



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

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

The purpose of The City of Calgary is to make life better every day. To fully realize our purpose, we are committed to addressing racism and other forms of discrimination within our programs, policies, and services and eliminating barriers that impact the lives of Indigenous, Racialized, and other marginalized people. It is expected that participants will behave respectfully and treat everyone with dignity and respect to allow for conversations free from bias and prejudice.

First name [required] Carmen

Last name [required] Hamm

How do you wish to attend?

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What meeting do you wish to comment on? [required] (if you Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure and Planning

Date of meeting [required] (if you are providing input on service plans and budget mid-cycle adjustments, please select "November 18") Nov 18, 2024



Public Submission

CC 968 (R2024-05)

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

[required] - max 75 characters

reinstating the patio fee of \$7.35 per sq ft

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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



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First name [required] Brad

Last name [required] Bakuska

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[required] - max 75 characters Budget



Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

No More tax increases! Stop wasting money on pet projects such as the imaginary climate emergency. Instead focus on actual needs of Calgarians such as drinking water and policing.



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First name [required] TIMOTHY

Last name [required] SALISBURY

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[required] - max 75 characters Increase in taxes



Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

Council has failed to manage the money given to it.

Staff considers the taxpayer an unlimited ATM

Staff need to look internally at reducing expenses.

We have some of the highest municipal taxes in the country with a poor return on our investment



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First name [required] Miriam

Last name [required] Kenrick

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[required] - max 75 characters Budget



Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

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

I am concerned that it is only now that counsel realizes that our infrastructure needs to be cared for and maintained. Why is that it was not and clearly has not been a consideration until we had an emergency? Our population growth should be adding to the tax base not causing an increase in taxes. I fear poor planning , budgeting is leading the way to lazy problem solving. Tighten your belts and give us more money is too often the answer from our city counsel. Please, started pay attention to city daily business rather than to who can prove you with a profitable job when you leave office.



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First name [required] Karen

Last name [required] Young

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[required] - max 75 characters

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In favour

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

October 2024 Letter to Council.pdf

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

The United Way of Calgary and Area strongly encourages Council to increase funding to the City's Low Income Transit Pass program in 2025, to seek out a sustainable and robust source of long-term funding for the program, and to fully fund the Downtown Safety Leadership Table's recommendations. Please see the supporting letter for details.

October 28, 2024

Re: Low Income Transit Pass & Downtown Safety Leadership Table

Dear Mayor and Council,

On behalf of United Way of Calgary and Area, I want to express our gratitude for your service to Calgarians and dedication to making Calgary a resilient city. For 85 years, [United Way](#) has worked to build a community where everyone thrives. We cannot achieve that goal alone. The City of Calgary has been an invaluable partner, adopting the [Enough for All](#) strategy, working with us to establish [Community Hubs](#) in priority Calgary neighborhoods and collaborating on [Action Table Calgary](#). In 2023, because of our partners such as The City, we helped over 220,000 people in Calgary and the surrounding area achieve their full potential!

Recent years were challenging for Calgarians. Living in Calgary has become more expensive, and unemployment has remained high, rising above 8% this summer. Wages in Calgary have lagged during inflation. Rent is becoming unaffordable for many Calgarians, as the average cost of a two-bed apartment has grown from \$1,355 in 2021 to more than \$2,000 per month in 2024. Owning a car is becoming unaffordable, as average auto insurance premiums in Alberta are more than \$1,600 per year.

As many as 130,000 Calgarians live in households whose earnings put them below Canada's official low-income cut-off, meaning their income is inadequate to cover the daily necessities of life, such as food, shelter, clothing, and transportation.

To maintain a resilient and caring Calgary, I respectfully urge Council to vote to fund the Low-Income Transit Pass program and the Downtown Safety Leadership Table's recommendations, as these are fundamental investments in Calgary's people and future. I also encourage Council to identify and secure adequate, long-term, predictable and stable funding for the Low-Income Transit Pass program on a permanent basis.

Calgary's Low Income Transit Pass program is a lifeline for many households and is a big part of The City's Fair Entry policy and programs. It allows Calgarians to go to work, school, medical appointments or shop for groceries. It also remedies social isolation and loneliness by enabling people to be part of daily life in their communities. As we emerge from Canada's biggest cost of living increases since the 1980s, we cannot leave anyone behind. Fully funding the Low-Income Transit Pass program through the end of 2025 will help make certain that all Calgarians can fully participate in economic and social life.

It is important for Council to examine how to fully fund the Low-Income Transit Pass program beyond 2025 through existing City resources or partnerships with other levels of government. People across Canada and worldwide come to Calgary because it is a welcoming, vibrant city and a wonderful place to raise a family, build a career, and find your community. Building a life in Calgary should not only be the privilege of the wealthy. Our city needs to work for all Calgarians, and affordable transit is an essential tool that gives Calgarians a chance to overcome poverty and help build our city.

Just as affordable transit is crucial for our community, ensuring a safe environment is vital for everyone who lives and works downtown. Thank you for establishing the Downtown Safety Leadership Table (DSLTL) and encouraging Council to fully fund and implement the DSLTL recommendations. Like all of Canada's large cities, Calgary is grappling with a surge in the



United Way of Calgary and Area
600 – 105 12 Ave SE
Calgary, AB T2G 1A1
T: 403-231-6265
F: 403-355-3135

calgaryunitedway.org

Reg. Charity Number: 13022 9750 RR0001

number of people experiencing homelessness and who are struggling with mental illness and substance addictions. There is no quick and easy way to help and lift every Calgarian struggling with these challenges. However, the DSLT's recommendations are a crucial start. If fully implemented, the Table's recommendations hold the potential to save lives and make downtown a safer, more welcoming place for everyone. While implementing the DSLT's recommendations requires City Council to spend in the short term, these changes will save lives and save in the long term by reducing the use of police and emergency services and help restore downtown Calgary's vibrancy.

Decisions about spending public money are never easy. All Calgarians feel the effects of our country's cost of living crisis. I know from experience that by working together, we can lift Calgary's most vulnerable residents by giving them the tools to change their lives and reach their potential. These investments offer Calgarians a hand up by giving them the opportunity and the means to leave poverty, escape homelessness, and thrive in Calgary.

Thank you for your time and all you do for Calgary. Our city needs your leadership more than ever.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Young", written in a cursive style.

Karen Young
President and CEO
United Way of Calgary and Area



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First name [required] Bill

Last name [required] Que

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[required] - max 75 characters

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In favour

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

Comment city.pdf

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

I would like the city to improve transit using trains and not buses as the buses are unreliable and the intervals are not consistent. Trains are better however it would be great if people are not freezing outside and the train tracks shouldn't be affected by traffic. It is a train for a reason. The city is not connected via public transit. We can't call our city a global city without a decent transit going on.

Another comment is on the Glenmore trail interchange with Deerfoot. They're expanding the lanes but won't solve the congestion from traffic coming off Deerfoot north going to Glenmore west. There's a bottleneck there and why do we have to pass through the multiple dealerships just get through Glenmore west?

Another concern is the beddington trail doesn't have a direct access to Deerfoot north. How is it even an interchange if it's not even connecting it to Deerfoot north but connected to Deerfoot south. I'm disappointed on how the city is planning the highways. It's not future proofed.

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First name [required] Carrie

Last name [required] Wall

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[required] - max 75 characters budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

I reviewed the Preview of the Mid-Cycle Adjustments. Council is OUT OF LINE. Show some leadership starting with remuneration freezes, not increases, forget the "Film Friendly Program", no idea what the "5A" network is (a definition would be great), \$1.2M for policy frameworks?, Cowboys Park Upgrade - consider moving out to later years. GET to the table with the province and STOP making the green line a property tax increase excuse. Despite the evidence to support a green line, Council's handling of the Green Line has been abysmal. 1/4 of the line with fewer stops and 50% more than the ENTIRE line was supposed to cost is fiscal mismanagement, inflation or not. It is truly enough. TALK to the province and get funding for the transit passes. YOUR JOB is to WORK WITH the provincial government. Full stop. It also seems we were told there were excess funds 'saved' which should be available for water infrastructure. Transparency is pretty cloudy at the moment, as is the public's support of the majority of Council's actions. The money spent on a re-zoning hearing was how much? It should have been included with the upcoming Civic election in a referendum and you should have negotiated around this with the feds on this instead of agreeing to re-zoning before the hearing was even held (further, the feds should be coming in through the province, not direct to the City, but that is yet another issue). You are spending OTHER PEOPLE's MONEY, and doing so in a manner that does not instill confidence. Comparing to Toronto and Vancouver is out of line. They have serious drug and immigration issues that we have only a fraction of (and ours is bad enough and needs addressing), further, Edmonton's Council is quick to spend taxpayer money as well, so not buying that comparison. Start showing you want to lead, be responsible fiscal stewards. Do you even know how? Start with a review of EVERY department (including ZERO based budgeting). There is NO WAY that City Hall is as efficient as it could or should be. If it is, your lack of credibility is why citizens no longer believe you. Not sure City Hall has ever been this mistrusted - at least in the last half century or more. Ideology has taken over pure simple stewardship. I feel very sad for my City. It is a great place, with leaders who seem to not want it to be that way.



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First name [required] Jakob

Last name [required] Fushtey

How do you wish to attend? In-person

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[required] - max 75 characters

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

Neither

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

Operating investments requiring corporate funding:
WE CALL ON COUNCIL TO FUND
Public Transit Revenue Shortfall (\$13M)
Low Income Transit Pass Sustainment (\$19M one-time funding for 2025)

Recommended Capital Investments:
WE CALL ON COUNCIL TO FUND
City-Wide Transit Oriented Development (\$40M)
TOD – Design & Infrastructure Study (\$4.5M)
Belvedere Related infrastructure (Stoney/Memorial flyover, design for Max Purple) (\$195M)
Blue Line – Additional Design and early works (\$160M)
WE CALL ON COUNCIL TO NOT FUND
Country Hills Widening (Barlow Tr to 36 St SE) (\$16.1M)

Operating Investments Not Proceeding:
WE CALL ON COUNCIL TO FUND
Calgary Transit Night Network

Capital Investments Not Proceeding:
WE CALL ON COUNCIL TO FUND
Calgary Transit Critical Lifecycle Upgrades
Capital for Buses as part of RouteAhead Implementation Plan
Accessibility Strategy



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First name [required] Kim

Last name [required] Brooker

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Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

You need to find efficiencies elsewhere and stop raising taxes every time you need more money! Stop buying art that no one sees. Stop all the extras that are not what you should be focusing on!



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First name [required] Stephanie

Last name [required] Poirier

How do you wish to attend?

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What meeting do you wish to comment on? [required] (if you Council

Date of meeting [required] (if you are providing input on service plans and budget mid-cycle adjustments, please select "November 18") Nov 18, 2024



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

[required] - max 75 characters

2023-2026 Service Plans and Budgets

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

Letter to City Council - Re Tax Increases.docx

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

Please see the attached letter that addresses the proposed tax increases, for your consideration. Thank-you.

Dear City Council, and Mayor Jyoti Gondek:

Re: Proposed Tax Increases 2025 for the City of Calgary

Yesterday November 5th, 2024, history was made in the run for the United States election. I know that you planned to use that day, yesterday of all days, to drop a huge numerical bomb on Calgarians and you hoped that it would go unnoticed.

I've been living here for many years, originally from Ontario, and I've watched the city deteriorate and today it's about to implode. I am fully aware that you plan to increase the following taxes:

+3.6% Property Tax Increase (Residential and Non-Residential)

+5.5% Property Tax Increase for All Residential Property Types

+10.5% Property Tax Increase for Condo Owners

+3.8% Tax Increase for Household Utilities (Water, Waste, and Recycling services)

You are well aware this affects all Calgarians deeply where it hurts the most. Why does it hurt so much you ask? Calgarians are facing high inflation prices, job loss, food insecurity, crippling debt to stay afloat, homelessness, addictions to cope, and what's worst is the fact that Calgarians have been pushed out of their homes by new-comers to this Province, partly because you advertised to them, inviting them in and promising them money, jobs, and huge tax refunds, which we now see is at the expense of all residents who live here in Calgary.

You are taxing Calgarians to death!

I remember that you gave yourselves a raise every year for the last 4 years, (in a row!) are you planning on doing so again by year's end?

Surprise! Remember that water main break that occurred over the Spring and Summer months? I sure do, and so do Calgarians. Is it no surprise that now the price of our services is set to increase? At what point does the City take any of it's responsibilities seriously and consciously? Don't forget that we are footing the bill for the new hockey arena, and when that's finally built, no Calgarian will be able to afford to go and see a game, let alone buy anything while attending as the prices will skyrocket and who is going to pay for that? Calgarians.

Now, what the most deeply disappointing and shameful admission that City Council has acknowledged, is why the increases are coming into effect. Because our population has soared. Calgarians have been pushed out of their homes and onto the streets because of the newcomers to Alberta taking up residence here. And at the end of the day, those same Calgarians are to pay for it.

I promise to spread the news as far and wide as I can until the 18th of November when discussions are held so that every Calgarian will have the chance to say something. It's widely known that city council here in Calgary does not consult its citizens for any feedback before acting and that needs to stop today.

The answer is no. No to all of your proposed tax hikes. When do Calgarians finally get their raise?



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First name [required] Heather

Last name [required] Morley

How do you wish to attend?

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[required] - max 75 characters

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

Neither

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

CoC_BudgetSubmission_InnfromtheCold_Nov2024.pdf

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

Please see the attached submission for the mid-cycle budget adjustments.



Thursday, November 7, 2024

The City of Calgary

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

Re: Council Meeting on Mid-cycle Budget Adjustments for 2025

Dear Mayor Gondek and Members of City Council,

On behalf of Inn from the Cold, I am writing to urge City Council, to prioritize Calgary's vulnerable families by investing in affordable housing initiatives, specifically family-sized units, essential social supports, and the low-income transit pass in your upcoming budget deliberations.

At Inn from the Cold, we see firsthand the critical need for affordable housing. The lack of accessible, affordable housing has created a new and troubling "normal": families are staying in our shelter longer than ever, with the average stay increasing from 56 to 82 days this past year as they wait for appropriate housing. Without immediate intervention, the demand on our shelter and other community resources will continue to escalate.

For families needing two- or three-bedroom units, the shortage is even more acute. By prioritizing family-sized, affordable housing, Council can help ensure that families have safe, appropriate housing that meets their needs, promoting stability and well-being.

Beyond housing, the low-income transit pass is essential for connecting families to work, school, healthcare, and services. With rising living costs, affordable transportation must remain accessible, allowing low-income families to access the opportunities they need to thrive.

We commend City Council's commitment to an inclusive Calgary. By prioritizing affordable housing, family-sized units, social supports, and accessible transit in this budget, Council will make meaningful strides toward supporting Calgary's most vulnerable families.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration of these critical priorities. We look forward to a Calgary that is more affordable, supportive, and inclusive for all families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Heather Morley", is written over a faint, large watermark of a stylized human figure.

Heather Morley
Chief Executive Officer



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First name [required] Phoebe

Last name [required] Fung

How do you wish to attend?

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Date of meeting [required] (if you are providing input on service plans and budget mid-cycle adjustments, please select "November 18") Nov 18, 2024

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(if you are providing input on service plans and budget mid-cycle adjustments, please write "budget" below.)

[required] - max 75 characters

Seasonal Patio Fee

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

The proposed seasonal patio fee of \$7.35/sq foot will be detrimental to the small businesses. The season is very short and unpredictable. As well, businesses incur costs of set up and tear down. Seasonal patios help with community building as well as hiring of seasonal staff, which benefits the City of Calgary and the community. If fees are implemented, many businesses will not implement their seasonal patio, resulting in a loss of jobs. We ask for the fees to be waived.



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First name [required] Britt

Last name [required] Oberg

How do you wish to attend?

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What meeting do you wish to comment on? [required] (if you Council

Date of meeting [required] (if you are providing input on service plans and budget mid-cycle adjustments, please select "November 18") Nov 18, 2024



Public Submission

CC 968 (R2024-05)

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

[required] - max 75 characters

permit fees for restaurants with temporary patios

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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



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First name [required] Scott

Last name [required] Sherman

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What meeting do you wish to comment on? [required] (if you Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure and Planning

Date of meeting [required] (if you are providing input on service plans and budget mid-cycle adjustments, please select "November 18") Nov 18, 2024

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

[required] - max 75 characters

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

I am currently a condo owner. My fees have gone up to almost my bi weekly mortgage payment per month. If an increase in my expenses occurs I will have to take steps with my creditors and I will walk away. I work full time and my net income barely covers my expenses. I literally live paycheck to paycheck.
Our GDP is negative, our unemployment in yyc is over 6%, our income taxes are high and there is nothing left.
No savings for my future. I cant even fathom looking past 6mos at this point in my life. I will walk away from my condo, and when I do I will also quit my job and apply for social security. If I go bankrupt I wont have credit for 5 years so I will take a 5 year hiatus and relax with government provided services. No point in working to live if you cant live so Ill just apply for every program possible and utilize the tax dollars I have paid over the many years I have worked. My credit will be destroyed so Ill just wait it out. Maybe focus on the gym and get myself into peak physique. That's only \$20/mo and a free hot shower. No stress. Rice and Chicken. Ill be good.
Now a taxpayer and citizen giving back to the community to soon recouping my taxes. I've fought my way from living in a trailer to owning a condo, which honestly isn't worth the stress now that I think about it. I am not afraid to go back and live that lifestyle, but this time on everyone's tax dime. Anyways do with this as you wish, make the decision and Ill let life take me along. I need a break from this life anyways, a 5 year hiatus sounds lovely right about now and I am very tired.
Anyways good luck and remember, with every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.
I am prepared to go either way right now.
Thank you for your time.
Scott



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First name [required] Jake

Last name [required] Lohmann

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[required] - max 75 characters

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In favour

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

The new budget looks good to me. I applaud the value and savings found to prevent tax raises. I just want to say that even as a driver, I would honestly be okay with a tax hike if it meant improved transit service and more lines operating 7 days a week and later at night. Each trip I can make on transit saves me so much money versus driving, it is worthwhile.



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First name [required] Mara

Last name [required] Cloutier

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[required] - max 75 characters

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed fees for patio spaces on public property. These patios have not only enhanced our local businesses but have also contributed to a vibrant community atmosphere that benefits both residents and visitors. For many businesses in the food and beverage industry, these patios are essential in maintaining revenue and ensuring long-term sustainability.

I urge the City to consider waiving these fees for 2025, as they could pose a financial strain on our business. Keeping patios accessible without additional fees will allow us to continue contributing positively to the community and local economy.

Thank you for considering this request.



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First name [required] Darren

Last name [required] Grelowski

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[required] - max 75 characters

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In favour

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

MLCA Mobilty Letter to City of Calgary Council.pdf

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

Hello,
Here is the letter from the Marda Loop Communities Association board.
We are asking for more consideration for mobility safety in Marda Loop and the rest of the City.
If you have any questions, please call Rita Shewchuk, Mobility Director at 403-861-9960 or Darren Grelowski, President at 403-477-9196.
Thank you for the opportunity to present to Council.
Your sincerely,
Rita Shewchuk



November 5th, 2024

Calgary City Council

Dear Mayor Gondek and Councilors,

Re: Mobility Funding for Mid-Cycle Budget Review

The communities of Marda Loop have experienced a great deal of densification and revitalization in the last decade. With these changes mobility and safety have become a concern to residents who are looking for safe, active routes to school, work, businesses and amenities. The City of Calgary is putting so much work and time into making our main streets walkable and livable streets. Given our ever-growing community, our neighborhood streets need similar attention to encourage safe walking and wheeling.

Inner-city communities that are experiencing substantial redevelopment and densification, such as those within the MLCA boundaries, need improved infrastructure that calms traffic and supports options for safe, sustainable and efficient mobility. We need to prioritize safety and accessibility to prevent traffic-related injuries or deaths and encourage all transport modes.

As you conduct your mid-cycle budget review, please consider investment in traffic-calming and active infrastructure projects that help make our neighborhood streets, pedestrian and cycling infrastructure safer and accessible for everyone.

Yours in safety,

Marda Loop Community Association

Signed by:
Darren Grelowski
02A4890E72964E2...

Darren Grelowski
President

Signed by:
Rita Shewchuk
7D5E0D109E23419...

Rita Shewchuk
Director Mobility

Signed by:
Kim Kemper
CF77DD5D61DE4C2...

Kim Kemper
Director Planning & Development



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First name [required] Arno

Last name [required] Du Preez

How do you wish to attend?

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[required] - max 75 characters

Budget Increase opposition

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

The proposed property tax increase in Calgary is deeply concerning. As a working professional, I was only able to purchase a condo due to the sharp decline in prices during the pandemic. Now, the city is placing yet another financial burden on property owners, which does nothing to improve affordability. Instead, with the cost of utilities, taxes, and other expenses steadily rising, these combined costs will soon surpass my mortgage payments.

It's incredibly frustrating to witness ongoing poor decision-making at the municipal level that disregards the financial strain on residents.



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First name [required] Jordan

Last name [required] Prescesky

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What meeting do you wish to comment on? [required] (if you Council

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What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)
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[required] - max 75 characters

budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

Good Afternoon,

It has recently come to my attention that the City of Calgary is proposing to reinstate annual fees to local hospitality businesses in regards to seasonal extended patios. Fees that in many instances will mean thousands of dollars out of pocket for local operators.

I would implore the city to carefully consider the impacts that this decision will have on both the local businesses, as well as the hard working, younger demographic that both supports, frequents and is often employed by.

For the past few years, this program has been instrumental in providing the city (and people within) a vibrant and engaging atmosphere during warmer months. A handful of destinations where the public can go on foot and socialize, enjoy the outdoors in a celebratory fashion, put our phones down and enjoy the company of others, while supporting local businesses at the same time.

By reinstating these fees, you are not only further damaging the potential profitability of these local businesses, which have been decimated by tax increases, labor costs, cost of goods, insurance costs, utility increases but you are also putting at risk the high number of seasonal jobs that your current program is helping to create.

By charging small businesses thousands of dollars to operate temporary picnic tables in front of their establishments, you will quickly see the number of operators taking part in this program diminish, taking employment opportunity with it. This decision hurts your local small business sector, as well as the hard working students (in many cases) who rely on these seasonal employment opportunities to fund their ASTRONOMICAL costs of living that have become a reality in Calgary.

This program was one of the only shining lights left in the hospitality industry where businesses had a chance to temporarily increase capacity and capitalize on the high traffic visits which the program helped to drive. It is one short period of time in the year where the opportunity to claw back some of these out of pocket increases is afforded to small businesses and in turn create jobs for the people who require this seasonal income.

I would strongly suggest that the City of Calgary look elsewhere for the required funds rather than back into the pockets of small businesses and the people who help them survive.

Thank you for your consideration to this concern.





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First name [required] Kristel

Last name [required] Pronk

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Public Submission

CC 968 (R2024-05)

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)
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[required] - max 75 characters

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

Perhaps you could cut the pay of all council and administrators.



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First name [required] rory

Last name [required] mcnulty

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[required] - max 75 characters

2025 budget adjustments reinstating the patio fee of \$7.35 per sq ft for e

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

Re: Opposition to Reinstatement of Patio Fees on Public Property

Dear Council Members,

I am writing on behalf of , a local establishment located in Calgary on 17th Ave, to express our concerns regarding the proposed reinstatement of the patio permit fee of \$7.35 per square foot, as outlined in the upcoming mid-cycle budget adjustments.

The waived patio fees over the past four years have provided essential support to our business, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, by allowing us to expand our outdoor seating. This adjustment was invaluable in helping us attract more customers, offer a safer, open-air dining experience, and create a more inviting atmosphere for both residents and visitors in Calgary. The positive impact of the waived fees on our revenue and ability to serve the community has been significant, as outdoor dining remains a highly sought-after option for our customers.

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

Reinstating these fees would have a direct impact on our ability to maintain this patio space. For many businesses like ours, the added cost may make continued use of public patio space financially unsustainable. It would likely force us to reduce our seating capacity, potentially limiting our revenue and reducing the enhanced customer experience we've been able to provide. For smaller or more vulnerable businesses, the added costs could lead to even more dire consequences, as some may simply be unable to support the cost and could risk closing their doors permanently. This would not only harm individual businesses but would also diminish the vibrancy and appeal of Calgary's commercial districts, ultimately impacting the broader community.

As the City of Calgary considers its budget adjustments, I urge you to prioritize measures that will continue to support small businesses in their recovery. Retaining the waived patio fees would align with the City's stated goals of fostering a business-friendly environment, enhancing public spaces, and promoting economic vitality. The opportunity to continue offering outdoor seating not only contributes to the charm and appeal of our city but also strengthens our local economy.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue. We hope the City Council will choose to support local businesses by maintaining the waived patio fees.



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First name [required] Christopher

Last name [required] Sutton

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[required] - max 75 characters

Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

Raising the property taxes at times like today is a bad idea. The infrastructure should have been budgeted long ago, the pipeline we already pay for on our enmax water bill. You refused to understand how to budget correctly and you constantly take it out on us. Your bad planning and lining of your own pockets have nothing to do with us tax payers. The green line project is of your own fault for not getting it started right away. Now we have to foot your bill? Double pensions and so on, make your own cuts and stop this libertarian movement on taxation



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First name [required] Bonnie

Last name [required] Pacaud

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Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

Neither

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

FCCV 2024 Letter to City Council .pdf

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

Thank you for the opportunity to send in a letter of support for the Low-Income Transit (LITP). Fair Calgary Community Voices is a community group that has been in existence since 2000. We worked closely with the City of Calgary to create the Low-Income Transit pass and have been involved in many of the changes that the program has seen over the years. The LITP is vital to businesses in Calgary that rely on employees that use the LITP to get to their place of employment. We urge City Council to continue to support this valuable program. Thank you for your continued support. Bonnie Pacaud and Colleen Huston.

Fair Calgary Community Voices
faircalgaryvoice@gmail.com

November 2024
Dear Calgary City Council:

Letter of Support for Calgary's 2024 Budget Adjustments

Fair Calgary Community Voices (FCCV) works towards accessible, convenient, affordable, connected public transportation. **FCCV supports a further investment in Calgary Transit's operational budget in alignment with the goals of the RouteAhead.**

"As a public service provided by the municipality, Calgary Transit must balance the goals of providing good service and low-cost fares with maintaining fiscal responsibility. One way to balance these goals and help achieve the City's Social Well-Being Policy is to frame fare discounts around the ability to pay rather than other non-income related factors like age. Calgary Transit's three-band Low-income Transit Pass Program, partially funded by the Government of Alberta exemplifies this best practice by providing the greatest discounts to those with the lowest incomes. (Route Ahead 2023)

The 2023 Calgary Transit Pass Customer Survey indicated that over half of the people who purchased the Low-Income Transit Pass (LITP) were employed. The ability to purchase a transit pass gives people more access to jobs, programs, facilities, services, events and programs throughout Calgary.

FCCV encourages City Council to continue to support fare discounts based on ability to pay.

This is outlined in <https://fairfaresyyc.wixsite.com/transit4all/post/the-positive-impact-of-affordable-fares-for-calgarians> " and in the *RouteAhead* strategy 3.4 Paying Vision".

We further support CUTA's (Canadian Urban Transportation Agency) request for public transit operational funding to be a shared responsibility between all three levels of government. Cost-sharing operational funding will allow provinces and municipalities to catch up with the unprecedented growth happening across the country. FCCV sent a letter to the Federal Minister of Transport telling him of our support.

In 2021, Statistics Canada reported that only 22% of Calgary's population took public transit¹. Strategies to attract people to transit, such as the Low-Income Transit Pass, create affordable options to address emerging ridership behaviour. Calgary Transit's fare strategy complements Calgary's "mobility as a service" approach by providing convenient alternatives to personal vehicles and equitable access to transit.¹

Sincerely,
Fair Calgary Community Voices

¹ End of the Line, Operational Funding Report, June 2024 <https://www.leadingmobility.com/s/end-of-the-line-min.pdf>

¹ Route Ahead 2023 Page 30 of 135 Route Ahead 5.2.1.1 Operating funds
[https://www.calgarytransit.com/content/dam/transit/plans---
projects/RouteAhead_Council%20Approved_July%202023.pdf](https://www.calgarytransit.com/content/dam/transit/plans---projects/RouteAhead_Council%20Approved_July%202023.pdf)




Low-Income Transit Pass Customer Survey

The City of Calgary’s Low-Income Transit Pass (LITP) is offered on a sliding scale, where customers pay based on their ability to pay.

We conducted a customer survey to learn about how the Low-Income Transit Pass helps people living in and moving through the city.

Over 1,000 people completed the survey.

Who is using the pass?




62% had an income of less than \$30,000 per year


69% were born outside of Canada, and of those, 1/3 lived in Canada for less than one year

10+ years
26.7%

Less than 1 year
33.3%



Over half were employed



46% lived in a 1-2 person household

Getting around

Over half increased their transit usage since applying for the LITP.

Saving money

89% saved money because of the LITP. Of that, 90% used the savings for **household necessities**.

Experiences

The Low-Income Transit pass helped people to...

	2023	2022
Visit friends and family more frequently	77%	69%
Get to medical and other appointments	82%	76%
Travel places together with household members	75%	58%
Go to different places in the city	79%	71%
Buy a pass on a regular basis	84%	69%
Buy passes for each household member instead of sharing	80%	63%
Save money	89%	85%

Fair Calgary Community Voices
faircalgaryvoice@gmail.com

November 2024

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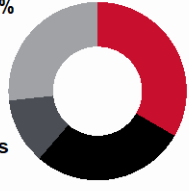



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First name [required] Akshay

Last name [required] Verma

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Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

Increasing property taxes in the face of risen cost of living is extremely inappropriate. Find a better resolution.



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First name [required] Sara

Last name [required] Welland

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Budget

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT_01_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT_02_FILENAME

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

It is time City Hall went back to zero based budgeting. Everything needs to be justified. Calgarians are tired of Council being able to find an extra \$10 million for Olympic bids, expansion of bike lanes, changing the City slogan (\$4.8M), the disaster of the green line (who knows where that total will land) and the purchase of electric busses (just to name a few poor decisions) when roads and water infrastructure are falling apart.

The answer is always: "we have to raise taxes". No, you have to align spending with the needs of the City and stop wasting it!