



**After the Ballot:
Public Engagement on Effective Representation
in Municipal Government**

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

After the Ballot

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Project overview

On June 6, 2023, Calgary City Council directed Administration to recruit a Commission to review the effectiveness of Calgary's 14-ward system with no change to the number of Councillors. Part of this review includes public engagement, which will inform the Commission's recommendations to Council.

The purpose of the review is to understand how Calgarians want to be represented by Council, what that could look like in the future, as well as looking at the role of Council and the effectiveness of the systems they work within. Feedback will be used to inform recommendations made to City Council by the Commission. The City's Engage Resource Unit (ERU) worked with the Commission to plan and carry out the public engagement.

Following the public engagement phase, the Commission will analyze all feedback, along with relevant research and data, to develop comprehensive recommendations. These will be presented to Calgary City Council in September 2024, with the aim of implementing changes that will enhance the effectiveness and responsiveness of the city's governance.

Engagement overview

The public engagement strategy was designed to include both in-person and online opportunities and was approved by Council on January 30, 2024.

Engage portal page

A dedicated page for the project's engagement was included on the [Engage portal page](#). The page was open to the public and included a video introduction by the Chair of the Commission, information about the purpose of the project, the role of engagement, links to relevant web pages (e.g., About the Commission) and documents (e.g., the bylaw governing the Commission's work), a timeline, and information about the pop-up events. The page went live on March 12, 2024. There were 8,299 page visits, 7,529 visitors, and 833 survey participants via the project's Engage portal page.

Accessibility:

- The Engage portal's translation feature was enabled on the project's Engage portal page. It uses translation software powered by Google Translate, Amazon Translate and Localize. The languages from which users can select are: French (Canada), Arabic, Chinese (both Simplified and Traditional), Korean, Punjabi, Spanish, Tagalog, Urdu, and Vietnamese.
- Closed captioning was enabled for the video introduction.
- As much as possible, plain language was used in the portal page content.

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Online questionnaires

Online questionnaires were designed for each of the following interest holder groups in Calgary:

- General public;
- Business owners/operators;
- Representatives of volunteer and not-for-profit organizations;
- Community Association representatives;
- Business Improvement Area (BIA) representatives;
- Business association representatives; and
- Ethnocultural association representatives.

Online questionnaires for the general public, business owners/operators, and representatives of volunteer and not-for-profit organizations were available on the project's Engage portal page. Participants were allowed to complete more than one of these questionnaires if applicable to them. These questionnaires were available to be completed from March 12 to April 30, 2024.

Online questionnaires for representatives of Community Associations, Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) and business associations, and ethnocultural associations in Calgary were made available directly to these groups. A list of publicly available email addresses was compiled for each of BIAs, business associations, and ethnocultural associations and the Chair of the Commission sent an email to each address. Emails to community associations were sent via The City's Neighbourhood Partnership Coordinators (NPCs). The email included a brief introduction to the project, a link to the applicable survey and a link to register for an online workshop (see the following section for more details about the online workshops).

Online workshops

The Commission and the ERU hosted four 90-minute online workshops, one for each of:

- Business Improvement Area (BIA) representatives (March 19, 2024);
- Ethnocultural association representatives (April 9, 2024);
- Business association representatives (April 10, 2024); and
- Community Association representatives (April 16, 2024).

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Each workshop began with the Commission’s Chair explaining the project and the purpose of the workshop. The Chair then led a discussion about participants’ experiences with:

- Councillors’ responsiveness to the organization’s concerns and communications;
- Councillors’ advocacy of issues important to the organization;
- Information their organization receives from Councillors; and
- Topics their organization has brought forward to Councillors for discussion.

In-person pop-up events

Pop-up events are an example of “going to where the people are.” They allow us to introduce the project to those who otherwise would not be aware of it and request their participation (either providing their input at the event or directing them to the online engagement opportunity on the Engage portal, whichever suits the participant). It is also an opportunity for those already aware of the project to provide input in person, as these events are advertised on the project’s Engage portal page.

Five pop-up events were held, with one in each city quadrant and one downtown. Options for pop-up event locations are somewhat limited during colder months of the year. The locations selected are indoor venues with the potential for a good amount of foot traffic.

Quadrant	Location	Date	Time
SW	Cardel Rec South 333 Shawville Blvd S.E. #100*	April 4, 2024	4 – 7 p.m.
SE	The Spring Market at Deerfoot Inn & Casino 11500 35 St S.E. #1000	April 14, 2024	9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
NW	Calgary Farmers’ Market West 25 Greenbriar Drive N.W.	April 20, 2024	11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
NE	Genesis Centre 7555 Falconridge Blvd N.E. #10	April 25, 2024	4 – 7 p.m.
Downtown	Central Library 800 3 St S.E.	April 27, 2024	11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

*Although this location has a S.E. address, it is on the west side of Macleod Trail and borders the S.W. quadrant.

At each pop-up event, two Engage staff members and a member of the Commission were available to explain the project and purpose of the event to those who stopped by, answer questions and discuss the topic, and encourage them to complete the online survey. Small cards that included the project’s Engage

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portal page URL and QR code were handed out at the events. Paper copies of the surveys were available to those who wanted to complete the survey on-site and index cards were provided to anyone who wished to write down their idea(s) for improving representation by Council. One paper copy was completed and 5 people submitted an idea using an index card.

The pop-up event at Genesis Centre was attended by three Community Connectors from Action Dignity who provided translation support as needed for the languages Hindi, Punjabi, Spanish and Urdu (languages more commonly spoken in the surrounding communities).

Number of participants by tactic

There were 848 survey submissions, a total of 11 participants in the four online workshops, and approximately 80 people were engaged at the pop-up events. The table below shows the number of people engaged by tactic:

Tactic	Details
Online questionnaires for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General public - Business owners/operators - Volunteer/not-for-profit organizations - Community Associations - BIAs/Business associations - Ethnocultural associations 	# of submissions: 803 23 7 11 0 4
Online workshops with representatives of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BIAs - Community Associations - Business associations - Ethnocultural associations 	# of participants: 2 4 1 4
Pop-up events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cardel Rec South - Spring Market at Deerfoot Inn & Casino - Calgary Farmers' Market West - Genesis Centre - Central Library 	# of people interacted with (approximately): 12 27 21 10 10

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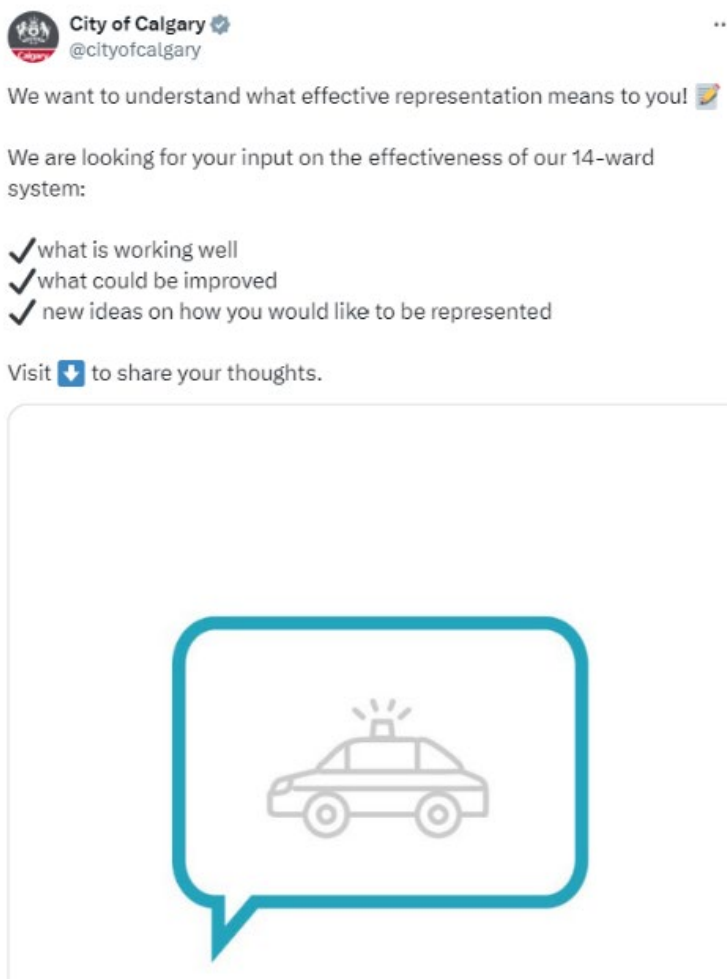
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Communications overview

Given the broad scope of the project's public engagement, the communications approach for this project was to use a wide variety of communications channels to reach as many people as possible across Calgary. The following tactics were used to invite Calgarians to participate in the public engagement:

- A comprehensive ad campaign was created to cover a variety of communication channels. Ads appeared on City social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, X, Nextdoor), YouTube, Spotify, Curbox signs, and on local English and multicultural radio.
- The ad campaign ran from March 12 until April 29, 2024. Example of a social media post:



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- Organic content was also posted on City social media channels.
- A news release was sent when the engagement launched, which resulted in media coverage from City News, 660 Calgary and Global News.
- The Curbex signs (see image below) ran for two weeks in each quadrant of the city around the timeframe of the pop-up locations and dates. Signs were translated to Punjabi script for the Northeast and to Traditional and Simplified Chinese for the Northwest and Downtown.



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What we heard: Executive summary

The majority of participants consider themselves to be at least somewhat knowledgeable about the work Calgary's City Council (current and/or past) does and have contacted or attempted to contact a City Councillor and/or the Mayor within the past three years.

Participants were asked "What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents/organizations like yours?" The key themes in participants' responses were:

- Listening to and communicating with their constituents in a genuine way. Many participants do not feel that Councillors are truly listening to them and being open to their input and would like to have more meaningful engagement with Councillors.
- Prioritizing their constituents' wishes, concerns and needs over their own and those of other members of Council and/or special interest groups. Many participants mentioned that Councillors' decisions tend to be based on their own opinions and ideology rather than on what the majority of their constituents want/need.
- Demonstrating good character by being transparent, honest and acting with integrity. This includes being transparent about their positions/ideology during their campaign and keeping their promises.

When asked about the perceived importance of specific Councillor roles, participants rated them all as important. However, meeting and communicating with those they represent and helping them solve specific local problems stood out as areas participants would like Councillors to focus their time and attention.

Participants were asked if there are any other roles they think are important for a Councillor to do. The themes that arose from participants' responses were similar to the actions identified previously:

- Representing their constituents' wishes, concerns, and needs at the municipal level, putting aside their own ideas and those of other members of Councils and special interest groups. This is underscored by the fact that most participants disagreed their perspectives are reflected in Council's decisions.
- Listening to and communicating with their constituents in a genuine way. Many participants shared their concerns that Councillors do not listen or pretend to listen without really being open to what constituents tell them.
- Ensuring good financial stewardship by ensuring City budgeting, spending and taxation is done responsibly and kept in check.
- Focusing on local/municipal issues such as ensuring City services are running well and directing Administration rather than on responsibilities of other levels of government.

The themes from participants' ideas for improving how Calgarians are represented in municipal government decision making are:

- Improving Councillors' engagement and communication with constituents by actively seeking their input through a variety of methods, being open to their input, and communicating better and more

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often with constituents. Many participants voiced a desire to have more opportunities to vote on important issues, changes, proposals and major decisions.

- Improving Councillors' representation of their constituents' wishes, concerns and needs in Council discussions and decisions. Many participants expressed that Councillors seem to vote in way that reflects their own opinions and perspectives rather than those of their constituents.
- Requiring Council to prioritize fiscal responsibility and focus on other municipal issues and responsibilities rather than spending time on those that are seen to belong to other levels of government.
- Improving transparency and accountability of Council in terms of Council decisions, reasons underlying Councillors' votes, sources of campaign donations, and candidates' political affiliations during the campaign period.
- Considering electoral reform and other system changes, such as looking at other types of electoral systems, decreasing the number of Wards, and instituting term limits.

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What we asked and what we heard: Online surveys

General public

The vast majority of participants said they are knowledgeable about the work Calgary’s City Council (current and/or past) does and participants tended to disagree their perspectives are reflected in Council’s decisions. The majority of participants reported that they’ve contacted or attempted to contact the office of a City of Calgary Councillor or Mayor (either current or past), with many of them having most recently done this within the past year.

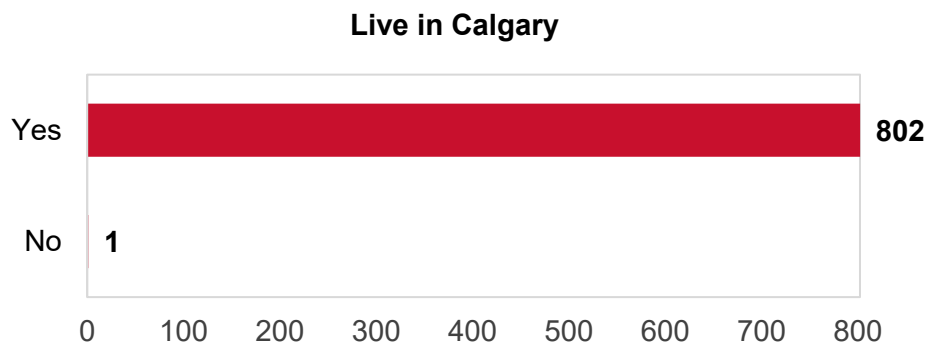
All four of the Councillor roles presented to participants were considered important by the majority. When asked which of the roles they would have Councillors focus more time and attention on, participants tended to select either ‘meeting and communicating with Calgary residents’ or ‘helping Calgary residents solve specific local problems.’

Participants’ responses to the open-ended questions (questions to which they respond in their own words) reflects the importance they place on Councillors actively seeking input from and engaging with their constituents. They expressed wanting to be truly heard and to have their wishes, concerns and needs represented and prioritized in Council’s decision making. Other themes that arose from participants’ feedback was that Council should demonstrate responsible financial stewardship and focus on municipal issues.

Detailed results:

All questions were optional, unless otherwise noted.

- 1. Do you live in Calgary?** [required]
(answered by 803 of 803 participants)

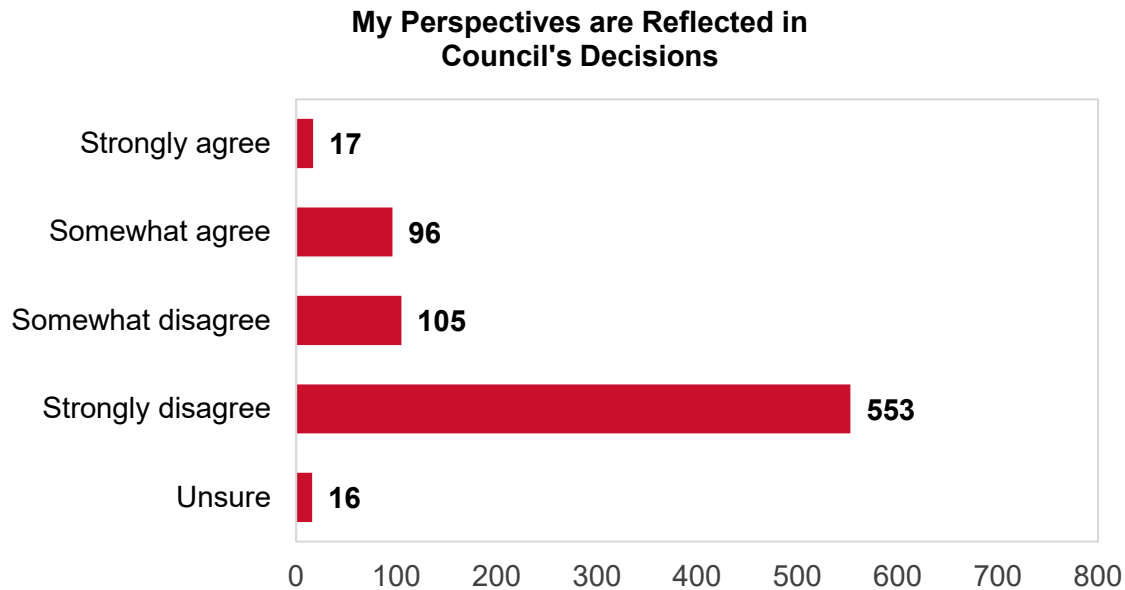


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2. To what extent do you agree or disagree your perspectives are reflected in Council's decisions?

(answered by 786 of 803 participants)



3. What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?

(answered by 672 of 803 participants)

Theme, Details and Sample Quotes from Participants

Listening to and communicating with their constituents:

- Engaging with their constituents in a genuine way and actively seeking their input/feedback.
- Truly knowing and understanding their constituents' wishes, needs and concerns and what is going on in their Ward.
- Responding to and communicating with their constituents in a genuine way.
- Holding public meetings regularly and attending community events and meetings.

“The Councillors need to be engaged with their constituents. They need to respond to concerns (if they respond) in a manner that is meaningful rather than a cut and paste email that restates the City Council's approach.”

“Actually communicate with and listen to citizens, in substance, instead of pretending to engage and simply dictating to citizens.”

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Theme, Details and Sample Quotes from Participants

“Seek out, listen to, and represent their constituents.”

“Engaging with the local communities and the public and actually listening to feedback.”

“Listening to their constituents, engaging with them, having meaningful discussions and debates with them, even if they disagree with them.”

“Communicating regularly with their constituents and listening to their feedback and concerns. [...] Completing the loop by communicating what actions they’ve taken and the results. Our current councillor does none of the above.”

Prioritizing their constituents’ wishes, concerns, and needs:

- Representing their constituents by acting on (voting, advocating for) their constituents’ wishes, concerns, and needs.
- Councillors putting aside their own ideas and agendas and those of other Councillors/the Mayor and special interest groups in favour of their constituents’ wishes, concerns, and needs.
- Representing the majority of constituents.

“A Councillor should be the voice of their constituents and be vocal about what the constituents want and try to implement the ideas, to fight on their behalf.”

“Voting on city issues that is representative of how their constituents would like them to vote. To be the voice of their constituents with the city and municipal issues.”

“Voting based on feedback from their ward, not their own views.”

“They should be representing their constituents and not voting as a block with other Councillors (even though technically there are no political parties in Council).”

“I believe that an effective Councillor is one who communicates to Council the will of individual constituents and small business owners. She/he should not be representing the interests of large business (i.e. builders and developers) who already have voices and even lobbyists representing their interests which are often in direct conflict with the wishes of individuals, families and communities.”

“They need to listen and act on what the majority of their constituents want even if those views are contrary to their own personal view or opinion.”

Demonstrating good character:

- Being transparent, accountable, and honest.
- Acting with integrity and keeping one’s promises.

“Start to be accountable and transparent.”

“Honesty, integrity and a willingness to listen.”

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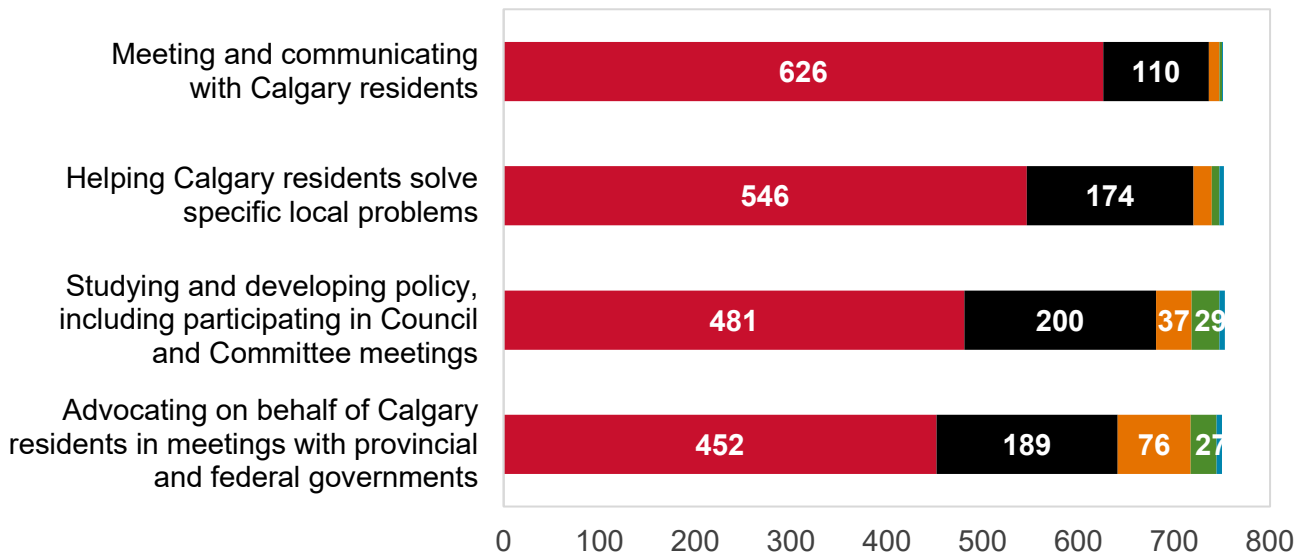
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Theme, Details and Sample Quotes from Participants
<p>“They need to keep their word.”</p> <p>“They need to be more transparent on the plans they plan to introduce and champion during the election cycle.”</p> <p>“Honesty, integrity and transparency.”</p> <p>“Carrying out the promises and values they were elected on.”</p>

4. Councillors have many roles. For each of the following, to what extent is it important or not important to you personally?
(answered by 750 – 753, depending on statement, of 803 participants)

Importance of Roles

■ Very important ■ Somewhat important ■ Not very important ■ Not at all important ■ Unsure



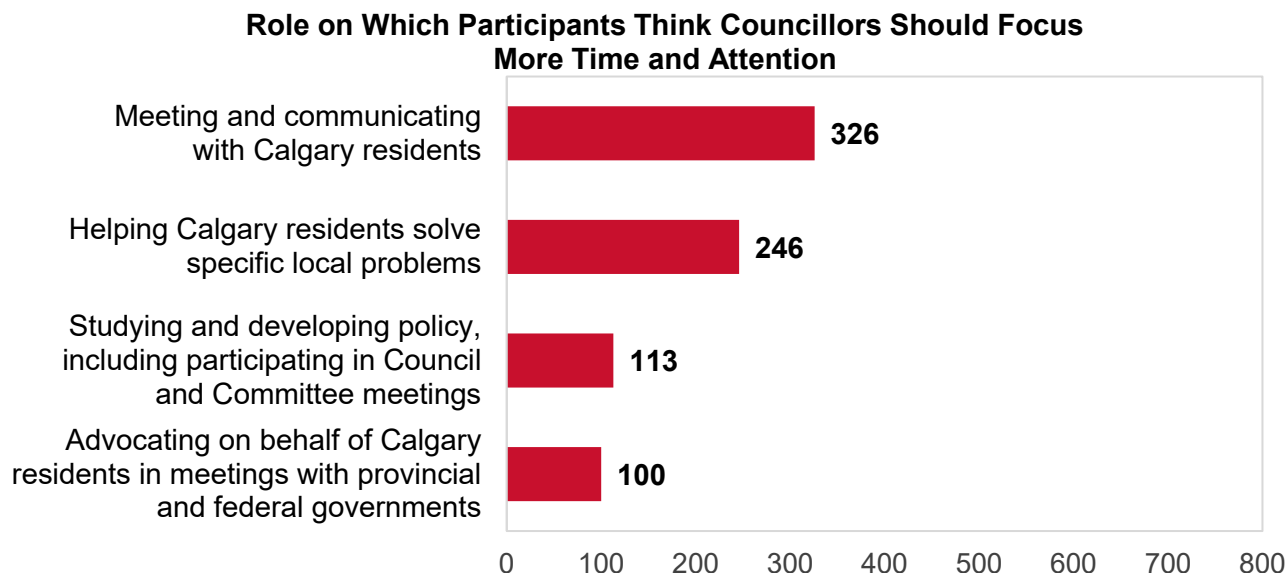
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5. If you could have Councillors focus more time and attention on just one of these roles, which would you choose?

(answered by 785 of 803 participants)



6. In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?

(answered by 471 of 803 participants)

Theme, Details and Sample Quotes from Participants
<p>Representing their constituents' wishes, concerns, and needs at the municipal level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Representing their constituents by acting on (voting, advocating for) their constituents' wishes, concerns, and needs. – Putting aside their own ideas and agendas and those of special interest groups in favour of their constituents' wishes, concerns, and needs. <p>“Voting in a way that represents the views of those who elected you, not your own opinion.”</p> <p>“Advocate on behalf of the people and what the people want.”</p> <p>“Advocating on behalf of residents in their ward in Council and Committee meetings.”</p> <p>“Be the voice of your community, not of your own or Council-only voices.”</p> <p>“Act in the interest of the people, not the special interest groups that have their ear.”</p> <p>“Advocating on behalf of their Constituents at City Council also feels pretty critical and it doesn't always just involve policy or the Province.”</p>

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Theme, Details and Sample Quotes from Participants

Listening to and communicating with their constituents:

- Engaging with their constituents in a genuine way and actively seeking their input/feedback.
- Truly knowing and understanding their constituents' wishes, needs and concerns and what is going on in their Ward.
- Responding to and communicating with their constituents authentically (meaningfully?).

"THE MOST important role for all Councillors is to listen and communicate with the people they represent."

"Being available to the residents of their constituency to answer questions and resolve issues."

"Communicate, to the constituents, what Council is deciding and why decisions are made. The more unpopular the decision or policy, the more communication is needed."

"Definitely communicating with the residents in their Ward on all issues, specifically those that are contentious!"

"Meet with constituents in person, listen to constituents, look at what the communities need."

"Meeting and communicating with residents. Helping residents resolve specific problems and issues. Listening and supporting is the most important, we know our communities."

Responsible financial stewardship:

- Responsibly budgeting and spending tax dollars.
- Working to decrease taxes (or at least stopping tax increases).

"Cutting costs. Lowering taxes."

"Managing city finances and budget - lets see actions taken towards spending less rather than spending more."

"Get costs down. Get the tax increases under control."

"The most important is to stop the waste, red tape, and killing the homeowners and business owners with taxes."

"Responsible financial stewardship and accountability to electorate."

Focusing on local/municipal issues:

- Focusing on municipal issues (e.g., ensuring City services are running properly, directing Administration) rather than on those seen to be the responsibility of other levels of government.

"Advocate for their ward. Forget doing the Province's job of social services."

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Theme, Details and Sample Quotes from Participants

“Putting forward changes that are municipal in nature and which represent their constituents’ views.”

“Councillors should be focused on the basic needs of our city to make essential services better. Roads should be a priority, addressing increased crime and rising drug problems. City councillors do not need to be focused on Provincial or Federal problems.”

“Focus on core municipal responsibilities rather than things that are not important for daily living in Calgary and not in their jurisdiction.”

“Municipal government has municipal scope. Take care of the things you are responsible [for] and no more.”

“This is municipal government, stick to the issues in your ward. Bigger issues of city will be dealt with by the Mayor, provincial by the Premier and so on.”

7. What ideas do you have for improving how Calgarians are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

(answered by 656 of 803 participants)

Theme, Details and Sample Quotes from Participants

Councillors should improve engagement and communication with constituents:

- Actively seek out constituents’ input and genuinely listen to and be open to it.
- Offer constituents a variety of ways to provide their input (online, in person, by phone, regularly scheduled Town Halls, surveys).
- Allow public voting (e.g., plebiscites) on important issues, changes/proposals with a city-wide impact, and major decisions.
- Communicate better and more often with constituents, providing information such as updates, upcoming Council decisions, proposed changes, reasons for decisions made by Council, and answers to questions.

“[...] it should be Councillors who go out of their way to engage with and potentially educate their constituents, not the other way around. I say this as a young person in my undergrad who knows many people my age who would benefit from getting to know their councillor but lack the knowledge of what their issues are, where to go, who to talk to, etc.”

“Specifically going out of their way to hear from people that have not reached out and shared their thoughts (i.e. not just listening to the loudest voices).”

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Theme, Details and Sample Quotes from Participants

“Councillors should offer more surveys or interactions with their constituents - usually only the loudest voices are heard publicly, ensure there are ways to hear the people that may not have the time or abilities to dedicate to communicating their needs and wants.”

“There should be a multitude of channels and opportunities for citizens to weigh in and provide feedback. It would be nice to first generate an awareness and understanding of the needs, prioritization of the issues and ideas together (citizens and counsellors) after prioritizing then we can move together towards proposed solutions that are timely and provide access to all citizens.”

“Community meetings on smaller issues. Significant input on larger issues - secure a mandate or hold a plebiscite when an issue is perceived by taxpayers to have a significant impact on them.”

“Having monthly meetings or communications with their wards to describe what they have voted on and what they plan to vote on.”

Councillors should improve representation of their constituents’ wishes, concerns, and needs in Council discussions and decisions:

- Represent their constituents by acting on (voting, advocating for) their constituents’ wishes, concerns, and needs.
- Put aside their own ideas and agendas and those of special interest groups in favour of their constituents’ wishes, concerns, and needs.

“Right now I don't feel our Councillor represents us or hears our concerns. Other Councillors are sympathetic, but have said that our own Councillor must bring the motion forward.”

“Elected councilors should listen to their constituents' concerns and act accordingly.”

“Representing their community's best interest and not necessarily the interests of city council as a whole.”

“There has to be more checks and balances on why/how and should Councillors be allowed to vote against their own constituents.”

“Municipal government councillors need to represent the opinions of their constituents, not their own personal agendas they want put forward.”

Prioritize fiscal responsibility and focus on municipal issues and responsibilities:

- Reduce taxes and budget and spend responsibly (e.g., do not spend money on “pet projects” or things that won’t benefit the majority of Calgarians or provide lasting value to the city).
- Focus on City services, local issues and municipal responsibilities rather than spending time and money on responsibilities of other levels of government.

“It is not enough for the mayor and city council to “listen,” but to do what Calgarians want: potholes filled, safe roads, police, financial and fiscal responsibility, among others.”

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Theme, Details and Sample Quotes from Participants

“Keeping taxes in check is of great importance. It does not seem that my tax dollars are spent on local issues in my area like keeping parks clean, grass cut, graffiti clean up, roads etc. We spend on affordable housing built in parks that should be a provincial issue.”

“Try to reduce costs & taxes for a change - we are already overtaxed at all levels.”

“Councillors are very aware of what is happening in the world and their communities--they should be more in touch with local concerns (housing, cost of living etc.) rather than dealing with huge issues (such as climate change and this single use bylaw) that are not on the radar of people struggling to survive.”

“We need councillors to solve problems specific to their ward, not to try save the world.”

Improve transparency by and accountability of Council:

- Require Council to be more transparent about Council discussions and decisions (e.g., reasons for voting against or in favour of something), including limiting in camera meetings and disclosing potential conflicts of interest.
- Increase transparency about the sources of each Council member’s campaign donations as well as candidates’ political affiliations during the campaign period.

“Council needs to be transparent. No “in camera” meetings. Everything needs to be in the open and public.”

“Have councillors publish the results of constituent input to them on topics. This will make them more accountable.”

“Provide a mechanism of communication with councillors that ensures open and not closed in camera sessions, transparency and ultimately responsibility to constituents.”

“Candidates must fully disclose their platform during elections.”

“[...] being open about what their political stance/backing is during elections and being TRANSPARENT about where election funding comes from.”

Electoral reform and other changes to the existing system:

- Consider other types of electoral systems such as alternative vote/ranked ballot or a system that reflects proportional representation principles (e.g., party list).
- Decrease the number of Wards/Councillors and have term limits.
- More reasonable recall system.

“Ranked choice ballot system to give underdogs a chance and eliminate the “vote the lesser of two evils” mentality.”

“I highly recommend that Calgary adopts a PR-STV voting system to better represent Calgarians.”

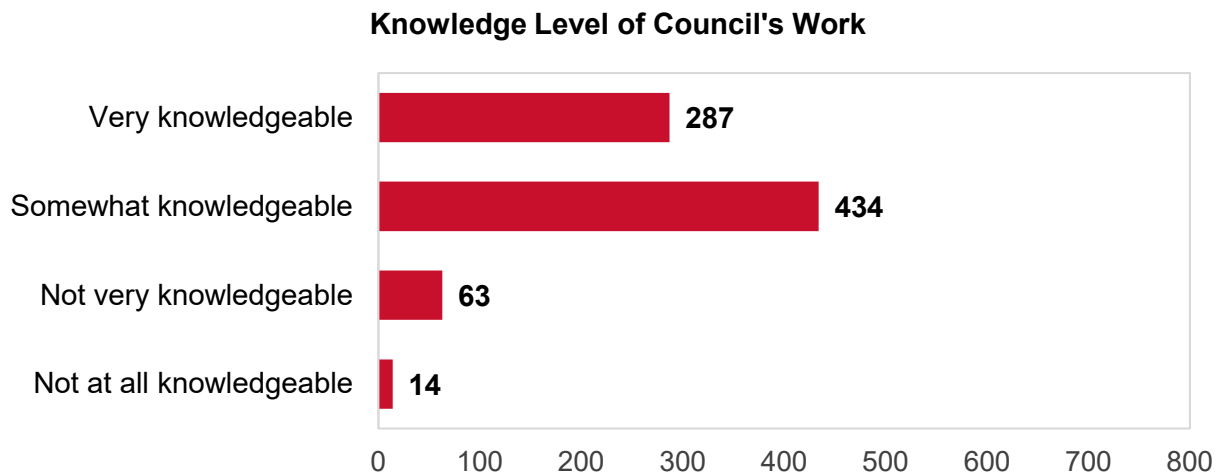
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Theme, Details and Sample Quotes from Participants
“[...] in the election cycle limit the candidates or allow a run off election for the two with the highest percentage of votes.”
“Reducing the number of wards to 6 or 7 and have the remaining councillors elected by the whole city.”
“Make recall legislation more realistic. If a councillor is not doing their job, they need to be removed and replaced.”

8. In general, how knowledgeable are you about the work Calgary’s City Council (current and/or past) does?

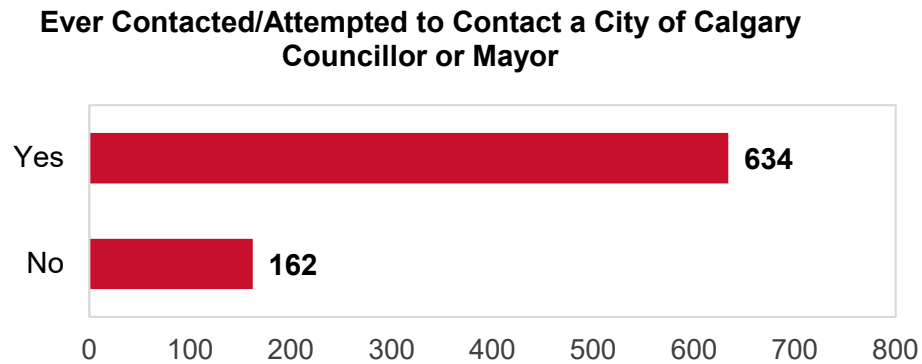
(answered by 798 of 803 participants)



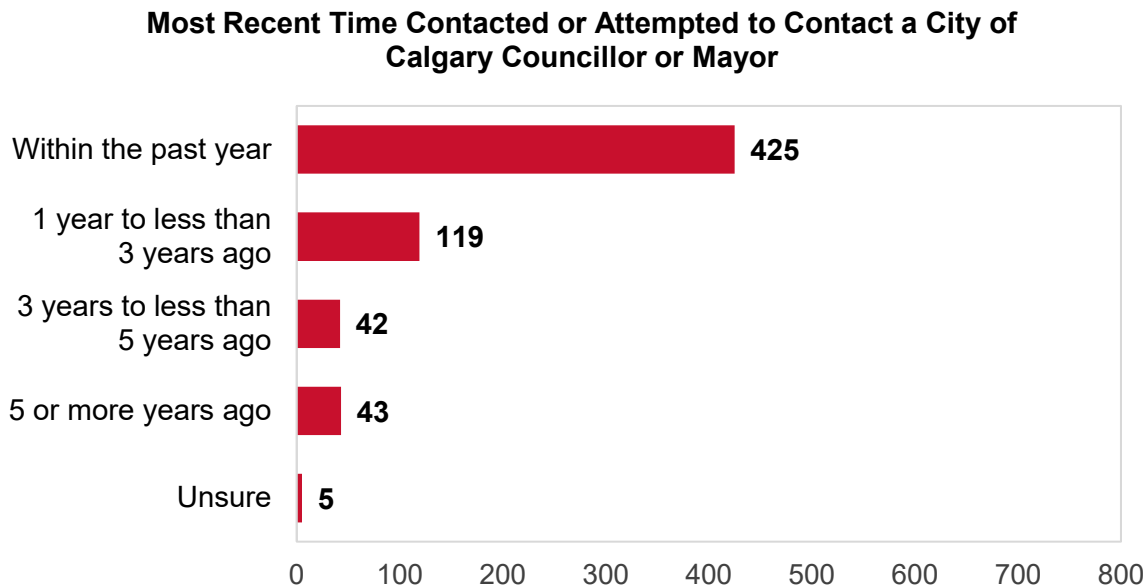
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9. a) Have you ever contacted or attempted to contact the office of a City of Calgary Councillor or Mayor? This includes current or past Councillors or Mayors.
(answered by 796 of 803 participants)



9. b) When was the most recent time you did this?
(asked only of those who answered “yes” to question 9a; answered by 634 of 634 participants)



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9. c) What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?

(asked only of those who answered “yes” to question 9a; answered by 572 of 634 participants)

Many participants' have most recently contacted or attempted to contact a Councillor and/or Mayor to express their concerns about an issue or voice disagreement with a decision or viewpoint of a Councillor or Council in general. The most common topic of the contact was land use planning/rezoning and development. Other prominent topics included bylaws and policies, City finances (taxes, budget/spending), City services and responsibilities (especially, traffic/roads, Transit and infrastructure), community/Ward amenities and issues, and safety/crime/social disorder.

10. If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?

(answered by 744 of 802 participants)

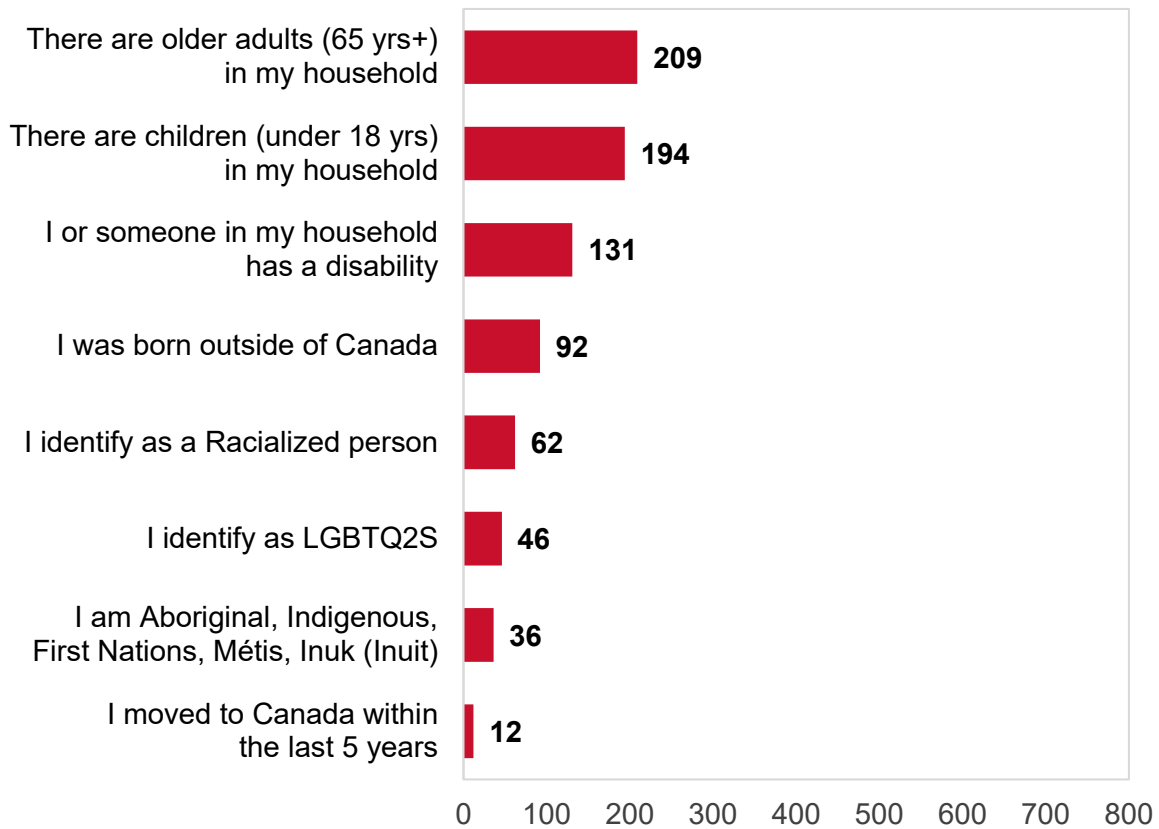
Many participants said they would contact their own Ward Councillor. Some participants said they would contact all Council members. Some said they would contact the Councillor(s) for the Ward(s) the issue/problem impacts and/or the Councillor(s) most connected to the issue. Some participants would contact the Councillor they think would best represent them and/or are likely to respond.

After the Ballot

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11. Please select any of the following that apply to you.
(answered by 536 of 803 participants)

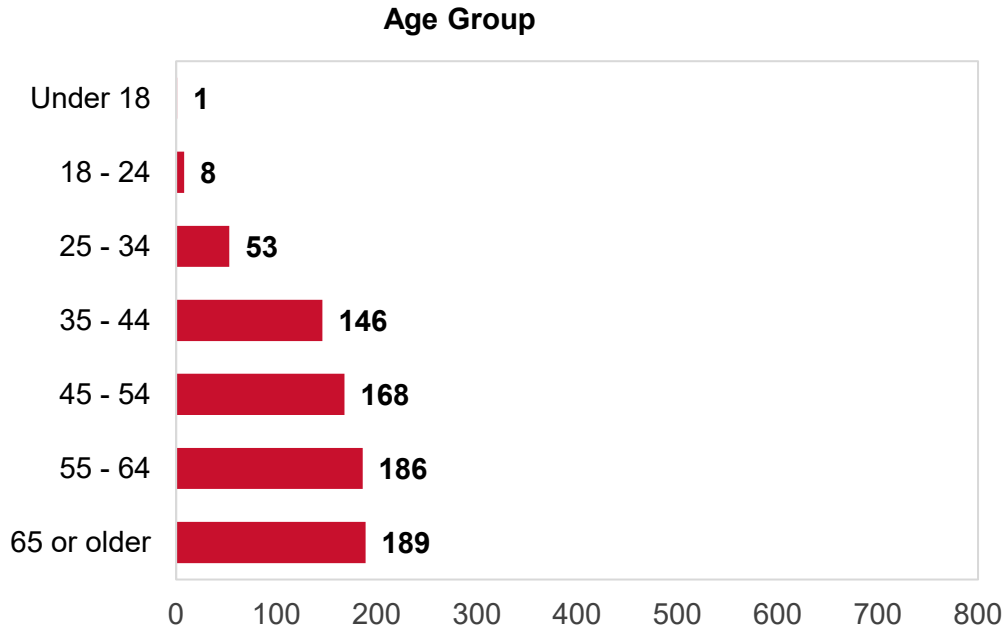
Participant Demographics



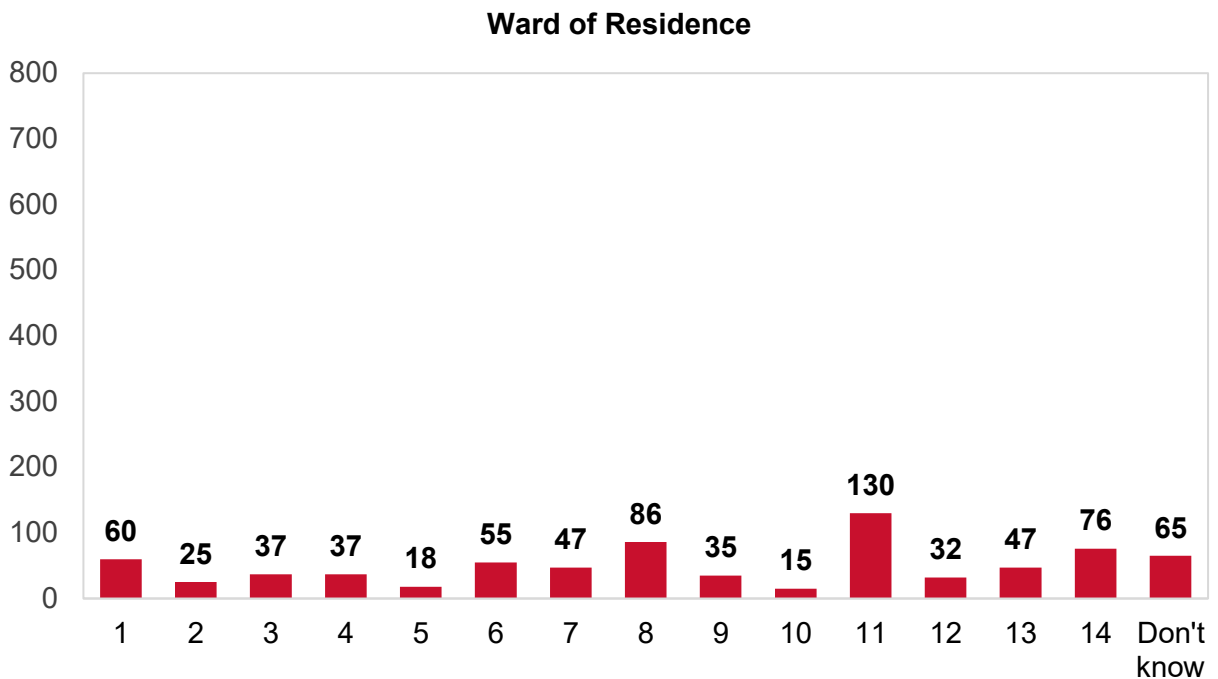
After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
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12. Which of the following age groups applies to you? (answered by 750 of 803 participants)



13. In which Ward do you live? (answered by 765 of 803 participants)



After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

Business owners/operators

Nearly all participants said they are knowledgeable about the work Calgary's City Council (current and/or past) does and participants tended to disagree their perspectives as a business owner and/or operator are reflected in Council's decisions. Half of participants reported that they've contacted or attempted to contact the office of a City of Calgary Councillor or Mayor (either current or past), with most having most recently done this within the past three years.

All six Councillor roles presented to participants were considered important by most of the participants. When asked which of the roles they would have Councillors focus more time and attention on, 'studying and developing policy that impacts Calgary businesses' was selected by more participants than were the other roles. However, a few participants selected 'meeting and communicating with business owners/operators' or 'marketing and publicly supporting local business.'

Participants would like Councillors to engage with and listen to business owners/operators in Calgary, have their views represented in Council decision making, and be valued by Councillors for their contribution to Calgary.

Detailed results:

All questions were optional, unless otherwise noted.

1. What type of industry (e.g., retail, industrial, etc.) does your business belong to? (answered by 23 of 23 participants)

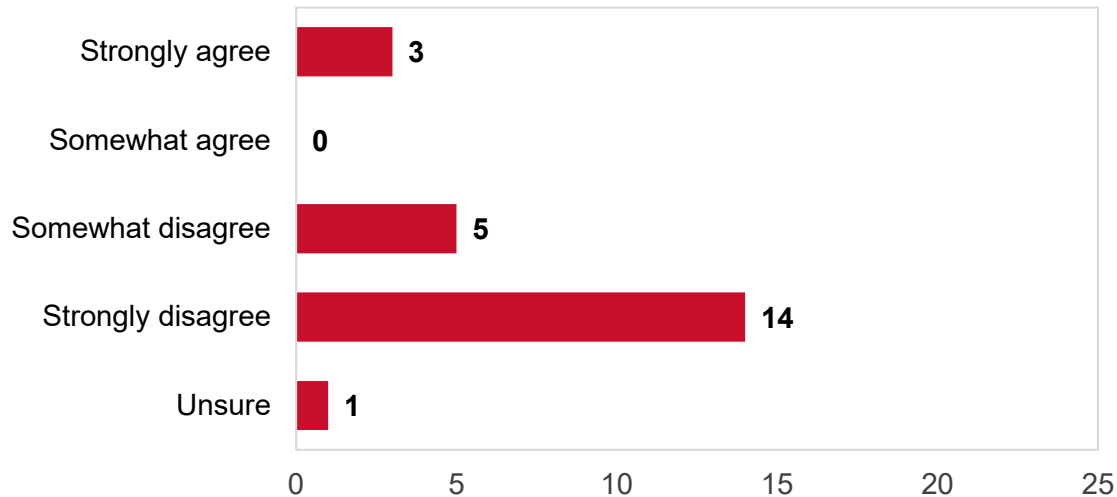
A variety of industries were represented by participants: auto repair, consulting, energy, engineering, entertainment, hospitality, manufacturing, real estate, retail, and technology.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
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2. To what extent do you agree or disagree your perspectives as a business owner and/or operator are reflected in Council's decisions? (answered by 23 of 23 participants)

My Perspectives as a Business Owner/Operator are Reflected in Council's Decisions



3. What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing businesses in Calgary?
(answered by 17 of 23 participants)

Theme, Details and Sample Quotes from Participants

Engaging with, listening to, and representing business owners/operators and seeing the value of businesses in Calgary.

- Actively engaging with business owners/operators to hear their perspectives and concerns and bringing them forward to Council.
- Understanding business and the value they bring to our city.

“I think outreach will make Councillors more effective. I have been running a business in Calgary for 15 years and I have never been approached by the City to discuss what I think as a business owner. I have had both federal and provincial outreach but never the City.”

“Listening to their constituents, understanding their perspective and issues and representing them rather than their own agenda or views and opinions.”

“An honest belief that business provide value to a community not only as a tax generating vehicle but as an important part of the community.”

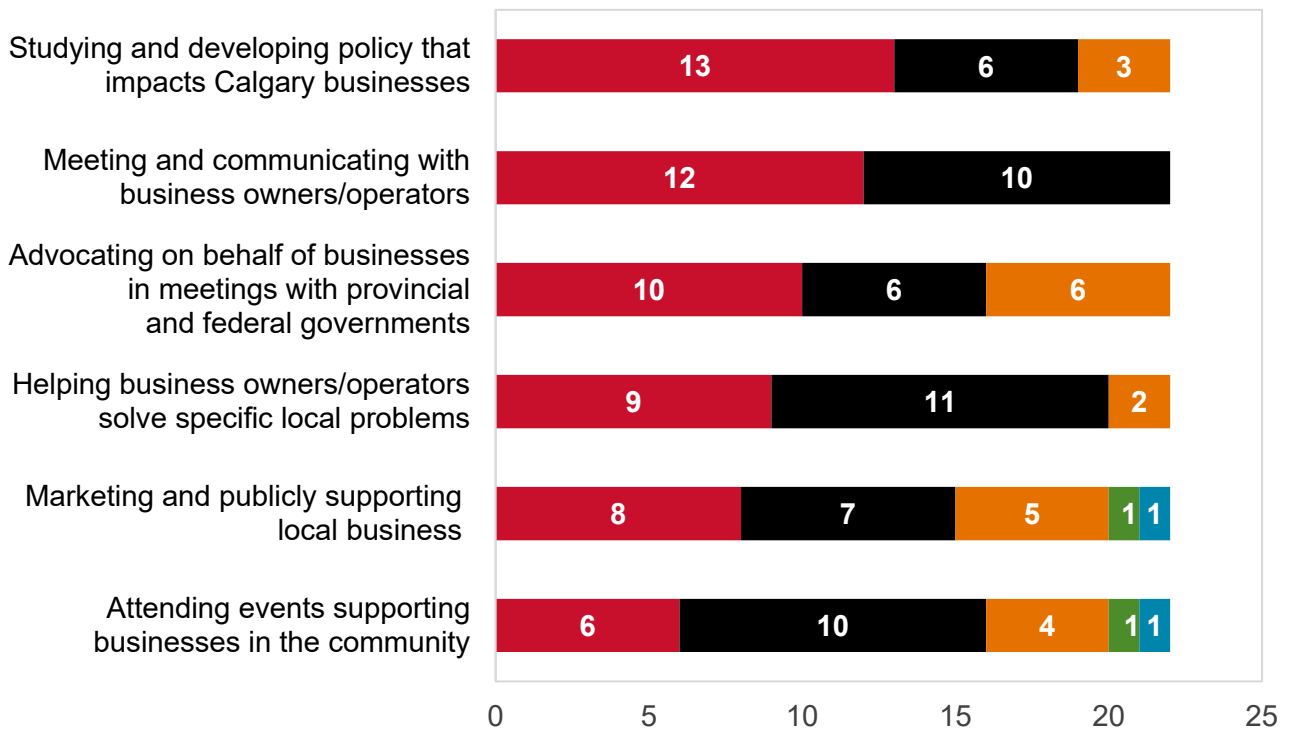
After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
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4. Councillors have many roles. For each of the following, to what extent is it important or not important to you personally? (answered by 22 of 23 participants)

Importance of Roles

■ Very important ■ Somewhat important ■ Not very important ■ Not at all important ■ Unsure



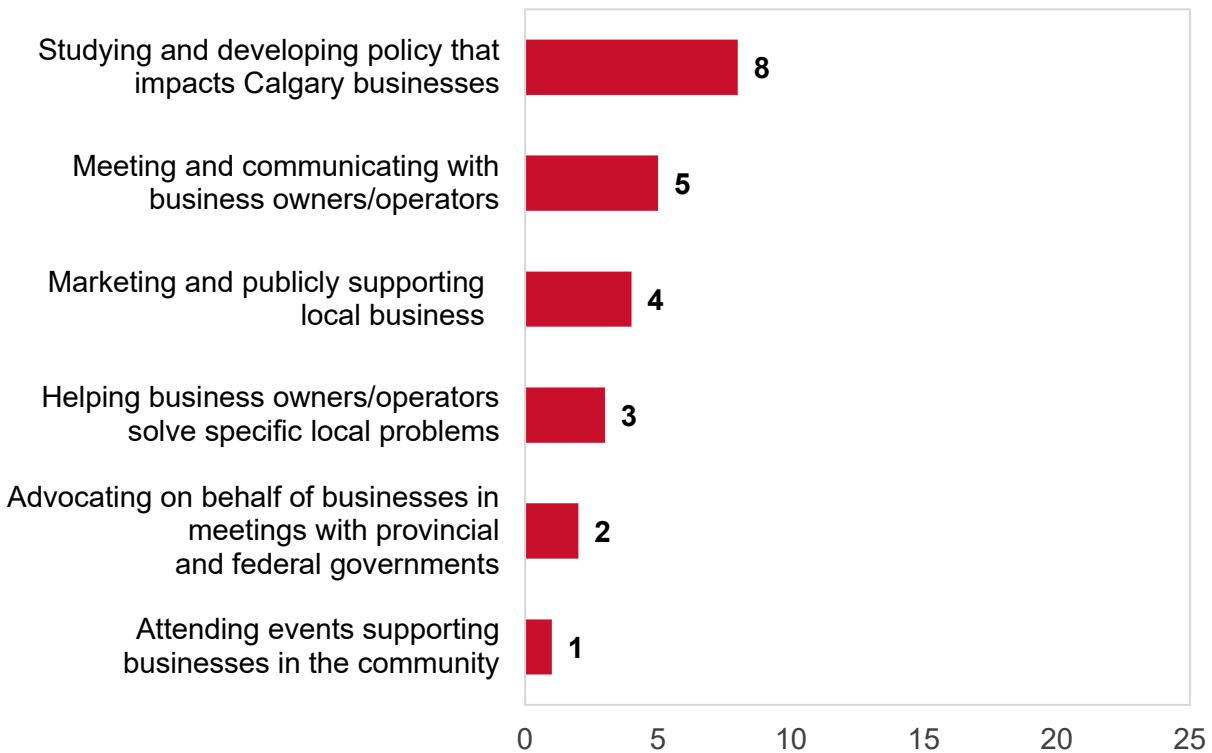
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5. If you could have Councillors focus more time and attention on just one of these roles, which would you choose?

(answered by 23 of 23 participants)

Role on Which Participants Think Councillors Should Focus More Time and Attention



6. In addition to the six roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?

(answered by 8 of 23 participants)

There were no common themes among the responses to this question. Please see the Verbatim Report for the verbatim responses.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
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7. **What ideas do you have for improving how Calgary businesses are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.**

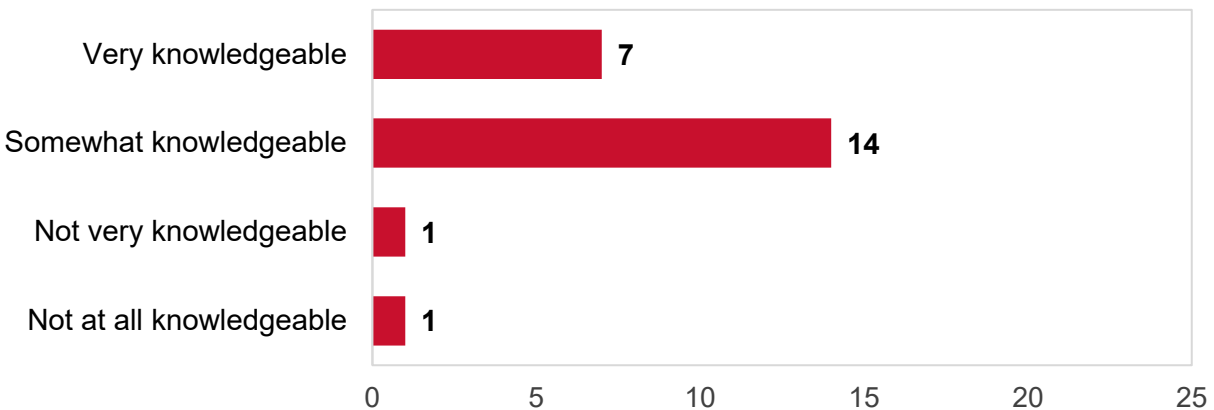
(answered by 19 of 23 participants)

There were no common themes among the responses to this question. Please see the Verbatim Report for the verbatim responses.

8. **In general, how knowledgeable are you about the work Calgary's City Council (current and/or past) does?**

(answered by 23 of 23 participants)

Knowledge Level of Council's Work



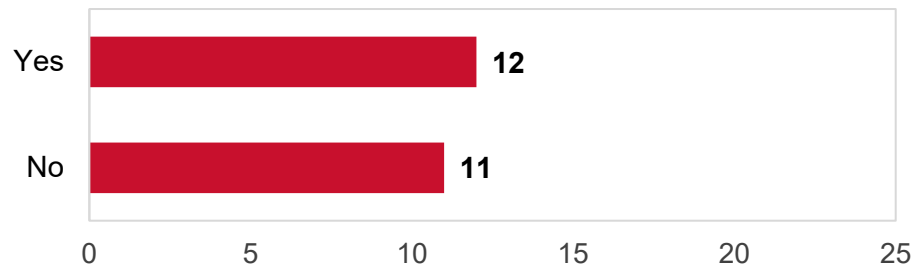
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9. a) Have you ever contacted or attempted to contact the office of a City of Calgary Councillor or Mayor on behalf of the business(es) you own and/or operate? This includes current or past Councillors or Mayors.

(answered by 23 of 23 participants)

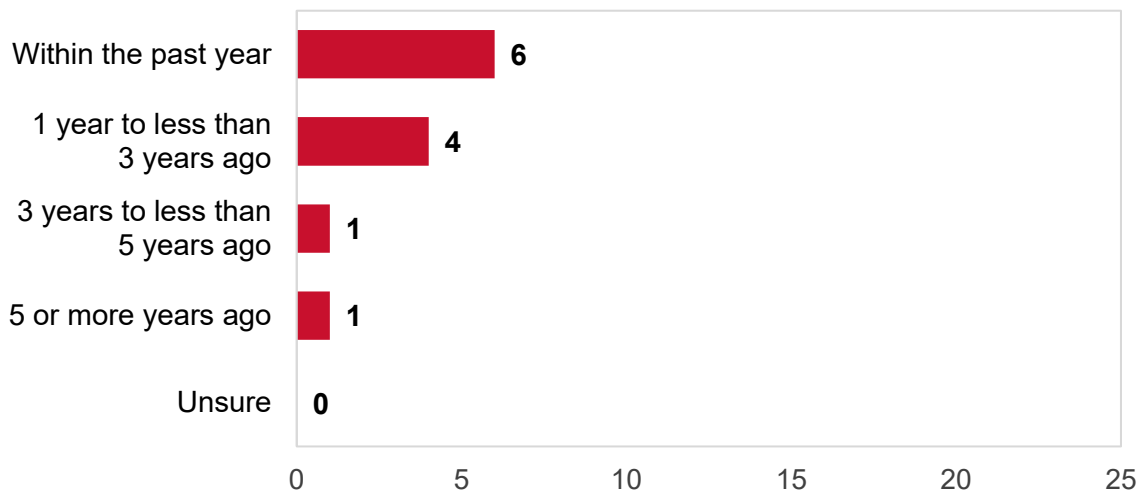
Ever Contacted/Attempted to Contact a City of Calgary Councillor or Mayor



9. b) When was the most recent time you did this?

(asked only of those who answered “yes” to question 9a; answered by 12 of 12 participants)

Most Recent Time Contacted or Attempted to Contact a City of Calgary Councillor or Mayor



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Report Back: What We Heard
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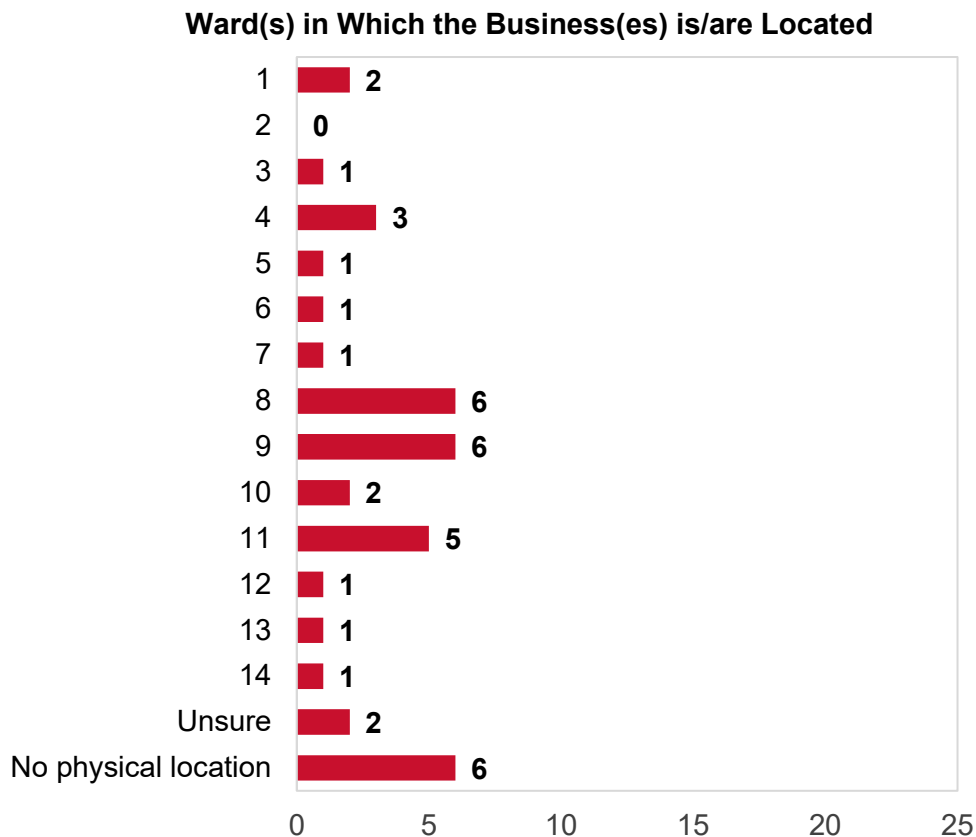
- 9. c) What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?**
(asked only of those who answered “yes” to question 9; answered by 9 of 12 participants)

There were no common themes among the responses to this question. Please see the Verbatim Report for the verbatim responses.

- 10. If you needed to contact a Councillor on behalf of the business(es) you own and/or operate, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?**
(answered by 21 of 23 participants)

Participants would contact the Councillor of the Ward in which their business is located or of the Ward in which they live.

- 11. In which Ward is/are the business(es) you own and/or operate located?**
(answered by 23 of 23 participants)



After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

Volunteer and not-for-profit organization representatives

Among the few participants who completed this survey (7), most said they are knowledgeable about the work Calgary's City Council (current and/or past) does and disagreed their organization's perspectives are reflected in Council's decisions. Nearly all reported that they've contacted or attempted to contact the office of a City of Calgary Councillor or Mayor (either current or past), with all having most recently done this within the past year.

The six Councillor roles presented to participants were considered important by most of the participants, except for 'attending ceremonial events that support your organization.'

Detailed results:

All questions were optional, unless otherwise noted.

Due to the small number of participants (7), responses are not charted.

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree your organization's perspectives are reflected in Council's decisions?

(answered by 7 of 7 participants)

Strongly agree	1
Somewhat agree	0
Somewhat disagree	2
Strongly disagree	3
Unsure	1

2. What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing organizations like yours?

(answered by 6 of 7 participants)

There were no common themes among the responses to this question. Please see the Verbatim Report for the verbatim responses.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
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3. Councillors have many roles. For each of the following, to what extent is it important or not important to you personally?

(answered by 6 – 7, depending on statement, of 7 participants)

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	Unsure
Meeting and communicating with organizations like yours	6	1	0	0	0
Studying and developing policy, including participation in Council and Committee meetings	5	2	0	0	0
Helping organizations like yours solve specific local problems	5	2	0	0	0
Increase capacity building and resources for volunteer and not-for-profit organizations	3	3	1	0	0
Advocating on behalf of organizations like yours in meetings with provincial and federal governments	3	2	1	0	0
Attending ceremonial events that support your organization	1	3	3	0	0

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

4. If you could have Councillors focus more time and attention on just one of these roles, which would you choose?

(answered by 7 of 7 participants)

Advocating on behalf of organizations like yours in meetings with provincial and federal governments	3
Helping organizations like yours solve specific local problems	2
Studying and developing policy, including participation in Council and Committee meetings	1
Increase capacity building and resources for volunteer and not-for-profit organizations	1
Meeting and communicating with organizations like yours	0
Attending ceremonial events that support your organization	0

5. In addition to the six roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?

(answered by 5 of 7 participants)

There were no common themes among the responses to this question. Please see the Verbatim Report for the verbatim responses.

6. What ideas do you have for improving how organizations like yours are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

(answered by 5 of 7 participants)

There were no common themes among the responses to this question. Please see the Verbatim Report for the verbatim responses.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

7. In general, how knowledgeable are you about the work Calgary’s City Council (current and/or past) does?

(answered by 7 of 7 participants)

Very knowledgeable	5
Somewhat knowledgeable	2
Not very knowledgeable	0
Not at all knowledgeable	0

8. a) Have you ever contacted or attempted to contact the office of a City of Calgary Councillor or Mayor on behalf of the organization you represent? This includes current or past Councillors or Mayors.

(answered by 7 of 7 participants)

Yes	6
No	1

8. b) When was the most recent time you did this?

(asked only of those who answered “yes” to question 8a; answered by 6 of 6 participants)

Within the past year	6
1 year to less than 3 years ago	0
3 years to less than 5 years ago	0
5 or more years ago	0
Unsure	0

8. c) What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?

(asked only of those who answered “yes” to question 8a; answered by 5 of 6 participants)

There were no common themes among the responses to this question. Please see the Verbatim Report for the verbatim responses.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
May 23, 2024

9. If you needed to contact a Councillor on behalf of your organization, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?

(answered by 7 of 7 participants)

Participants would contact the Councillor for their Ward.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

Community association representatives

Among the few participants who completed this survey (11), all said they are knowledgeable about the work Calgary's City Council (current and/or past) does and most disagreed their community association's perspectives are reflected in Council's decisions. The majority of participants reported that they've contacted or attempted to contact the office of a City of Calgary Councillor or Mayor (either current or past), with many of them having most recently done this within the past year or 3 to 5 years ago.

All six of the Councillor roles presented to participants were considered important by the majority. When asked which of the roles they would have Councillors focus more time and attention on, 'helping community associations solve specific local problems' was selected by more participants than were the other roles.

Detailed results:

All questions were optional, unless otherwise noted.

Due to the small number of participants (11), responses are not charted.

1. In which Ward is your community association located?

(answered by 10 of 11 participants)

Participants were from community associations located in Wards 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

2. To what extent do you agree or disagree your organization's perspectives are reflected in Council's decisions?

(answered by 10 of 11 participants)

Strongly agree	0
Somewhat agree	1
Somewhat disagree	3
Strongly disagree	6
Unsure	0

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

3. What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing organizations like yours?

(answered by 9 of 11 participants)

Participants mentioned more Councillor engagement (e.g., attending community events and meetings) within their communities and better representation of community associations' and community residents' wishes, needs and concerns.

4. Councillors have many roles. For each of the following, to what extent is it important or not important to you personally?

(answered by 10 of 11 participants)

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	Unsure
Helping community associations solve specific local problems	8	1	1	0	0
Advocating on behalf of community associations in meetings with provincial and federal governments	8	1	1	0	0
Studying and developing policy, including participation in Council and Committee meetings	6	4	0	0	0
Attend community association meetings	3	6	1	0	0
Attend community association events	3	5	2	0	0
Facilitate community association resource and capacity-building	2	7	1	0	0

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

5. If you could have Councillors focus more time and attention on just one of these roles, which would you choose?

(answered by 7 of 7 participants)

Helping community associations solve specific local problems	4
Advocating on behalf of community associations in meetings with provincial and federal governments	2
Facilitate community association resource and capacity-building	2
Studying and developing policy, including participation in Council and Committee meetings	1
Attend community association meetings	1
Attend community association events	0

6. In addition to the six roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?

(answered by 7 of 11 participants)

Participants mentioned Councillors should actively promote and advocate for the communities they represent at Council.

7. What ideas do you have for improving how organizations like yours are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

(answered by 8 of 11 participants)

There were no common themes among the responses to this question. Please see the Verbatim Report for the verbatim responses.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

8. In general, how knowledgeable are you about the work Calgary’s City Council (current and/or past) does?

(answered by 10 of 11 participants)

Very knowledgeable	4
Somewhat knowledgeable	6
Not very knowledgeable	0
Not at all knowledgeable	0

9. a) Have you ever contacted or attempted to contact the office of a City of Calgary Councillor or Mayor on behalf of the organization you represent? This includes current or past Councillors or Mayors.

(answered by 10 of 11 participants)

Yes	8
No	2

9. b) When was the most recent time you did this?

(asked only of those who answered “yes” to question 9a; answered by 8 of 8 participants)

Within the past year	4
1 year to less than 3 years ago	0
3 years to less than 5 years ago	3
5 or more years ago	0
Unsure	1

9. c) What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?

(asked only of those who answered “yes” to question 9a; answered by 7 of 8 participants)

There were no common themes among the responses to this question. Please see the Verbatim Report for the verbatim responses.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
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10. If you needed to contact a Councillor on behalf of your organization, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?

(answered by 7 of 7 participants)

Participants would contact the Councillor for their Ward.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

Ethnocultural association representatives

All questions were optional, unless otherwise noted.

Due to the very small number of participants (2), numbers are not reported.

The two participants agreed (strongly or somewhat) that the perspective of their organization is reflected in Council's decisions.

Both participants felt the following Councillor roles are important (very or somewhat):

- Studying and developing policy, including participation in Council and Committee meetings.
- Helping ethnocultural organizations solve specific local problems.
- Attending ethnocultural organization meetings.
- Attending ethnocultural organization events.
- Advocating on behalf of ethnocultural organizations in meetings with provincial and federal governments.
- Facilitating ethnocultural organization resource and capacity-building.

Both participants selected "Helping ethnocultural organizations solve specific local problems" as the one on which they think Councillors should focus more time and attention.

Both participants said they feel 'somewhat knowledgeable' about the work Calgary's City Council (current and/or past) does.

Both participants have contacted or attempted to contact the office of a City of Calgary Councillor or Mayor for a reason related to their work as a representative of an ethnocultural organization. This took place between 1 and 3 years ago.

For participants' responses to the open-ended questions, please see the Verbatim Report.

Business Improvement Area (BIA) and business association representatives

There were no submissions to this survey.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What we heard: Online workshops

Due to very small numbers of participants in each online workshop, common themes across the four sessions are reported instead of reporting on each individual session.

Themes:

- Councillors should respect and value the associations' position as a conduit to, representative of, and source of information for their members and communities. These associations can be of value to Councillors because they're tuned into the concerns, struggles and needs of those they represent and can bring these forward to the Councillor.
- Participants understand it's difficult for a Councillor to get to so many meetings but said it's important to attend some (e.g., Annual General Meeting, large multicultural event) to get to know the members and communities.
- It's important for these participants to have an opportunity to meet with new Councillors to begin a positive working relationship with them (e.g., as part of their Council Orientation).
- Participants said some Councillors are/have been more supportive and provided more communications and information than other Councillors.
- Participants haven't felt heard by Councillors and think some do performative as opposed to genuine engagement.
- Participants said that efficient Councillors know and understand the concerns, struggles and needs of the communities and the constituents they represent.
- Participants have found other ways to connect into The City and get things done rather than going to a Councillor for assistance (e.g., if they perceive their issue will be a low priority for a Councillor or if they don't have an existing relationship with the Councillor).
- Participants identified a need for information from Councillors to provide to their members and communities, who look to and trust them for information and guidance.
- Participants said they appreciate receiving newsletters from their Councillor's office, letting them know about what the Councillor is working on and events in the Ward that might impact them.

Ideas for improving representation of the participants' associations:

- Better notification and more information about projects that will impact BIAs.
- Post the Council meeting agendas earlier than the Friday before the meeting, so BIAs have sufficient time to review the agenda and prepare a response to an agenda item if needed
- At least include BIAs on project/issue/decision notification emails sent to impacted parties.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

- Ensure Administration and Councillors work together so Councillors have the information needed about projects, etc. to pass along to associations.
- Require Council to have Key Performance Indicator (KPI) metrics to hold them accountable.
- Include representatives of these types of associations in the Council Orientation so new Councillors know about them and how they can work together for the benefit of both sides.

Next steps

The Commission will look at the engagement feedback, relevant research and data analysis to create recommendations for Council. City of Calgary Administration will also create an accompanying report, which will lay out budget and service impacts. The recommendations and report will be brought to Council in September 2024.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

After the Ballot: Public Engagement on Effective Representation in Municipal Government

Report Back: What We Heard Verbatim Comments

May 23, 2024

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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Verbatim Comments

Verbatim comments include all feedback collected via the online and in-person engagement. All input has been reviewed and provided to the project team to be considered in decision making for the project. Verbatim responses are in unedited format (no changes to spelling or grammar) unless there is offensive language or inappropriate commentary, in alignment with The City of Calgary's Respectful Workplace Policy, or personal information. No other edits to the feedback have been made, and the verbatim comments are as received. As a result, some of the content in this verbatim record may still be considered offensive or distasteful to some readers.

Links to sections

General Public

[What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?](#)

[In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?](#)

[What ideas do you have for improving how Calgarians are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.](#)

[What was/were your reason\(s\) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?](#)

[If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?](#)

Business Owners/Operators

[What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?](#)

[In addition to the six roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?](#)

[What ideas do you have for improving how Calgarians are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.](#)

[What was/were your reason\(s\) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?](#)

[If you needed to contact a Councillor on behalf of the business\(es\) you own and/or operate, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?](#)

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

Volunteer and Not-for-Profit Organization Representatives

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing organizations like yours?

In addition to the six roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?

What ideas do you have for improving how organizations like yours are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?

If you needed to contact a Councillor on behalf of your organization, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?

Community Association Representatives

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing community associations in their Ward?

In addition to the six roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?

What ideas do you have for improving how community associations are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?

If you needed to contact a Councillor on behalf of your community association, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?

Ethnocultural Association Representatives

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing organizations like yours?

In addition to the six roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
May 23, 2024

What ideas do you have for improving how organizations like yours are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?

If you needed to contact a Councillor on behalf of your organization, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

Comments Submitted at Pop-up Events

General Public

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Clearly presenting positions in a sustained way and explaining positions heard, but always agreed with.
They can only do so much as the mayor will override them.
Collecting data and input in a variety of ways, knowing what is important to the people and how to prioritize.
I think asking about "actions" is missing the point. Calgary's municipal government is very much a form over substance government. Enormous amounts of taxpayer funds are spent to create the appearance of fair elections, listening to citizens and competent governance. However, in substance, unions have dictated major decisions for many years, important decisions are made behind closed doors and then propaganda is used to create the impression that the government listens and respects citizens, and fiscal responsibility is not taken seriously. This survey follows that trend by pretending to listen, at taxpayer expense, but in substance no change is likely to occur.
Listening and taking actions the majority support; respecting democratic process and fundamental rights and freedoms of calgarians
Engaging with the local communities and the public and actually listening to feedback.
Transparency, honesty and being fiscally responsible. Unfortunately, very little of these actions are present currently. Our municipal government makes decisions behind closed doors and then goes through the motions of pretending to listen to citizens.
That isn't the job of a Councillor. Councillors are elected to serve in the best interests of the city overall. A Councillor should prioritize the needs of Calgary as a whole and as a long-term society, over the voices of the loudest of their ward residents.
A City Councillor is a representative of the majority of his/her constituents. This is not being reflected in decisions being made by several Councillors.
Honesty, integrity and a willingness to listen. Unfortunately, very little of these seem to be present currently.
Spending time in each community and actually speaking to the residents of those communities. I have never met my community councillor even though I'm actively involved in my community.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Understanding complex issues of city building, setting goals that are city wide, understanding how these goals directly affect their wards.
To be transparent and honest and stop the wasteful spending for their pet projects.
Currently, very little. Some suggestions: start to meaningfully listen to citizens, use less propaganda to pretend bad ideas are good ideas, introduce a reasonable level of transparency and start to be financially responsible.
Responding to constituents -- no point in trying to have a discussion with myself which is what I have to do when my councillor ignores any form of communication
Calgary is a great City that unfortunately has a failing municipal government. The unionized workforce pays to elect a majority of Council and then Council spends money irresponsibly in ways that benefit friends and family of the unionized elite. Unions were created to help the vulnerable, but in Calgary unions prey on the vulnerable.
How about they listen to the people that elected them and act in the best interests of those very people. All too often citizens get the 'we're listening' email and then councillors do the exact opposite of what they 'heard'
Focus on running the city as a business, stop speeding money on "Official Birds" and City slogans. \$5million dollars wasted on new city slogan. For what value ?
Actually listening to their constituents and working on our behalf
They need to be more transparent on the plans they plan to introduce and champion during the election cycle. They also need to represent the majority of their constituents.
Local engagement, not Just sitting in council chambers
By actually listening to what their constituents are telling them and voting accordingly
Communicate regularly with both residents and community associations. Attend Community meetings when asked, not back out at the last minute with minor excuses. Our Cllr. has his own agenda regardless of what his constituents or community associations tell him. In fact we have not seen him in over a year, maybe to scared to face the voters?
They need to interact with their constituents to see what they want and need
Represent Ward constituents not their personal ideology, for example proposal to change the voting requirement to anyone awaiting their Canadian citizenship!

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
I think a lot of council members are not confident in their ability to make a difference in our communities. I'm hearing a lot of dissatisfaction in several wards from friends, family members and colleagues that public hearings are bias an ineffective. Many believe that decisions are already pre-meditated and that community meetings and input are becoming pointless. Calgary residents are tired of being ignored and pushed aside on major issues that have a very large impact on their livelihood, their communities and their homes. A Councillor that is effective would listen to their communities, take true action based on data and representation versus going with the popular opinion of council.
Voting based on feedback from their ward, not their own views. Being actively invested, not just coasting till retirement
First of all I don't believe my councillor was actually elected. He didn't campaign at all from what I saw, when others campaigned heavily and had very attractive platforms. I don't know anyone who voted for Gondek and yet she's in. So the first step would be free and fair elections. The second would be to talk to constituents. My councillor didn't even appear to campaign during the election, so I don't think he bothers now to talk to people. I have certainly never heard from him. I think the while lot if them should be removed.
If our Councillor is respected amongst their peers, than they can be effective as a whole with Council and the Mayor. I do wonder about how effective a councillor can be if not respected amongst their peers.
All councilors should be treated with respect and with equal opportunity to serve on committees and to express views and feedback from residents in their ward. More opportunities for public meetings to discuss key issues or just to get to know our councilor and others in our community better.
Listening to their constituents and following through to support them and their views to make Calgary a better city without wasting tax payers money
They need to listen and represent the will Of the people
Dealing with residents' problems, planning to avoid problems in the future, but also: an effective councilor understands that running a city is not a zero-sum game, that we all have an interest in the prosperity of Calgary as a whole (and even Canada as a whole), and because of that, an entirely ward-based first-past-the-post system does not serve us best.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>A councillor who engages, replies to concerns expressed from their wards emails, letters and phone calls and not just a form canned response. A councillor who doesn't have their own preconceived notions and works to only promote their point of view and discount opposing views. A councillor not overly influenced by lobby groups. A councillor who can declare all their interests in a matter and recuse themselves when needed. A councillor with ethics and desire to serve who they work for and not just their own interests</p>
<p>Responding to concerns submitted by constituents</p>
<p>Listening to their citizens, and implementing what the majority want, not WHAT THE COUNCIL WANTS/THINKS (within safety and logistical reasons). We want Calgary needs attended to, not what someone in another province wants that doesn't live here. To respond to the citizens when they ask questions - to be completely transparent. You are only in the role of Councillor to act as our representavate, not as an owner.</p>
<p>Actually do what the constituents want and not what a political party wants.</p>
<p>Holding town hall meetings in their areas, access to websites and asked for feedback, coffee chats to understand what the people in their riding want.</p>
<p>Almost nothing currently.</p>
<p>Make the road better. Stop with the virtue signalling.</p>
<p>LISTENING to what people are saying and ENGAGING. Effectively representing the citizens they serve.</p>
<p>There are eight councillors (the Hateful Eight) that vote in favour of whatever Mayor Gondek puts in front of them. They do not care what is in the best interests of the constituents, ie the blanket rezoning proposed by Mayor Gondek will harm all residential property owners. She and they do not care about that. They have their own agenda.</p>
<p>Fight to make life affordable. You've become insatiable, greedy monsters. You're rated as the worst city council ever - take that seriously and do better.</p>
<p>Being open to conversation and dialogue. Not just showing up at public consultation events and being rude and patronizing to residents. Feels like all community engagement is just to check a box and we're not actually heard.</p>
<p>Listen to their constituents!</p>
<p>Keeping communities safe and clean</p>

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>I do not see any engagement at all between my Councillor (Ward 12) and the constituents. I admit I that I have been passive in terms of my approach to city management since moving here in the mid 1980's, but I thought the city was managed relatively well. But under the last 2 mayors (Nenshi and Gondek) I feel that the Council is totally out of touch with its citizens and what they want. Therefore I don't think they are effective at all in representing their constituents. We only see them at election time, proposals and promises get made, and that is all forgotten once the election is over.</p>
<p>Focussing more on what the issues are in his ward and not trying to solve the world's problems.</p>
<p>Meeting with the people, having conversations with people, listening and taking action on what people need and want.</p>
<p>Listen to community feedback. Maybe 3 councillors do this and the mayor might as well be in orbit. Stay in your lane. Fix Calgary and our taxation problems before you spout off about global issues or issues in Quebec. Clueless group.</p>
<p>Getting their input. Maybe have each councillor send a questionnaire to his/her constituents, and get their feed back on what is working/not working</p>
<p>Showing up to events, listening, communicating our views to council</p>
<p>I always thought the government was for the people. But we have no say on where our taxes are being spent.</p>
<p>Communication with their constituents-Facebook, community meetings, and being able to communicate what the actions of council mean in the constituents' lived</p>
<p>Be transparent! Publish comments and feedbacks collected from their constituents on each subject. It really confused me that when I heard most objection voices in the neighborhood on a subject that the councillor still voted a Yes in the council. He/she has to show us the percentage of each side's feedback they collected to support his vote, and tell use his vote is not just a personal decision.</p>
<p>They need to keep their word.</p>
<p>Listening to their constituents. Seems none of them do - and we elected them! They are supposed to work for us, and stand up for what we want/need, without imparting their own desires into the roll.</p>
<p>Representing the interests of all constituents and not just the ones with money</p>

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Listening to the people who live in the Ward. NOT just getting elected and then doing whatever they want, like our Mayor has.
By being accessible and accountable
Don't use their own agenda. Do what the people want regardless if it is not what they want.
Clear open communications, putting their personal agendas aside and working as a cohesive team to address City issues. I believe there is too much ego and infighting in the current Council with little to no effort to resolve interpersonal issues. The showboating is not working for the community.
Listening and voting in the interest of the majority. No to blanket rezoning.
Meet with people on a regular basis similarly to when they are campaigning. Why is it that they only come out to interact with us when campaigning but not throughout their terms?
listening to all their constituents and representing those areas rather than driving their own agenda
Surveys and data. It seems like there is often a tendency to jump in with both feet on topics that may be politically charged without making sufficient effort to gain a better understanding as to how the majority of constituents feel about the topic.
Start to listen. Start to be accountable and transparent.
Our councillors need to stop thinking that they know better than their constituents. Council consistently passes things behind tightly closed doors that the city doesn't want. There is zero transparency.
They should actually consult constituents rather than going by what they feel.
Carrying forward the constituents perspective and airing any disagreement with the Councillor's view since their perspective usually has a different context.
Carry forward the opinions and requests of the members of the communities they (she) represents
Listening to council , they need to look at the whole picture . Stop by starting at the end result they want but complete the steps in logical order. As an example. Rezoning : we now it needs to happen but before jumping into and building these massive apartments town homes etc make sure the infrastructure is in place first to accommodate the population increase.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>A councillor should consider all input and not summarily dismiss those that do not agree with their own views. City council should never be a place to further your own agendas but rather a place where all opinions are valued and considered. Making a difference, as a councillor, should not be confused with pushing your pet projects at all costs. It is understood that a councillor will not be able to meet the wishes of all constituents on any given issue. However, it appears to us that councillors who avoid plebiscites on major issues, just don't want to be stopped in their actions by pesky citizens who's money it is that they are spending. Respect, is the most important action of an effective ward representative, ego the worst.</p>
<p>Listening to what their constituents are saying but also understanding they are in a position where they are making decisions that will shape Calgary for decades to come. Sometimes constituents may have strong opinions about items based on a very short timeframe. Council needs to think long term when making decisions.</p>
<p>A councillor needs to represent the interests and needs of his/her constituents or ward at the municipal level</p>
<p>Seek out, listen to, and represent their constituents. If you go off on your own tangent, be ready to hear criticism.</p>
<p>Ask questions before doing what feels good or makes a good sound bite: Is it your responsibility? How will it be paid for?</p>
<p>The pay should increase to a level where we would get competent professionals running for election.</p>
<p>Not giving in to ideology that "sounds good" but is quite bad for people.</p>
<p>Council doesn't listen, they are there to promote only their views and themselves. They have even admitted that they don't listen or represent those that voted for them.</p>
<p>Actually listening and acting on constituent concerns. Like blanket rezoning, the majority of constituents don't want blanket rezoning and the present councillors are throwing out local area plans and the MDP for a bribe of 228 million \$ from the feds.</p>
<p>If they actually listen and truly represent their constituents.</p>
<p>Listening to the people who elected them.</p>
<p>A councilor must have the best interests of their ward in mind and feel free to disagree with the mayor and other councilors.</p>
<p>Meeting and listening to their constituents and doing what is best for their Ward.</p>
<p>Actually representing the opinions and direction of the constituents of the ward.</p>

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?

Actually listening and engaging in conversations with constituents (the ones who pay taxes to cover their paychecks). In Ward 11 where I live, our councillor is petrified of standing up in front of her constituents and LISTENING to their concerns. Stick to running the city instead of socialist ideologies, like a perceived climate change emergency and an ineffective paper bag bylaw. In case you didn't understand my first comment, I'll repeat it for you. LISTEN TO THE CONSTITUENTS AND ACT ACCORDINGLY!

That they listen, and are able to include all perspectives not just the one they brought to office

Council is mostly far left progressive ideological motivated people and do not listen to the real needs of calgarians

Listen to their constituents and take actions and speak in accordance with their wishes.

Being available to constituents, responsive to constituents. I despise Councillors who hide from voters or don't listen/respond.

to answer the question above - policy is only as good as it's implementation - council does not do a great job of holding admin to account in implementation (of their recommended policies to council) - enforcement of the community standards bylaw?, priority of pedestrian infrastructure inside TOD? safer streets where density is being approved?
What makes a councilor effective - Data based decisions from local data more than international / national trends. Advocate / vote - that money disproportionately collected in taxes from a community is reflected in the budget spends in those communities on public realm. Ensure the city's hiring people diverse in thought as well as demographics for the policy drafting teams - and spend equal time on what hits the ground in the elected term as on the long range city wide decades away projects - when the unfunded list is so long as to be outside of a life time - the future planning is way to detailed -as it is 95% going to change before ever implemented. Budget to fix things where the decisions did not turn out well - eg, painted line bike lanes that feel safe only for very experienced riders and terrifying for recreational users; give greater consideration to the "smart growth" directive to not have the commuters degrade the quality of life / safety of residents when they travel through to get to their end destination.

Listening to tax payers who pay their salaries would be a start. Also, responding to them would be a bonus as well.

Actually listening to the people in their ward and representing the people's decisions and not the councillors own personal agenda. We have sufficient number of councillors for the city as is. They need to stay in their lane and focus on local issues.

How about you listen tom the concerns of your constituents instead of special interest groups

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
- actually listening to constituents after being elected. - doing what they said BEFORE being elected.
Responding to concerns
Listen to what the people are saying. Blanket re-zoning isn't what people want.
Lower taxes
Once elected, councilors and mayors should still remember they are to represent their constituents. When there are issues that have an impact on their ward, they should be soliciting input from those constituents on how they should vote to best represent them. They SHOULD NOT assume that once elected they take on a "parent role" that knows best.
They LISTEN to the people
Finding a balance between the left and right perspectives, not just hardlining an extreme.
Not listening to what people of the community actually want and advocating for it.
Actually listening and doing what is best for their constituents, not lobby groups, developers or other special interests that funded their campaign or larger agendas of political parties, the federal government, globalism, wef, etc. Just stick to basic running the city for residents!
Listening to their constituents and representing them and NOT just representing their own personal view point.
For effective representation, the townhall meetings that occur around the city should be inquiry focused rather than agenda focused, telling people partially what the city is planning to do. These meetings are not focused on gathering information from informed or inquiring citizens. They are about trying to convince people to follow directions. Council's job is to take direction from people not dictate direction.
Fulfilling the needs of the population based on their immediate and future needs. They hold no bias, no political affiliation, no personal opinions that do not represent the needs of their ward
Listening to constituent concerns, polling residents acting on behalf of citizen for complex issues, eliminating red tape
Proper representation can only be achieved if each councilor evaluates recommendations and votes as an individual, based on the feedback and opinions of his specific constituents. Being part of a group of councilors pursuing a group objective has absolutely no place on the municipal level of governance in a Canadian style democracy.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Listening to residents concerns and supporting the community to oppose the re-zoning
I feel that many homeowners are not in favor of the blanket rezoning proposal. If this is the case in their riding, councilers should do a better job representing these concerns
The current councillors are more concerned with appearance than making decisions to benefit the city. Your job is to run the city...keep taxes low, maintain streets and facilities, and do the best for the majority of your constituents.
I would like our Councillor's to focus on municipal issues - this Council is diving into issues that are not a municipal responsibility. I feel that my Councillor represents me well and seems to be willing to listen to community members.
Listening
Demong and his main guy haven't been to our community meetings anymore so its not at all being representing my areas representatives. We have mentioned it quiet a few times and nothing. Maybe they both would come on an election year?
If they actually listen to what their constituents tells them and vote based upon such.
They are ineffective serving the citizens of Calgary. They did not swear an allegiance to we the people. Only the federal government and the globalist
Actually representing the views of their constituents and not their own views as is currently the case.
Not voting for their own pay raises. Especially when tons of Albertans are struggling to make ends meet.
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Being authentic; understanding how people perceive you and more importantly, being able to ask for / receive feedback is massive.2. Being curious; have the ability to look at issues from the standpoint of all your constituents, not just the ones you share an inherent bias with.3. Being analytical; have the ability to decode the stories hidden within the data and figure out what it is telling you.4. Being adaptable; take on assignments that demand flexibility in order to expand personal growth and development5. Being creative; encourage and promote diverse perspectives on your team and embrace learning from failure.6. Being comfortable with ambiguity; ask a lot of "what ifs" and "so whats" - don't just stop at the first answer.7. Being resilient; Successful leaders recognize the fluid nature of situations and strive to understand the cultural context within which they operate.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
I would expect my Councillor to take my concerns to council. I feel Terry Wong die that but does not get heard at the Council level.
Available to speak directly to people in the ward rather than sending automated responses to concerns.
Not making decisions that line their pockets
Not letting the vocal minority hold more sway in governance than the quieter majority, making decisions that help with today's issues rather than kicking things down the road to avoid tougher/less popular decisions
Listening
Change the electoral system from the current ward system where the public know little about a candidates political leanings. In short, move to a slate of candidates, i.e. party system, where policies are front and centre before the public votes.
Listening to their constituents concerns and taking action to change their policies when enough of them disagree with what decisions are being put forth by city councillors.
Dealing with actual issues. Not virtue signalling. Staying within city level items.
Telling the truth
They need to listen to the tax payer. Our taxes go to improving the city we live in.
Taking every possible action to broaden the middle class and incentivize/ maximize business, regardless of personal benefit.
Read the room - lower taxes - don;t take a raise
Listening to the opinions and values of their constituents rather than just following their own agenda.
Listening to the people. We cannot afford the current tax hike. We do not want blanket rezoning. Demoing and Gondek are pursuing their own agenda. All city council needs to remember who they work for. They do not work for developers or the federal government. They are responsible to the people of Calgary.
A good councillor will listen to their constituents concerns, ask for input and vote accordingly.
Bring feedback from constituents to council and advocate for the majority perspectives even if they conflict with the Councillors' personal views.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
The councillor should represent the majority views of her constituents and not the minority which had been the case since the last election. She should also respond to inquiries from constituents and not dismiss them out of hand
Communication
Listen and engage with members of their area , regularly.
Responding to concerns, making themselves available for in-person conversation, changing course when presented with new important data including when over 75% of constituents are against a policy.
Listening to contents and actually acting on their wishes.
Lowering taxes. Snow removal. Clean neighborhood
A councillor is there to represent their constituents, regardless of their own personal beliefs. Don't make decisions that lack common sense or make life harder for people. The bag tax?!? My goodness. What were any of you thinking?!? Absolutely ridiculous.
Listening to their constituents. Regular open houses. Keep ward offices open more often.
Listening to their constituents, ALL of them, and not just special interest groups. When over 70% of your constituents are upset about certain issues and plans that City Hall is following through on, I think it's pretty important to listen to them. Quit gaslighting them. Not only quit gaslighting them, quit disrespecting them.
They are out in their ward asking questions, listening and representing them accurately. They represent the people not their own opinions and agenda.
My councilor is involved in the community and provides frequent updates as to what is going on and details the discussions held at City Hall. Also, my councilor shares the results of the votes at City Hall, which is great for transparency, and provides details as to why they voted that way. It seems many councilors are voting based on individual agenda's vs. the greater good for the City, which Mayor Gondek appears to be blind to as well.
Actually consulting with their ward constituents

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?

A councillor MUST:

- have some education in what they are getting in to.
 - be upfront on their beliefs based on the NEEDS of the ward FIRST,
 - be upfront on their wants of their ward, secondly.
 - campaign on those beliefs/needs
 - work solely toward implementing those beliefs/needs
 - hold meeting with constituents IN PERSON regularly. Not virtual chicken[removed] meetings
 - not spend needlessly or frivolously
 - declare political party status they follow and believe.
 - show up to office every day. No home working
 - no monetary perks paid by the constituents
 - NO MANDATORY RAISES
 - no raises when they haven't lived up to the job requirements.
 - have give constituents the ability to rate the quality of their work quarterly
 - not be complacent
 - be out in there ward connecting with community and constituents
- SO MUCH MORE...

Listening to their constituents, representing what those constituents want and NOT having their own agenda/voting with a block of councillors/mayor who go into a vote having decided to vote together.

Stop being commies

ASK the constituents what they want (by vote or a poll?) and then DO what the majority wants.

Truly open to persuasion and listen to the people

I feel council is not for the best interest of Calgary but their own gains. I also believe they should not be getting those raises and than raising our taxes. This is BS. I don't support the current council.

Responding to emails.

Talk to those that elected them and carry forward what the majority of people would like to see represented in their actions even if they disagree with it.

Monthly open houses, inviting Representatives from the various City departments, to tell us what they're doing, and to invite public input.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Councillors need to listen to the voice of the majority of their Ward constituents. They have the mistaken idea that they need to make decisions on behalf of the citizens. They do not. They need to heed what their constituents want.
Seek feedback from constituents and actually follow through on their wishes - even when they are contrary to council's personal agendas
Meeting with citizens, listening to their needs
Prioritizing the NEEDS of Calgarians before vanity or woke investments
Listening to what their constituents want to see as Calgary grows as a city
I believe that there are only 1-3 councillors who actually take the general public's opinion into consideration when voting on council
First they need to listen to the majority of the citizens. It seems rather that they are only listening to fringe activists such as [removed], unions, and foreign entities such as the WEF and pseudo science cult alarmists who push a false narrative. There is no climate emergency in Calgary that is for certain. Stop the nonsense and get back to managing the city in a sane and responsible manner. The city is administration must not be governed by activists pushing an agenda. We only want the basics, law and order, fiduciary responsibility, (prudent financial management), fix the roads, and issue building permits in a timely manner. That's it. Stay out of the Israel/ Palestine conflict. The mayor should have lit the manora as is tradition, despite her personal opinion on a foreign war for example. Celebrate the great things about our history don't try and rewrite it. If not for the settlers of this land we wouldn't have the city and province we have today. To sum up, get back to basics, focus on your job leave your personal agenda, and opinions aside. As a council you are only there to provide basic services to the citizens of Calgary. You must be prudent not a social activist.
Specific Ward Councillor holding info gathering sessions with their Ward constituents. Come out of hiding.
Genuine engagement with constituents. Most now is lip service to say that engagement has taken place without any accountability to those who participated or represented. Engagement is seen to many to reflect a predetermined outcome. Either they engage or they don't. Pretending to do so is a sham.
Vote the way their constituents want.
Listening to constituents and communities. Supporting initiatives that are important to them.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>Listening to the people's concerns in their ward. Councillors work for the people they serve. It seems everything we complain about noone listens. The complete opposite is done. Our voices, our choices are being ignored and left policies are being pushed on us without our say and approval.</p>
<p>Councillor Penner has her own agenda and will not listen to the constituents in Ward 11. She used to hold community coffee sessions at the most inconvenient times during the week, when very few people were able to attend. This is her idea of engagement and she brags about collaboration in her Friday updates. She has stopped having any in person engagement sessions of any kind and is unwilling hear constituents concerns. Emails sent to her office get a canned response from her administrative assistance. There is no reason to believe that Councillor Penner actually sees any of the communications from her constituents,</p>
<p>Listening to the people and have clevis site for the people to actually speak</p>
<p>Listening to who put them in office</p>
<p>Quit pandering, focus on items that will provide the greatest benefit to the greatest number of people. \$0.15 for take out bags, like get out of here the city infrastructure is crumbling and this is the l important things your focusing on. Get a grip</p>
<p>Listening to ALL constituents for feedback and voting as they want</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -advocating for the concerns of their ward constituents -engaging with their constituents and actively seeking to understand their needs
<p>Voting against motions that do not align with the wishes of constituents in their riding.</p>
<p>They need to actually LISTEN and ACT ON the things that voters have asked for, rather than their own agenda.</p>
<p>Representing the people that voted them in and listening to their ward. Some of these councillors seem to have hidden agendas.</p>
<p>Not just listening, but actually observing</p>
<p>Listening to their ward constituents and then working to fulfill those needs</p>
<p>Listen!! My biggest issue is the lack of response to the public's needs</p>
<p>They should listen to Calgarians and not just do what they want.</p>
<p>Maybe try listening and use some common sense</p>
<p>Prudent use of tax dollars. Putting aside personal pet projects. Provide only basic core services</p>

After the Ballot

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May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>Listening and voting correctly</p>
<p>Equality for every constituency</p>
<p>Getting back to constituents is important and arguing in favour of constituent concerns. For example upzoning! If some communities want this, like inner ring areas then they should be represented rather than a blanket approach that most communities DO NOT favour. Also, while driving along a polluting and snow covered solar panels along 52 St SE, it occurred to me that THIS is where the high density up zoning should take place with panels on top. Why are counsellors talk8ng about that instead of representing Agenda 21?</p>
<p>A great first step would be for a councillor to actually respond to emails and inquiries from their constituents. Kourtney Penner does not. She is a terrible "leader".</p>
<p>Listening to their constituents. Meeting with them and implementing what they want.</p>
<p>Ones that aren't alcoholics, listen to community members, act on behalf of residents, and so on...</p>
<p>Maybe listen to them. Feels like they have their own agendas and kickbacks.</p>
<p>Not just pandering to the loud vocal minority. Making decisions that impact the greater good.</p>
<p>Listening. Kourtney Penner thinks she was elected to represent her own perspective, doesn't care what people think. Well documented in a video and social media posts. Councillors need reeducation on their job which is to represent OUR CONCERNS.</p>
<p>Listening to their ward, not listening to their ideologies</p>
<p>They find a balance between the diverse views of residents who live in the community and support change at a pace of where the community is at on its path of evolution. They make decisions based on city census data. They spend significant time learning about the communities history and where city policy has NOT been effective in support of changes - they support the communities with investment in public realm that are / have realized changes over time in the direction of the targets of the MDP - less carrot and more reward. (ward boundaries change)</p>
<p>Listen and respond to your constituents. Penner is our representative and I have tried to contact her on three seperate occasions and did not receive even one response. I'm a member of our community on FB and have seen the same complaint MANY times. Penner never responds and MANY of us do not want her re-elected.</p>
<p>Having an open mind and listening to constituents and then making decisions from the perspective of your Ward.</p>

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Engaging and listening to their constituents and representing their perspectives. Ongoing engagement.
They should represent our views, not just their views
Following the wishes of the voters. Which does not happen in Calgary.
Listen, communicate honest information, control spending on their expenses and remember they are the voice of the people
I think councillors are not listening to the voice of Calgarians. Especially regarding rezoning.
Listen to the constituents Be Available Be reasonable be honest
Listen to the people, stop doing whatever you want. The proposed zoning issue is one example, no one I have talked to is in favor of this but the city is deaf to the people!
Listening not telling.
Maybe start by listening to them.
They need to do what the constituents want whether they like it or not. They cannot disregard us or do the opposite based on their own political opinions and beliefs.
I find Courtney Penner ineffective in how she responds (or more likely) doesn't respond to people in the community. The bike lane on 18 st during Covid was ridiculous! First it would be nice if you actually get a response from their office if you send in anything. Redirecting to 311 isn't always the solution. Second maybe be a little more in the community with your constituents. Third ask us her community what we think of some of the ideas as it seems things are done without actually asking if that's what we would want.
Actually listening to their constituents, rather than looking after THEIR OWN wants/needs !!!!!!!
Make decisions based on what is best for the community they represent
Engagement with constituents and ongoing (weekly, 15 min Fridays) informative updates.
use common sense
My goodness could their actions be any worse. Latest and worst decision ever is rezoning the city. Could my council member once listen? She needs to listen, plan and care Truthfully she needs to resign right now. Even her resume is a lie. Tech expert is a joke!

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
The exact opposite of what they are doing. We don't want NO STINKING SOCIALISTS AND PERSONAL IDEOLOGIES COLOURING CITY DECISIONS FULL STOP!
How about representing what the average person wants and stop pursuing pet ideological narratives such as "climate emergencies". Another action would be to remember you are our servants, not our masters. Start behaving that way!
Listening to constituents. Our alderman belittles us and thinks he is always right.
Actually using data collected from their Ward residents to formulate a position on particular issues.
Meeting face to face. Not shutting down and making it all "teaching moments." 2024 Council treats the public like we're stupid.
Council Penner doesn't pay attention to any of her constituents or their e-mails to her!
I do not think my Councillor is effective at all in representing his Ward constituents. My Councillor barely got in & if there wasn't such voter apathy in this city he would have been gone. My community has repeatedly informed him that he is not representing us & he blatantly ignores us. Crime, dangerous roads, over crowding is increasing in our area as a result.
Actually listen to the people
Listening to all the people in their area, responding to their inquiries, and working for all their constituents, not just to the community they live in
Listening to the people and working FOR the people.
Councillors should make it a habit to regularly attend a Community meeting in their Ward to get direct feedback on the communities concerns. They also should be much more active in managing their managers and administrators. It has been apparent to us that Councillors are not being given access to the actual workers supporting their Ward from Planners to waste removers to Parks department.
They divide everyone. And listen to no one.
Being heard and voicing opinions , never hear anything about this councillor until election time
caring about what is important to everyone these days
Applying what Calgarians in their riding are pushing for. NOT their own agenda.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>The majority of our current councillors appear to have a hidden agenda. Calgarians have lost trust. This all started with the mayor calling a climate emergency, allowing child groomers to read story time to kids in our libraries, unilaterally calling a single use plastic bylaw, unilaterally creating a censorship bylaw and unilaterally (with zero meaningful public consultations) pushing city wide blanket rezoning. It appears one individual councillor benefits from this. Remember, people lost trust when Groerge Chahal campaigned for the liberal party while being paid as a councillor. He should have taken an unpaid leave as per policy. It is clear the majority of City Councillors are influenced by others, and not representing Calgarians. The recent rezoning, which Trudeau is pushing, must go to plebiscite. The situation at City Hall has caused a huge lack of trust. Thus, Councillors as a whole are not trusted enough. This must absolutely be a vote by all Calgarians.</p>
<p>Listening to constituents concerns and bringing them to council Holding town halls in all areas of the constituency and acting on constituents concerns</p>
<p>Engaging. I think he thinks he does. Having a drop in somewhere during the weekday isn't helpful OR engaging. He also is gaslighting when responding to criticism on his FB page. Hello- is anyone listening?</p>
<p>Actually understanding and listening to the people they represent and voting accordingly. Leave arrogance and the attitude that council knows best and the public just needs to be educated to their way of thinking.</p>
<p>They are making decisions without consulting the public</p>
<p>Being present and listening to what the constituents want is key, elected officials are elected to represent the people. Not subject them to council, or force counsell's vision upon them. Remember the people who put you in that trusted position. This council has forgotten that part.</p>
<p>Listening, giving us a voice, and understanding we may think differently than they do</p>
<p>Listen to what the people in their ward want</p>
<p>Listening to it's constituents instead of pushing their woke agendas. Stop this BS of blanket up zoning and climate emergency and hear the people who voted you in</p>
<p>People should be consulted in decision making. It should not be based on one person or few people's belief</p>
<p>Listening to what is best for Calgarian no their own agenda</p>
<p>Focusing on their mandate and the messages they're receiving from constituents</p>

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
LISTEN to ALL of your constituents and act/ vote accordingly even if it may go against what you personally want. For example, if the bulk of your constituents want a plebiscite on blanket rezoning then vote in council for it rather than against it!.
Having a councillor have town meetings with their ward members or how about having a social media page where constituents can join where they discuss things with us. Present upcoming bills they will be voting on and letting us know what they are about. Responding to emails is also a responsibility of theirs. With the rezoning of all Calgary I am so angry about, crickets about it before and crickets during. I watched the hearing and it was disgusting of the behaviour from Mayor and Councillors to individuals who stood up at the hearing. It was horrible to watch and I believe the whole group of them are bullies, entitled, have no connect to their constituents and don't care who they are suppose to be representing.
How about listening to us! They were voted in and they will be voted out. We're struggling, why raise the tax'es? And give yourselves raises? You don't hear us at all!
In big issues such as blanket rezoning, an effective councillor would carry out their own plebiscite in their ward and. Ore accordingly.
Voicing their concerns for one!
Vote on council to reflect the views of their ward. Boot this mayor.
Listening to their constituents and representing the many and not the few!
Listening to the people, and vote accordingly
Get rid of blanket Rezoning. Stop the green line. Get rid of Gondek. Stop the raises and taxes.
Actually communicating with the constituents. My representative Penner will not even respond to emails!
A blanket rezoning of Calgarians' neighbourhoods when it's abundantly clear that HOMEOWNERS don't want it.
Listening to constituent concerns
Listening to what the constituents say. Standing up in council for them. Not having inside information and prosperong from it. If constituents say no to rezoning for example...there should be no rezoning of established residential areas. Build density around transit. But definitely standing up for constituents wants and needs. Not just voting with the mayor...voting for constituents! Be non partisan...for example Courtney Walcott stood with antifa and voiced negatively against the freedom protests because he disagreed with them

After the Ballot

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Had a 2h debate with my councillor. I asked him about how his opinion was formed. The first thing he says is he talk to people like myself. However, throughout the debate it becomes more and more apparent he had already formed his opinion and it was irrelevant what the people living in the community thought. Typical politician.
Listening to their constituents which they are NOT doing now
Communicating with constituents so that they 'represent' their opinions, concerns, and ideas when council is making policies. If not communicating with constituents, it is basically a dictatorship council!
LISTENING to their constituents not playing lapdog to the mayor
While I want a councillor that has a solid set of values and vision that he or she will adhere to I want to see more flexibility when the situations they deal with change. Add to that effective communication that acknowledges dissenting viewpoints without dismissing them outright.
Get to know the residents. Quit deflecting responsibilities to their assistants.
Supporting a plebiscite on major policy decisions such as changes to city-wide zoning designation.
Listening to taxpayers, communication, attending Ward functions, a sense that the councillor cares about it Ward, not own agenda
This goes out to the Hateful 8! Drop the Socialist Woke BS and start doing your jobs. To Gondek, you dogged a bullet with the Recall. Stop your Tax Happy Climate Cult BS and just leave. No apology for what you've done to Calgary. Wouldn't be Sincere anyway. Just Resign!
Asking us what we think through some kind of straw poll process versus always voting with the current mayor
Councillors should be in touch with the people they represent. Easy to communicate with them. Stop hiding behind the secretary or at least be present on social media.
Councillor's are elected to represent the constituents, not to push their own personal or political agenda. City of Calgary Councillor's appear to push their own agendas and are significantly out of touch with what every day Calgarians want/are going through.
Listen! Do not introduce woke policies - declaring a climate emergency, paper bag bylaw, breaking the arena deal, blanket rezoning etc.

After the Ballot

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May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
The current Council has Sean Chu who is alleged of serious sexual crimes.
This alone makes the Council incongruent with the values of Calgarians.
How in the hell is Sean Chu getting away with what he is alleged to have done!?
Keep their WOKE Left Winged Dingbat ideas at home where they belong and do what they were elected to do. Represent the people in their ward instead of bringing their personal agendas to council. This applies mostly to the Hateful eight and the Mayor!
Reflecting the needs of constituents in their votes. Not making life difficult. Not passing crappy little motions like the bag thing. Keeping the city safe.
When the public are asked for input not only listen but hear what is being said. Never take part in closed door decisions.
Listening to the constituents. Respecting the wishes of constituents and understanding why they reside in the neighbourhoods they have chosen. Councillor are tone deaf and only listening to the minority but loudest voices that get media coverage for special interests. Those that do not show up at rallies or publicized events work hard and have better things to do with their lives than show up to make noise. There are those who are making noise and those who are improving their situation and watching their hard work diminished by council. Become more AWARE and in-tune to what the people in your community are doing.
Participating in the community that they represent. Getting out to hear real concerns. Not voting personal agenda or popular vote.
Actually listening to their constituents instead of talking down to them like they are uneducated children.
Almost this entire city council is absolutely not in touch with average Calgarians. They don't seem too interested in getting their constituents views.
staffing to respond to emails or online inquiries on citizen concerns, getting input from citizen opinion before voting on important issues, reporting back to constituents
To listen to local concerns, getting out to local meetings and community town hall meetings. Responding not just constantly tell us to contact 311

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Listen to your constituents. No one wants this blanket rezoning or the impact it will have on home owners, the neighborhood, and established communities. You are all hastily reacting to building for the benefit of developers and not for actual everyday folks who require AFFORDABLE housing. You're also forcing many long term renters out and targeting single family homes for unwanted solicitation and harassment to sell. You fail to see the long term impact of this hasty decision on all levels.
None
Actual listen to people
They should be working on behalf of their riding not what they personally want.
Majority of BASIC needs being met for MAJORITY of constituents. There are too many considerations for niche projects and minority groups or needs. When I say minority, I mean that our world and this includes our city, is focussed on the needs of the few, rather than the many. It doesn't make any sense. There has to be a way to do both. And NO it shouldn't be equal.
Actually communicate with and listen to citizens, in substance, instead of pretending to engage and simply dictating to citizens.
Listening to the views of their constituents and being a voice for those residents in the political process. Standing up for issues that matter to the citizens.
Actually stand up for what their community is saying
do they see their job as representing their community or following their own agenda? I believe they should represent the neighbourhood.
When they listen to their constituents.
Listen to your voters instead of ramming your personal agendas down our throats - bag ban, rezoning, climate emergency, tax increas, pay increase, ...
Town hall meetings, answering emails, phone calls and messages
representing their constituents
They should actually listen to what the constituents are concerned about. AKA less single use plastics / climate emergency and more efficient use of funds / lower taxes
My councillor listens but the rest of council is more interested in their own agenda.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
A Councillor should vote in respect to the majority of their constituents. A Councillor should not sway to the views of the other councillors if the people they represent do not agree with it. For example the Glenmore landing debacle or REZONING in areas where single family lots should remain as is.
For starters, hold REGULAR town hall meetings at least once a month. Gain the perspectives from the citizens that put you into the position. Put aside personal agendas and be willing to put personal beliefs, pet projects and personal agendas. This current mayor and council have their own agendas and pet projects.
I don't feel our present ward councillor has effectively engaged with the ward ie should have monthly or quarterly at the least community halls engagements to hear directly from constituents. I have seen on multiple occasion both on council votes and in personal media interviews a total lack of interest in ward constituents concerns.
Listening to and meeting with constituents
Listening and following up as appropriate
Making decisions based on city -wide needs, not just special interest groups, like the anti-Glenmore Landing cult.
Being able to not bow to NIMBYs
Replying to their constituents emails and messages of concern, hosting in person events to get the chance to discuss topics in person with the councillor, not teams meetings.
Talking with and hearing from constituents about what concerns they have.
more frequent interaction with various communities & groups, more specific information sessions to let communities know the impact of future council decisions & get feedback on voting in council
-have some local ward meetings to explain issues and accept our opinions -reach out to us on email through surveys on issues or simple ask us to vote on an issue via email and respond back to the ward

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Report Back: What We Heard

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>Listen to their constituents Respond to communication Represent and speak FOR the community you represent Be visible, receptive to input, comments Prompt response to queries Avoid pushing your own opinions only Stop shadowing the mayor</p>
<p>To allow serious engagement with their constituents. Most recently, certain members of council have publically voiced their 'displeasure' with the seeking of a plebiscite related to the 'blanket re-zoning issue', suggesting that there was 'misinformation' which is certainly not the case. The various promotional brochures we have all received do not even begin to scrap the surface of the issues, and at best, promote 'one idea'. My councillor has had public townhalls about this issue, but I am not so certain that other members of council have allowed their constituents such a forum in an issue that will have a profound, long term effect on residential property owners, both current and future - a deeper effect than the put to a plebiscite 'support the 2026 Winter Olympics Bid".</p>
<p>They must represent the wishes and the interests of the citizens in their ward, not the interests of the large corporations owning property in that ward, particularly in cases where those interests conflict.</p>
<p>All council nominees outline their stance on key issues affecting the city during campaigning for office. We should know more about where these candidates stand before voting.</p>
<p>Listening to the input shared with them by the constituents in the Ward they've been elected to represent.</p>
<p>Respect, ability to listen and take constituent's ideas back to City Council, ability to disconnect from Councillor's own bias and agenda and true representation for constituents</p>
<p>If they actually listen and act in the interests of their constituents instead of promoting their ACTIVIST agendas. Penner in Ward 11 does not give a damn about her constituents.</p>
<p>Listening to the Ward constituents via town hall meetings, surveys, electronic input. Current ward constituents (particularly Kourtney Penner) listen to no one but charge ahead with their own decisions and prejudices. Case in point = Glenmore Landing sale to RioCan. Kourtney Penner has solidly taken RioCan's favour while the residents are saying NO in multiple petitions, presentations to council, written material. Mayor Gondek -- there is a Calgary citizen's movement to have her taken out as mayor. She should solidly reflect on why this is happening. Gondek is in way over her head and does not have the skills to be an effective mayor.</p>

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>There was very little communication from this person prior to the election & certainly none after. No real talk of what she believed. No talk of "blanket zoning". No talk of selling donated parkland. No talk of ruining beautiful neighbourhoods & parks ramming through a huge commercial development beside our city water source. There is no real representation. My impression is - she has some power now & she is following her own political agenda & that of whoever installed her. Have yet to talk to anyone who voted for her. The Mayor & the City council should all be fired.</p>
<p>Listening to their constituents and not pushing through their own personal agendas.</p>
<p>Their acting in a way that reflects results of surveys</p>
<p>Listening to their constituents and voting accordingly</p>
<p>Ensuring that the interests of constituents are supported. Ensuring that capital spending on city wide vanity projects are brought under control. Tighten up control over operating costs. Enmax should not be used as a revenue generator/an indirect tax.</p>
<p>Voting that represents the views of constituents. Listening to what people have to say. Responding to letters that are sent in.</p>
<p>Listen to what their constituents are saying. Respond to communications from constituents.</p>
<p>Frequent polling of constituents on matters that require a vote. Open communication on their social media platform with clear purpose of informing and not with the purpose to pander or make comment on others.</p>
<p>ask first rather than go with council's direction</p>
<p>Councillor Penner does not represent the constituents wants or needs. Listen to the constituents in a democratic way but not autocratic. All councillors should listen to the majority not just their wants.when it makes sense to have a referendum to major city wide issues it should be implemented. Not just the wants of the councillors who are making decisions for all communities .</p>
<p>Actually listening to constituents rather than following their own agendas</p>
<p>MonthlyTown hall meetings Answering emails</p>
<p>Better represent the interests of her constituents whom she doesn't seem to know very well .</p>
<p>Interact with residents and not make decisions based on their own ideology</p>

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>Engaging in town hall meetings and actually listening to citizens concerns, and advocacy for finding ways to include citizens feedback & ideas into city solutions & plans. Not ignoring & choosing based on their own opinion</p>
<p>Listen to feedback from their constituents and not just do what they think is best for us. They could be wrong and often are!</p>
<p>The Councillor for Ward 1 is excellent. Many of the other Councillors ignore what the people of Calgary want. The town halls and public consultations are held only so that they can check of the box to say that it was done. They don't listen. Most people do not want the proposed rezoning.</p>
<p>It would seem that elected officials have jumped on the same bandwagon that the media and much of the world are on right now - namely to be activists for a cause. In a democracy, elected officials are servants. Hired and paid for by the public. They are not rulers and they are not activists. They are hired managers and representatives. Servant leadership. I don't know that "leadership" is even needed at the local alderman level. They are administrative clerks, meant to convey the concerns of their citizenry regarding potholes and taxes and speed limits. They did not get elected for some vision or some activism. And they certainly did not get elected to raise 50+ yrs of established protocols and feel of majestic neighbourhoods. We will not stand for the demolition of our history and our investments in our neighbourhoods. We don't need the wealth redistribution.</p>
<p>Listen to their concerns and not be seen to be in the pockets of development companies.</p>
<p>Listening to their constituents instead of blindly pushing their own agenda</p>
<p>Easy - Listen to learned people in the ward and stop thinking that you know best.</p>
<p>Listen to constituents</p>
<p>They should listen to what the majority of their constituents say to them. Not every special interest group</p>
<p>Accountability, clear and prompt communication, genuine presence in the community, deep listening, integrity, a service mindset</p>
<p>Transparency and listening to the wants/needs of the constituents they represent</p>
<p>They need to listen and act on what the majority of their constituents want even if those views are contrary to their own personal view or opinion.</p>
<p>Our Councillor does not represent our Ward, but represents a neo-marixist ideology propagated by the progressive left. This is not the ideology of Calgarians.</p>

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
listening and responding to constituents questions and concerns.
Listening to the majority of constituents.
speaking up
Taking action instead of pretending to listen
The majority of the councillors no longer listen to their constituents. They pretend to and then do whatever best suites the councillor, not their residents.
Public consultation, regular communication by forum, email, mailers. Door knocking (and not just at election time).
I do not want my neighborhood in Marlborough to be rezoned. I dealt with problems associated with two basement suites on my street one legal one not a few years back. Between the two houses there where sixteen cars added to our limited street parking. Calling 311 did nothing a couple of the renters would purposely park in front and behind my neighbor's vehicle leaving only inches. There was no way for them to move. We have a lot of seniors on our block they should be able to park in front of their houses. If the city would build more affordable apartment buildings with provided parking this would look after the housing issues. Also put a cap on the rental increases. Many of the landlords took advantage and raised the prices so high it put people on the streets. I had a family member get one month's notice to move as the unit is being sold. They bought a place as no rentals were available. They paid several thousand more than they should have, as they needed a place to live. Calgary used to be a great place to live but with increased prices on everything taxes utilities, food and housing to name a few. I find myself considering leaving the city after living here for over thirty years. I am so disappointed that the city council only answer these days involves gouging the citizens. And whoever thought this rezoning would solve the problem is so wrong. We have enough issues, let our homes be our safe place. Vote NO!
engagement and attending events in their Ward to hear from the constituents on pressing matters
That they actually listen to concerns instead of pushing forward their own socialist agenda!
Engagement with the community, having some sort of open dialogue with community members, attending community events, etc
Actually talking to and representing their constituents. Voting in favor of tax increases, re-zoning, green incentives and generally spending their constituents money freely without a general consultation is extremely wrong and needs to be changed.
Make it easier to remove people like Sean Chu and Dan McLean

After the Ballot

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May 23, 2024

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Making sure the people in their ward are heard. Your personal opinion is not the only opinion
Communication is key. When a constituent emails a councillor, that councillor should be required to respond, even when it's the Mayor. Councillors should make themselves available through events where they can talk with constituents instead of just presenting information. It would be very beneficial if constituents could book appointments with council members. I have a good Councillor who usually responds to my emails, but I don't get any response from most of the other councillors when I write them, nor have I ever received a response from the Mayor. This makes me believe that council members do not care what the public thinks, which is frustrating as the council is supposed to represent the citizens of Calgary.
Listen to request made by citizens who are in fact your employer, who pays for your extravagant wages and benefits.
Common sense and not being tone-deaf? How difficult is to see that the citizens are unhappy with rising taxes, poor outcomes from city services, bloated bureaucracy and continuing salary increases for counselors while the citizens suffer from no salary increase and rising inflation? FYI: Potholes everywhere, esp NE, e.g., 16 ave, 104 Ave NE towards Jackson Port/Cityscape People spitting in C Trains Dirty C rain stations
responding to communications from constituents
I feel the best interests of Calgarians are not reflected by this council.
At a minimum, they respond to emails from constituents. Both Sean Chu and Mayor Gondek do not do this.
NOT SO MUCH ACTIONS AS RESULTS IN MAKING THINGS HAPPEN.TIRED OF THE TALK NEED TO SEE CHANGE.
By actually looking out for the people, and trying to make lives easier instead of harder.
I believe that an effective Councillor is one who communicates to Council the will of individual constituents and small business owners. She/he should not be representing the interests of large business (i.e. builders and developers) who already have voices and even lobbyists representing their interests which are often in direct conflict with the wishes of individuals, families and communities.

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Councillors should provide opportunities for face to face meetings or open houses with their constituents, especially leading up to important decisions like the upcoming blanket rezoning decision. Councillors or their staff should try to regularly attend Community Association Planning & Development Committee Board Meetings.
Public engagement & accessibility
Engaging with the people who live in the ward. Ward 11 councillor Penner refuses to engage in any meaningful way with her constituents. She has HER own agenda and WILL NOT LISTEN TO ANYONE. She is the worst councillor Ward 11 has ever had. She will not respond to emails or phone calls. She is arrogant and self centered. She should be removed from office asap.
A Councillor should be the voice of their constituents and be vocal about what the constituents want and try to implement the ideas, to fight on their behalf.
Listening and representing their city. Council thinks they are the smartest and mind made up before Calgarians have any input...
When they represent and vote on behalf of the MAJORITY of their constituents. They should not be allowed to vote on their personal opinion. This is a copy the role of City of Calgary Councillors from their website. "Councillors represent the citizens in their ward in making Council decisions that have local and city-wide impact."
Doing what's best for everyone. Not implementing stupid taxes (e.g. instructing restaurants to charge for bags; worrying so much about climate change; giving \$100M to developers/building owners to revamp buildings to residential housing without any stake in the building (even the federal government obtained shares when they bailed out Air Canada); doing something about the vagrants and homeless people so that they stop urinating everywhere and generally being a nuisance; more money for the police to handle issues like the homeless; stop giving into special interest groups; having a mayor who is not such a social justice warrior and a bully.
Actually listening to what the residents want, and following through on their promises.
Listening to people that live and work in that particular ward.
I wish that the council wasn't organized by districts but was instead based on allocating chairs per number of votes received, citywide. Then I might feel there was someone representing me, regardless of my views.

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>Keeping us informed of what is being discussed/proposed. Partnering with community associations as part of regular communications Voting according to constituent feedback.</p>
<p>Councillors should actually listen to their constituents.</p>
<p>Transparency. Calgary's municipal government hides as much as it can behind closed doors, which is a recipe for corruption and waste. Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis famously stated that "sunlight is the best disinfectant," enshrining a principle of transparency as a cornerstone for open democracy and good governance. This metaphorical expression emphasizes the power of publicity in revealing and purifying corrupt behavior. It underscores the importance of transparency in holding individuals and institutions accountable.</p>
<p>Assessment of needs of population within the area.</p>
<p>Diversity, Respectfulness and ability to lead</p>
<p>Humility. Understanding of basic democratic math. Majority rules. Open mind. Personable and empathetic.</p>
<p>I don't think Sean Chu is ever going to take any action that represents his constituents. He seems to have only one interest, and that is keeping his job. But if he were to listen, he could start by being our voice for better housing plans in our neighbourhood instead of allowing the developers to destroy it so they can make a profit and take away any chance of average folks ever owning a house that is not in the suburbs.</p>
<p>Listen to the residents! LISTEN LISTEN LISTEN</p>
<p>I think that an effective Councillor is available to his or her Ward constituents (in person, via email, via telephone) and responds to their questions and concerns. An effective Councillor has their office phone number and email readily available to the public and they do not hide behind 311 and other supposed means of contact that really ensure that they are inaccessible to their constituents. They may not always agree with their constituents, but they listen and consider what they are being told. An effective Councillor is not arrogant, condescending and believes that they know better than their constituents because they are now a Councillor. (This actually describes the Mayor and every member of Calgary's current council.) They also vote according to what the majority of their constituents tell them rather than following their own personal agenda regardless of what they hear from the residents of their Ward.</p>
<p>Voting in line with their constituents priorities</p>
<p>Representing constituents values without any outside international interference.</p>

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>Not aligning and contracting with the UN sustainable development goals and truly representing constituent values without outside influence</p>
<p>Listening to the constituents and representing the majority. Not demeaning the constituents by being deaf to their wishes and implementing unwanted agendas</p>
<p>If the Cllr would listen to the constituents, after all we know our communities much better than someone who shows up once a year. Many times if only the Cllr. would listen to suggestions we would not deal with the issues afterwards. We are not against all changes, many times small changes would make the proposal better and with limited impact on the residents. Unfortunately we do not have this representation from our Cllr. has his mind made up and we are expected to agree. Wrong approach from an elected official. After all our taxes pay their wages. Current City Council must be receptive to suggestions, after all they are not experts. Individuals with knowledge and expertise live in every community in Calgary and go home to them daily. Sensible suggestions/changes should be considered. Developers do not run City Hall.</p>
<p>The councillor needs to reach out more to constituents and get a feeling of how the majority is feeling towards decisions being made by council. Times change and the reasons a councillor was elected is not always based on a platform (party politics) but more on how the councillor will represent the ward. Online polls , social media posts, and community newsletter updates are key ways to get the message to constituents.</p>
<p>Councillors who listen to their constituents concerns and acts on those concerns not some global unelected body</p>
<p>Standing up for their constituents instead of following their fellow councilors and mayor.</p>
<p>Listening to their riding constituents instead of terrible city policy or mandates. ie. Blanket Rezoning.</p>
<p>Understanding the perspectives of the majority of Ward constituents and voting accordingly, even if it means going against how the Councillor would vote personally. They should be representing their constituents and not voting as a block with other Councillors (even though technically there are no political parties in Council).</p>
<p>soliciting community feedback and voting based on that feedback, potentially in spite of personal ideology</p>
<p>Councillor's should be bound to academic task force recommendations, such as with the Housing and Affordability Task Force. Failure to implement policies suggested by experts is failure to represent the best interests of Wars constituents.</p>

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>seeking input and not ignoring it</p>
<p>seeking their constituents' opinions and voting along those lines. Stop voting with other councillors just because</p>
<p>Working for the people of there ward. Helping make our ward a better place to live.</p>
<p>Responding and actioning issues that are important to the residents. This could sometimes mean going against popular politically correct priorities.</p>
<p>Transparency, accountability, ethics and fiscal responsibility are important to me. None of these values are present in our current municipal government in any meaningful way. If our Councillor adopted one or more of these values, he would be more effective.</p>
<p>Properly engaging with their constituents - not just hosting a "town hall" which those who have the time and/or those who have a specific agenda are the only people able to attend. engagement with as many demographics of their community as possible - through means that don't necessarily have to be political in nature.</p>
<p>Listening and communicating with their constituents. I believe a Ward councillor should represent the constuents and bring their ideas forward to council in whatever vehicle is available. It is very evident thaty councillor has an agenda and that's what he goes after 100%</p>
<p>i feel like council doesnt care about what i want for the city</p>
<p>A councillor could be a lot more transparent with the process of decision making within city council. I would also see it as their job to provide constituents with plain and unbiased information packets (electronic or otherwise) on bills or decisions being made. This way, we are on the same playing field as the councillor and we could then have an avenue to streamline contact with the councillor so that if my councillor is making a decision I don't like about something like taxes, or parks, or public building or whatever the issue is, my voice is heard. As well as other constituents. That way, the councillor would have a better idea of how their constituents want to have/do and the constituents feel more satisfied with communication.</p>
<p>Polls questions of issues</p>
<p>Taking all viewpoints into consideration not just the vocal minority or wealthy. Goes out of their way to talk to a variety of people.</p>
<p>have an election because the counselors are not looking out for the people in Calgary they're looking out for the liberal agenda, fire them all, start over.</p>

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Actually engaging with all constituents - and then bringing those voices forward even if they are not in-line with the councilors personal ideology.
Living up to what they have actually campaigned on and upon being elected not focusing on enriching their own pockets but actually doing good for the community with real solutions not woke diversity hire or [removed] targeting one or two minority groups to please. I'm ashamed to be a Calgaryian now
Councillors should represent their ward constituents by putting forward motions and/or voting in alignment with the position of the residents.
Meeting with and speaking with as many constituents as possible and not just those lobbying for something. Reading and answering emails and responding personally to phone messages (that are legit).
I feel that an effective Councillor votes for or against policies in alignment with the people in the communities that he or she represents.
I live in Marda Loop and there has been a travesty of citizen participation around developers overriding building regulations on 33rd avenue -- and not being listened to by Councilor. That situation has colored my impression in a significant way. (I am relatively new to the city). Definitely could have done better for the residents living close to 33rd.
Spending more time with average everyday constituents to hear what issues they are actually having. As opposed to listening to special interest who make up problems that most people aren't really having, or don't care that much about.
Listening to their constituents and acting on their behalf.
Easier recall ability and required written reasoning why they voted in a certain manner
Not bullying constituents, treating them as adults and not children.
Decisions on how to vote should be made after discussions with their constituents. Their own views or agenda should not dictate how they vote
Listening to their constituents and voting accordingly in council
Representing their ward - not their own secular/virtue signaling/save to world causes
Not just listen to the constituents but actual hear the concerns. Remember that they work for us we do not work for them.
They. Must listen to their constituents regardless of their own political views Also they should meet on from time to time with the people who elected them.

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Listening to the constituents opinions, arguments and bringing forth those concerns
Council and current mayor are not representing Calgarians, the focus is self preservation and personal perspectives.
Listening, not lecturing. We are represented in Ward 8 by someone who was elected with barely 31% of the vote and is only interested in engaging with citizens of his ward, who agree with his opinion. He can be counted on to press forward with his agenda / propaganda at any community meeting, even if people are present who have more expertise on the subject. Also, he's quick to block people on Twitter aka X for respectfully challenging him. Seems wrong that an elected official doesn't want two way dialogue on that platform, especially when he's very slow to respond to email and never follows up on 311 concerns.
Listening to and aligning with their constituents needs.
Being accessible and listening to the concerns of their local constituents - our councillor rarely replies to email or phone correspondence and if we do receive a reply it is usually telling us that it isn't feasible without further engagement (eg. consider adding a dog park to the area)
Not bowing to woke politics Common sense towards running the city
Councillor should represent residents' opinions and not to force radical foreign ideas on the residents.
Listening to constituents and representing us at council. Avoid the group-think that all too often affects decisions. Put pressure on administration to present viable options.
Not only listen but act upon the way the constituents would like.
Getting to know them and learn about their everyday problems
Listening to their constituents and doing what is right for the city.
Voting on issues in a way that supports how constituents think.
Listening to their constituents means getting out into the community meeting the people. Communication
Everything that Courtney Wallcott is not doing. He is the biggest ghost councilor I've ever seen. Guy has done nothing since he was elected.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>Engaging and actually listening to constituents. I've attended many "engagement sessions" where councillors clearly have no intention of doing what residents are telling them or they say it's not their job. Many times councillors say "that's a different city department" in response to concerns rather than truly listening to concerns and engaging on behalf of residents</p>
<p>Good listening skills and good communication. Providing feedback by email or mail and updating social media.</p>
<p>Talking with their constituents at planned meetings</p>
<p>Some education or experience that they can debate, have business acumen or accounting skills</p>
<p>Sandstone drive and sandarac drive corner with Chevron... needs lights, 4 way stop, anything!!! It's madness seeing so many almost collisions, and people running the stop Sign.. or even running OVER the stop sign... check 311!! We've reported it so many times. Surveys are wrong, we actually need the upgrade to anything. Even a round about would be perfect!</p>
<p>Town halls. Frequent town halls</p>
<p>Helping constituents navigate the City and its programs. Advocate and work with City programs to realize investment within their ward.</p>
<p>Stop with the property tax increases. My god what don't you people understand?</p>
<p>Listening to constituents and voting at council meetings based on what constituents have expressed.</p>
<p>Actually representing instead of thinking they know what's best for you.</p>
<p>Communicating with their ward constantly and listening to what is being said and acting on those wishes....who are you taking your orders from??? If you can't really represent what the people want then step down.</p>
<p>Communicating regularly with their constituents and listening to their feedback and concerns. Taking action based upon the feedback and concerns gathered... actions would include voting or putting forward a motion, answering questions, etc. Completing the loop by communicating what actions they've taken and the results. Our current councillor does none of the above.</p>
<p>Clearer communication of councillor stance on issues before they come to council vote.</p>

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
truly listening and being amenable to persuasion, doing what's right for the local citizens the represent not bowing to federal or outside ideological agenda, treating citizens that take the time to speak at hearings with respect (this did not happen Sept 14/15 of last year), no more hiding funding for campaigns behind 3rd party advertisers - they shouldn't have outside influence or favours to repay, for example Walcott's campaign office was in a developers showroom! if approval rating is below a certain percent a by election should be called. Plebiscites on big issues where people feel they are not being heard like blanket upzoning. Not making condescending remarks about Calgarians not understanding etc.
An effective councillor is one who actually represents the wishes of the ward constituents. We are seeing more and more councillors (and a Mayor!) who act only according to their own wishes. Watching the recent 8 councillors vote against a public plebiscite on city wide rezoning is telling, in that they don't want to have input from the people, but want to push through their own agendas, which will likely benefit them financially (with developers). Pootmans is a telling example, as he never represents his constituents, but continues to vote only for his agendas. It is a disaster and makes him completely ineffective in representing the people he is supposedly representing.
By listening to and representing the concerns/views of their constituents. Voting on city issues that is representative of how their constituents would like them to vote. To be the voice of their constituents with the city and municipal issues.
I would like to see online community logins to have a voice in how we would like to be represented. How can you speak for everyone when you hear almost no one's voice. You could even hold votes on current real issues.
Actually listening to us.
A willingness to work in a group setting without obligation to special interest groups. A willingness to disclose all campaign funding ahead of any election. Absolutely no political party affiliation. No partisan politics.
Provide opportunities for constituents to provide input and feedback Regularly update citizens on planned actions and position on issues Do not act in opposition to the issues and positions you campaigned on Stand up to the rest of council when input from citizens is necessary and council wants to make decisions unilaterally
To actually represent their constituents instead of appointing themselves to be a solitary decision maker. To attend a public hearing amenable to persuasion rather than with a pre-determined vote.

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Actually, holding things like plebiscites for major decisions such as blanket rezoning. Also reporting back on what decisions have been changed as a result of consultation.
I want my councilor to listen, work for her constituents (majority rules), be competent, considerate, trustworthy, self aware, return calls, host Ward meetings to hear from the people and return calls. Something our current Ward 11 does none of.
Listening to what their constituents want. Don't presume.
I feel like many councillors including mine (demong) only speak for people who speak to them. For many of us, we don't have time to talk to our councillor, so our voices get lost. The people who speak to a councillor are always against change. So the councillor is always against change. Get off your high horses and vote in service of The public, not just the rich people who have the priveledge to have a voice. A councillor should think of the betterment of all calgarians, not just the ones who can afford for things not to change
Why not start by making an effort to listen to them?
I have contacted city councilors in the past and the only one who responds is ward 1's representative. Pathetic that others do not respond.
Listening to the perspectives of ALL the constituents of their ward. Kourtney Penner win her seat with only 28.36% of the vote in ward 11. Do the math. More than 70% of the constituents did not want her to represent us. That is not democracy. And she continues to hide behind only people who support her ideollogy. She does not answer emails or phone calls. She does not hold town halls. She does not feel she has a responsibility to the 70% who did not vote for her. There, I believe the answer is ensuring the councilor has the najority of the vote and is accountable for active communication on a regular basis with constituents such as town halls and vote as a representative of the people.
We have a division in council. The "Hateful Eight", not my description, but the name that has been aptly applied to these councillors, think that they are not accountable to their electorate. A few of them are Walcott, Pootmans, Penner, Carra, etc. The councillor is required to represent the opinions and feedback from the voters, not some ideology or personal agenda of the councillor.
Listening to their constituents, responding and actually showing up at community events.
listening to their people, leaving their own personal opinions aside
Quarterly meetings with their constituents. Being honest about their agenda

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>Make sure they represent ALL of their Ward constituents. Currently, I feel that my councillor focuses more on the three communities in our ward that have financial demographics that do not match the rest of the ward.</p>
<p>Listening and engaging feedback</p>
<p>Representing their constituents. After being elected many have their own agenda which does not align with their constituents</p>
<p>Asking our opinion would be nice</p>
<p>Taking the time to understand citizen's opinions in their Ward. Public hearings, etc</p>
<p>A councillor should be representing the people in their ward. They should be giving the general population chances for feedback and to express their opinion. Councillors should be thinking long term and taking into account every all sides of the situation and how decisions today will affect outcomes in the future.</p>
<p>Proper research and consideration of the benefit or detriment of the proposals they put forward that are related to constituents rights regarding health. The fluoridation of Calgarys water is a direct violation of our human rights. If people want fluoride they can brush their teeth or drink it. Forcing all of us to consume it by putting this known toxin in our water is a violation of our human rights. Les than 20% of all Calgaryand voted for it when you consider over turn out. Plus this never should have gone to a plebiscite. Vitamins are good for people buy you're not piping them in the water. This Flouridation is wrong and should be illegal. You are not listening to the people. Only someone's agenda for profit</p>
<p>Actually listening to their constituents. Councillors need to bring forward the concerns of their constituents, whether they personally agree with them or not. They are elected to represent ALL constituents in their ward.</p>
<p>Have actual regularly scheduled in-person town hall meetings not virtual (totally impersonal) information gathering.</p>
<p>Listening and meeting with constituents, accepting their feedback and sharing with council.</p>
<p>If only they would listen to their constituents. After all we pay their wages, they are more than seat warmers, they need to listen and adhere to opinions other than their own or what the Mayor is forcing them to do. Personal agendas have no place at the Council table.</p>
<p>Get rid of paying the Residential Parking Permit. People are having a hard time making ends meet and this is an unnecessary fee.</p>

After the Ballot

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>Listening to the Ward instead of pushing their own personal views. More often they push their own agenda, after lying to get elected, such as Gondek and Mian.</p>
<p>Listening to their constituents. Voting based on what their constituents want (democracy), and not voting based on their own personal options.</p>
<p>Answering emails when contacted, understanding their wards concerns and representing those people, not the councillors own ideas.</p>
<p>Have more meetings at local community centre to meet with Ward constituents to ask for feedback on upcoming topics that will be voted on by Councillors. Vote should reflect feedback. Listen to feedback from credible local news platforms that share public opinions. If constituents provide feedback in an engagement session, the Councillor vote should reflect the majority of feedback. Example. 99% of feedback was opposed rezoning/selling Richmond Green Park, yet the Councillor in the ward voted yes to rezoning/ selling it. Blatant example of Councillor not representing constituents.</p>
<p>Listening to their constituents, responding to concerns, not talking down to those who put them in the seat. Explaining their changes in ideology when they reverse their stance on platforms they ran their campaigns on. Addressing correspondence when it is received.</p>
<p>I think they need to be in it for community and not themselves</p>
<p>Representing the actual interest of their constituents. Not blatantly ignoring community members.</p>
<p>Listening and acting on what their ward constituent says and acting on their concerns</p>
<p>Honesty, openness and transparency, living in the ward they represent, approachable, understanding of their constituents concerns even if the don't agree with their opinion.</p>
<p>They need to listen to the constituents more than personal agendas</p>
<p>LISTEN TO YOUR WARD RESIDENTS. DONT PUSH YOUR OWN AGENDA!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Get off your WEF high horse. Listen to your residents</p>
<p>Listening to the constituents and not selling a position, or being set in a position on any issue before understanding your constituent's responses</p>
<p>First of all, they need to listen to residents and community associations! The current Council appears to have their own agenda...</p>
<p>They can advocate for me all they want but they are only one vote.</p>

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>The current majority of Councillors appear to be more interested in promoting City policies than representing constituent interests. Councillors have to remain open about issues until it is time to vote. Councillors need to listen to everyone's feedback, not just those who confirm the Councillor's preconceptions on a matter. And Councillors have to truly take to heart everyone's feedback, even if it runs counter to their position. We elected Councillors to represent us - we didn't elect them to be 4 year dictators.</p>
<p>That's just it - they should be representing the constituents, not running their own agenda. The latest re-zoning plan is just one example. You can provide feedback, which they make difficult and they won't listen to anyway. How about a plebiscite???</p>
<p>Listening to their constituents. I have reached out to the Ward 14 councillor on many issues and he always votes the opposite way. I was also shocked when the Ward 8 and 11 councillors essentially mocked their constituents over the takeout food bylaw backlash.</p>
<p>The Councillors need to be engaged with their constituents. They need to respond to concerns (if they respond) in a manner that is meaningful rather than a cut and paste email that restates the City Council's approach. We need a Councillor that will listen to their constituents rather than being part of the herd that follows the mayor's direction.</p>
<p>There is NO ONE on this council that is there to represent their constituents -they all have their own agenda and the public is taking the brunt of this. From useless bylaws about paper bags to the absolutely unbelievable tax hike to pay for their pet projects there will be and even bigger homeless problem when seniors are driven out of their homes and have no where to go. SHAME ON ALL OF YOU !!!</p>
<p>Honesty, integrity and transparency. Unfortunately, the characteristics seems to rarely appear in our current secretive, deceptive municipal government.</p>
<p>Meeting with constituents. Understanding representatively smaller opinion poll data of their ward.</p>
<p>Listening to the people.</p>
<p>Listen to the people</p>
<p>Listening and responding to constituent's concerns</p>
<p>Finding out how constituents feel about issues and then representing those</p>
<p>Councillors need to use common sense. Make decisions that will improve life for constituents/businesses. Put themselves in the position of constituents who may not have the same economic advantages as councillors. Keep family values in mind and avoid wokeism.</p>

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Fighting crippling taxes. Siding with residents on housing projects instead of the mayor.
If a Councillor stated what their goals and perspectives were prior to being elected, then that is what their focus should be upon being duly elected. If the Councillor then takes a stand on a significant issue, ie. the Land Use Designation (zoning) amendment that was never even mentioned to the constituents prior to the election, the constituents should have the right to vote on that significant issue and have their choices known. It is not enough to have a token public meeting. Everyone who qualifies to vote in an election should be allowed to vote on that issue. That is part of the democratic right of being inclusive and having accountable governance.
Consulting with, and representing, the choices of the constituents in their ward. And not taking the stance of "we will decide because it's too complicated for you!"
Not horse trading with other Councillors to get a vote through the Council sessions with City staff. Knowing when to stop a notion of motion or tell city staff to go back and do more homework before committing to a decision. Fluoride being re-introduced into the public drinking water with voters 50% against and 50% for is a great way to have it only be removed and waste more tax payers dollars, by the way we have done this multiple times with this issue in specific. Councillors advocating on behalf of businesses (i.e real estate) and forgetting about Calgarians. By the way, the last Council is a great example of what happens when Councillors go from public representatives to professional bureaucrat .
Seeking feedback from the neighbourhoods that they represent.
Listen to his constituents regarding property tax increases.
Representing the people who elected them, while also respecting that many people may not have voted for them and still hearing their perspective and representing their viewpoints in votes and council.
Council should be getting information from administration and then presenting that information to Calgarians for their input. That gets Council and Calgarians on the same page with the same information.

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Actions that MAKE a Councilor effective in our communities would door knock approx every two to three months to hear what we have to say or hold meetings in our community halls to hear what we have to say on a regular basis, NOT take the back seat on this and assume that "this is what our community wants". NOT just sit back and accept a pay increase while we suffer with our trying to make ends meet and live. Easy for someone to say "well if you don't like it run for city council...or if you don't like it, vote or why didn't you vote". To answer that, we are small business owners in Calgary that live in Calgary and sure as [removed] did not vote for ANY of the individuals who are in power now. Neither did any of our associates. We are not in a position to 'just run in the next election' and nor would we ever but actually LISTENING to what the community wants is key in working together like a real team, not like the group in their now where 'silos' are common and nit picking each other and not having the balls to actually stand up to each other and actually WORK together like adults do...Remember BUSINESS is Business and PERSONAL is just that personal...not to be brought to the table at work.
Councillors using taxpayer money to run their own agendas, nobly cares for taxpayer.
Listening would be a good one! Representing and considering all perspective would be a nice change. Living in the ward as a requirement should be mandated. Focus on your own ward. Not publicizing your opinions and decisions before hearings on social media. Actually, I don't think councilors should be allowed on social media AT ALL. Look at how the mayor destroyed the original event center deal with her 8 tweet rant and don't even get my started on my own councilor....
Communication with their constituents-more than just e-mail leaflets occasionally. How about ANSWERING e-mails from voters.
I think my councillor is oblivious to what the constituents are going through in these inflationary times. They need to listen to the constituents to understand what to vote in council meetings rather than making up groups for voting in council meetings
survey constituents; don't give so much attention to noisemakers, protestors, whiners; don't politicize decisions
Soliciting feedback from citizens
Listening to them and making decisions on behalf of the city rather than the person itself. Council is under mediated.

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Report Back: What We Heard

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>I am genuinely at a loss trying to think of a time when my current ward councillor has effectively represented his constituents. Thus far, he has demonstrated that he is unable to see beyond his shockingly narrow-minded worldview. Without getting into specifics, my councillor's actions on and off council have been disgraceful throughout his term and unbecoming of an elected representative. My current councillor's actions so far in this term have clearly shown that he is too biased by his own beliefs to deliver non-partisan representation which, frankly, is a requirement for municipal governance.</p>
<p>Ensuring city admin listens AND takes into account community feedback into decisions.</p>
<p>Understanding and listening to the real needs of the community</p>
<p>Listening to constituents and then doing what the majority of their constituents want and not what the Mayor and other Councillors want done. Be the voice of the people who live in the area they represent.</p>
<p>Asking the people directly or on line. Not just multiple-choice either. Get their true opinion.</p>
<p>Meeting with citizens and community associations.</p>
<p>None!!!!!!!!!!!! There is little link to the mindset of council versus the needs of the public.</p>
<p>I think my Councillor Dan McLean is unfairly treated by the Mayor and her minions, everything he suggests or request changes on he is shut down on them. I believe the Mayor is biased and does not fairly weight each Councillor's input.</p>
<p>That they listen to what the constituents have to say on any given topic but that they also realize that they are in a position where the best decision for the future of our city should be made. This would include making difficult decisions that may be difficult. Councilors are stewards for the legacy of our city, not any one special interest group.</p>
<p>Talk to constituents to get their views...don't assume that just because you can afford more taxes that we call can because we cannot</p>
<p>DISCUSSIONS WITH RESIDENTS AND VOTING ON CONCERT WITH THE MAJORITY</p>
<p>Listening to and acting for the majority of Calgarians, not just special interests and the marginalized.</p>
<p>Keeping in mind distributed cost vs concentrated benefits. i.e. tax increases on everyone but hundreds of millions for the public unions and Flames owners. Individual property owners cannot compete with their lobbying.</p>

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Offering methods for constituents to provide feedback on service. Being responsive to changing needs of the Ward. Lead by example as it relates to behaviour, discourse and interaction with other councillors, staff and constituents. Understanding ethics of position and aligning with ethical standards. Thinking beyond the next election cycle and majority opinion to consider the needs of minority populations and stigmatized groups.
Councillors should respond to emails/inquiries from constituents, and should actively reach out to constituents to collect their opinions/feedback on important decisions. Right now there is zero engagement or communication from my Councillor. If any of my perspectives happen to be reflected in Council's decisions, that is purely due to random chance, not because of any intentional action by my Councillor to represent the viewpoints of constituents.
Opportunities for two-way communication (open houses, etc) outside of just community association work, making decisions that will promote a good quality of life, inclusivity, safety and sustainability in neighbourhoods
My councillor (ward 6) has never engaged with the people in his riding. He consistently votes opposite of my interests so I'm not sure why he does what he does. He never justifies his position to the media either.
Actively asking constituents for feedback on proposed major changes or decisions. Councillors are to be representing the majority of constituents not their own personal opinion.
listening to the voters which they don't
A Councillor should at least take into account the evidence of the matter or matters they are voting on. The ideology concept is extremely harmful. There is no sound scientific evidence that CO2 is a pollutant. In fact the opposite is true. CO2 is a necessary prerequisite for the formation of sugar and Oxygen. Our councillors are totally wrong in their climate agenda.
When casting their vote on contentious matters, my Councillor should provide the reason why they are voting a certain way.
asking for our input on critical issues, no one in my ward asked for blanket rezoning yet that is exactly how my councillor voted. KNOWING that most of the ward opposes this measure. There are a few locations where it is ideal (near train stations and MRU), but most are not suited to this.
Actions which reflect those of their Ward constituents instead of going along with the flow.
Focusing on the well being and development of the constituents instead of taking a raise while increasing property taxes by over 7%

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>Listening to constituents, focusing on local issues not global issues, being accountable for their decisions</p>
<p>Needs to be consistent with their election platform, needs to strongly voice their opinion,</p>
<p>Good communication- explaining their perspective during the election and how their decisions reflect this position after</p>
<p>Listen to all of your constituents. Survey our opinions. Stop following the latest trendy movements. We want to be heard not talked down to.</p>
<p>Councillors should not be able to vote on if they should get a raise. Councillors should also realize that Calgarians cannot afford constant property tax increases. The money the city collects needs to go to services for Calgarians.</p>
<p>Good start would be LISTENING to their constituents instead of implementing their agendas that they hid during the elections.</p>
<p>Council (including Mayor) is an extreme left wing (socialist/liberal) entity.</p>
<p>They should REALLY listen to their constituents. They should then strongly advocate for the wants/needs of their constituents.</p>
<p>That isn't a Councillor's role. Councillors are elected and serve for the benefit of Calgary as a whole. Not individual residents or even their ward.</p>
<p>Holding a constituent meeting, either zoom call or phone in session or in person meeting every 4 months. Sending out an online newsletter telling how to contact the councilor and answering some questions or concerns from constituents. Describe some of the actions taken by council or being discussed by council.</p>
<p>Listening to their constituents, be it through representative and valid surveys, engagement, door knocking, phone calls and emails or open houses Councillors have to listen. And be leaders. Make a decision and stick to it. Stop backtracking on everything you say. They were elected to lead - so do it.</p>
<p>Someone who actively gathers input from a wide spectrum of constituents, is attentive to the majority sentiment, digests data and evidence, weighs options provided by interests outside of the majority, mediates compromise where possible within their constituency and represents what their constituents are saying and asking fairly. Someone who is not 'wagged by the tail of the dog'.</p>
<p>Communication with their Ward constituents.</p>

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Responding to constituents, following up on questions, creating opportunities to voice concerns.
Listening to their constituents.
Although the geographic perspective has importance interest areas of Calgarians tend to transcend the current wards. Meaning i am just as likely to feel "represented" by a potential councillor in a ward that I am unable to vote in as one in my own.
Sticking to local municipal issues and not wider political issues for which they were not elected.
Having a vision for a city and being confident enough to go through with your tough decisions. Education is another component which I think is extremely important.
Taking time to listen to their residents, but also public servants and other experts. Taking the time to learn and think through decisions and not simply having a knee jerk reaction and/or always going with the loudest voices they're hearing. Understanding that whatever venue (planned engagement, door knocking, public hearing, emails, walking the community, etc) will have certain voices - not everyone knows how to be heard by Council . Also an understanding that their decisions should be for the greater good not simply for what they perceive is the majority opinion. The courage to make decisions and not try to pawn off decisions to the future and/or a vote of electors.
Being open to community input while being sensitive to the needs of marginalized residents, all the while looking at issues in the context of the entire city.
Councillors should be in constant contact with and responsive to their constituents. Presently neither nCouncillors nor the Mayor answer emails or any other kind of contact attempt. The standard 'acknowledgement of receipt' email is not a response. The Mayor' office especially always defaults to the 'volume of coresspondance' excuse. These people are there to serve and respond to the needs of the taxpayers who own the city.
Continuous visits to community, advertising what their contact/communication info is: instagram, x, facebook, etc. Door knocking. I've lived in Calgary for 25 years and not one visit from a councilor, not even during election time.
Be very familiar with the information presented to them by admin and then account for the needs of the whole city when making decisions. And make decisions! Don't just try to put it off to a plebiscite or a future council meeting or additional public engagement or, the worst, refrain from voting.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?

Councillors need to actually listen to and represent their constituents rather than discouraging and discounting feedback from the people who they were elected to represent. Our councillor blocks and ignores viewpoints that are not her own. Worst councillor we've ever had in 40 years of living in our ward.

I think the ward system is problematic because it pits different community types against one another rather than all Councillors working toward their vision of the best interest of the city as a whole. That said, an effective Councillor strives to understand the demographics of their communities, particularly those who are different from them, and advocates for and invests in infrastructure, programs and services that meet the needs of the people who live in their communities. A good Councillor prioritizes investments and policies that enable everyone in their communities to live, work, play and learn safely and accessibly.

Actually listening to citizens. My councilor is totally out of touch with what me and my neighbors think.

Providing opportunities for public engagement that are accessible to the kinds of people too busy to appear at open houses and public hearings. Balancing the platform they were elected on with the best interests of the ward, the city, and the world the city exists on. Having a clear plan for the future. Figuring out how to reduce time spent listening to career lobbyists and encourage passionate real citizens to voice their honest (not bought) opinions when it comes to issues which affect them directly.

Engaging with citizens, instead of dictating to citizens and pretending to engage.

They need to be available and listen to their constituent regardless of who the constituent works for. Not listening to City employees is not a good leader, as City employees are also constituents.

Council is useless doesn't listen to citizens works against the citizens

Being more transparent about how their constituents may feel about an issue. Sharing of data and information. Would also be great if councillors actually had accurate info

Do the research to know your constituent demographic, their tax base, what they do to make a living, and how they like to spend their days. Then adjust your ward actions appropriately to fit the community. One type of initiative does not fit all across the city. And if something doesn't work, fix it quickly.

Too many restrictions on housing and airbnb.

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Listen to the requests of their constituents, not the people who gave them money to get elected. They don't have a "mandate" to do things the way they want them because they were elected with those opinions. Being elected means that AT THE TIME the other candidates had worse policy promises. A councilor should listen to feedback throughout their term and if a large portion of their constituents disagree with a decision they should re-examine that decision, not double down on it and act like they always know best.
I think speaking for the people, not their specific agendas. Currently this piece is missing. There has been little to no engagement in our communities to understand the desires/wants of the people. This means councilors are going to vote based on their personal opinions, rather than that of the people they represent. I understand that can be hard, to put your personal needs aside. However, that is the due diligence and responsibility of the council member, to ensure the people are heard.
understanding the perspectives of all the ward residents - not just listening to the loudest or the squeaky wheel
I hate this question. Councillors are NOT supposed to represent their wards. Last time I be read the MGA, they are supposed to act in the best interests of the city as a whole. It's REPRESENTATIVE democracy - not "I vote however my ward population tells me to".
The councilor must meet and then take the constituents' views back to council. My councilor gives LIP SERVICE ONLY. Her attitude is one of condescension where she pretends to engage and then speaks her preconceived and UNMOVED opinion and VOTES her agenda. This is the opposite of effective representation.
Having good knowledge of all matters before them.
Councillors are elected to make decisions, and they are also accountable to their constituents. The most effective councillors can balance these two expectations. It's not good to have a councillor that makes decisions which aren't at all informed by their constituents. It's also not good when a councillor relies too much on populism and direct democracy (e.g. plebiscites) to direct their decisions because the average citizen doesn't think about the full picture and the greater good.
Actually campaigning on what they intend to do after election. Actually listening to community representatives. Holding town halls, with an open mind to hear from constituents (like ward 7 does). Responding to emails and other communication from constituents. Not having an 'I know better' or 'the public is just confused or doesn't understand' attitude... REAL conversations!
Listening too and voting based on what resident communicate to them, not only their wishes.

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Listening to their constituents & getting back to them when one has either contacted by phone email etc
listening to their constituents not their own agenda. thinking with logic not with emotions. fighting for the best of all, not just for the minority
Listening to the people of their communities and not feeling pressured by other councillors.
Regular public Engagement with their constituents. Knowing and understanding what is going on in their wards and what the people in the wards are concerned with.
Councillors need to be transparent and truthful about affiliations that might influence their decision making. This needs to be done prior to an election as well as during their term if they are elected. Partisan politics and influence from outsiders (businesses, developers, lobbyists, etc.) must be reported in a timely way.
Residing within the community they represent and using other modes of transportation other than their own personal cars such as transit, walking, Uber, Lyft, or taxi to commute for every day tasks such as grocery, shopping and work.
Listening to consistutments instead of administration, lobby groups, and/or developers
Must listen and represent all areas of Ward
Listening to their citizens, holding public events, being available, not hiding behind their 'assistants'
Carrying out the promises and values they were elected on. After elected, check in with their constituents to see if needs change. Appreciate the perspective and needs of people that didn't vote for you
The councillor is representing his or her constituents in the area they were voted for. They are to be representing on the best behalf of the area they represent.
Defining their positions and objectives before an election and then having that agenda validated by vote. Connect, listen, action.
Be representing the constituents they serve
Soliciting feedback from those constituents, meeting them at events, getting a feel for the issues important to them. Equally, remembering that they not only make decisions for their constituents but in the whole city's best interest. Also, understanding that the loudest people are not always, or even usually, in the majority.
Listen to thier constituents.

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Attending town hall type meetings when arranged by communities. Actually engaging with and listening to our concerns.
We need an easier way to communicate with our councillors and somehow get feedback. It feels like there's a wall between us and we aren't being heard or acknowledged when using e-mail.
Voicing concerns of their constituents. Standing up for issues that are important to their constituents.
Listening to us, making sure the schooling systems for education has no cut backs, more help for renters who have been done wrong by landlords that do not fix their rentals.
It's a total sham. Starting with Developers colluding with the City and City Council against citizens. How absolutely ridiculous that the City thinks it's ok to put Developers in charge of their own Engagement processes. What a complete joke! Conspiracy, corruption & collusion!!
None. That's the problem! Councilors do not care about their constituents. They have their own agenda that they vote on that has nothing to do with the interests of their constituents. Especially, Ward 11 councilor Kourtney Penner. She is the epitome of corruption and incompetence and needs to be fired immediately.
Invest in the people, not corporate donors or stadiums which dont provide any revenue to the city.
Living in the ward that they represent.
their votes and communication practices
Actually asking for or having a means for feedback from their constituents, and being actively involved with the associations within the Ward's communities.
Creating opportunities for residents to engage with them
They are considering the opinions of all of their constituents, disregarding their own biases and acting objectively on behalf of their entire ward. They value all correspondence equally, not simply ignoring that which disagrees with their political alignment.
Smaller wards
Being more in tune with the needs of individuals. As a single parent on one Income, I qualify for no help and no special programs since me salary is too high (it's not really that high). I would love to see options to get my child into programs like sports etc but I simply cannot afford the full price

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Being open to listening to the person's concerns and making themselves available.
Listening to their constituents, engaging with them, having meaningful discussions and debates with them, even if they disagree with them. Look at anything Kourtney Penner is doing, and they should be doing the opposite.
Listening and responding to their constituents. My councillor does listen but many think they know better.
The majority of Council are union supported candidates. Have Councillors declare party affiliations would make voters more informed. As it is, Council is ramming a lot of things through that the public does not support.
Being Accountable and effective
Listen to constituents
Listening to electorate and basic services maintained. Reducing property taxes. Not being elected by special interest groups.
active engagement with their ward members, accessible, transparency
Listening to the wants and needs of the majority of their constituents. Not blindly following the Mayor.
They are easily accessible by phone or in person. Their voting reflects their constituents beliefs and concerns, not those of special fringe groups who shout louder than the majority. They attend community events reflecting the actual diversity of their communities and not cherry picking to promote a political agenda.
Strong, consistent, transparent, clear, concise, informed engagement.
More online engagement including "e-plebiscites" (surely there is technology that would enable secure online voting), more in-person events like town halls.
The Councillor should hold area ward meetings every 6-8 weeks with an agenda that is both current and 1 to 3 years out for discussion. They should prioritize a list of subjects for monitoring what the tax payer pays for. ie: condition of our roads, city owned property for curb appeal, business input for what success in all areas of their ward looks like (both small and large)
Needs to be a very good listener as well as communicating with all constituents not just use social media and appearances at events.

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Listen to feedback from your constituents and return phone calls and emails with non standardized but personal answers that actually answer the questions.
Listening to constituents, some town hall type meetings perhaps. Online surveys for eliciting ideas and opinions. Not ignoring constituents or dismissing them.
Taking into account the specific Ward needs and wants, and helping to balance that with outcomes that help all of the city.
Firstly communicating effectively with their electors...often we don't know what our councillor is thinking until after council votes have taken place. As well, there is no regular continual method for providing our councillor with our suggestions or opinions short of emailing that person...which often warrants no response.
Their availability to listen to their constituents' concerns - this means they have the time required as well as adequate staffing to support. It also means they are open to hearing concerns, provide answers and/or commit to following up or advocate for their community.
They represent the views of their constituents, they can clearly communicate proposals and council decisions to their constituents without their own bias, they attend council meetings without distractions like attending meetings from a recreation event, and they understand the difference between what their constituents want versus what they actually need.
Actively solicit input, sometimes even having online ward level votes.
Actively obtaining and listening to their constituents concerns, opinions and desires about issues, then voting in accordance with the constituents majority position. It seems my councillor (and city council in general) seeks public majority opinion but then does what the councillor wants, not what the constituents want (I.e. the councillors do not represent their constituents).
A representative who actually stood for important issues that reflect concerns of constituents rather than personal agendas. Not being afraid to against societal "unacceptable" ideas. Not all of us are on board with todays acceptance of things and someone needs to work on behalf of the majority, not the minority.
Communication ease and good listening attributes.
One on one engagement, attending community activities to engage personally.
Actually showing up to meetings, listening to constituents, and participating in city politics rather than just voting no on everything.

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If they actually seek out what most residents want rather than just the noisy ones. 2. If they put their own pet projects and biases aside when making decisions that represent an entire Ward. They're welcome to say, "Personally, I think this is good/bad, but my residents want...". 3. They read the stuff they're given by Administration and ask questions before deciding. 4. They **aren't** (and I can't stress this strongly enough) beholden to any political parties.
When councillors communicate with their residents. Direct communication.. attending events and letting people know AHEAD of time, so that people can meet you there and chat
Not working for their own agenda but the betterment of citizens
One who carefully considers constituents input, rather than just brush it off and say "I know best."
Most effective action : to be in touch with their Ward constituents, & to be on the side of their ward citizens on issues that are important to the Ward as opposed to being on City Council or City Administration side. They should be fighting for their Constituents.
Representing a majority of residents, not a minority. We do NOT need more councillors, we need an Alternative Vote (instant run off) electoral system.
Listening and being active in the Ward the Councillor represents.
Working to improve neighbourhoods (city upkeep and maintenance/upgrades of green areas and infrastructure), increase safety, fight to lower property taxes and energy bills.
Listening to its residents, informing more about decisions that are made for the greater good and saying no when appropriate
le no pet projects, realistic numbers and the same across all wards
Listening to constituent feedback and representing their views. This arrogant City Council does not represent nor respond when citizens contact them.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Actually spearheading needs of their communities -Yearly council tours of other Wards for other councillors to know what challenges other wards face
They understand the needs and concerns of their constituents and advocate for policies that will address those
Listening to their constituents and taking concerns to council

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
<p>Councillors are supposed to represent their constituents, and/or act in their best interest. Councillors are also supposed to steer the CITY direction on the LONG TERM (not just the 4 year terms they are elected for. Councillors should be able to make some tough decisions for the benefit of their constituents AND for the benefit of ALL. Being PRESENT in their wards, listening to people, informing people and explaining their decisions / votes. They should READ the material they have to action. They should STOP bickering in public when a decision made is not the one they like. They should DO THEIR HOMEWORK (e.g. plastic bag bylaw fiasco could have been prevented if they actually THOUGHT about it. they should DIRECT Administration to do their jobs and hold City employees ACCOUNTABLE.</p>
<p>Ward consultation, town halls</p>
<p>When problems that need to be addressed are addressed quickly and don't need years of bureaucratic approvals and third party approvals to solve the problem.</p>
<p>Listening to their ward</p>
<p>listening to their constituents and bringing their concerns forward rather than their own agenda</p>
<p>My ward councilor represents my perspectives mostly; however, he is one of many and the sway is not quite there. A councilor has to actively engage with their ward.</p>
<p>They engage with their constituents</p>
<p>Listening and acting how they campaigned (what they campaigned on)</p>
<p>Having mechanisms to understand what is impacting the constituents and bringing those things forward to council.</p>
<p>By actually listening to their constituents and voting that way when it comes to making decisions.</p>
<p>Actually representing their constituents. I have not seen or heard from anyone representing my ward since I moved to the area 20 years ago. With the rezoning happening in central Calgary seemed to happen under our noses.</p>
<p>Not having provincial politicians use issues pertinent to municipal affairs as talking points to get elected. Having a clear separation from provincial politics and not having political parties at the municipal level.</p>
<p>For major decisions impacting constituents they need to canvas to ensure that all perspectives are understood to avoid unintended consequences (note, city planning should do this too.... look at the chaos for Bridgeland residents from the mess at St. Georges)</p>

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing their Ward constituents?
Staying in touch with the community and its members.
Not only listening, but acting to actually represent the voices of the community! Some councillors believe that once they have been elected, they know better than their residents (one has professed to being an "expert" on issues that are "too complicated" for his residents to understand). Most people still believe that their representative should be listening to their opinions and responding accordingly. When dozens or even hundreds of people oppose something in an area, and when the area councillor disagrees with them, there is a problem. In our current system, the area councillor is given greater weight by other councillors, which is reasonable because the ward councillor presumably has a more detailed knowledge of the issue and the public sentiment. However, when that councillor goes AGAINST the majority of feedback received, that is a huge problem because other councillors will be reluctant to openly challenge him. Councillors need to be more accountable to their residents.
Regular communication regarding: 1) the City, 2) a discussion of opportunities for input/engagement, 3) issues they are currently working on and future issues they will be seeking public input on, and 4) a summary of how they arrived at recent decisions/votes.
Job #1 should be to represent the interest of the citizens of their ward. Too often councilors spend more time representing and advocating for businesses rather than citizens.
Advocating for ward specific issues and not voting as a block or doing political grandstanding
A Councillor who endeavours to actively and on an ongoing basis follow the wishes of their constituents as opposed to a Concillor who endeavours to follow an ideological agenda
We need to know and hold councilors accountable for their actions
Seeking more input on contentious issues

In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Trying to model fair and open engagement
Again, this question assumes that the current government is acting in a competent, effective manner and just needs some tweaks to improve. This is not the case. Calgary's municipal government is a train wreck. Look at the Platform building, the Green Line and the expropriation of the River Run homes. All are unnecessary wastes of taxpayer money that harm citizens, with no accountability by those in power.

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Yes do your job, ie. Ensure roads are clear, repaired, streets are safe; and stop trying to bring in policies under federal jurisdiction; the only federal policies u should be speaking about are ones that hurt calgarians and ones that bribe calgarians with their own taxpayers money and try to entice council to override their democratic right to take part in the process.
Proactively looking at what other cities are bringing forward as creative initiatives. Whether that is green/climate, or crime and safety issues. We seem to be trailing in a lot of issues, rather than leading.
Focusing on the basics of running a government such as transparency and being fiscally responsible. This government is not very competent at the most basic tasks yet somehow has a culture of arrogance. Council seems to forget that they serve citizens (or at least they should serve citizens). A major overhaul is needed within City leadership.
Effective land use decision making.
All roles are equally important, and therefore time should be divided equally between all agendas.
My hope is that Calgary's municipal government can achieve baseline competence and effectiveness at some point. Right now, this municipal government is an embarrassment. Waste and corruption are prevalent. Massive change is needed.
I think all 4 above are important but meeting with residents and helping them solve issues/advocating for them is the most important roll. What's the point of their existence if they are just attending city counsel meetings without speaking to their constituents at all.
Communicate the complexity of decision making
Stop spending so much of their councillor assigned budget on personal use.
Start to actually care about the job of being a responsible municipal government. Currently, many citizens, for good reason, have very little respect for, or trust in, this municipal government.
Introduce a reasonable level of honesty and transparency, and spend far less on propaganda.
Engage in community conversations with more than just lip service. I'm referring specifically to ward 11 Kourtney Penner
Stop wasting money on feel good thins that have little tangible value. Stop having so many crisis and focus on things where you can make a difference.
Finding ways to make sure tax dollars are spent wisely, reducing crime and eliminating city hall bureaucracy

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Polling locals on issues they want raised.
No
Supporting the residents to achieve improvements in their neighbourhoods, don't give inane excuses. Be available for open discussion. Prior to making a decision that has impact work with the residents and community association to reach agreement, after all we live here and know the issues and impacts. They need to divest of pre-conceived solutions.
Place focus on key infrastructure, for example road maintenance in the last few years has been virtually non existent!
Developing action plans and implementing policy based around their community meetings.
Actually LISTEN and take Community opinion into decision making. ADMINISTRATION does all the planning and council just rubber stamps the decisions.
Ensuring free and fair elections and actually campaigning.
Definitely communicating with the residents in their Ward on all issues, specifically those that are contentious!
Communicating and championing priorities and desired direction based on communications and feedback from residents in their ward.
Be fiscally responsible
Long-term planning that is beneficial to the city as a whole.
To be the voice of Calgarians, not an ultimate decision maker. She/He is to show the desired results of what citizens want and to make it happen. To allow citizens to vote on any huge changes.
Keep party politics out.
Listen and represent their riding based on what the people in that riding want!
Start to care about what is best for citizens instead of focusing on how to benefit friends and family. Less propaganda. Start to implement a reasonable amount of transparency. Start to be honest with citizens. Start to be financially responsible.
Listen to the people they serve and represent them accordingly

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
They are elected to vote what their constituents want. Most of them vote in favour of Mayor Gondek's agenda, which is not in the best interests of Calgarians. Mayor Gondek did not campaign on many of the issues she has brought into place. The Climate Emergency she brought in was never approved by Calgarians and she has frivolously spent millions trying to push this agenda, i.e. 259 unproven electric buses, solar panel fields, etc.
We have one problem: you're all out of touch and greedy. Help the people afford life. Demand Enmax lower their rates. Reduce taxes. Do your bloody jobs. People are struggling and dying because of you.
Advocate on behalf of residents in city meetings where a one-sided agenda is pushed. Care about the people more than a paycheck.
Stop gatekeeping housing!
Managing city finances and budget - lets see actions taken towards spending less rather than spending more. Tax hikes and spending are out of control! I do not have an endless supply of money to put towards more and more taxes! Lets see some strategies on cost reduction and control.
Focus on city issues that exist within their ward. My councillor seems to be too busy talking about bigger issues when his role should primarily be to deal with issues in his ward.
Advocate on behalf of the people and what the people want.
Being responsible for communities. Studying more policy under globalist leaders is certainly not something we need more of.
Healthcare is very important. Also in this day and age I believe everyone should be treated equally. It's time to stop paying for the indigenous.
Communicate, to the constituents what council is deciding and why decisions are made. The more unpopular the decision or policy the more communication is needed, e.g. blanket rezoning! A citizen and former realtor explained the rationale behind rezoning. Now I am in agreement, I was not before. Why can't council and the mayor communicate better -their jobs may be at stake on this one item!
Follow direction from taxpayers not city employees
Be a good listener and have control on his office staff to pick up more listening skills and be patient.
They are elected to represent us - the people - not their own desires. They need to do their jobs!!

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Meet with underrepresented and underprivileged constituents to make sure their concerns are addressed
Try to eliminate wasteful spending
Councillors should lead by example. Stop the bickering and political grandstanding. work on issues and work for the constituents.
Not to vote as a block. Not to increase our taxes every year
In representing the people, it would be nice that they take the concerns of the people and use that information to communicate with provincial government regarding our needs and potential solutions
Ensure the councillor represents the interest of the Calgary residents, not their own interests.
Speak on behalf of their constituents when participating in city meetings.
The rezoning and other decisions such as immediate climate change emergency is not what majority of citizens voted current council in for.
Less corruption. I live by Eau Claire Plaza (which should be pronounced Oh Corruption Plaza). Construction has been relentless since 2019 in an effort to harass the River Run families out of their homes. The City needs about 30 feet of land for the Green Line track. The City has over 250 feet of bare land beside River Run. The City decided to run a train through the River Run homes to benefit Harvard Developments. So gross. So corrupt.
Stand up to the mayor. It is not a dictatorship.
Be available to answer questions on work going on that affects their constituents, ie. timelines for construction of major projects.
Again, bring forward their perspectives to constituents and to Council. It's a thankless job; I'm grateful for those that have such a civic commitment since it's fraught with dissatisfaction and criticism. Making our world better locally while having a big picture view is difficult in the best of times. However, that is the job they signed up for. BTW, any Councillor's team can help solve problems for the constituents so the Councillor can concentrate on big ticket items.
Blanket policies seldom work for most communities.... higher densities is not reasonable for all communities ... areas close to (walking distance) to LRT can be developed long before unrooting R-1 districts. WE pay high taxes & demand that our communities be protected.... R-1 districts can and should be able to exist along side other zoning densities one does not have to infringe on the other

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Councillors should be open to the concerns and input of all citizenry, not just the ones that support their own personal agendas. In fact personal agendas should take a back seat in City Council and councillors should ensure that a good system of compromise is in place.
Actually understand the role of what a councilor should be doing. I think there are a few councilors who currently do not understand the scope of the job they have been elected to do.
Councillor must engage and listen to the needs of his/her constituents. And be prepared to act as n the interests of constituents.
Find more affordable ways of doing things and spend like you are the one liable for paying the bill.
Like most City surveys, this is survey dripping with bias. What is missing is self awareness. Calgary is a great city, but it currently has a municipal government that is an embarrassment. The corruption and incompetence is in plain sight: the ridiculous Platform building, destroying the River Run homes to enrich a developer, the Green Line fiasco which is a slow motion train wreck in plain sight. Lots of work is needed to improve our municipal government to be at a level where is it competent and can be trusted.
Stand up against ideologues like the mayor.
Kind of simple we are asking them to do the job we hired them for not whatever they want to.
Affordability
It's the Mayor's job to deal with the Province and the Premier's job to deal with the Federal Govt.
Focus on what business the city should be responsible for and then ensuring operational excellence in those tasks.
It's entertaining to watch our Mayor set her hair on fire with righteous indignation when she speaks about provincial matters. She along with all Councillors should learn to get along and work with Provincial counterparts and stop making back room deals with the Feds
No
Listen to residents' view regarding the overwhelming voice that is not in favor of blanket re-zoning.
Holding city officials to account, learn how to weigh advice and have enough courage to reject bad advice.

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<p>In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?</p>
<p>Hold admin accountable for policy implementation and have better understanding on mitigating the impacts (sometimes unintended consequences) of policy role out- there seems very little publicly available info (if it even exists) on post project reviews - 2 yrs / 5 yrs / 10 yrs - life cycle aging. Be aware of city department silos (that have improved but still exist). eg Mainstreet public spaces have been totally destroyed by the street snow clearing practices /materials; pedestrian infrastructure is 3rd rate in comparison to vehicle and cycle conditions inside TOD's. Real-estate decisions that have not worked - lands around the Westbrook LRT station.</p>
<p>Actually do their jobs instead of promoting their activism and useless pet projects.</p>
<p>Focus on local issues. Voting against any rezoning. Cutting costs. Lowering taxes. These should be the primary roles for all council right now.</p>
<p>Listen to the needs of the majority of people in Calgary, try to find solutions without raising taxes</p>
<p>Sticking to the role outlined in the Strategic Direction, and NOT moving over to other jurisdictions (i.e. Mental Health programs) There is significant impact of these other jurisdictions, and they can't be siloed, but working with the prime providers is still required, but taking lead is not. Especially then the programs are not core city services / requirements</p>
<p>They continue their own education on governance</p>
<p>Studying economics and accounting to balance budgets and reduce spending rather than increasing taxes.</p>
<p>have a chance to review feedback and video of hearings they were not on the committee for before having to vote, no more emergency meetings!</p>
<p>Stick to what city councillors are supposed to manage.</p>
<p>Councillors should be more available to the public and Wards they serve. So people can present their concerns, and have meaningful follow up provided by the councilors to the people who elected them.</p>
<p>being held accountable for not performing their duties to the level needed by their constituents</p>
<p>Each councilor, as an individual, should consult with the constituents of their ward, and participate in council as a representative of their constituents. Each councilor should not assume they are more informed, or intelligent, than their constituents and hence vote motions for or against based on their individual perspective. This is not a matter of whether the councilor wants to get re-elected. It is the very foundation of our society.</p>

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
OPPOSE THE REZONING !!!!!
Keep the city running effectively within a budget. Stop spending money, stop raising taxes, keep the road in driving condition. Not hard.
Actually think about the FINANCIAL issues us lowly citizens are going through! We arent getting cost of living raises yet they got a raise? What the hell!
Putting forward changes that are municipal in nature and which represent their constituents views
All of the above roles are very important. If every councillor met those goals I feel Calgarians voices would be heard. Currently I feel Mayor Gondek has her own agenda, grabbing Federal funds and not listening to Calgarians.
To be ethical and not vote for decisions that are self interest motivated
Taking examples of policies in other municipalities in addition to communicating these impacts with residents prior to implementation would help residents be more informed and have less negativity towards decisions.
This is municipal government, stick to the issues in your ward. Bigger issues of city will be dealt with by the mayor, provincial by the Premier and so on. A city councillor needs not to worry about fixing the world's issues but sticking to the local issues
Be responsible and accountable
Work with their communities to find solutions. Stop with the attitude of entitlement.
Reduce spending and taxes.
Listen to home and business owners about the constant increases
Consulting with constituents before making decisions that will affect the quality of life and property values of their constituents. They were elected to represent the best interests of their constituents.
Focus on specific problems like not raising taxes and not blanket rezoning. Council needs to stay in their lane and focus only on local city issues.

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
<p>Yes, they need to speak up in accordance with the wishes of the citizens. The City needs to be far more open to plebiscites on big issues facing the city. The carte Blanche attitude of this is what we want to do is really putting citizens off. Yes there needs to be change and change is constant but the city needs to slow down and listen. We feel the new rezoning is too much too fast.</p>
<p>Advocating for Calgary residents in city of Calgary meetings</p>
<p>They should respond to concerns of constituents & represent the majority of views from those constituents</p>
<p>Voting for things that will benefit their ridings. Not just being a puppet for the city Mayor. Listening to what the people that he/she is representing, not just going with what ever council thinks they want</p>
<p>Working for their constituents (the taxpayers who are their boss) and not working for union and lobbyist interests - and that includes Big Fed Govt and Big NGOs.</p>
<p>Stay in touch with the people you represent. Keep your ego in check. (Looking at you Gian Carlos Carra.)</p>
<p>I would've picked the first option; meeting and communicating with Calgary residence, but it needs to also have the added point to follow through on what the majority of Calgary residents are communicating to councillors.</p>
<p>It is councillors JOB to do all of the four things. However, if the councillors are not listening to their voter base, then all of the four are useless as they are not actually taking what their voter base is saying to advocate for them. Councillors need to LISTEN and REPRESENT what the people are saying NOT the councillors own agenda.</p>
<p>Meet with constituents in person, listen to constituents, look at what the communities need, advocate for #savenosecreek which is very important for the ward CALL OUT THE USELESS MAYOR FOR STUPID IDEAS AND DECISIONS Get a backbone and common sense, bags...really!!! How stupid could a councillor be SPEAK UP AGAINST TYRANNY from the mayor. Support fellow councillors</p>
<p>Yes, not playing politics and having their own agenda. Listen and represent your constituents' concerns. Voting in a way that represents the views of those who elected you, not your own opinion.</p>
<p>Stop being commies</p>
<p>Vote for policy based on what their area residents want, NOT what the mayor wants.</p>

After the Ballot

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
I have one that a coucillor or the Mayor should not do: be the puppet of federal government that clearly hates Alberta
They should be doing all these thing a bit everything is behind closed doors so I don't think they do. I have written to my councillor and nothing. If they were listening to Calgary residents we would not have higher taxes or this new rezoning. None of this is what's best for us. But for them.
Seek efficiency in the City's Operations
Working to make city council more accessible and transparent.
Councillors need to get direction from their constituents and represent their voice in Council, rather than just following along with ideology that they themselves adhere to. They need to be open and transparent with their values and ideology in campaigning, not doing an about turn once in office.
Examining budget allocations for every department. All departments should have to report expenses with justification ie number of employees. Calgarians are very aware that a portion of positions could easily be removed with no detrimental effects. Organization should use private industry processes for building staff requirements are examed in order to be cost effective rather than using the excuse that they are nonprofit and spend taxes like they are a no limit withdrawal account.
It's not about you communicating to us. You must listen to us, we are your boss! Show the citizens some respect!
They represent us, be involved with us, meet with us. Again, come out if hiding.
It is imperative that city council follow what the PEOPLE want, not some half baked ideology that does nothing to further humanity but instead, further harms Calgarians. Stick to your lane city council..you work for US.
Look for ways to reduce taxes and find efficiencies in the system
Ensuring the views of calgarians are in alignment with our policies. The federal government policies need to stay out of our city. Councillors/mayor need to stop pushing the race card for anyone. They should not pick a side or publicly say anything about it. Stop pushing the lgbq agenda, keep it out of schools. Are children need to learn that we are all people, we all exist, race does not define someone. Its getting to excessive that unless you fall in a minority category you are then considered racist. This has to stop. Ex 15 min cities. Green energy, electric pumps, lgbq agenda.

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
THE MOST important role for all councillors is to listen and communicate with the people they represent. This is sadly lacking with the current council.
I think the years of city council has made us all think about what city council shouldn't do. Basically you should stop doing everything you're currently doing. Shrink the bureaucracy, figure out how to spread the dollars around effectively, stop leaning on property tax increases and implementing other road blocks on businesses and start acting like adults
Stop dividing citizens in prioritizing one group over another. How does that help?
-ensuring Calgary is a better place for its residents and actively engaging with them to hear their concerns. Instead of council pushing forward policies regardless with no concern for the residents opposition or concerns
Consider the costs of every "study" or initiative being considered. Reviews the costs of every policy consideration and require Councillors to include the costs of any motion out before Council/administration. If motions, or future policies, have the potential to add costs to city residents now or in the future, those potential future costs should be assessed and disclosed from the get-go. Case in point the study of the "canopy" and proposed limitations on what private land owners can do with their own trees. How big is this problem - what percentage of residents are regularly cutting down their own trees. The costs of this potential policy/bylaw would be excessive to police - and even though existing resources can study this, there is still a cost to them doing so. The more Council does things like this, the more strainers those resources become, which eventually leads to more hiring and expansion of city departments as happened in the past few years.
The above 4 things are very important, however if the council is not listening and acting on what their ward wants then the above 4 are useless. Councillors were voted in by their ward and it is about time they start to actually listen to them and represent them and not themselves and their own agenda.
If you are not going to listen to what the people in your ward want and to what they have asked you to do, then these questions are a waste of time. They are voted in to represent the people NOT for their personal objectives and gains.
Be visible and available.
They should be able to stand up and say no!
Advocating for Calgarians on issues pertaining to Calgary
Drastically cutting spending, massively reducing the size and scope of city government - crushing the union influence on city policies

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Make your voice heard on our behalf
I believe policy and planning are important but Calgary councillors do not represent Calgarians so the value is lost.
Have some common sense, vote against anything climate change related and stop the woke. Stop the racism divide. We are all equal and the race card is petty.
Making tough decisions that impact the greater good and not copping out with plebiscites.
They need to listen. No just go through the motions. Same with the ridiculous "engagement process". How are we supposed to take them seriously when you put Developer in charge of their own processes for their Developments. CONFLICT OF INTEREST, COLLUSION, CORRUPTION.
Do not bully and harass colleagues. The Hateful 8 are not very positive examples of collaboration as they only collaborate on the Mayors agenda.
Opportunities for providing feedback need to extend beyond attending a single forum. A variety of formats and times need to be made available
some but a lot less long term policy focus (less than 10 to 15 years unless it is funded)
Yes listening to voters and not pushing their own agenda like Gondek and the hateful 8.
Utility bills have become outrageous! I heard the Mayor discussing fees on the utility bill and said "turns out Calgary is the only city doing it this way" so it will be fixed. BUT NOT UNTIL 2027 WHY IS IT GOING TO TAKE THAT LONG. IF YOUVE BEEN DOING IT WRONG GET IT FIXED NOW, NOT THREE YEARS FROM NOW!!!
Attend meetings with community associations versus special interest groups.
Work together as a group and not try to tarnish reputations.
Stop wasting time and money. It's taxpayers dollars that pay your salary, and most of you are completely useless.
It's important to listen to Calgarians and not proceed with their own agendas. For example declaring an Environmental Emergency, deciding on blanket rezoning, and giving less funding to police when crime is increasing.
Counsel should not go ahead with their own agenda if it is against the constituents Wishes and needs

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Listening to what Calgarians want and do something about it. I'm sick of councillors pushing their own foolish agendas. We need to get the city over spending under control and stop pushing your woke ideologies that divide people and communities.
Supporting or opposing motions based in what is actually good for the residents of their riding
Educating the population on what it is to be a councillor.
don't act arrogant and spew: You voted for us to make decisions for you.
Seriously this is a joke. My council member can't do any of the tasks above. Penner is too afraid. She blocks everyone who doesn't agree with her. BRUTAL AND EMBARRASSING!!
JUST STICK TO THE BASICS, NO NEED TO COMPLICATE THE RUNNING OF OUR CITY.
Sure, how about you guys fix the damn roads?
We're not doing a good job of problem definition. Why would we develop policy if we don't have a good problem definition and understanding of the problem to begin with? Talking with residents and getting photographed with residents is NOT going to solve the problem. The City does not know how to do proper engagement and they seem to have NO interest in improving true engagement. You guys are wasting tax payers money.
Open doors! Not closing them.
To follow through on what they campaigned on and to listen to the citizens in their ward.
Represent & act on our behalf and stop inserting their own agenda. Attend community meetings to understand the community and constituencies (wards) concerns. Stay within budget. Ensure fiscal responsibility. Engage in the community. Our community needs more policing. Councillors should work with the police to discover the individual needs of their wards because Ogdens needs are different than Pump Hill.
Listen to the people. Axe the 15 minute cities
Managing their administrators better, and more hands on in City operations.
ACTUALLY listen to the calgarians. They are all in it for themselves at this point.
Reach out to constituents!!!!!!!

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
be available
Not push WEF ideologies. We can see right through.
All Councillors must act morally and without influence by non Calgary residents. They must value and appreciate Calgarians are who they work for. Unfortunately, at this time, the majority of our City Councillors have gone "woke" and are compromised by the Liberal/NDP/hamas ideologies. The role now, is to listen to Calgarians by asking the Mayor to resign, and stop blanket rezoning and call a plebiscite. Then immediately reverse course on the single use plastic bylaw, remove the false climate emergency, remove the censorship bylaw and immediately not allow biological men to change in female change rooms.
First and foremost, be honest about your intentions to run for council! Be fiscally responsible and adhere to the budgets in your portfolio and the city as a hole
Drop ridiculous 'blanket' zoning! Each development deserves to be heard on merit and each member of the community, especially neighbours in close proximity. Blanket zoning is lazy and won't solve the housing issues
Not just meeting with residents, actually following through on what they want. This council does not listen to Calgarians. They may meet with them but they vote on their own personal agendas.
Stop selling out the people of Calgary to the WEF and world health organization. Stop committing Treason and start actually doing your job . Represent the people of Calgary
They must listen to us. That's their job.
Focus on those 4 roles, and stay out of the gender politics and stop playing the victim. You wanted that role, represent the majority not the minority.
Municipal government has municipal scope. Take care of the things you are responsible and no more. "Saving the planet" is not part of the legislation regulating municipalities. The Federal government has nothing to do with municipalities, and as such, the two have no business talking to each other
Stop following what Justin Trudeau and Victoria or California are passing and stay in your lane - deal with Calgary issues
They should do what is right for Calgary is the reason they were elected not follow the Major agenda and become the hateful 8

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
SHOW UP in the ward! Not just at community association meeting but maybe rotate coffee days or something similar. There are Tim's in EVERY community in the Ward...Show...your...face and LISTEN/inform!
My #1 for a counsellor would to communicate with their wards residents with what is happening at City Hall and to advocate on behalf of those residents. And as I see it NOT ONE of them does this!
Getting their heads out of their [removed]! Instead of taxing us to death, how about using a realistic budget and staying within it! Learn math! Take a pay cut! Can't wait for the next election, they will all be out of jobs!
Have an independent mind, keep the concerns in your ward foremost. Do not vote in cliques. Listen to rezoning concerns and reject rezoning.
Not charge for parking in front of our own house's!!!!!!!!!! Stop ripping old unique houses for infills
Stop bullying Calgarians. Actually listen. Stop agreeing with everything the mayor wants. She is hot mess and her policies are horrific to the city.
Councilors need to represent the people. Too many just vote with the mayor
Focus on running the city. Clear snow. Fix potholes. Repair broken street lights. The things the city is supposed to focus on.
Listen to what people want, not what City Council wants.
Non partisanship in protests etc, active participation in ward
Resolve local conflicts, represent the people in the community when they are subjects of poor city policy/decision
Remember that you represent us as an elected official, that does not mean you can ignore your constituents, especially making policies that will adversely affect us
Show up and do their job. Stop taking kickbacks from developers
Find ways to better capture resident sentiment on major policy issues beyond sending emails and showing up for a single council meeting. Support building a system that allows for the collection of sentiment and making the results public and transparent, ie. a system where residents are polled, based on their tax roll ID. A single respondent per residence.

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
1. Stop the genocide in Gaza. 2. Start free parking in hospitals.
Again, to the Hateful 8, just drop the Socialist Woke BS and do you damn jobs!
See first comment
Communicate what the residents who elected you to council instead of your own agenda
What council decides to do should be based on what the majority wants, not just what a teeny tiny majority wants. Also obey the Constitution of Canada and the Bill of Rights. Any bills proposed that do not follow the guidance of the majority and the laws of the land are inconsequential.
Focus on the role's duties; do not bring other agendas to council.
To uphold a higher standard of integrity and honesty than the general public.
Having local meetings interestingly is not listed above. That tell me you do NOT want to hear from us.
Keep their personal agendas at home. They weren't elected on their personal agendas!
Listen to us and fight for our rights.
To be well informed about the subject on which they are voting.
Your jobs are to protect and enhance the community for those that live within it. People that are residing in communities have purposefully moved there to enjoy a quality of life they BUILT through hard work and effort. Yes people deserve a roof over their head, if they want a specific roof then they need to go out work for it and earn it. If they cannot afford it immediately then they need to work their way up. Getting hands out from the government sets a horrible precedence that people do not have to put forth the necessary effort to earn better things in life. It is artificial manipulation to gain votes and for councillors to maintain employment and earn their taxpayer paid pension. Bottom line, listen closely to the constituents and read between the lines of what they want for themselves, their families and children. Understand how success is created and realize that success is not something that is yours to take from those who have worked for it and give to those who may not be able to create it.
Development of future plans, looking for ways to reduce taxes and eliminate services that only benefit special interest groups.
Pay attention. Don't just go along with whatever the mayor says and wants. Sometimes pushback is required if you are properly representing your constituents.

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Budgeting. The tax increases in recent years and proposed in the coming years clearly demonstrate a system both out of control regarding spending and completely out of touch with their constituents cost of living pain
wish there was an effective way to get all public input not just the loudest voices/ small number of complainers in the room. Long-term planning for our city is more important than short term gains.
Set up meetings in communities listening to our issues and concerns. Stop using the standard response use 311. Stop using just your opinion
LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE WHO ELECTED YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE. DON'T SHOVE YOUR OVER RULING DECISIONS ONTO US WITH NO VOICE. DON'T PRETEND TO ENGAGE US AND DO WHATEVER THE HELL YOU WANT AS YOU HAVE BEEN DOING. BRING THINGS TO A VOTE AND LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE. ALSO, REVERSE THE DAMN PAY FOR A BAG AT A DRIVE THRU. STUPIDITY AT ITS FINEST.
Councillors should represent the interests of their constituents...ie. not ceding parks to developers IE. Glenmore Landin;...the horribly undemocratic rezoning plan.
Attending meetings involving important issues.
Again, think big picture, and long term. Carefully consider actions that are affecting the tax payers. An example is the re-zoning. It's not going to create affordable housing, but it will create a lack of trees, sunlight, parking. Each area needs to be considered carefully. And FYI - this is a driving city, period. Stop putting bike lanes above the needs of the drivers - downtown is a mess and not enough parking. And I'm a cyclist!!! I cannot believe the crap that's moved forward. No parking, what there is, is too expensive. Nobody wants to be down there. This is affecting businesses, moral, and the energy of the city. It's terrible. Stop showboating by doing things that are considered "good" or politically correct. Do what works, for this city, in this climate. Our transit is not effective, families will never take transit to hockey practice, etc., so many of the issues facing Calgary taxpayers are the need for these councillors to look good on the world scene. Same issue with our current PM. Enough already! Just work to make a better place for everyone - this means focussing on the needs of everyone over the needs of the few. Seems to be the other way around these days. Affordable housing is doable, but not the way you're doing it. Increase the police force NOW - whatever has to be done on that front, do it.
Actually focus on what is best for the citizens of Calgary over the long term. Calgary is a great city that deserves a competent, honest municipal government that does not need to rely on propaganda (like the Green Line mis-communications team) to pretend this government is doing an acceptable job.

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Properly represent us and advocate for what we are saying at the city level
Be open to other ideas.
Listen to the people who voted them in
Instead of communicating with Calgary residents, just shutup and listen for a change.
Stand up to what your constituents want, not be swayed by big business or other councillors.
Advocate for spending tax dollars more efficiently. Do not let unelected city officials dictate the policy agenda
Focus more on the wards concerns, viewpoints and wishes in decision making. The councillor has the opportunity to draw on the knowledge and expertise of ward constituents if they were more engaged with the community.
listen t the residents and don't vote based on their sole opinion
Be the voice of your community, not of your own or council only voices
Actually listen to residents who are affected by policies and do NOT assume that those who say nothing are in agreement and are the majority.
Seek ways to eliminate waste and perhaps approach 'budgetary' discussions like they are managing their own \$. That would be a novel idea.
None
Realistically live within the majority of your constituents in order to represent them to Council colleagues living within other constituencies.
Studying and developing policy, based on the feedback from the citizens.
Represent the majority of constituents and take those concerns forward to City
Council needs to listen to their citizens not just promote their activist agendas. Need to get back to providing CORE services in a cost effective manner. There are too many high priced communicators, strategists, coordinators, supervisors, etc. that add no value to the core needs of citizens.
Listen to constituents!!!! They voted for you. Represent their needs. Particularly Kourtney Penner.

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
<p>Representing what ward residents want, not what Mayor & WEF wants. This Councillor is representing herself & her political party & views, not us. Councillors should have to reveal their political affiliations & provide, in writing, their detailed stances on many City issues affecting their Ward during election. Not spring new impactful issues after the fact - i.e. still have not told us truth about making our City a "15-MInute City", true impact & destroying our freedoms.</p>
<p>Councillors should be focused on the basic needs of our city to make essential services better. Roads should be a priority, addressing increased crime and rising drug problems. City councillors do not need to be focused on Provincial or Federal problems.</p>
<p>Replying to phone calls from ward</p>
<p>Control city spending.</p>
<p>Represent Calgary residents even if they disagree with the majority.</p>
<p>Use common sense in decision making. Be independent</p>
<p>Collaborating to create and promote innovation in our communities to bring Calgary further ahead.</p>
<p>stand up to council - less overcrowding / population and building in established neighborhoods</p>
<p>Represent their constituents not just vote in a block to get the needs of the councillors passed</p>
<p>Actually listening to the people they are paid to represent</p>
<p>Seek input from her constituents.</p>
<p>Each community might have different needs. Its important for the councillor to represent their specific community</p>
<p>The City Councillors need to listen to what the people are saying. They need to represent us. The Councillors need to stop talking about rezoning and the Bowness Berm.</p>
<p>Push back on bandwagon thinking and unwelcome policies from other sources in local government.</p>
<p>Look at yourself, your education and qualifications and be honest about whether you have the necessary expertise and skills to do the job. I think most of you are there for the pay cheques, expense allowances, travel and pensions. And of course to proclaim taht you know best.</p>
<p>Stick to city matters</p>

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Listen. Listen. Listen. Don't think got us. Listen.
Understanding and representing their constituent communities
Acting in good faith on behalf of the constituents they represent as opposed to pandering to big business
They need to act on what their constituents want not on their own personal views or opinions.
Represent your constituents, not the PAC money that funded your election campaign whose interests are not those of your constituents.
Following through on their actual campaign promises.
Listening to the majority of citizens. Personal feelings should be exempt from decisions.
speaking up
Survey local residents about what's important to them. Online surveys
We have a council that has gone completely rogue. I've never seen this in Calgary before. The majority of them follow together and they do not care how their constituents feel. They use propaganda in their policies and decisions because we hear their policies and we ask them to put them in action, they decide to do the opposite. It's all pointless rhetoric. They twist words to suit their own narrative and nothing they do represents the public. They should be ashamed of themselves.
Fight for us, stop letting votes pass that will cause our neighborhoods more issues.
Stop spending money!! Look to cutting spending from the City.
A councillor should vote to help their constituents. It shouldn't matter to a councillor if there is a grand, woke plan by other councillors and the mayor. Stand your ground and make sure the people in your area are properly represented
I feel it is important for council members to represent their constituents. If a councillor receives a lot of communication about a motion, the councillor should vote the way the constituents indicate they want. Rogue Councillors or Mayors are ineffective at representing the people, which translates into a lack of confidence from the citizens and poor work.
Find ways to save money, spend less and avoid tax increases.

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<p>In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?</p>
<p>Divide and solve local problems through the ward councilors. I am not seeing a bunch of progress with what should be a obvious strategy. It seems problems are being identified by council rather than by residents. Those that are trying to make sensible decisions and direction are being outvoted by the bad. Single use plastics/bag and this blanket rezoning are good examples. Meanwhile I see 20 accidents including deaths at a intersection near my house and the city is unable to implement simple changes after YEARS of trying to get it more safe. Shame.</p>
<p>Represent the needs, wants and values of the people, not their own personal ideological whims or beliefs.</p>
<p>BE PRESENT AND COMMUNICATE WITH EVERYONE NOT A SELECT FEW IN THE COMMUNITY</p>
<p>I think that an effective Councillor has to know what her/his ward's residents' concerns and views are before anything else.</p>
<p>Studying & developing policy...</p>
<p>Listen to the people who pay your wages. Put your personal beliefs and opinions away Park your ego at the door.</p>
<p>To interact with their constituents, be seen and be active in the community.</p>
<p>Listen to the people</p>
<p>Take it back to a democratic level. The councillors must remember they represent their constituents. They are the messenger and should not have the final say when it goes against what the majority of the people want.</p>
<p>Calgarians have been crystal clear that they want more transparency in government, and more fiscal responsibility. Many promises were made on both of these fronts, however we currently have the least fiscally responsible, and least transparent need to spell government in the entire history of the city, and possibly the worst in Canada. I feel that it should be responsibility in city council to get the budget under control, and stop hiding in closed door meetings.</p>
<p>Studying development policies, communication with residents and helping residents solve problems.</p>
<p>Advocating on behalf of residents in their ward in Council and Committee meetings.</p>

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Direction to the City bureaucracy to follow the directions of council as communicated from constituents
To be honest, our current municipal government, including our Councillor, is embarrassing. There is a lot of waste and corruption in plain sight (the Platform building is utter nonsense, the Green Line financial train wreck, destroying the River Run homes to enrich a developer, etc.). This government, if it cares about citizens, needs a massive overhaul in order to achieve baseline competence and integrity.
Ensuring city policies are not driven by special interest groups, specifically those looking to circumvent our democratic process. A perfect example of a failure on this front is a group of our “representatives” aligning to deliver the socialist agenda of a federal party without first meaningfully engaging the citizens of Calgary. A public hearing (held when most taxpayers are at work) presided over by those seeking to implement the agenda is not sufficient - none of you ran a campaign that included blanket rezoning.
To stand up for minority groups such as the LGBTQ2S+ community and making every Calgarian feel welcomed in the city they live in. Also fighting for a higher minimum wage standard and rent control within the city so that citizens are not living pay check to pay check.
Provide objective feedback and “both sides” perspectives of arguments, regardless of personal viewpoints.
Our counselor does not listen to anyone. Does not respond to emails or phone calls and always sides against the residents.
Councillors need to understand how to effectively manage The City's budget rather than constantly approving money for pet projects of The City's administration.
Ensuring basic responsibilities and duties are met. ie. roads, police etc
Cease the advancement of any UN goals. Think and act LOCAL.
Stop participating in advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals
Representing their ward and spending allocations within their ward
Listening to residents concerns with an open mind and responding with answers. Explain the City budget in a manner that people understand. Answer questions do not defray

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Be open to alternate views and ways of doing things. Being a member of council is providing primarily social services (police, health, roads, etc.) not being partisan to a specific political philosophy. We pay taxes and want value for the money.
Acting on our concerns to better our lives here in Calgary, not calling us names if we don't agree with the councillors opinion who is trying to please some far off organization
Leave their ideology at home.
advocating and educating their constituents on complex topics (with honesty)
Councillor roles should be to communicate to residents the benefits of policies suggested by public policy experts, not to make up their own policies. Leave the policy making to the experts.
Be seen. Come to local events.
Listening to resident needs and acting on their behalf.
Actually listen to citizens. For years this municipal government has been incompetent yet acts with arrogance daily. The blanket rezoning is a good example. Taking certainty away from homeowners, regarding the character of their community, in favour of developers increasing density in an ad hoc manner based on short term profit is clearly not a good idea. After much propaganda and fake engagement, this Council will approve this bad idea while celebrating how great they are. Calgary is a great city that deserves a municipal government that actually listens to and serves citizens in a competent, respectful manner. Change is needed.
None off the tip of my tongue
The most important role is to represent the constuents not just pushing forward with their own agenda
Remove Fluoride Off the table, water a natural source for people should never be voted on and should be kept clean and free of added chemicals like Fluoride
Instead of saying there is nothing they can do about a particular thing, maybe get more involved in solutions and what they can do to change things so they can offer a solution
Stop stepping out of your boundaries as a Judiciary government. Get rid of the 40 kilometer per hour zones they cause road rage due to the fact that people don't understand when it's 40 so they do 40 and 60 zones they do 40 and 70 zones and cause road rage dump the 40K speed limit it's [removed]

After the Ballot

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
The most important is to stop the waste, red tape, and killing the homeowners and businesses owners with taxes. Stop this woke agenda and being so ignorant and greedy saying things like defund the police. Look at the crime in our city now and you all are to blame
I would suggest a councillor would be unable to adequately help residents solve specific problems if they have not met with the residents on a regular basis to understand the problems to begin with. These 2 piece should go together.
Not just off hand.
Asking residents what local issues are important to them, and if they care about the lobbyist talking points that council regularly hears from special internet groups.
Councillors should be advocating for their residents as well as helping solve specific problems and meeting with us!
Listen to your residents
Focus on the ward specific issues and concerns
Councillors have to take the view of the residents of there ward and the whole of Calgary to all level of government and not have there own agenda.
Communicating in a transport manner.
Advocating on behalf of their Constituents at City Council also feels pretty critical and it doesn't always just involve policy or the Province. How about adding "spending taxpayer dollars responsibly on behalf of their Ward constituents" to this list of options? Because right now, it appears Council is looking for a blank cheque from taxpayers.
Stop the woke policies Do the right thing
The most important role is to represent residents and reject foreign radical agenda.
"Meeting and communicating with Calgary Residents" misses the critical point of "Listening to Calgary Residents". Our council needs to start working a lot harder to actually understand what the majority of constituents find important for this city, and then acting on that. It seems that once the votes are counted and the council is elected the council dies what "they" want to do, and not what their constituents want them to do.
Communicate what is going on in council and receive input from constituents

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Hold city administration accountable to doing work in house and stop contracting out so much work. Eg engineering design. Too much money is spent on engineering companies.
Have Courtney get off his butt for once
Councillors should invest more effort in understanding when residents want and should be involved more directly in decisions. The rezoning is a clear case where the city should recognize that there is significant public interest in the discussion but council have taken it upon themselves to sideline residents from the discussion.
Standing up for the residents that voted them in.
Sandstone drive and sandarac drive corner with Chevron... needs lights, 4 way stop, anything!!! It's madness seeing so many almost collisions, and people running the stop Sign.. or even running OVER the stop sign... check 311!! We've reported it so many times. Surveys are wrong, we actually need the upgrade to anything. Even a round about would be perfect!
Community engagement and advocacy for communities they represent in municipal politics. I feel the communities are under represented or mis represented. Sometimes one size fits all policy is not the answer and a councillor should recognize and advocate for their communities
Having enough staff to do all 4 - as well as making it clear where City staff exist to provide expertise
Reduce spending now it's out of hand. All you people know how to do is increase taxes
more emphasis on REDUCING taxes which are way too high and not under control
Respond to emails and actually vote how constituents would like them to vote.
Not overstep their boundaries..adhere to their campaign promises to represent the people. Councillor's serve the people...we don't serve the Councillor's.....
Communication cannot be overstated but needs to be 2 way... speaking but more importantly, LISTENING.
note vote with a left or right wing party agenda, represent your specific constituents, be respectful to constituents
Being the voice of the actual wishes of Calgary residents, as opposed to only representing their own political agendas and leanings.
Represent the people of their ward. Advocate for their people, be their voice at council.
listen to input of residents

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Solicit input and feedback from constituents
Make decisions that are in tune with residents. Listen.
Return calls. I complained to Tyler Shandro our Health Minister at the time that Ward 11 does not return calls. He reply she doesn't return my calls either! Attend community open house meetings. Listen to her constituents.
Being available to the residents of their constituency to answer questions and resolve issues.
Being a voice for people who can't come to council and a councillor should spend time thinking of the best interest of all calgarians
Advocating for constituents on city business as they were elected to do. Councillors should not be promoting their personal agendas or pet projects
They need to stay out of peoples business. This bylaw regarding trees is so hypocritical especially when Gondek is shoving blanket rezoning down everyone's throats and the inner city will changed into a concrete jungle.
Represent your constituents! Not your personal ideology or vote as part of a pack on council. They should not be a puppet of the mayor, other councilors, the unions or developers. Like the Hateful Eight appear to be.
The most basic premise is that the councillor is to represent the opinions and feedback of those people living in his/her ward. The is the overlying principal. If the councillor has this basic value, then all of the above should fall into place. No one understands a specific community better than those who reside in it. Again, in referring to the "Hateful Eight", these councillors ignore what they hear from people in their respective wards.
do what the people of calgary want, not what they think should happen.
Clearly write down and share the rationale for why they are voting a certain way
Listen to constituents

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Stay OUT of matters that should never be government regulated or mandated. Stick to running our great city and making it a safe and joyful place to live. Also, if you want this to be a city that includes all and does not exclude anyone then don't try and fix the problem by excluding all races except indigenous. That is like trying to solve a problem by doing the exact same thing that caused it but doing it to a different race. Include everyone, period. No one ever did a job posting or public art call and said 'no indigenous black LGBTQ apply' but now you have programs that exclude everyone that doesn't fall into these demographics. Or you say you will give preferential treatment to certain groups. That's wrong. Offer everyone the assistance to succeed if the desire it. Stop prejudicial against Caucasian n others who don't fall into your categories of marginalized. Just provide opportunity and help applying if needed to level the playing field. Maybe resumes should be edited into numbers in HR so you Choose to hire applicant 1 or 8 and not look at their race or see. This way the best applicants get the jobs and you aren't hiring to appease some agenda of including X # of non Caucasian hires.
Actually listen to their constituents, and reply to concerns
City of Calgary budget is in the multiple millions of dollars so Councillors should be able to speak & participate knowledgeably on budget and financial matters and NOT just vote with the "pack" but have reasonable and thoughtful personal contributions.
It's important they are all present for big voting decisions. When written communications come from Community Center's conveying what they want for their communities that council take more time for complete investigation and try to bring about a win-win. I guess you would call it problem solving and more engagement.
Meeting and communicating with residents. Helping residents resolve specific problems and issues. Listening and supporting is the most important, we know our communities.
Advocating to lower taxes.
Listening to the Ward instead of pushing their own personal views. More often they push their own agenda, after lying to get elected, such as Gondek and Mian.
Vote based on what their constituents want. Not based on their personal options.
Represent their constituents, not their own personal ideas.
Voting in alignment with majority feedback in their ward.
Keep political party affiliation out of local politics. It's toxic and it will narrow the field.
Take responsibility for their actions instead of always playing the blame game "blame the province" "blame the feds".

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Listen to the public and make decisions based on community. Start making decisions about what is happening now and start caring about the heritage of this city before it is all gone. Start taking care of the land and all living things rather than build build build.
Do not always blame administration when unpopular decisions are made
These choices are too limiting. Developing policy requires meeting and communicating with Calgary residents and can help (or cause) problems. Councillors need to meet with their constituents to understand their needs so that the policies that are developed include their communities. Developing policy without involving residents serves to alienate.
Seriously how is this a question??? Residents first. Stop hiring staff that only agree with your views. Your right if no one stands up. Residents vote. Look at your populous and decide how popular you got in. If not 100% then work harder to satisfy your residents. Pathetic.
Understanding and carrying out their fiduciary duty to their stakeholders and constituents
They should be standing up for their communities and residents, and putting forward motions that support their constituents.
Working with other Councillors for common goals
Stop chasing personal agendas like "a climate crisis" and do their job maintaining the city.
Take our views to City Hall and fight for us.
I think more than anything, just listen to their constituents and act in a way that reflects this. Ward 8 councillor has said that it's not his job to represent his constituents, it's his job to do what is best for Calgary. This is completely wrong- his ONLY job should be to represent his constituents.
Councillor need to LISTEN to their constituents they are there to represent our needs and NOT THEIR OWN !! They need to REMEMBER where the money they are frivolously spending actually comes from....
Start to be honest, transparent and accountable.
Advocacy to other levels of Government is also very important
To engage their constituents in decision making process. Stop these surveys where they are designed to have a particular outcome, limited in questions and answers.
Providing city services in the most economical and efficient manner.
A councillor must never exclude another councillor from meeting and must not engage in secret meetings with other councillor or the mayor.

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Transparency in decision making and respecting constituents right to vote on significant city wide rezoning issue.
Conduct REAL public consultation.. Currently we have public information sessions. The decision has been taken and the meetings justify the decision...there is no genuine requests for public input in shaping the decisions.
Fix Calgarians problems everything else should stem to that and if it doesn't it needs to go to city employees.
Work with city planners Re future recommendations and communicate that to Ward residents.
Should be focused on their ward needs and wants, not virtue signaling global causes
Councillors need to make sure that administration is giving them REAL substantive information and not just the information administration wants them to see because it suits the agenda of administration and the unions.
Yes, be very professional and do their job, advocate for the people, not just collect a paycheck accept yearly raises while raising taxes and user fees. They should have to come out into their communities MORE and engage with us the people who may or may not have elected them. NOT just THINK that 'oh, this is what my constituent's want' and think that it is ok to just do what THEY the councilor wants.
LOCAL CITY councilors should be focused EXCLUSIVELY on their wards. Their job is to represent the residents who voted AND those who did not vote for them. All of these new councilors came in with their own causes, mandates and agendas and have focused their time and energy on massive global issues like climate change, housing, immigration, trans rights, war and race, which are the jurisdiction of OTHER levels of government that we also already fund with our taxes, - meanwhile issues like garbage, traffic, safety, speeding, parks, recreation are chronically underfunded and ignored! I have a light bulb on my street that has been burnt out for 5 months!!! I've reported it to the streetlight outage and 311 and no one cares! But somehow we have 80 BILLION for climate change! Honestly Trudeau is pouring buckets of money into that - I want my city councilors focused on our wards and neighbourhoods.
Listening to Ward residents and taking the concerns forward to where they need to be solved.
They need to actually represent the views of their constituents and reply to citizens who reach out.
Council is under mediated and council should be paid more attention to.

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
My current councillor spends an inordinate amount of time liaising with the Alberta MLA for Calgary-Shaw and the Canadian MP for Calgary-Midnapore, further demonstrating his inability to separate his political beliefs and allegiances from what should be non-partisan representation of Calgarians and their needs. The councillor would do well to stay in his lane and not continue to grandstand with representatives for levels of government outside of his wheelhouse.
Explain decisions and votes.
Be honest and represent the people who live in their ward.
Maybe have an open house once a month for people to voice their opinion during hours that working people can attend. That is their job to listen and work for the people isn't ?
Saving citizens money.
Quit always blaming other levels of government for shortfalls. In the end it always the taxpayer that suffers whether municipal, provincial or federal.
I think it is important for councilors to have a clear understanding of their role. They should not be asking to hold plebiscites rather than making tough decisions that fall within their purview. They should have a more solid grasp on the details and responsibilities of the job they have been elected to do.
know and respond to the people they are to represent
advocate for Calgary as a city first, and the ward second
Get costs down. Get the tax increases under control
Representation of ward and Calgary in a positive way.
Collective governance, including engaging in thoughtful, bi-partisan debate with other Councillors and the Mayor
Act in the interest of the people, not the special interest groups that have their ear
Be visible to constituents. If the only time you hear anything from your ward councillor is at election time they are ineffective at their main job as representative of their ward. They are making all decisions based on their own bias.
Take the tax hikes and stop them. Look at areas where the budget needs trimming not at areas that are so out of line with reality that they are ridiculous.
Maintaining independence from political party involvement

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
LISTENING My councilor and the mayor do not listen. When questioned "it's complicated" implying that we are too stupid to understand is the response. This is beyond condescending, stop being so condescending and listen.
Be honest!
List doesn't include advocating on behalf of citizens on Calgary matters! Most important job
Protect our investments in our homes, our neighborhoods.
Councillors need to work with city administrators to figure out how the city can provide services to Calgarians in the most cost effective matter possible, even if that means cutting administrators.
Unfortunately, Council (including the Mayor) is an extreme left wing (socialist/liberal) entity, so all of the above is not applicable.
The vast majority of Council's role is deciding on land use matters. Policy matters, but they need to learn more about land use planning.
I don't think that Council can advocate for Calgary residents unless they meet with their constituents.
Being a leader is hard. Understandable. But you were elected to do a job. Make decisions stick to them. Be a leader and don't bow to the wishes of a select elite few or lobbyists.
Articulate their personal position or attitude on fundamental issues such as fiscal management (ie fiscally conservative or liberal), or whether they have hardened beliefs that would be impossible for those they represent to sway (e.g. upzoning to increase housing and affordability).
Represent Calgarians and not just their own agenda (specially speaking of our mayor).
Clarification on the not very important ranking for provincial and federal advocacy. I believe the councilor should work together to craft the message then have a single representative bring it to these other levels of Government (preferably through advocacy groups the federation of Canadian Municipalities
Representing the views of their constituents and not thinking they know better. They are elected to represent not to rule.
Education.
Listening to experts and City staff. Making decisions.

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Councillors effectively serve as the Board of Directors of the city. As such they should direct city managers and administrators as to the overall focus of city priorities. Not just blindly accept what is put in front of them by bureaucrats.
Representatives of the city at local events.
Focus on core municipal responsibilities rather than things that are not important for daily living in Calgary and not in their jurisdiction. This could be aided by actually listening to Calgarians.
I would like to say meeting and communicating with residents, but the truth is that most of the time these efforts lead to skewed visions of who their constituents are because certain types of people tend to show up at town halls and public engagement sessions, while others face barriers to access do not get heard. Councillors need to focus on developing a deep understanding of the impacts of the decisions they are asked to make and this includes proactively seeking to understand how these decisions impact people who don't regularly show up to engagements or contact their offices. It also includes figuring out ways to proactively obtain feedback from under-represented people to better understand their experiences.
Not constantly raise taxes which is hurting many people. They have to spend more efficiently and question why spending should increase.
Balance the desires of their communities with the needs of the city and the world which the city resides on
Let's be honest, the people who run for Council are generally not people who should be running a major business or government. These people should be focusing on ensuring the garbage is collected on time and focusing on spending within our means. Instead, Council has a misplaced arrogance and acts like it has a more lofty goal of changing the world and is willing to waste all kinds of taxpayer money to benefit themselves and City insiders. This municipal government has been badly failing citizens for many years.
Not to work for developers Listen to what citizens want
Build knowledge and take immediate action of what's in front of you now, not what you think, or others think it will be in the future. Critically think things thru. If you can't or need support then think if this job is really for you.
Study the long term effects of policies enacted by different jurisdictions. (Especially ones done to fix problems Calgary is facing)

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
<p>They need to time to engage citizens. We have had many contentious topics, that the city declined to plebiscite. If we are not going to have plebiscites, the councilors need to better represent the peoples needs, instead of their own agendas and needs. We are the people that put them in power.</p>
<p>None that come to mind immediately</p>
<p>As my current councillor does none of these I shudder to think what would happen if the list above was made any longer</p>
<p>understand and communicate the specific needs of their part of the city - the city is not homogenous!</p>
<p>Staying in contact with their constituents</p>
<p>respect for all, to listen to their people not their own agenda or the WEF agenda</p>
<p>I think communities should be addressed individually and not all put under one umbrella</p>
<p>Once a quarter the councillor should drive their entire ward and take notes on what is good or bad and what they need to take action on. rather than sitting in an office, The roads, sidewalks, buildings, homes , boulevards, etc Tress hanging over roads that will break and cause damage. etc.</p>
<p>Councillors need to represent the city and citizens where the objective is to present the city's economic/social benefits to newcomers and new business opportunities. Calgary needs to be promoted as a destination for business in competition with other locations in and outside Alberta.</p>
<p>Having an office that is accessible to the public that is open to the public and can speak with their councillor on issues that are special to Calgary as well as issues that are at a federal level and would benefit or require a councillor to advocate on a residents behalf. A councillor is a vital link to a resident reaching a solution to a vast array of problems.</p>
<p>Live within the ward they represent and spend time there so they understand the people they represent</p>
<p>Be open and easily engaged with residents.</p>
<p>Increase the quality of life in the short and long term for residents</p>
<p>Take active roles in the community they represent. This way they can be engaged and have a good pulse on the needs of their constituents.</p>
<p>collaborate to get things done</p>

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<p>In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?</p>
<p>By being more responsive</p>
<p>Educating themselves about urban issues outside the context of Calgary and even Alberta. Understand what other places are doing and look at the data supporting best practices for investments in infrastructure like transit.</p>
<p>Meet with local elementary schools see the help they need for coded students</p>
<p>It's a total sham. Starting with Developers colluding with the City and City Council against citizens. How absolutely ridiculous that the City thinks it's ok to put Developers in charge of their own Engagement processes. What a complete joke! Conspiracy, corruption & collusion!!</p>
<p>Ensure that the community associations within each ward are actually contributing to the community in a meaningful way.</p>
<p>Show up, listen, and consult before implementing policy changes</p>
<p>Creating new programs. Coming up with solutions for the housing crisis</p>
<p>Working as a team with other Councillors and the Mayor in a civil manner.</p>
<p>Supporting residents on planning issues.</p>
<p>Have more of a say in developing the City budget.</p>
<p>Listen and do as constituents wish not what they want</p>
<p>Responsible financial stewardship and accountability to electorate. No personal agendas.</p>
<p>Stop pushing the man-made climate change agenda. It is based on a lie. The majority of us have never asked our city council to forward this agenda and do not appreciate it being foisted on us after the fact. If someone wants to be elected, do not say one thing to get elected, then do something completely different after being elected.</p>
<p>I think it is a combination of all of the above. There is no one focus point would be my thoughts, but many focal points, as running a city takes the input of everyone who lives and pays the taxes for the city to operate effectively. The job of the Alder person and the Mayor is of course having the best interest of the citizens who live in the city.</p>
<p>Stay OUT of the pockets of developers!</p>
<p>Be leaders with integrity, dedication and compassion not persons looking to score points, nor play to a select audience or group who help get you elected. Respect your constituents and remember many are struggling. Don't play politics. Your role is to be builders not destroyers, consensus not divisiveness,</p>

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Being an advocate for the needs and concerns of our area
Reflecting on their roles and relationships with those who elected them.
To remember they represent the city as well as their community.
Directly communicating council activities and conversations with their constituents.
Represent the Ward and City as a role model for the next generation.
The current council does not have the interests of the voters and citizens of Calgary. Frankly they are not capable nor competent to be a council member. Calgary needs to ensure anyone running for a municipal position meets and has the qualification to run.
I think it is important for councillors to directly address issues... rather than the red-tape ridden city hall model that sees a conversation about IF something should be brought forward... and IF it is... there's a discussion on IF there should be a vote. City hall truly needs to cut down on delays and red tape. So much time and money is being wasted... while minimal solutions have been brought forward
Advocate for their ward. Forget doing the provinces job of social services.
Holding town halls on issues important to residents, with recorded minutes and results.
A councilor should be removed or quit when they are involved in kicking a vehicle on the corner of 9th Street and Centre Avenue NE Calgary. The Mayor should do the same when they are the most unpopular in Calgary's history. No recall needed.
A Councillors job is to keep basic City services running ... keep streetlights lit, potholes filled, garbage collected, police staffed appropriately. Councillors SHOULD NOT shove their social he/she/thou/them pronouns down our throats and ruin neighborhoods with blanket R-CG rezoning.
govern the administrative decisions
They are stewards of the City funds - DO NOT WASTE them! INSTRUCT the City Administration to apply cost control and contract management (e.g. repaving 17th Ave SW or 33rd Ave SW, 3 times is not good for financial sustainability not for the environment, yet, the Administration do not hesitate to spend money on that!
Advocating for residents in a quick and timely manner
Allocating the budget appropriately.

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In addition to the four roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Not signing petitions that are funded by UCP lobbyists/activists.
stopping waste of city resources (i.e., responsibly using the tax dollars of constituents) - do actual cost benefit analyses to ensure that there aren't unintended costs and consequences.
No, I think these four roles cover it.
Yes, provide more guidance for how long-term plans are made. For example, a feedback sheet will ask "which is your favourite mode of transportation" and residents will respond with "biking" or "walking". This will then show up in a transportation plan as eliminating parking requirements. Residents were not asked if they had cars, they were asked how they liked to get around, not how they DID get around. It is disingenuous to ask for feedback when people do not understand the implications and long-term impacts of their response. A good councillor can help to clarify what is being asked and how long-term plans impact them. Another example, asking about "sprawl", and then implementing R-CG in inner city areas. Not the same question, and misleading to use the answer to one to respond to something different.
Transparently reporting on their thinking, planning, and activities such as: 1) the work they're engaged in, 2) why they voted the way they did, 3) what they have learned from recent engagements with the public, 4) what they think is important to the ward, and 5) how they will be implementing the ward's priorities.
promote the city for economic benefits and tourism
Monitor and direct the priorities and actions of the City of Calgary administration (through the City Manager) to ensure it is indeed delivering infrastructure and services the align with the wants and needs of everyday Calgarians. (Hint: The administration is failing badly at this, has been for many years and it is only getting worse!)
Stick to issues over which they have authority

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What ideas do you have for improving how Calgarians are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

Repeatedly explaining that any community association position should be consulted but that the CA does not have veto power in any situation

Every community is unique but should all be treated the same. We were annexed into the city ten plus years ago but the city does not really acknowledge that we exist. I have tried asking for a sidewalk along our main road and the answer is that I can pay for it, I pay city taxes but do not get a whole lot for my money.

Using online methods like this one to collect opinions and feedback more easily, frequently and efficiently aka Checking-in.

This government hides as much as it can behind closed doors. Transparency would reduce the waste and corruption.

Plebiscite on the blanket rezoning issue; revote on fluoride since it was snuck in at a very difficult time during the pandemic; more plebiscites in general and more engagement with constituents but most importantly, focus on your actual job not trying to change the basics to fit a global climate agenda

There used to be an engagement process with local communities regarding building decisions etc. Would be nice if local communities had more say again with council, rather than listening more to industries that have a conflict of interest with the policy decisions that council is making. Also, for those communities that put out local newsletters it would be good to have an update from our ward representative with highlights each month, as I don't know that the public always hears a lot about what is currently going on with council decisions. Otherwise, please stop talking down to Calgarians and telling us that we need to be "educated". Please listen to us!!

More transparency into how much union and other money is used to help elect Councillors.

Tying Ward office funding and staff resourcing to workload. Wards like 2, 3, 12, 13 and 14 have significantly lower workloads than wards like 7, 8, 9 and 11, with the others falling somewhere in between. Yet the lowest activity wards have the same resourcing as the busiest. This is inequitable and fails to recognise the quantity and complexity of issues in inner-city wards. Aside from that, increasing the number of wards SHOULD be an option. Calgary isn't a small city anymore...

Council members should have more engagement with the people they represent. They seem to have lost their way in this regard.

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What ideas do you have for improving how Calgarians are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

Massive change is needed. Calgarians deserve a functioning municipal government that understands that it exists to serve citizens, not the other way around. Citizens do not exist to serve the government but, unfortunately, the culture of this current municipal government does not seem to understand.

I think the issue is that councillors aren't spending enough time out in the field communicating in each ward. Ward 14 is very large so spending all their time in one community makes the rest of us feel like we are not important or that our opinions are not as relevant as other communities within the ward. At least 80% of their time should be spent in communities speaking to residents.

Stop relying on CAs as a method of public feedback (ideally dissolve them), change the public hearing process to remove the bias that comes with daytime meetings, etc.

Reducing the budget each councillor gets and reduce the staff they have at their disposal. Overall reduce the number of councillors from 14 to 8

A massive change is needed to make this government competent and effective. This survey exercise is likely the equivalent of a survey regarding how to best rearrange the deck chairs on the Titanic.

Public hearings, better provision of background information on issues, keeping in touch.

Massive reform is needed. Look at the example of the City taking and destroying the downtown, waterfront River Run homes to benefit Harvard Developments. Such corruption can be expected in third world nations, it shouldn't be a day-to-day event in Calgary. This government is now suppressing media stories of this terrible overreach by government. This government is not serving taxpayers, it is taking from taxpayers to benefit wealthy insiders.

Ban large donations during election campaigns. Limit election campaign contributions to 250\$. Ban TPAs from participating in any form of election interference

By actually listening to us. Stop pushing agendas and start actually listening to what we as Calgarians want.

Having the mayor and council to communicate their plans and platforms during an election; having them stay with that plan.

Having an office IN the community they represent, not just sitting in City Hall.

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Having an automatic plebiscite for major changes/proposals that will directly affect residents, such as the city-wide rezoning proposal. This should not be made by an 8-6 council vote without listening to Calgary residents. Similarly council should not be able to vote themselves a raise. This should be set for the next four years at each election and voted on by the citizens at election time.

Leave the Ward system as is, do not move communities around. Administration has way too much power, they attend meetings and then when residents offer suggestions their comments are rejected. The decisions of what happens should be from our elected officials. Maybe a reduction of City Managers and number of staff who seem to have all the answers and will not change direction even after residents have provided input. Stop listening to developers, they appear to be running the City.

Maybe send out surveys to see what constituents want

Focus on providing value to property owners who pay the majority of taxes. For instance spending billions of dollars on the green line project does not serve the majority of property rate payers!

Listen to Calgarians. Listen to Calgary communities. I believe current intentions may be future thinking and well intended but many of them are bandaid fixes. I'd like to challenge council to start focusing their efforts on effective and efficient policy implementation that matters most to Calgarians. We've had a huge spike in population due to the success of the Alberta is Calling campaign. So what do we do with this population spike? How do we uplift our community members that are slipping through the cracks? Our food banks are dry, community kitchens are empty, healthcare and resources are stretched so thin and there is no housing available for this surge in population. Solutions for the basic needs of our communities needs to be the primary focus for our city. Council needs to stop with the distractions, shiny objects and polarizing solutions. Council needs to think critically and subjectly on what will create the most benefit. Council needs to step up and do the research and understand the community needs. Take the bus. Take the train. Live the life your constituents and come up with some real solutions.

More transparency around campaign funding so we know which candidates are being heavily backed by unions and other organizations. Ranked choice ballot system to give underdogs a chance and eliminate the "vote the lesser of two evils" mentality

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council including the Mayor should be MANDATED to meet with Community groups EVERY MONTH to get input on their path forward. they IGNORE input from emails and phone calls, as they think theirs preset AGENDA is the correct direction. administration makes policy and the council just rubber stamp it. It means Administration is running the city with no elected position to do so.

I have a big issue with the global mayors/municipalities organizations and the associated initiatives. The mayor and council members should be engaged locally and not at the international level. The fact that they do this and that all cities worldwide implement similar agendas (15 minute cities for example) confirms the mayor and council members are answering to people and interests other than their own citizens.

Maybe my councillor could show up at our community meeting for a change and reply to emails

Something I feel about municipal politics (or pretty much all political levels - municipal, provincial and federal) is accountability. Doesn't matter the topic! There just doesn't seem to be any accountability on final decisions made. Who made the decision, whether individual or group consensus nobody seems to take ownership. Finger pointing and twisting facts seem to be the norm. At the end...whether the decision ends up being right or wrong, analyzing it, coming up with timely recommendations for change and move on needs to be at the forefront.

Fair and respectful treatment within council. More attention paid to public input or feedback on critical issues, decisions not based on individual councilors feelings and opinions. Don't make decisions and set policy on our behalf without understanding how we feel. Understand that there are differences between the wards - both physical and cultural - and whenever possible allow for that diversity. "One size fits all" solutions or directives rarely work. When a commission is formed to gather information, provide feedback, and make suggestions for improvement council must be held accountable for implementing those changes. Regular reports on progress should be made public.

Be more efficient and listening to Calgarians. Being fiscally responsible

Recall to be reasonable and the provincial govt should have a rep that babysits the meetings in person

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I'm not very familiar with current procedures, but my general advice is to seek expert advice, to consider a variety of solutions to any given problem, to run experiments where possible, and to work hard on "running the numbers" (modeling with spreadsheets, GetGuesstimate, etc. to evaluate cost efficiency). To benefit the common good, it's important for City Council to always have a tendency to represent the interests of Calgarians and even Albertans more broadly, rather than the interests of specific people who show up to council meetings, or specific wards (potentially at the expense of other wards or municipalities). With that in mind, I would like to see electoral reform. At minimum, use approval or score voting to choose councilors rather than first-past-the-post; at most, convert perhaps half of city council to some kind of "proportional representation", "direct representation" or "jury" system.

Voting blocks should not be happening. It is ruining this current council. They need to listen to the people who elected them and be focused on fiscal responsibility and core responsibility-roads, garbage, snow removal etc not pet projects like bike lanes

Consolidation of wards. Money wasted on councillors who don't do their jobs

Have someone in my Alderman's office to respond to individual concerns

To have a person of the community be the representative that speaks on behalf of all the citizens to hold the Council accountable - that reports to the Council. We have Councillors that don't answer emails or go out in the community and just collect a wage. Therefore the citizens needs aren't being heard/met and the Counciller's own viewpoints get heard, not the community's. Maybe it has come to that. Have a transparent Council online interactive site for each community.

Stand up to politicians destroying this Country.

More transparency. Follow through on your campaign platforms and don't have hidden agenda. Get out and talk to the people in the ridings, not just at certain events.

Any time I deal with the City I feel like asking "are your parents home? is there a grown up I can speak with?" I doubt anyone in leadership at the City has any idea how poorly functioning Calgary's municipal government is currently. We need massive change within City leadership to start to have a responsible municipal government.

Stop bickering. Stop arguing. There's clearly a lot of bad blood in this group of councillors. Solve your problems with your colleagues and work as a team rather than constantly fighting. Resolve and forgive and move forward. Stop acting like a bunch of children

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LISTEN to the people you serve and represent THEM - not your own interests. Focus on Calgary, not outside influences.
Our council members need to divulge what federal political party they support. Right now we have a mayor and most of our councillors who support the Liberal/NDP communist coalition of Justin Trudeau. The Mayor and councillors need to be restricted to a maximum of two terms.
Correct - if anything, reduce the number of councillors. More than half of you are there for the pay check and nothing more. You expense too much, do too little, provide no help, and your answers are always raise taxes and decrease our quality of life. Send a message, fire half of them and make the other half actually work a full time job.
Frequent checkins with community. Online performance reviews by the people. Councillors don't get a fat pay check or bonuses if they have poor reviews from community.
LISTEN
Cut government bureaucracy in half. Councilors get paid for part time work and there are far too many city employees
Every councilor should have a minimum of two days every months to meet with their wards citizens and listening their concerns.
When it comes to budget time, I think citizens should have the ability to vote annually on the budget, or on new spending initiatives. This would be a BIG reform. You know I am a voter at election time, so why not give me an annual vote on spending?? The technology exists. Also, the recall legislation needs to be changed so that there is a realistic chance of recalling a mayor or councillor by lowering the threshold and allowing electronic petitions.
Give Calgarians more chances to provide feedback on the councilor over the course of the term. My own councilor has gone AWOL and doesn't seem to think city issues in his ward are his responsibility. It's actually his number one responsibility.
Councilors need to meet with people when requested or respond to communication. Every Councilor I have contacted I have never received a response.
They could consider abandoning their ideological focus and reduce spending.
Periodic Questionnaires sent to constituents to ask how things are working/not working
The outcome of every decision seems like a foregone conclusion. When public input is given, it would be good to feel like it might actually matter to the way council votes.

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Advertising and letting the people know when there are going to have forums, so we know when to attend City Hall.
Not just humour residents by pretending to listen but to actually vote by following their instructions
Set up public Q&A media channel to communicate with the constituents, and also show us that no valid questions are being ignored.
Ensure that council members, mainly the mayor, are not making decisions based on their own agendas.
We need councillors who are actually at work for the public - communicate with them, advocate for them. Control taxes, overruns, budgets and staffing. Explain how things work at City Hall, so we understand how our tax dollars work and are spent (like how many workers does it take to fill a pothole? Because it seems ridiculous how long it takes, how many visits by staff it takes, and how crappy a job they do). They need to cut the waste (pothole example again). We need to get responses from our councillors when we phone/write/tweet/message them, consistently and often.
Put limits on the amounts that can be donated to campaigns by businesses
Actually listening to what people want. The reason that you're doing this outreach is the record setting low scores of satisfaction of the Mayor and Council. Why are people dissatisfied? Because you don't listen to what residents want. A tiny percentage of people thought the City should declare a climate emergency or blow up the Arena deal but our mayor just decided to do that because she think she knows better than the people. To fix the problem just do what people want! You're not popular because your decisions aren't popular!
Plebesite on rezoning
Listen to the people not that idiot mayor
Councillors are hired to represent the needs of their constituents. Not their political supporters alone. American style politics have no place in our municipality.
Reduce councilors. Make tax increases illegal above 1%.

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There should be a multitude of channels and opportunities for citizens to weigh in and provide feedback. It would be nice to first generate an awareness and understanding of the needs, prioritization of the issues and ideas together (citizens and counsellors) after prioritizing then we can move together towards proposed solutions that are timely and provide access to all citizens.

Allow for Calgarians to have a voice and a say in areas that directly impact us and any proposed changes. Council and the mayor seem to make their own decisions without taking into consideration our voice and opinions or votes.

Start listening to the majority and using common sense as opposed to basing policy on how virtuous you want to feel about yourself.

Any large changes such as rezoning city should be done by plebiscite

A complete over hall is needed. Our current municipal government is a failure in every meaningful way: financially irresponsible; not transparent; not trusted; focused on benefiting itself and its friends over the long term impact on citizens.

Stop making decisions behind closed doors. Stop cancelling public forums for feedback. Try actually listening for once.

Have actual consultation process. The current one is basically "here's what we're going to do, so get used to it". It's a fake consultation process and nobody trusts it.

Giving our voices chances to be heard at Council however that works best. The blanket rezoning is a good example of a faulty plan that has yet to be proven effective elsewhere other than creating congestion and housing that is not affordable, e.g. Vancouver Island, Marda Loop, Kensington, etc. The housing plan needs tweaking to be more effective, affordable, energy and resources wise, less driven by unscrupulous developers and helpful to all Calgarians. You are all smart people. Try again for the best plan .

proceed with significant caution regarding blanket policies such as increased density regardless of existing zoning....

Start thinking logically and at the grassroots. What makes sense for this particular community. What is the community looking for

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Firstly, the advertisements in the paper about upcoming issues is more like a legal brief than an invitation to the citizenry to have a say. One really has to search what the actual issue is in all the rhetoric. People will give up on this before they even get started. I hope that is not the intent. These messages should be clear and simple with only the issue, deadlines and methods of feedback listed. All the rest of the legalese can be listed in a file that can be referenced. I have been involved in enough issues, workshops, info sessions etc to support the general consensus that the City has already made up its mind as to the direction of a certain issue and all this "have your say" advertisement is to stamp our foreheads "consulted". To avoid this cynical reaction, people should be truly heard and a well articulated and researched alternative should be given credence. Individuals and community association representatives should feel confident that the information/recommendations that they send to their councillor is actually getting to the councillor and is not simply responded to by staff based on the councillor's previous stance on similar issues. The City seems to be run as a business these days, with the citizenry valued only for their tax dollars and most certainly not for their opinions.

I think the biggest thing we need to do is change the electoral system we are using. Rather than first past the post, we should 100% move to a proportional representation system. This would ensure that more citizens are properly represented when compared to our current system which is the least effective democratic system. Many countries and municipalities have adopted more modern electoral practices and we should do the same!

Provide a mechanism of communication with councillors that ensures open and not closed in camera sessions, transparency and ultimately responsibility to constituents.

For major policy change, that impacts a large percentage of Calgarians, have a stance as part of one's platform when seeking council membership, or support a plebiscite approach to obtain the overall public's opinion.

Direct Democracy voting on items that are looking for funding. IE: Send out your city/ward mailers that include a code to each resident of the area; when "Nice to Have" and other pet projects are proposed, let the residents of the affected area submit a vote over the course of a month to decide what, if any, get funded, and in what order they should be prioritized.

Start to make reasonable efforts to be transparent and financially responsible.

Focus on your responsibility areas. Leave provincial and federal jurisdictions alone.

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They need to vote as they have been told to vote. Any deviation from this should be IMMEDIATE dismissal.

Example Evan Spencer knows that according to the survey HIS office conducted that 71% of his ward os against the Blanket Re-zoning. Yet he has the GAUL to say that he will explain his reason for voting how he chose to! HE DOESN'T GET TO CHOOSE, HE HAS BEEN TOLD IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS HOW HE IS TO VOTE!

better communication with the public

Have mayor and councilors who aren't there just for their own selfish and greedy reasons

Ensure that the council members actually respond to comments submitted to them. Most of the time now, any comment submitted seems to go into the void without acknowledgement.

Hold More plebiscites on major issues like Blanket Rezoning like they did for the Olympics and Fluoride. BAN Third Party Advertisers completely. Ban Political Action Committees entirely. Restrict election donations to 250\$ per individual and only allow one donation per donor. Institute stronger measures for censuring inappropriate business dealings. i.e. JC Carra and his infamous Inglewood property.

Stop dabling in things that are beyond the city of calgary council role. Work to to improve red tape and remove so many ridiculous barriers to getting things done in Calgary

Amend the Recall Act to make it a feasible option when not represented adequately. More input and conversation with residents and actually acting in accordance with feedback (this has not been the case). Plebiscite votes on decisions that will have major impacts on residents (ie. blanket rezoning)

Some systems may be better than others. I'm not concerned the current system is a problem. Every "system" is people. So the calibre of people elected and in administration matters most. All I desire is honest, ethical, competent representation. You can't "systematize" good character. It is my opinion that Council lacks sound character and judgement. An election may solve those problems. Changing the system doesn't.

Time and space to bring people along in managing change.... leaps can leave many behind for decades and entrench resistance to the end goals. Pilots (that are significant \$ investment) that are evaluated over a time line before broader implementation. More diversity of thought in the input teams structured to draft policy - if all are reading the same book, you only need one of them.

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<p>The City, including the overpaid senior administration, need to focus on delivering core operational needs. A needs assessment should be sent to Tax Payers asking about their priorities. E.G...Do Tax Payers want money focused on infrastructure or hiring more Strategists, Planners and Comms Specialists?</p>
<p>Focus only on local issues. Lower taxes. Find savings. Vote against any rezoning. Fix roads.</p>
<p>30 years in the city and have never seen one councillor. They get elected and just ignore us plebes. How do they know the concerns if they rarely interact with constituents</p>
<p>Get rid of the current Mayor. Conduct a plebiscite for the rezoning issue.</p>
<p>double the number of councillors > ridiculous to say not an option</p>
<p>Cut budget instead of raising taxes. I think you can all learn about how poorly cancelling the Canada fireworks was handled, don't just give 5 random excuses. Listen to everyone saying the don't want every community rezoned.</p>
<p>Not roles but they must live in the ward they are representing</p>
<p>Our municipal government needs to get out of the business of trying to do everything for everyone and instead focus on running the city, you have lost your way. All large expenditures should be voted on by the people.</p>
<p>Referendums on large spending projects like LRT expansions or stadiums.</p>
<p>Allow more remote participation or polling by Ward for specific Ward concerns by residents</p>
<p>When public hearings are organised, each councilor must consider the feedback they receive from these consultations. Statistics should be compiled to show how the citizens who participated in the session, both in person and using written submissions, contributed for. or against, the matter under discussion.</p>
<p>Lowering the price of rental and buying house affordability.</p>
<p>Gather feedback via surveys to get a comprehensive view of community members</p>
<p>When contentious issues / items (i.e. housing rezoning) come to light, there has to be a way for councillors to "LISTEN" and represent their constituents. Ensuring they attend Community Meetings to listen!! and not to just spill the "party" line. Have a way to survey their constituents and use that count as a reflection on the way they should vote (survey monkey) as part of their engagement and HAVING THOSE SURVEY RESULTS transparent for all</p>

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Wards. If they feel their constituents are behind their decisions, they should not be worried of the results.

Improve the public hearing process - currently there is little confidence on this process that this is only a visual way for Council to say they took the time to listen to Calgarians. I'm not sure how to ensure accountability on this one, as no one uses full data in decision making and transparency. it just can't be a "for" vs "against" count, as it is during the day, and not everyone can go, plus how do you count when a community association presents their views, assume all the people living in that community?

Keep their word on past decisions and uphold them. Ie. Heritage plan was passed after 3 years of discussion and engagement. vs Blanket Rezoning will probably passed with NO input. Other broken promises - tax rate for 2024 etc

Drastically limit campaign donations. \$1000 per person, eliminate 3rd party advertisers, disclose all donations (we know council tried to stop this) get conflict of interest out of development committee, stop trying to push one agenda and using spin doctors to do so. Don't tell us what is best and find any little scrap of evidence to try to support an agenda. Present pros and cons without bias, have councillors get feedback from their constituents. Don't block a plebiscite citizens clearly want. Don't make massive changes like rezoning that were not an election issue. Don't try to change policy to give more authority to council - trying to eliminate public hearings, allowing these emergency meetings to be called by mayor. Limit terms, better recall legislation so it is feasible if someone is not performing their duties properly. Ethics issues like Carra and personal housing development ties being hidden should be immediate dismissal and byelection. Have some ethics!

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There are a number of issues that are getting worse in this city around homelessness and crime. The city would be well served by having greater participation by the public on committees, especially for any proposed reforms that affect their neighborhoods. Not all neighborhoods are ready for or need to have higher density housing.

In areas concerning traffic and bike lanes, the people who use the collector routes should be granted input into street narrowing for bike lanes. Actually, the bike lanes need to be placed on side streets that are away from collector streets such as 26 Ave SW or 5th St SW and especially 12th Ave SW. These roads should be returned to their original widths and the bike lanes move away. Cyclists should also yield right away to pedestrians whether they are in bike lanes or not. The cycle routes should be incorporated into walking paths around the city and should use the fly over to cross major arteries and freeways in the city. Not collector streets.

As well on cyclists, there has been an increase in e-bikes on bike paths. These are motorized vehicles, motorcycles not pedal bikes. As such they should require the same licensing as Gas powered motorcycles and should not be allowed on walking paths or even bike lanes adjacent to the rivers or the reservoir where there are designated cycle lanes. No one needs or wants to be hit by a e-bike being operated at excessive speeds by an operator that is not licensed and insured. This issue can become a liability issue for the city if nothing is done to address the e-motorcycles on walking and pedal bike paths.

professional accountability, annual position reviews,

More readily available, understandable information for Calgarians

All of the hateful 8 need to stop acting and start representing!

I am disgusted by this mayor and the majority of members of council. I believe our council needs to focus on MUNICIPAL issues instead of focusing on issues that are governed by the Province or the Federal government. Most members of council have made up their minds about how they will represent Calgarians without asking their constituents how they want to be represented on issues facing the city. Their stakeholder engagement is a joke -- most decisions have been made and are too far down a path for Calgarians to have any real say in initiatives. It would be nice if the City could find a way to bring Calgarians along through a process not just announce the next project.

Less pay for council, they need to have their raises voted on by the PEOPLE who vote them in!!! And mandatory physical time in each community per year.

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<p>Online pools, community engagement meetings, interacting with constituents via phone calls, email, open houses, etc. being open about what their political stance/backing is during elections and being TRANSPARENT about where election funding comes from.</p>
<p>They need to consult and follow the desired outcome for the people. Have transparency in spending. No further taxes to increase their income. Work for we the people.</p>
<p>Please do not make blanket decisions for the city, especially ones that were not brought up in elections. This blanket rezoning of all the wards is not what we voted on! And it doesn't work for all the neighborhoods!</p>
<p>Calgarians need representation, when the City invites community input on a topic and overwhelmingly the majority of citizens oppose it, the City needs to listen to citizens and follow their wish even if that wish does not align to their own personal views. The City currently only checks the box for "community engagement", but then decides according to their own personal views even when virtually an entire community oppose that councillors viewpoint.</p>
<p>For Calgary council to improve decision-making, they need to invest in engagement practices that will overcome existing barriers that prevent most residents from engaging. This includes simplifying communications and making the effort to go to where people are along with online engagement.</p>
<p>Listening to Calgarians is extremely important. Promoting items that were not campaigned on such as increasing taxes, climate emergency, green changes to the Event Centre and brokering deal that will cost all Calgarians more money are just a few of the items our mayor has put forth without consulting her citizens.</p>
<p>Required to hold face to face meetings with public on a regular basis.</p>
<p>Once a voted member drops below 30% approval they should be fired and an election called</p>
<p>Getting buy in on reforms requires better communication and roll out planning. More ad campaigns and public notice on large or wide reaching projects - ie the Home Is Here program did not have much information widely distributed prior to the september hearing and given the scale of changes being proposed to rezoning this should have warranted a mail out or been a separate hearing as both of these steps were eventually taken than taking a majority of the original council meeting time and stalling approval of other components of the initiative.</p>
<p>Listening to residents and voting the way they want you to, you are representing them.</p>

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Change the ward system. It results in 14 independent fiefdoms. Move to a party system where policy for the city is articulated before an election.
Municipal government councillors need to represent the opinions of their constituents, not their own personal agendas they want put forward.
Stop looking for just a paycheck and remember why you ran for council
Terms limits on city councillors. Councillor wage = median income of the city. Digital plebiscites for all contentious issues. Change election criteria so that >50% of pop must vote/cast a ballot for an election to be deemed valid.
N/A
Elected officials should be acting in the best interests of their constituents.
All council need to listen to the citizens. No one is happy with anyone on council. Cancel the tax hike. Cancel blanket rezoning. The citizens have made it clear this is what they want. Council refuses to hear this and serves only their own interests or the federal government. Stay on your lane and reduce taxes and cancel rezoning now.
I would guess that more than half the problem is communicating about initiatives that are already in place to involve citizens. I definitely DO NOT want the loudest/rudest voices to be listened to just because they're loud and rude. For example, the awful "Recall Gondek" movement severely overestimates their support in the city, and their views should not be listened to just because they're complaining. They're the minority, and they shouldn't get to set the agenda. The mayor was voted in democratically. I voted for her because I like where she stands on most issues. I don't want far-right intimidation tactics to skew her, or the council's, decisions moving forward.
Much more openness and communication. Better listening and more willing to negotiate and make changes. The Mayor could go on the news and dispel myths. People need it in black and white and need it told over and over AND need to know the City will not DEVIATE from the agreed to plan.
For large decisions (ex. blanket property rezoning), need more Calgarians voices to be heard with different perspective from different wards. How did a one size fits all approach become the norm?
They should not allow provincial parties such as the NDP to participate in municipal Elections and help shape the outcome as they have done

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Referendums. Give us the chance to let our opinions known

Actually asking what residents/voters want. Not taking big raises and rising homeowner property taxes. To live within the city's means.

Straw online poll on local issues

Unbiased publication of raw data information which Calgarians can review for themselves and come to an opinion themselves and having plebiscites.

Get rid of the traitor currently sitting the mayor's office. She doesn't answer to calgarians. She answers to her WEF puppet masters.

Listen to voters and not follow Mayor on her pet projects

If you are in touch with your constituents then your votes should always reflect their needs/wants. Do not assume you know.

I think raises and other big spending needs to have the support of Calgarians. You should not be able to vote yourselves raises. What other part of the population gets to do that?!

I think we need to get to basic Grassroots; listen to your constituents! Quit putting all of your effort into special interest groups and agendas that are not for the better good of Calgarian's on the whole. 70 to 80% of Calgarian's are not being listened to currently. Not only are they not being listened to they are being disrespected & gaslighted. Before we can move forward with any other agendas this needs to be fixed. This counsel, or at least eight of them, including the mayor, are not respected in this city, and that needs to change in whatever form that may take.

Listen to your constituents.

Answer questions by the media. You may not like the media outlet that is asking the question, and you may not like the question, but guess what, many Calgarians want to hear the answer. You do not get to pick and choose which questions and media outlet you respond to. You need to answer to ALL Calgarians. Not doing so is disrespectful.

Leave the ego at the door.

If councillors are not representing the people they should be booted out of their position. Councillors are hired and paid for by the taxpayers. They need to start representing them.

After the Ballot

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Focus on what's most important to Calgarians. The single use plastics bylaw had a ridiculous roll-out and only made Calgarian's frustrated. The wage increases to Councilors while increasing taxes is completely ridiculous, I recommend taking notes from the provincial government on how to properly advocate during difficult financial times. The rezoning of the City is a complete waste of time and effort. Making a focus on a "Climate Emergency" also shows how blind this government is, when we have LOCAL issues that need to be resolved. All in all, focus on what Calgarian's need and listen to them, stop being a puppet to something/ someone bigger and listen to the people (they were the ones who voted you in).

I don't believe most councillors consult with their constituents. Gondeks crew just follow her wishes

Meet constituents in person regularly
BE AVAILABLE for discussion
Look at NEEDS for the community
#savenosecreek
Quarterly rating on job quality of councillor
Raise based solely on job rating only, not mandatory raises.
No handouts
Hold plebiscite, give the ward constituents the final say

This is a bizarre question. The path is linear, not convoluted as this survey suggests. Someone is elected, they listen to their constituents and represent that at council. It has been made murky due to elected officials not representing their electors' views. Pushing their own agenda and not listening creates divisiveness that is blamed on their own constituents. I do believe that people are more outraged and I feel upset myself because I do not feel represented and certainly not listened to in a meaningful way. Money is being spent ridiculously on agendas that serve the ego of the mayor and councillors instead of creating lasting improvements.

Stop being commies

Lower the bar for recall legislation. We should be able to fire any councillor or mayor who isn't representing the people. Put term limits in. Two terms max.

Radical blanket rezoning should NOT be voted by council, everyone R1 and R2 owner should have a say in this matter. Survey them like which school board they support.

I am excited to vote my councillor out next year. She doesn't listen to her ward and should be advocating for us. This is also the council who cost us more on our arena deal.

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Climate change is not something our municipal government should be basing any policies on. Fix the Roads please.

More counselors. One ward should not be bigger than 50,000 residents.

Calgarians need to have their voices heard. Council needs to be transparent. No "in camera" meetings. Everything needs to be in the open and public. If it cannot be said in public, then it should not be said. "Automatic" raises need to be a thing of the past.

more public engagement and feedback before decisions are made, more accountability to reflect the choices of Calgarians with regards to the decisions we're voting on

We need a new Mayor
One that listens to us
Not just in it for the photo op's
She's even worse then Nenshi

Residents should be surveyed on important issues.

There's no need to increase the number of councillors. Councillors need to be open and honest about what their intentions are and be accountable for detrimental decisions. As seen recently Calgarians will take legal steps if council try to change our city without public approval. Now that a president has been set Calgarians will undoubtedly not hesitate to use it in the future

At this current moment the mayor of Calgary and most of the councillors make decisions regardless of what the general public wants. Calgarians deserve to have their voices be heard. Right now that is not happening and it's very obvious to see with the recent reactions that our mayor has received from many members of the public.

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First show the citizens of Calgary some respect! Listen to us, don't talk down to us. We are your boss. You need to listen to the majority of the citizens. It seems rather that you are only listening to fringe activists such as [removed], unions, and foreign entities such as the WEF and pseudo science cult alarmists who push a false narrative. There is no climate emergency in Calgary that is for certain. Stop the nonsense and get back to managing the city in a sane and responsible manner. The city is administration must not be governed by activists pushing a agenda. We only want the basics, law and order, fiduciary responsibility, (prudent financial management), fix the roads, and issue building permits in a timely manner. That's it. Stay out of the Israel/ Palestine conflict. The mayor should have lit the manora as is tradition, despite her personal opinion on a foreign war for example. Stop micromanaging insignificant items such as plastic bags and napkins, that does next to nothing other than drive up costs for the citizens who still need napkins and bags!!! Celebrate the great things about our history don't try and rewrite it. If not for the settlers of this land we wouldn't have the city and province we have today. Our governance must be lean and only focused on essentials. Activists can fundraise for their own agendas, don't spend public funds and time on agendas that do not represent the majority of citizens. Don't censor speech, listen instead!

You need to keep in touch with the people who live here and not an ideology that lives outside of Calgary. We need and deserve a council that is aware, or behaves like it is aware, of the actual day to day issues in Calgary. Get out and TALK to the people.

The perception is that after being elected some council members have personal agendas that they work towards, this includes the Mayor. They need to run on a platform and then fulfill that agenda.

Any Councillor should be able to raise a concern from another ward. Right now I don't feel our Councillor represents us or hears our concerns. Other Councillors are sympathetic, but have said that our own Councillor must bring the motion forward. We can't even get important issues before Council at the moment! This is absolutely unacceptable!

Councillors need to be able to speak and stand up for what the people of their wards are complaining and concerned about. It seems our voices are not being heard or respected. Policies are being pushed through that are causing harm to our own people.

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Limit campaign contributions during the election cycle to 250\$ maximum. R research into a few councilors campaign contributions reveals large 5,000\$ donations from prominent developers. i.e. cllr Spencer 10,000\$ from executives in PBA Group, Cllr Mian 5,000\$ from from executives in PBA Group, Cllr Penner 10,000\$ from from executives in PBA Group, Cllr Walcott 10,000\$from executives in PBA Group. How can councilors be impartial when the receive large sums from developers and special interest individuals.
BAN third party advertisers (TPA) from ALL election interference such as targeted adds and promotional videos.

That they need to listen to the people just because they are voted in doesn't make them sole decision maker on how and what they'll do and disregard the people's opinions on matters that effect people's lives and wellbeing

Have the mayor resign

Who wouldn't want more bureaucrats. We need less, more qualified people in politics that care about the people they're representing. Look in the mirror and do what needs to be done. You're all adults, stop looking to us after you've screwed things up.

Candidates must fully disclose their platform during elections. If elected, they must act on the promises made but should be fired if they try to bring in an issue that was not part of their campaign.

-Large decisions like the blanket rezoning should be go to plebiscite and allow Calgarians voices to be heard. The vote of 14 Wards does not effectively capture the voices of Calgary

Major changes that will affect every single resident in the city, should be mandated to require an electronic public plebiscite. City wide rezoning and the single use product ban, are two recent examples of where a public plebiscite should have applied. Had they been on the single use initiatives, the most major pitfall that led to the reversal of this initiative, would have been avoided. How poorly that entire initiative was handled is a perfect example of waste of resources and financial waste, that we seen from the City, over and over again.

Listen to their constituents and represent them in council NOT their own agenda. They were voted in, now represent them honestly.

The peoples voices have to be heard. Council is voting on their own accord and NOT on what the people want.
There need to more plebiscites.

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How about using the money we pay to register our vehicles for the actual infrastructure it's meant for? Fix the roads. Car has been damaged by potholes, that's out of my pocket

Ensure councillors meet with their constituents, not ignore them after the election, and listen. And if a councillor has proven legal infractions, then they should resign immediately. Current council seems to be doing what they want, and is ignoring what Calgarians want

Replace Gondek!

How about letting the people decide on the blanket rezoning. The way it is being rammed down our throats is wrong.

You all need to resign. If you want to be activists, work for non profits.

Reducing the size of city council by at least 50%, no closed door meetings and plebiscites for most of their insane decisions that nobody wants

One councillor per ward who will work together with others so that equality will be met

-Eliminate the \$87 billion climate emergency! Everyone know there isn't one and that municipalities are captured. We are not interested in councils alignment with the globalist agenda!

-No blanket up zoning!! Who do you councillors think you are? Calgarians are the tax paying public. Calgarians will decide how zoning will change that affects our property! If some communities want this, like inner ring areas then they should be represented rather than a blanket approach that most communities DO NOT favour. Also, while driving along a polluting and snow covered snow covered solar panels along 52 St SE, it occurred to me that THIS is where the high density up zoning should take place with panels on top.

-Stop disrespecting Calgarians. The city council meeting I watched was a disgrace. Resign if you don't like Calgarians and fire the administration who are disrespectful to Calgarians.

-[removed]

-Declare no 15 minute cities.

-Do NOT begin another road project and inconvenience Calgarians until the ones started are finished. This downtown, Eastside, and Beltline look like crap!

Councillors could have yearly in-person town halls with their constituents to hear their concerns. My Councillor Kourtney Penner does not reply to emails or inquiry forms.

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Cap the number of people running for mayor. No union money backing. Make the recall easier.

Get Jyoti the hell out of office! Her and Trudeau should ride off into the sunset. They are cut from the same clothe!

No Municipal Party system that's for sure.

REEDUCATION as to their role. Their job is not to come to their own biased conclusions from Developers and the #yyc Planning and Dvlpt Dept! Their job is to do what we want not to get drunk and power and think they know what's best. Ie: Gondek, Penner, Carra, Walcott, Mian especially. It's fricking embarrassing for our City.

Have less councillors.

- understanding where gaps from existing policy to implementation are - policy that are NOT being implemented by Administration and why (ie not funded)

If it's an important decision that effects many Calgarians. Survey the public. In this day and age of technology, it's not that hard. I'm so tired of hearing the Mayor or council... especially Penner, say they listened to the public...but decided something totally opposite, because they know better than we do what is best.

Get rid of the garbage bin fees! Garbage pickup used to be covered under my property tax. Now I have to pay an extra \$30 PER MONTH and one of the bins I don't even use, but still have to pay for. Why is it not covered under property tax anymore? Especially considering how much our property tax has gone up. We are paying more for less!

Our community has completely been shut out by our Councillor because most do not support the decisions being made. A position as a Councillor is to represent the ENTIRE ward and not push personal agendas and social platforms. The biggest experts in our communities are the people who live in them, yet there is no opportunity to have meaningful engagement anymore. The only way to get attention has become X wars, special interest groups. Community consultation has become "Live Q&As" on social media where there is no way to ask a counter-question as the questions they want to respond to are pre-selected. It's disingenuous and Councillors need to spend more time speaking to ALL constituents, not just the ones that support their ideology.

Really listen to the issues Calgarians are having and stop creating issues that overshadow real problems. Like the clunate emergency and having to pay for paper bags at fast food places. Don't deny issues that are real like C train safety denials. It took ok Dan McLean to prove public safety issues before the mayor and some others would acknowledge it.

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Even though it is not part of this study, the number of Councillors is an important part of how we view Council. In 2009, each Alderman represented an average of 76.1 thousand people. Current average per Councillor is 118.9 thousand, a 56% increase.
Decrease city council and their staff. Stop [removed] home owners with tax increases every single year. I haven't received a raise in five years, but yet I have to pay for you people to get a raise every bloody year. You are nothing but thieves working for yourselves only
Fewer wards wd decrease the number of counsellors which wd be a cost saving. They need to be physically in attendance at meetings. Polling the residents is a logical way to know what we want, need and how we feel about potential changes and increases.
Having monthly meetings or communications with their wards to describe what they have voted on and what they plan to vote on.
Counsel should be more accountable to the tax payers
Stop imposing your ideals on the people of Calgary (ie: the Mayor's statement of a climate emergency) stay focused on the issue we have here in the city, not global issues that the elected representatives of Calgary can do absolutely nothing about! They should be focused on things like the traffic problems, and infrastructure for the people of Calgary. Oh, and they should learn to live within a budget that doesn't increase every year we are woefully overtaxed for the services the city provides! Showing some fiscal restraint would be nice to see from these people, who currently, see a dollar and spend \$3!
Seek first to understand Calgarians even if they have different viewpoints for the Councillors. Council's job is not to change behavior of citizens to match the Council's whims.
Reduce the number of councillors by getting rid of all the ones that aren't listening to Calgarians.
Council should be giving more direction to administration with regard to policies and efficient and effective provision of core services. Currently it is the other way around and administration is directing council.
Term limits, easier recall limits, NO union donations to campaigns, no being concerned with anything anywhere else beyond Calgary, and only items that need attention and repair/maintenance. SAVE MONEY, no using taxpayer funds for frilly stuff like public art over public safety.
Allow plebiscites on major issues that affect the city like blanket rezoning and arena deal.

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Keep parties out of municipal politics
walk around your riding and talk to people
Council need to stop listening to the admin that were hired for a task not in line with what the citizens want. No only are they tone deaf, as in stop spending money but on the news big make over of Olympic plaza. City admin stop your focus on the arts. Get the roads fixed. Also hiring Keane from the USA to ram through the density joke. Incredible the level of bad decisions make. Fire the hateful 8.
STOP LOOKING THROUGH THE LENS OF SOCIALISM AND IDEOLOGY, YEAH, HOW ABOUT START WITH THAT?
How about our "servants" pay far more attention to the needs of the public and stop pursuing your pet ideological narratives? Serve, don't rule!
More community engagement from councillors On a community level.
You guys have no idea what to with good ideas when they're being offered by residents. You have absolutely no structure, no process to take into account problem-definition by residents. You have know idea how or what to do with honest information sharing with residents. You play politics more than contribute to good policy.
Not allowing a Councillor to shut down communications. It's impossible to reach our Councillor. They've turned off all channels and tell residents to call 311. If 311 is the answer, why do we need a Councillor?
More plebesites.
Having our current mayor and councillors all working together for the betterment of their constituents rather than for themselves and their pet projects. Cut back on spending and reduce taxes!
The councillor should start with community meeting to hear the concerns. They should listen and not speak. Then based on that information they should hold a Ward meeting and create a venn diagram listing all the needs and concerns and from there work from the centre out.
Surveys like this one could be very effective if they are made known to the public.
Have the people vote and don't rig the system
Meeting with their Ward communities more often to get direct feedback.

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More better rental options
WE DONT WANT THE REZONING. STOP BRINGING PEOPLE HERE FROM 3RD WORLD COUNTRIES.
Quarterly meetings at minimum with constituents!!! Anywhere!!!!
Eliminate federal ideologies that are LITTERED within councils agendas. We did not vote in climate change, we did not vote in blanket Rezoning, we did not vote in taxes upon taxes.
As noted already, big items. Like: the unilateral calling a climate emergency, the single use plastic bylaw and the proposed blanket rezoning. These must all be items pushed to plebiscites. It is clear Calgarians must know the political ideologies of each Councillor . I am in favour of a provincial party model when voting for a municipal government.
Realign some of the ward Boundaries so that the constituents in each ward have similar concerns, ie: traffic, infrastructure, residential and corporate taxation
Council is a joke. I've listened in on several meetings and anytime a member of the public speaks- they are gaslighted. You work for us- it's time you remember that.
Changes that affect all Calgarians or a way of life, such as rezoning need to be put to a plebiscite. Let the voters decide. If council wasn't so afraid they would be voted down and not being able to pursue their own interests they would allow a plebiscite. Instead it's a done deal and they hold a meeting on a week day where people have to take time off work, which may not be an option, and sit in chambers all day and try and have their voice make a difference.
Voted members still need to consult the public on decisions. Just because they were elected doesn't mean that each decision they make is the will of the people
Bring back capital punishment. Any members of city council found to be representing the WEFs agenda should be charged with treason and hung for their crimes against the people
Gondek has to resign. She's a woke lying sack of garbage
Focus on common problems, not huge federal or provincial or even pseudoscience gender politics. Focus on getting drugs off the streets, make downtown safe, fix the roads, and stop wasting our money.
Regular plebiscites regarding issues controversial or having major impacts on the future of the city (ie blanket rezoning)

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Cull the unelected bureaucrats

The last thing we need is more ward councillors! I think 3 less would be optimal - why is it that Calgarians are struggling and over burdened with Taxes and your councillors vote to tax more and give yourself raises when you make more than the average calgarian (including pensions) - do better

Programs can be piloted and reviewed. Eg. The charging of 15cents for paper bags is a ridiculous initiative

More engagement in wards, ie public meetings, town halls, even teams meets so more voices get heard.

It should be periodical meeting by each ward to hear concerns of the community and be connected

There is a tonne of work to be done in this growing city without council trying to socially engineer the population. Roads, parks, housing, policing, trash etc. This is your mandate.

Religion, politics, social justice and climate change is not.

Stop trying to be heroes. You have a well defined job to do. We don't need moms and dads moulding our moral development.

Have BINDING plebiscites on proposals that affect all of Calgary, like the Olympic bid and fluoridation. This will begin to repair trust in the local government. Do NOT allow party politics! Do not allow slates... for example Take Back Calgary had a slate as well as Women in Politics. They tend to get the wrong person into council thru vote splitting

Communication is needed by them all and a reality check of how they got there. If I were doing things at my job without authority, permission I would have been fired. I definitely think this group needs a shake up and a few need to go! Starting at the bully herself. I've watched her and her arrogance from walking away from a reporter, not attending community things, being selective in what she would like to join into, how she brings in ridiculous laws/bylaws (like getting a bag at a fast food place, how is this saving environment it is only putting extra money in the business owners pockets (Crazy) and how she handles City Hall hearings and the lack of respect she shows people who show up there to have their voices heard. This is Calgary, a part of Alberta and a part of Canada where we have free speech and democracy....

We don't need more councillors! We need less and more community say.

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Councillors should hold votes in each ward on big issues (rent a hall for a weekend / have a ballot / a commissioner and count the votes). Those that show up care about their community and should have a say. Councillor then votes in council based on the results. No campaigning needed / no expense needed

Get Gondek out.

Involve constituents when voting on something in council. Councillors vote on their own personal beliefs and not always what the people would want. Also council's priorities are all messed up but congrats on getting a pay increase for doing absolutely nothing! Maybe stop with the pay increases like the provincial government did!

Need less government not more. We should have had a say before the mayor applied for funding from the feds for housing!
She did not care what the residents of the city wanted and still doesn't. If she did she would scrap the government funding send it back if already received.
Federal help comes with strings and not in the favor of the population. If she cared she would resign and take the rest of her yes people with her

Stop the Rezoning for a huge start because you refuse to listen to Calgary.

Make meeting known to all people. For the zoning meeting it was all homeless, immigrants, mental illness people that came to speak. How did they pull that off I wonder.

Hold council responsible. Make recall legislation more realistic. If a councillor is not doing their job, they need to be removed and replaced.

Try operating from an ethical perspective, with integrity, instead of gouging homeowners then turning their neighbourhoods into rental ghettos.

Increase community participation and community input through meetings

Councilor should engage the public prior to voting on policy matter. They can do a better job at stating their position on matters, publicly, with reasoning and accountability.

More interaction with constituents. Listening & understanding what their constituents want & need

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Ward 11 spans across two city quadrants from Crowchild Tr/Glenmore Tr SW to 130/Deerfoot SE and has very differing issues and concerns. Penner lives in the topmost SW corner of this Ward and does not understand or have any interest with issues/concerns that the deep SE have... Riverbend, Quarry Park, Douglas Glen and Douglasdale. These communities should be joined with their neighboring communities (McKenzie, McKenzie Town, New Brighton, etc) since we share common interests and concerns. A ward should not span so far between two completely different quadrants of the city and should be connected to communities surrounding it, not 1/2 hr drive from them! You don't have to add Wards but they need to be better defined based on constituents needs/concerns!

Getting rid of Gondek and her minions. We need RECALL petitions that fair and achievable

While I don't know how to do it I think there needs to be a change to how our councillors finance their campaigns. It seems we have seen a rise in recent elections where vested interests have increased their unofficial roles in influencing the outcomes.

More direct democracy on major policy issues.

Ask for input from ward residents and then listen to the majority. Personal touches, not superiority attitudes, which several vouncol members have.
Just because you are councillor does MOT make you the smartest person on the room.. most of the councillors are very young and do not have the maturity for some decisions

Stop this Rezoning Crap. You'll turn this once proud and successful and safe city into one big ghetto!

Limit all council members to 2 terms each. And do the same for all City dept heads. Mgmt is mgmt. Every 5 years they could change debts. Even the City Manager. Council only hears what the dept heads tell them. This includes fire and police. But in the end it should be about what's best for the citizens versus building mini fiefdoms.

The council is not in touch with residents. You hide and are very combative when the public is allowed to voice an opinion. Hearing the council cannot get along and make a decision without outside remediation is embarrassing and you should be ashamed. Council will not and does not take responsibility for wrong decisions and creates red tape to fix the wrong, ie. paying for paper bags at Mcdonald's.

The mayor taking transit with full security detail was the total wrong optic. Council is totally out of touch with the economic crisis, saying there is one and charging more for everything is asinine. Time to wake up

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Councillor's are very aware of what is happening in the world and their communities- they should be more in touch with local concerns (housing, cost of living etc.) rather than dealing with huge issues (such as climate change and this single use bylaw) that are not on the radar of people struggling to survive.
It is not enough for the mayor and city council to "listen," but to do what Calgarians want: potholes filled, safe roads, police, financial and fiscal responsibility, among others. Edmonton city council can live with \$1800/citizen. What on earth is Calgary's? \$2300! Why? Why? Why?
Be fiscally responsible and keep this city affordable.
I am deeply concerned about the dishonest and unethical Recall Gondek Petition. This link has been circulating Twitter: https://imgur.com/gallery/T95IEua
Weekly local meetings
Reduce the number to recall a useless councilor or mayor!
Social media voting and open dialogue
Binding plebiscites and referendums.. for example the upzoning should NEVER have been only a decision of council
Focus on what is important to your constituents. Why are we paying for an arena that most Calgarians will never step foot in because they can't afford it. Why are we paying for BILLIONAIRES to increase their wealth. And why was CSEC given design oversight with no financial penalty.
Survey your voters. That's not rocket science. Glenmore Landing development is a nightmare ...cement city that not many see the upside to. It w9nt be affordable housing ...just will ruin the existing stores labs post office. We will all need to fund spnew service providers as senior citizens will no longer be willing and able to frequent this new horror.
Focus on municipal issues. The entire climate emergency is political grandstanding by our mayor and many councilors.
Ward coffee house
giving the public the opportunity to vote on more major issues and decisions rather than just councilors
Important issues must be put to plebiscites We the voters deserve nothing less. 1 vote gives us our say that's what we want

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1. I am very disturbed by the secrecy in which some decisions are made.e.g. The Event Centre
2. The failure to include opportunity cost and interest in the budget for major items like the Event Centre and the Olympic bid. These items run into the 10s of millions. This is deceptive.
3. I feel the request for public input is just a checkbox. I feel decisions have already been made by Councillors.
4. Re-zoning - I know that could all change. However the present system stifles public input. The File Manager holds all the public input back from the Planning Commission. I have participated in the process and it was a total sham.
5. We have LAPs but do not stick to them. Council sets zoning and then approves a change (the recent Kensington high rise is an example). A lot of hard work goes into LAPs and Council undermines all this work whenever it suits them.
6. Stop deceiving the public. The City is still claiming the "C" in R-CG stands for contextual. It used to but that changed over a year ago when the front setback was changed from 6 metres to 3m. But still the City deceives the public. With the proposed rezoning of the City a further change to R-CG is planned regarding the parking. Less off street parking. Council operates as if hardly anybody will drive cars and they are totally ignoring the fact EVs will have to be off the street in order to charge. I know of a project of 9 units that would only be required to have 1.5 parking spots under new rules because secondary and backyard suites don't count. On this point I do not feel the Council are in touch with reality but they remain stubbornly opposed to public input.
7. I think Council are out of touch with the people they are supposed to serve and fail to approach their work with an open mind.

Stop spending on useless things....

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Get more educated in how to listen and how to be more considerate of the voices that are not carrying protest signs, involved in current social fights. Stop thinking like a traditional business person and ruling from the top get connected with the humans in your wards and understand how your decisions and vote impacts their day-to-day lives. A sign of a good leader is one that lives with the people, is able to think beyond their special interests and is willing to sacrifice what they think and support that what the masses want.

Stop listening to the daily sound bites and making decisions on popular topics and start making decisions based on sound evidence and logic. For example(s) increasing property tax because that is the norm is narrow minded and lacks any thought or creativity. Looking at using technology to reduce administrative burdens and becoming more efficient at the work that is being done is an absolute. Stop appeasing the bleeding hearts that want to save every sole even though sole does not care for itself, focus on those that are trying to lift the city to new heights. Perfect examples of failures when government tries to save everyone is seen up and down the west coast, all major coastal cities from Vancouver to Los Angeles have demonstrated that dollars invested in those that are self-destructive and horribly spent. Investing in those that are trying to build economy, create jobs and continuing to make Calgary shine need the investment. Put dollars behind hard workers and those that want to create for themselves and their communities.

Automatic plebiscite on all major issues/proposed changes that have the potential to impact all Calgary residents (Olympics, fluoride, blanket zoning).

Improving the lack of ability to communicate directly with your elected councillor and to feel like your voice is being heard. To ensure they are bringing forward their constituents communicated feedback, concerns and idea's and not their own agenda.

Council must start working for the people. Listen and truly engage. Not just go through the motions and do whatever the hell you want regardless. No one wants their communities destroyed, and are open to finding solutions needed. Your way is wrong, will have significant consequences to existing homes and communities and you need to find a better, more mutually beneficial and cooperative way. Bring it to a vote.

More in person meetings with constituents....no more hiding.

No comment

There needs to be serious governance changes at the highest level. The propaganda around the Green Line is gross to watch as a taxpayer and could not occur unless there were serious problems at the highest levels of this municipal government.

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If the councillor is not representing the voice of the constituents and has voted in changes that residents do not approve of there should be a process to remove them from council before their term ends
Simply representing us accurately
Representing their community's best interest and not necessarily the interests of city council as a whole.
Hold plebiscites for all major proposed changes (i.e., rezoning).
leaving their woke agenda at home...having some common sense about what constituents want
Actually do what people want instead of progressive pet projects.
Actually stand up for your constituents. REZONING will only help the rich development companies. The city can get more tax dollars by increasing housing with infills but no one will be able to afford them. The winners are just big business and the city coffers. Renters and lower income people suffer.
Introduce term limits for all councillors and mayor. Introduction of mandatory conflict of interest reporting. i.e. Clr Cara owning property in Inglewood and failing to disclose while promoting re-zoning amendment. Introduce party affiliations as proposed by the Alberta Provincial government. Introduce full disclosure legislation for campaign promises to reduce unannounced initiatives like the Climate Emergency (Mayor Gondek) that were never campaigned on. Prohibit In camera council sessions. Go back to the basics of running Calgary and stop with woke self serving agendas i.e. LGBTQ2s protest bylaw, bag bylaw, blanket rezoning. Instead fix the roads, fix the water supply issues, fix infrastructure.
More plebiscites or City-wide surveys on major capital projects or proposed changes or policies that affect the majority of Calgarians (zoning, roads, crime) etc.
Make these councillors meet with their constituents in person, even those that disagree with them. The fact they they can ignore majority wishes in some ridings is galling
Muzzle the bureaucrats
Regularly scheduled open house opportunities to talk with our councillors face to face. I do not personally feel our councillor represents their Wards best interests, but those of City council as a collective.

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More notice for attendance on public meetings. Let citizens know that council is listening to concerns and trying to move forward with a path that takes concerns into plans. Currently it seems council likes to keep things closed doors and not allow Calgarians have the knowledge or input into their city.
Mayor should have less influence on matters of council...councillors should have more staff available to address concerns of constituents
explain their reasons for decisions they make and express the pros and cons that led to their decision. Right now it seems it is an independent vote as to how they feel. having ward meetings on issues like Jeremy Farkas had would go a long way to improving things.
uniting at a local community hall & discussing & making decisions that pertain to the local area we live in...
Be more transparent, don't bury items and citizen requests in political gobbledeegook.
Do not move to the party system.
Increasing the number of councillors would simply increase bureaucracy. Perhaps allow each councillor 'one more' senior staff member whom serves a specific role of constituency liaison.
Once elected, as mandatory, educating all Councillors to clearly understand their role in representing the citizens in their Ward.
We don't need more councillors. Action speaks louder than words, you want Calgarians "heard". You held a pleb on Fluoride years ago. You heard Calgarians. You haven't done what the electorate voted for. I think you hear us but its debatable whether you like what you hear and devote any energy to do what we want.
Yearly performance reviews conducted within Ward by the Ward Councilor
There's lot's of feedback mechanisms in place. Generally the feedback that I hear is that council feels that they know better and doesn't respond to the concerns of citizens. The city wide, blanket policy of densification being an example.
Plebiscites for city wide issues, e.g., blanket re-zoning. Code of conduct for Mayor and all Councillors. Non-biased representation.
Reorganize and get rid of at least 20% of the high priced exempt positions that add no value to the citizens of Calgary. PLEBISCITES for all critical, controversial and costly initiatives...Zoning Changes, Green Line, Arena, Climate Emergency, etc.

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Listen in the form of surveys, electronic communication, town hall meetings. They just charge ahead with whatever they perceive is the right direction. Gondek is the worst in this regard. Movement afoot to take her out. She should be asking why and address this directly with the citizens.

We do not need more big spender Councillors! Remember - YOU WORK FOR US! 1. ID political affiliations; 2. Provide detailed list of upcoming issues & explain how you would vote. 3. Try to reduce costs & taxes for a change - we are already overtaxed at all levels. 4. Do what Jerome Farkas did - have regular sessions with people to provide information, listen & tell us how he was thinking of voting. 5. This Mayor & Councillors - DO NOT REPRESENT THE PEOPLE.

Proper consultation with constituents would be beneficial in a town hall format, in surveys that are accessible to all (digital and paper).

Counselor's should reflect concerns and opinions of their constituents

They need to pay attention to their constituents more

Elected councilors should listen to their constituents' concerns and act accordingly

Listen to residents rather than developers.

Allow more plebiscites on money and planning matters. Reform recall provisions to be reasonable.

Review the option to align based on population.
Provide the mayor a proportional vote instead of one, similar to how the GTA is reviewing.

Do not allow a provincial/federal political system to operate municipally. The city must be a cohesive unit to progress further...if we make it more decisive than it can already be at times we're doing a disservice to Calgary.

stand up to council - less overcrowding / population and building in established neighborhoods

Looking to have a true democratic process in place. Need to have councillors represent their constituents not just voting in a block.
Need councillors in future to declare political affiliation.

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Listen to their constituents. We do not need more councillors but we need a democratic process where they represent their wards.
Representing your constituents and not pursuing your own agenda
Don't know at this time, disappointing though
Develop more on line referendums of the people to see what they want and go on from there. These would not cost as much and take as long as physical referendums.
1. Have a report card for each Councillor showing how well they have represented their constituents, 2. Set KPIs for the Council as a whole, 3. Stop voting where Councillors back the Mayor each and every time and publish a summary of how each Councillor has voted, 4. Publish a document that summarizes the performance of each Councillor for the year based on the KPIs that have been met.
Plebiscites from STAKEHOLDERS on decisions like blanket rezoning of neighbourhoods where some people have invested life savings.
Be accountable to the citizens in their ward not the developers.
More frequent communication with constituents
Have basic qualification requirements to even run for Council. Most of you are unqualified for the job and would not be hired in any organization that requires actual skills.
Stop ideology and implement practical solutions
We need councillors to solve problems specific to their ward, not to try save the world.
Being responsive after getting elected
When it comes to making big decisions like rezoning, for example, Glenmore Landing... One person is making a decision on behalf of entire communities that will affect the entire community. We've been given no information about infrastructure or how it will affect the community. This type of decision-making needs to be put before the community... As opposed to the councilor Making a decision like this which will change forever the community. Transparency needs to be evident here as well. A vote by the community on some of this magnitude should be required.
Allow Calgarians to speak and to "true" be heard and listened to. The people who live in various communities throughout the city know their communities best, not the Council.

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Plebiscites are a good start. For example blanket REZONING should be a plebiscite question.

First, allow municipal political parties. Second, in the election cycle limit the candidates or allow a run off election for the two with the highest percentage of votes. Third, no funding from City Employee Unions and Land/Property developers. Limit campaign contributions to limits imposed by the Province to Provincial political parties.

Do NOT go to a party system for city council, let's keep it as non-partisan as possible. Be more open to scrutiny and suggestions from the public that elected you. Do not allow recalls of council members unless there is criminal activity involved. Instead let democracy play out and don't vote for those you don't want in the next election.

Large decisions like blanket rezoning should be an election issue.

what the people want and to have their say

Survey the citizens to what is important to them. Even just online surveys

It should be mandatory for all councillors to have to meet their constituents in person and to allow for questions and answers during that period where they do not control what can be said ahead of time. The lack of accountability is beyond frustrating for residents.

I do not want to increase the number, that is not the answer. Make all councillors/Wards accountable. They have to attend the meeting or have a representative in attendance that can speak for our ward.

surveys or special information events for constituents to voice their concerns, using social media and news outlets to inform constituents of new policies or decisions upcoming in council

Actually concentrate on running the city in a fiscally responsible manner instead of doing stupid things like declaring a climate emergency.

For key decisions that have major changes and effects on residents (like affordable housing) doing things like a plebiscite to hear the community's voice. It seems like major issues that are being discussed and decided on by council were topics that were not voted on by the constituents when the election occurred and now are being decided by a council that seems to do what they think is best and not what the general public wants/feels is best

Take in account the economic situation and stop spending

Have referendum on key decisions like plastic use, rezoning etc. Focus on the residents rather than just development of downtown during this inflationary times

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- 1- Listen to the citizens of Calgary. When there is a significant indication that constituents want a referendum or plebiscite, follow through.
- 2- Council members should talk with Calgarians, not at Calgarians.
- 3- Encourage debate, not hostility. Stop trying to silence those who go against the majority. Find compromises.
- 4- Uphold the spirit of the law in the Municipal Government Act, particularly the clauses that require all councillors to be treated the same, and for council to act in good faith.
- 5- Have an objective Ethics Commission, one made up of three individuals chosen by volunteers. I suggest a Certified Fraud Examiner, an Ethics Professional, and a layperson. Have the Ethics Commission report their findings to the council and make all findings public record. The Ethics Commission could also investigate senior city employees, if there is a complaint. Give the Ethics Commission the right to refer cases to law enforcement when warranted.
- 6- Reduce the number of closed-door meetings. These meetings imply that the council is hiding something, which depletes public trust.
- 7- Make it easier to find reports on Calgary.ca. They are hard to find unless you know where to look for Council minutes and voting records.
- 8- Actively seek feedback from constituents regularly about job performance, at least twice a year. Use the constructive feedback provided to improve.
- 9- Establish public KPI's for council as a whole, at the start of each term, use those KPI's to measure council's effectiveness. For instance, a KPI could be to reduce the number of closed-door meeting by 5%, or to keep taxes below 5% increase per year, or to attract X number of new businesses to Calgary.

These online polls are a good start.
Mandatory open door meetings. Nothing should be behind closed doors. You serve the public, not keep us in the dark.
Continuous improvement training is another good idea.
Canvassing and actually meeting your voters is a fantastic opportunity to hear our needs, and see who votes for you. But you would have to personally do it to make it mean anything.
Remember, dealing with the people IS the job, not a tedious aspect of the job.

In the future we should all vote in person and show ID. We do realize it is impossible
Calgarians voted for Gondek!

Listen to Calgarians, big decisions should be part of a city wide vote or part of the elector platform. Stop pushing your own agenda and being so left/right of the average voter.

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To have representation, a minimum requirement would be for Councillors to be accountable to respond to questions, inquiries etc from from citizens. The current Council shows no accountability to the people and are using their position in office to further their own personal agendas. Especially Mayor Gondek.
I just want to know about decisions before they are put into place and being able to vote on them especially if they affect my area, tired of being blindsided by Calgary council.
Online polls / votes instead of in-person voting
By making individuals, families and communities the priority, not builders and developers who have had too much power and input in Calgary over the years. There is the perception by some that Council is in the pocket of Calgary builders and developers and that whatever they want is what will ultimately happen.
n/A
Invoke term limits. Coucillors like Carra have become entrenched in their own self worth and should have been gone long ago. Hold monthly town halls should be mandatory. Work FOR the people, not for unions and developers. Listen to the people first and foremost. Stop the idiotic woke self serving agendas. Hold the unelected beauracrats accountable for their actions. Stop wasting taxpayers money on vanity projects. Focus on basics like fixing roads and collecting garbage. Address the bloated city staff structure....fire middle and upper management and streamline staffing structure. Stop wasting money on 'engagement' sessions because the results and comments get ignored. Coucillor Penner should be fired for refusing to 'engage' with her constituents. Outlaw third party advertisers (TPA)s and special interest groups that peddle influence at election time.
We should have official votes on ideas in the municipal government decision making. Constituents should be allowed to take part more instead of being informed that their Councillor has an idea and has secretly passed it.
Listen to the residents and don't think you are the smartest in the city!!

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There has to be more checks and balances on why/how and should Councillors be allowed to vote against their own constituents. When they get voted in they totally forget it's about representing their ward. Once they get voted in - they act like dictators and only present their views on the issues - not the constituents.

Drastically reduces city spending, while increasing services. The level of inefficiency would not be tolerated in any other organization. Over the last couple of terms, taxes have gone up by significantly more than inflation, while services have been cut. All while council focuses on pet projects that no one in the city wanted in the first place. These waste of money need to stop, and we need to get back to basics focusing on what municipal government is actually for.

Listening to residents having open house so residents can provide input.

1) As previously stated, I would prefer a city-wide vote with allocation of seats based on number of votes, rather than a ward-based system.
2) In many countries I've lived in (e.g., Germany, the Netherlands) residents who have lived in the municipality for at least 2 years are entitled to vote in municipal elections, in recognition of the fact that they have a stake in elections at this level even if they do not have citizenship or permanent residency. I have no vote whatsoever where the city is concerned, but I'm still required to pay property taxes. I've been here > 3 years on a work visa and I feel like the decisions that the city takes affect me, also about whether I intend to stay in Calgary/Canada in the future. I'm pretty sure there are other highly skilled workers in my situation.

Weight decision-making according to effects on each ward. E.g. the proposed rezoning changes only affect wards with older communities (so those councillors' votes should carry more weight).

Council ignored the request of a large number of Calgarians for a plebiscite on residential rezoning.

Councillors need to remember who they work for - the taxpayers of Calgary

Reduce the size of government and focus on doing the job of serving citizens, instead of being financially irresponsible and dictating to citizens as if elected officials are better than ordinary citizens.

Increase the openness of council. Decrease confidential meetings and in camera sessions as much as possible and leave these to administration. Increase mandatory town halls or office hours. Open up city hall to citizens again.

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Community meetings on smaller issues. Significant input on larger issues - secure a mandate or hold a plebiscite when an issue is perceived by taxpayers to have a significant impact on them.
Having mini group of diverse individuals from each councillor ward to meet up with their councillor to discuss concerns and improvements within their ward.
We must do better. Councillors need to be objective and hear their constituents. Not project their own ideas onto the people they represent.
Redraw the electoral lines.
The counselors need to listen to who they claim they are representing. We got zero support of any kind from our counselor. Siding with the mayor for every topic without listening to any residents is our ward problem. Start LISTENING
Calgarians should be listened to. A great example of not listening to Calgarians is Council's refusal to look at a plebiscite on blanket rezoning. Rather than allowing Calgarians to make the decision by a vote, they will go with a public hearing. We all know that they pretend to listen to citizens and then just do as they wanted to in the first place. If you look at Calgary's history, there were many plebiscites in years gone by, which were a great way to allow citizens to have a say in many decisions. Listening to citizens would be a great way for Calgarians to feel that they are represented in municipal government decision making, but everyone on Council does what they want because they really don't care about Calgarians at all.
Get off the woke train
City CEO and Clerks should have no affiliation with the UN or any of their NGOs.
Replace City CEO and Clerk with men and women who do not work for the UN or one of it's NGO's Have the Mayor and councillors renounce all affiliations with UN Sustainable Development Goals and any Public Private Partnerships, seated elected officials will be sworn in under their public oath. This will establish geographical trustee authority. Mayor becomes Chief Executor of local Public Trust(s) Counsellors to form Board of Trustees
Reform the whole system to make sure city mayor and council look out for Calgarians. Leave the international non elected entities out of the city's business.
Plebesites on major issues - ie. zoning

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Listen to what Calgarians are saying. Stop trying to make everyone equal. Scrap this bs blanket rezoning proposal immediately and do better at serving the people that you work for. Remember that.

Restricting the number of years a councillor can sit to 2 terms

Leave the Ward system as it is do not move communities. Treat individuals with respect, unfortunately that's missing with many on current City Council.

Open Forums for citizens to learn about proposed changes or updates, present both sides of the topic in a friendly tone. Allow more time for big changes, this allows residents to be informed on all sides of the proposal. Most residents only "complain" when it affects them, if they were more informed ahead of time Community Associations would not have to fill the role of Cllr. trying to explain and soothe the anger. Perhaps create some requirements or skill sets for potential Council members? Realize that's a million dollar no no! Limit the amount that can be spent on campaigns currently the most colour full signs seem to be the winners. The more \$'s the winner. Third Party Advertisers must be divulged up front. Stop the Civic Unions from being involved in campaigns, that's self serving, eight on the current Council and Mayor were all part of the Civic Union slate - very wrong.

Keep Public Hearings for many issues that impact communities, allow residents to appeal to SDAB if guidelines have not been adhered to, this usually happens when relaxations are given to a development, Cllr should be involved with the residents in these issues, and explain the reasoning in a fair manner. Appoint citizens to more committees that take Cllrs. time, a mix of citizens and elected individuals provides a balanced result. Could go on about improvements, I'll leave it with my comments.

There should be annual or biannual meetings with residents and/or community association leaders to help determine what are the primary priorities of the residents at that time. Councillors should always remember that they were elected by the majority of the minority that turned out to vote, and not the majority of possible voters in the ward. They need to represent the views of all constituents whether they voted or not. There need to be more ways for residents to contact councillors and have their voices heard. Too many time council makes a decision and then does the consultation in order to check the box.

Councillors (like most politicians) have lost the trust of citizens. They say one thing when running for election, then do another after election. Perhaps it is time to introduce political parties to municipal elections. Then we might better know how they really think. Major decisions (such as blanket rezoning) should always be done by plebiscite (no exceptions). This will ensure that the decision is made by a large majority of people, not a handful of Councillors who are not really representing the will of the people.

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re-designing community outreach surveys to not specifically exclude the best possible idea to improve municipal representation (ie, increasing the number of Councillors/Wards)

I highly recommend that Calgary adopts a PR-STV voting system to better represent Calgarians.

Councillors need to weigh Administration's input with the input of their constituents. Administration often has different views and councillors need to go against these when it is appropriate as Admin wants to keep staffing high and doesn't want to acknowledge there may be overstaffing in some business units

Put on events and be seen.

More public votes or surveys. Solving the issues that we are facing today, not going with the flow of progressive ideas. Solve and improve real issues like safety for everyone, affordability, housing. Less money and time spent on special intent group committees and research into social issues. More unity and respect for Canada and Calgary history and important figures both left and right leaning. Everyone needs to be heard and represented not just special projects that council are focused on.

Stop the fake engagement exercises that occur after decisions have already been made behind closed doors. A party system at the local level is not a good idea, however, it is needed to evolve our municipal government from being a parasite that takes from taxpayers and gives to union members.

We need better engagement from Councillors. Proper engagement from Councillors AS members of the community, going out of their way to speak with people other than those with the time, energy and motivation to write their councillors. We need more events to get community members to communicate with each other and with their Councillor - especially in the suburbs, which are designed to be individualistic and isolating. It absolutely should be noted that those with the time, energy and motivation to write or meet their councillors are typically financially secure, securely housed, and are most likely to speak up when something isn't going their way (negativity bias) - at the intersection of all of these things, the most vocal tend to be against change. As such, it should be COUNCILLORS who go out of their way to engage with and potentially educate their constituents, not the other way around. I say this as a young person in my undergrad who knows many people my age who would benefit from getting to know their councillor but lack the knowledge of what their issues are, where to go, who to talk to, etc..

Focus on local issues! Forget about shoving the federal agenda down our throats

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more public engagement, possibly on a community level
I think Calgary would need to develop a secure, confidential app or website that could make it easier for Calgarians to receive information and communicate with councillors. This app/site could also have polls that won't be equivalent to an election, but could provide insight into how constituents are voting. This could also create jobs as councillors should probably hire a qualified person to monitor their specific part of the app/site, in order to moderate discussions and filter cranks from genuine contributions.
Remove Fluoride Use Poll technology
Fire Jyoti Gondek! Calgary needs a leader not somebody who is looking out for her own family and her own people, the Liberals. She doesn't give two [removed] about any citizen in Calgary unless it's part of her family or the liberal ideals. Fire the mayor now and maybe this city won't turn into complete [removed], cuz the way it's going, we're done
Municipal parties are needed - individual councillors push individual ideology at the expense of ALL constituents.
Get rid of the mayor and have actual paper ballot elections. Also fix the removal process. Get back to the conservative values that made this city great once upon a time
I believe that ALL TPA and PAC endorsements MUST be disclosed prior to and during the election period. Calgarians are uninformed about the 'dark money' and / or 'union funding' collected and used to fund 'chosen candidates' and are collectively questioning how so many councillors were elected that oppose the majority view within their respective wards.
Could counsellors poll their constituents on specific issues or policies which may be divisive or controversial vs just going by whoever happens to reach out to them or by their own opinion
I feel that Calgarians need to be heard when they show up and respond to public hearings and not move ahead just because they have made a side deal with a developer. For instance Glenmore Landing.
Neighbors who have engaged with City Councilors to try to make change have been met with brick walls -- decisions already made well ahead of when they go to public for comment. Ensuring early opportunities and then taking the feedback seriously is important. We don't necessarily need more tactics but we sure need the ones that are there to work better for us.

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Run online polls about decisions to make before to action them to know what do we think about them.
Getting rid of first past the post voting. Less gerrymandering of the wards a year before the election. This would go a long way in getting councillors that have more than 50% approval rating in their own wards. Seriously there is like 3 council members with more than 50% approval rating in their own ridings, ridiculous. It's supposed to be a popularity contest, not an unpopularity contest at city hall.
Making it so the mayor doesn't get a vote on council, and the mayor has to justify their actions/ actions of the city staff/ manager to council. Kind of like how the president of the United States has to justify their actions/ administration's actions to the US Congress/ Senate.
All members of the council and the mayor should resign immediately.
Reversing the "single use" bylaw that was implementing in January. For the major to answer questions that are answered of her.
Reduce the number of counsellors to 9
Attitudes need to change towards Calgarians! Taxpayers are being treated with great disregard!! Stop ignoring our voices for your own agendas. We need to work together and not be dictated to!
Letting tax payers of the city having more input into how the tax dollars a being spent
Definitely do NOT increase councillors we don't need to be paying for more bureaucracy. Conduct more surveys and open communication
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- better conflict of interest guidelines-better ward representation (councillors should only be able to run in a ward they currently live in), it should be a pre-requisite to be able to run for that ward-councilors need better communication tools - city hosted ward websites are totally blank while they are spewing garage on twitter.-councilors should be required to have a 100% response rate to ward inquires
Allow plebiscites to be used so that you can determine what the people want. Send out more engagement emails but don't just send them out read and reply and listen. If you want us to engage then be ready for the good bad and indifferent views. After all we are the people and the councillors work for us the people of each and every ward

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I honestly feel that our current mayor and most of the council (over half of them) are extremely dismissive of the opinions and concerns from the the citizens of Calgary. They seem to be acting on their own agenda's and quite frankly have forgotten they work for the citizen who voted them in.

Engagement with citizens in a manner of listening and documenting, not instructing and presenting pre-determined changes.

When the Mayor wanted to allocate money from the City to fight the PQ Bill on religious symbols, that felt like a massive waste of time and potentially money. My recommendation is to stay in your lane! The latest land use by-law change process has been a joke. The \$1M letter campaign resulted in letters arriving in our mailboxes with less than a month until the final meeting on April 22nd. The meeting will draw hundreds / thousands of attendees, who are furious about this issue and the decision has already been made, so what is the point. The council majority will not stop this freight train from crashing into our neighbourhoods. So if this was the plan perhaps that should have been part of their election campaigns. Many people I know did not understand that Councillor Walcott had a Defund to Fund button on his election website. It was during COVID, there were no debates and he basically lied at the door when he told parents he was going to make things safer for their kids because he was a teacher at Western and understood that safety along 17th Ave was an issue. Given the increase in crime in the City, I'm not sure that defunding the police is a big idea. The Mayor should have run on a clear platform and not have announced the day after she was elected that she was declaring a Climate Emergency as people felt duped and misled. At this point, I'd back a party system like Vancouver and Montreal have as long as we still have Councillors that represent wards. It would allow us to hold our political leaders accountable. Controversial issues should have greater transparency so that we know where our councillors + the Mayor stand on issues before there are votes that impact our personal livelihoods, home values, tax rates etc.

Stop woke politics

Common sense

The taxing to help the climate is insane.

If you don't like oil and gas. Then stop using it. For all things in your life. Say goodbye to the internet. You need o&g for that

Organize bi-annual plebiscites to approve or reject budgets, taxes , spending, any project above 5 million Dollars.

Already answered above.

After the Ballot

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Create more formal interaction with the citizens of Calgary through city run polling, referendums, community workshops/forums, ect... Find out what your constituents actually care about, both on a municipal level, and also a ward by ward one. Actually listen to the feedback you get, even if it does not mirror your own personal beliefs. You were elected to do what your constituents want you to do, not what you personally want to do.

Remember, you work for Calgarians. You are our voice when dealing with the provincial and federal government. Your aim is to achieve what is best for Calgarians, and what reflects the wishes of your constituents, not what outside interests see as important and attempt to push at the expense of the people you serve.

Insisting councillors go through some training and education including financial management.

Look for ways to decrease spending . Put an end to tax increases and discontinue spending on climate emergency. Stop spending money on ideas that don't work. Paper bag tax, plastic bag and straw tax. Don't we already pay recycling collecting fees and property taxes? Why the extra tax on something we are going to recycle, which is also a tax? We need more plebiscites. Councillors are not voting with their constituents, otherwise they would not have given themselves a raise while some are needing to use food banks.

Stop the 15 minute community thinking to control people. This is not CCP, it's Calgary. Have the mayor stop being so narcissistic. She is paid by us tax payers so get more humble.

Councilors should have to go door to door to hear our issues. Especially Wallcott! He wouldn't deal with a problem if his life depended on it .

Plebiscite on largest issues. If you need a dedicated line on 311 for novel issues due to the number of concerns (example rezoning) residents should have more of a direct say in the decision.

Make meetings mandatory. They can not represent if they are not held accountable to work.

Meet with constituents monthly

Local traffic signage, problems; house zoning, parking; libraries and community access

Sandstone drive and sandarac drive corner with Chevron... needs lights, 4 way stop, anything!!! It's madness seeing so many almost collisions, and people running the stop Sign.. or even running OVER the stop sign... check 311!! We've reported it so many times. Surveys are wrong, we actually need the upgrade to anything. Even a round about would be perfect!

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More town halls with a counsellor that takes the opinions of others into consideration. Periodic surveys in the ward they represent to receive more representative feedback. Information session to Calgarians on how council works and what they do.

More councillor staff, better clarity where and why feedback is accepted or not accepted, removal of many minor land use items from using so much of councillor's time

Reduce the number of wards and councillors. Reduce upper and middle management positions. Too many chiefs and not enough Indians

Reducing the size of Council and for that matter the size of city hall and employees

Get rid of Gondek and Penner

Actually listen to the public. Not having a plebiscite on the refining issue is an asinine, dictatorial move that you will hopefully pay for come election time.

Not having closed door meetings..always having the public engagement in important decisions for Calgary....listen to the public..not just push thru agendas...too much damage has been done in Calgary over the last several years. We can see the decisions being made are not what Calgarian's want...just spend, spend, spend.....

I actually believe that less wards with multiple councillors in each ward would better represent us. My current councillor does not represent me at all. Also, as Plebiscites are non-binding, expensive and time delayed, I'd like to see them replaced by a survey similar to this one to determine where the majority of the citizens stand on the bigger issues. It would be a more efficient and cost effective method to take the pulse of the public you serve.

more accountability once elected - by elections if approval rating drops below a certain percent, easier recall process, no more 3rd party advertising, disclose every donor, get conflict of interest out of private developers, bild etc out of city boards, get rid of foreign lobby ideological group ties, wef, strong towns, 100 resilient cities/rockefeller, More Neighbors etc

In the current climate, we need more direct plebiscites, so that the people's voice can actually be heard! Our so called 'representatives' almost always fail to represent anyone but themselves (voting for higher taxes and their own raises seems particularly vile).

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Allow for different methods to hear from the people you represent. Have online, phone in, in person opportunities for your constituents to provide input on city matters. Show the results of the input from constituents to everyone and then vote according to the results from the people.

Again, I would like see online votes/conversation so people who cannot make those meetings are included and they should be held in the evening or online anytime so working people can participate. I feel we hear about policies after they are being put through which is dirty politics and not a majority vote.

Actually listening to Calgarians. For example we do not want a public hearing in regards to the blanket rezoning, we want a plebiscite and we want to have our say because this decision affects the biggest purchase of our lives which is our house value. Council should not ignore us and just make their own changes, this is unethical and unfair.

Reject political parties at the municipal level. Make it easier for those with limited mobility to vote, like mail in ballots, ability to vote in multiple places, allow seating at polling stations for those who cannot stand in line. Fire Sean Chu. Find a way to get him out legally

The current city council does not value citizen input and feedback. When input is solicited, we are being blatantly told the decisions are already made. Representatives should have some respect for the citizens who elect them and be willing to listen to our ideas and suggestions BEFORE making decisions.

Many Councillors have decided that they will vote in opposition to the preferences of their constituents to foster an "equity reset" at massive expense to those they represent. Members of Council have decided that "they know best." And that means that Calgary via no longer a democracy. Tax-payers have no representation. Very sad.

Implement city level political parties so that something can actually be achieved.

Time for council to stand up for Calgary. Tell the country Calgary we are closed for business. We are choker block full of immigrants internationally and from other provinces. We cannot handle additional migration. It has put a strain on all services. In addition, push back with Premier Danielle Smith about the "Alberta Calling" Campaign. Reduce property tax payments to the province. Request increase funding from the provincial government due to the influx for all services that are barely hanging on like education, water, electrical, homelessness, crime etc. Push back with Justin Trudeau! We will take the \$242M home subsidy without strings attached. Renegotiate the terms. It is time to stand up for Calgary. Anyone entering our city does not qualify for any aid/benefits until after they have paid 2 years of Federal and Provincial taxes. I am tired of paying for the less fortunate that have migrated to our city.

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Accepting input from the residents. Too many decisions are made without consultation.
Stop having councillors just for a ward. Councillors at large - those who represent all and not just one area of the city
On major issues like blanket rezoning, a councillor should have to prove they represent their constituents. Additionally, the councillors should work more closely with community associations which should also have to prove they represent the majority of their residents and are not promoting their personal view on an issue.
Put specific issues to a plebiscite!
I do not think increasing the number of wards is necessary. Reforming the voting system to ensure that a mayor or councilor is elected as a result of having more than 50% of the vote is most important. Making councilors accountable to all constituents through regular face to face communication such as town halls is also very important. Revealing where a mayor or councilors campaign donations are coming from, from the start of the campaign.
Making election promises is not just a ploy to get elected. As an example, none of these councillors campaigned on "blanket re-zoning", and yet there are the "Hateful Eight" who are determined to push it through. Councillors should be held accountable for what they say during their campaigns and what they omit.
Listening to their constituents. It's VERY clear that calgary does not accept blanket rezoning and yet they are pushing this through. This is going to end up negatively for the councillors as they refuse to listen to us.
There are so many people living pay check to pay check right now, and all the councillors do is raise taxes, raise the cost of electricity etc. Need to work on a plan to help people out of this tremendous cost of living right now. Why are we spending millions on a arena when there are thousands going to the food bank each day to be able to eat. Seniors are the ones that made this province what it is today, but we are forcing them to live in their cars and not take their medications because they have to either pay rent or eat. Councillors need to get their heads out of the sand and live try and live in other peoples shoes.
Better quality of people

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I feel that the bulk of the Ward 3 residents would benefit most if the community of Hidden Valley merged with Ward 2 and the communities of Sandstone Valley and Macewan Glen merged with Ward 4. This would contribute to the uniqueness that is the Northern Hills, and aligns more with the demographics of the respective areas. In addition, the huge and fast growth of Livingston; Carrington and Lewisburg will more than make up the population concerns that there may be. It also makes use of the "natural" boundaries of Beddington Trail/ West Nose Creek valley (to the south); 14th Street to the west and Deerfoot Trail to the east.

Thank you for your consideration.

[personal information removed]

More quick online surveys for the public like this one. Not sure this is the right forum for this but I do not want the proposed rezoning in McKenzie Lake. And especially not in areas that are currently green space. Green space areas are extremely important for mental health. As for increasing density, it is already frustrating that many of my neighbours with driveways and two car garages choose to park in front of my house and some use it as long term storage to park vehicles for months on end. Perhaps better bylaws might help with this and not leaving the onus on the person frustrated to report potentially damaging relationships.

Be transparent about what they're hearing from their constituents and how that's informing their vote. Specifically going out of their way to hear from people that have not reached out and shared their thoughts (i.e. not just listening to the loudest voices. Representing not just those who already live in their ward but all of those who will live there in the future (children, new residents, canadian and international migrants)

When decisions councillors are making are very controversial, it should be out to a public vote. And these votes should be grouped by neighbourhood in each ward so the councillor can see where each opinion is coming from and understand why and how not affects each community differently. It's hard to blanket an entire ward when the needs of each community within it are different

More wards and councilors won't help fight the bias and lack of transparency. Fix that first. If someone pushes fluoridation at us then publicly and in the news share the FACTS from both sides of the argument and not just the side of the people with money and the agenda to force their arguments on all of us. Sorta like an investigative unbiased report to all on both sides of an argument so that everyone. Councilors and constituents can make a clear decision with all the facts possible

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Multi councillor wards. It's clear that the personal bias of a single Councillor per ward can result in many Calgarians not being heard. If there were multiple Councillors, this would allow for differing viewpoints to be heard. This could be done with the current 14 Councillors.

Have more on-line statistically accurate public surveys on an individual ward basis to more objectively obtain public opinions/directions on salient matters rather than our Councillor just guessing as to what she perceives is the majority public consensus regarding the subject matter.

With a very divided council, we as citizens are frustrated that we have a Mayor with her same eight votes and how they are running their own agenda. How can you find more fair balance between them? They need more engagement with our individual community leaders. If the # of community leaders tell them they are off track with as many as 6 votes, things need more real investigation and input, rather than our Mayor always winning. We need a mayor who is more willing to listen when a plebiscite is asked for.

I believe the overall amount of our city development is interfering with people's enjoyment of their communities. Real problems are being ignored. Standing up in front of council has proven to be a waste of time. How is that working for us? It just is not. You need to revamp the administration behind the scenes that are driving things.

They need to listen to residents, we are from all backgrounds and all have positive suggestions for improvements. Council members need to remember they are not experts they are elected politicians. Experts on any subject live in every community in Calgary, it's time to listen.

Making Calgary more sustainable. Food waste reduction, reducing taxes and rental price caps. Working to build affordable housing instead of all these overpriced condos that no one can afford. Get rid of the residential parking payment and the bylaw to have to pay for paper bags at a restaurant. Create indoor gardening spaces for communities.

Listening to the Ward instead of pushing their own personal views. More often they push their own agenda, after lying to get elected, such as Gondek and Mian. There should also be term limits, two terms max.

We vote in our Councillors and then they don't listen to us, or don't vote the way we the majority want them to. The Councillors vote based on their own personal opinions. They stop representing their constituents as soon as they are in power. Democracy is not working for residents of Calgary when their Councillors won't listen to the people of their wards.

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<p>When large changes are to occur, like rezoning or the arena, going to plebiscite so it is representing the people's decisions.</p>
<p>Councillors need to vote in alignment with majority constituents. Councillor can acquire constituents preferences on decisions through structured engagement meetings, surveys such as this, city council meetings where public speaks. The key though is to reflect the feedback in the vote, nit just check a box saying that we asked fir engagement but will ignore and vote the opposite of what the majority of constituents want.</p> <p>Portion of Councillor pay could be tied to # of constituents that they engage with to create incentive to meet with as many constituents as possible and provide platforms for constituents to give as much feedback as possible.</p> <p>More plebiscite on big issues. Anything that would cost more than x amount or impact more than 25% population requires plebiscite.</p>
<p>See previous answer</p>
<p>Assigning a Board of representatives from with each ward to oversee Nd ensure Constituents are being heard something which is not currently happening.</p>
<p>There should be a mandatory Indigenous council member to start. Plebiscites should also take place if the public demands one.</p>
<p>Either have councillors elected on a city wide vote or have them accountable to their constituents</p>
<p>Reducing the number of candidates prior to final vote so that similar electoral platforms don't result in vote splitting such as what happened in Ward 8 and Ward 9.</p>
<p>Do your actual job. So busy with pet projects you don't do the right thing. First off if the job didn't pay enough why did you run? If it was so unsafe you need security why did you run? If you love a bike why do you need a car allowance. You eat steak on a Kraft dinner budget. All the hateful 8 out. Last thing needed is more high price members of the fat cat council. Pathetic</p>
<p>Educate councilors on their fiduciary responsibility and their obligation to undertake them.</p>
<p>Talk to Calgarians. Pretty simple. Represent the people to represent.</p>

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Residents should be able to get motions put forward by any sympathetic Councillor, rather than being forced to deal with just one Councillor. Our Councillor refuses to listen to residents or put forward motions that are supported by them and by other Councillors. If our Councillor doesn't put forward the motion, it cannot be discussed or supported by Council-- this is WRONG!

Do not move to an at-large system. That dilutes the effectiveness of Councillors who no longer represent the specific interests of one area.

As much as the City and the Mayor Calgarians are heard, I do not believe this is so. There is currently a majority bloc of Councillors whose platforms never said anything about declaring a climate emergency as a first order of business, hyper-inflated tax increases, banning single use items at drive throughs, or fundamentally changing our neighbourhoods through blanket rezoning. And when Calgarians objected to these matters, their views were ignored because Councillors know citizens have no recourse. A more realistic recall system would help hold Councillors more accountable - we all know the current recall system makes it all but impossible to recall a Councillor or the Mayor. Councillors have to spend more time with their constituents, in real life (not through surveys or letters), perhaps even more time, than they do with City administrators.

Focus on local issues. City Council has no business declaring a climate emergency, that is not a local issue. Listen to Calgarians and stop making tone-deaf choices. For example, stop giving yourselves raises, while Calgarians can't even pay their bills. Stop virtue signalling and just focus on improving things for Calgarians.

The current council continues to spend with an apparent lack of concern for the residents. I find it appalling that a tax hike that was approved to be 7.8% (which is ridiculous due to the outrageous spending of this council) is now an 8.6% - how is that possible? It's always so easy for this mayor and council to blame others. Where is the transparency, and why can't the council adjust their budget to maintain the originally approved 7.8%. There was absolutely no need for the City of Calgary to invest in a building (the new arena) that will benefit so few residents of Calgary; and mainly the wealthy. A long awaiting fieldhouse that can be used by the public keeps getting stalled. The current focus on the Housing crisis, although important, seems to be solely focused on a rezoning of the entire City. Cities across Canada are experiencing the same challenges and should be consulted before such a measure is put in place. Why isn't this being taken to a plebiscite? This council really doesn't listen or engage with its residents. This is the most ineffective costly council Calgary has seen in the 38 years I've lived in Calgary. They are simply out of touch and not listening.

SOMEONE with an OUNCE of common sense needs to get in front of these imbeciles

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Our municipal government is in need of a drastic overhaul. Many years of unions controlling who gets elected has result in a culture at this municipal government that is embarrassing to watch as a hard working citizen. City leadership seems to be focused on how much it can take from citizens and redistribute to friends and family. This government has not been financially responsible for many years and it is hurting most citizens. This government should stop to recognize that most citizens do not believe this government has baseline competence to do its job and this belief is based on what we see everyday. Having a party system at the civic level is not a good idea; however, it is needed to restore competence within Calgary's municipal government.

I was going to say increasing the number of wards. Councillors organizing more collaboratively and coherently on different issues would be helpful for Calgarians to understand issues, especially city wide issues

Implementing transparency measures such as live streaming council meetings and ensuring easy access to public records.

Get rid of this mayor and all the councillors she has in her pocket

The mayor saying on the radio that she will go ahead with rezoning regardless of any plebiscite is not listening. Just another dictatorship decision.

Stop giving everyone on city council unnecessary raises

Stop ignoring what Calgarians are saying. Public hearings are for show to make people feel they have a voice when in fact, the decisions have already been made. Give us back our ARPs so we can determine how our communities grow. Stop making tonnes of bylaws that are based upon personal feelings of city council and not reflective of the majority of Calgarians. Stop raising taxes and fees. Live within your means and stop decorating downtown all the time. Stop stupid bike lanes on streets. Stop acting like only some parts of Calgary are important than others. If you outsource, there better be some layoffs.

Town halls. Actually listening to citizens and not having the "we as councilors know what's best for the City" attitude.

There needs to be limits to what individuals and unions can donate to a campaign. This is so federally and should be municipally as well. We are all aware of the millions funneled into the campaign by local unions. This is just wrong as it sets up the council member to be an ear to the union.

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Again, actually consult with the public and advocate for their choices. Stop the 1 size fits all mentality and truly try to help Calgary become a gem with character, green space, interesting special destinations, for example Princess Island Park. Interesting and safe public squares with greenery, coffee shops and unique features...similar to those throughout all the great Cities in Europe/UK. Don't fall back on saying/acting likethe Municipal Government Act states this...therefore we must blindly follow it without negotiation and input. Don't be BOUGHT by the Federal etc government to adopt policy that will turn Calgary into this bland hodgepodge of neighbourhoods.

Councillors should have to use quadratic voting which is be applied in the US and other countries. One to one vote representation on Council items is silly especially with you have members completely checked out (i.e Maglioca, Steven etc) . The city staff should also have a website or online resource which consolidates a Councillors last vote and position on every agenda item. No more meeting Calgarians in communities then voting the opposite way. Finally, I don't care if a Councillor or liberal, ndp or conservative as long as they remember they are a Calgarian first and need to behave to what Calgarians need and not what a party line tell them.

Calgarians are struggling yet council prioritizes their salary raise.

I like the ward system.
I DO NOT WANT POLITICAL PARTIES OR SLATES
My councillor pays more attn to residents and city needs.

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Council has abandoned any pretense of impartiality. Votes are regularly pre determined outcomes with councilors advocating to their side before meetings as viewed by their X accounts where they have blocked any dissenting voices. There is more virtue signaling and pandering to select groups and causes than there is actual city work going on. I want to see objective, measurable data used in council decisions. For example, if public input has shown that 90% of people are opposed, then I want it to be an uphill battle for council to approve it. Just because it doesn't align with their cause-de-jour doesn't mean they get to overturn the people who they are supposed to represent. I also feel that using measurable data would help avoid the conflicts of interest some councilors struggles with (developers/donations/personal interests). In addition I think additional scrutiny by another body on contentious decisions might help restore some faith. Admin, the city and council regularly publish plans, outlines and guides (there is an overwhelming amount) and when it comes down to a decision they throw all of that out the window so go with a whim. For example, there are ARPs, LRPs, development guides, the MDP, and neighbourhood plans. Yet, when a re-zone application comes along they ignore all of that previous work and consultation and use their own "moral compass" as a guide. City admin is just as bad- twisting select clauses and other plans and guides to suit their needs. I want to see an external party review how an application, decision, aligns and adheres with policy. Honestly the city spends so much time and energy on Engage and plans and outlines only to throw it all out the window when it comes time to use it. (See - Marda Loop main streets streetscape master plan completely ignored, Currie revised plan (RICHMOND GREEN PARK RE ZONE), parks plan, open space plan, MDP.. the list goes on and on.

We need to set the bar a little lower for citizens to have a referendum. Then the City should enact the use of referendums at EVERY election. They do it in Sweden, Denmark and Norway. Every Civic election is accompanied by (sometimes) several referendum questions. The results of these referencums is published along with election results. This makes democracy more inclusive but it also stops Councilors from being treated like rarified board members of a corporation holding title to a position they were somehow trained for.

See previous comments

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1. A policy to respond to citizen inquires. I ask my councilor questions and get NOTHING back.
2. A mandate to focus on their ward and constituents - not global issues or ones we already fund
3. Better social media policies - my councilor consistently publishes 3 page social justice statements and pre-determines his positions on council votes via twitter but won't respond to my emails about theft in our area - he then blocked me. If these councillors are going to only discuss news and view via twitter they have to be open to all.
4. Background checks and criteria before someone can run for council. (Like, live in the area, you can't be a developer schill, have a criminal investigation open or a cash underhand mortgage on prime development land. Maybe hire an additional ethics commissioner.

Major decisions should be with public participation like plebesites. Anything (like re-zoning) that concerns the entire city should not be brought forward by Administration (unelected and mostly unknown) for Council only voting!

- actually answer emails/communication from constituents
- vote based on constituents vs personal views
- actually spend time in the community you serve

Just come out of their offices and talk to people. Why is NE discriminated against in the city?

Provide long-term property / business owners, (who are ALSO residents) more voice, perspective, influence. Anyone who's lived, worked, paid taxes etc. for 20 + years deserves extra attention perhaps by invited consultation.

Replace the single councillor wards with multi-councillor districts that would allow proportional representation and would make sure every citizen has a representative that agrees with their opinions.

Council currently works fine. The only problem is that the population doesn't know enough and the media should be paid more attention to.

I believe that party politics have no place in municipal governance and am deeply opposed to the Government of Alberta's consideration of legislation to introduce formal political affiliations (parties) at the municipal level. While I understand that the GoA can and will likely introduce the concept of municipal political parties, I believe that the City of Calgary should explore what it needs to do to insulate itself from any enacted legislation on behalf of its citizens, including and not limited to eventual legal and court based remedies.

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Citizen question period with their councillor. More transparency with admin decisions.

An election to ensure the right people are in the job

More info on how our Councillor votes and explain why they vote they way that they do. Convince me they voted in my best interest and not how the majority of Council wants them to vote.

If it helps the people I am for the increase. But my biggest problem with most Council members is there not held accountable for their misuse of perks. If you break the rules a slap on the wrist is not good enough. You are stealing from the people that employ you. If I steal from my employer, I will be fired.
They must learn to lead by example

Plebiscites for important issues.

Just listen to the public. Also, cuts expenses. Institute zero based budgeting. Quit protecting civic jobs at the expense of higher taxes. And, stop the treath of service cuts if taxes are reduced. Lastly, change from an address based tax system to an occupent based tax system otherwise the school tax portion will not keep up when extended families or secondary suite occupants live at the same address.

I would like to see City Council work as a team, I don't see any middle ground in decisions these days just a lot of infighting that I am tired of hearing about.

I honestly think the current system works quite well. Individual councilors are elected based on proportional representation and therefor council as a whole broadly represents the direction the electorate wants to go in. I think it may be worth while to bring in a ranked ballot system as this would more accurately reflect the political diversity in the city. This system has been shown to be more democratically representative than the current form we are using.

the Alberta government's idea to have parties in local government is a very bad idea..cities are for people not parties

votes on motions should have compelling proof from the ward residents that the councillor is voting to those wishes

Banning party affiliations; we already have enough partisanship in politics, we certainly don't need more.

Post how each councilor votes on each issue and allow them 3 sentences to explain. This should be a permanent public record.

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Ensure that party affiliations are not included in municipal government. Party alignment just ensure that the person representing a ward is representing their party rather than the constituents. Offer ways within wards for concillors to gather feedback from constituents, from simple polls to townhalls. Once voted in, it does not feel like the councillors are actually engaged and involved with the community.

There needs to be a better system for engagement with Councillors. If I write to my Councillor, I either get completely ignored, or get a form letter response from an assistant with no substantive content. I understand Councillors are busy and can't spend hours on every single inquiry, but at the same time the system feels broken in its current form and I don't feel that my viewpoints are being represented or my concerns are being addressed. My Councillor does not make efforts to engage with constituents; this should be made a mandatory part of their role with some sort of accountability attached.

Enact a party system so we (the population) know what we are voting for. Too many people do not educate themselves on who the candidates are and this would make it easier for those people

Wards need realigned to a hub and spoke radial system. Current inner city and suburb only wards are not effective.

Bring back multi-member wards and ranked ballots. We should return to using the proportional single transferable vote (PR-STV). Calgary used various forms of STV from 1917-1971. The City should adopt a modern Irish-style PR-STV. With 14 councillors, Calgary should be divided into two 4-member wards and two 3-member wards. Adopting PR-STV would make the results far more proportional and eliminate the spoiler effect of FPTP that saw some members of council elected with less than 30% of the vote.

Calgarians should have a say in important decisions such as tax hikes and rezoning

Have the political party that these people support be included in their platform when they are running for election.

Councillors can conduct their own ward only 'public hearings' to hear from their constituents in advance of discussing contentious matters in council meeting.

viable recall legislation so we can remove these condescending, clearly "smarter than us" representatives.

Allow Calgarians to attend sessions to present their views. Allow Calgarians to vote on big issues like fluoride in the water and let them independently audit the results.

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A complete review of Cory of Calgary expenditures. Control government spending and reduce the property taxes and increase needed services.
The mayor needs to listen to the concerns and not just push thru her wants
Improve the recall system. If a councillor isn't doing what they said they would, recall them
Perhaps developing a tier-2 like support within the councillors office for Calgarian's requests not met by normal services - something pooled and professionalized rather than being left to the councillors offices
Listen to our opinions and then follow the majority. No one elected you on raising taxes, changing zoning, etc.
There needs to be clear records that are accessible to the public on how every council member votes on every motion presented to council.
Listening to their constituents.
Calgary has severely gone downhill over the years in many facets due to the current socialist/liberal Council (and Mayor).
Quarterly Town Hall meetings so residents have a chance to be heard.
Increasing the number of Councillors should be an option. The current wards are too populous. In lieu of that, Councillors need more staff.
More constituent input to their councilors. Have an online newsletter asking for input.
Don't assume that the general public is uneducated and can't possible have a valid option on important topics. Listen to the people and remember you answer to them, not your own personal interests and opinions.
Have more open forums. Advertise them more. Make them online. More surveys that are actually representative and not open link where special interest groups take them over or online panels that are infested with bias.

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Better partnerships with community associations to create authentic hubs for meaningful community engagement! My experience in Calgary over 24 years is that when the city does "engagement" it is most often at the very lowest level according to IAP2 standards; information sharing. This has been most obvious recently with the city planning department regarding community Local Area Plans work and with the blanket rezoning issue. Council says engagement occurred; but truly only information sharing happened. The department is already set on the recommendation it will make to council and the engagement sessions did not inform the recommendations.

On policy issues for the city, I think it would be ideal for a process of time bound steps to be created that gives citizens opportunity to:

1. Learn about the problem that needs solving
2. Learn about possible solutions that are in evidence elsewhere: along with the shortcomings.
3. An honest communication with citizens about the level of input that can be expected and why (IAP2), and an opportunity to challenge this with councillors if there is significant discord.
4. Engagement (that Involves and or Consults; if not collaborates) at the ward level that is meaningful and that influences recommendations arising from each ward.
5. Feedback from Community associations in partnership with the appropriate councillor for those associations is brought forward to committee and/or council to create recommendations and or to inform voting at council.

I also believe a City Council should stay focussed on civic issues and steer clear of sweeping or broad social issues that lie beyond the influence of councils purview.

Obviously this cannot occur for single thing but we are sadly lacking any process of real engagement where recommendations caring from administration to council are actually informed and influenced by citizens input up front. A budget allocation for community associations to be at the forefront of community engagement is probably a realistic need.

Establishing regular town hall meetings with citizens and then following up with them on their concerns. Offering tangible solutions that can be tracked and escalated if necessary.

Again, actually listening to Calgarians would be the first step. Allowing us to have a voice in the decision making. This would be the simplest and most basic step to move forward (again specific to our mayor).

Increased use of advisory boards engaging diverse members of the public (probably driven from the community boards

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There should be more transparency throughout government and less back-door dealing. This certainly includes escalating budgets for major projects. Power corrupts and secrecy corrupts as well. The public has very little trust in Council.

The website is hard to use for citizens. Having one central online account so we can do everything from it like one the province has.

An interesting area to look into would be - would it be better to have at large Councillors. Not sure if that's the right term, but Councillors elected for the whole City rather than by Ward - so they have a whole city perspective. I'm not sure if this is better, but might help see eye to eye and allow for a larger number of elector to elect each Councillor. You could have staff that are employed by the Councillors as a whole who are responsible for individual ward issues, etc. Just a thought for something to be investigated.

Improve the Calgary311 website interface. I've stopped using it (not in 2 years so if it's been upgraded, I apologize) because it requires me to identify issues in the context of the city's organizational chart by department. I invariably choose wrong. Occasionally things are obvious but the last time I wanted to comment on a project that was designed to improve sidewalk crosswalk access on corners, and work was left incomplete while the corners were completely inaccessible for months. I believe I discovered that Roads were responsible for sidewalks. Whodda thunk it?

Make voting mandatory and offer more flexible options for people to vote, e.g. online. The census which really doesn't impact people's lives much is.

Focus more on local issues that affect people. We don't need to participate in legal challenges outside of Calgary, we don't need a consumables fee in fast food restaurants. We need bike infrastructure, we need better transit, we need more densification.

Reduce the number of councillors, increase the number of committees and expert committee members and increase the number of staff in the ward offices.

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Candidates need to present an honest campaign platform during the election and be held to account for it if they are elected. Listening to Calgarians cannot be over emphasized and is sorely lacking. Engagement information, public hearing presentations, general feedback from constituents is mostly ignored in favour of the councillor's personal views or objectives. So-called engagement is not true engagement but rather an attempt to convince citizens that council's position is the right one... essentially a sales pitch. Real engagement needs to be a conversation, both giving and receiving information. The City uses it as simply a box to tick in the process and feedback is rarely, if ever, considered. Additionally after listening to several public hearings, I have heard councillors bully, argue and disrespect citizen's viewpoints. Plebiscites should be held on big issues, although they could be largely avoided if Council actually listened through the mechanisms already in place.

If we are going to keep the ward system, I would like to see the wards split differently so that every ward contains a mix of suburban, semi-urban and urban communities. I also think that it would be valuable for there to be a shared engagement resource unit for Council that is directly focused on helping Councillors proactively engage with under-represented groups.

Start listening to citizens. Council works for us not the other way around.

I don't think most Calgarians know the Engage website exists. Ask yourselves how you can ensure the public engagement processes accessible to anyone too busy to attend an open house are well known about. Try to avoid leading questions and only ask for feedback when it's actually going to be taken into consideration, to avoid the general skepticism many people have about the engagement process.

Councillors MUST listen to constituents!

Transparency. This government hides as much as it can behind closed doors which is a recipe for corruption and waste.

They need to remain true on what they are elected on, and not change direction as soon as they take office. They need to focus on areas that are within the municipal jurisdiction and not focus on areas that fall under provincial and federal jurisdiction. Focus on city matters and not global matters.

1st of the current council and mayor are useless the never listen to calgarians and doesn't represent calgarians, ask them to represent ppl not developers and big corporations

Plebiscites

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More councilors more direct democracy, better website UX and UI. Better communication (no technical jargon or dense text) be more like a tech company in communicating features.

The website for seeing building permits in my neighborhood is horrific.

I have been invited to multiple "feedback" sessions put on by councilors that have been used as a way to try to convince their constituents that the councilor's existing views are correct. With no interest in getting feedback from voters or changing policy to fit what Calgarians want. I suggest having actual discussions and listening to their constituents instead of treating us like naughty children whenever we disagree with what the council wants.

Plebiscites for city wide important topics. This is the only option if we aren't going to increase council members, and give them the time to actually understand people's issues/desires. There is zero engagement otherwise, and the council member is not voting on behalf of the people. They are voting on behalf of themselves. The disconnect from what the people want, and what agenda council is pushing has never been greater.

We are represented enough - it is not always necessary to engage on everything - this erodes the public's trust in government sometimes as engagement is seen simply as a check box that has to be done. Cllr's are elected to make decisions that the public may not have enough knowledge about to properly provide feedback. eg Upzoning. We don't need a plebisite. It is within the mandate of what a Cllr should do - make decisions on topics the public has no business making. That is why they are elected.

Okay - I can't increase the number. Fine. Then I would combine the 14 wards into 7 - merge them by the pairs that make the most sense.
And then I would elect 7 "city wide" or "at large" councillors.

Increase the number of wards. This would make council larger, yes, but in my ward there is such a diversity in population, ethnicity, age group, economic prosperity and housing type that it is virtually impossible to represent contradictory viewpoints within the ward.

Representatives need to show a thorough understanding of how their own processes work. Too often, it is evident this is not the case, and wastes precious time in embarrassing sessions. Next, they should have to demonstrate an accurate understanding of all matters brought before them.

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I wish councillors did more to educate their constituents on why changes are needed rather than fall into the narrow mindsets of average citizens. People don't like change, but often, city administration and council need to change existing processes because that's what's better for the greater good, for the future, for the environment, for the most number of people, etc. It's not right that good ideas are abandoned or delayed because NIMBY citizens are scared to death of change (e.g. single use garbage bylaw, phase two of green line up to 16th ave, banning exclusionary zoning...hopefully that one goes through...)

More town halls within wards, surveys within wards, actually representing the electorate within their ward. Wards ARE a good idea - if we were to go to councillors without wards, we would not know who to turn to, and will councillors may cater to the majority, i.e. the suburbs. No-one will need to represent established areas to be re-elected. That could easily turn to those of us in established communities being disregarded and our communities sacrificed to 'tick boxes', rather than finding good compromises and solutions that work for everyone.

decrease the number of wards. Redistribute ward boundaries based on population densities.

Calgarians are not being considered regarding decisions making for their city ! Many policies were not on election ballot & that needs to be changed

Do city councillors actually engage with their constituents before voting?

listen to their people, don't create unconstitutional bylaws

Listen to the people and keep your own agenda out of it

Calgarians get to vote, it would be great to see what Political party councillors represent

The Council seems to be drifting towards more meetings that are closed to the public. My understanding that meetings were held in camera if the focus was on contracts, Human Resources issues, etc. That makes sense. However more and more meetings seem to be in private and I don't know if that is to hide bad behaviour, bad ideas, or just that Council doesn't want to be challenged. I would like many more meetings held in public and if not in public the specific reason for holding them in private.

Easy to access locations and hours or even better the ability to sun it issues via an app or website basically the easier it is to communication with a councillors allows for a greater understanding of issues as more type on group of people will be able to communicate a councillor.

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I think it's important for all Councillors to have a tour of each ward, not by the councillor, but by people that live, work and play in the area. Ward 3 has failed to get amenities for years, largely due to the quadrant system. This falls on administration but Councillors need to ask questions when admin puts forward proposals like regional parks based on a quadrant system

Engage with residents through in person meetings, email.

Making it mandatory for more face to face time and providing updates to constituents

Have more public voting on major initiatives. Decrease the requirements for recalls. Do more surveys

Dedicated app for providing direct feedback—transition to digital government—it's 2024!

As they are representing their constituents they should be conducting some sort of method to meet or town hall their areas at least 3 times a year. How do you know you're representing your constituents? The frustration comes from citizens being ignored.

better recall system

By listening to and carrying residents wishes

More surveys to find out what is important to calgarians and acting on it

I am generally happy with the Council system. One thing I would like to see is a completely arms length, independent process for adjusting ward boundaries. Councillors and provincial politicians should have absolutely no say in how wards are drawn. I would also note that I am vehemently opposed to political party affiliation at the municipal level. My perception of provincial/federal politicians is that they largely place their party and ideological affiliation before the good of their district. I don't want to see this in Calgary.

Developing a more accessible system for Calgarians to connect with their designated Councillor via the City of Calgary's web site.

It would be great if we could do online voting when it comes to finding Calgarian's opinions on bigger decisions. It would have to be one vote for one address to prevent people and lobbyists from outside Calgary from influencing our policy (like the recent updates to the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw that would have allowed breed-specific legislation that could have saved Calgary residents' lives from pit bull attacks). Maybe link each vote with one Calgary myID account as it has to be verified that you live in Calgary, right?

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Items that impact the majority of the population should be put to a plebiscite (such as blanket land use and rezoning proposals).
Not sure this fits here but would like to see councilors stay on top of what their constituents want. Could be as simple as a survey sent out annually to understand the top issues faced by their constituents.
Education, health and housing
It's a total sham. Starting with Developers colluding with the City and City Council against citizens. How absolutely ridiculous that the City thinks it's ok to put Developers in charge of their own Engagement processes. What a complete joke! Conspiracy, corruption & collusion!!
www.recallgondokyyc.ca - read this carefully.
Perhaps having not only a Councillor that actually lives in the ward they represent, having a citizen from each community in that ward actively participate in meetings, etc, that effect their community.
more direct on-line surveys, to each registered voter, in each ward on city business changes. Public forums do not work as they are limited in scope and confrontational.
Have the Councilor regularly meet with a community and business association committee - it's a means for residents and businesses to provide feedback or concerns with local issues that a simple 311 can not resolve.
More transparency and communication with calgarians on what changes could be occurring and allowing feedback
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provide a code of conduct for councillors, including conflicts of interest, and enforce them. Councillors should be disciplined when they are caught breaking these rules, if not dismissed. Councillors should not be golfing while they are supposed to be representing us in council.- The decision to not increase the number of wards is a mistake, the population represented by one person is too large, and we need a more local approach to representation, more voices need to be heard.
Calgary's footprint is too large for one city to handle. Metro Calgary or the Calgary area should be comprised of several cities, more like the lower mainland of Vancouver.
More action. It seems like there is just a lot of talk around housing etc and help for very low income individuals but middle class families are suffering greatly

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More planned gatherings with city council members to keep communication open.

Improving the polling system so that people don't have to wait in hour long lines, thus helping intellectual zeros like Kourtney Penner get elected. Candidates like her attract people that don't have jobs, thus, they can devote an hour of time to standing in line to vote.

Keep the ward system.

Provide party affiliation. Make it mandatory that they state their goal for Calgary clearly and in reasonable detail in all campaign materials.

Transparency in their voting records and not missing any meetings unless hospitalized.

Mayor needs to resign. She is only representing herself.

Don't push through major reforms that affect all Calgarians (eg. Housing strategy). Take more time to advertise and inform the public and receive engagement.

Reduce the bureaucracy in the city. There are times when councillors want to do something productive, but are blocked by city employees. And other times when city employees push their agendas through regardless of what city council wants (I'm looking at you bike lanes). Reduce or eliminate the power that these city employees have.

As previously mentioned it's time to extend technology and make it easier to get direct feedback from Calgarians on important issues. Online plebiscites, virtual town halls as examples.

Having a 1, 3 and 5 year planner that is current and part of their employment guide. It's similar to your own homes budget and how you prioritize the expenses within it. This person is basically running a business and a small city that all 14 wards filters up into the City of Calgary, which then prioritizes the city's needs. We have many priorities in which to choose from, these priorities have to filter up and down amongst the citizens as well to be effective or the citizens grumble. Communication that is effective with the citizens, attending council meetings in person would be a great start. I would hope that an effective job role or expectations already exists, and someone is managing the performance, what makes a Councillor qualified, aside from a fan favourite. This person has to have specific qualifications for this job. (A Plumber can not do a Carpenters job effectively) The person has to qualify with effective basic background education and effective previous employment roles.

Stop being controlled by developers. Stop the urban sprawl.

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Introduce voting within wards on decisions. Appears many decisions are based on a few persons input rather than the entire ward

1. In advance, provide to residents meeting dates (Council and committees), agenda items and sufficient background information that residents can use to reflect on and provide input and do this not simply using social media.
2. The City website dashboard is too cumbersome and awkward to use so find better avenues to present and explain items, discussions, votes.
3. With Wards encompassing such large areas, there can often be widely divergent points of agreement/disagreement within each Ward area let alone across Wards. There should be a requirement for Councillors to provide reasons and rationale as to why they voted the way they did because often it appears that they do not represent the views of their constituents.

Less secrecy, more soliciting opinions of taxpayers.

Councillors should offer more surveys or interactions with their constituents - usually only the loudest voices are heard publicly, ensure there are ways to hear the people that may not have the time or abilities to dedicate to communicating their needs and wants.

I think better public education is necessary.

Councillors should have public participation in voicing their viewpoints through surveys held regularly, especially on topics not covered by the platforms upon which they were elected. Survey can be done on sample sizes that represent the population rather than through open forums.

Ensuring new and incumbent councillors understand their role, including limitations of the office.

Learn from mistakes made by other municipalities and not be afraid to look at municipalities from around the world instead of thinking cities half the world away are somehow different from Calgary just because they live in a different country. We are all humans and have been developing cities for centuries. We should be learning from each other not isolating ourselves to just North America.

Have councillors publish the results of constituent input to them on topics. This will make them more accountable. Provide a reference number for every email sent to a councillor or mayor and ensure that each one is responded to when requested by the sender. Providing already public statements as a response to emails MUST be stopped.

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Develop a way to compel councillors to vote for their constituents "wants" not what the councillor prefers. I feel and I think many people feel the current city council does not listen and act to represent what the voters want.

Certainly lowering the number is not beneficial. More communication with constituents is required to accurately represent them.

Introduce political parties so that the will of the people can be better represented through this means.

Having councillors conduct meeting with residents by showing genuine interest in the process , not as was the case in our ward with a previous councillor that had a meeting and sat back looking bored and took no info from the meeting.

Having an office within the representatives ward, not just an office in city hall. Would result in more people communicating/interacting with the alderman.

Councillors should be required to respond to all emails from the public.

1. Stop just engaging people just on social media and in places people have to travel to with what feels like pre-determined outcomes a lot of the time. Have an actual conversation with an open ended question. And make sure you give people the option to find out what happened to the data you collected. Having to go and look stuff up on a "what we heard" report doesn't cut it.
2. Make it easier for people to take part in committees and focus groups. Give them a stipend or something so everyone can afford to take part. Childcare isn't cheap. There's no mention of flexibility for people who need accommodations, etc.

Honestly though - no more wards isn't even an option? Our population just keeps growing. How do you expect Councillors to effectively represent larger and larger areas with more population? Our Councillor has such a big area that is so diverse that there's no way they can represent all the communities.

The 14 we have are not capable, we need a better recall system to replace any council member who the voters loose confidence in.

I think the councilor, should be telling us the answers, rather than saying 311, can help you, rather than saying I can help you by doing all I can.
Our councilor should be able to do more for our area, and finding solutions by listening and saying it is this area, plus I can call and find a solution, may not be in a week, but I will reply.

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Reduce 'academic' jargon within city hall. It takes someone a business degree to understand the language and processes used at city hall. The language is not accessible... and so many residents are left out of the conversation because of this.

Reducing the number of wards to 6 or 7 and have the remaining councillors elected by the whole city.

Keeping taxes in check is of great importance. It does not seem that my tax dollars are spent on local issues in my area like keeping parks clean, grass cut, graffiti clean up, roads etc. We spend on affordable housing built in parks that should be a provincial issue. What about our Enmax utility access fee that has simply been dropped. Start working for Calgarians. Never hear from our alderperson on any issue. Simply putting in his time to collect the very hefty pension and benefits.

Force council to listen to their ward on issues each month. Take results back to form Administration policy. Today it appears that ADMINISTRATION makes policy and functional recommendations. Council takes Administrative input as gospel. Active engagement with wards does NOT EXIST. My councillor is tone deaf and fails to recognize when the ward needs or wants different results.

Alternative Vote (Instant Run Off) voting system for municipal elections.
Take the cost of council and staff time out of the pockets of councillors every time they discuss something outside their mandate. You were NOT elected as our consciences, nor were you elected supreme dictator of the planet, making pronouncements on matters outside the City. Use your personal social media for that, NOT the expensive mechanism of municipal government.

Pay closer attention to public opinion via town hall style meetings, online polls (news websites like CTV Calgary often ask important questions), and online forums like the Calgary section of Reddit. Find more ways to tap in to public feedback and actually listen.

Have a mixture of background, intelligence that allows them to understand the effects what they are doing to the city of calgary

Move to a political party system so citizens know what we're getting. Councillors repeatedly show they are not representing constituents and enjoy talking down to "us simple folks" who they feel aren't smart enough to understand the woke policies they are shoving down our throats.

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- Increasing the number of councillors should be an option in this project. The councillors are spread too thin and the wards are getting too large. We need more councillors representing less Calgarians.
- Public Libraries should have kiosks that help residents engage with the city. From submitting engagement to zooming into council meetings.
- Broadcast Council Meetings on the radio and tv.

A small but vocal minority is capable of hijacking an issue and advocating for a policy opposed by the majority. Enduring councillors engage regularly with their constituents can guard against this. Engagement in the form of surveys, public meetings etc

A C C O U N T A B I L I T Y! Show up for work (Council meetings are not on golf courses), request clear deliverable from the Administration, impose **COST CONTROL** measures that make sense, **MANAGE** contract, deadlines and Penalties when KPI are not met. Develop some business acumen (financial, customer services, supply chain management...) since it is evident that business units are **NOT** run efficiently and effectively.

Municipal round tables

Councillor's need to be accessible. It is important to assist the community who voted you in.

A mayor should be neutral from all social issues and not promote certain groups. Pay increases should represent how the performance of the councillors and Mayor was for the year as in most jobs, Increase percentages based on budget balancing etc...

If our population is increasing why can't our number of councillors/wards?

Better engagement, better use of resources (what meetings are essential), audit of finances/processes/city hall, reduce spending and ensure affordability for all who live here.

The only way to improve representation is to decrease the councillor to voter ratio. Which means adding more wards. Any other changes will not be effective.

Having political parties to vote on. Being able to vote on mayor being removed.

I like that each councillor represents a ward or area of the city and is responsible for the issues that affect the people in that area. I can't imagine being represented by a large group that doesn't feel responsible for specific areas and issues.

Communication with people that actually pay taxes in the Ward. Especially on issues of densification, infrastructure.

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Financial transparency- I want to know what money is coming in to the bank accounts of my representatives. I have a feeling that many councilors are persuaded to act on certain policy positions through lobbying and gifts. Decrease the salaries of all councilors and mayors before you impose any other costs incurred to citizens.

An ethics commissioner to avoid conflicts of interest and also prevent bullying of other councillors

There seems to be unbalance in resources that Councillors get depending on their serving areas. For instance, inner Wards like Ward 7 and 8 have much bigger density of residents in comparison to other Wards though they get the same budgets where they need more office support. I think it needs to be re-evaluated across all the wards offices per coverage population.

There needs to be some oversight so that each councillor does not just represent their ward, especially on planning issues. It is easy for Councillors from wards in the far suburbs to vote in favour of all land use redesignations in the inner city because it does not impact them. Communities need some city-wide representation as well.

Educate the ward so that we can be more informed participants (and I don't mean tell us our Councillor's opinion on something, I mean tell us the facts and sides of an issue). In particular, show us how the sausage is made. Expose Council's processes, thinking, considerations, and understanding that goes into decision making.

The ward system creates too much of if an us-vs-them environment. I'd much prefer if every councilor was accountable for representing all citizens of Calgary.

We really need to rethink why it is necessary to increase spending each year
We need to hold the line and get the city back to basics.

More transparency in appointments and removal from boards and commissions

leverage 311 data, have vote results available in a dashboard setting viewable by the public. Perhaps have public hearings on weekends when more citizens can participate

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What ideas do you have for improving how Calgarians are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

Well, if increasing the number of Councillors is beyond the scope of this initiative, my suggestion definitely is! However, here it goes anyhow. We don't need more Councillors so much as we require a completely overhauled system of municipal governance for large urban centres like Calgary and Edmonton. Where the current system breaks down is the level of elected representation of capita has become far too low and there needs to be more ability to make more localized decisions to meet the needs of particular areas/neighbourhoods which has increasingly been lost over the years as the City has grown. We have more of a problem with this than other large urban centres in Canada because of the largely singular growth of Calgary (vs other smaller urban areas in Southern Alberta). Consider the the GTA has multiple councils that represents Toronto, Mississagua, Brampton, Oakville, etc. We have only one. Don't know exactly what the solution is - perhaps a borough model like London or New York uses but we've clearly grown too big for our existing system and need to start having a conversation as to how our overall municipal governance system needs to better evolve as we grow

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
I talked with my Councillor at an event to support the Housing framework
To help with submitting my changes to the rezoning written submission; i have also contacted in the past on their covid policies when i did live in the city
Rezoning
To discuss serious concerns with the Green Line. No response was ever received from our Councillor or the Mayor's office.
Smart growth and sustainable transportation advocacy.
Numerous issues.
To try to have a conversation. No response was received.
I was assaulted while taking Calgary transit one morning while going to work. I reached out to inform the city that Calgary transit is not safe. I was told that there was nothing they could do. The next week someone was pushed from the platform and died. This proved my point.
Multiple, including housing and transit advocacy and policy change.
Issue of upzoning , fees on our energy bills and the corruption of some of the councillors.
For some help, which did not occur.
Upzoning
To, unsuccessfully, try to have a discussion.
Tax increases year over year. Councillors pay increases year over year. Potholes every spring and summer. YYC Road Dept wasting money plowing the same side street over and over during a snow event.
Zoning bylaws, community issues
Recent council voting and plans
Local development.
For clarification on the process/requirements for a business permit vased out of a residence
To forward the opinion of the Community Association and residents on a variety of issues/concerns.
Once was to get assistance with an issue we were having with the city. Another time was to express concern about something that was happening.

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
There were several implications to my community including developments and changes of land use in my area.
Sharing my perspective on reusable bag bylaw
Often the council needs to hear our opinions. They generally are IGNORED, or the response is a pre scripted response that generally follows the same story line. Thanks, but in our opinion we are confident in our direction and your opinion does NOT MATTER! We believe completely in what the Administration tells us, which most Often is TONE DEAF to actual citizen opinions. The Administration uses antiquated citizen engagement process that fail to relent reality.
I was horrified by the mask mandates (which made absolutely no scientific sense) and sent messages to that effect to the mayor (and I believe council members). When I saw no one at City Hall was listening to those of us with legitimate concerns, and that all politicians were implementing the same agenda I realized the system is rigged and there is indeed a global conspiracy. We need to get back to grass roots representation. I have had other concerns such as the mayor's and council members' stance on defunding the police and climate change (in an oil and gas town). These policies are clearly not in citizens' interests, but rather further the global agenda. I don't bother contacting anyone about these issues since I know my views will fall on deaf ears.
Blanket upzoning and traffic issues
I honestly don't recall why I contacted my Councillor, but I've always been very happy with the response. I've received a call on a couple occasions to discuss my concerns and I appreciate that.
Rezoning, tax increases
Blanket upzoning Plastic bag ban Guidebook for greater calgary Plebiscite for zoning
Concern about homeless encampments
1. I was ignored years ago when we had a skunk problem in the NE. No one got back to me at all. All the neighbors were upset - the entire community. 2. I complained about the airport smell to my ward last year and got a blanket statement email back which simply told me they were aware. I felt left in the dark, ignored, unheard and like no one cared. I am going to move out of here as soon as I can and go to a neighbouring small town.
Give ideas on how money could be spent for art around the city.

After the Ballot

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May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
To understand why construction was going on in Eau Claire for more than five years. It's hard to explain construction in this small space as just incompetence. It's more likely the City city could care less about citizen's well being and the only thing the City cares about is friendly developers making more profit. This government has lost citizen's trust due to a decade of incompetence, corruption and propaganda.
To share our feelings about the homeless problem. We sent a message to the mayor and we received a canned response that basically said it wasn't the city's problem and that the province is responsible. Really truly tragic that response was. It showed me the true colours of this current council
To voice my concerns with regard to policy, and the potential decisions being made by council.
I cannot count the many occasions that I have contacted my ward 14 councillor. Against the majority of what his constituents wanted he voted in favour of a climate emergency, spending millions on solar panels, gender neutral bathrooms, change rooms, buying 259 unproven electric buses, SOGI being taught in schools, a school curriculum that confuses children about their gender, making pornographic library materials available to children including unnatural sexual activities, a single use plastics bylaw, restricting peaceful protesters from protesting unless the issue is acceptable to Mayor Gondek, and so many more issues. The mayor, him and most of city council have absolutely no fiscal responsibility to Calgarians. They jack our taxes up 8.0% and then give themselves an nice fat raise. Most of them need to be recalled.
Policy interest
Excuses. Nothing changes.
Concerns around cell towers. Concerns around flouride. Concerns around blanket rezoning. Concerns around the decimation of green spaces in my community.
Sky rocketing property taxes
Before C train was extended to Dalhousie station, group of transit riders had to participate in City budget negotiations to retain express buses from Silversprings and Ranchlands to downtown. Dale Hodges was fully involved as well as Mayor Bronconier who personally rode our routes to understand our position. Several other aldermen (councillors) participated in our town hall meetings with residents.
Traffic congestion and interruption in my ward for several weeks without adequate notice, planning or resolution. My councillor said it wasn't his problem.
Distress over the municipal overreach by this current council into environmental initiatives, funding the current arena project and most recently the blanket rezoning

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Are the carbon tax, stop property tax increase, voicing my concerns about the PM concerning a no confidence vote, to fight against the bill banning natural supplements, huge concerns about the censorship bill and ban of guns.
Most recently it was concern over the ridiculous zoning change proposal.
Plebiscite vote. Only one replied. It was a canned response.
Our mayor does exactly the opposite of what Calgarians want, and displays an obvious and unacceptable bias when it comes to listening to constituents she disagrees with. I find her behavior repulsive and embarrassing, and would like to tell her that.
Change to direct control district adjacent to our property
I disagree with reasoning proposal My friend a senior who has been renting for several years in a small house near downtown being told to leave tearing down to build 4plex she was offered a chance to buy a unit at +\$800,000! This is what blanket rezoning will mean more if rich developers building for high income buyers in the mean time we lose average cost spaces- tell me how will this help anyone on a fixed income who is a lower earner?
Not happy about the blanket rezoning
The horrible roads, homeless and drug addiction issues. Ive also sent letters in regards to the blanket zoning issue. No response from the Mayor on anything.
There has been more than one event, and more than one person I've tried to get ahold of. No answers to any/all of my requests for contact, questions.
Impacts to my residence due to a city development. And guess what? I was told my concerns aren't valid.
City operating oversized trucks inefficient management of hugh vehicle fleet
Various personal and work related issues, spanning most municipal services.
Covid response and to provide support for decisions been taken
Calgary re-zoning issue and proposed non Canadian from voting.
City council's decision to go against AHS covid policy which would have allowed children to play sports in city recreational facilities without having to show a QR code or negative test before every practice or game.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
The initial silly idea someone had to reduce Royal oak road exit to one lane straight and right lane merge on to country hills. Definitely glad it returned to 2 lanes straight to reduce back ups. The new pedestrian lights are excellent
To try to have a discussion. No response was received.
I vehemently disagree with how the council is destroying our city.
Concerns about building in our neighborhood.
Problems with people blocking our driveway while parking on the street, safety for the street, street light replacement expedition, tax increases along with the an unfortunate Council salary increase during hard times, suggestions to improve our city, having the Mayor (Nenshi) speak at an event & educating the Mayor prior to the event on loosing technical talent while offering some solutions.
Blanket density increases.... RE: excessive density / development plan on Glenmore Landing Shopping Center lands.... Insufficient off-site infrastructure plan to reduce traffic congestion resulting from high rise residential units added to site. Efforts to drive up usage of the 14th Street bus route is a stupid excuse to create excessive density on Glenmore Landing.
In my capacity as a rep on my community association board and as a private citizen, I am very concerned about the loss of trees in the inner city and the complete and utter disrespect of all things heritage in our community. I am in contact with the councillors office often in this regard and on other topics as well.
I work in real estate development so discussions with councilors and the mayor are a regular occurrence.
Policy stance.
False information provided by the planning department on "public engagement with stakeholders" over a major change to the roadways in the area.
Serious concern with City conduct. No response was received.
Covid restrictions, fireworks.
Due to councilors not listening and pursuing their own agendas.
to try to prevent bad policy from becoming law
The ridiculous fast food bag bylaw. And we need more rentals. My rent increased 955\$. I no longer have cable TV and need to use food bank to pay this increase. This is horrible for people.

After the Ballot

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May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Street light outages in my neighborhood.
Road safety in my neighbourhood
Heritage Communities Local Area Plan
Comments on the Bag Bylaw, No response. Comments on Blanket Rezoning, canned response. Request for Town hall meetings and resumption of Ward 11 community coffee meetings, No response.
Affordable housing
Deal with improper business use of a house not zoned for such
The current re-zoning proposition and what process was used to select members of the general public to participate in having a voice on the committee
Elected members hold a delegated trust from voters. It is still my responsibility to engage and provide direction to those elected, and ensure they steward our trust well between elections. If they fail, it is my responsibility to ensure accountability at election time.
Admin report to council had factual errors, published city material had errors. Promises over now decades to fix community infrastructure issues still have not made anyone's todo list yet the LRT adjacency is sill the supporting condition to approve more density. Unwillingness of bylaw to enforce the community standards bylaw.
The plastics policy FIASCO!!!
To voice my opinion on potential policy
Street light issue. Again, focus on local issues like this.
development of green space into high density crap
I was looking for an explanation (on more than one occasion) on the voting record of my ward councillor.....no response.
uselessness of calling 311
Cancelling the fireworks, removing the doors from the bus shelters in Minus 30 and putting people's lives at risk.
Have sent a few email to first ask re: Heritage Plan, then Rezoning. All were met with the standard "crickets" and then the City of Calgary email on what great work the City has been doing.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Blanket rezoning
Wanting action
against blanket rezoning!
Ridiculous proposed policy and bylaws including private tree managements, stupid plastic bag bylaw, the blanket rezoning proposal
potential bully breed ban
Community issue
The housing re-zoning initiative is a clear example of how council is NOT listening to the citizens of Calgary. My contact with my council member, planning department, and the public hearings were to voice my opinion and raise concerns about the direction the plan is proceeding. From all sides it is quite obvious that the citizens of Calgary are not in favour of this initiative, but council is forcing through their objectives, regardless of feedback provided.
Provide input on upcoming decisions to be made by Council
To get him to come to my old high school
The Richmond 2501 project in the old Vicount Bennett school site.
A few times. Race city was one and rezoning is another
Issues in community
Issues with city water meter install and the costs the city wanted us to carry and feedback around rezoning.
General response
Expressing my opinion on matters and looking to connect with my Councillor. I received no responses to my outreaches.
Because they were not representing or responding to requests from the local constituency.
Concerns over development proposals in my community.
Anger over decisions, unethical practices
Blanket rezoning and local permits
The ideological mass re-zoning by-law.
The blanket rezoning policy that is currently being debated for most of the wards in Calgary.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
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Concerns over blanket zoning. Failure to advertise road closures.
Sage Hill HOA suing homeowners
Rezoning concerns.
Needing a flashing green light at Canyon Meadows Drive and Parkland Drive / Crimson Drive due to the amount of collisions.
Garbage, recycling and compost concerns with extra fees when they should be covered by our taxes.
Road maintenance and councils choices
Townhall regarding blanket rezoning.
Unhappy with the decisions and actions of city council.
Voice opposition to higher taxes and fees
<p>There have been several reasons, the donation of money from Calgarians' taxes to Quebec for the hijab issue, that was not our issue in Calgary and we should not have been paying for that, not acceptable, the whole Saddledome fiasco, no words in regards to that and how much it has cost Calgarian taxpayers, the ridiculous bag issue, seriously, pick your battles, the lack of respect for Calgarians in general, the lack of visibility and transparency by this council and its closed-door meetings, gaslighting within those meetings, and the bullying, and, I had a personal issue with something going on in my neighbourhood that I could not get resolution on and finally got it through my councillor. I do like my ward's councillor, he actually listens and acts accordingly. Thank God. But there are seven councillors and the mayor that I am not impressed with and Neither are about 80% of Calgarians. I have contacted the mayors office in regards to these issues.</p>
<p>I have contacted councillors regarding several of their poor decisions. Many of which they never consulted their voter base and in fact have refused to listen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blanket rezoning Single use plastics and bag bylaw 8% Tax increase and salary increase of councillors and mayor Security systems for councillors and the mayor Expensive arena deal that was made worse than the original deal
<p>Mayor did not respond, not surprised. Councillor responded to my email and provided a good discussion.</p>

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
MAYOR, She does not listen to anyone She is woke. We do not want drag people in contact with children, no trans in ladies changerooms. Identify freedom people have rights Identify [removed] people are angry and start violence when there is no need. Support peaceful protest. There wouldnt be protesting if the mayor gave a crap about the people. Stop her racist agenda. COUNCILLOR WARD 3 Meet with the people in person Listen to our wants/needs #savenosecreek Show up to work
The blanket upzoning in the autumn and again this spring calling for a plebiscite. I heard back from one councillor on each email. Received an automated response from a couple. I am disappointed.
Streets being taken from 2 lanes to one lane.
Blanket rezoning.
For her to step down and also about this tax hike and their raises, the arena del she cost us more for. As well as this stupid bag recall and so many more things.
Bike lane pilot project in our community that was for "traffic calming" when we already have a major bike land that follows the river. DO NOT use bike lanes to carry the politics of an agenda that has nothing to do with cycling as it will eventually have the reverse effect and ultimate removal of bike lanes that are effective and useful..
Various different reasons of that contacted them more than once.
We have contacted our Councillor and Mayor with numerous issues on how Council has dealt with various matters. We felt that we, along with others in our community are not being represented in Council.
Road water problems
I don't agree with closing driving lanes and putting in more bikes lanes. It was useless. Council will continue to bring in expensive bad ideas for the benefit of a few paid by many.
Covid policies. School policies.
In shock that she declared a "climate emergency" for Calgary! Does she think a hurricane is coming? LOL, The plastic bag charge and napkin policy as well is totally ridiculous!

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Re-Zoning
Local issue. Making my opinion known on policy is a waste of time when it's apparent that lines have already been drawn.
Parking fees. I'm going to be contacting more regarding the upzoning. Which should have been put to a vote with the people, not by a bunch of activists pretending to be council.
Rezoning without allowing the public to decide. I understand the Mayor is chasing federal money, but she should not do this at the expense of the citizens that own the property.
Development concerns, traffic concerns, safety concerns
Carbon tax, catholic school board situation
Share opinions on BYLAW NUMBER 17M2023s that infringes on Charter Rights. Letter sent to all cllrs and mayor Share opinions and suggestions on Single use bylaw. Letter sent to mayor and councilors Share opinion on Ward 11 Cllr Penner lack of community engagement. Letter send to Councillor Penner
Property Tax hike
To be heard around concerns about council voting.
The blanket rezoning of the city and putting fluoride in the water
I reached out to Manmeet for an issue and he was amazing and dealt with it.
Community safety issues not being addressed
Blanket rezoning and the deteriorating infrastructure in NE Calgary
The process for citizen engagement for city wide rezoning is nowhere near sufficient, and my ward councillor voted against a plebiscite. The proposed bylaw to restrict what private landowners can do with their own trees was another reason. These are major policy decision that require far more consultation with citizens - it is not okay for the feedback process on zoning to be so limited, and it is not okay for an infringement of private property to be imposed with out every single landowner being consulted on this change.

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
<p>For starters: Blanket rezoning Council pay raises and tax hikes Single use plastics and bag bylaw Waste of council money on bike lanes, cross walks Arena deal Councillor implementation of security systems I was not in agreement with ANY of these, however the same people push it through without listening to their ward. I did not get a phone call or email back, and if I did it was a canned response. Disgusting lack of listening to their voting base.</p>
<p>I have contacted the mayor and councillors several times and seldom is their and answer and if there is, it is a canned response. Most recently I attended meetings and written to council and the mayor in regards to the proposed blanket rezoning and the ridiculous one time use bylaw the council put in place. Once again, this council chooses not to listen to the people that voted them in and pushes forward with their agenda, totally disregarding their voting constituents.</p>
<p>They are trying to take down a dog park and put up Condos. It is a horrible idea. Why can they not leave parks alone?</p>
<p>Taxes, waste of tax dollars</p>
<p>More insane tax increases and the bloated spending/size of our wasteful city government</p>
<p>Road maintenance</p>
<p>Community crime issues</p>
<p>I did not agree with the pronoun use at Leisure Centre camps, which influenced many little children, and did not hear back from the mayor or a single councillor. Disgraceful!</p>
<p>I attempted to contact both Kourtney Penner and Jyoti Gondek over authoritarian and absurd COVID measures, several times. I never received a response. In my community Facebook page, there are countless current posts about how Penner never responds to anyone. She has her own agenda and doesn't care about her constituents.</p>
<p>Blanket rezoning</p>
<p>Taxing citizens to death, opioid crisis while government officials get big raises yet again. It's disgusting. Government officials in Calgary have zero integrity.</p>
<p>For my work - affordable housing</p>

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
All Development and Zoning related. At least 30 times. The only satisfactory response was from Farkas.
I disagree with her position on re zoning and development within our ward.
asking for corrections to published engagement materials that did not include the community - asking for equitable street safety speed limits- 40 km -for higher density street adjacent locations.
To let them know how disappointing their behavior is and giving themselves raises while taxing us more.
Shutting down a lane on 18 street for a bike path. We have enough bike paths and all it did was cause traffic tie ups. As usual I didn't receive a response from Penner. Neither did any others in our community FB group.
Clarification of misinformation.
A community issue
I fought my property tax increase. As a single mom, I am struggling to keep my home with all the increases in cost, my salary hasn't went up because I don't work for the government.
A concern with a proposed major building project
Disagreement with blanket rezoning.
Development issues in the neighborhood
Contacted my ward Alderman, and received a canned e-mail response from one of his lackeys's to my question.
To express displeasure with attempts to modify behavior.
Let the mayor know I did nor approve of giving money to fight the issue in Quebec.
Unhappy about the excessive Covid restrictions and extensions placed on us by city council. Was far beyond ridiculous!
The 18 street bike lane pilot project
Concerned with water pressure in the neighborhood.
Legislation
To express my displeasure over some decisions they voted on, to chastise them over treating one member of council in a vindicative manner, to point out yet again the failings in ward such as waiting up to 4 months for street light change,

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
School capacity Pathway safety Road crossings
Only 1 member replied. All others nothing.
VOICING MY CONCERNS ABOUT HOW THINGS ARE GETTING OUT OF HAND WITH THIS BAND OF RADICAL ACTIVISTS, AGITATORS, AND " WE KNOW BETTER" ATTITUDES! PUTTING IN PLACE GLOBALIST INTENTIONS NOBODY ASKED FOR IN A DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY!, PLAYING TO OTHER INTERESTS, OTHER THAN TAXPAYERS! I COULD GO ON!
To praise my particular councillor for looking after my interests.
Upzoning
Community meetings
Questions about a vacant lot behind my house.
Traffic issues in Riverbend and the constant smells coming from the Shepard landfill, compost facility and the biosolid lagoon to name a few.
Concern about the rezoning issue.
Asking question, never had a response
BIA taxes, street cleaning
Lack of understand of Community needs and concerns.
How the city ignores my communities issues because of their popularity contest in the office.
City ploughs driving erratic, garbage trucks speeding! Street sweeping signs not provided , tickets issued !
Jyoti Gondek. Her push for higher taxation, her push for blanket Rezoning. Her push for climate emergency WITH ZERO PROOF. Her push for plastic bans only on citizens but NOT big box business?
I have reached out to the Mayor 12 times, and my alderman too. I have never heard back from the Mayor. It is clear Mayor Gondek is selfish and only cares about he own agenda. She has never replied to my concerns. Gondek must resign and so does her minions. They are corrupted.

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Concern over decisions that somehow seem to be made without public engagement ie: canceling first version of event centre, blanket zoning affecting all communities.
I contacted Council regarding the bag bylaw and my opposition to it.
To stop this ridiculous blanket zoning
Unhappy about the current mayor's ridiculous macro politics, [removed].
Blanket rezoning and acceptance of unconstitutional funding from the federal government (bribery by the Federal government regarding housing)
Safety on transit
Anger about the blanket up zoning being rammed down our throats and the ridiculous .15¢ bag surcharge which does nothing to help the environment
City construction project in my neighborhood
Issues in my ward
Regarding the rezoning of all Calgary and of course not a word back from any of them.
To let them know that we're not taking this bull [removed] any longer. They are tax in out of our homes! They are out of reality! I can't afford to pay my property taxes! You keep raining them! And I still drive on [removed] roads! You can't tax your way out of a non existing climate change! Idiots!! There is no such thing as climate change! Stop paying for science! And give us back plastic bags! Dumb dumbs!
Requested my councillor Carra to vote in favour of a plebiscite for rezoning. Was told 'NO - it isn't binding and we are going ahead anyways so no need to spend the money on one'.
I am totally against the blanket re-zoning
Problem with bylaws.
Not lightening menorah. Vandalism of Gondek signs. Stupidity over bird naming. Horrible "dog park" mess for the harvest hills resident. Jasmine Mian is as useless as Gondek. A puppet.
Mayor decides to cancel fireworks, mayor thinks recall Gondek is some Conservative group instead of us (unhappy Calgarians), rezoning
Snow removal issues, increased car prowling.
Leave my neighbourhood alone. I live on a beautiful street. Why are you destroying it? For money?
Specific question to councillor about the neighbourhood

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Raised a complaint about Courtney Walcott
Poor development policy. Lack of transparency, and lack of consistency in development process.
Up-Zoning issues - Plebiscite
The continuous daily disgusting smells occurring in our neighborhood that the city continues to ignore and pay .5M for a biased engineering report to state the smell is inconclusive? I have lived in this area for 40 years and it is obvious where these smells are coming from... A trip to the dump exposes the foul smell from the compost facility! And to top it off, the city has also put a biosolids lagoon in the dump corner at 52 and 114 SE... So now if we are not getting the nauseating smell from the compost facility, we are getting the disgusting manure smell of the lagoon. In spring/summer/fall it happens daily and it's difficult to be outside or open windows in the house! It's disgusting and affecting our lives and home values. Why would city council plan and approve for either of these overwhelming odour sources to be built so close to communities... They need to be moved far away from residential communities!!!
Speeding on 90th ave SW Oakridge
In one instance it was to voice support for a position the councillor had taken. I have asked questions asking for clarification on public statements and also voiced concerns with the direction of certain decisions
Public areas in our neighborhood. Water work done in the neighborhood and the damage the workers caused. On leash area
Rezoning applications from developers.
To put forward ideas that were against the decisions of city council. Asking to be heard
I emailed Godenk's pet Spencer and received Word Salad!
Trying to create a Residential Parking zone for our 20 unit neighbourhood.
I contacted them to cut, cut, cut. The city must be creative. The city must not lie to citizens. As it looks, very few on city council are making much effort to be fiscally responsible but have pet projects that most Calgarians do NOT care about yet they allocate lots of funds to them. Also don't like the so-called blanket rezoning - oops - "upzoning" - disguised as a "solution" for affordable housing. Housing will be more expensive because certain developers and certain members of council will benefit greatly. Change my mind.
Bag bylaw.

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
<p>Serious issues around groups known as "Freedummies"</p>
<p>These Freedummies are deeply involved with the Recall Gondek political theater</p>
<p>I counter sued the city and you dropped the charges instantly.</p>
<p>They can't budget their way out of a wet paper bag! (So to speak.) They only know how to spend money on social justice issues instead of paying attention to real economic issue. Totally useless hateful 8 councilors!</p>
<p>The harmful pandemic measures</p>
<p>Unhappy with policies pursued by the mayor</p>
<p>There is a dangerous crosswalk next to a school that needs flashing lights before someone is killed. My 4th attempt. I have personally been on the crosswalk with three lanes of traffic stopped and a car sped through, over the speed limit, in the 4th lane. Same theme - nobody is listening. Re-zoning on my street that is putting in a severely non-contextual project jutting out 14' in front of the adjacent building.</p>
<p>Suggesting a better traffic flow in my community. I was told that was not the councillor's job and to contact the community president and City of Calgary traffic control. It was not even from my councillor, just their office staff. Perfect example of being tone deaf and not listening, but making assumptions. Not understanding the problem but passing judgement. Focusing on procedure and administration instead of care of people. they demonstrated they were in politics for the pay cheque and pension plan, not to make a better safer community for the people that live in it.</p>
<p>New arena Noise bylaws</p>
<p>Glenmore landing. Sent in a well researched letter. Received a form letter back.</p>
<p>to voice my opinion on bylaw changes that I heard on the news, to provide input on voting for a major change in policies, to inquire about a city issue after not being resolved through 311</p>
<p>Proposed Rio Cann development at Glenmore Landing and the blanket zoning changes being proposed and to voice my concerns and opposition to the proposed changes to our city and reservoir.</p>
<p>Gentrification</p>
<p>Wondering why the council member voted against hosting the winter olympics. He said it was what he was getting feedback from residents.</p>

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
University research park, proposed development. Which had already been approved, so not sure why the signs say "proposed". Super condescending that the city even bothers to suggest there is the ability or option for input.
Concerns with City misconduct.
Glenmore landing development
Canceling the plans to over populate Glenmore landing
contesting the idea of global rezoning without considering issues of traffic, parking, crime, congestion, shadow, danger to birds, pollution.
To voice my displeasure with many council decisions.
Development proposal and rezoning
nothing..niether the mayor or councilor returned my email
To voice my displeasure over the single use by-law
To express my displeasure with the single use bylaw
Requesting help within my community dealing with a concrete company operating out of a private residence without permits. They were denied their class 2 permit due to undermined driveway and large equipment operating on their property but appealed. Thankfully without help or direction from the councillor they were denied again in the appeal.
I wanted to provide input on several issues that are/were under review by city council. I.e Glenmore Landing parkland sale, Glenmore landing rezoning and mega project, covid mask bylaws and extended usage mandated by council. City Roads snow clearing and the waste of money by Roads Dept. Bag bylaw. Back Alley maintenance neglect. Politicizing the 2023 Menorah Ceremony at city hall. Ward 11 Ms Penner is non responsive to any ideas or comments that don't align with her agenda. I gave up trying to communicate with here either through 311 portal or direct email.
To ask that there be a plebiscite on the proposed zoning changes for housing in Calgary.
Ricocan development of Glenmore landing
Glenmore Landing development proposal
Concerns and opposition to the blanket rezoning proposal, concerns around the increased crime in our Ward, concerns and opposition around the glenmore landing redevelopment.
Neighbourhood issues regarding bylaws.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
to inform him on my feelings about an upcoming council/city matter
express my opinion on issues that were raised
my husband did call & was satisfied with the agent that he phoned...
Issues with Glenmore Landing Speed issues on 90 Ave
Light posts were being changed...
1. City's current 're-zoning' and 2. the 'Calgary canopy' bylaw that being 'floated around'.
The Councillor representing the Ward in which I live is not representing the interests of the citizens of the Ward. I hoped to persuade her to do so. The Mayor refused to participate in a ceremony of an ethnic minority effectively taking sides in a matter having nothing to do with municipal affairs. Her Worship failed to do her job in representing all ethnic minorities in the City in a fair and even handed manner. The Mayor wanted to spend our tax payer dollars on a matter in the Province of Quebec having nothing whatever to do with The City of Calgary.
To share congratulations on achievements
Opposition to Glenmore Landing proposed redevelopment
The plastics bylaw fiasco!
The Glenmore Landing sale of property designated as parkland to greedy developer RioCan to screw up the flora and fauna in the city's most precious area --including city water supply. Kourtney Penner -- seemingly sided with RioCan. Gondek -- largely silent on the matter, in way over her head on the job of Mayor.
1. Pending sale of land donated by a taxpayer for the specific caveat - to be used for parkland. Who can ever trust Council? 2. Not listening to The People - ramming through massive Riocan development fundamentally changing our Ward neighbourhoods & negatively impacting our property values, while a real threat to our primary safe water source. 3. Property tax increases of 4%-7%, consistently - citizens salary increases are not that high. 4. In 25 years, snow plow cleared our street - 3 times? 5. There would have been more - I just gave up - nobody listening at City Council anymore. The City should be sticking to the basics - stop wasting \$ on art & funding developments for millionaire hockey players (most Calgarians cannot afford tickets for games) - leave such things to others levels of government, where it belongs.
To raise concerns about policy that will impact my community and my city.
Glenmore landing plans

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Displeasure with her vote on council
Control over spending.
LAP, Glenmore Landing Redevelopment, Blanket rezoning, selling parkland.
glenmore landing development
Concerns within community New rezoning intention Glenmore landing sale of parkland
Selling parkland to builders so they can erect large apartment buildings on the Calgary reservoir.
Fireworks cancellation Repealing plastic bag bylaw Blanket rezoning Glenmore landing redevelopment
Developments
The Glenmore Landing parkland sale and redevelopment. Also the blanket rezoning issue.
Dale Hodges was contacted about flooding and an upstream berm.
speed limits road routing overdevelopment around the reservoir
Not holding a plebiscite on the blanket rezoning, Mintos overdevelopment of the Viscount Bennett site, allowing a developer to use a DC designation to take 3 R-1 sites in a quiet area and allow 28 rental units to be built.
To ask them to resign. To ask them to not make like they know more than the constituents eg Councillor Penner and Mayor Gondek.
Policy
I disagree with trying to densify my ward and development issues in my ward near Glenmore resevoir
Concerns related to blanket rezoning
Glenmore Landing shopping centre redevelopment.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
To voice my displeasure with policies enacted by City Council. NO RESPONSE or ACKNOWLEDGEMENT to civil and thoughtful letters.
With my concerns about the Glenmore Landing expansion.
To discuss policies. I was never contacted back.
complaint
Development projects and environmental concerns
Gaining approval for a community initiative.
Issues with the basement suites on our block and the impact the extra 16 vehicles has had on all of us. This was only two suites, I can't imagine what will happen if this ridiculous rezoning goes through.
Safety on the ctrain and homeless situation
To express my displeasure with rising taxes and stupid bylaws like the single use bylaw.
Concerns with excessive development in the community, especially of the natural green spaces. Councillor basically told me the concerns weren't warranted
Many reasons ranging from how they voted on various subjects that did not reflect the general populations desires to tax increases and how I can't afford them
Off leash dog issues in Paskapoo. Pootmans and his team responded promptly and solved the issue with increased signage
The ridiculous bag bylaw. And wouldn't you know it, I wasn't contacted back.
I wanted more information or was concerned about council actions or plans for the city.
Issue to solve in our community.
parking issues during Stampede in the community of Ramsay. I sent two emails with no response.
Intersection safety.
Concerns around the ridiculously massive tax increase, eroding standard of living in Calgary, complete fiscal mismanagement in City administration, poor 311 service, Mayor Gondek's horrendous 'leadership'.
Trying to find out why they were allowing a rehabilitation home in our area.
Transit problems. And the problem still aren't fixed.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?

I SENT THE E-MAIL BELOW ON MARCH 18, 2024. NOT ONE RECIPIENT REPLIED.

TO: Calgary Mayor Jyoti Gondek, All Calgary City Councilors, [personal information removed]

CC: [personal information removed]

I read over the weekend about the Rezoning Information Event that had to be called off in Calgary due to security concerns.

While the threats, racist comments, and disrespect directed toward City employees are completely unacceptable, I do understand the frustrations of Calgarians.

I was born in Calgary and have never lived anywhere else.

It was a wonderful city to grow up in and I have never moved out of the northwest quadrant of the city.

What I have seen over my 60+ years makes me sad.

Over those years, I have watched green space disappear.

“Progress,” some call it.

Huge houses have been built and commercial space has been erected as open spaces have disappeared.

It’s always about more...and more and more...

Builders and developers seem to have a great deal of influence and a much louder voice than do mere citizens and/or citizen groups.

Land is finite and the day will come when we have built on all of the open spaces that can be built on.

I know this won’t be next week, month or year; it may not be for many decades.

However, if councils continue to do as they have done in the past, the day will come.

The City of Calgary’s current blanket rezoning proposal may solve some problems in the short term, but it will create other problems in the long run.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?

It will destroy the quality of life in what have been single-family dwelling neighbourhoods...and should continue to be single-family dwelling neighbourhoods.

What will happen when neighbourhood streets are jammed with parked cars?

Will more restrictive parking be the "solution" to that?

What about the current drought status in Alberta?

More people = increased water needs.

Whether or not we will have enough water to meet the needs of individuals and industry in the coming year without significant restrictions and sacrifices remains to be seen and climate scientists have warned us that this will continue.

What makes you think that the laws of supply and demand don't apply here, to us, to you?

We, as a country, provinces, and cities, have to STOP and think this through.

If we continue to bring more people into the country without what they need from us as a society to succeed – and without what they need for all of us to continue to thrive – Canada will one day be like other high-density countries, with the problems that come with that.

This is not about racism. It's about too many people for the services / resources currently available.

WHY can't municipal, provincial and federal governments work together and coordinate efforts that will benefit all Canadians?

PLEASE, City of Calgary Council, DO NOT move forward with anything close to blanket rezoning which may ease the current lack of housing, though not the lack of affordable housing, and that will create other problems in the future.

PLEASE think this through and WORK TOGETHER to find a solution.

PLEASE stop pandering to builders and developers who ARE NOT providing what we need.

They are in business to make money, and not to provide appropriate, affordable housing.

If the solution is to pause immigration and to actually advise people considering coming to specific cities and/or provinces, so be it.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Have the guts to do it. I hope it is obvious why this e-mail is being sent to all levels of government. Thanks very much. Sincerely, [personal information removed]
Most recently: 1) Impact of flood hazard mapping in Bowness, and 2) share opinions on housing affordability and blanket rezoning
Community maintenance
To ask Councillor Penner why she won't hold town hall meetings. No response from her. To voice my concerns over Glenmore Landing redevelopment. No response from her. To share information and opinions on blanket rezoning. No response from her.
The Calgary Airport smell.
No, I was given reasoning that wasn't logical and was not listened to or acknowledged
My Councillor voted to sell parkland and I have contacted her a few times since then. 99% of her constituents voted AGAINST selling parkland. She heard all the facts and still voted against the majority.
don't recall.
Regarding changes to snow clearing in residential neighborhoods, and rezoning.
Feedback and input in the proposed city-wide blanket rezoning changes.
A specific department had a leak of confidential information and I was calling to see what could be done
For assistance with a very important community issue. We received no response of any kind.
Local policing
This council is pursuing an agenda that does not reflect my values or interests and has displayed a shocking disregard for significant feedback provided by many citizens. The failure to manage many key issues, particularly on public safety and finances while at the same time also failing to deliver on the socialist agenda that has emerged post election has caused me and many of my cohort to lose confidence in this council.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
I wrote in to say how proud I was to have Jodyi who is an amazing individual and awesome mayor. She has faced lots of backlash over nothing. She was kind enough to even reach out to me which made me really happy. Keep up the great work!!
I was not happy with the teensy what they called a silence wall, definitely not that, that was erected along Southland drive now the Southland drive speedway! The new hideous streetlights are so huge that they would be better at spy hill jail. Our houses are illuminated all night long shining in all our windows! Oakridge is being a battered neighborhood with all the construction of unaffordable housing, etc. and the there is Glenmore Landing - OMG NO
I was contacting all Council members and the Mayor about the residential parking permit program. I called 311 to get the phone number for the Office of the Councillors. I was told that they do not provide that information and that if I want to contact Council I need to use the web submission form. After much searching I finally found the form on the web page, completed it, asked that it go to all Councillors, and I requested to hear back from the Councillors and Mayor. I never heard back from anyone. Clearly, none of them care about citizens and I gave up. It is truly appalling to see the total lack of regard for and dismissal of citizens' concerns. As the Portfolio Archivist for the Mayor and Council members for 24 years before retiring from The City I have never seen such behaviour from Council members. In the course of my work I had contact with many previous Aldermen, Councillors, and Mayors and was successful in getting a number of Council members to transfer their records to The City's Archives. Upon reviewing these records it was clear to see that Council members used to respond to their constituents and that their actions showed that they believed that they represented their constituents, unlike what we see today. I have learned that there is no point in contacting City Council as they don't care what citizens think or want. I am not the only one. I hear this from many people when I am out socially or working on projects. No one feels heard by City Council and many people have told me that they have never had a response when they contact their Councillor or the Mayor.
Tax increases, inflated bureaucracy, terrible roads, ridiculous utility fees, ridiculous garbage and recycling fees, terrible green space maintenance, abuse of funds towards extras like art as opposed to meeting basic needs like roads. A ridiculous amount of unused bike lanes that impede traffic...
Grievance with indecent exposure in a public place, safe spaces for biological females.
Projects within the ward that affect me
To arrange a community meeting with the Cllr. Did not work out well, the meeting was not done, very upsetting for residents.
Expressing my views regarding the proposed rezoning of residential properties.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Animal bylaws changed by the council.
Doesn't matter - I never received any response.
Voice my displeasure in the Blanket Rezoning proposal.
A Development Permit matter for my house.
My personal opposition to the most recent plebiscite proposal re: rezoning, and asking questions about various bike infrastructure and the plan for its future improvement.
To adopt all of the Housing and Affordability Task Force recommendations.
addicted to spending, dictatorial, ignoring will of majority
concerning a decision made by Administration regarding funding to a nonprofit partner
The snow removal and road conditions. Taxes continuing to go up and up without any change to the city.
To have a discussion regarding a critical local community impacts many families. No response was received from our Councillor or the Mayor.
Last week, I interviewed a Councillor for a school project that I had been working on about the role of government in housing affordability.
To discuss local development. I never heard back from my councillor
voicing concerns over policy
To Remove the up coming Fluoride going into our water supply September 2024! Pure Water is a individual right as a person living in Calgary!
Rent and cost if living increases
To complain about the Dominion voting systems that put the mayor in power and the fact that the Dominion voting systems are corrupt and should not be used
Contacted the Mayor for an AGM letter
Councillor to state we do not agree with the sweeping re zoning.
Pointing out weak policy decisions, and or flaws in the logic they used to justify certain projects. For example pointing out the Green Line LRT should be built using the same trains on the Blue and Red lines.
Park closure.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
The ridiculous "single use" bylaw that took place in Jan 2024.
Stupid paper bag tax and changing property development coding
Stop building around our drinking water! Don't sell parkland! Rethink rezoning!
Let them know I'm concerned about the how city is being run.
The absolute chaos on city transit.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - speeding, traffic -selling off city park space -rezoning <p>ALL RECIEVED ZERO RESPONSE</p>
<p>Over a number of years I have responded to many issues However I received the First reply from a councillor yesterday councillor Dan McLean. I'm a born and raised Calgarian now in my mid 60. Homelessness, infer structure, residential posted speeds, blanket rezoning.</p>
<p>Blanket rezoning and public transit operational and reliability issues, as well as safety concerns.</p>
<p>Watching Vanessa Ladouceur dying in the lobby of the Calgary Tower building prompted one outreach to my Councillor and the Mayor (as well as the Chief of Police and Chair of the Police Commission) in March of 2022. Response times were slow from the Mayor and in the case of my Councillor, he was disappointed that I wasn't an anti-racist ally because I didn't want to defund the Police. That engagement got me a lecture about the how the Clifford Sifton act shaped immigration policy in favour of Europeans (aka delivering ongoing white supremacy) and how colonialism continues to ruin our city. He did not care that there was blood on the sidewalk beside where I'd parked, that I'd missed the stabbing by less than 5 minutes and watched a 30 year old woman die, all before 7:00 a.m. More recently I engaged in a Town Hall with Councillor Walcott about the Land Use By-law changes, where he once again lectured the people in attendance. He's worked as a school teacher and community organizer, has been a City Councillor for just over 2 years, yet felt compelled to condescend to senior lawyers, a former executive of Brookfield Residential and people from CREB about development / housing prices / concerns about up zoning etc. Essentially people with real world, rather than theoretical, experience on the subject. When Jeromy Farkas was my Councillor, someone in his office would follow up if I filed a concern with 311 to ensure it was resolved. He would always call back if I left a message for anyone on his team. Love him or hate him, he responded and listened to the people paying his salary. You didn't have to vote for him or agree with him to get a prompt response from his team.</p>

After the Ballot

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May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Safety concerns in the area with speeding, lack of crosswalks, and near-misses in existing crosswalks. Addition of sidewalks. Possibility of adding a dog park to the area. Building a community rink.
Woke policies Drag queens reading to kids.
to offer more information on issues
Blanket rezoning. Events centre. Olympic bid.
Paper bag tax
Asking Courtney to deal with the crackheads braking into our homes every night and stopping our children from walking to the store.
Concerns with Westbrook area plan and rezoning.
Overdevelopment in Altadore and Marda Loop.
Lack of residents' involvement in building permits that directly impacted residents' quality of life. Last year was regarding the defacing of a primary road in the community.
Sandstone drive and sandarac drive corner with Chevron... needs lights, 4 way stop, anything!!! It's madness seeing so many almost collisions, and people running the stop Sign.. or even running OVER the stop sign... check 311!! We've reported it so many times. Surveys are wrong, we actually need the upgrade to anything. Even a round about would be perfect!
To advocate for greater traffic calming and crosswalks. I also let him know I felt a large property tax hike should have been spread over a couple years instead of at once due to high mortgage renewals this year and a cost of living unaffordable for almost everyone in this city.
Development items, housing crisis, community investment.
Property tax increases. I received some ridiculous canned response via email. What awful representation this was
Disgust with the blanket rezoning and opposition to the glenmore landing redevelopment.
To complain about an issue.
Most recently, blanket rezoning. In past... transit safety, the Guidebook, playground replacement, a local redevelopment. My previous councillor was easy to approach with concerns and responsive.
Potholes, Property Tax and Transit.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
most recently strong opposition to blanket upzoning
Trying to get Pootmans and Gondek to vote against the ratification of the Westbrook area plan (which no one in Wildwood wanted) and to vote against the city wide Calgary Rezoning, which is being foisted upon us and will only destroy the character of our neighbourhoods and depreciate the value of our investments (our houses).
I was unhappy with how council was voting on blanket rezoning. They do not seem to be listening nor representing their constituents.
To oppose the blanket rezoning of the city.
LAP Blanket up-zoning.
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Going to Community meetings that the councillor decided not to attend. 2 Putting a stop the attempted changes of RV parking by-laws to accommodate in driveway parking. 3 Attending Phase 2 In-Person meetings expecting to see our Ward representative. She did not show. 4 Attending In-Person Rezoning meetings expecting to see our Ward representative. She did not show.
Why are we allowing for road closures during protests.
Because I'm trying to support city changes I want the councillor to know these things are important even if change is hard. It fell on deaf ears.
Urging council to hold a plebiscite on blanket rezoning
Issue with blanket rezoning! I am appalled that our Mayor is not listening to the citizens of Calgary and taking a bribe from the federal government to turn our city into a concrete jungle and destroy inner city character! So shameful.
To discuss or seek information about policy changes and issues. Jeromy Farkas held regular Town halls and always spoke with individual constituents. Kourtney Penner has not attended any public functions and does not answer communication sent to her office except for canned thank you comments. She is a disgrace.
I have had numerous reasons for contacting Councillor Pootmans. One is "indiscriminate densification" which of course is an umbrella term for "blanket re-zoning". Another is the cavalier approach that Calgary Transit has with regard to adhering to a schedule. The most recent involves Councillor Pootman's town hall meeting. I happened to find out about it from someone who lives outside of ward 6. I asked the ward 6 office how they are disseminating

After the Ballot

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
this information and they don't respond. On numerous occasions I have tried to phone the staff at the ward 6 office and no one answers the phone.
Regarding the rezoning, 18 st bike lane that was horrible, pot holes, transit
taxes, cost of living, asking why the councilors don't look after the people in their areas instead of just working on their own agendas.
Climate emergency, rezoning, your racist and discriminatory DEI policies, bylaw issue
Local issue resolution
Rezoning
Expressing strong support for city wide R-CG rezoning
Ask for information regarding blanket densification
The blanket re-zoning mandate.
Trying to sway their thinking to make the right decision for the general population, but was unsuccessful. When I brought up relevant points the conversation was dropped by the councillor. He didn't want to hear any opinion but his own
I wrote and emailed every councilors and the mayor before and after the plebiscite to try and stop fluoridation and I provided them facts of why. Only 1 replied and Said he can't do anything.
City wide re-zoning
As a retired urban planner I had direct comments that I believed would have assisted in savings/efficiencies regarding current civic projects. Submitting comments directly through the general City info gathering (on-line) system results in overly simplistic responses from the administration - total waste of my time.
There was no response.
Responded to a proposal on behalf of residents. However my Cllr. does not listen has his decision regardless of the communities concerns. Unfortunately it's not possible to speak with the Mayor.
Too many to list.

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Rezoning the entire city of Calgary, as I'm fully against it. I never heard back from my Councillor which I expected.
Unhappy with the lack of plowing on our pathways which leads to difficulty in biking to work in the winter. I also contacted my councillor regarding rezoning, and the plastics ban.
Concern over rezoning and development planning.
Pedestrian Foot Paths around construction zones within my neighbourhood
To respond to a planning development project.
Minimizing lanes to include bike lanes, has congested traffic in busy areas. Also wrote about widening the sidewalk on 37th St. Removing turn lanes.
Policy input
planning and development concerns
Getting fluoride back in the community water supply.
Rezoning!!! Deaf ears. Penner ruining my life!!! She'd know that if she was bold enough to listen.
provide input on current issues before council
All issues related to development.
Development, traffic and safety concerns, as well as suggestions for improvements.
Blanket upzoning
To express my opinion on the proposed 7.8% tax increase and on the proposed blanket rezoning.
To give feedback on issues such as public safety, property tax increases. I've never been as unhappy with a city council as I am now.
I have contacted the Mayor and my Ward councillor many times. I contact them when I am very upset by a decision (ie, giving city council another raise, using city funds to buy themselves alarm systems). I also contact my councillor everyone the ctrain breaks down and shuttle buses are poorly managed (which happens all the time). Transit is a mess and should be a priority and never is.
concerns regarding the investment in the new arena and with the city rezoning
Bag bylaw and I received a disgusting and absolutely condescending reply

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May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
To get help with a very significant issue. Despite several letters, our Councillor and the Mayor never responded.
Climate action
Personal
not listening
Concerns with decisions that did not reflect the opinions of the public
No response from the mayors office, limited response from councillors office.
To suggest that the mayor look after city responsibilities (transit, homelessness, safety, etc) and stay away from climate change and being woke
I tried to reach a councillor to complain about Jeremy Farcus being excluded from meetings. This is absolutely untenable. He was a duly elected official and blocking councillors means they cannot represent us.
I have serious concerns about the Land Use Designation (zoning) amendment for the Rezoning for Housing project and feel its important to have a plebiscite held for constituents to be heard.
Development and rezoning.
Community related issue.
Recall for councillor Chu. Providing suggestions on how to improve accessibility and walkability of Ward 4 where I live.
My issues are specific to my surrounding streets (traffic, construction, development) but I have never received a response. Good luck reaching the ward 8 councilor, he seems to have a vendetta against his own ward !
Major concerns about my community and the effects of re-zoning.
- regarding Mayor Gondek's failure to attend the Menorah lighting - regarding the new bag rules - regarding the constant tax hikes with zero visible improvements in my neighbourhood
To express my concerns with their actions
Illegally placed election sign on our private property
to compliment and support them
Calgary Transit reliability, specifically c-train breakdowns and transit delays.

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Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Protection of heritage.
I was angry about Mayor Gondeks "Climate Crisis". Now it's all about a "Housing Crisis" WHICH THERE IS NOT!!!!
<p>1. Selling off a park and children little league baseball diamonds for condos in a process that was initiated internally at the city with engagement conducted during covid with ONE single zoom session.</p> <p>You want an example of why people are so jaded with the city engagement process? Go review the Richmond Green Park re-zone and sale. Completely uncalled for by the area and residents, totally against policy and the legislated MDP mandate to protect park space, a land use resignation initiated by a sitting councillor (how is that even allowed??) who continently could not be investigated by ethics because it was within 3 months of an election, a totally pre-determined outcome before a single engagement session was conducted, a public hearing that was 100% virtual where councilors did not even sit through or listen to the residents who spoke (the status's were all "AWAY"). That experience haunts me still. I lost sleep (and still do over it), my mental health was in shambles, I prepared for days and days, missing work and taking time off to read and gather evidence and to KNOW that I had city policy, the MDP, and hundreds of other residents on the side of saving the park - and to be ignored, ridiculed, called a liar. It was one of the worst experiences and then I had to tell my little leaguer that we lost, and instead of walking to ball practice now we get in the car and drive to aspen.</p> <p>2. A light bulb burnt out for 5+months and not replaced</p> <p>3. Speeding and safety in the school zone</p> <p>4. Theft of war memorial plaques</p>
To get an answer on how my Councillor voted and explain why she did so.
Rezoning plebiscite. Glenmore landing development
The council approved budget!
Upset about changes being made that were costly and made no sense. I would like City Council to focus on running the city, and stop coming up with useless bylaws that constantly frustrate me.
I work in real estate development and the development permit and rezoning processes are often most effective when the applicant has direct input from council. I also speak frequently at public hears both for my applications and broader policy items that impact development in our city.
drug dealing, loud partying, drunken, women beating neighbour

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
to ask to support the motion to eliminate the rezoning motion
Regarding the changes to zoning, especially in older established communities.
Disappointed in Mayor Nenshi's elitist attitude to the public.
Problems regarding ongoing homeless/drug issues and encampments in our community and the lack of efforts to remediate this. Feedback about Calgary Flames hockey arena decision process.
To remove an obstruction that was placed in a major roadway
Concerns with Stephen Ave
I'm on the Board of More Neighbours Calgary - Nenshi & Carra came to our event this week.
to complain about the city's history of burying sidewalks/bus stops with snow/ice from the roads making the sidewalks impossible to walk on, 311 was no help and never got a reply from my so called elected official either.
I am total disagreement with my current councillor on his stance regarding climate and budget.
To thank my councillor for voting the way they did.
I have had many interactions with my councillor thru the years, the last one who listened was Barry Erskine. I sent an email to my current councillor, on developments taking place in Glenmore Park (approval and suggesting more) No Reply I sent another email regarding the totally unsynced traffic signals coming in and out of lakeview, again no reply. In a world where emissions are top of mind, these lights need to be fixed, to lower idling time.
Requested installation of 4-way stops signs on a horrible intersection where people treated it as a 4-way when it wasn't, this added to confusion.
Property taxes, lamp post repair, and snow removal
Voice concerns over residential zoning changes
Had an issue with a policy
Zoning.
N/A
Land use planning.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
To show my support for our mayor trying not to take sides in the Israeli/Palestinian issues.
Poor decision making, lack of accountability, corruption, greed.
NA
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- the development of a new school in my community- the budget- seeking clarity about the massive announcement (multi billion dollar) in climate change- my communities Local Area Plan which showed conversion of my entire neighborhood to 10 story plus development and retail at ground level without having had any fore warning or involvement
Providing opinion on several matter that were to be voted on. My councillor was very responsive and knowledgeable (ward 1). I have also contacted the mayors office and was ignored.
The single-use plastic bylaw debacle.
I don't recall exactly when I last contacted, though I think it was for the budget. I also used to work in a City Councillors office.
Identifying a need for services for homeless individuals in the western part of the Beltline. Because there are no public toilets or access to potable water, individuals used parking lots and parks for toilets and attempted to use external spigots on residential buildings. While I applaud the initiative in downtown, it doesn't address the identified need. I initially wrote to the previous councillor, asked all credible council nominees during the past election and attempted to contact the current councillor. The ability to contact council members following the last election was disabled and I was directed to Calgary 311. I conceded defeat.
Taxes and spending priorities, city rezoning and pathway snow clearing.
Most recently, blanket rezoning. Previously transit safety, redevelopment projects, the Guidebook, BRT and other "issues of the day". I am not shy about reaching out. Our previous councillor was very responsive; the current one not at all.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard
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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
To convey my support for the Green Line LRT. To convey my disappointment in the Green Line LRT being reduced. To convey my desire for good bicycle infrastructure at and near LRT stations, including safe routes to get to the LRT stations from feeder communities and the installation of secure bike parking facilities and/or bike lockers. To advocate for increased investment in climate-friendly transportation infrastructure. To advocate for the housing strategy. To advocate for greater investment in a service-centered approach to public safety that prioritizes helping people who are struggling and minimizing their interactions with law enforcement .
Over taxation without looking at reducing spending. Having my once great neighborhood ruined by zoning changes without a referendum.
I wanted to voice my perspective on issues affecting my community
Re-zoning of residential area
To try to have a conversation about important issues.
Tax increases Parking fees
Community playground project and to share I support the plebiscite vote for the rezoning proposal.
City crime issues. Traffic shutdowns.
I was on my community board
To support a proposal to turn the old greyhound terminal into a place homeless people can get help 24/7 instead of being kicked out to the streets durring the day. This was brought forward by a non-council member and the current council denied it. When I brought it up I was told it wouldn't happen but there are no better plans to deal with the homeless problem.
Re-zoning.
The horrendous arena deal.
Disgust at the push to densification without meaningful input THAT IS ACTUALLY THEN INCLUDED ON POLICY.
Express my disappointment that my councillor was part of the group of 6 councillors to propose a plebiscite for citywide rezoning.
commenting on LAP plans, H-GO zoning, the HAFT recommendations, etc.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Decisions that I disagree with re ! Blanket re-Zoning & the Glenmore Park Preservation
To make sure my councillor knew my thoughts on certain policy
for one I expect a reply, not one from the mayor. ward 3 councilor is a hit and miss. snow issues, bylaw issues, for better support for renters in illegal suites. for decision making. how I feel on their decision and voting
housing; stop the plastic ban
sewer smell in out back lane..... after reaching out to the community and the ward councillor, to no progress - we moved.
Pilot project that the City was running, (Renewable Diesel), and it took a lot of time to get the correct response
I wrote yesterday about a proposal for a plebiscite. I have written to my Councillor and/or Mayor about policies, city services, conduct of the mayor or Councillors.
Continued densification in communities already exceeding the MDP requirements but no infrastructure or service to support the growth.
Garbage, graffiti at a strip mall.
Tax hike. Received a generic response back
Disappointment with bag bylaw. Disappointment with the mayors decision to not support the local Jewish community
Concerned about certain municipal bylaws and their enforcement
Complaint
About a development proposal that was eventually approved despite vast opposition to it
To express my opposition to the Flames arena deal, and my disappointment in the utterly opaque nature of the process that led to it's approval.
It was after the three separate pit bull attacks in 72 hours in February and I wanted to know if Calgary was planning on moving ahead with a pit bull ban like the UK, India, and other countries are starting to implement to prevent dangerous breeds from being owned within city limits. I received a response from one of his assistants that said they'd pass it on, but I haven't heard anything yet.
To voice my opposition to proposals

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
It's a total sham. Starting with Developers colluding with the City and City Council against citizens. How absolutely ridiculous that the City thinks it's ok to put Developers in charge of their own Engagement processes. What a complete joke! Conspiracy, corruption & collusion!!
Horrendous, incompetent, homophobic, woke decisions that those idiots make, including blanket rezoning proposal, single use bylaw, giving themselves raises while increasing taxes, etc. www.recallgondkeyc.ca
I believe it was for traffic lights and what could be done about removing them so traffic flows better
LRT expansion
Issues with the Main Streets Construction project.
Housing crisis
To voice my concerns about their opposition to the housing rezoning plan, and to voice my concerns about the car-centric policies in our city.
Safety and zoning
Concerns around development permits in the area as well as safety concerns.
Planning and development issues, traffic problems.
To express my opinion
Concern with city council decision that was against the popular opinion
Increased property taxes. Racist behavior by mayor.
Requesting help with reported issues with 311 and giving input on ward and city issues.
The embarrassment and outrage caused by the mayor refusing to attend the lighting of the Menorah, citing bogus reasons. We were not even able to get through to the mayors office, and had to complain to the 311 operator instead.
Issue with city services
To have the driveway repaired for the water pipe that services my home fixed. It was in supposed to be done within 6 weeks of the initial repair, it took 16 months before they came back and after I called numerous times that didn't go anywhere, and finally I called my Alder person who got the repair done once they learned the back ground.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
I cannot remember as I simply put out there my requests or suggestions but don't keep track of things because I know none of you are listening. When I send messages to all Councillors, I may receive, one, maybe two, responses. No more. It is a useless, futile effort where things come to a head at The Ballot Box.
Trees been removed without logical reasons
To express concern for the decisions being made and for the lazy or arrogant attitudes, lack of respect and decorum shown by certain members.
Address concerns about city long term planning and infrastructure
A local issue with invasive grasses in public spaces, grasses which are dangerous for dogs.
Issue of garbage collection in areas frequented by wildlife
Urging council to adopt Strong Towns principles, ending the Suburban Experiment and returning to a traditional development pattern that is car light.
Provide input on topics to my councillor; ask the mayor to elaborate on public statements made.
Encouragement against communist take over bids.
Provide personal input.
LOCaL issues directly affecting the community.
I disagreed with some policies. I sent an email and received no response.
1. Community issues that needed to be resolved. 2. Hoping their influence would mean a certain city department would listen to residents and come to some sort of compromise instead of being bullish.
Tax increase and state of the city
Trying to get an answer to a query which was never answered and is a problem for me, like why do you need to go downtown to get a seniors Bus pass, while the City has that information, and can do it, instead make folks go to downtown, and wait to be called to the desk, bring your last paper in from Revenue to show you are not a rich Senior.
I did not want to see the single use by law changed. I have concerns about the environment.
Reaching out to my councillor with concerns. Walcott responded immediately and although our issue wasn't within his job description, he helped so much.
Glenmore Landing opposition

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
To express our opinion about policy or issues. To be heard. But this council does not listen to the people paying their wages.
Provide input to pending discussion and decisions. Neither time was I heard. I even made a formal submission, which I am positive was never read. The response was, we trust the ADMINISTRATION, and will follow their suggestions.
I have contacted my Councillor Penner regarding the Development going forward , at Glenmore Landing . Penner keeps having to be reminded that We voted her in as Councillor,& that she should be helping our grievance over helping the City.
Deeply unclear communication (and eventual fake consultation) on a change to a major road in my neighbourhood.
Councillor to change a point of view, Mayor to denounce certain actions
Email re blanket R-CG city rezoning and desire for them to send it to a plebiscite for citizens to vote. 3 of 14 members gave me the courtesy of a reply.
To discuss my opinion on the City Building engagement, the River Valleys Engagement, and Parks Engagement
Calgary transit service to my community is worse now than it was 18 years ago when I first bought my home.
Making a bi-law that landlords can not deny a resident having a pet. Like Ontario & BC have
Part of my work is to work for the city. when Administration is failing, I have no other option! it shouldn't be that way!
A high and growing higher drug use in my community.
Public safety Truck nuisance and traffic
Potholes, Property Tax raises, City Council Raises, Transit Safety, and Street Lamps that are turning purple causing issues with nighttime driving.
Problems with the community, specifically zoning and amenities.
Development opposition
Challenges with services in my area (water line breaks creating no water for residents for weeks -with a dismal response from Water Services to obtain temporary water).

After the Ballot

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What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
Poor representation. Guy was elected because he was the name people know not because of what has done to benefit people who live in our Ward, only people receiving our taxes and building the property dense homes. Which I might add does not help the rental crisis if people are coding row houses with rental suites below them and they're charging \$2000 plus a month.
The arena project was awful. What a disgusting decision that was, and it led to a provincial political party using it as a campaign tool for their election, only for that same political party to have their members create a petition to try and oust you. Embarrassing and disgraceful. You also have a councilor that is a [removed] on your payroll. Sean Chu must resign.
to stop them making a mistake (and wasting money)... they of course never responded and made the mistake.
To provide feedback / to ask questions
1) Send thanks for making water a priority, and 2) suggested ways to do more.
Concerns over a poorly worded/constructed bylaw.
local issue
Most recently the Local Area Planning and City wide rezoning initiatives. However as a CA representative I am in touch with my Councillor directly many times per month on a myraid of different matters
When the council decided that we needed a city bird.
Zoning

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
the one for my area
I would check the city website or complete a Google search.
Based on my ward or based on political affiliation if i felt my radical leftwing councillor was ignoring me
Local issues, would contact our ward representative. City wide issues, to our ward representative and the Mayor.
Ward.
My local Councillor first, all Councillors second.
In some cases an issue is such that all Councillors need to be contacted on a specific issue.
I wouldn't bother anymore. I've lost trust and respect for this government.
Ward 14 councillor is useless. The only communication we get from him is on signs he purchases located on one main road in my community. I prefer to reach out to the mayor directly if I could.
Local councillors or a councillor who has shown interest in the specific issue.
Usually the councillor in my ward , I have tried to commit her councillors and they just ignore me by not responding.
See who represents my ward
Probably would not bother based on the conduct of our Council to date.
I know who my ward councillor is. If she would bother to respond -- or even acknowledge -- to emails, I might have some input.
I have the email and phone number
good question, I don't know
I would contact my wards councillor
I would contact my councillor, I have in the past and found their office to be very responsive.
Look up on the web.
I would contact my ward councillor
My Ward Cllr.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
I would contact the Councillor who represented the ward of the city I live in
Ward 11 KOURTNEY PENNER
The Councillor that was relevant to the community where there was an issue. Normally it was the community in which I lived.
I'd contact the one for my ward
Start with issue, then and councillor and Always the Mayor. Some times the issue is City wide and we address all councillors.
I wouldn't since I know they are beholden to others and not their constituents.
My councillor
I'm pretty sure I would contact my own Councillor, and if recommended by him/her I would contact others if needed.
I know who the councilor is for my ward.
My area rep
I'd Google something e.g. "find my calgary city councilor".
Email
My Ward's councillor
My Ward Alderman
I would look up who is in charge of my Ward, which I have done before.
My area
The one in my riding.
by ward
Check the website for who my councillor is and then send an email.
Councillor for my ward
I contact the councillor in my ward.
When I need to contact a councilor I email my councilor Peter Demong for Ward 14 and the other 13 other councillors well as the mayor's office, because none of them are doing their

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
jobs and listening to their constituents and I c.c. my emails to my wonderful Premier Danielle Smith who is taking action to lower the requirements to recall these useless city officials.
Based on my ward. I assume your next question, my demographic, when I don't click that I'm a minority, my survey goes in the garbage.
The one in which the ward I live.
My ward
Would contact the councillor that most represents the people, doesn't have to be my representative
I would contact my riding rep. This is dumb question.
My representative from Ward 1.
I know my councilor contact info.
look it up online, because none of them reach out to the citizens.
I know who my councillor is.
I would contact my local councilor.
Idk Google it
The councillor for my ward unless there was a specific reason to contact another directly.
Any one that responds
I guess email.....I don't even know who the councillor of my ward is
My own councillor
Depends on the issues I wanted to discuss.
I know who the councillor is in my ward and follow him on Facebook. Other councillors should be available via Facebook or Google or via city hall administration.
Ward 7 Terry Wong is visible in our community
I always go to the councillor of my ward.
Id contact the Councillor in my Ward.
I'd contact my own

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
I would contact the councillor for my ward
Where I live.
Would contact my ward councillor
Email their office
Ward and/or issue based
The one for my ward is who I would pick
Thru your city webpage
look up on the map to see who is my counsillor for my ward.
I would contact the councillor representing my ward.
My ward 1
based on ward
I contact the person who is supposed to represent where I live.
I'd email them at their City account, and follow up with a phone call. If unsure of who my councillor was, you can see that online.
I have used the website to contact my Councillor and all the Councillors and the Mayor.
Councilor from district ... however that person refuses to consider the opinions /concerns of residents in her riding. Mayor ... ? Essentially the vast number of residents are doing a slow burn regarding insensitive blanket rezoning !!
I would contact the councillor of my ward
I know who my councillor is and have their contact information. On occassion we try and get more communities behind an issue and copy councillors in bordering wards.
I would look at who the councilor is in the area where I am having an issue.
I know my councillors name and how to reach out
I know who represents our ward.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
City website to see what ward the issue is related to, and then include the councillors that will likely respond as most of them will not unless it is a compliment to their ego, or something that they want to use as a speaking point.
ward
Call.
The one in my ward and others in other words
Anyone but my ward 9 councillor, who believes he knows what is best for the peasants
Ideally I would contact the councilor for my ward, but he's an idiot
My ward councilor and by online email
Depends on where the issue is.
I'd contact my Ward councillor
I know which ward I live in.
I know who my Councillor is, and even if I didn't, I would go to 311 and type in my postal code.
Email first, then request a meeting
Based on my ward
Don't know, probably check Calgary website
By ward
I would contact the councilor for my ward
I inform my own Councillor of my views.
election results, city web page links, phone 311 and ask.
My Councillor in Ward 11 who is non-responsive, arrogant and useless.
Whichever is responsible for my area
Email or website
email
The councillor representing my ward.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
by Ward
No idea
By area
I contacted my Ward for internal issues, but have used the select all councillors for major issues due to my feeling of lack of response from my current councillor
The one on my ward, that person represent me
Would talk to mine.....
Google
Based on where I live
depends on the ward issue and which committees they are on, primarily would contact my own councillor
Check online
I do not know
I would look up the councilor for my neighborhood first. Secondly, I would contact people I know who run in political circles to see who is the best person to address my issues.
depending on the problem it would be ward based
Call 311 and request to speak to them
First step is to my ward councilor. From the initial contact, I follow their recommendations on how to proceed with my input into the matter under consideration.
Councillor representing my ward
N/A
One that will take the time to listen to community concerns and take their concerns to a federal level
I know who my representative is. I would email them
My elected councillor of course.
I know who my city councillor is as well as the name of their key community liaison/contact.
I know my ward guy

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
I contact my area councillor.
I live and work in 2 separate communities. I reach out to whatever alder person needed. Often no direct response. I watch city council meetings online as it is extremely inconvenient to go downtown anymore.
I would contact the councillor in my ward.
I would contact both my own ward councillor and the councillor of the ward in which the exact issue was located in
Look on Calgary.ca to understand what ward and/or committee the Councillor in question represented.
I would contact the councillor in my riding who is Terry Wong b
I would contact the Councillor for my ward.
Whomever I thought would be best suited to answer questions
I would use the ward information to find my Councillor's contact info. It's unlikely I would contact a councillor outside of my ward.
I start with my wards Councillor and escalate from there when he doesn't listen because he has a preset agenda
I only would contact my ward councillor.
I would contact the councillor that represents my own ward.
Relevant councillor.
Appointed responsibility
Probably the one in my ward
I contact my alderman.
I would contact my own
Contact info on the City of Calgary website.
Email
For general inquiries or issues directly related to my own community, I would contact the councillor for my ward. If the issue were more relevant to a different ward, I would contact the councillor for that area.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
Email or text
The one in my ward area. Peter Demong
I have contacted my councillor by using the online format available on the calgary.ca ap.
Through this site
I would look up on the city's website to see who my councillor is and either call or send an email.
Look up online to see who represents my area
My ward councillor and maybe also a councillor I think is actually listening to their constituents.
It would depend if it was municipal or neighborhood based.
I have given up
I'd looking online for who represents my ward.
Mine
I contact my wards councillor directly usually. But, I have reached out to the mayor's office as well.
I contact ALL councillors and the mayor. Every single councillor needs to know what the broader Calgarians want. What is disappointing is the lack of a response or the canned response given.
I contact the one that represents my ward.
The councillor for our ward
I know who the useless chosen, not elected councillor is for my ward
If it is directly related to our ward, I would email our councillor or put on the radar of the development committee of our community board to take to their contact at the ward councillor's office. If it is city-wide, I email all councillors and mayor.
Email
I already know who the councillor is for my ward....so I would contact that councillor.
Look on the website

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
My own ward
I know which one is for my ward. She is useless.
email
Email
I would find the one that's most active and knowledgeable on that issue.
I have contacted my councillor as well as all councillors and the mayor on several different occasions.
contact own ward councillor first
Figure out what ward you live in
I'd contact my councillor
Depending on question or issue I would contact my councillor and would cc the rest if issue effects beyond my area
Not sure
Email
Sean Chiu seems to be the only one there with common sense who might actually listen.
The councillor was elected to represent me.
my ward councillor to start. Whole of council follows depending on the issue.
I would start with mine and then branch out to the other 13.
The zone in which I live and represents my area.
While I can reach out to anyone, my own Councillor needs to put motions forward and refuses to listen.
Look it up online
I know which councilor is 'representing me' and I have her email and phone number. IF I needed to contact another councillor , I would look it up on the YYC311 website
I start with the one in my ward
From my ward

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
Who represents my ward
Email
Based on their record in public service
I would contact my Ward, or the Ward in which is concern is associated with and I would also include the office of the Mayor
That this is even a question in this survey - I'd contact the Council Member representing my Ward.
Depends on the issue, but generally I will contact all of them.
Those not listening to their ward or those NOT responding to emails or phone calls would be contacted, however those that are actually listening would be contacted and thanked.
The one representing my riding
Research each to ensure the best fit
I would start with my district rep and work my way up from there.
I would go online and contact them.
I know who my Councillor is
I would contact the ones that were intelligent enough to stand up to this garbage mayor and her greaseball Sycophants socialist puppets
By knowing who my councillor is in my riding
Regional
Demong is my councillor. He no longer responds to concerns.
I would contact my own councillor first, and then copy in all of them, on the City of Calgary contact page.
I would contact the councillor in my ward.
The one in my constituency
I would contact the councillor in my community through email.
Start with ones that align with my views ie. support affordable housing

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
Well my Councillor, Walcott, has blocked me and most of his constituents on Social Media. But contacted him by email before and no response. I did get super condescending responses from Woolley though. Not sure why he bothered.
Email or phone
Via email
from the last election results, but also on the calgary.ca web site.
There's no point, Penner doesn't respond. Hopefully our next representative will actually represent us.
I would look up who represents my ward
My local councilor
I would contact my Councillor first and then if a broader issue, use the City website to send to all.
My ward councillor. He is excellent. Dan McLean. He is out and about all the time and real people person.
I know who our Councillor is.
It's pretty simple to go to the website and get an email and a phone number
I wd contact my ward rep
Website
Counsellor in my ward
I know who my Councilor is but if I did not, I would go to Calgary.ca
Look on the city website.
Which ever is representing my section of the city. Not that any of them ever respond.
I didn't get any response last time so I've given up trying
I'd contact my own ward councillor
Email
I ensure my own councillor, but often the mayor and whole council will get my point as well.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
The city of Calgary website. I am also aware of who my councilor is.
Based on where I live
whoever is in my riding
Email
WHAT DOES THIS QUESTION MEAN ? BY WARDS, NO?
I know who my councillor is.
I email them all and expect a response. Responses are sporadic. I know which councillor represents our ward
I would contact the Councillor for my Ward. Why are you asking? Isn't this a waste of a question? Or are you trying to call citizens stupid?
The one in my ward?? Weird question
I would contact the one who represents my ward
The one that is supposed to be actually representing my community, which is Councillor Penner.
I know my councilors name. I would obviously contact him but he does not listen. He made me a promise the year I voted for him and he has done nothing to rectify the situation so I didn't vote for him in the following election. He barely got in & now he listens less.
Email
I would contact the one who represents my community
Local
Contact the Ward representative by his (or her) email.
What one in my area I live in
ALL. OF . THEM. none of them are there to help citizens only line that terrible mayor's pocket. A RAISE?!?!?!? RIGHT NOW?!?!?
I know what ward I am in don't worry
I would have to google to find out how or contact city hall

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
That within my riding.
I include my Councillor in any correspondence with the Mayor. In most cases, I have included my lawyer in a bcc. I never ever have had a reply by Gondek. She never communicates with those who oppose her. She is a coward.
Firstly, the councillor for our ward. If no response, then the councillor that is closest to our ward geographically
Im aware of my councilor. I didn't vote for him and I def won't be again but I go to my own representation
I contact the whole council as individual councillors are only one vote. Also, my councillor does listen to residents and what our ward wants, where as I believe some on council do not. They push forward with the majority and their own agenda.
Phone
It doesn't matter which one you contact because they don't respond back
The one from my ward
My ward councillor
The one elected to REPRESENT ME.
Email and the form on the website
I email Jasmine Mian and the mayor - Ward 3 is my community
Facebook? I don't know
I would contact my ward councilor via email
I will email them
I know his name
If it was an issue in my ward specifically I would contact my own councilor. If it was a city wide or partial city wide I would contact whichever councilor in the area concerned as well as my own to potentially advocate for me
I feel I can only try and connect with my councillor for things that matter in my ward as well as the Mayor who should be representing all Calgary

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
They all need to be contacted! Their days are numbered. Most should not even bother try to be reelected. Start looking for new jobs! Or wait, there are no jobs because most people already have two or three and still can't seem to eat!
The councillor of my ward is the one who should speak up for us regardless of whether he agrees or not
I know who to contact
Find the ward I'm in and contact the councillor for that ward via email or telephone
the one responsible for my riding Courtney Walcott, however he doesn't care as he supports all stomping on rights of the people
My ward duh!
My councilor, from my ward.
I know who my represents is, we all should.
Mine via email. Sadly, he has no influence over the Hateful Eight.
Check a map of wards and councillors
My ward
The local ward councilor
I would contact my councillor for my ward
Councillor of my defined ward
Ward 11 email or 311. Both useless as Ms. Penner never responds. She's useless
I know who my representative is and will email his office.
Not sure
Referencing the Ward Map, contacting the Councillor for that Ward and contacting the head of any committees involved in the issue at-hand.
My ward or a councillor that seems to be listening to the taxpayers
I don't know.
One who is Conservative and stands up for Calgarians
Go online and get their contact info

After the Ballot

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
Ward council meetings or on social media. Our councillor admitting is not a fan and will not do social media
My own councillor plus every other one and the mayor too.
The one representing my ward.
email or social media
You are all corrupt and need to go away The revolution had started The recall petition is only the beginning!
The councilor for my ward. [removed]
I contact the councillor for my ward
The one representing my ward
I would contact my Ward councillor.
I know my councillor and would use email to start communication. Understand that what the city and councillors have asked for here is input. If the city does not demonstrate any movement or change. does not take action it will demonstrate that this was an exercise in appeasing people and their emotions, and not a serious attempt at making the communities and city a better place to live. Busy hard working people are taking time away from their families, children and other responsibilities to provide input, respect the time, energy and effort that has been contributed and take the information seriously. Read the comments, do not aggregate the data and look for generalizations, words are important and actions have impact and meaning.
The one that represents my riding
I know who my councillor is. I contacted her office.
Contact our councilor. Any issues or requests i would send through our community association. They communicate regularly with our councilor.
Email
my own Ward councillor

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
Pulling their contact info off City Calgary website
Not sure
I know my Councillor and have already made a distribution/email list of all members of council.
My riding
council awarding themselves and all staff raises double the rate of inflation
Email
The council member responsible for the issue
My ward 7 councillor. These questions are stupid
Ward.
Look them up
The one in my riding. He is excellent.
I know who my councillor is, and I know who my mayor is.
Connect with councillor whose ward is most impacted by issue
i know what ward i am in
Look it up
I phoned him. He has a website with phone number listed.
I would contact my Ward Councillor's office.
I contact the councillor in my area which is ward 11 Kourtney Penner. I have tried phone calls, 311 portal contact, facebook contact Kourteny Penner, ward 11 Calgary and she never responds. It is frustrating when an elected official will not acknowledge or return emails and or phone calls
Through the City's website to all the councillors as decisions are made as a council or directly to my councillors email.
My representative (Penner) and she doesn't respond
Local area or adjacent areas
City of Calgary website

After the Ballot

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
City of Calgary website
Ward map
Search for the councilor for my riding
first my ward councillor...second influential/like minded councillors...third ALL councillors
likely contact my ward councilor if a local issue and the mayor if it was a city issue
My local representative
We used to TrY and contact our area councillor but this is generally a dead end effort.
The one through my area.
the councillor who represents my ward.
Logically, I would contact the Councillor representing the Ward in which I live. Unfortunately, that Councillor does not respond to the concerns of the citizens in her Ward and appears to have no idea what role she has been elected to fulfill.
My councillor is the first choice.
By informing myself of Council matters
I would contact my Ward Councillor.
Start with my ward councillor and fan out to others as needed
Ward 11 Councillor who does not bother to respond...ever!
Have tried electronically to Kourtney Penner. She never responds. Gondek provides a bureaucratic, "one for all" response (aka "thank you for your feedback, we are looking into this matter"). Gondek in way over her head and should be removed asap. She doesn't have the skills!!!
I looked it up on City website. No personal communications received back from Councillor. She keeps herself well insulated from having to deal with ward citizens.
Via email is my fist point of contact. Phone call to follow up. Although they never respond.
My ward councillor first
Not our present Councillor.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
I would contact my area councillor for specific issues unique to the area, for a more general issue I would contact all of the councillors.
My own Ward 11 councillor who refuses to respond to me or other constituents.
Whomever the issue surrounds.
my mla
By area and by issues of concern .
My ward representative.
Contact the one in my ward
I would contact my local councillor
My concerns were in my own ward
The one who represents my area which I live in
My ward
I'm not sure.
based on my ward
Check the City website
Likely the councillor for my ward
The ones with some modicum of brains and smarts.
Ward 11
The councillor in my ward.
Either my Ward's councillor, or another councillor that represents my views on an issue
I do know who my counsellor is. I would probably make a phone call to the general line to get email information.
First my ward councillor then the mayor then all.
The one representing my Ward as found on the City's website. Fruitless though as there was and is no response. One only assumes they do not answer to those indifferent to the gang of 8 at Council.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
Generally I would want to contact my ward councillor, however she does not respond!
I would contact my ward councillor through the city portal. Albeit unsuccessful in the past. Ward 11.
within my ward
Your ward
Any that are not in the hateful eight at this point.
I know who my ward rep is.
I am a director with our community association and have had personal dealings with our Councillor and his assistant
I know who my councillor is.
Look online to see which area the councillor is responsible for
By finding what ward I am in
I know who my councillor is
Look up who represents my ward and contact them
It is incredibly difficult to find contact info for the councillors. I voted and follow who my councilman is, and couldn't believe that the council/mayor try to hide their contact info from us. Unbelievable. Names, wards, phone numbers and emails should be on the front page of Calgary.ca
It depends on the issue. In some cases, I have contacted my Councillor; in other cases, I have contacted all the Council or the Mayor. Unfortunately, I have never gotten a response from the Mayor, which leads me to believe she doesn't care. I have received generic responses from some council members. Generally, my Councillor is good about responding to me.
The one that represent my zone.
Ward-related issues - respective ward councilor City-related issue - Mayor
I would attempt to contact my ward councillor- GC Carra. However, he has not responded to any of my calls or emails.
Email or phone call

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
Based on Ward boundaries and where I live.
I would look for the one in my area.
The counselor of my Ward
I e-mail Ward 1's councilor AND councilorweb for distribution to all councilors. If it was about an issue specific to Ward 1 and my community, I would just contact Sonya Sharp. If it was an issue affecting the whole city, I would ask that it be distributed to all councilors.
Depends on the issue. If it's local then my ward's councillor. If it is related to flood communities then all councillors and the mayor.
Ward representation
li would contact the councillor who made a comment or motion I had concerns about. I am very familiar with who my councillor is and the councillors in the surrounding wards.
I would look up who is my Councillor in my Ward.
I email all and they don't listen. I have contacted 311 and receive no communication back
I typically contact my councillor by email. If I feel all the councillors need to know something important, then I will send a group email to all the councillors. I was born and raised in Calgary and have seen a lot of changes in my 66 years. When I was growing up I did not realize the tragedy of tearing down our old sandstone buildings to put up towers downtown. Now, I am ready to fight to save my city.
not sure
I know who my counselor is, he's probably one of the only sane ones on council.
City of Calgary website which shows you who council members and mayor is.
I'd look for someone who agrees with me on basic issues, based on their voting record. But I probably wouldn't contact one because as a non-citizen I feel like I'm irrelevant to politicians except as a scapegoat.
Calgary.ca
My Councillor for my ward
Except that there are no longer telephone numbers to call and emails are rarely answered
Based on Ward.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
The one for my ward or the one who has a publicized similar interest in my issue.
Email. Phone if needed
I would personally contact my councillor via email and if I didn't know who was my councillor for my ward I would look it up on the city of Calgary website.
Use my ward designate.
I would contact a councillor whom I thought would be sympathetic.
I could not contact our counselor as she is part of the Hateful Eight so I would have to call the only counselor who is listening, Sonya Sharp is listening to the residents but no one in council is listening to her!
I know who mine is
I'd contact my ward and cc the mayor
It would be dependent upon the issue and corresponding jurisdiction. All Councillors should respectfully respond to any inquiry from a citizen.
Any councillor who is transparent about the partnerships and allies in the Global agenda to pursue Sustainable Development Goals of the UN and it's NGO's
Kourtney Branigan/Sirodot/Penner or whatever name she has today
My Ward Cllr. by email or phone call.
It would depend on whether the issue pertained to my community or Ward (then my Councillor) or if it was city-wide (then all of Council and the Mayor). However, is there any point to contacting someone on City Council? Also, I am not sure that you have asked the right questions in this survey, but then, it doesn't really matter. My experience with The City's public engagement process is that it is done so that you can tick off a box. You don't actually listen to or follow up on what people say. Things used to be really good at The City and I had a great amount of respect for and trust in our municipal government, but that has really changed over the past six to seven years. I no longer feel that citizens can trust the municipal government to act in our best interest. I have put these comments in here as you don't have a space for other comments. However, you will probably delete my submission anyway because it does not conform to what you want to hear.
I know my ward, and would contact the ward office via email.
I contact my ward councillor via email.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
The one in my ward unless she didn't respond or I was given a canned response, then the next, if nothing the media.
Ward councilor as the mayor does nothing.
Contact would be based on the issue first, and whether or not it's a Ward matter or a citywide matter.
I know who my councillor is and I'd look up their contact info on calgary.ca
I would contact the Councillor for my Ward.
my ward
the one who represents my ward would be first or the one where the issue is
I would contact mine or whoever I think is working for the people of Calgary and could help me.
Depends on the issue or I would contact my ward councillor.
To be honest, I probably would not bother at this stage. My lack of trust for our municipal government is incredibly low, consistent with many Calgarians.
I would likely contact the Councillor of which I am a constituent of, although I may also contact the Councillor whom I interviewed and have gotten to know.
I know who my councillor is. I vote in every election. If I didn't know I would look on the cities website or call 311 to find out
by person or by phone preferably; in person
I would just google who my ward councillor was and find out their information.
Email
Look up the one that pertains to the area I live in
I would not contact any of them anymore because they are corrupt so it doesn't really matter who you contact they don't care about people unless those people have the liberal agenda in plan
I'd contact the councillor for my ward.
The councillor of my area and if they are horrible then I'd find the one I believe in most
I would start with my ward councillor.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
I'd contact my own Councillor
My ward
The Councillor how represents our ward is who I contact.
Use City website.
Checking the ward to where I belong
Email.
Look at the map.
Via email
I know whom mine is
Oh, I contact them all!!
I would choose which ever Councillor is responsible for my concern
I contact my councillor and the mayor. I have also done an email with photos attached to all of council
I would contact my ward councillo, but I have tried ward web site, city web site, direct email, and never a repsonse and i was even blocked on social media
Depending on the issue my councillor first whom never responded and seems to have his own agenda. I have also responded to pasted councillors and the Mayor's. Depending on issues I would also contact the councillors to provide my feedback.
I would contact my ward Councilor through the channels that are listed in the City of Calgary website, and email directly as requested many times in our neighborhood newsletters.
Email or direct contact
I'd prefer not to contact my Ward 8 councillor as he does not listen and dealing with him left me with PTSD. Ideally, I could contact Gian-Carlo Carra because his ward is "next door" and we share some similar issues, but he also doesn't listen. He's made disparaging comments about the intelligence of anyone messaging him, who doesn't agree with his views, but that's probably better than publicly being called "selfish" for not agreeing with Walcott's vision of no cars and intensely dense communities. I guess since Sonya Sharp worked for the City and led the new Arena negotiations, I'd contact her as she understands the bureaucracy of how the city runs and what Council can and cannot do.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
My ward councillor
The councillor elected to our local ward
Know your ward and contact them
looked on the internet.
Start at my ward, sometimes I contact all including the Mayor.
I would contact my ward Councillor.
either phone or e-mail
I know my ward Councillor
Email
Find out who my councillor is for my ward
Email
I know who my councillor is so I'd go thru the City of Calgary website. He is typically unavailable so I'd keep trying.
Look them up on the city map
Councillor in my area
Look up a city map.
Google their info
Calgary.ca website then search then email
Email phone , in person, we are getting no where. We have tried, many of us have tried. Jack all has been done, see my comments please save a life, get this intersection fixed!!!
I would decide based on which ward I live in.
Google
I know who my councillor is. If folks aren't sure I point them to the City's page on who represents what ward
The councillor for my ward which is 14
Good question

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
I would contact my own but she does not EVER respond.
Internet
Look on line to see who represents my area.
I'm aware of who my councillor is unfortunately, and would likely choose a different councillor who might respond.
I know who my councillor is and i would contact him by email. For other councillors I would check calgary.ca.
Contact my ward councilor.
my own ward councillor but I have also contacted others
I would contact my current councillor, if it involves my own neighbourhood, otherwise, I would contact the councillor that represents that area of the city.
No idea. Again, I don't feel this is an easy process without taking a lot of time to find out.
I know my ward number and therefore my councillor.
I contacted my councillor and all the others as well as the mayor. I received an auto response from the mayor saying my email was received, nothing more. I never received anything from my councillor despite having emailed several times. Have heard she does t respond from many other constituents.
I wouldn't, not until my ward has a different councillor.
I would always start with the councillor for my ward, and if the issue is in another ward, I would include that councillor as well
I have always started with my own Councillor.
I would go to the 311 website and click on all councilors and send a note to all. Our councilor is incompetent and does not represent the people.
Email but prefer phone call. But no one calls back like ever.
Depends
We would start by contacting our councillor who was elected to represent us. But as the mayor and every councillor has a vote, we contact all of them because we do not trust our councillor to represent our viewpoint.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
email and they do NOT reply they have their assistant reply. There is no communication from council with the people who elect them and pay their salary!
Normally it would be my own councilor, which at the present time is a waste of time. I suppose I would choose the councilors that were not part of the Hateful Eight. They all appear to be self-centered, non-communicative (except to disparage other councilors), and do not have an open mind. They also are firmly set and driven by their ideology and do not care what Calgarians think or need.
I would contact a councillor who has demonstrated that he/she truly represents the electorate. Also it would be a councillor's office that answers the phone or responds to emails.
I know what ward I am in and which counsellor belongs to which ward
would contact the people in our area
I know my councillor. She won't return calls. impossible to speak to her. She doesn't show up for meetings. Phone calls you're joking. Hopeless. Kourtney Penner. The worst!
If it was regarding a local issue, then my local councilor, if in another ward then that councilor(s). overall city issues (for example requesting that they vote to have a plebiscite on the zoning change - then all councilors and the mayor.
Google search
Our ward councillor
I contact the councillor for my ward.
I would contact Courtney Wallcott directly
I would contact the councillor of my own Ward
Google search ward
If it's a major issue, like cut wide re-zoning, I would contact all of them. If it's a smaller, community specific issue, I would contact my local Councillor.
I believe that contact of my Ward Councillor is sufficient for them to pass along the appropriate info to their colleague Councillors as required.
It should be your representative but many representatives do not return email or phone calls. Calgarians want to be more involved but many are being ignored. Especially over the R2 rezoning issue. Sonia Sharp is listening. Doesn't seem like I can get thru to Terry Wong very easily with the way his site is set up.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
My Ward Cllr. first then depending on response and action, will contact others.
Use the City of Calgary website
I would contact my Ward rep.. Currently for me, that is Mian, who is just a mini Gondek.
I know my ward councillor but have previously looked it up online on the city of Calgary website.
My own.
I would contact my ward councillor
I'd contact the one for my ward
I would contact my Ward Councillor
My Ward
I actually sent an email to all of the Councillors. I want the Councillors of the suburban neighbourhoods to know what we inner city residents feel and are experiencing, as they can't necessarily relate since they live in master planned communities, and the developers are not buying up every corner lot to turn existing bungalows into 8 or up to 16 units plus garages. Until you live in an inner city neighborhood such as Altadore, you have no idea of how quickly the developers can ruin a community under the guise of desification.
Courtney Walcott represents our riding. Didn't vote for him, very unhappy with his performance.
Phone, email, in person
My own ward councillor is my first choice. However, if there is bias or disinterest would contact others depending on matter.
I would contact the Councillor from my ward of the city.
Email.
Call their office
My own Ward. But he is useless in terms of response.
Unfortunately I am stuck with reaching out to my Councillor who appears to have his own agenda. If I reach out to Council, the feedback is that other Councillors cannot do anything unless my Councillor puts the motion forward, even when they indicate they will support the motion.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
My ward councillor
The one representing my ward
Go through the City website to find the Councillors contact info.
The one I think is most likely to take my views to City Hall, which is not necessarily my councillor
I usually contact my Ward councillor but have also contacted Dan McLean, my neighbouring ward councillor. He listens to his constituents a lot more than my Ward 14 councillor does.
this question is silly - the previous survey question asked if I have contacted a councillor
My ward councillor
Based on Ward.
Depends on the issue, but for city wide issues I contact each councillor. For local issues, just my own.
I dont know how.
One that I felt I could trust
the one in my area
My ward representative
I know who my representative is.
I would normally contact the councillor in my area unless I had an issue with a particular councillor's comments
I would look for one who disagreed with massive tax hikes and wants fiscal responsibility. Not sure if there are any but that is where I would start.
I looked on the City of Calgary site and chose the Councilors and Wards tab info.
I would start with my councillor or Council.
Directly via their assistant.
Based on which ward they represent.
Email.
I would look up my ward councillor and contact them

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
the email form on calgary.ca, their email if I can find it anywhere
I would contact my Councillor from Ward 10 - Andre Chabot. This isn't rocket science.
I would choose my district's councillor
Email
E-mail my own ward councillor
Based on my location
By reaching out to the councillor of my ward
Community association
check website
Website
My own. Ward 13.
While I know who my current councillor is, I would consider also contacting another one in parallel that actually has the best interests of ALL Calgarians in mind. My current councillor appears to only have the interests of Calgarians that hold the same political beliefs and affiliations as he does.
The Ward I live in
I wouldn't. They wouldn't listen to me
I would have to use City of Calgary website. Don't have any info from our Councillor on how to get in touch with her.
I would contact the one in my ward
Kourtney Penner
Online search for the email address. I do know who my councillor is.
I use various methods to contact Dan McLean, email, facebook and attend his open houses to speak about my concerns and thank him for always his common sense approach.
I would select the councilor to contact based on where the issue was I wanted to discuss and who the councilor for that ward is.
not mine as she was no help at all

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
I know my ward
I would begin by contacting the councillor for my ward.
I know what Ward I'm in. I'd contact mine.
Based on need, ward and committee.
I would contact the Councillor responsible for my neighbourhood. I would use the calgary.ca website to get the specific contact details.
I would likely contact my Councillor, as I'd imagine my interests/concerns would fall under their ward matters
First, who is my councillor. Second, which councillor shares my views.
The ward the concern is within.
For community issues in my area, I go to my Councillor.
Calgary.ca or their website/social media page
Why is this necessary information? I know who my current councillor is.
I'd contact my own Councillor.
City webpages
I contact my own councillor, but this has been a waste of time, in the future I will contact a councillor that thinks more in line with me.
Email
I have the Councillor's contact details via their website.
I'd contact mine
Depends on the concern
? ? I would contact my ward Councillor
My representative
Would contact someone in my ward
My ward

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
<p>I would and have contacted the councillor for my ward. All I ever get is either no response or a canned response.</p>
<p>It depends, but if there was a specific issue in my ward I would contact my wards councilor via email.</p>
<p>Check online to see who my Councillor is</p>
<p>Phone or email, preferably face to face.</p>
<p>Ward-specific.</p>
<p>I would contact my area's Councillor.</p>
<p>My local Councillor first. Then Council as a whole</p>
<p>I would google it</p>
<p>Researching on the net.</p>
<p>Depends on the nature of the issue.</p>
<p>My ward first and always Then depending on my knowledge of the issue and/or my awareness of the stance being taken by councillors in other wards, I might send communication to the mayor and others. I also always work with the awareness of my community association. Sadly I think the average persons perception of the value of a CA is low. And, in recent years there have been takeovers of the boards of some CA's by individuals determined to represent a specific side of an issue. Even CA's are becoming politicized.... The process I outlined needs to guard against that reality.</p>
<p>Depending on the issue and the Ward/Councillor affected.</p>
<p>Go look at a ward map and then get their contact info or website information.</p>
<p>Depending on my ward would be my first step</p>
<p>Likely start with my elected official</p>
<p>I know my local councillor</p>
<p>I would just do it.</p>
<p>Depends on the issue - if it's about an important vote on Council I would normally contact everyone on Council as it's about all of the votes, not just my Councillor.</p>
<p>I know which ward I live in and who the councillor is.</p>

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
I live in ward 14 so I would contact the Ward 14 Coucillor. Why would you ask such an obvious question.
See which ward I'm in and use the contact email.
The one who represents my ward. But then, when I find out that she is no help at all, I would escalate to the mayor's office.
I'm aware of who our councillors are at any given time.
I already know who my Councillor is so I would just email him. Often, if I'm emailing about an issue that is currently being debated for decision, I will cc the Mayor's office as well.
Email or phone call.
I would contact the councillor who represents my ward, the councilor(s) who represent affected wards (when it comes to certain issues), and sometimes the councillors who vote certain ways on the issues in question.
I would contact the councillor in my ward
Ward.
Start with my Ward Concilor
What a stupid question I would go to councillor of my ward
I would contact the councillor who represents the area with the issue. Or contact a councillor based on a specific policy item.
The one in my ward
Local one
The one that represents the ward I live in. (Using the city of Calgary website to look that up.)
Email.
I know who my Ward Cllr is so that is likely who I would contact - or if a particular Cllr had a NOM in about something I was interested in maybe I would reach out to them
Look up my councillor and contact them
Well, I'm in Ward 7. My current coincillor is useless. I would contact one or more of the councillors I find most effective.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
By ward.
Look online for my ward Councillor.
I'd contact my councillor for most things. If I wanted to talk to a specific councillor because they were championing something then I would contact them. or if I was trying to really advocate for a particular position I would contact multiple councillors who I thought might be swayable.
I contact my OWN councillor (Ward 7, Councillor Wong), who is one of the better one - he campaigned on the idea of listening, and generally he does listen well, even if we don't always agree. Some other councillors treat their constituents with disdain, and can't even be bothered to talk to them, which is terribly disappointing.
email or website
whoever is tied to my ward
The councillor who actually gets back to you & keeps you updated regarding policies etc
I would contact my ward councillor
my ward person and Ward 4 as ward four use to be my councilor and he replies to all my emails. I have blanket emails to all of them but no response since im not in their ward. and the mayor
I would look for the one that represents my community
the councillor for my ward - the person I voted for
City's web page
I contact my Councillor plus the Councillor who might be more involved in my concern. I think that my Councillor needs to always know of my concerns
Google or ask Siri which councillor to contact for the area of Bridgeland in Calgary, Alberta.
I would contact my own because I know who it is
Look for ward councillor.
My councillor via the city's website
Look up on the city website
Contacted the councillor in my area.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
calgary.ca
By email
Councillor in my ward. He is doing a good job
I typically contact my own Councillor. Once I did email another councillor regarding an issue that was specific to their ward and not the one I live in.
No idea ward numbers leave people confused about who is thier Councillor
I might try to find them via the City of Calgary web site, but I have little faith in our system. Our Community Social Worker and the head of the 12 CSI arranged a town hall so that members of our community could speak directly with our Councillor regarding the safety concerns we have, and the Councillor couldn't be bothered to show up or offer an alternate date that would work for them.
I would contact my councillor for the ward that I live in.
City website. But send to all since most issues effect all Calgarians so all of them can read the reason for my opposition (though I know they won't)
It's a total sham. Starting with Developers colluding with the City and City Council against citizens. How absolutely ridiculous that the City thinks it's ok to put Developers in charge of their own Engagement processes. What a complete joke! Conspiracy, corruption & collusion!!
I would contact my Ward 11 councilor.
Lookup local ward councillor in the city website.
Via the City website
use website contact info
Look up my Ward Councillor.
I'd google it
I would primarily contact my ward councillor, or if I was contacting someone about a particular thing they have done I would reach out directly via email.
Councillor who represents the area of concern
Look it up online
Go on website for City of Calgary to double check who my person is, then leave an e-mail.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
I would contact the councillor for my area, Kourtney Penner. Unfortunately, myself and MANY others never receive a response from her. She is absolutely useless.
My own ward councillor. If it's a citywide issue I would contact all of them.
My ward and then any others that need to hear from the general public.
I would contact my ward Councillor and go from there
Not sure I would again. Councillor for my ward is dismissive and aggressive without cause
City of Calgary page
my ward representative
I would contact my own ward councillor as they are my representative.
What kind of stupid question is this? We would contact the councillor for our ward.
Depends on issue. If unique to my ward ID who my councillor is. If an issue is raised not unique to my ward ID councillor "leading the charge" on the issue.
I know which ward I'm in and which councillor represents me.
search the city website, I haven't, as I know mine already, however, I would hope that it is simple and not linkage that sends you everywhere but the list of councillors who serve the city. Remember, the Developer of the web pages has to develop through the lens of the user - simplify and effective outcomes is the best model.
I contact my own counselor.
My ward councillor
My understanding is that one should contact their own Ward Councillor first, followed by other(s) if there are contentious issues that impact Calgarians.
My ward representative
Localized issue would be best contacting my councillor, otherwise based on committee member(s) as per the issue.
Contact the Councillor in which the problem/issue/or idea is located in.
Depends on where the issue lies, if it's a local issue then whoever is the councillor in the area , a more general issue in several wards would either be multiple councillors or council at large
I'd contact the councillor elected for my area of the city.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
My ward councillor was elected to represent me, so I would contact them first. If the issue I have is specific to outside my ward but impacts me, I would also consider contacting the councillor of the ward where I have an issue I want to discuss.
I would contact the councillor that is closest to or most opposed to a specific issue. ie pointing out to Dan McLean that he is not really a conservative as he wants to continue with big government deciding exactly what type of housing we can build instead of allowing the free market to meet the demands of its customers.
I know who my councillor is; however, I have also contacted other councillors on files they are responsible for.
It never crossed my mind that I could contact a councillor other than my own! Now knowing that I could I would contact the councillor that seems to be the one acting in my best interests.
Email
Google who represents my area. Check city sites. Probably reject them based on their views, then contact a councillor who I feel might actually do something and is more in line with my views.
Stupid question!
Didn't think we get a choice. Every time in the past I always get directed to a secretary or rep.
I would contact the councillor representing my ward, but he is only collecting a paycheque, so I have contacted neighbouring councillors when needed.
I would contact mine.
I contacted the council member for my ward
Ward #, 11, is mine
I would always contact the counsellor in my ward 1st, and hope that he would represent me
The one who represents me
If it's an issue regarding a specific ward that can be solved by that ward, the ward directly. Otherwise all councillors and the mayor.
Mayor and our councillor, others or all of them depending upon the issue .
I contact the councillor for my ward, Ward 6, or the Mayor's office. I also contact multiple councillors via email and the Councillors web email. Most often it depends on the issue, policy, or the publicly stated views.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
By Ward.
I would contact Courtney Penner probably because she for my ward.
Look it up on the CofC website
The one for my Ward, not the one who I agree with politically.
I would look on the City of Calgarys website.
Not sure. Probably search online for answers or call the city to find out the best way to contact the right person or department.
Contact my cpouncillor, if importance very high contact them all
Area councillor if area specific issue (although Walcott does not respond) and all council for City wide issues like blanket R-CG rezoning.
I contact my Ward Councillor
My councillor for my ward.
The one in my ward
the Councillor of the ward affected / impacted / concerned
My ward rep
I would contact my ward councillor.
My ward councillor
I would contact the person that is listed for my area
I contact my ward Councilor - who I voted for - who is listed if I look up my ward.
The councillor that represents my area.
In my ward
I know who my Ward councillor is and I would contact him.
Whoever was my specific ward councillor
Email
By what ward I live in.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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If you needed to contact a Councillor, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
will start with mine although he's proven he doesn't care/listen and then would go to the one who would make the most noise to fix things
I would start from the office team of my Ward Councillor.
My own councillor first, but then other councillors as well. However, other ward councillors are not as likely to respond to calls or mails from someone outside of their area.
I know my ward number so I would look up my councillor's contact information for my ward on the City's website
Website
look them up on calgary.ca or call 311
Ideally my Ward Councillor - however otherwise I would select a Councillor with whom I've been able to establish some degree of rapport through my previous interactions with Councillor. I would also select one who has displayed an interest in heeding the will of Calgarians as opposed to one pursuing an ideological agenda (unless the matter I was reaching out about aligned with one of those agendas of course). The goal is to see action on what I'm reaching out about so I'm going to select the Councillor who I believe is most likely willing and able to make it happen
Courtney penner
My own. I am on mailing list

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

Business Owners/Operators

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing businesses in Calgary?
Conversations with constituents. Disclosure of conflicts and party associations.
I think outreach will make councillors more effective. I have been running a business in Calgary for 15 years and I have never been approached by the City to discuss what I think as a business owner. I have had both federal and provincial outreach but never the City.
the outreach opporutinities?
Our Councillors are only concerned about what some of the residents want and usually only the projects that align with the Councillor. There is zero engagement with business and no consideration for what the impact is to businesses. Realizing that businesses pay 48% of COG tax bill, they pay for all their own garbage and services, they pay all the employees that pay the other half of the COG taxes...why dose the BAC not have at least a proportionate say in any COG vote.
Listening to feedback from the community (different businesses may have different views).
That they actually listen to concerns
Listening to business issues would be a good first start.
Listening to their concerns and voting based on what they hear. Voting is currently driven by the Councillor's personal ideology.
listening to their constituents, understanding their perspective and issues and representing them rather than their own agenda or views and opinions.
He should actually worry about having city administration do what citizens want instead of trying to run the show.
LISTENING to business is more than 'showing up' to a meeting. It is ACTIVELY actioning on recommendations / suggestions of business communities. Ex — Bag bylaw did NOT include engagement with the BIA 's.
Economic and fiscal awareness/intelligence; the desire to represent and solicit information - to be a 'servant-leader". That's a base. Specific actions - (1) LEARN about the ward and (2) consult as to what's needed. Ask questions.
An honest belief that business provide value to a community not only as a tax generating vehicle but as an important part of the community.

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing businesses in Calgary?
Consider giving them stability and opportunities for growth and incentives to operate and hire out of Calgary.
Just business-forward consideration.
Have business experience. Know what it takes to be a business owner
Needs previous experience running a business and have entrepreneurial background
None of the action, small business have no support we are here just to pay taxes

In addition to the six roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Advocating for lower business taxes.
Councillor's need to go to "councillor education" before their first day of work. It is frustrating that there is no leadership guiding new and old councillors thru past policy
Disclosure of conflicts of interest and political party associations. Union donation limits should be the same as corporate.
Keep taxes low. Eliminate government excess and overspending
Listen to issues created by City Administration and Council which are out of step with the realities faced by businesses in Calgary.
Reduce taxes
Try to help business survive
Walk the walk — support local biz with actions in their personal and professional lives. More than supporting 'restaurant / food services' . Buy art, flowers, apparel etc from small, local biz and celebrate it.

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What ideas do you have for improving how Calgary businesses are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

- Better transparency about how decisions are made
- An advocacy office / person for the BIA's not just a liason officer
- Accountability about what community engagement looks like
- Understanding the massive negative impact of road construction/ sidewalks rehabilitation and either studying ways to make construction more efficient (work longer days/ 24 a day) on business and communities.
- Bike lane viability & locations/ parking changes impact awareness

Actually have the councillor listen to concerns instead of pushing ahead his socialist agenda.

Business taxes are unsustainable for many businesses. Don't feel the city is doing its part to reign in costs.

Declaring political party affiliations, full disclosure of campaign funds, UNION donations should be treated the same as corporate donations.

Given that business contributes a disproportionate share to the COG tax, it would be great to have one seat at the COG
Councillors table that is dedicated to a business advocate. This would be impactful in many ways as the business acumen is shared within the threads of a blanket that cover every area of the city. As scholars rarely have an understanding of how to engage or communicate with businesses, a BCC (Business City Councillor) would save a lot of time, frustration and money when the city blindly goes ahead with a community initiative that could have been adjusted slightly so everyone in the community can succeed.

Have a pro business attitude instead of tryin to run businesses out of the city.

How about a committee which has rotating CEOs (12 month terms?) which are pulled from a variety of types of companies based on the relative size of each segment (i.e. energy, technology, retail, transportation) which maybe has sub-committees which are focused on one segment of the business (i.e. a technology subcommittee) and it is this committee(s) role to liase with council to explain how impacts (property tax rates etc) could be felt in the different regions/industries. Perhaps look at the Stampede and how it is set up with a Board and then various sub-committee Boards which are then populated by volunteers.

I'm not a policy maker. :)

It seems to me that councilors generally are not the drivers of policy initiatives and that councilors are simply the last to speak / engage on proposed changes/by laws. Councillor engagement is more of a communication from city bureaucrats than engagement as typically there are no changes to proposed bylaws etc by this time.

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What ideas do you have for improving how Calgary businesses are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.
Listening to business. Not "kind of" listening. Not consulting and then just ignoring feedback and doing whatever Administration suggests. So when for example we say it has taken 3 months for approval of a business to sublease a warehouse and that's not acceptable, that feedback is taken and not just ignored.
More communication with individual businesses, rather than astroturf orgs that claim to represent business interests.
More involvement in local events and showcasing local business alternatives to large multi national businesses
Need more Councillors with real life business experience.
Our opinion and inputs are unheard Most of the small businesses are on the verge of closing down we have to pay high taxes
polling and listening to the local business owners to understand the issues and concerns they have.
Reduce councillors. Cut bureaucrat positions
Reduce the Election cycle to 3 years. Municipal political parties need to be allowed.
We need to locate and support thoughtful, mindful potential councillors who want to learn and want to advocate. The pool of candidates is thin, sadly. And I expect this will remain so with 14 wards/councillors
Whatever wondrous idea will help Calgary make it into the 10 Richest cities in the world. Most of my business handling is done online, and at times in local festivals... At times, it feels like visibility for my work is not the same as those with a physical store, so tapping into Calgary's greatest asset is my ultimate option; NETWORKING

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?
blanket rezoning issue
Constant lack of or miscommunication between all levels of COG departments, staff and administration.
Covid policies, road construction and small biz taxes.
His focus on raising taxes and installing disruptive bike lanes everywhere.
Mayor (Nenshi) ignored me completely. I eventually got in touch with my Councillor which basically said there was nothing they could do (on that specific subject). Which is part of the problem with things now - if we only get in touch with Councillors/Mayor when things are broken or wrong it leads to animosity. By having a regularly scheduled outreach via a committee structure it would potentially up the level of discourse from individual problematic issues to themes and trends.
Problems with Enmax. Not responsive and poorly managed.
Specific issues relating to development impacting the business.
The administration recommended to call as they did not know what to do
Trying to express my displeasure with tax increases and the single item use bylaw.

If you needed to contact a Councillor on behalf of the business(es) you own and/or operate, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
check who is my ward representative for where my business is located
Committee or policy roles
Councillor for my ward
Councilor who represents my geographic location
I contacted my local councillor in the ward I live and vote in.
I do not know. I've not succeeded to locate what ward I am in on the City of Calgary website. The page shows blank...
I have to do it online through Calgary.ca since he doesn't even post his office phone number. It's like he doesn't actually want to talk to anyone.
I started with the one who represented the riding where I live.
I would contact our ward councillor. Sadly in our ward, I don't expect I would be heard.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor on behalf of the business(es) you own and/or operate, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
I would contact the councillor elected to the area my business is in, this is frustrating as few on council have any useful work/business experience
I would contact the councillor that represents the location of my business
i would pick the councillor in the ward the business is in
I would start with the councillor in the ward of my biz
I'd check in with my ward office
My councillor doesn't even show a phone number to contact him. Completely useless
My local one or one on a committee
Probably the Councillor of the Ward my business is located in, and/or the Ward that I live in.
The Councilor of the Ward where the business is located, or the Mayor.
The councilor that represents my local ward
The one which represents the locale of the business.
Would contact the councillor of my constituency

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Volunteer and Not-for-Profit Organization Representatives

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing organizations like yours?
Policies tend to be determined without public input and then community engagement happens after the fact to support the policy. Seems like a done deal regardless of input.
Attend any council and committee meetings where the flood and drought are on the agenda. Provide sufficient notice to our organization prior to said meetings and meet with our organization prior to council or committee meeting so that our perspective is understood and our Councillor can accurately represent our views.
Monthly and annual meetings of organization leaders.
Knowing what areas we are trying to protect and notifying us when there are opportunities to engage.
Basically being the complete opposite of Kourtney Penner, the worst Councillor in the history of our city.
Unbiased, aware of challenges families are currently facing, educated in systemic barriers that impact individuals

In addition to the six roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?
Better outreach to residents with newsletters, more town halls etc. Very limited at the moment.
helping organizations like mine solve specific local problems.
Help determine the definition of the role of community associations in Calgary and how they complement the communications of the ward office to specific communities. Support the community association in terms of resources for the association so that they can better serve the residents of a community.
Amplify a community's voice
Answer their emails? Return calls? Not be Kourtney Penner.

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What ideas do you have for improving how organizations like yours are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

Better support from Ward offices would be great. We have to do all the legwork to find the appropriate city staff to help us. Some neighborhood city representatives are better than others in supporting community boards. Specifically managing data and understanding how the city got certain facts - ie census, water issues etc

A Board, Committee, and Commission for all community associations in Calgary needs to be developed so that there is a better understanding of how the city council can support community associations. The definition of the purpose of community associations needs to be developed so that it does not overlap with the role of the councillor and can support and/or complement. This extends to resident associations and recreation centres. There needs to be a small amount taken from each property tax amount that is allocated to community associations to better support their operations. With ~500,000 properties, \$2 per, would amount to \$1M that would support communities. Currently it is only \$140,000 for all 14 wards. \$10,000 per ward per year.

Subscribing to DMAP files and areas... providing better notifications to Ward Office / Community Associations/ and non-profits when development engagement is happening.

Ensuring that Councillors like Kourtney Penner never win again.

Panels with local organizations with their boots on the ground

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?

Either to invite to a community event/meeting or to request assistance with a specific issue.

Drought report to Council in October, Calgary River Valleys project engagement (inadequate notification to residents living in the flood fringe who are impacted by draft provincial flood hazard maps).

Dealing with traffic concerns in the community and seeing what solutions were available.

Last reason was to complain that our organization was not notified, like we requested, when the file went to Calgary Planning Commission and Public Hearing.

Issues with crime in the area.

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If you needed to contact a Councillor on behalf of your organization, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
Councillor for my ward
I would start with my Ward.
primary contact would be Ward 1 with a request for assistance to reach out to all Councillors and Mayor (with respect to flood protection and mitigation projects).
I know the ward my community belongs to and how to contact the ward office.
I'd start with my personal councillor
The one who represents the area our organization is in, which, unfortunately, is the most useless Councillor in history, Kourtney Penner. FIREWORKS ARE RACIST!
Google

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

Community Association Representatives

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing community associations in their Ward?
<p>Engagement with Community Associations and residents of communities during community held events and annual General Meetings to update those in the community on the on actions affecting them.</p>
<p>Being able to relate to the people, businesses, and specifically for our community developers personalities, who are temporarily involved in our community. Also, major factor is political ideology.</p>
<p>listening and being active in the communities in their ward</p>
<p>Engaging in community events; participating in community association AGM; joining in monthly meetings when possible; convening Ward-wide events on common topics; reflecting the opinions of the community association when they gather feedback from the residents; assisting a community association on major issues with the community.</p>
<p>Following up on community specific requests and development concerns. Take into account the opinions of the community as gathered by the community association. A councillor should be representing constituents, not their own personal interests and agenda. We have concerns that our councillor must be the one to put forward a community boundary issue, but refuses to do so. While other councillors support the idea, they cannot put forward a motion because we are not in their ward.</p>
<p>A Councillor who endeavours to actively and on an ongoing basis follow the wishes of their constituents as opposed to a Councillor who endeavours to follow an ideological agenda</p>
<p>town hall meetings, having reps at Community Associations, good and effective communication with the people in their ward.</p>
<p>Attending the AGM of our community association, engaging when community members contact him. A petulant attitude is very detrimental to interactions both with community members and his colleagues on City Council, so a willingness to listen and cooperate would be desirable. Our City Councillor has done a very poor job of representing our ward and his moral character is abysmal, which makes it hard for others to trust him or want to work with him. So an effective councillor whose actions are those of a good person.</p>
<p>Spending more time trying to improve the lives of those who have less instead of influential or wealthy constituents</p>

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In addition to the six roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?

To me the City Councilor should be the advocate for the communities in each Ward. In saying this there are specific challenges that they should be aware of and help to solve if possible in their position.

Focussing more on advocacy for our community and not the city as a whole. I feel our current counsellor is more focussed on her home community of Citadel and has no interest in representing our community. Reason I say this is because since she's been elected, we've only seen her twice, she's never come to any of our monthly board meetings and only sends her representative about four times a year. I'd say she's almost unapproachable Unless she sees risk dropping, then she'll throw a bone and leave

listen to the constituents

Promote CA involvement and advocate for Council support for CAs. CAs don't get fulsome support from Council or City departments.

Promote the communities they serve by providing support for residents and businesses in their wards and encouraging a sense of belonging and pride in those communities.

Monitor and direct the priorities and actions of the City of Calgary administration (through the City Manager) to ensure it is indeed delivering infrastructure and services the align with the wants and needs of everyday Calgarians. (Hint: The administration is failing badly at this, has been for many years and it is only getting worse!)

Communication

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

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What ideas do you have for improving how community associations are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

Community Associations should have a say in community development. Currently some of the rezoning does not fully take into account the challenges faced by the residents and the upcoming changes of the proposed developments such as increased traffic density and waste management.

I'd like to see community associations have representation on various ad hawk or standing committees. We are the ears to the street , The local businesses and the people and her much more approachable as we understand the grassroots local concerns within our community. We're volunteers so we're not motivated by finances or popular vote.

Sharing reports on what is happening and getting feedback

More attention and action to CA feedback on urban planning issues; assistance with capital development of CA-leased properties with the City including life cycle maintenance work as well as a growth projects; promoting the tangible value of CAs to local residents.

We believe that any councillor should be able to put forward a concern from a resident/community association of a different ward. We have repeatedly been blocked by our councillor in terms of putting forward recommendations around traffic calming, protecting park space, and community boundary changes that are supported by all the communities affected. A lot of volunteer time goes into addressing transportation and development concerns and then councillors have the ability to ignore requests that are supported by a number of communities as well as other councillors. Our hands are tied when only our councillor can put these notices of motion forward, and refuses to do so.

We don't need more Councillors so much as we require a completely overhauled system of municipal governance for large urban centres like Calgary and Edmonton. Where the current system breaks down is the level of elected representation of capita has become far too low and there needs to be moreability to make more localized decisions to meet the needs of particular areas/neighbourhoods which has increasingly been lost over the years as the City has grown. We have more of a problem with this than other large urban centres in Canada because of the largely singular growth of Calgary (vs other smaller urban areas in Southern Alberta). Consider the the GTA has multiple councils that represents Toronto, Mississagua, Brampton, Oakville, etc. We have only one. Don't know exactly what the solution is - perhaps a borough model like London or New York uses but we've clearly grown too big for our existing system and need to start having a conversation as to how our overall municipal governance system can better evolve as we continue to grow!

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What ideas do you have for improving how community associations are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

councillor reps coming to association meetings, regularly. Communication, answer emails, phone calls. I think there needs to be a very good staff behind a councillor that is well informed and keeping up with the business at hand.

Invite community association leadership to participate in sessions with city councillors instead of having email only relationships

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?

We had the opportunity to speak with our Ward 8 Councillor on a regular basis or get questions answered by them through his team. We had the ability to speak to Evan Wooley more than our current councillor.

I was in a texting relationship with our previous counselor, and it was phenomenal service being able to get answers expeditiously and to feel appreciated and important; our current counselor, as I've said, I've seen her twice and spoken to her three times since she was elected, she's never attended any of our meetings. I have no idea what she does, but I have identified to her resident community of Citadel and only branches out occasionally in my opinion for voter support. But she's done nothing for us and even talking to all the developers in our community. She doesn't speak their language. Some of the larger developers have said that they don't wanna work with her , so they've left land vacant/undeveloped awaiting another municipal election.

Issues with unhoused, road conditions, General issues and support

Parking issues, traffic calming initiatives, pedestrian safety measures, AGM presentations

Traffic calming, park protection, development concerns, safety issues in the community

Endeavouring (but not succeeding) in lobbying Council to support the perspective of our community and majority of residents on city policy

Traffic concerns

After the Ballot

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If you needed to contact a Councillor on behalf of your community association, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?
We would reach out to our Ward 8 Councillor first to get the direction to take the inquiry.
I would email the ward02@calgary.ca Email address as I've been using that for the last 10 years Since becoming involved with our community Association. That being said, I have emailed it in the past and I never get a response from the counselor. It's always two of three of their aids saying they'll get back to me, but they never get back to me. Maybe it's because I'm a conservative and they're choosing not to work with us
I would start with my councillor, if they are not listening, important issues go to one who will help to listen and help support with like minded ideas
The Councillor in my ward, Ward One. If anything required beyond that I would look to the Councillor to contact the appropriate people.
We have been told that we are required to bring issues to our own councillor, but we also reach out to the mayor and the rest of Council with bigger concerns. Unfortunately, while they have supported us, our concerns have gone nowhere because our councillor refuses to bring them forward to Council.
Ideally my Ward Councillor - however otherwise I would select a Councillor with whom I've been able to establish some degree of rapport through my previous interactions with Council. I would also select one who has displayed an interest in heeding the will of Calgarians as opposed to one pursuing an ideological agenda (unless the matter I was reaching out about aligned with one of those agendas of course). The goal is to see action on what I'm reaching out about so I'm going to select the Councillor who I believe is most likely willing and able to make it happen.
I would contact the one for my ward
I would contact my councillor always, and if there was a direct question that involved another ward, I'd contact that councillor.
We know who our councillor is

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

Ethnocultural Association Representatives

What actions do you think make a Councillor effective in representing organizations like yours?

maintaining close contact for communication of major issues specially the ones that could be of direct impact on ethnical groups

Awareness and proactive - activity

In addition to the six roles described above, are there any other roles that you feel are important for a Councillor to do?

more support for organizing and capacity building topics, including access to a facility / building

Actually respond and take affirmative action

What ideas do you have for improving how organizations like yours are represented in municipal government decision making? This can range from small changes to big reforms to the Council system. Remember that increasing the number of Councillors/Wards from the current 14 is not an option in this project.

may need more internal consulting to provide a proper answer

Actions beyond stakeholder reporting; implementation

What was/were your reason(s) for contacting a Councillor and/or Mayor?

interested to know the future of zoning of our facility

Community traffic flow device construction futility

If you needed to contact a Councillor on behalf of your organization, how would you decide which Councillor to contact?

the one representing the geographical region where our facility is located

Ward representative

After the Ballot

Report Back: What We Heard

May 23, 2024

Comments Submitted at Pop-up Events

Submission #1:

- Appreciate Councillor Mclean's monthly newsletter about what he's doing and working on and decisions being made
- Would help to know what constituents can and can't go to their Councillor about/for help with
- Would be good to know the differences between Councillor's and MLA's responsibilities

Submission #2:

- Require term limits of Council members

Submission #3:

- We need more wards to:
 - o Allow more folks access to their councillor
 - o Allow more wards purely in the inner/existing city (there are purely suburban wards but few purely urban wards)
 - o Allow more accessibility to [unintelligible]

Submission #4:

- Allow Councillors to run for Mayor while still working as a Councillor

Submission #5:

- Ward boundaries are fine
- Our Ward 1 councilor is engaged mostly
- More engagement is necessary between councilor and Community Association.BCA.
- Shared cost with community association and city for handouts and information
- Use radio, media, mailouts, social media to get information out
- Be honest with residents that the ward boundaries will be changing!!!