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I have read and understand the above statement.

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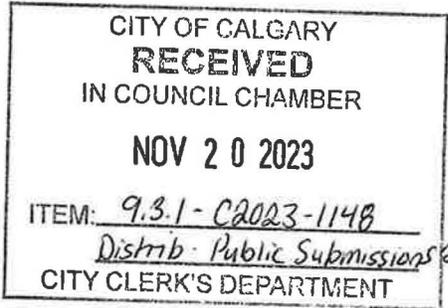
I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) Richard

Last name (required) Garber

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) Council

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) Nov 20, 2023



What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I moved to Calgary last year - a decision based in part on economic sustainability. A 3.4% budget increase is reasonable - in line with inflation that impacts the city budget in many ways. More than doubling that increase in order to fund new initiatives is unacceptable. If the city cannot manage its spending from ongoing taxes it should reprioritize existing issues and defund those at the bottom of the list. I am more than willing to see increases for transport security and housing - so what could be cut? The communications budget is a good start. I am sure that within the schema of "must have", "should have" and "could have" - the city can add "should not have" for those that fall outside the affordable budget.
I fully recognize that these decisions are never easy. But as a tax payer I deem them necessary!



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Last name (required) Brar

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Budget

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Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I will be speaking on the issues of seniors. Keeping in view the difficulties of seniors associated with their health and desire to socialize, all members of our senior society and other members of societies join me to request the city council for provision of suitable washrooms at C-Train stations, Bus terminals and community parks. Also in the summer when the community residents with their kids usually sit in the parks they require Gazebos so that in case of hot weather or rain there should be a shelter.

INDO-CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF IMMIGRANT SENIORS

26, ranarch Landing, S.E. Calgary AB T3M 0Z7

MEMORANDUM

Honorable Mayor, City of Calgary, is aware that old age brings with it one or the other form of diseases. Consequently, majority of seniors suffer from high blood pressure, diabetes, higher levels of cholesterol, triglycerides, asthma, arthritis, enlarged prostate glands, kidney, liver or heart ailments. Medications to treat these diseases manifests itself in uncontrollable urge to urinate frequently, and this problem is much more visible among seniors.

Another well known fact is that seniors are left alone at home when other members go out for work. Sitting at home alone leads to anxiety and depression. Therefore, in order to manage monotony and boredom, seniors are forced to move out of their homes to meet their friends, socialize or visit places of their worship. It is true that summer months provide seniors an opportunity to meet one another in open spaces like parks. What works against their meetings or travelling by Calgary Transit, is the uncontrollable urge to urinate frequently. In the absence of suitable public washrooms at C-Train Stations, Main Bus terminals or Parks, seniors are prevented from discussing their problems among themselves, socialize or share their wealth of experience and knowledge with others, as urge to urinate either forces them to cut short the meetings or refrain from going out due to fear of wetting their pants.

In order to understand problems of seniors, City of Calgary officials need to exercise a measure of empathy by projecting themselves into our situations and circumstances. Therefore, keeping in view the difficulties of seniors

associated with their health and desire to socialize, all members of Society and other seniors in the community join me to request the City Council for provision of suitable washrooms at a few designated C-Train Stations, Main Bus Terminals and Parks. Public Washrooms need not be at every C-Train Station as it shall be possible for seniors to travel one/two stations away. Similarly, Public Washrooms in selected Parks be made operational only during the five summer months from May to September. While City of Calgary will have control over washrooms at C-Train Stations and Main Bus Terminals, control of washrooms be authorized to Residential Association of the Area, who will open these for public during the designated hours of the day and lock these at night time to guard against any misuse.

Thanking you and assuring you of our full co-operation and support.

Yours truly,

President
Indo Canadian
Association of
Immigrant Seniors

President
Global Pravasi
Seniors Society

President
INCA Seniors
Citizens

President
Multicultural
Seniors Society
of Alberta

SEWA SINGH PREMI
NOTARY PUBLIC

IN AND FOR THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
DATE OF EXPIRY DEC 31, 2025

DT: 07/11/2023



President
Dashmesh Culture Senior Citizen Socle
61-McDonald Drive N.E.
Calgary, Alberta T3J 2Y3
Phone: (403) 258-8834



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First name (required) **Barry**

Last name (required) **Brett**

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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

For City Management to state tax increases have averaged 1.9% for 2019 to 2023 is absurdly false. For Council to adopt a tax increase above inflation (or 3.4 % according to Management) would show you are tone deaf to the will of citizens. You have no mandate or jurisdiction for Climate action, the arena is a disgrace, you don't have enough money to make a dent in housing. Please say "no" to the squeaky wheel special interests and show some respect for the taxpayer trying to get by.



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First name (required)	Nicki
Last name (required)	Heikkinen
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Budget

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In opposition

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Before offloading Commercial tax burden to Residential please consider the following: Residential are not for profit, Commercial are for profit - meaning Commercial have option of moving locations to get a better tax rate, can increase their goods to cover tax rate, etc, Residential cannot - it's our home!
Commercial means the high end box stores like The Bay, Holt Renfrew, Winners/ Homesense/Marshalls, Walmarts etc are buoyed by the Franchise/Head offices, if stores do not do well they are dealt with at a Corporate level, the bottom line is any tax increases will get passed onto the consumer anyway - thereby it becomes my choice if I want to support that particular store, my taxes don't get affected. Why should Residential be offsetting the tax burden on Corporations making tens of millions of profit anyway? Does not make sense to me
Small business: I do agree that small "one off" businesses should get some tax relief, however they should be showing an Annual Tax return and/or Statement of Finances to show need, in other words, some accountability on their part they're doing the best they can, some people are business owners and shouldn't be, they have no money sense and squander money by upping their credit lines to cover off "certain" expenses. I know this is true as I knew a couple who did this - cruising, cosmetic surgeries incl breast implants, vacation homes, etc. Their business ended up failing and they had to shut it down - well no kidding!. Should a residential homeowner have to shoulder the burden of such "business owners" and see perpetual tax increases on their residences? We had an increase in 2019 to "help" commercial business even when our home prices were at an all time low and our taxes should have been reduced. I know this as I tried to sell my home in 2019 and the market was flat, no sale, but I did receive an increase of \$20/month on my property tax bill. Now all told in the last 4 years I have seen a \$750 yr increase in my taxes equating to an extra \$63/month - combined with all the other increases, Natural Gas, Utilities/Electricity, Gasoline, Food, Hair cuts, recreation (if one can afford it). Please consider homeowners are Not for Profit, need a place to live and increase upon increase is forcing our hand, consider Seniors or those on fixed incomes, consider what Big Box store profits are and if homeowners should shoulder the burden? I don't think we should! Thank you for your consideration of my comments in your upcoming meetings



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First name (required) Warren

Last name (required) Piers

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Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I would like to voice my concern about your and council's budget priorities. You seem to have no qualms about giving billionaire hockey team owners massive subsidies, but when it comes to prioritizing services that all Calgarians really need, you get concerned about tax increases. These increases are needed because of sweet deals for the Flames and I urge you to reconsider the arena plans and focus on priorities that don't benefit rich owners and the small percentage of Calgarians that care about the Flames.



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First name (required)	LJ
Last name (required)	Sims
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PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

This council wastes money on feel good climate change initiatives of little value in terms of global warming - they are costly and have virtually no local impact. Transit is important, mental health and addiction services are crucial, as is affordable house. A seven per cent tax hike is absolutely not ok.



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Last name (required)	Murphy
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Budget

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In opposition

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**I believe that the city provides way too many services, and needs to reduce services provided to the absolute minimum in order to reduce taxes.
I would like to see the budget reduced by 5% per year through reduction of services for the next 5 years.
Services provided in 1990 were sufficient. Please return to this level.**



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First name (required) **Shawna**

Last name (required) **Mattinson**

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Accessibility and Transportation

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

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I would like to express the importance of allocating more funds to accessibility in the City of Calgary in terms of infrastructure and transportation, such as Calgary Transit Access. As a person with a disability, I have noticed gaps in the current system in terms of accessibility and places where more funding is needed to provide services that remain accessible no matter the volume, time of day, weather, and other factors, such as employee morale based off of compensation, which is an issue that would be rectified by more budget allocation for programs such as ACCESS and other city programs/infrastructure that work to serve people with disabilities. The problems faced as a result of budgeting issues for ACCESS, result in bad experiences for mostly everyone using the services, as everyone I know has had many bad experiences with ACCESS. Some issues with ACCESS across the board seem to be as the following: ensuring they are even picked up for the day as a confirmation call is a courtesy and not a requirement, drivers may arrive earlier or later than expected and not wait or even try to come to the first doors, often times marking people as no shows without even showing up or even staying longer than 5minutes - a budget issue as increased pay for drivers would increase their morale. Another issue that would be solved by an increased budget, is that drop off times are sometimes prolonged as there are a lot of pickups along the way for the same vehicle. All in all, I believe that an increased budget for Access, as well as other programs that support in accessibility is important and should be at the top of the City Council and Mayor Gondeks priorities as delays to a budget increase would further exacerbate the current conditions of Access, and as a result, the individuals it attempts to serve. At this point, the accessibility rate of Access isn't that high.



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First name (required) Robert

Last name (required) hunter

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Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Over the past several years whenever an additional cost has come city council has covered this cost out of reserves. The largest budget item lately out of this pot has been the event centre. That is a half a billion dollars out of reserves. Where are these huge reserves coming from? Usually they are the savings from budget surpluses but can be actual budget line items. If they are a budget line item maybe someone needs to review the budget line by line and do what we as citizens are needing to do, actually cut somewhere vs raise taxes. If you add the close to one hundred dollars per month of surcharges I see on my ENMAX statement to my tax bill Calgary property taxes are not the great deal council makes them out to be. Over the past decade I do not feel I am getting the value back for what we are paying.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) **Alejandra**

Last name (required) **Soto**

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Council**

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))

(required - max 75 characters)

Invest in affordable housing

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Invest in affordable housing for students and all calgarians



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First name (required) **Heather**

Last name (required) **Morley**

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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

November 15, 2023

City of Calgary
800 Macleod Trail S.E.
Calgary, Alberta T2G 2M3

Mayor Gondek and Members of Calgary City Council,

Re: Endorsement of City Initiatives for the 2023 November Adjustments to the 2023-2026 Service Plans and Budgets

An inclusive and vibrant downtown Calgary is critical for our city. Everyone should feel safe, engaged, and supported in every neighbourhood in our city, so that community, culture and businesses can thrive. Since September 2023, the Downtown Safety Leadership Table (The DSLT) has been speaking with Calgarians and analyzing data to identify gaps and recommend removal of barriers to enable immediate action to address safety concerns downtown.

In preparation for Council's consideration of adjustments to the 2023-2026 Service Plans and Budgets, the DSLT recommends that Calgary City Council invest in three complementary strategies: the Public Transit Safety Strategy, Home is Here: The City's Housing Strategy 2023-2030, and the Mental Health and Addiction Strategy. These three strategies speak directly to the concerns and themes the DSLT have been hearing from interest holders regarding safety and necessary support for Calgarians.

The DSLT received a presentation from City Administration and reviewed the Public Transit Safety Strategy, as presented to the October 2, 2023, Community Development Committee. The DSLT supports the Public Transit Safety Strategy, and its financial investment of \$15M in base funding and \$2M in one time funding to support its full implementation. combined with its emphasis on integrated response, improved station experience and coordination of community resources to assist Calgarians experiencing vulnerabilities. The DSLT commends the careful research and effort to address Calgary's local needs and challenges.

Access to safe and affordable housing options is an essential need and one of the most critical requirements for health and well-being required by many Calgarians at this time. The Housing Strategy that was approved on September 15, 2023, is a crucial step to supporting the 85,000 Calgary households who are struggling to afford their housing and for those experiencing homelessness. The DSLT supports actions and the \$27M in base funding and \$54.5M in one time funding investments to rapidly increase the supply of new homes, increase affordability, strengthen the housing sector and ensure supportive housing options for the most vulnerable.

The DSLT analyzed trends and data regarding social disorder, and it is abundantly clear that mental health and addictions are dominant and recurring factors that impact safety in Downtown. While Calgary's Mental Health and Addiction Strategy is vital for supporting wellness for all Calgarians, there is a particular need to support the most vulnerable in our community, particularly in times of crisis. The DSLT supports the proposed \$6M investment for this initiative to continue building capacity within Calgary's social services sector and encourages continued investment in coordinated and best practice models of intervention.

The DSLT strongly recommends that investments be approved to fully support these strategies as outlined within the budget adjustment package released by City Administration. Council should ensure that these strategies are funded in order to advance progress on downtown safety issues that stem from a lack of both available supports and coordinated enforcement. We believe that the community's need for safety and wellbeing should be met through funding such important work.

Thank you, Mayor Gondek and Councillors, for the opportunity to contribute our recommendations to budget considerations. We look forward to continued engagement with you, and City Administration, as we work toward collective goals that ensure downtown Calgary remains a positive destination for all. These goals can only be achieved with accessible and sustainable opportunities for all, fortified by adequately funded, coordinated and responsive services.

On behalf of the Downtown Safety Leadership Table



Heather Morley
Executive Director, Inn from the Cold
heather@innfromthecold.org



Mark Garner
Executive Director, Calgary Downtown Association
markg@downtowncalgary.com

The Downtown Safety Leadership Table is a group of representatives from business, community and law enforcement organizations committed to working together to support change in safety issues in downtown Calgary. The table has been tasked with consulting with stakeholders, identifying gaps and barriers and making recommendations to support immediate change in safety concerns downtown. The table members are Mark Garner (Co-Chair), Heather Morley (Co-Chair), Brett Bergie, Superintendent Scott Boyd, Jay Islam, Clare LePan, and Katelyn Lucas.



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First name (required)	Anh
Last name (required)	Lai
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



(required - max 75 characters)

Property Tax hike

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please don't hike the Property Tax



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First name (required)	Julia
Last name (required)	Langdon
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

We have a housing crisis and affordability crisis at the moment. People are choosing between food and heat going into winter and the cost a tax hike will not fix this issue.

We need fiscal responsibility from the city, the city boasted a surplus from last year and will have one this year as well.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) Julius

Last name (required) Puskas

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure and Planning

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I do not support any budget or property tax increases. Canadians under under a tremendous amount of financial strain and this is completely the wrong time to consider any kind of increases. Food prices, mortgages and rents are at historic highs. Over 1 in 10 families are using the food banks. Many Calgarians are edging closer to losing their homes. Council must cancel any plans for tax or budget increases.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required)	Priscila
Last name (required)	Lizarraga Nunez
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure and Planning
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please do not forget about affordable housing not only for all Calgarians but specifically for students. The budget must have a section allotted towards this, as this is an issue that faces most Calgarians today and is deeply important to us all.



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First name (required)	Todd
Last name (required)	Humphreys
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PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

No increase in property tax. I want to add to my last submission.

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am absolutely not in favour of any increase to our residential property taxes. It is not residential property owner's problem business/corporate property taxes are struggling. Business/corporate property owners can right off their mortgages as tax deduct ons. Residential owners do not have that luxury. I disagree and do not support any merger towards residential owners to lessen the tax burden to business/corporate property owners. This needs to go to referendum and not until there is full transparency. Calgarian's want to know the corporate property owners, and why they have asked city councilors for this? I recall Nenshi having a close buddy whom owned lots of empty properties downtown. To end: I do not support any increase in residential property taxes at all. Consider using a portion of the Calgary flames ticket sales to off set your out of control spending, or the money the federal government just gave the City.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) **Shahriar Mohammad**

Last name (required) **Raihan**

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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please consider providing additional budget to provide affordable houses to the students and all Calgarians. Thank you.



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First name (required)	Alisa
Last name (required)	Serebrianaia
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Council
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(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

don't forget about students, especially international students, who annually bring a lot of money to the province. invest in affordable housing for students and all Calgarians!



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First name (required)	E
Last name (required)	M
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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

It is being reported that residents could potentially see up to an 8% increase in property taxes (source: global news). Residents of Calgary are already struggling with the cost increase of groceries, utilities, insurance and mortgage payments, just to name a few things. To increase residential property taxes is only going to create more financial insecurity for many Calgarians. Calgarians are already choosing to cut back spending at local businesses due to financial restraints. Increasing residential property taxes could hurt local businesses more as Calgarians may choose to cut back again on their non essential spending. The city needs to cut back on expenditures to help keep the property tax increase at a lower %.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) **Gurpiar Singh**

Last name (required) **Chahal**

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Council**

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Residential tax should stay the same as is !home owners already pay enough

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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First name (required) **Alexandra**

Last name (required) **Benko**

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(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I disagree with the plan to shift the tax onus from businesses to homeowners. There is an ongoing issue in Canada with inflation and cost of living increase, on top of housing/ rental price increases from the influx of people moving to Calgary. Shifting the tax burden to individuals worsens that. Is there any proof or data that supports this claim that businesses are not succeeding in Calgary due to the taxes? Attracting businesses that Calgarians cannot afford to shop at because of an affordability crisis won't work.



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

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First name (required) **Charlene**

Last name (required) **Hunter**

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CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I disagree with increasing residential taxes to pay for business taxes. If I wanted to pay for business taxes I would buy, lease/rent a place for my business instead of working from my home. I feel it's not up to the residents to pay for business taxes. we pay enough as it is!! It is up to the "City of Calgary" to take care of this through the supplement the city gained due to higher cost of the Enmax increase. The citizens of Calgary can barely live a normal life due to the high cost of living as it is now. People are going without in order to eat, pay rent/mortgages, etc. to live in their homes. Maybe the City should wait on this until things are a bit more stable! All this is going to do is put people out of their homes and to live on the street or move to someplace more affordable. If there are no people in the city, business will definitely go under so don't put this problem onto the residents of this fine city. My husband and I have lived in this city since 1975. We have seen lots of changes but this one is ridiculous and will hurt the residences more than the businesses. If these businesses can't afford the high taxes then they shouldn't be in business!



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First name (required)	Roderick
Last name (required)	Tate
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



Keep

Calgary

Curious*

**TELUS Spark: 2023 Budget
Adjustments Presentation**

November 2023

The Vision

Transform TELUS Spark into one of the top 10 science centres in the world

Innovative & Inspired Programs



Keep Calgary Curious will create one of world's leading science experiences filled with internationally-renowned programming.

Re-Invented Spaces



Spark will serve as a beacon for the City's core character — a gutsy, action-oriented community that tackles challenges.

Welcoming to All



The transformed centre will feature more inclusive exhibits, be more accessible, and feel welcoming to all visitors.

Keep Calgary Curious Funding



The Keep Calgary Curious campaign is a partnership between the private sector and the municipal, provincial, and federal governments to provide \$45 million TELUS Spark revitalization. **Companies, philanthropists, and individuals are the largest contributors to the campaign.**

- In Budget 2023, the **Government of Alberta committed \$9.5 million** to support the revitalization
- We have been informed the federal government will not be able to provide a \$9.5 million matching grant this budget cycle

Investing in Calgary's Curiosity

Our request of City Council

- The Keep Calgary Curious campaign is now at a crucial juncture where City of Calgary support is paramount
- We are requesting **\$5.5 million from the City of Calgary over 3 years** in the 2023–2026 capital plan
- Without City support in Budget adjustments, Spark's revitalization is at risk



TELUS Spark's Future

Effect of the Keep Calgary Curious reinvention

800,000+

Spark's annual attendance will double

100,000+

Number of students, educators & professionals who will be empowered by new programming

\$34M

Post-revitalization, tourism outcomes will yield \$34.0 million in economic activity in 2026

40,000

Future visitors who will be able to attend the science centre through Spark's access programs



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First name (required)	Cody
Last name (required)	Littlefield
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid-	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

As Calgary continues to be a desirable, and one of the few affordable large metropolitan areas left in Canada, we are going to continue to grow. With this growth will come: increased vehicle traffic and higher demand for housing.

Due to the above issues, I hope that the council will strongly consider investing in opportunities to alleviate those concerns.

Namely:

- Continue to expand and improve transit service in the city. Specifically, continue to build out the Green Line as quickly as possible, develop a light rail connection from the airport to both the green and blue lines.
- Implementing all recommendations of the affordable housing task force.
- Investing in Calgary's 5A network. We can take the example of our neighbours to the North (Edmonton) and their 100 million dollar investment in their bike network. But we need to go further. This city is nearly impossible to safely and comfortably traverse on foot (sidewalks end, no sidewalks, etc) or by bike (disconnected, unsafe, and uncomfortable networks).

Thank you,

Cody



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First name (required)

Last name (required)

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(required - max 75 characters)

Tax increase shift to residential home owners

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I listened to the mayor over the last two weeks implying that homeowners shoulder increased taxes. I do not believe that Calgarians should be funding a new arena or business opportunities for millionaire owners. Many of us are struggling with electricity and fuel costs and keeping our heads above the water line. We do not need increased spending by our local government on luxurys. It is also my view that upgrades to curbs and roads should wait in communities like Riverbend until a time where the costs for Calgarians are more stable. City managers who spend money on these types of infrastructure..non issues should be deployed to another department with greater fiscal oversight.

are un necessary given the economic climate



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) Lynda (Lynne)

Last name (required) Palmer

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PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I understand the city's need for funds. I am a senior on a low fixed income. My fixed rate electricity ran out this month and it will increase 100% on the new rate!!! Food costs are getting to be out of reach. EVERYTHING is becoming out of reach and now the City is proposing yet another tax increase. Maybe that is ok for people who are working and getting substantial raises, but for we seniors who struggle to make ends meet, this tax increase could break the camels back. We could be forced to sell our homes to go where??? No seniors housing is available. Please think about ALL Calgarians when you approve any increase and transfer taxes from businesses to ordinary folks who are being smothered by inflations. Maybe the increases will give the city more spending latitude but at what cost to the so many Calgarians who are struggling. Have some compassion.



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First name (required)	Umar
Last name (required)	Ahsan
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(required - max 75 characters)

tax share from non-residential to residential

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I want to highlight that the council should focus on optimizing resources and taxes instead of just increasing the taxes for homeowners already living under extreme pressure of high mortgage payments.



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First name (required)	Linda
Last name (required)	Wilson
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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

It is time... before you come for our money, make sure the SPENDING mindset at city hall is one that recognizes these are tough times and hard choices need to be made. Lead by example, I suspect each business unit when 'strongly encouraged' to find places to save ... can work magic.

I absolutely believe you can do better.

I fully support and understand the legislative and moral necessity to right the business to residential ratio.



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First name (required) Dorota

Last name (required) Bela

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CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

You as a council are elected to serve people. You should look for best usage of our dollars. Start finally looking for all the unnecessary spending and cut it off. You can start with all the spending on green agenda. Find efficiencies in city operations and stop raising taxes. Give people break. Too many already are struggling to put food on their tables. Do not raise taxes.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

ENDORSEMENT STATEMENT ON TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION, ANTI-RACISM, EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING

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First name (required)	Jody
Last name (required)	Brox
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Cost of living expenses in Calgary are very high & continue to rise. Please reconsider property tax increase. It is making living in single family dwelling cost prohibitive.



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First name (required)	Kevin
Last name (required)	Stretch
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please do not change the plan you created only a year ago. You already collect too much taxes. Do more with less.



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First name (required)	Dawn
Last name (required)	Allen
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid-	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))



(required - max 75 characters)

Shifting the tax burden to residential

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

This is an absolutely outrageous time to shift additional taxes onto residential when we already know the cost of living including housing is out of control and there is literally zero relief insight. Cut some of your nonsense spending and balance the budget without taking more from the people working their tails off to make ends meet and just keep the heat on and food on the table. Such an insanely out of touch thing to purpose. If we all have to cut back everything to just live why the heck can the city not lead by example and cut som bloody spending!



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First name (required) **Madeleine**

Last name (required) **Lacasse**

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provi- **Council**

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **20 nov. 23**

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Je suis absolument CONTRE la construction d'un nouvel aréna pour les millionnaires du hockey. Je préférerais que cet argent soit plutôt utilisé pour la construction de logements à prix modiques ainsi que pour des résidences pour personnes âgées à des prix plus abordables. Si vous pouviez écrire vos informations en français, je serais certaine de tout comprendre.



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First name (required)	R
Last name (required)	Patel
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid-	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



{required - max 75 characters}

Residential tax base increases

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? {required}

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

There should be options suggested for cutting costs or services as opposed to tax increases, so that a balanced decision can be made. Ex. I don't support paying for a new sports complex when the city cannot afford better traffic controls in my residential area, requested for the last 10 years, so that an adult can cross the street safely to get the mail or the kids walk to school without being hit by a vehicle. Understanding how a decision is made by those earning much more than I do, and that affects me directly, is important.



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First name (required)	Devon
Last name (required)	Guzzi
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid-	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear Members of the City Council,

I write to you concerning the recent budget adjustments and the growing financial pressures on Calgary's residents. In light of the current economic challenges, including rising inflation and cost of living, I propose a reevaluation of our city's fiscal strategy, specifically advocating for a shift in the burden of increased revenue generation from residents to businesses.

The present economic context places a significant burden on residents, many of whom grapple with fixed or limited incomes. Increasing taxes or fees for these individuals could exacerbate their financial difficulties, leading to a diminished quality of life and decreased spending power. This, in turn, can negatively impact local businesses and the broader economy.

Businesses, particularly larger corporations, typically possess greater resources and capacities to manage additional financial responsibilities. Aligning Calgary's tax structure with that of other major Canadian cities, where businesses bear a larger share of tax responsibilities, could present a more sustainable and equitable approach to municipal revenue generation.

A shift towards greater business contribution would not only ensure fairness but also promote long-term economic health. Residents with more disposable income are likely to spend more within the local economy, benefiting businesses and fostering a vibrant, sustainable economy.

Additional revenue from businesses can be strategically invested in community services and infrastructure, directly benefiting these businesses. This includes improved transportation, public safety, and other services that enhance the quality of life in Calgary and create an attractive environment for business operations.

In conclusion, focusing on businesses for additional revenue generation is a strategic move towards a more equitable, sustainable, and beneficial fiscal policy. This approach aligns with the need to maintain essential services and infrastructure while supporting the long-term economic health of Calgary.

I appreciate your consideration of this proposal and look forward to seeing our city thrive with a balanced and fair approach to fiscal management.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required)	iryna
Last name (required)	zhygimont
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Higher property taxes for residential properties will place an additional financial burden on homeowners, especially those with fixed or limited incomes. There is clearly a lack of transparency and an attempt to shift the tax burden and make the homeowners pay for the fiscal mistakes of the City government. It has failed its voters.



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First name (required)	Frank
Last name (required)	Hall
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid-	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

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CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Council needs to seriously address Green Line project..Cost overruns will be a major issue particularly tunneling under the Bow River and new design on cars..Council has to reset and provide a new budget and plan to the Green line This is really important



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) **Linda**

Last name (required) **Mill**

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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

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PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

property tax increase for 2024

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Stop spending on wasteful things. Let's look at cut backs and waste and stop raising taxes and spending. It is NOT the time to increase taxes. Seniors are hurting, low income people are also hurting, this is not the time to be spending more money and passing on more taxes to do so. time to pull in, restrain spending and stop taxing us further.



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First name (required) **CHRISTINE**

Last name (required) **BUCHANAN**

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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

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(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Looks like what's new is more spending. The time has come to start cutting the budget. Cutting taxes. If we need to reallocate more taxes to residences, and we do, there will need to be cuts in spending or foreclosures will be rampant. I read an article last week advising taxpayers that Government overspending is the primary cause of inflation. And inflation drives up interest rates and therefore mortgage payments. Individuals are forced to re-examine every cent they spend. I would expect the City to do the same.

I believe November is financial literacy month. It would be appropriate for City Council members to educate taxpayers. Governments use fund accounting. Every type of spending is in a different "pot". Individuals use a basic income statement to make sure their income covers expenses, and a balance sheet to ensure they don't borrow more than they can afford, based on the assets they own. It would be appropriate for the city to provide financial information to taxpayers in that format. I look at the financial information provided by the City and it is of no use to me. Please provide financial information to taxpayers in a user friendly, but proper accounting, format so we can understand and evaluate where our money is really going.

I look forward to hearing Council's plans to better manage spending.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required)	Nancy
Last name (required)	McClelland
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid-	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))

{required - max 75 characters}

Raising taxes on parking, taxi, property taxes, fees,

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

It does not matter what other cities do or have, it matters how it affects Calgarians. WE ARE NOW THE 3RDMOST T EXPENSIVE CITY IN CANADA. That is not the record to be proud of.

It was strongly suggested that Calgary wait to build the arena. Now look what is happening \$540 milliom dollars would go a long ways to reducing the tax burden. What other money are you going to FIND?

Why are taxes to commercial businesses not a tax write-off to them?

Residential homes cannot write them off.

So what is the deal? Why are higher taxes to commercial such a problem?

I would like to know the answer to this!



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) Omar

Last name (required) Robleh

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid- Council

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))



(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am against the proposed residential property tax increase of 7.8%.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required)	Frank
Last name (required)	Raffin
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Can someone in council please tell the city of Calgary taxpayers why an tax increase is required when the city has billions of dollars in surplus funds and 1.4 billion dollars in unspent capital for approved projects? Both the surplus and this unspent capital continue to grow at an unprecedented rate so why should the taxpayer be faced with yet another tax hike? Thank you.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) **steve**

Last name (required) **williams**

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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

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PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Cut City budget and lower taxes!! When was the last time there was meaningful cuts to the City of Calgary's budget. I would support significant cuts, City Hall bureaucracy is bloated!



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) **Barbara**

Last name (required) **Madsen**

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Standing Policy Committee on Community Development**

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))



(required - max 75 characters)

Affordable housing

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

New housing ideas, such as duplexes allowed to sublet basements. And how to regulate and detect illegal suites



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) Shawn

Last name (required) Pedersen

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PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget increase of 8%

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Council is completely out of touch. 40 mm for Olympic Plaza and an 8 % budget increase. Just to name one issue. Please exercise common sense from this point forward .



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) Debra

Last name (required) Rogers

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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget reduce spending, don't shift tax burden!

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Rather than shift a larger tax burden from business to residents, REDUCE SPENDING by the 1% per year, planned for business incentive!!! Calgarians want fiscal restraint and careful money management.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) Shondell

Last name (required) Sabad

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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) Nov 20, 2023

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PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

{required - max 75 characters}

proposed Property Tax increases

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

The proposed 8% property tax increase is simply too much. Taxes make up the **LARGEST** household expense for Canadians and Calgarians, it is also rising at a faster pace than food/shelter and other costs that families have. Please start considering affordability.

November 15, 2023
City of Calgary
P.O. Box 2100, Stn. M
Calgary, Alberta
2TP 2M5

Dear Mayor and Council,

Re: Upcoming Property Tax re-distribution decision

Panattoni Development Company is a large global developer and investor in light industrial real estate and we have been very active in the City of Calgary. Most recently, we have completed the largest warehouse project in western Canada, ranked as one of the most expensive and prominent construction projects in Alberta in 2022, for the 2.9 million sq. ft. YYC4 Amazon robotics building on 68th Street SE. This project was successful for many reasons including the excellent service and solution-oriented decision making by City staff.

Last year, in partnership with one of our larger national institutional investors, we purchased 124 acres of vacant industrial on 68th Street SE to develop new, class A industrial buildings. This land purchase was one of the largest and most valuable land transactions in the City in recent years. Months after this land acquisition, we commenced construction of 750,000 sq. ft. across two large buildings on speculation and completing next month. This represents our first phase of development and we can develop an additional 1,500,000 sq. ft. on the remaining land. We are actively marketing the buildings and have experienced, first hand, the impact of the property tax differential between the City and surrounding counties losing several bids to attract new businesses and fighting keep existing companies inside the City because of this delta.

City Council has identified the competitiveness of the City and particularly the non-residential to residential property tax mix. This aligns with our ongoing concerns as a committed and major investor within the City limits and being unable to alter the narrative in the market from industrial tenants and brokers promoting the tax advantages of locating immediately outside the City limits. Further, witnessing other developers and institutional investors purchasing significant land holdings to take advantage of this competitive advantage and capitalizing by attracting tenants and jobs out of the City while many of those workers reside within the City.

Seeing several million sq. ft. over the past two years alone that has been leased by tenants taking advantage of the property tax differential, we as well may have no choice but to consider the same for our future projects. While we believe that the City provides services that are of value to tenants such as transit, road network upgrades and density of commercial support services; the higher costs of these benefits are no longer rationalized by the tenants as evidenced by the current momentum of new development and occupancies in Balzac and east of the City. To support economic growth, it is important the City remains vigilant and focused finding ways to increase its offering for light industrial projects through the activation of new land for industrial development and no longer being muted on the uncompetitive tax rate with adjacent municipalities.

Panattoni is supportive of the proposal to re-balance a portion of the property taxes to the larger residential tax base as a necessary step for establishing a competitive playing field and creating a more attractive environment for commercial/ light industrial real estate investment and employment opportunities to remain inside the City of Calgary limits.

Sincerely



Mark Edwards
Senior Director, Development

Cc: Brad Hoffman – Executive Vice President



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First name (required)	Chris
Last name (required)	Saunders
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Numerous traffic safety issues exist around schools which could be resolved by a City study and action as part of the 5A Network. Youth En Route has prepared an analysis of examples for various schools which is being submitted to City Council.



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First name (required)	Laura
Last name (required)	Roe
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid-	Council
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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

An increase of 5% on single family residential costs for 2024 alone is going to be so burdensome on families that are already struggling to live. The cost of living is already so high, this along with other unexpected fees (such as new residential parking fees) will be too much and you will force people to move from our city.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) **daryll**

Last name (required) **harrison**

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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

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PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Calgary City Council,

I strongly disagree with the proposed property tax increase for 2023. City council speaks often of the need to 'increase service levels' in response to the growing needs of the city. It is not, at all, clear to me that city council and administration has undertaken any meaningful attempt to determine the actual needs of the citizens. In Ward 6, there has been no obvious attempt to do so (and one open house in two years falls far short of any reasonable attempt to do so). Should additional expenditures be required, fund those of highest priority through cost reductions in areas of lower priority, and then determine what can be further funded on a needed basis only to maintain a minimal increase in budget growth. This is not difficult - every viable business in the city does this EVERY year. There is only one taxpayer for all levels of government within this country.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required)	Evan
Last name (required)	Morcom
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid-	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

As many Calgarians are struggling with affordability it seems counter productive to be providing hundreds of millions of taxpayer money for an arena while increasing our property taxes.



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First name (required) Andrea

Last name (required) Becker

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid- Council

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

As you prepare next year's budget, Calgary citizens will again be asking you to prioritize transit. By declaring a climate emergency, council is aware effective and affordable public transit is an important tool to lower emissions. Transit rates are far too high for the casual user, especially during this inflationary time, at \$7.20 per person for a round trip. In many cases, it's cheaper to take a car than to take the train or bus! There are other very important transit projects council should continue to fund:

- Airport transit connection on the (east leg) / Blue Line
- Blue Line Extension
- North Central BRT and Green Line North (Stage 2) funding
- Make transit free for youth 12 and under permanent

Thank you for your time and attention.



KENSINGTON — V I L L A G E —

November 15, 2023

Regarding upcoming budget talks and a proposed tax shift to help businesses:

Dear Mayor Gondek and members of Council,

Business Improvement Areas and Business Revitalization Zones are here today to support you in your hard work to determine the best solution to the tax shift problem for all Calgarians – businesses and residents. We are here representing small businesses and their employees, understanding that the tax shift is a problem that affects us all and that we all – residents and business owners – are a part of the solution.

Calgary's small businesses are primarily located on main streets throughout Calgary and belong to Business Improvement Areas/ Business Revitalization Zones (BIA/BRZ). These 15 districts account for approximately 6,000 businesses operating in Calgary's most vibrant, active shopping areas. They employ upwards of 50,000 people. BIA/BRZ's contribute and are the principal force behind improving key Avenues and Streets and neighbouring communities throughout Calgary. Our businesses are already facing numerous financial challenges due to the ongoing economic downturn, pandemic debt, staffing shortages, and changes in labour and energy costs.

We cannot continue to fund the City and collect taxes the way we have been with so much of the burden continuing to still be carried by small businesses.

Small outdoor business districts are the lifeblood of all cities...They provide services...They employ residents...They pay taxes...They attract tourists...They support our local economy by reinvesting \$6 locally for every \$1 spent in them.

I think we can all agree that our next boom still feels a long way away and admit that we may never again experience the economic highs of the past. Our economic future will be different, but that future can still be wonderful for all Calgarians.

Sharing the burden and the financial pain of our current economy is our only way forward. Finding a way of ensuring that Calgary residents AND Calgary businesses

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Address 203 10A Street NW Calgary, Alberta T2N 1W7 | Phone 403.969.3216 | Email kensingtonbrz@shaw.ca

 KensingtonCalgary

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 @KensingtonYYC



KENSINGTON — VILLAGE —

emerge from this challenging economy as financially viable partners, as supporters of each other, is everyone's goal here today.

The onus is on Council to remedy the burden on businesses that pay 4.59 times more taxes than residential taxpayers by further shifting the tax ratio from the current 48/52 split.

Businesses need time to plan for sudden increased expenditures. Shifting the tax ratio is a strategy that reduces tax volatility for businesses by spreading the burden and the risk across as many taxpayers as possible. While there are only about 6,000 businesses in the BIAs and about 48,000 businesses in Calgary there are about 500,000 residential properties. Spreading taxes thickly across a small number of businesses versus thinly across many more residents is the equitable way to help everyone.

Many small business owners have invested their life savings in their businesses and provide work for many employees. Although most BIAs have lost businesses in this downturn, Calgary's entrepreneurial spirit remains strong as new small businesses continue to open in the BIAs.

Calgary's BIAs stand with our allies in this ask for further shifting the 48/52 tax to help businesses. We have developed strong partnerships developed in recent years with other stakeholder groups and have succeeded in raising the level of debate in Calgary about our economic woes by bringing our tax shift problem into the light of day for frank discussion. Our partners in this hard work and advocacy for businesses are Calgary Economic Development, the Chamber of Commerce, the Canadian Federation of Independent Businesses and Landlords groups.

We appreciate there are so many groups here for the public hearings on the budget all pleading the importance of their cause during these public hearings. There are no easy solutions here but if you sacrifice the inner-City business districts you not only put small businesses and their employees out of work but also compromise Calgary's reputation as a great place to do business, to invest, to live, and to come as a tourist.

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KENSINGTON
— VILLAGE —

The City of Calgary's laudable priorities are to foster a *City that moves, a prosperous City, a well-run City, a City of safe and inspiring neighbourhoods, and a healthy and green City.*

Please hold true to these goals and preserve the small businesses that contribute so much to your goals by voting for another tax shift from non-residential to residential.

On behalf of Calgary BIAs (CBiZ) including Crescent Heights, International Avenue, Downtown Business Association, Bowness, Victoria Park, 17th Ave SW, Greenview Industrial, Inglewood, 4th St, Montgomery, Bridgeland, and Marda Loop Business Improvement Areas.

Sincerely,

Annie MacInnis
Executive Director
Kensington Business Revitalization Zone
200 203 10A Street NW
Calgary, AB, T2N 1W7
Cell: 403-969-3216
Email: kensingtonbrz@shaw.ca

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Last name (required)	Bistrovic
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November.20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

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(required - max 75 characters)

Property tax adjustment

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

**Urging cancellors and mayor to hear public opinion about taxes increase. I am struggling to understand how city budget over billion dollars is used at councils and comities disposal.
I can not thank any for your service as you who are voted by public and forgetting the that same voters.**



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

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First name (required)	Don
Last name (required)	Stephan
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(required - max 75 characters)

Control spending. Don't increase taxes.

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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First name (required)	Inam
Last name (required)	Teja
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(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

November 17, 2023

Calgary City Council
The Municipal Building
800 Macleod Trail S.E.
Calgary, AB, Canada T2G 2M3

Dear Mayor Gondek and Members of Calgary City Council,

We are writing to you to request your support for three specific budget items related to housing and mental health during the upcoming budget deliberations. We hope to garner your support because we are facing some exceptional challenges that require large-scale solutions and concrete investments. Emergency shelter at the Calgary Drop-In Centre has seen a 26% increase in demand in October 2023 compared to October 2022. Even more alarmingly, we have seen 196 drug poisonings in October of 2023 compared to 87 in October of 2022, a 125% increase. Drug poisonings and lack of housing are not discrete crises. For many, they are a vicious cycle.

We applaud City Council's decision to address this by passing the City of Calgary Housing Strategy, and we would like to see City Council continue this work by fully funding two very important items for investment during the budget adjustment period: 1) **Implementing Key Recommendations from the City of Calgary Housing Strategy**, and 2) **Improving Access to Affordable Housing**. By increasing the availability and affordability of housing, we can prevent more people from becoming homeless and help those who are homeless to exit the shelter system and move into permanent housing. This will also reduce the pressure on our shelter operations and allow us to provide our essential services more effectively. These investments address the specific needs and barriers faced by Indigenous and equity-deserving populations, who are overrepresented among those who use our services. By providing culturally appropriate and inclusive housing solutions, we can help them achieve better outcomes in terms of health, education, employment, and social inclusion.

We would also ask that you support the **permanent commitment to the delivery of Calgary's Mental Health and Addictions Strategy**. The DI has received funding under this strategy which goes towards our mental health and addictions supports. This funding has ensured our effectiveness in helping our clients access appropriate treatment and support for their mental health and addictions issues through a variety of means. Because of this funding we have reduced barriers such as stigma, wait times, costs, transportation challenges, lack of information, or lack of trust that often prevent our clients from accessing the care they need.

These three budget items are crucial for addressing the complex and interrelated challenges faced by many Calgarians who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. By supporting these investments, you will exemplify your continued commitment to creating a more livable, responsible, and compassionate city for all. Please know that you have an open invitation to come visit the DI anytime, and we are always happy to talk further if you have any questions.

With Kindness,



Sandra Clarkson
Executive Director

CALGARY DROP-IN CENTRE
1 Dermot Baldwin Way SE
Calgary, Alberta T2G 0P8

Phone 403-263-5707
Fax 403-234-0677

WWW.CALGARYDROPIN.CA
REG. NO. 11882 3459 RR0001



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First name (required) **Andrew**

Last name (required) **Yule**

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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget Adjustments

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please see the attached submission / proposal from the Nose Creek Preservation Society regarding council's budget adjustments. We believe a small investment in the Nose Creek Valley will have a major impact on the city's goals in regards to wetlands, open spaces and the overall Climate Emergency.



Fall Budget Adjustments Stormwater Pond

Phase 1 Park Proposal | November 17, 2023

Dear Mayor Gondek and City Council,

The Nose Creek Preservation Society requests that you add additional budget towards upgrades to the Coventry Hills Stormwater Ponds. With the recent news that the city

was forced to trap-kill two beavers and the lack of access to this area for residents with mobility challenges, it is time the city made some minor upgrades to this 'park.'



The current Stormwater Ponds were designed as a park space for Coventry Hills back in 2008/09. This 'park' currently has three City of Calgary garbage cans, a gravel path, and a bridge around the ponds.

However, access to this "park" does not exist.

Proposal for Phase 1

In order to complete this project into an actual park the following should be considered:

- **New Sidewalks** (Red Line ~342m) Currently, there is NO community pedestrian access to this park for people in wheelchairs or mobility challenges.
- **Gravel Parking** (Blue Box 432m²) A small parking area for about six cars is suggested. Many people are currently using the small driveway off Country Hills Blvd to park. It would also be good to move the Vehicle Gate to the end of a new parking area, and provide better walk-in access.
- **Replace the Vehicle Gate** The current vehicle gate does not allow access for pedestrians to enter the park. Needs to be redesigned for pedestrian access.
- **Refresh the Gravel Pathway** Improving the gravel pathway while also extending it up to the Northern boundary of the City's property. (City has started this work)
- **Install culvert excluder type of device** The "Trap-Kill" deaths of beavers in these ponds needs a response. We were told this upgrade would help to save our future beaver population.

Accomplishing Phase One would be an amazing first step to the “Save Nose Creek” campaign we launched in July 2022. It is an achievable request for these Fall Budget Adjustments.

Potential Future Phases

Once phase one is completed the city could build upon that park foundation with these future phase ideas:



→ **Land acquisition of the Glacial Erratic** We have reached out to the landowner, but have not had any responses back yet. These are concepts created by students from the U of C School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape. They envisioned how access to this natural monument might look like. Calgary has not done a great job protecting this rare rock.



→ **A bridge access from the bluffs to the Northern Boundary of the city's property.** Materially it doesn't need to be a big infrastructure project. Like how the Calgary Curling Club Stairs are made of wood. The city would need to also consider Wheelchair access. Below is how one student designed this type of access.



Proposed Plan



A Typical Climb



Section 4A



We believe that our proposal for Phase One to be included in the 2023 Budget adjustments is a “small ask” that could lead to some pretty significant future opportunities in the Nose Creek Valley.

As we look at the current budget adjustments before City Council we see very little dedicated to wetlands, open spaces, and the overall Climate Emergency.

We believe this small investment in Nose Creek will go a long way in accomplishing the city's goals in these very important areas.

Thank you for your consideration of our proposal.

R. Andrew Yule, CCLP (he/him/his)

President

Nose Creek Preservation Society

Socials: @SaveNoseCreek

Website: SaveNoseCreek.com

Email: info@savenosecreek.com



The Nose Creek Preservation Society is honoured to advocate for the Nose Creek Valley on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Îyâxe Nakoda Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.



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First name (required)	Don
Last name (required)	Taylor
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(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I believe the plans for the LRT Green Line needs adjustment and it would entail service improvements and significant cost savings. Going north from downtown to 16th Ave makes no sense and entails significant potential for cost over-runs especially by going underground where a high water table exists and it certainly doesn't hold any potential for a major revenue increase. End phase 1 at downtown (ie south of the river) and instead extend it in the southeast past Shepard to the South Campus area where there would be much more demand and revenue. The amount saved would pay for a NE extension to the airport and still have many million \$ in savings. This has been suggested many times by many people and I have never heard a comment from the city or an acknowledgement that this could be the case.

2114 2nd Avenue NW
Calgary, AB T2N 0G7
November 18, 2023

Re: Budget and Growth

Dear Mayor Gondek and members of City Council,

As you consider revisions to the City's budget there is one basic point I want to stress.

As you know, the form, mix, density, and distribution of growth has huge implications for the fiscal costs the City must bear. This was clearly established in the City's 2009 Cost of Growth study and confirmed in the more recent update of that study. There is no need to expand on this well-established fact. In light of the costs of low density, automobile-centric growth the MDP calls for a minimum of 50% of all growth (since 2005) to occur in established areas by 2069. The need for an **effective City-wide growth strategy** tied to the goals and targets of the MDP is clear, not only **for clear budgetary reasons**, but *also because it is critical to advancing the City's climate and housing goals*.

What is very concerning is the fact that the City is falling far short of its "urban expansion" target. To be clear, the MDP's 50% goal is very modest—it would achieve a density similar to that of Los Angeles. To claim that this is not achievable in Calgary would signal a stunning lack of ambition and seriousness. The real problem with meeting this goal is that, contrary to the explicit mandate of the MDP, no effective mechanism to achieve the density goals and targets of the MDP has been implemented.

In 2009-2010 I was one of two citizen members of the Plan-It Implementation Committee, working for the better part of a year with four members of City Council, the Director of Land Use Planning and Policy, the Director of Transportation Planning, and representatives of UDI and the Homebuilders, to develop mechanisms and tools to get us to the goals specified in the MDP. Linking local area planning processes to the MDP was one of the key mechanisms we envisioned, and this is explicitly reflected in the MDP (2020 update):

2.3.7 FOSTER COMMUNITY DIALOGUE AND PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY PLANNING

Policies, Community participation:

- a. Recognize that community planning processes are critical implementation tools for refining and realizing the vision of the MDP.

That the MDP links the implementation of the MDP to local area planning processes is explicit and clear. Yet as a current member of the Riley Communities Local Area Plan working group I find that linkage between the LAP process and the MDP is vague and amorphous at best. There is certainly no explicit linkage to quantifiable goals and targets of the MDP or to the core indicators used to monitor progress. This actually came up in the Riley Communities LAP process when another working group member (a former City of Calgary planner) asked the City's planners to "tell us how many dwelling units you need, and we'll help you figure out where to put them." There was no response to this request, yet this is exactly the approach that is needed: aligned with the stated goals and targets of the MDP, guided by citizen collaboration and knowledge, achieving the densification and increased housing variety that is needed, and creating a more compact and efficient city that will **reduce demands on the City's budget**.

The City has a long history of producing outstanding policy documents, then falling short on **implementation**. Unfortunately, this is another example, with very serious implications. But the good news is that the problem is fixable. I strongly encourage Council to direct planning staff to develop a mechanism that explicitly translates the goals and targets specified in the MDP to each Local Area Planning process. Numerical targets will need to have to a degree of flexibility to accommodate differences in local infrastructural and environmental contexts, and citizen input will be critical in determining how targets are met. Flexibility must be combined with a meaningful good faith effort to achieve the goals and targets of the MDP that Council and citizens agreed upon.

While we consider individual line items in the budget let's also step back and consider the broader systemic considerations that drive the costs of building and servicing our city. The MDP provides us with an excellent framework to guide Calgary's growth. By linking the Local Area Planning process to the targets of the MDP we can actually achieve the densification targets laid out in it.

Sincerely,

Dr. Byron Miller
Professor of Geography
Adjunct Professor of Planning
Urban Studies Program Coordinator
University of Calgary



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I have read and understand the above statement.

ENDORSEMENT STATEMENT ON TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION, ANTI-RACISM, EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING

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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) jacqs

Last name (required) walker

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) Standing Policy Committee on Community Development

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

(required - max 75 characters)

Permanently funding Skipping Stone Foundation's Core Programming

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I understand that Council is engaging in budget deliberations, which includes a recommendation to permanently fund Calgary's Mental Health and Addictions Strategy (Change Can't Wait, Connect the Dots!, and Community Safety Investment Framework funding).

I am writing to express my support for this recommendation, as I believe that investments into the mental health and wellness of Calgary's most vulnerable are well-placed.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments and I trust that your decisions will be made in consideration of all those who call Calgary home.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required)	Alicia
Last name (required)	Valliere
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am not in favor of increase to residential property taxes and shift to move the balance from the business to residential.

I am in strong opposition of this path forward, as the city sees an increase in population and house sales, this is where the city needs to look to be more frugal on their budget.

Do we need more art work - this is not a need. If I have to tighten my belt and not have entertainment budget (want) to cover my mortgage (need) .



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required)	Glenn
Last name (required)	Grainger
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

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PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Eliminate the excessive Enmax City of Calgary access fees. Eliminate the tax increase and reduce spending.



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First name (required) **Tarvinder**

Last name (required) **Bajwa**

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Council**

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Businesses don't pay income taxes at the same rate as salaried people and they get lot of rebates and subsidies and in some cases tax breaks too! They are able to claim lot of expenses as tax deductible too which individuals cannot and let's not talk about the underground economy or cash transactions which a lot of small businesses do in which they eventually may not pay any tax at all by not showing that revenue in their books, so it's not a level playing field between businesses and residential property tax payers! I am sure there was a reason why businesses across the world pay more property taxes than residents so don't change it without proper research since residential tax payers will end up subsidizing the businesses in property tax too just like how our tax money is used to subsidize businesses and big corporations! I oppose this increase in hard times like these! Families are struggling to put food on table and mortgage rates are killing us already! Rents will go up too as a result of this and the city will be become uncompetitive in terms of immigration too!
Thanks!



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First name (required)	AI
Last name (required)	Del Degan
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(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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CC 968 (R2023-11)

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First name (required)	Susan
Last name (required)	Tyrell
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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I urge you to make funding robust public transit system a priority in your current budget discussions and decision-making.

Our transit system, never optimal, has deteriorated since the pandemic. We need to ensure that it is safe, reliable, and affordable for citizen of all ages and economic circumstances. Please consider reducing transit fares, especially for children under 12.

I have had the privilege of traveling to cities in North America and throughout the world, and the fact that there is no easy or efficient public transit from our airport is an embarrassment. Please ensure that the Blue Line extension goes ahead.

Good public transit not only ensures that citizens can fully participate in economic, educational and recreational activities, it plays a big role in reducing pollution and urban sprawl.



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First name (required) **Renee**

Last name (required) **Mah-Poy**

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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum: 2500 characters)

We listened to people, for 2 days, speaking about housing in Calgary. They spoke about not being able to afford housing and mental health issues related to the cost of living. The mayor said these times are like war times. City council said we have a serious problem and need to make changes.

Now it's time for taxes. Now the poll of the public is being used to show 50% of people want taxes raised. This is being used to support taxes being raised. These are the same people that were ignored when they did not want housing changes made that would devalue their home.

City council picks and chooses what they want to use in order to pass their own agenda.



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First name (required)	Tobias
Last name (required)	Wiggins
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))

(required - max 75 characters)

Investment Option 23 – Permanently Funding Calgary's Mental Health and Addi

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear Council,

I understand that Council is engaging in budget deliberations, which includes a recommendation to permanently fund Calgary's Mental Health and Addictions Strategy (Change Can't Wait, Connect the Dots!, and Community Safety Investment Framework funding). I am an assistant professor at Athabasca University and my research specialization includes mental health in marginalized communities and community-based mental health programming. As an expert in this field, I am writing to express my strong support for this recommendation. Contemporary research has clearly shown that mental health programming, like many of the exceptional organizations we have in Calgary, significantly reduces adverse health risks, homelessness, and community violence. It is a powerful intervention into many of the most pressing social issues that our city faces. By permanently funding these programs, the council invests in the mental health and wellness of Calgary's most vulnerable, which in turn, saves the city money, as there is a strong economic case for the prevention of mental illness (see, for example, <https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/10.1146/annurev-publhealth-040617-013629>).

Thank you for your consideration of my comments and please don't hesitate to be in touch with any follow up questions.

Best regards,
Prof Wiggins



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) **Johnathan**

Last name (required) **Kuipers**

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Council**

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

We understand that Council is engaging in budget deliberations, which includes a recommendation to permanently fund Calgary's Mental Health and Addictions Strategy (Change Can't Wait, Connect the Dots!, and Community Safety Investment Framework funding).

As one of the currently funded organizations, Skipping Stone is writing to express our support for this recommendation, as we believe that investments into the mental health and wellness of Calgary's most vulnerable are well-placed.

Contemporary research has clearly shown that mental health programming, like many of the exceptional organizations we have in Calgary, significantly reduces adverse health risks, homelessness, and community violence. It is a powerful intervention into many of the most pressing social issues that our city faces. By permanently funding these programs, the council invests in the mental health and wellness of Calgary's most vulnerable, which in turn, saves the city money, as there is a strong economic case for the prevention of mental illness.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments and we trust that your decisions will be made in the interest of all those who call Calgary home.



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First name (required) Allison

Last name (required) Iriye

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) Council

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am writing to express my support for the recommendation of Investment Option 23 to permanently fund Calgary's Mental Health and Addictions Strategy (Change Can't Wait, Connect the Dots!, and Community Safety Investment Framework funding). Securing sustainable funding for mental health and addictions programs ensures Calgarians experiencing mental health and addiction challenges will be able to access the services they need to better their health and wellness. Thank you for your consideration, and I trust that your decisions as the City Council will be made in mind with all those who call this city home.



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First name (required) **Wayne**

Last name (required) **Morris**

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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget - increased spending plans and TAX increases

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Now is not the time for altruistic investments when citizens barely meet their monthly financial commitments and the Mortgage Tsunami is about to take its toll starting 2024.

Most Cannot Afford City Tax Hikes

Background – current situation is Serious

Calgary is comprised of upper middle class (well paid financially stable citizens) and the very large group comprised of the “other middle”, seniors and the working poor who are in a dire situation. The available cash for the “lower middle” at the end of the month after expenses has eroded dramatically.

You don't need me to tell you how expensive things are today for citizens, but a gentle reminder of how deep the financial hurt is across Calgary could help focus on what is the right thing to do.

It's not that I find your priorities misguided, but the extent to which Calgarians can afford to pay for these has all but disappeared.

Working people are needing to access food banks to get by every month. Estimated over 150,000+ families depend on the Calgary food bank in 2023, and over 30% of those are working. Many more rely on other food sources. 84,000 Calgarians are classified as living in poverty.

This year, **25 per cent of city residents** can't meet basic financial needs, up from 19 per cent in 2022. (Calgary Foundation's 2023 Quality of Life Report)

\$100,000 is no longer a living wage for a family of four in Calgary. (Vibrant communities Calgary). Rents have increased in Calgary more than most other places in Canada and property TAXES have a direct impact too.

Inflation and the cost of housing are pushing family budgets beyond breaking points, and people are accessing non-profit community services more than ever before. (United Way Calgary)

The Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy found that Alberta recorded 1,161 consumer proposals for bankruptcy and 209 bankruptcies. That amounts to a 41.37 per cent increase year-over-year. <https://calgary.ctvnews.ca/credit-card-debt-stacking-up-for-albertans-amid-high-inflation-increasing-interest-rates-1.6306767>

The real mortgage Tsunami

There is a real looming mortgage renewal crisis tsunami by 2026. Average monthly mortgage payments to increase by over 30% by end of 2025.(CMHC)

“A large increase in average monthly mortgage payments will arise from the nearly \$1 trillion [Canada] in renewals due by 2026, triggering, in turn, a large demand shock and putting stress on the housing market in particular and the economy in general. The distribution is somewhat backloaded, with a bit more than half coming in 2024 and 2025, and the remainder in 2026?”

“There is a two-year lag between policy rates and mortgage defaults, meaning we’re in for a steady rise in defaults starting in early 2024.”

(David Rosenberg - Financial Post) <https://financialpost.com/news/economy/canada-mortgage-math-means-crisis-looming>

Calgary Path forward: Restraint in the face of severe family financial issues

Tax dollars and tax payers deserve a little respect. Spending more in the face of a household economic catastrophe is not wise decision making. Should you wish to allocate more to specific projects, you need to CUT in other places to make room for these expenditures.

FOCUS ON Needs not wants:

Administration appears to have problems with understanding the revenue pot is not endless. This is the problem with bureaucracy. It tends to be self-perpetuating.

Citizen engagement process is broken as it focuses on gathering citizen priorities in a way that focuses on forces choice prioritization, **without putting the cost of making these choices clear**. Very easy to say we want more or better services, but is each respondent really willing to fork out the extra money? Just ask about user pay for services!

Example: Priority for transit – getting to my destination faster. Who would not want that? Lets pick that one for sure! Just ask any car driver the same question. But then it’s up to the administration to find out HOW to do that. Simple – lets change the route structure and make priority routes every 10 mins rather than the existing.

The cost is substantial. But are we willing to PAY for this Luxury? Will it really deliver the value it will cost? I think not on both questions. First – are riders willing to pay an addition 50% more for their rides? No – they think they are already high.

Wealth redistribution is not the City's mandate

Your own City Utility Access fee - based on the RRO has gouged Calgarians - just because you cannot think of how to change its fee structure. To propose using it to subsidize low income Calgarians is NOT fixing the Problem.

Civic Budget Mubo Jumbo:

From what I read in the media, I consider your current proposals Absolutely Tone Deaf!

Calgarians don't care which bucket of money Administration uses for what.

They do care that a large sum of money was used to subsidize an Ice Palace for the Wealthy. Only the wealthy can afford tickets to a Flames game. Now citizens are facing extraordinary tax hikes that compound every year – not just the wealthy!

Money is scarce and making the best choices for its use is something Council and Administration appear to have problems with.

I know we are amongst the few in the city not getting gold plated pay cheques, or the gold plated pensions of city workers. Have you managed to get your future pension costs under control? I think not and it's costing taxpayers royally.

You have surplus from outrageous taxes on Utility access fees you collect from taxpayers, on top of normal excess. Use it to finance the budget. Don't compound my taxes just because you take the Administrations Easy route!

Costs of homes have also increased in Calgary, so on top of your proposed increase, our assessment will again be increased by the perceived value increase of our house.

On top of your tax increases, we will be saddled with the provincial portion increase, only compounding our burden.

Enough already! Stop trying to solve every problem in Calgary on the backs of Taxpayers. There is reasonable and then there is gold plated service and altruistic aspirations.

Just Stop and get Real. Actually listen to real people on the street who are within \$200 each month of failing their budgets -not lobbyists. NOW is NOT the time to ask Calgarians for a large tax increase.

Appendix:

Albertans are most indebted. According to a consumer trends report released September 2023 by Equifax, residents of the province held the highest average amount of non-mortgage debt in the second quarter of 2023 at \$24,439.

The Business Council of Alberta notes the cost of the overall basket of household goods has risen 15 per cent since early 2020, with the largest increases in transportation, food, housing, education and recreation.

In Alberta, 24 per cent of households reported they had to reduce or forgo essentials for at least one month to pay energy bills, the highest rate among the provinces, according to data obtained by Great West Media.

Alberta electricity costs have risen 128% and are the highest in Canada.

We volunteer at the food bank and see the working poor by the hundreds during each shift. There are a lot of Calgarians who are hurting and your administrations proposals - before the tax sharing issue are totally unwelcome.

I managed within business most of life and I can tell you there is still too much fat an inefficiency within your current budget.

First you can ground the Police chopper from routine flights and save millions.

Second, disband Police traffic division, as they do nothing in terms of traffic enforcement.

Your contract parks people only do half the job you pay them to do. If I were to audit your budget there would be millions in savings.



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First name (required)	Klara
Last name (required)	Baty
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))

(required - max 75 characters)

ADJUSTMENTS

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

- Calgary should not be compared to other cities. For example, Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto plow the snow of ALL PUBLIC sidewalks throughout the municipality. Calgary does not. Except for the Bike Paths that is used by less than one quarter of one percent of citizens in this city.
- Many in this city are hurting financially since the LPC came into power and the cost of everything has risen substantially. Raising taxes and/or shifting taxes will be an added burden on households whether they own or rent.
- City of Calgary is "Management heavy". There are departments when you follow the chain of command and have eight to twelve foreman/supervisors/managers for one employee.
- Council wastes money. One prime example is taxpayers footing the bill to purchase and pay monthly fees for each and every council member's personal dwelling. Another being having (personal) vehicles readily available for council at their leisure.
- Another, council received "free" indoor parking.
- For well over two decades, the same stretch of Memorial Drive is allocated million of dollars in beautifying the area. Yet there are areas where the sidewalks haven't been repaired for well over 30 years. I've placed requests several times, six to be exact. Assigned a number and an approximate date for repair for the same sidewalk. Only to have it cancelled each and every time. Same for park upgrades and maintenance. As well as not mowing city property grass. Nor taking care of the excessive weeds (Foxtail, CBF, Toadflax, Knapweed, Thistle, Japanese Brome, Goatgrass, Persian Darnel, etc.) I have lived in the same house for over 36 years. There are park benches that were in poor condition when I originally moved in. Not a single one has been repaired or replaced since they were originally installed two decades prior to me moving into the neighbourhood.
- Calgary does not need an LRT up Centre Street to 16 Avenue. Instead, have BRT buses running East/West across the city to connect with the current LRT lines.
- Council needs to put the city's priorities straight and extend the LRT to the Airport. This would significantly increase ridership while decreasing the number of vehicle accessing the Airport. The Provincial Government has already publicly announced they would invest in this.
- Scooters available for certain areas only, and abandoned everywhere. Along with careless individuals that use them zipping inbetween pedestrians and zig-zagging through traffic and not obeying



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First name (required)	Cathy
Last name (required)	Baker
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure and Planning
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



{required - max 75 characters}

Snow clearing on residential streets

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

It is difficult to comprehend that a major city can decide to not clear snow on certain residential streets. These streets can be assigned a low priority for clearing but it is ridiculous to ignore them entirely. I live on a residential cul de sac that has NO sidewalks.

Pedestrians and vehicles must negotiate the snow, ice and ruts on this road every winter. Why can the city not maintain this road after others have been looked after? We slip, slide and fall on the ice every year.

Our only hope when calling 311 is that the roads department takes requests for sand/salt and some road clearing seriously.

Things should and must improve especially as we get older and falls on the ice become more dangerous .



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First name (required)	Kent
Last name (required)	Carter
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

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(required - max 75 characters)

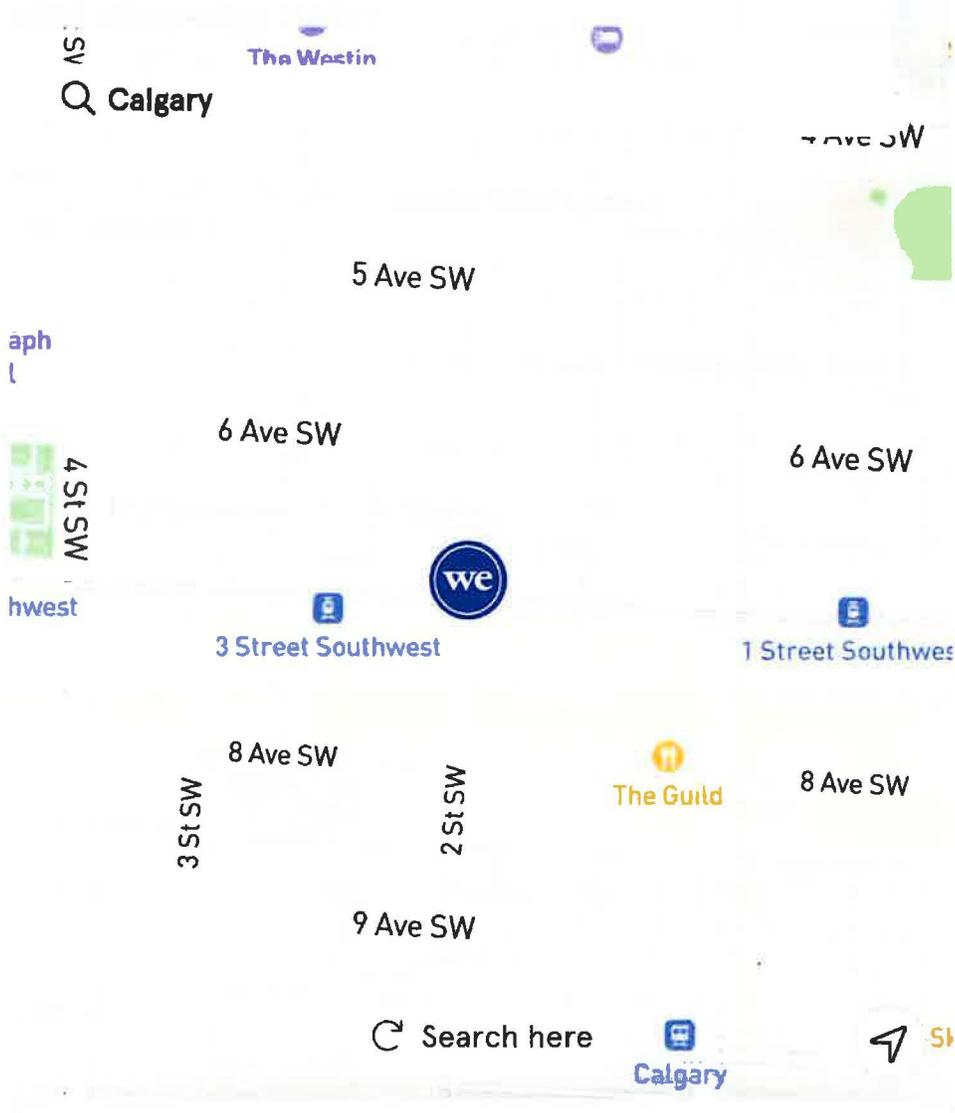
Shifting of tax burden

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Calgary is already attractive to businesses and office vacancies are not a result of the real estate tax burden on businesses, it is because of a shift in corporate policies towards lower G&A costs through automation and efficiency gains. For example, We work, which just recently declared bankruptcy and has been leasing office space on the 19th floor of Stephen Avenue place, was simply not a viable business globally.



Desks Rooms



Stephen Avenue Place





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First name (required)	Brent
Last name (required)	Clark
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid-	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I would like to voice my support for Council allocating full funding to any 5A Network Cycling initiatives in the upcoming budget. This includes adjustments for "Additional 5A (Always Available for All Ages and Abilities) network improvement plan" and "Improving pavement quality with 5A (Always Available for All Ages and Abilities) network", as well as to all items under "Transit". The City has been asking communities, especially in the Established Areas, to continue to take on more density. With increased density, it is critical for the City to provide safe, reliable, efficient and lower-cost options for people to travel within and between communities (to work, school, recreation, etc.) so that more Calgarians have the opportunity for independent travel, to mitigate traffic congestion and to alleviate parking pressures, especially as the City moves to reduce on-site parking requirements. Opportunities to walk, cycle or take transit should be available and accessible to everyone, regardless of age or ability.



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First name (required) Gregg

Last name (required) O'Neil

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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) Nov 20, 2023

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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Taxpayers are facing a 7.8% increase in property taxes at a time when city council is approving capital projects that are of questionable value. An example of the latter is the proposed \$40 M Olympic Plaza Transformation. It's hard for taxpayers to understand how city council can spend this money when we're faced with a very large property tax increase. I'm a retired person on a fixed income and a 7.8% increase in taxes will be a burden. I appreciate that the City of Calgary is facing a number of demands to fund various programs (eg, public safety, affordable housing) and also wish to transfer tax burden from businesses to taxpayers. But Council has to understand that such a large increase in taxes is not affordable at this time. A good solution for taxpayers would be to have the 7.8% increase in property taxes funded at least 50% by budget cuts. These won't be easy decisions, and Calgarians will have to get used to less service in several areas, but this is why you've been elected to council. At the very least, to help save money, there should be an immediate hiring freeze in all City departments.



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First name (required) **Kevin**

Last name (required) **Kobelka**

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Council**

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hockey Calgary would like to endorse increased funding for the Glenmore Athletic Park Twin Arenas that was approved by council in June 2021, to replace the aging Stu Peppard Arena (built in 1962).

Rationale:

- Stu Peppard Arena is past it's life cycle as was noted back in 2010, and yet to date it has not been replaced
- Ice users have concerns with both accessibility and long term viability of this facility
- This facility continually faces issues, causing it to be shut down on a regular basis affecting schedules for hockey, ringette, figure skating etc.
- Ice Sports in Calgary continue to grow, both in the female and male categories
- City Council approved this facility for \$45 million in June of 2021
- Hockey Calgary & Calgary Royals Athletic Assoc. have committed \$6 million to this project, \$3.5 million up front, and the remainder over 10 years
- Hockey Calgary is a proven partner, having executed a similar arrangement in the building of Max Bell #2 (Perry Cavanagh Arena)
- Our understanding is that we are the only youth sporting group that has made such a commitment to recreation facilities in current budget cycle
- Currently largest portion of city ice facilities are on the east side of Calgary, youth sport ice needs are on the west side of the city
- Highest % of hockey players (and other ice users) reside on the west side of the city, and registration continues to grow
- Largest growth area for hockey in Calgary is in the female categories, further bringing light to inadequate female dressing room space

REQUESTED ACTION

- The Glenmore Twin Arena Project is a MUST BUILD NOW initiative. It is requested that City Council support this initiative and approve the adequate funding to keep local youth active and involved in recreational ice sports in Calgary.



HOCKEY CALGARY



BRIEFING NOTE

DATE: 2023/10/23

PROJECT: SOUTHWEST TWIN ARENA REDEVELOPMENT AT GLENMORE ATHLETIC PARK (STU PEPPARD ARENA REPLACEMENT) 5300-19TH STREET S.W. CALGARY

FUNDING PARTNERS: HOCKEY CALGARY
CALGARY ROYALS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

PROJECT STATUS: DESIGN

PROJECT TIMELINE: AS POSTED BY THE CITY OF CALGARY

STATUS	STAGE	NOTES
	June 2021	Council approves \$45,000,000
X	Fall 2022	Design
	Summer 2023	Preconstruction Activities Start
	Spring 2024	Main Construction Starts
	Fall 2025	Construction completion and new facility open to public

KEY FACTS:

- Hockey Calgary has over 14,500 players (6.5% growth in 2023/24), with the fastest growing segment being female at 10.2%.
- Calgary Royals Athletic Association (S.W. Calgary) sponsors 14 elite teams made up of 294 players and 140 coaches/assistant coaches, which includes 3 teams of U13AA, 3 teams of U15AA, 1 team of U15AAA, 1 team of U16AA, 1 team of U17AAA, 2 teams of U18AA, 1 team of U18AAA and 2 teams of Junior B. A comprehensive scholarship program is offered to players.
- Hockey Calgary and Calgary Royals Athletic Association have committed **\$6,000,000** towards the project.
- Calgary City Council approved \$45,000,000.00 for the Southwest Twin Arena Redevelopment @ Glenmore Athletic Park.



HOCKEY CALGARY



BACKGROUND:

- The Glenmore Athletic Park is a premier facility owned and operated by the City of Calgary, which began construction in 1962 which features an arena, aquatic centre and velodrome, all constructed between 1962 – 1975.
- Located within the Athletic Park, the Stu Peppard Arena is one of Calgary's oldest skating facilities. **In 2010, the Council - approved concept plan for Foothills and Glenmore Athletic Park identified Stu Peppard Arena as nearing the end of its useful life due to challenges with its age as well as limitations as a single sheet ice facility. Thirteen (13) years later, still no replacement.**
- Replacing Stu Peppard Arena with an optimized twin arena was proposed as a solution and in June 2021 Council approved \$45,000,000.00 in funding to construct a twin ice facility.

CURRENT CHALLENGES:

- Stu Peppard aging infrastructure
- Increased closures of facility during peak periods to deal with aging infrastructure
- Lack of available ice rinks, due to collapse of the Fairview Arena and the gap left by population growth driving demand.
- Financial competition for other city approved projects.
- Inflation

PROPOSED FACILITY OVERVIEW:

- Two National Hockey Leagues (NHL) ice rinks (convertible to international size)
- Spectator seating capacities of 300 & 1000
- Team rooms; two tenant team rooms – 1 male (replacement for room in Stu Peppard Arena) and 1 female (to serve the fastest growing segment in HC, female hockey).
- Spectator concourse
- Multipurpose room & classroom
- Support spaces
- Design will target a leadership in energy and environmental design (LEED) gold approach

IMPACT:

- Investment projected to contribute \$34.4 million to the GDP
- Service Benefits: \$145,000 annually in health care avoidance
- It will generate 244 full time equivalent jobs during project design and delivery (based on infrastructure Calgary's economic impact assessment model)
- Would add much needed ice to west corridor of the city



HOCKEY CALGARY



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- July 2010 – Glenmore Athletic Park concept plan approved by Council
- February 2018 – Fairview Arena collapsed
- June 2021 – Calgary Council approves \$154 million to support the development of six capital projects which addressed aging infrastructure, service needs and equitable distribution of in demand amenities
 - Northeast Regional Fieldhouse @ Skyview Ranch - \$32 million
 - Northeast Athletic Park @ Saddle Ridge - \$25 million
 - Northwest Athletic Park @ Rocky Ridge - \$14 million
 - Southeast air inflated structure (dome) at the Calgary Soccer Center - \$6 million
 - Southwest Regional Fieldhouse @ Belmont - \$32 million
 - **Southwest Twin Arena Redevelopment @ Glenmore Athletic Park - \$45 million**
(Note: \$6 million from Hockey Calgary/Calgary Royals Athletic Association)
- Funding from offsite levies & community investment reserve
- June 2021 – Calgary Council approves the revised Calgary Recreation Capital Investment Strategy Report C2021-0911
- June 2021 – City of Calgary news release “The City of Calgary will be replacing the Stu Peppard Arena @ the Glenmore Athletic Park which has reached the END of useful life. The arena will be replaced with a new twin ice facility, addressing the need for additional ice space in west Calgary
- July 2022 – City of Calgary – 22-1586 Glenmore Twin Arena Project request for information – posting 136588776 (Doc 466043228) Seeking a qualified multi-disciplinary consulting firm to provide engineering and architectural consulting service
- July 2022 – Government of Alberta posts the Glenmore Twin Arena Project solicitation – AB-2022-04750 RE: Request for proposal
- MJMA Architecture & Design plus Group 2 Architecture Interior Design engaged

PROVEN PARTNERSHIPS:

- HC has a proven track record of partnering with the City of Calgary to build facilities
- HC entered into agreement with the City of Calgary in January 2005 to build the “Max Bell #2 Arena (now named Perry Cavanagh Arena)
- HC contributed 2.8 million in total for the construction and development of this project, (1.2M upfront, and 160K, annually for 10 years)
- Partnership was executed with no issues, with HC paying final payment in October 2016



HOCKEY CALGARY



ICE STATISTICS:

- Ice Availability within the city does not align with player count
- Most “Available Ice” in the city is on the east side of the city. City has 12 facilities (19 sheets of ice)
 - East – 7 sheets (36.8%)
 - West – 5 sheets (26.3%)
 - North – 4 sheets (21.1%)
 - South – 3 sheets (15.8%)
- Largest population of players is on the west side of the city. Hockey Calgary has approximately 14,500 players
 - East – 16.6%
 - West – 28.8%
 - North – 25.9%
 - South – 28.7%
- Note: this does not factor the amount of ice HC has in each arena or the “privately owned facilities” but the breakout of these is about equal, with the south having the highest %

REQUESTED ACTION:

The Glenmore Twin Arena Project is a must build NOW. It is requested that Calgary City Council supports and allocates the appropriate funding to ensure this project moves forward immediately.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

ENDORSEMENT STATEMENT ON TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION, ANTI-RACISM, EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING

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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required)	Nick
Last name (required)	Blonski
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid-	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

To whom it may concern,

As a regular transit user I would also appreciate a significant scale-down of the "community shuttle" program as well as the permanent elimination of the "Arboc" cutaway bus model from Calgary Transit's fleet in favour of proper buses built and designed for public transit service in a major city.

Calgary does not need such a large fleet of community shuttle vehicles or such an extensive community shuttle operation, as it has been observed many times in the past that these vehicles are often misused in the form of being placed on routes and keys that fill these smaller buses up to and beyond maximum seating capacity, sometimes even to the point of overload. This is not acceptable and constitutes a significant lapse in customer service and accountability. This type of issue is exactly what entices many existing transit users who have access to alternative modes of transport, to choose to exercise said alternatives and discontinue offering revenue to the transit system.

The above mentioned issue is exacerbated by the general inferior quality of the "Arboc" vehicle when used as a transit bus. Having rode several examples of alternative low-capacity buses used or piloted in Calgary in the past, such as the "Vicinity" transit bus model, they are vastly superior to the Arboc in every aspect of the customer experience, such as comfort and ride quality. Standing on an Arboc vehicle is uncomfortable and creates a poor experience for the transit user. Even when the bus is not crowded, riding these vehicles in general is akin to riding an airport shuttle vehicle and is of unacceptable quality for public transit in a major city of 1.3 million in a first world country.

Regardless of the type of vehicle used, a community shuttle vehicle should NEVER, under ANY CIRCUMSTANCE carry more people than its maximum seated capacity. A community shuttle vehicle carrying more than its maximum seated capacity is by definition overcrowded for its intended purpose and should have a conventional bus in its place instead. Notwithstanding this, a community shuttle fleet and operation of the size seen in Calgary is unheard of in any other city in North America, including cities with a similar layout and population such as Edmonton, and is completely unreasonable.

I hope this letter is found to be helpful and of interest to city council.

Regards,
Nick Blonski



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

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First name (required)	John
Last name (required)	Reid
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

**Costs are up sharply across the board, please hire a firm just to study requirements for a 3 year tax freeze - then implement it.
And please stop prioritizing loud minorities, especially mobility lane advocates.**



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First name (required)	Brian
Last name (required)	St Goddard
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

(required - max 75 characters)

2023 - 2026 Service Plans and Budgets

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear Council members,

Please stop catering to the 'Red Mile' crowd and start paying attention to the needs of the people who make this city possible - the everyday workers and people who cannot afford their own transportation and rely on our city Transit service to be able to get to and from their jobs and around the city. For a city the size of Calgary, our Transit system is a disgrace - it caters to the downtown commuters and office tower employers.

Those who work outside downtown and in industrial areas have the worst service with the longest wait times yet comprise the majority of workers and transit riders in the city. How many of you have actually taken a transit ride in rush hour over the past several years? Or in the darkness of early morning or late at night? A great many of our citizens have no choice.

Please make Transit a priority! Thank you.



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

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First name (required) **Dolores**

Last name (required) **Michelin**

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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

(required - max 75 characters)

The increase in property taxes

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Times are tough for those that are making a decent wage but tougher for those that are not. There are many of us who are working 2 jobs to survive without the extras. I ask council to stop and think have they looked within the councils wages, within each city department and cutback on their extras, does the right hand know what the left is doing. I think not ! Where are people to get the money to support the increase with no increase in wages. Homelessness , mental health issues will increase, crime will and is increasing. How can we afford to go to events when there is nothing left. You are creating a viscous cycle. Get back to basics. Stop the spending . Clean up the wasteful spending It's easy when it's not your money. The people of Calgary are not a priority. Stop the fluffy talk and do something constructive. We are not stupid. I was born a Calgarian and I'm sad to see what it has become. Please consider.



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First name (required)	Alyssa
Last name (required)	Rekunyk
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



(required - max 75 characters)

The increase of property taxes

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Where are people going to find the money for the increase of property taxes with the way inflation and cost of living is. People are already financially struggling and the city should look at ways to cut costs before asking the public.



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required)	Brian
Last name (required)	Viens
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure and Planning
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

(required - max 75 characters)

business tax adjustments

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

where was the tax breaks for residential properties when Calgary was booming with business? What is being put in place to assure it gets reversed? Why should home owners talk on this burden?



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) **Brendan**

Last name (required) **Hart**

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Council**

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#))

(required - max 75 characters)

Bike pathways

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I believe we should seriously consider major infrastructure improvements to our pathway system. Improved cyclability leads to reduced traffic, pollution, carbon emissions, reduced wear and tear on existing roadways, community involvement and health, and most importantly, safety. Let's not let Edmonton be the leaders in bike pathways for Canada! Let's meet the explosive growth of our city with a variety of commuting options for residents and tourists alike.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required)	Justin
Last name (required)	Simaluk
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

(required - max 75 characters)

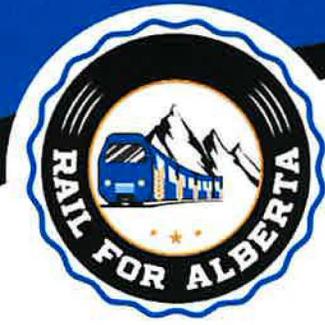
Service Plan and Budget Adjustments

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please see attached letter in regards to Service Plans and Budget adjustments.



Rail for Alberta Society
railalberta@gmail.com
railalberta.com

November 19, 2023

Dear Mayor Gondek and Members of Council,

Our region is rapidly growing and increasing in population, we must accelerate our efforts to build a transportation system that values efficiency, sustainability and people as we move forward in a changing world. Municipal budgets are a reflection of the values of a community and the budget adjustments that are being made are no exception.

The Calgary Transportation Plan states that we should "Enable public transit, walking and wheeling as the preferred mobility choices for more people" and we at Rail For Alberta feel that expanding our C-train system, along with regional and intercity rail is a vital component of this goal. It's crucial that we provide a service that enables Calgarians the freedom of mobility and reaches our goals of the Calgary Transportation Plan.

We have been historically underfunding these operations in Calgary and in return are not maximising the potential that these systems can offer. We request that these budget adjustments take into account:

1. A funded and actionable regional rail plan, developed in partnership with the Calgary Metropolitan Region Board municipalities and funded by the City and provincial and federal partners to act as the backbone for existing and future transit service in Calgary the Calgary Region.
2. Increased funding to the 5A network coinciding with the development and implementation of a "first mile/last mile" multimodal transport system structured around the urban rail network that includes bike storage, protected cycling and walking access.
3. A continued increase in the frequency of rail and bus service throughout the entire day to provide citizens with the flexibility and freedom to make transit their preferred mode of travel.
4. Fund and implement the Primary Transit Network within 5 years.

These requests align with our current transportation and development plans, and they will help ensure the success of these plans. As our population grows and plans to increase ridership take effect, we need to ensure that our transit system is ahead of the game when it comes to growth.

Calgary is not car dependent by accident; specific policy choices have been made that encourage people to drive. The reality is that Calgary has high rail ridership and people here take trains, when they're provided to them. We can now clearly see the impacts our current reliance on personal vehicles have on the climate, socioeconomic inequities, and public health and safety, and remind you that electric vehicles - while a step forward in reducing tailpipe emissions - do not directly address any of these issues.

At a time when investment in transit is being accelerated worldwide, we need to keep up to remain competitive. Council must take the lead on planning and funding these initiatives in order to build a world-class transportation system for our world-class city.

Sincerely,



Justin Simaluk
President
Rail for Alberta Society



Willem Klumpenhower
Vice President
Rail for Alberta Society

The Rail For Alberta Society was incorporated in 2020 to advocate for the establishment of efficient, sustainable passenger rail in Alberta.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required)	Lisa
Last name (required)	Higham
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I urge council to strongly support all its commitments to the 5A infrastructure. Please keep or enhance the budget and fast-track the implementation these important initiatives. How much better to get Calgarians outdoors walking, wheeling, bicycling jogging, skating ... than to provide us with a way to sit and watch sports while eating junk food in a costly new arena. I do not accept the council's claim that the arena deal does not cost individual Calgarians. Tax dollars spent serving the pet projects of elite billionaires, necessarily means fewer tax dollars supporting the many community and city-wide services that make our city more attractive and livable for all. Use of the 5A network leads to a healthier, friendlier, more positive population, thus reducing health care costs while decreasing climate change pollutants.



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

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First name (required)	John
Last name (required)	Johnston
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

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PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Council speaks of providing affordable housing for Calgarians yet in the next breath announce intentions to increase property taxes thereby degrading affordable housing. It is a dichotomy for which there is simply and rationally only one response. Council does not increase property taxes thereby enabling and facilitating Affordable Housing that they claim to champion or Council raises Property Taxes thereby eroding Affordable Housing efforts. Either Council supports Affordable Housing or they do not. You simply cannot have your cake and eat it too. Increasing property taxes is absolutely harmful and irresponsible, especially now as families are struggling to pay their mortgages, rents feed and cloth their children.



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First name (required)	Pamela
Last name (required)	Mclean
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

ZjQcmQRYFpfptBannerEnd

I am writing to emphasize, in the strongest possible terms, the importance to Calgary's future as a vibrant and diverse city, of:

A) excellent, extensive, affordable public transit, and

B) affordable housing, and a well-funded housing strategy to get homeless families into homes where they can access services and break the cycle of poverty.



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First name (required)	Mikhail
Last name (required)	Storozhakov
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Council
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(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

To stand behind our commitment to addressing the climate emergency the City declared 2 years ago, our transit and land use commitments need to remain central in this budget adjustment.

The Housing Strategy approved in September contained several actions that were marked as something we can address and fund Now (under the Timing column in the September item). Proposed adjustments include some of the most urgent actions, and we must stick to them, but the basics are not enough at this moment. Housing is the most immediate crisis we are currently facing, and Council needs to firmly commit to "next" items within this budget cycle as well, such as item 1.A.9, which funds Indigenous housing providers through the Housing Land Fund, and item 4.B.1, allocating \$10M a year to housing providers for Indigenous and equity-deserving populations. This is an issue that Calgarians cannot afford to wait on, and I am in favour of the adjustments and much more.

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Addressing the climate crisis in Calgary requires connecting a denser mix of housing and other activity with an increased share of walking/wheeling and transit trips. Capital, safety, and fare stabilizing investments are important investment areas for transit, but the most impactful adjustment we are able to make to increase use of the system is improving service levels on the existing network. Frequency is routinely the central factor for transit riders in our quarterly surveys, and unlike capital projects, it is not something we currently have support for from higher levels of government. This year's RouteAhead update was clear about the service levels required in the Primary Transit Network, and a more noticeable boost than \$4M is needed for the system. Investment in the basics of service prepares the system to get the most out of future capital investments, and it needs to be the first priority. Alongside renewed high-level land use policy in the MDP and Land Use Bylaw, well-funded transit is our strongest tool in a truly appropriate response to the climate crisis.

5A infrastructure is the other priority I'd like to mention. Road resurfacing cannot be centred when building a network that's there to counteract car dependency. With our current walking mode share far behind where it should be, we need to quickly prioritize walking network expansion, not goods movement.



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First name (required)	Carolyn
Last name (required)	Fisher
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

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(required - max 75 characters)

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Request from an ordinary Calgary citizen & parent with respect to 5A Mobility Network and Calgary Transit funding per 2024 City Budget Adjustments

Dear Councillors and Mayor,

As a Calgarian and a parent concerned for my child's future in a world where rising temperatures affect us all, I want to make my voice heard about the upcoming Calgary budget deliberations at City Hall.

After a fiery summer where smoke kept us inside, I want to encourage the city to keep the climate emergency in mind, and work towards the city commitment to net zero by 2050.

To that end:

1. Please increase investment in the 5A Mobility Network (based on Always Available for All Ages and Abilities principle): Please continue investing in the 5A cycle and mobility network so that Calgary neighborhoods can be connected for cyclists and active transportation. Safe cycle tracks encourage people to travel in non-polluting ways. Buying a bike is much economically more feasible for low income households than buying a car. In new build communities, can cycle tracks be folded into neighborhood design for complete connection with the rest of Calgary? In older communities, we also need better links. For example, in my community of Capitol Hill NW, we need a cycle track connection via 20th Ave. NW from 14th Street to North Hill Mall/SAIT/10th St. NW cycle track. Cycle tracks should be prioritized for universities, colleges, public transit hubs, downtown, and hospitals to reduce traffic and parking congestion and provide a healthy, low-cost way for students and workers to get to school and work. I was flummoxed to discover that the newly built University District does not include cycle tracks, which makes things risky for families biking to get ice cream at Made By Marcus, and also isn't great for students and professors biking to and from U of C. Calgary is slated to build 7km of new cycle track in the next year where Edmonton has committed to 100km of new cycle track. Can Calgary do better?

2. Please support Calgary Transit funding as a priority, not an afterthought. Please properly fund CTrain and BRT routes so they are reliable and safe, with 10 minutes frequency.

I look forward to seeing how city council will work to keep our city connected and fair and accessible to ordinary citizens; and will use smart city design to help Calgarians deal with the effects of the climate change.

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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First name (required)	Marlene
Last name (required)	Thauvette
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

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(required - max 75 characters)

An increase of more than 3.5% to property tax owners is not acceptable.

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

In these very difficult economic times the proposed increase of 7.8% will cause financial stress to seniors on fixed incomes, young families having to make decisions on putting food on the table. Landlords will put this increase on renters which will cause even more homelessness or families not being able to pay bills. This is not a matter of cutting extras like dining out it is a matter of paying bills and putting food on the table. Our food bank is at capacity currently. Property taxes should not be raised anymore than 3.5%. Perhaps council should reconsider the Flames deal or take a cut in pay.



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First name (required) **Gabriel**

Last name (required) **Yanofsky**

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure and Planning**

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget -- better transit, pedestrian safety

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

We need more investment into transit, pedestrian infrastructure, and mixed-use development in this city. I live in Auburn Bay, and I find that living without a car here is a miserable experience.

Often times the sidewalks are not maintained and are really slippery, leading to dangerous conditions. There is little to no infrastructure to moderate car-traffic, often leading to a massive amount of dangerous driving; causing me to have several close calls to being hit.

With transit, the frequency and consistency of the 75 bus route is terrible; usually the buses arrive 5-10 minutes before schedule, so I have to wait 35+ minutes in the cold waiting for another bus. This isn't mentioning the fact that Stoney Trail acts as a massive bottle-neck, which can have absolutely insane delays on my commute -- Stoney NEEDS bus/transit right-of-way lanes; this will make transit a more appealing and viable option for people living in the Southeast, would reduce traffic, and make bus routes such as the 14E or 75 more reliable/consistent.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) Brodie

Last name (required) Birt

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid- Council

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select “November 20”) (required) Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write “budget” below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



(required - max 75 characters)

Residential property tax

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I'm concerned and not in favour of a substantial residential property tax increase. Our wages have not increased with inflation. Mortgage renewal shock is expected in 2024-25. The attractiveness of Calgary is the lower taxes. I would prefer less city spending than higher taxes.



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I have read and understand the above statement.

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I have read and understand the above statement.

First name (required) Whitney

Last name (required) Punchak

What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are provid- Council

Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

Neither

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I understand you have a significant week ahead of you with budget adjustments being considered. It has been disappointing to see some members of council supporting subsidizing the build of a new arena for the benefit of private businesses, while also using fiscal responsibility as a reason to not fund needed and valuable infrastructure, transit and housing initiatives.

I know without a doubt that me, and most Calgarians, will see little to no return on a new arena. I also know that there would be a significant benefit to the city as a whole, and to individual citizens if expansion in the quantity and quality of our public transit, 5A network, housing and revitalizing downtown are seen through.

From what I've seen, this council is a lot of talk and little action. It is easy to support a plan, and pass a common sense motion, like addressing excessive vehicle noise. But it takes clear action and willingness to actually put those actions into place.

The plans the City has made are good, even great! This should be an easy decision - fund progress. It is getting harder and harder to watch Calgary fall behind other cities in urban development. I want this to be a great city going forward, and you're in a place to make that happen. I hope you'll make the decisions this week that Calgarians deserve.

Thank you for your service.



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First name (required)	Blair
Last name (required)	Cosgrove
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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 20, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

(required - max 75 characters)

5A Network

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am a 60-year-old who lives in Winston Heights/Ward 4 and I gave up my vehicle 3 years ago. Year round, I move around Calgary exclusively by bicycle and on foot. I request that Council increase its investment in our 5A Network. Doing so will:

- provide more low-or-no-cost options for citizens to move throughout our city
- make Calgary more resilient to - and a lower contributor to the GHGs that cause - climate pollution
- reduce municipal spending/debt, provided your relatively miniscule investment in the 5A Network is part of your plan to reduce the number of enormously expensive roads and parking lots you would otherwise build.
- increase the connections between Calgarians, as people who cycle or walk develop self awareness and encounter others in ways that strengthen our personal bonds and the health of our communities (new research at this link <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0272494423001731> indicates that people who drive vehicles are the people who care the least about their community and the common good, while people who cycle are more aware alert to the health of their community and are more engaged in creating the common good)
- reduce localized pollution of our air (tailpipe emissions) and water (road salt runoff)
- remove financial and infrastructure barriers that currently contribute to people choosing the unhealthy (physically and emotionally) lifestyles that come from driving vehicles.

People need to see more leadership and vision from Council, and strengthening this 5A network will produce significant and immediate enhancement of the lives of Calgarians while making The City of Calgary more fiscally prudent and fiscally resilient. Please show that leadership.
Thank you!



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First name (required) **Karthikeyan**

Last name (required) **Murugaiah**

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Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required) **Nov 20, 2023**

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)



(required - max 75 characters)

Property Tax Adjustment

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In opposition

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

The additional 1% increase in residential tax is unjustified. There was a property tax revision early this year and our taxes went up significantly. The city of calgary just made an excess of \$ 200 Million from Utility distribution fees and city should use it to benefit the business and not pass the burden onto residents by increasing residential taxes. In fact the city has been having a surplus in the last 2-3 years, so it would be wise for the city use the surplus to reduce burden on business taxes.



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First name (required)	Natalie
Last name (required)	Tomczak
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PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-11)

(required - max 75 characters)

Budget - property tax rebalancing of residential/non-residential

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am submitting this letter of support (property tax rebalancing for residential/non-residential) on behalf of the CEO of the Calgary Airport Authority, Chris Dinsdale.

November 20, 2023

Mayor Joyti Gondek
Calgary City Hall
Office of the Mayor
800 MacLeod Trail SE
Calgary, AB T2G 5E6
Email: Mayor@calgary.ca

Dear Mayor Gondek:

The Calgary Airport Authority supports the City Council's proposal to rebalance residential and non-residential taxes, adopting an incremental shift of two per cent per year for the next four years. This will bring Calgary in line with other Canadian cities and bend the curve on an increasingly imbalanced property tax ratio between businesses and residents.

Non-residential (business) properties in Calgary have seen the largest tax hikes among major cities in Canada over the last several years. For example, under our current system, large industrial warehouses could have seen a 23.1 per cent increase in property taxes this year, prevented only by Council reactively capping that increase at 10 per cent.

As the City's largest contributor to property taxes, YYC has paid \$52.5 million in the last 3 years.

2020: \$17.8 million
2021: \$17.5 million
2022: \$17.2 million
2023: \$19.7 million (**projected**)

These substantial property tax payments play a crucial role in funding essential city services and infrastructure development in Calgary. A well-balanced approach ensures that both residential and non-residential properties contribute appropriately to the development and maintenance of essential services. In addition, by rebalancing the tax ratio this will enhance the competitiveness of businesses in Calgary. A more equitable distribution of the tax burden between residential and non-residential properties can attract and retain businesses, fostering further economic growth.

In 2021, businesses in Calgary paid 3.4 times that of a residential property owner in property tax, per \$1,000 of assessed value. If left unaddressed, the ratio will climb to 4.26 to 1 in 2023 – the highest among comparable Canadian cities – by a significant margin. Without an immediate course-correction, Calgary will exacerbate our position as one of the least equitable tax jurisdictions in Canada, far surpassing both large urban centers and neighbouring communities.

Increase YYC's competitive advantage

Airline partnerships and networks. Before COVID, YYC had worked to develop a sizeable network of airline partners providing meaningful choices to passengers flying out of Calgary. This network has enabled YYC to attract airlines offering direct, long-haul flights to popular international destinations. YYC's diverse and expansive network presents an opportunity for growth in the provincial tourism

sector when considering the potential to market stopovers and attract major events and conferences to the region. A rebalance of the property taxes between residential and non-residential property owners would keep Calgary inline with other major jurisdiction and enable YYC to continue to attract new airline partners.

Retail, Food and Beverage. YYC has attracted a variety of retail stores and services to the community. The critical mass and movement of people, and commercial activity has made the airport vicinity an attractive place for retail operators. A more equitable property tax regime will accelerate retail and services development around the airport lands and create enhanced economic activity and related jobs to serve the fast-growing communities in Calgary's North East.

Connecting flights. Calgary is Canada's number one connecting airport, handling 38 percent of connecting flight traffic. Because of YYC's location, airlines travelling from other destinations often opt to connect in Calgary.

Established cargo network. YYC currently handles over 75% of all cargo coming into Alberta. While YEG has invested in its cargo capabilities with support from the GOA, these will not come online for several years. YYC can handle more cargo now and will capitalize on that opportunity through investments such as the west runway rehabilitation and improvements to airline maintenance hangars. A rebalance of the property taxes between residential and non-residential property will enable YYC to attract additional investment into our cargo operations.

We are grateful to you and your team as well as your council colleagues for considering our support as part of your Budget 2024 deliberations and look forward to working with you to ensure all Calgary can benefit from the property rebalancing.

Sincerely,



Chris Dinsdale, CEO
The Calgary Airport Authority



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First name (required)	Reid
Last name (required)	Hendry
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(required - max 75 characters)

2023 November Adjustments to the 2023-2026 Services Plans and Budgets

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)

In favour

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



November 17, 2023

Calgary City Council
800 Macleod Trail SE
Calgary, AB, T2G 2M3

RE: 2023 November Adjustments to the 2023-2026 Services Plans and Budgets – Property Tax Shift

Beedie is one of Canada's largest industrial developers with over 1,100 acres of land holdings and more than 35 million square feet of completed development, 3.5 million of which resides in the Calgary metropolitan area. Beedie has operated in the City of Calgary for over 15 years and has worked closely over this time with all municipal departments to bring new businesses and economic growth to the City.

As you are aware, the municipal tax share between non-residential assessment bases and residential assessment bases has been a key focus for Calgary business owners and operators over the past several years. With recent confounding factors in the both the downtown office market, and the residential market more broadly, business owners in this city continue to see oversized property tax bills.

The effects of this imbalance have real consequences and materially impact the decisions business operators are making every day on whether to relocate, or even maintain, their presence within City borders. The City of Calgary has the highest tax rate ratio of all major Canadian cities at 4.26, rapidly approaching the legislated maximum of 5.00. Our frequent competitors such as Edmonton (2.98), Vancouver (3.10) and Toronto (2.51) have significantly lower tax rate ratios.

It is our hope that during your continued deliberations on November 20th that you will listen to the data being placed in front of you by administration and remain cognizant of the fact that in our increasingly interconnected world, the decision of where to locate a business often comes down to ongoing operating costs, of which property taxes make up a large share.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jordan Dawson".

Jordan Dawson
Vice President, Industrial Development