

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT TO COUNCIL

1994 NOVEMBER 21

12818

C94-138 ADVANCE VOTE

ISSUE:

To set the hours and dates of the advance vote.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Council, under Section 74 of the Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA), approve the following resolution which sets the days and times for an advance vote:

1. That the hours for advance voting be 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.;
2. That the advance vote for all general elections be held on the eleventh, tenth, ninth, sixth, and fifth days (Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, respectively) before election day; and
3. That the days for an advance vote, in conjunction with a by-election, be the Monday of the week preceding the by-election and the Thursday and Friday in the week before the Monday advance vote.

BACKGROUND:

Under Section 74 of the LAEA, Council may by resolution, provide for an advance vote and must state the days and hours when the advance vote is held. On 1983 July 25, Council adopted the following resolution:

That an Advance Vote for all General Elections be held on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, twelve, eleven, ten and nine days respectively before Election Day and that the Advance Vote be open during the hours of 11:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. on each day.

ADVANCE VOTE

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS:

The resolution previously approved placed all advance vote days in the one week prior to the Thanksgiving long weekend. The 1992 election showed that the current movement and business patterns of electors was incompatible with this timing and the timing did not adequately serve the public.

The recommended days spread the advance vote over two weeks, before and after the long weekend, with two weekdays each week and one weekend day on the long weekend. The extra cost for an additional day is minimal with other procedural changes being implemented and is appropriate for improved customer service.

The existing resolution did not provide for advance voting in conjunction with a by-election.

CONCLUSION:

To improve elector accessibility to advance vote days and to cover advance votes in conjunction with a by-election, a new resolution is required.

48-94-40 **12933**
61M94
3rd Reading

MOVED BY ALDERMAN SMITH, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN JOHNSTON, that By-law No. 61M94, Being a By-law of The City of Calgary to Amend By-law 8M86, As Amended, Which is the By-law That Directs the City's Returning Officer to Prepare a List of Electors for Municipal General Elections, be read a third time and passed.

MOTION CARRIED

48-94-41 **12937**
C94-137
Incapacitated
Voting

MOVED BY ALDERMAN HIGGINS, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN JOHNSTON, that the Recommendation contained in Commissioners' Report C94-137, Procedures for Incapacitated Voting, dated 1994 November 21, be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

48-94-42 **12938**
C94-138
Advance Vote
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MOVED BY ALDERMAN HIGGINS SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HODGES, that the Recommendations contained in Commissioners' Report C94-138, Advance Vote, dated 1994 November 21, be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

RECESS

48-94-43
As Amended
Recess
(Ref. #48-94-29)

MOVED BY ALDERMAN HIGGINS, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HODGES, as amended, that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 21 (15) of Procedure By-law No. 39M83, as amended, Council recess at this point to reconvene at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

NOTE: Council reconvened at 7:00 p.m., with Mayor Duerr in the Chair.