cost. There was nothing secretive at all about the process as has been implied.
 5. A survey revealed Edgemont is not in the top 50 of desirable communities. Perhaps the actions of people like those supporting the NO campaign has contributed to the decline of our community.
 6. Using City resources has proven to be the most beneficial to other communities with a LEAF program.
 7. When a resident indicated they were not interested in the LEAF program no further attempt to contact or induce their support was made.
 8. The process used to initiate local improvements is democratic and one that the City has followed consistently.
 9. There were open house sessions held at the Community Hall fully explaining the LEAF program. If people chose not to attend this is a fault they must bear. Throughout the community signs were placed advertising the LEAF program.
- It is time to put this NO issue to rest. Just looking at our neighbouring communities you will see an obvious sense of pride which is lacking in parts of Edgemont.

Sincerely,
Al Leach

Good morning to the Members of the Committee:

My name is Carmen Aguilera, a resident of Edgemont with my husband Real Goddu, for 16 years.

First, I would request that Councilor Sean Chu, recuse himself from this Committee and vote, As he has taken advantage of this situation to make clear he supports it, publicly and is understood as using it for a future advantageous campaign position.

Second, the LEAF petition was not exactly clear as to the long term commitment. It was understood only as a 1 year program. The wording was confusing (similar to that used by insurance as to: read the small words). There was not time for that, and all seemed rosy in Calgary at the time, not knowing many families would be hard hit by losing their jobs, including my husband.

Third. Contrary to the belief of some, there are not many wealthy seniors in Edgemont. Why there can be many reasons, one of them, in our case, we have spent for a year and a half now, most of our savings, and with our age, jobs do not come our way anymore.

Fourth. There will be an increase in electricity and other utilities, and increases in property taxes. Seniors have a fixed income. It is not right to increase a self imposed tax this way and it is not the time.

Fifth. The statistics provided for the city are not exact. They do not take into account all of those workers who are self employed and do not fit into Employment Insurance. Another problem.

Sixth. There are many ways our community can be beautified, I had suggested a contest and recognition for a well kept garden, volunteering to keep up small spaces near your home, others.

Seventh. So far the city seems to have a problem sending By Law Officers to enforce snow removal, grass cutting, debris in your yard, re-gravel back alleys; there are sometimes even abandoned vehicles, which I have of course called the Parking Authority. City of Calgary property is the responsibility of the City to keep it up. Why extra taxes?

Eight. Lastly, there should be an outside independent audit; there is information that states that the "For" petition did not make the 67% requirement, as stated by the other colleagues that have made their presentation on this issue.

Thank you for giving us the chance to speak concerning the proposed LEAF Tax Levy

Carmen Aguilera
85 Edgemoor Rd NW
Calgary T3A 4M4
Tel. (403) 241-6875

CITY OF CALGARY RECEIVED IN ENGINEERING TRADITIONS ROOM APR 06 2016 ITEM: <u>CPS2016-0262</u> CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

To City of Calgary Clerk

This email serves as a vote AGAINST the upcoming tax levy in the community of Edgemont for the landscaping beautification program.

There are a number of concerns that I have with the proposed program, but will just present one here to keep things short.

The job market in Calgary is extremely gloomy and I am sure there are people in all professions who are wondering about their job security given the economic downturn. I think the Mayor has done his part in keeping our property tax increases to the bare minimum given the circumstances, and I think it is wrong of our community to be enforcing a tax hike on its residents at this point in time.

My own husband was laid off January 2015. While he has worked various jobs (I estimate around 15 temp jobs) over the past year to keep some income trickling in, it is nothing like what his prior professional position paid. In addition, the company where I have worked for 24 years, has announced the closure of the whole facility, resulting in 700 job losses, and once I am laid off at the end of the month, there will be even less income coming into our home.

We consider ourselves hard working individuals, however with 4 children, two of which are in university, money is extremely tight.

I am not looking for sympathy, however talking to others in the community, it is a rare family that has not been hit in some way by this economic downturn.

I do not feel enough information was presented when the PRO leafers came around to our home. They came by 4 times, each time using pressure tactics to have us sign their PRO leaf campaign, however I refused as I felt they were not prepared and able to answer the questions I had to my satisfaction.

While I do agree that there are parts of Edgemont that appear tired, I think much of this is the result of renters, or other homeowners who have no pride of ownership. I do not think flowers on blvds or existing green spaces is going to do anything to make these parts of our community look better.

What I would like to see is if this whole process is put on hold. If after ALL THE INFORMATION is provided to homeowners, the LEAF program is implemented, then I will accept the decision, however given the reversal of fortune for many in our city, combined with people making decisions without being fully informed, I am sincerely hope that you will hold off on this levy until we can ensure a fair process has been put in place to ensure this is in the best interests of all the residents of Edgemont.

Thank you for taking my view into consideration as you decide on whether or not to move forward with this tax levy.

Janet Cordery
111 Edgeland Rd NW
Calgary AB T3A2Y3
(403) 241 7679

Good morning committee members, ladies and gentlemen,

My name is Peter Tsang the last name spells as T as in Tom, S as in Sam, A as in Albert, N as in Nancy and G as in George.

I have been a resident in Edgemont since 1983.

Thank you for the opportunity addressing the Committee to bring up some of my concerns with the LEAF proposal.

When I first got to know about the proposed LEAF programme, I phoned one of the organizers in order to learn more about it. I asked about the budget for the programme. I was told the budget was in its website. I logged onto the website but could not find any reference to a budget.

I phoned the same organizer again. I asked about the budget and that I was not able to find any reference to a budget in the website. I was then told that there was no budget. The proposed tax levy for an Edgemont resident was based on the tax levy for another community close to Edgemont. The organizer was not transparent about not having a budget. In fact it could be characterized as deliberately misleading for not having a budget in the LEAF website.

I can understand invoking a certain budget and modify it for a specific situation. I suppose in preparing a budget for paving a certain road, one would use the actual cost for a similar stretch of road and make adjustment to allow for any difference in the two situations. In preparing a budget for drilling a well, I would use the recent cost of drilling a similar well. Modify the budget for different well depths, different surface conditions and any specific requirements.

The budget for the LEAF programme was apparently based on the tax levy for a certain community without accounting for any difference in the number of residents or any difference in the size and amount of roads and boulevards or any difference in area coverage in the two communities in question. The proposed tax levy was presented with the suggestion that it would be less than having a coffee or latte a day for a household.

This is not the way I would come to a budget. Apparently for the LEAF programme what is good for the goose is good for the gander. A monkey see monkey do approach to budgeting. If I had presented a budget in a similar manner, I would be kicked out of the conference room and will not be asked to prepare another budget ever. If one of your staff members had presented a budget in a similar manner, I believe you would not ask the same staff member to prepare another budget until the member had a chance to acquire additional training.

I also asked about their work programme. One of the items is to control dandelions in the boulevards but not for the rest of the green areas. This is ludicrous. Dandelion seeds from green areas would be blown to the boulevards in no time and continue to grow along the boulevards.

In conclusion, the organizer for the LEAF programme was not transparent, indeed intentionally misled on their poorly deliberated expense and budget. Their proposed work programme is suspect and likely not achieving the intended objective. In short the proposed LEAF programme is not worth the paper it is written on.

I would respectfully ask the committee to reject the proposed LEAF programme for the Edgemont community because of many inadequacies in the proposal.

Thank you

403-239-6230

ptcomm@telus.net

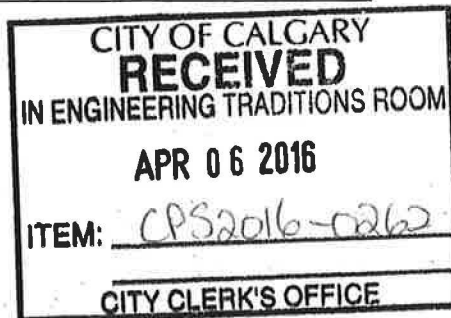


Clifton Manor

A Division of the Brenda Stafford Foundation Ltd.

4726 - 8TH AVENUE S.E.
CALGARY, ALBERTA
T2A 0A8

TELEPHONE (403) 272-9831
FAX (403) 248-5788



August 25th, 2015

Dear Resident,

Regarding: Service charge increases effective October 1st, 2015.

Clifton Manor is committed to providing quality of services to our residents. To ensure this level of service can be maintained, a review and comparative analysis of our service charges has recently been completed. The following increased service charges are reflective of inflationary and market rate adjustments.

- Cable Television: \$45.00 per month
- Personal Laundry: \$65.00 per month
- ID Bracelets: \$19.00

We are pleased to announce that rates for all other services remain unchanged for this coming year.

A comprehensive list of services and charges is available at reception. Thank you for continuing to make Clifton Manor your home and we trust that we will continue to work together, to provide quality care and services for you in a home-like and comfortable environment.

Sincerely,

Brenda Hannah, RN
Administrator, Clifton Manor
The Brenda Stafford Foundation
Phone: 403.272-9831

PROPOSED URGENT BUSINESS

Joanne Brunner

*I love this city My grandfather was mayor of Calgary. I have lived in Calgary
72 years 36 of them in Edgemont
resident. 403-239-3859*

I received a phone call from Tom Williams, the leaf representative. He wanted a meeting with himself and the CA president at my house. He explained his group did not like the optics of our area of Edgemont noticeably refusing to sign the leaf petition because of their anger about the community association refusal to represent our issue to city hall. He said that if I would influence my neighbors to sign the leaf petition, the Community Association would promise to represent our issues to city hall. I agreed to the meeting because it was the only opportunity our Edgemont group had, after 3 years of trying, to get our community association to represent our issue to city hall. I was also induced to agree to signing and promoting others to sign the petition because it was limited to a 5 year contract. Also the money was designated to a specific purpose of flower beatification with the option of tree replacement. This information was told to me by Tom Williams, the leaf representative and Lorraine Wiercinski, the community association president. 2 other community association executives namely Doug Crapo and Judy Hunt also came to my home for a meeting, reconfirmed the petition information, promised to represent our group issue to the city and then we walked our area together. My husband also confirmed he was told by petition recruiters at our door that the petition was limited to a 5 year program. It turns out this was not correct.

I would not have signed or used my influence on my area friends and neighbors if I had known the extra tax collection would not be terminated in 5 years and if I had known a choice of optional spending of the money was allowed. I never considered the information I promoted was wrong and because of the haste required of the timeline deadline I reacted quickly.

I understand that for a contract to be valid people signing it have to understand what they are signing. The information given to me was wrong. The information I gave to others was wrong. The information given to my husband at our door by petition recruiters was wrong. To enforce this petition is wrong. I and many others would not sign the petition if the right information was provided. How can anyone be bound to a petition when they did not know what they were really signing. I know from teaching contract law that this petition it is not valid. This has also been confirmed by my lawyer. This petition is not enforceable.

If the leaf team wanted a valid petition they should have organized a public meeting where all information was disclosed verbally and in writing, discussion took place and informed consent could be given by attendees by signing the petition. This did not happen in Edgemont. It was door to door verbal misinformation in our ^{area's houses then was a} After the Edgemont parking lot disk jockey entertainment event ^{and} many residents told me they signed the petition but they really did not know what it was all about. They just felt pressure to join in.

Many people our age told us they only signed the petition because they planned on selling in the next 5 years and the beautification project would help them. This petition had only verbal misinformation in our area and informed consent was not received with the signatures. .

A substantial number of people, when given the correct information wanted to withdraw their consent. It is not a matter of changing their minds; it is a matter of informed consent. It was not given. It was not a valid signature in the first place. This applies to a lot of people who now understand that this plan is not for 5 years but indefinite. We now understand another petition would have to have the signature numbers to cancel this contract. Many more people do not even know this yet. I would not have signed, had I known. Many more would not have signed had they known. I would not have encouraged others to sign had I known.

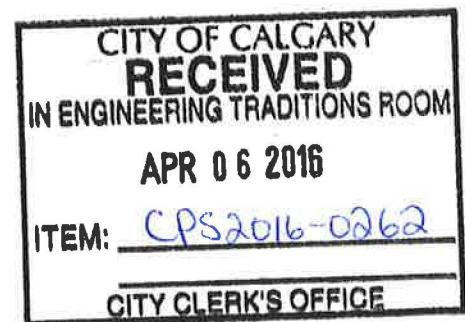
The initial petition is not valid. It should be redone in a manner that does not put into question the entire petition process.

2 options

- 1. Amend it to a 5 year contract after which long term informed petition*
- 2. Re do the petition & informed consent not spoken*

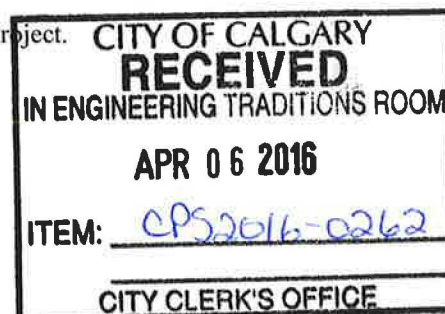
Thank you.

Another examination



wcruicks@telusplanet.net

From: "Barbara O'Gorman" <jbogo@telusplanet.net>
Date: April 5, 2016 4:33 PM
To: "Irene and Bill Cruickshanks" <wcruicks@telusplanet.net>
Subject: Fwd: Letter opposing the Special Tax Levy for the Edgemont Leaf Project.



Begin forwarded message:

From: Barbara O'Gorman <jbogo@telusplanet.net>
Date: April 5, 2016 at 10:35:31 AM MDT
To: spconcps@calgary.ca
Subject: Fwd: Letter opposing the Special Tax Levy for the Edgemont Leaf Project.

In February, on the advice of the City Clerk's office, I submitted this letter to their office. I now understand that this was incorrect and that it should have gone to Roads. Thank you for forwarding it to the appropriate person to bring it to the attention of the committee at the hearing tomorrow.

Barbara

Begin forwarded message:

From: Barbara O'Gorman <jbogo@telusplanet.net>
Date: February 19, 2016 at 11:33:50 AM MST
To: "spconcps@calgary.ca" <spconcps@calgary.ca>
Subject: Letter opposing the Special Tax Levy for the Edgemont Leaf Project.

To whom it may concern,

Had the canvassers for the Leaf petition said, "We are looking for your signature on this petition asking Council to add a special tax of \$84 a year to your property taxes in order to enhance the neighbourhood," how many signatures do you expect they would have obtained? Very few, I think, yet the Edgemont Community received 3,600, and Roads validated 3,576.

I believe this petition process is flawed; if 2/3 of all property owners have signed "Yes," how can 2/3 then sign "No".

The Levy is a flat tax which means that the smallest duplex pays the same amount as the largest estate home. This project will generate almost \$1/2 million a year for the Parks Department at the expense of people least able to afford it, lower income families and, especially in the present economic situation, the unemployed.

I would ask Council to deny approval for this petition as insufficient information was given by the canvassers or the E.C.A. (I can confirm that the 2 people who came to my house did not mention taxes nor offer any information when I asked.) Many residents were not aware this tax would be in effect for

ever unless it was appealed in 5 years time by another petition.

Yours truly,

Barbara O'Gorman.

PROPOSED URGENT BUSINESS

April 6th, presentation to City Hall Edgemont Leaf Program

Bine CRICKSHANKS
403 647.2675
38: GDSBOOK HTS

The Leaf program at \$84.00 per annum is not good value for taxpayer's money.

Firstly, in January I called Roads for a copy of the estimate of the projects first year's costs and they advised there is no estimate, it has yet to be compiled!

How can taxpayers be able to see value for money when the Levy was set a year prior to compiling an estimate and decide if it is value for money?

City Hall is operating at an unprofessional level at taxpayer's expense.

Why was the levy set at \$84.00 for every residence?

The smaller residences are being asked to pay an Annual increase of 4.1% while the million \$ home is paying a 1.3% increase. Why did city hall not use a levy that was a percent of the resident's City Taxes.

Another example of unprofessional work at City Hall.

Most homes in the city are owned by couples, yet City under the MGA opted to require only one signature per household, undemocratically over-looking the opinion of every second homeowner in Edgemont, and also of those who pay taxes on multiple homes.

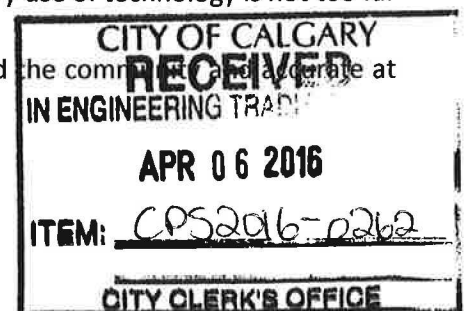
This would never be countenanced in a political election in 2017, where every voter is important to a politician, but apparently in 2015, not taxpaying voters.

Given the research by our group on the veracity of the final tally, council should set the whole Edgemont Leaf program aside for another year.

I think a 21st century approach to additional tax levies is required.

When a proposed City tax levy is being considered:

1. Write to every household/homeowner on the proposed improvement for a community with the following information.
2. A brief description of the proposed improvements.
3. A detailed cost estimate of the proposed work, the time frame it will take to complete.
4. Pro rate the annual cost to the current taxable value of each residence.
5. How long the levy will be in place.
6. Enclose a card for each homeowner with a ballot to vote for or against the proposed tax levy, with bar code to match the address.
7. Allow six weeks for the return of the ballot.
8. The above approach is efficient, fair to every city taxpayers and I am sure the City solicitor could make a good case to the Province that the 21st Century use of technology is not too far outside the bounds of the new MGA Act.
9. Once set up, it is extremely labour efficient for the city and the press of a button.



One last thought, as a Bank manager working in the city branch network for 25 years I saw firsthand during recessions the havoc wrought on families in economic downturns. Families who had enjoyed many years of prosperity will now find \$84.00 for, nice to have improvements, an insurmountable challenge.

Another reason to defer Edgemont Leaf is until a vote fully detailing what it costs and EVERY property owner is allowed to vote as set out above, or an equally fair and open system is devised.

Thank you for your time.

PROPOSED URGENT BUSINESS

Edgemont LEAF Petition: **Turpitude and Depravity** at City's Road Department.

Our group is called RECALL and it represents at least 650 Edgemont's heavily taxed citizens (including many seniors on fixed income, and the relentlessly growing numbers of unemployed, neither of whom are in a position to pay yet more taxes). RECALL stands against the extra LEAF levy. RECALL has a president, a VP, we have a secretary, a treasurer, etc. One thing we don't have right now is funding but we make up for it in perseverance and our bulldog determination.

As regards the Pro-Leaf petition, the City's Roads Dept. has been moving their goal posts at will, to reach their objective of collecting the extra Leaf levy. **They have a stake in passing the levy.** We feel it's more of a **\$2.3 million/5 years Leaf windfall/seizure** for new i-phones, i-pads, i-pods etc. (i.e. a slush fund), than it is about an Edgemont beautification program. A disguised **money grab**. Why do we feel that way? There's no detailed budget showing exactly how our money is to be spent for our benefit, only the good old broad strokes.

According to our early conversation with the City, **the original Pro-Leaf petition had passed by measly 22 signatures (i.e. 0.41% of the 5331 eligible households).** Incredibly, our **sage councilor** Sean Chu calls this an **"overwhelming majority"** (Metro News article, Sun. Apr. 03, 2016). **Is it a lack of education, a lack of common sense, or just a plain, sheer dumbness? An excess of bias? I wonder.**

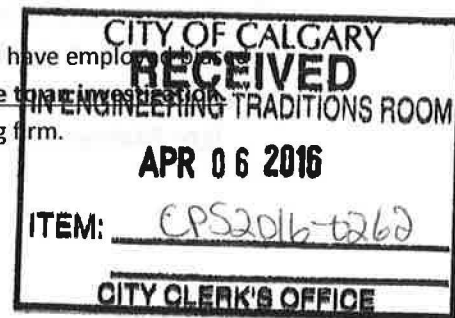
We have collected, **'without any door-to-door harassment,'** over 600 Against-Leaf signatures, of which **many more than 22** were from people who had changed their minds on Leaf because they felt they had been bullied (but were **not allowed to withdraw their signatures**, although many **requested it the same or the following day**). **RECALL calls for an investigation into these Leaf's unethical shenanigans.** This makes for an even **weaker case** for instituting the extra Leaf Levy. If we further discount undated signatures, non-registered owners' signatures, late signatures and other invalid signatures, **the case for an extra Leaf levy vanishes into the thin air and Roads/ECA/Leaf remain standing there, wondering what has just happened to their Inside Edge propaganda machine. In the end, when all the dust settles, people see that the emperor has no clothes.**

According to RECALL's count, the pro-Leaf petition **has failed and does not have enough signatures to pass the minimum 2/3's required by law.** This is an incontrovertible FACT, which Roads can't deny, but are trying to.

The saga did not end there. As soon as Roads learned from us they didn't have enough signatures, they **immediately lowered the number of eligible households by about 100 to ramp up the required percentage back to 67% (i.e. Roads again moved the goal posts).** **They eliminated all multi-property owners with one stroke of a pen.** This knee-jerk reaction of the Road Department was **an illegal and unethical 'adjustment'** made to the total number of Edgemont households that are legally eligible to sign a petition (i.e. 5331). **However, their move was utterly predictable. They are desperate!** In light of the vested interest and the resulting audacious elasticity exercised by Roads **to create the required signature count out of thin air**, the RECALL group **requests/demands** an independent Audit **of the Pro Leaf Petition**, by a reputable accounting firm. **Our point is 2-fold: The 'Roads' is not above the law. The pro-Leaf petition does not have the required 2/3 majority.**

In conclusion:

1. Roads have vested interest in passing the Pro-Leaf petition and therefore they have employed a metric that is very 'elastic' in their favor. **This is illegal, and makes them liable to an investigation.**
2. **RECALL** requests a signature recount by an independent, reputable accounting firm.



3. **RECALL** requests an audit of the last-minute 'creative adjustments' made by Mr. McGinn who attempted to bulldoze LEAF through. According to RECALLS' count, Roads don't have the required number of signatures to pass the petition. However, our count is, at the moment, being ignored by Roads.
4. **RECALL** requests an investigation by the Ethics Commissioner into the behavior of certain City Roads employees, particularly Mr. Sean McGinn. We have been repeatedly stonewalled and had to deal with a total absence of transparency – a situation symptomatic of a 3rd world country.
5. By contrast, pro-Leafers have been afforded the opposite treatment. There was a great deal of collusion between Roads and ECA/Leafers. For instance, Roads allowed a piecemeal submission of signatures, checked their validity, and gave ECA feedback and heads-up to make corrections in the already submitted material. RECALL request an investigation into these shady practices. A petition can be submitted only once, and 'as is', no feedback or collusion is allowed, by law. A failure to abide by this principle makes the petition null and void.
6. RECALL requests the absence/exclusion of councilor Sean Chu from the final Council vote on LEAF on April 11, 2016. Mr. Chu has a vested interest in the outcome as he seems to have turned the Pro-Leaf petition into his 'very own (p)re-election campaign', big street signs and all. Therefore his vote is not impartial and does not count. I think the phrase 'BEING RECUSED' comes to mind in this context.
7. If a property owner has to spend an additional \$450 over a 5 year period on extra Leaf taxes, he won't have \$450 to buy stain to paint his house. How does that contribute to beautifying our neighborhood? Besides, each household can get their own flowerpot for much, much less than \$450 over a 5 years period.
8. In many places in Edgemont, the City strung up ugly lawnmower extension cords from one light standard to the next. This is the City's way of beautifying Edgemont neighborhood. Would Leaf fix it? No. Do we need Leaf? No. I complained to my representative, councilor Sean Chu about the extension cords 2 years ago and what did he do about it? Exactly nothing. Useless as always. The City must correct this first.
9. In the summer of 2015, the Pro-Leaf petitioners used coercive techniques and pretexts (e.g. your property value will rise if you sign up). For instance, I made it crystal clear to them the 1st time I didn't want any Leaf, yet they came 3x (i.e. 2 more times) to twist my arm. I heard similar complaints from many other people while volunteering behind the Against Leaf petition desk at the ECA. Many people were coerced into signing. Furthermore, many spoke no English. Signatures exacted under duress or under false pretenses, or from people who speak no English are not legally binding. This further invalidates more of the Pro-Leaf petition signatures. In fact, it also makes the whole petition utterly illegal. RECALL requests and demands an investigation into these shady practices and illegal shenanigans.
10. Even if just 1% of the 3533 signatures were collected under the above conditions, that by itself invalidates the Pro-Leaf petition, which passed by a measly 22 votes (i.e. 35>22, see paragraph #3 above).
11. I have also personally received harassing and threatening calls and email from Pro-Leafers. All of them were anonymous, of course, it goes without saying. "This is the democracy at its best" (councilor Sean Chu, Metro News article, Sun. Apr. 03, 2016). They are available upon request.
12. If, in spite of the many very serious systemic flaws in the pro-Leaf petition pointed out herein, and many other flaws pointed out by the other speakers, the City still approves Leaf, it opens itself not only to the judgment of the court of public opinion, but also to potential lawsuits, which **RECALL** would likely initiate with the help from pro bono lawyers. We do have a very strong case to win it, Leaf does not.
13. In summary, the Leaf petition is so full of holes on so many different levels, it doesn't stand up to scrutiny. It must be voted down by the Council. I have touched only on a small number of these artifices – there are many more, dealt with by other RECALL members.

Igor Mokrys, The RECALL, (403)-774-5674, April 6th, 2016

PROPOSED URGENT BUSINESS

PETITION REQUESTING CONSTRUCTION
OF A LOCAL IMPROVEMENT




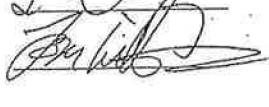

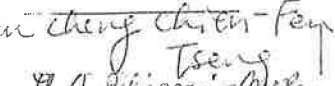

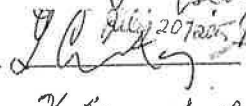
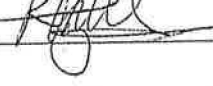


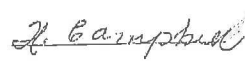
PETITION 2015-02-004

Page 464 of 534

We, the undersigned property owners hereby petition The City of Calgary to have the following local improvement constructed.

TYPE OF IMPROVEMENT: 961-Special Tax - Enhanced Landscaping

LOCATION: EDMONTON - I APPROVE AN ANNUAL SPECIAL TAX LEVY OF \$84 PER PROPERTY TO PROVIDE
ENHANCED LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE TO COMMUNITY ENTRANCEWAYS, BOULEVARDS, PARKS &
GREEN SPACES AS IDENTIFIED BY THE EDMONTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION.

AFFECTED PROPERTY	REGISTERED OWNER (PLEASE PRINT)	DATE (YYYY/MM/DD)	REGISTERED OWNER SIGNATURE (ONLY 1 SIGNATURE REQUIRED)	WITNESS SIGNATURE
167 EDGEVALLEY CI NW	Rahim Jafarian	2015 April 14		
171 EDGEVALLEY CI NW	PL Keng Ip	2015 June 6		
175 EDGEVALLEY CI NW	+			
179 EDGEVALLEY CI NW	PL			
183 EDGEVALLEY CI NW	Helen Cheng Chien-Fren Tseng			
187 EDGEVALLEY CI NW	cindy cheng	2015/04/19		
191 EDGEVALLEY CI NW	RICHARD ALBERTA	2015/05/21		
195 EDGEVALLEY CI NW	P.			
199 EDGEVALLEY CI NW	+			
203 EDGEVALLEY CI NW	Zengfu Lin	May 10/15		

ISC: Confidential

PROPOSED URGENT BUSINESS

On Apr 1, 2016, at 3:17 PM, Cario, May Ann <MayAnn.Cario@calgaryAB.ca> wrote:
1st Fl, Old City Hall - 700 Macleod Tr SE is where the meeting will take place.
Good afternoon

Thank you for your email. With respect to your inquiry below, the Proposed 2016 Special Tax Bylaw – Edgemont Report is going before the SPC on Community and Protective Services meeting on April 6, 2016. It is currently the first report in the agenda so it may start shortly after 9:30 barring any amendments on the agenda. Please note that at the beginning of the meeting, Committee may vote to change the order of items listed on the agenda. At any time during a meeting, Committee may also vote to table one or more Reports, to be heard at a later date. After introducing an Agenda item, the Chair of the Committee will call for members of the public to come forward to be heard. On large items, the City Clerk may make a sign-up sheet available.

When addressing Members of Committee, you should notify City Clerk's staff prior to the start of the meeting if you have any visual materials to present. Please follow the following guidelines:

- Give your name for the record, and provide the correct spelling;
- Indicate if you are speaking on behalf of a client or company or a group of citizens (ie, community association, club or organization);
- If you would like to distribute printed material, please bring 35 copies. Submissions will form part of the public record of the meeting;
- Each speaker is given 5 minutes to speak, and
- Please limit your comments to the matter contained in the report and the recommendations being discussed.

I hope this answers your questions. If you require further clarifications, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

May Ann Cario
Legislative Assistant, Legislative Services
City Clerk's Office | The City of Calgary
Mail code: #8007
T (403) 268-2527 | F (403) 268-2362 | E mayann.cario@calgary.ca
1st Fl, Old City Hall - 700 Macleod Tr SE
PO Box 2100 Station M, Calgary AB T2P 2M5

PROPOSED URGENT BUSINESS

POINT SUMMARY OF MY 2 page SUBMISSION

28 yrs resident

+ electronic submission (threatening phone call households + threatening email)

- Recall represents at least $650 * 3$ (wives, kids, grandparents) = 2,000 people
- We have a president, VP, Secretary, treasurer etc. - all volunteers
- Roads/Leaf have vested financial interest in passing the petition (at stake is \$2.3 million over 5yrs)
- Roads and Leaf work in collusion to ram the petition through at any cost.
- They used underhanded methods to reach their objectives (manipulated the results)
- The petition was delivered piecemeal
- Roads checked each piece, feeding information back to Leaf to make corrections
- This invalidates the whole petition
- Their original petition 'passed' by measly 22 signatures (0.41%)
- Detailed scrutiny revealed they failed to reach the required 2/3 of signatures
- Roads responded by immediately lowering the total # of eligible households by about ⁹⁵100, down from the original 5331, to ^{artificially}raise the percentage back to 67
- This shenanigan took place several months after the petition was filed
- Roads unilaterally disenfranchised about ⁹⁵100 taxpayers with 1 stroke of a pen
- These were the multi-property owners
- Road unilaterally falsified the #s in order to get the desired result ~~X 4.9US un.~~
- The Roads mistakenly think they are above the law
- Many people were coerced to sign up
- They were not allowed to remove their signatures once they signed
- Some people were never contacted - disenfranchised
- I myself was harassed at my house on 3 different occasions
- I have personally received a threatening phone calls and email. from pro-leafers

PROPOSED URGENT BUSINESS

= against last petition

- Others complained to me at the ECA signing table about the same
- some did not even speak English but had to sign (p.464, 171 Edegvalley Close)
- many signed under duress
- Signatures exacted under duress or under false pretenses (e.g. prop. value rise), or from people who speak no English are not legally binding.
- This invalidates the whole petition
- RECALL requests that the flawed petition be voted down in council
- RECALL requests that councilor Sean Chu be disallowed to vote, or recused *because of his extreme bias*
- RECALL requests an external audit of the petition by an outside and independent entity.
- RECALL requests an Ethics Commissioner's investigation into *questionable* ~~the~~ behavior of certain Roads Dept. employees.
- RECALL requests that *because* the petition does not stand up to scrutiny, it be thrown out/disallowed.

5.April 2016

I.J.M.

IGOR MARKYS

"RECALL"

(403) 774-5674

The LEAF Petition has fractured our community. It has pit Neighbor Against Neighbor. Our Edgemont Community Association President has resigned and there are rumblings of a sub-committee that wants to take control of the \$2.4M of Special Levy funds. Wrong Process, Wrong Plan, Wrong Time.

Democracy is defined as a state of society characterized by formal equality of rights and privileges.

The whole Community did not have equal opportunity to vote.

Complete information, including a budget detailing how \$84 was arrived at and how it would be spent was never provided. It is a random, arbitrary number for all intents and purposes.

The Petition question was so vague, presented on a doorstep with no supporting budget or information, that had all the fact been presented people would not have signed. *→ and contrary to theory hundreds*

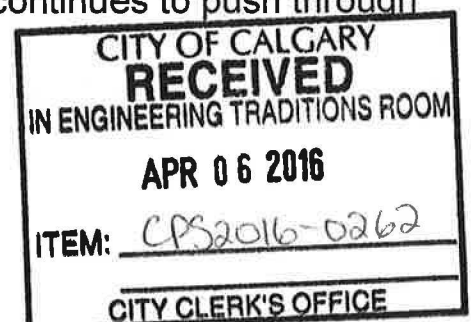
Would you sign a legally binding document stating, "I approve an annual special levy of \$84 per property to provide enhanced landscape maintenance to community entrance ways, boulevards, parks and green spaces as identified by the Edgemont Community Association."

Annually for how long? What Goods & Services are included? Do I have to have a paid ECA membership to have a vote? The question raises so many other questions just because of its vagueness. Common sense tells me you wouldn't sign anything on your doorstep.

Not all residents have the equal mental capacity or equal circumstances to sign a legally binding document on their doorstep. Nor should they be asked to by their neighbor.

This is NOT "Democracy at its Best" when ~~hundreds~~ ^{thousands} of citizens do not feel equal.

The downturn in the economy has only served to highlight the serious flaws in the petition and the program. The discussions today could have been avoided with some flexibility and a hint of compassion. As Mayor Nenshi froze various user fees to support Calgarians as the economy began to collapse, the Edgemont Community Association and Councillor Chu had the opportunity to cancel or even pause the Special Levy Tax. Instead it continues to push through knowing that thousands in Edgemont are struggling.



This is NOT "Democracy at its Best" when ^{thousands} ~~hundreds~~ of citizen do not feel they are equally represented.

In November 2015, 6 months before the tax was officially passed, our Newsletter announced Edgemont was already assigned a Horticulturist, Ugly cement pots were being picked out, and we were being slotted into the cookie cutter maintenance schedule. Edgemont was already listed under the Special Levy Tax page on the City of Calgary website. Thousands of community dollars had been spent to "sell" the idea. It was already being declared a "Done Deal".

This is NOT "Democracy at its Best" when ^{thousands} ~~hundreds~~ of citizens feel they have no voice.

As the program stands, the damage in Edgemont is done. The second those pots go into the boulevard they will be a concrete reminder of what could and should have been. I can just about guarantee the City will do its absolute best for the 4 month growing season this year. They will probably do okay next year too. But eventually, as those pots sit empty for 8 months, and people struggle to pay bills, resentment will grow and it won't just be about \$7, its gone far past that.

It will be about the fact that the ECA President and Board started talking about LEAF in the 2014 Newsletter and instead of lobbying the City over the excessive neglect of our public spaces and the fact that Edgemont pays well over \$9M/yr. in property taxes and yet only \$200k (according to LEAF organizer Mr. Atwal) is spent on our Community maintenance. Instead of engaging the community for new and creative ideas on how to make Edgemont more beautiful the first and only option presented was to force neighbors to open their wallets.

And this is why we are here, the flagrant disregard for the well-being of our neighbors and lack of willingness to openly communicate.

And that, does not promote "Democracy at its Best."

Edgemont is a vibrant community full of dedicated residents as witnessed here today by the large attendance. Edgemont has the potential to be the new model for financially and environmentally responsible and sustainable Urban Planning. We are so much more than Ugly, Empty cement pots on brown turf boulevards. There is an opportunity here.

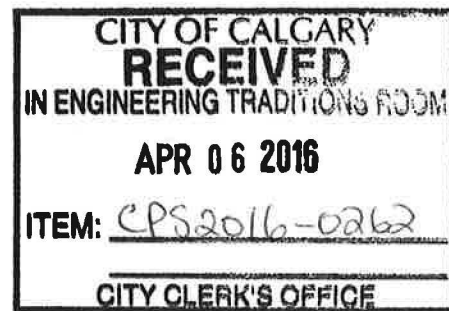
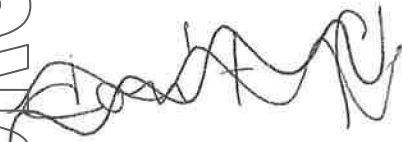
Every resident in Edgemont has 1 common goal, an investment to see our Community be the best it can be. We love our Homes. Edgemont is more than where we live. It's where we retreat from the insanity of this crazy moving world. It's where our Children learn and grow, where our Family and Friends come together.

I thank you for your time and ask for your genuine consideration to cancel the Edgemont LEAF Program and support new, creative, mutually beneficial financial and environmental programs. The disparity and damage that programs like LEAF can do to our City by creating Tiered, User-Pay Communities and resentment between Neighbors goes against everything that Calgary stands for.

A community is democratic only when the humblest and weakest person can enjoy the highest civil, economic and social rights that the biggest and most powerful possess –A. Philip Randolph

Catharine Scott

(403) 809-6865



The LEAF committee represents
LESS than 1% of Edgemont Residents.
Hundreds of letters, emails, calls
have been sent/received that
TRY to express they did
not understand or receive ALL
this information

PROPOSED URGENT BUSINESS



Dear Community Council,

It concerns me that photos depicted in the March issue of the Inside Edge (page 17) are intended to advertise and promote the LEAF model (Scenic Acres green grass medians) but in actuality the photos illustrate an initiative that is outdated and does not complement an environmental perspective. When we see lush green grass growing in dry arid Calgary, our thoughts should go to the fuel for the power mowers, the toxic emissions, the fertilizers and pesticides and the high amounts of water consumption. In these present times of climate change which includes water rationing due to droughts (1); extreme weather; mass die-offs of bee colonies (2) and toxins showing up in the blood streams of fetuses (3), there needs to be more conversation and education about the high cost of traditional gardening. Green luscious grass and pretty annual flowers no longer serve a community in a positive way but demonstrate an antiquated perspective that requires a new modern way of thinking. We should not be comparing ourselves to communities like Scenic Acres and The Hamptons as they demonstrate a growing concern from environmentalists and scientists that we need to change the ways we treat our land.

I think it is wonderful that our community is taking time for an initiative to bring back more beauty to our neighborhood and I sincerely applaud the volunteers who have invested so much time and energy with the hope of bettering their community. Such spirit for community is so needed in these complicated times of economic transition. However, I truly believe that we need to change the current conversation and focus on how we can be BETTER than our neighboring communities.

We could set an example for other communities in Calgary by:

- Developing sustainable gardening techniques with the planting of zone hardy perennials that do not require extra watering or synthetic herbicides or fertilizers.

- Developing alternative methods than grass to fill in boulevards such as: zone hardy decorative grasses and low lying bushes, tree mulch and/or rocks.

- Seeking assistance from a professional permaculturist offering insight to sustainable eco-friendly design: setting our community apart and offering a model for other communities.

This type of progressive earth-friendly attitude could help our community to stand out in the eyes of communities around us and the entire city. This is 2016, not 1995; let's start thinking and talking about the environmental implications of an old fashioned notion of developing expensive resource needy weather sensitive gardening over functional, eco-modern and sustainable design.

Let's change the conversation!

I would be proud to volunteer my time for earth conscious community initiatives.

Jennifer Wiebe (5-year home owner in Edgemont)

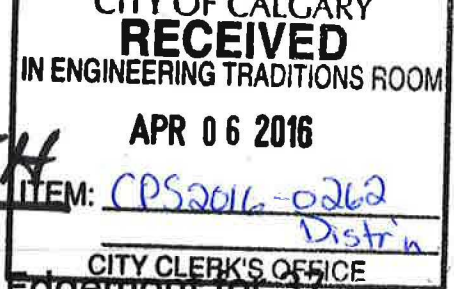
"Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect." Chief Seattle

<http://globalnews.ca/news/2020512/water-use-restrictions-implemented-in-capital-region/>

<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0070182#authcontrib>

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/weed-whacking-herbicide-p/>

From: Henkelman Dolores dolores@henkelman.ca
Subject: April 6, 2016 CPS Committee Meeting - Dolores and Merv Presentations
Date: Today at 1:07 AM
To: Henkelman Dolores dolores@henkelman.ca



My name is Dolores Henkelman. We have lived in Edgemont for 37 years. I am here representing Edgemont residents who oppose the Special Tax Levy for boulevard beautification (LEAF). The "For" petition barely passed by 22 votes, without a City/Roads recount. Roads have now agreed that 37 counted signatures, it verified, were not valid in the original filed petition.

The main purpose of my presentation is to state:

- the petition submitted in favour of LEAF did not achieve the 2/3rds requirement to make it a successful petition;
- due to the date of the first signed signature on March 26, 2015 eliminates 18 signatures signed after July 23rd the 120 day timeline; and
- procedural issues that were implemented/conducted are suspect and likely not in accordance with the MGA (i.e.: multiple/piece-meal submissions; periodic/interim information provided by Roads regarding Registered and Non-Registered Owners, leading to subsequent petition corrections/changes, etc.)

The original filed and confirmed count by Roads was 3576 considered valid out of 5331 properties considered for petition. After four different counts considered valid by Roads, after it was filed, it is now saying its valid count is 3539. $3554 = 67\%$. When we brought to Roads attention the mistakes of its count, in order to achieve a 67% successful petition, they NOW want to eliminate the 95 multi properties eligible in the petition. 3539 out of 5236 properties would give them 67.59%. The filed and eligible 5331 properties would make

the percentage count 66.27%, and not successful. Our count is 3533 without deducting the multi property double counts, or deducting the 18 signatures past the 120 day timeline. We asked Roads what 37 addresses it now has deleted from the ones we eliminated not properly signed, etc. and what number of the multi properties they double counted. Roads said go through FOIP. We asked for Roads LI computer runoff so we could check our count against theirs, and an independent audit, again, go through FOIP. We asked for City legal to be at a meeting on March 24th, and Roads emailed us that the City's Law Department provides legal advice to the City of Calgary only.

We have received so many different time starts and end times to this petition. As stated in our Edgemont Newsletter, its campaign started [on April 11, 2015 until August 8th](#). The City of Calgary independently verified each signature and is pleased to inform the ECA [on July 29th](#) that the LEAF petition is valid.

ECA received its petition package around Feb. 25th and could organize and pick its start date. Roads said the 120 day timeline is [April 10th to August 7th](#). Roads stated in an email, the first signed signature on the "For" petition starts the timeline. The first signed signature was March 26, 2015 and documented on page 324. When we provided this information to Roads that 18 signatures taken [after July 23rd](#), the 120 day timeline, should be deleted from the count, they claim its statement was only paraphrased for simplicity. Roads is backtracking this logical start date of the petition and is using [April 10th](#) because this would only reduce the count by 4 versus 18. The "Against" 120 day timeline started [on November 2/15](#) the day the City sent its tax levy letter to property owners. When Roads claim it is not relevant when the ECA picked up its petition package or that someone clearly signed the petition on March 26/15, it is only when they decide the 120-day

timeline starts.

Thank you for allowing us this opportunity to speak.

My name is Merv Henkelman.

City/Roads was to prepare and count the petitions. Nothing else. It failed to be fair and ethical in the process procedure. If we didn't get a copy of the "For" petition through FOIP, we would have had to accept its count and would not have discovered how this was achieved.

Our count differs from Roads. We manually checked and counted every eligible signature on the petition sheets. If Road's computer LI system wasn't setup to accept only one signature per property, manually inputting the names could result in duplicate counts. Roads informed us, that every check mark on the pages were considered a count. We noticed some multi property owners were counted twice and Roads confirmed that 19 were counted twice. Roads is now deleting 95 multi properties from the initial 5331 eligible properties.

Both "For" and "Against" petitions were prepared by Roads with 5331 eligible properties. We told Roads they could not eliminate these 95 properties because they wouldn't know who would sign the petition.

Roads was to ensure any multi properties counted as only one vote.

The elimination would change the percentage count in the For's petition favour. The MGA states: "No name may be added to or

removed from a petition after it has been filed with the CAO." Roads said they are only removing addresses from the eligible count. Multi properties are eligible addresses. They are eligible to be taxed **per property**, and Roads would be disenfranchising these property owners their rights.

When it meant they didn't have a successful petition, Roads decided to resort to creative accounting or gaming the numbers. That is, "If you

don't want people to game the numbers, don't make the numbers a game".

The MGA states the count on a petition would exclude any person whose name is not included or is incorrect. Roads allowed and provided a list of the Non Registered Owners (NROs) to the ECA "For" group to correct most of the 185 NROs that we were able to record. 81 NROs were corrected and counted when ECA was allowed to submit its petition in a four to five piecemeal manner. The City Information Sheet states it is not able to supply the names of affected property owners but to ensure the person signing is the registered property owner.

Roads said the list of NROs were supplied to the "For" petition group to give them customer service. When we asked for customer service via an independent audit - go through FOIP. When we questioned if Affidavits and Statements were submitted with every piecemeal submission to Roads, Roads stated that this wasn't a contract, instead it was an opinion survey? When monetary value is involved, it's a contract. Why would Affidavits and Statements be necessary if this petition was only an opinion survey?

Our recount today is 3533 but with the reduction of timeline signatures and the multi properties our count is 3502. 67% requires 3554 signatures as originally filed.

If it weren't for Roads assisting the "For" campaign with a list of NROs to correct would it have been successful? Is this also a conflict of interest?

Would this petition have achieved the questionable 67% if it had been submitted properly in one submission?

In rushing to get a signature, was key information not passed along to

the owners such that they were "misled" or trivialized into signing?

In conclusion; regardless of all the discrepancies, loopholes, and changes afforded the "For" petition, it does not have the required 67% making this petition invalid. We respectfully request an outside independent audit recount of this petition.

Thank you for allowing us this opportunity to speak.

PROPOSED URGENT BUSINESS

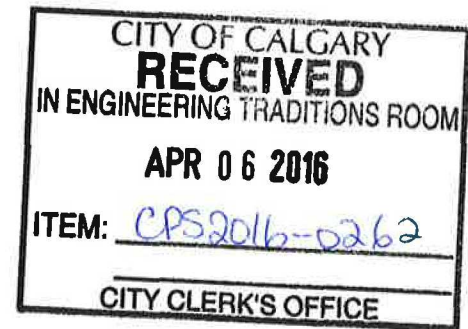


Edgemont Community Association



April 4, 2016

The City of Calgary
P.O. Box 2100, Station M
Calgary, AB, Canada
T2P 2M5



Attention: His Worship, Mayor Naheed Nenshi
Ward 1 - Councillor Ward Sutherland
Ward 2 - Councillor Joe Magliocca
Ward 3- Councillor Jim Stevenson
Ward 4- Councillor Sean Chu
Ward 5- Councillor Ray Jones
Ward 6- Councillor Richard Pootmans
Ward 7- Councillor Druh Farrell
Ward 8 - Councillor Evan Wooley
Ward 9 - Councillor Gian-Carlo Carra
Ward 10 - Councillor Andre Chabot
Ward 11 - Councillor Brian Pincott
Ward 12 - Councillor Shane Keating
Ward 13 - Councillor Diane Colley-Urquhart
Ward 14 - Councillor Peter Demong

Dear Sirs:

Re: LEAF PROGRAM – EDMONT, CALGARY, AB

The Board of Directors of the Edgemont Community Association is in full support of the recent petition to implement a LEAF program in our community. This petition was supported by over two-thirds of the property owners in Edgemont. The majority of our residents acknowledged that the public green space of Edgemont need upgrading, and they have committed to an annual investment of \$84 per property to receive enhanced landscaping. That this amount of support was achieved during these challenging times in a large diverse community, is dramatic evidence of the urgent need for community improvement.

There has been widespread support for the LEAF program as the revenue raised will be invested directly in Edgemont, providing visible benefits this year, and more incremental

PROPOSED URGENT BUSINESS

benefits as the program continues.

The LEAF petition process has been a 'community activating' program. Homeowners were contacted by volunteers during the door-to-door canvassing and this created more awareness of other community programs, areas of concern and also identified opportunities for community initiatives. Topics raised during the canvassing process still continue to be discussed and acted upon within our community.

With a mandate of over 67% of our homeowners supporting the LEAF initiative, the Edgemont Community Association welcomes and endorses this program. We are looking forward to working in partnership with the City of Calgary Parks Department and together we will strive to produce the best LEAF program possible.

We would therefore respectfully request the supportive votes from all members of City Council to allow us to go forward with the Edgemont Landscape Enhancement Program.

In closing, the Edgemont Community Association, Members and Board of Directors would like to thank our 100+ volunteers who have walked thousands of miles to meet and canvass support for the LEAF Program. Indeed, Calgary is still a city of volunteers who have the best interest of the community at heart. Bravo, Calgary!

Sincerely,



Phil Durrant, President
Edgemont Community Association Board Directors

cc: Anne Charlton – Director of Parks
Katie Black – Director of Community Neighbourhood Services
Henrik Jannesson – Business Strategy & Contract Lead Parks
Troy McLeod – Director of Roads
Brenda Nephew – Senior Local Improvement Administrator – Development & Projects
Todd Reichardt – Manager, City of Calgary Parks – Centre Division
Guy Beavers – Zone Superintendent, Calgary Parks – North and West Regions
Ron Neff – Parks Community Strategist
Catherine Stotschek – Zone Superintendent Calgary Parks
Vivian Cantin – Parks Community Strategist
Heather MacKay, Neighbourhood Partnership Coordinator
Leslie Evans – Executive Director, Federation of Calgary Communities