

Your comments

These are all of the comments received for this project.

All comments have been shared with the project teams for considered in decision making. All key themes are summarized in the what we heard report www.engage.ca/yourservices

Please note:

- These comments are verbatim. That is they are exactly as received. As a result, some of the comments may be offensive, inaccurate, or distasteful.
- Comments have not been edited for spelling, formatting or correctness.
- All comments in this document are in English. For in language verbatim comments visit www.engage.ca/yourservices

You will see [removed] in some rows. This is for:

- personally identifying information,
- easily removable profanity,
- or where the whole comment clearly does not meet the [City's Respectful Workplace Policy](#) or [Online Tool Moderation Practice](#).

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Mid Cycle Adjustments Verbatim

Questions asked

The City is committed to ensuring that the services we provide are aligned with the needs of Calgarians and delivered in an effective, efficient, and financially sustainable way. This year, The City has undergone extraordinary challenges. To respond to these changes, we are preparing to review our plans and budgets to make appropriate adjustments and serve you better.

Before we make changes, we want to hear from you about which City services you feel are a priority and whether you feel you are receiving value for your municipal tax dollars.

1. In 2019 Calgarians shared the following five expectations of City Council. Of the five, check the one that you feel is the most important for you now.

- Maintain focus on our budget and spending.
- Demonstrate value for the services The City offers.
- Invest in our infrastructure in the right ways, now and in the future.
- Lead in management, accountability and transparency.
- Engage citizens in the conversations about Calgary's future.

2. What does it look like when City Administration meets the expectation you selected above?

3. What does it look like when City Council meets this expectation?

Participant comments: expectations for Administration

What does it look like when City Administration meets the expectation you selected above?

- communicate. - surveys like this to focus on the Real needs in Calgary, not just on transportation & a saddledome. - talk to your citizens. - fast responses to 311 requests.
A balanced budget based on what Calgary has to offer. Don't spend what you don't have. And stop borrowing from the citizens. Set a goal and achieve it and come within budget. Stop raises taxes and always think that is the solution. The people of Calgary needs jobs before we have anymore money to give.
A city that is attractive to potential new Calgarians. A city where we are safe, happy and is known for it's innovation and bold foresight, clearly built for citizens now and of the future.
A greater focus on practicality of projects that will garner more bang for our buck; thorough investigation in investments and expenditures.
A livable, connected city with services, amenities, and neighbourhoods accessible to everyone.
a reduction in city taxes to match the current economic conditions. It is incomprehensible that city services and salaries cannot be trimmed to reflect the conditions faced by private industry to balance our budget without overburdening taxpayers. the city MUST adapt.
Ability to focus on the appropriate social aspects to protect hurting people financially, holding landlords responsible, making transit more affordable, funding/engaging/decreasing barriers in social work agencies that support our most vulnerable Calgarians.

Accountability in anti-racism policies, and understanding that being anti-racist is a *daily* effort, and not something that can be fixed in a weekend course.
Actually listen to the public when issues arise.
Actually supporting the wonderful programs we have in place, like Alpha House, Adult Addiction services, the SCS, more harm reduction volunteers and staff
Administration has the unenviable job of having to work with this group of councillors who are unable to make a decision because all they do is fight and snipe at each other. They do reasonably well with the ridiculous asks of this group of councillors with no understanding of the amount of work it takes to go back and readjust a budget based on a whim of a councillor.
Administration is there making sure we as citizens have access to find out all the information we need and to answer our questions about topics
Administration needs to respond and act upon citizens concerns.
Administration performs/recommends what it's funded to do/recommend as per approved policy and plan, council clearly/publicly exercises the political decision-making discretion to deviate from approved plans/policies decision by decision. Unethical politics are systematically defined and addressed, and preventative processes put in place to flatten out the unofficial hierarchy of voters.
All city services are expensive right from recreational services need to be around \$50 or \$60 so all can take advantage of it all make give choices let say I want to use only pool so charger for just the pool should be less then some is using all services. Currently city forces to buy full subscription
As a miracle?
Ask citizens what they value the most but also how we can help them learn the value of other services
Being fiscally responsible today - but with an eye to the future of what Calgary could be 20 years from now and beyond.
Being transparent about costs and focusing on priority areas.
Better transit service, roadways, pathways, and bikeways.
Bike lanes and transit
budget cut across the board of 10% including a wage roll back of 10% just like Jayman Homes and countless other companies
Budget cuts, no tax increases
Build the green line, continue developing bicycle infrastructure, look to converting municipal vehicles to electric, retrofitting existing city buildings with new techniques to make them more green / carbon neutral. We will never have enough money but we are running out of years to make sure Calgary is not a ghost town. Robust public infrastructure is key.
Calm and happy, and keeping everyone safe.
Citizens are included in conversations about spending and budgets and their concerns are considered and solutions address these concerns.
City administration will efficiently work to manage Council-approved infrastructure projects. Complete quality projects on time or early, reducing any apparent red tape. City Administration will remove sole-source contracts and will obtain materials where they will obtain the most value. Investing in Infrastructure ought to increase the number of relevant job openings according to project needs.
City Administration would be able to provide requested financial documents in a reasonable appoint of time, measured in weeks, vs year. City Administration are committed to anti-racism, and also actively working on the recommendations in the White Goose Flying report.

City employees are educated in their field. People who manage taxpayers money know how to budget. Snow removal workers know how to operate the equipment. Park staff recognize weeds and know how to eliminate them. Just a few examples.
City hall quits overpaying staff, wasting money and reduces taxes. Stop spending like a drunken, socialist sailor
City property tax (both residential & business) do not increase. Expenses are managed efficiently even if this means letting some 'nice to have' expense be eliminated.
City property taxes or business tax is not increased. City is able to operate within its planned budget
City revenues equal or slightly exceed expenses. Compensation (including benefits) for full time city staff is at level with earnings for similar positions in Calgary's private sector.
Clever projects that improve the city's livability rather than status quo solutions for things like transit/transportation, parks, and public spaces.
Close safe consumption site. Unsafe surroundings, crime used needles, sleeping in trees
Community open forums in various locations around the city to allow citizens to express their thoughts and opinions regarding the issue up for discussion, on-line engagements and surveys for citizens to complete.
Construction of the green line.
Continued investment in making Calgary more accessible (better public transit), resources reaching out into all of Calgary, more money going directly towards public services like affordable housing, recreation, art and culture and not getting stuck at the administration level
Costs must be cut to reflect the economic downturn.
Council's greed is priority over Calgarians health financially, physically, transportation (going in totally wrong direction!), and is just completely out of touch with the people they are supposed to be representing and who are paying their overpaid salaries (as well as pensions!!)
Critical review of budgets and staffing, proper pension rules and payments, acknowledging all growth cannot be funded but making sure minimal services provided and making sure any grants are maximized
Cut in wages and services that are not needed. Like Arts Transportation at a time that we are at the all-time lowest in ridership
Cut jobs. [removed]
Cut spending and lower taxes.
Cutting spending.
Cutting useless administration jobs.
Debt will be higher due to infrastructure investment but a government isn't a household. When economy is down, government need to invest to keep the economy going for current and future Calgarian. Cost are low now and labour's are easily available. No better time to invest in infrastructure.
Decisions are not made in advance of asking citizens for input or feedback
Defund the city calgary police and focus the money on social programs and rehabilitation services that actually prevent crime
Defund the police
Defund the police and hold them accountable. Take real action against racism in Calgary.
Defunding the police, leading to abolition. The mass amounts of money removed from the police can be used to fund other social programs, such as mental health treatment, education, Healthcare, such as accessible rape kits in clinics and hospitals. Instead of police the city could fund social workers who are trained in de-

<p>escalation and in mental health instead of escalation and violence. If this can't work, train police for more than 6 months.</p>
<p>Delivering clear communication and readily available current and historical data / information online</p>
<p>Demonstrate how these conversations inform decisions at the city. Ensure more inclusive engagement practices.</p>
<p>Effective public outreach to maintain support for already-approved infrastructure projects and to inform Calgarians about benefits of options for future projects.</p>
<p>Efficient and responsible.</p>
<p>eliminating the police budget and allocating those resources to community resources to target the reasons people commit crimes rather than punish them for their circumstances ✦</p>
<p>Ensure that Calgarians' needs for services are being met while ensuring we are investing tax dollars in the right services, and providing them in the right way. Any necessary reductions are thoughtful and intentional as opposed to blunt cuts, and where further investment is warranted, it is made and justified.</p>
<p>Ensures we have necessary transit and rail for a growing and forward thinking city. Provides recreational centres and programming. Affordable housing and eliminating homelessness. Ensuring the City is walkable and that accessible walkways and paths are available in all communities. Creating jobs to support the building of infrastructure. Stops giving money to sport teams. Defund the police</p>
<p>Every business on my road pays taxes and receives no services. Our gravel road (which should be paved due to high traffic volume) is nearly impassable and has not received ANY maintenance in 16 months, which was a patch job in only one section of it, and a year before that. The maintenance guys literally told me there is no point even trying to maintain it, but every road needs maintenance.</p>
<p>Everyone who works for the city needs to take between 25 and 5% reduction in pay. Cut management and only one pension.</p>
<p>Expanding highways that need to be expanded, decreasing congestion were possible. All which will allow shorter commute times, bringing fuel costs down for everyone.</p>
<p>Fewer staff, prioritizing necessities</p>
<p>Finding efficiencies in operations and budgets. There should be a mandate to cut expenses a set percentage rate across all departments. (20% for example).</p>
<p>Finding ways to achieve the same past levels of service at lower cost. Looking for cost-saving measures in projects, being resourceful. Doing more with less. Showing good financial stewardship/management & demonstrating responsible spending.</p>
<p>Focus on the essentials, be opportunistic.</p>
<p>Focus on the services citizens need to survive and thrive based on compassion and evidence. I.e, affordable housing, affordable, accessible transit, arts/culture, parks, responsive 311. Work with province to get needed funding. Take a long-term view to invest now to create the conditions for a vibrant city in the future.</p>
<p>Focused on the right things</p>
<p>Focusing on those services that are critical right now. Safety in fire and bylaw. Social thru neighbour services. Less funding to police.</p>
<p>Following through with promises, ensuring that spending is in the best interest of the people, public access to spending data etc.</p>
<p>Forward thinking investment in a sustainable city with renewable resources and promotes a loveable city for everyone.</p>
<p>Funding of social programs such as libraries, education, healthcare, and childcare. Step one would be defunding the police rather than increasing taxes on already strained residents.</p>

Funding services that increase engagement in our economy and community resiliency, like the public library's online course offerings, and offering support to children and youth and families with targeted programming
Getting value for base municipal services. Our transit, road /street/parks maintainence is kept up year-round, safe recreational services, etc.
Give the SE a train line
Goes above and beyond in finding program savings
Going through the city budget and services in the same way that the private sector has and then prioritizing the truly essential and cutting the rest.
good roads and safe bridges, water treatment, sewers, all infrastructure.
Great things
Having a wide range of services available to all citizens
High quality development and services that meets the expectations of residents
Holding councilors accountable. Holy heck...expense scandal? Guys..come. On.
Homes for homeless, noise bylaws, better public transit - traffic is right back up there. Less sprawl, hold developers accountable for: noise mess destruction of roads, renew and protect green spaces. City employees on the whole make way too much money.
Honesty and accountability and straight forward communication.
Hopefully they can manage/budget the tax money
I can call 311 and my concern is addressed quickly. I can get updates on my concern and I can see what work was done. There is a way of providing feedback and information that shows it was done efficiently.
I do not know this administration has never been in touch with reality. As a business owner the city fails on most levels
I don't bust a rim on a pothole.
I expect homelessness to be reduced, I expect better transit services and expansion, I expect more money toward social services that are needed, I expect police to be defunded and that money is allocated to other services that are more important, and sustainable infrastructure and affordable housing, also more green incentives and transitioning the city transit to greener technologies
i have no idea what city admin does besides out you on hold when you call any municipal service
I have spent two years unemployed, then took a 20% pay cut and now have my wages frozen for the last 3 years. I expect that all city workers including City council must lead by example and take a pay cut to stop any further increases in taxes.
I hear about the events being done to do this
I understand what I get for the tax, fees and rates I pay, what the impacts are if I decide I want to pay more and what I lose if I decide to pay less. Please note I said tax AND fees and rates. These questions are usually geared more to taxes.
In the right ways is essential. Make sure roads, schools, health, safety (including police), social services are funded but be really careful about bikelanes(make sure they are in the most travelled areas and separated by thin pylons or concrete I beams visible in snow and NOT with huge concrete curbs. Stadium should only be partially funded if the city gets a cut of the gate from all events.
Increased police and police budget to ensure safety of all citizens.
Inceasr in important infrastructure like transit, cycling and projects that help with modal shift away from cars. Lessen approval of subdivisions on the outskirts of the city, it is obvious that developers cannot design and construct these probably and they contribute to car culture.

Information and services are easy to find and understand
Invest in road, bridge and building upgrades NOW while trades need work. Don't just patch potholes go after the big ticket items and partner with over levels of government for funding.
Streamline permitting and review process to allow developers to get projects to the construction phase quicker. Reduce amount of meaningless engagement sessions that pander to the NIMBY crowd
Investing in c-train infrastructure, bike lanes and bike paths. Investing in affordable housing and inner-city densification
Investing in the right ways to me means caring about the environment (green line HELLO!) and keeping taxes down for small businesses. Infrastructure counts as things that are already built too!
Investment in public transportation, bike lanes and other infrastructure to make moving through the city accessible for all. Protecting our parks and green spaces.
Investment into infrastructure is made that considers much more than the initial capital price tag. Infrastructure provides long term value to Calgary and puts us on the map as a world class city.
Investments align with citizen expectations in a cost effective way so that we can be confident money isn't wasted or spent unnecessarily and essential services meet/exceed minimum requirements.
It demonstrates respect for taxpayers
It is easier to get around Calgary. Roads make sense, no longer flooding
It looks like a boat full of drunken pirates spending my money with no regard for the consequences.
It looks like hearing the priorities of Calgarians and making quick, decisive changes based on those priorities. For example, hearing all the stories of police brutality and the call for defunding the police, so the Administration reallocates the police budget into services like housing, mental health, education, and services that actually help people instead of criminalizing.
It looks like no closed door meetings. I don't care the nature of what the meeting is about it is ALWAYS funded by my tax dollars and like a good money manager where I have a name for every cent I spend.... this isn't different. The Mayor and council work for ME and the other tax payers. I have the ultimate control. Not some hot headed Mayor
It looks like prioritizing the health of Calgarians, and supporting the arts, teachers, doctors, small business owners and other essential workers rather than investing in private structures, parks, and the elite. Transparency means honesty and an end to nepotism. Less money for the Flames, more money for the PEOPLE.
It looks like Switzerland. People voting on bike lanes (the little things) instead of doing failed attempts at community research before spending tax dollars like Calgary does. I've done my research but apparently you haven't.
It means my tax money are going in right direction
It means that everybody, especially those who have been marginalized, have ready, equitable, and easy access to basic needs including water, power, transportation, healthcare, and food. For city administration, it means that priorities are placed on realizing equity.
It means they don't increase my already high property taxes by an EXTRA \$600 this year when both my husband and I were forced to stop working for 4 months (corona). I'm sure there were places we could've cut a small amount in spending instead of over-taxing citizens who are already struggling from this crisis.
It means we are looking at each purchase and doing due diligence when spending. Is it a need or a want?
It means we create a city that works for everyone - everyone has a safe place to sleep and to keep their possessions; everyone is well fed; that every child has opportunities to reach their potential; that

neighbours have a mechanism for resolving disputes; that we are a city, so beautiful with art & trees that others want to visit; where people are happy and well cared for. A city for everyone.

It puts citizens first! City employees are second.

It would look like Council finally listened. Citizens would see where the money is being spent, and infrastructure is like 'air to humans'; it is a necessity not a luxury, citizens would feel good about new or improving on our infrastructures as this area has taken a back seat to other not so urgent items for many years.

Keep spending as low as possible.

Keep truly essential services strong. Slow down non essential and welfare progs.

Keeping the focus on value for money, thoughtful use of resources and accountability so that Calgarians feel a high level of trust that the City is being well run

[removed]

Less poverty, less ultra wealthy individuals, more social support, more environmentally friendly services, better parks

Less red tape and allow staff to do the jobs they do well

Less use of entities such as cmlc, more natural progression

Less wasted funds, better control of expenditure. Reduction in administrators. Necessities maintained. No closed council meetings, all to be open to public and media.

Listen to and take advice from the citizens. Engagement surveys are useless if you don't use the information

Listen to our youth more. They are the future.

Long term thinking and doing things the right way. Setting us up for successes that are longer than a Council term

Long-term cost effective thinking, even if that means in the short term council is exposed to political risk because something ruffles feathers. There have been countless times over the last few years when there has been extreme short-sightedness. One of the more recent examples is the approval for the RNDsQR build on 9ave SE and 12th that completely disregards the current ARP in process.

Long-term vision for what the city will need in the future- building transit lines, pathways, bridges, roads etc that make sense for the long term

lower taxes

Lower taxes and Nenshi out of office.

Lower taxes. They are killing us.

Lowering property taxes.

Maintain responsible spending while still providing services. Explore alternate revenue streams

Major projects like the arena, convention Center etc are out on pause. Green line is put on pause.

Make budget proposals aligned with Council priorities.

Making surveys and other citizen input forums accessible, easy to follow, and widely distributed so responses are from a range of individuals.

Making the public aware of potential outcomes, both positive and negative, and gather feedback from a reasonably representative informed and educated population. This might include making it easier to engage with MLA's, or online voting mechanisms. Finding new ways to engage with Calgary citizens will enable more involvement and solicit greater and more thorough feedback.

Manage cost - no more tax increases or shifting of tax burden.

Mean they do not privatize our public services but instead make efficiencies to make them fit in budgets
Means they are looking out for citizens interests and would align how the average citizen has to budget their own household. You can't expect someone to pay extra tax just because you "want" something.
Minimal spending, focused on essential matters and on supporting the economy.
Money in meets money out. Just adding more tax doesn't work in the long run, it's no different than any business. I understand everything must increase, but not wastefully so.
Money is services that are required like recreation, housing, front line protective services and transportation
More easily accessible in-depth budget breakdowns would be optimal. For example, before we talk about partially privatizing our waste and recycling program to attempt to save money, I think it's important to see very detailed breakdowns of large expenditures, i.e. the police services budget. Detailed budget transparency available to all would allow for the crowdsourcing of ideas on saving money.
More private investment into the city, more pride, more economic diversification.
More sidewalks, fewer interchanges, support public pools and parks, support plazas and main streets, developers pay full cost for suburban growth
more surveys, make it easier for calgary to speak up.
Move away from oil and gas and develop infrastructure to promote alternative energy businesses and technology to move our economy forward. Oil and gas is not the way anymore. Also a focus on tourism and building the new arena is a big step in the right direction.
Moving away from car dependent infrastructure and support public/active transportation methods.
My tax dollars go towards valuable services
My taxes do not increase
My taxes go down. That's how I know the city is doing its job maintaining focus on our budget and spending.
Need to have a strategic plan for City to articulate a future vision and develop steps to get there. What are Calgary's assets? How can we best take advantage of these to drive Economic Development and Community Benefit? Who are the competition, how can we do better?
No homeowner tax increases!
No more yearly salary increases for council members. Doing the bare minimum doesn't warrant a raise. Do your job or get off.
No Nenshi
No over spending and my rates don't go up further
No property tax increases
No tax increases. No new sports complexes. No ridiculous cost over runs on expenditures.
Not a significant increase in property taxes as people are struggle in alberta to have a decent lifestyle
Not create endless opportunities for developers. The Bow River watershed cannot sustain increased housing to infinity. The suburbs that have exploded are cookie cutter and of poor quality. The same is true for some inner city apartment buildings. Have more control and oversight on the companies and people adding structures to this city.
Not raising property taxes - maybe reducing them.
Not spending beyond our means and not raising taxes - business and individuals can't afford any further increases in taxes right now
Not sure if a balanced budget is practical but a focus on the changing tax revenue landscape needs to be considered (business vs residential) You cannot keep cranking taxes up everywhere. Mind you,

please continue transparency of what portion of the increase is because of sneaky things the Provincial Gov't adds on for the city to collect on behalf of them (that was brutal of Kenny in 2019)
Our taxes go down
Plans beyond 5 years. Short, medium and long term plans/goals as it related to infrastructure projects. Recreational and public services infrastructure.
Plans, including budget shared. Input on priority of infrastructure
Police and fire are not cut but fully funded. City council salaries freeze until private sector can catch up.
Poll citizens on what services they think are most important or make the biggest impact in their lives, then act on a consensus.
Polls like this. Listening to your constituents when they talk to you across various platforms, including social media.
Proper planning for emergency services and roads.
Proper use of tax dollars, citizens not overtaxed first city's overspending, and plans are more transparent. Of course value for services needs to be demonstrated to make the budget. And Citizens should always be engaged in planning. Our infrastructure and roads improvement planning should be in that budget while making sense. You require strong management to keep on track
Properly funding programs that support our most vulnerable citizens by defunding the police and redistributing this money to actually support upstream approaches to crime reduction (safe injection sites, food programs, accessible mental health programs, subsidies for families, etc).
Properly maintain infrastructure already in place. Stop growth in sprawling new communities and work density to optimize infrastructure
Property taxes decline 5 percent.
Provide Council with much more detailed costs for all spending categories, For example: What is the exact cost of the bike lanes being constructed as part of the Banff Trail Improvements project? What is the cost saving of paved sidewalks versus concrete sidewalks?
Providing safe, reliable, and well-maintained pedestrian, cyclist, and transit infrastructure. Ensuring old infrastructure (water, sewer, roads, etc.) are well maintained before developing new infrastructure/ communities.
Prudent and sensible investing, fair taxation, and value in public service
Pursuing new and efficient ways of working. Adopting new technologies to increase automation and digitization. Cut red tape and streamline processes. Strong performance management of employees and leadership training for managers.
Put more effort into broadcasting community services and make services equally accessible without underlying discrimination based on race, background, wealth, and religion.
Putting out questionnaires like this. Not hiding behind legal jargon. Being transparent about the realities about the budget and how things are really going.
Quit spending money on art when we can barely pay our utilities, heat, water. Property taxes through the roof. Manage the money better. Set aside rainy day funds. No one every cycles on bike paths created on Northland drive. It's been a joke for years. I have only seen the odd cyclist and they always bike in the sidewalk. What a waste of money.
Re-allocate funds for policing towards social services.
Reduce spending, find other ways of increasing revenue that is not property taxes! Review extra positions
Reduce the spending as much as possible. Stop spending. Cut pay.
Reduced cost to Taxpayers via delivering projects at lower cost

Reduced salaries for all non-unionized workers.
Outsource services where unions refuse to accept wage reductions. Maintain safety services and snow removal.
Reduce art budget. Who decided to double it when the City finances are in trouble.
Reduced traffic congestion. Improved roadways (potholes). Improved public transit (rail to Banff?). Clean public green space
Reduction of budgets without a drop in service levels.
Responsible and accountable budgets
Rigor and demonstration of evidence based decision making including the bid process and holding developers accountable.
Runs like a business.
Salaries will be less for council, pensions will be less for council and my taxes will stop increasing on a yearly basis. If you dont have the money then stop spending and make cuts up top.
Show where positions are making a difference from the organization and where our tax money is going.
Shows the public that The City is spending appropriately
Similar or better services for similar or less dollars
Smart investments aimed at creating immediate and future jobs, maintaining Calgary's high livability, and helping to promote the future of the city. E.g. Green Line, Rivers District.
Social services + serves is for the people in need (homeless, poor, etc.) are met.
Spending and property tax reductions.
Spending does not increase year-on-year.
Spending is less and taxes are lower.
Staying in budget while keep taxes low
Staying within a reasonable expectation for the budget set aside for the priority projects or investments
Stop increasing the city's debt. Balance the budget today.
Stop spending on the green line for starters, stop increasing taxes.
Stop taxing us to death, we are not ATMs
Support local artists, engineers and other skilled workers when developing local infrastructure. Promote diversity in the workforce that develops the city.
That our city is actually growing and successful. Right now we're pigeonholed into oil and gas and that's slowing killing our economy. I'm tired of hearing "the economy will bounce back in 2 years"
That the city finds ways to meet lower budgets, either by layoffs or wage reductions, just like the private sector has been doing since 2014.
The administration needs to be more transparent on what they are spending money on and why. For example why does the city have a yard full of city vehicles that maybe 5years old but they seem to buy New ones all the time. Raises that
The best time to invest in infrastructure is when the economy is depressed. Now more than ever people need help and support from the city, not by lowering taxes but by providing people opportunities to more easily engage with their communities, with the city at large, Etc.
The budget and spending must shrink to match our reduced capacity to pay, both as businesses and individuals
The city has been reevaluating services, however; they have not taken big action. Leadership and council have not cut one service, they just keep reducing the cost of many services.

The city has properly evaluated what services are need to have versus nice to have. There is fiscal oversight and the city has reduced budgets to ensure taxes can be lowered.
the city provides true and honest spending of our money. they do so in a reasonable and transparent way, where we can see exactly where our money is going. they use the proper services
The men and women of cfd are kept front and center. Essential services are a TOP NEED. yes I drive the roads, we occasionally (rarely) use transit but safety of my kids and family is top. That falls to our essential services
The number of "nice to have" projects is reduced and current infrastructure is maintained instead of expanded.
The numbers don't lie so the ultimate number is residential and commercial property tax increases. If the city wants to demonstrate accountability and transparency in budgeting then property tax increases should be limited to inflation plus population growth. However since the city has overspent most of the last decade now that number should be blow zero to demonstrate proper budgeting.
The police are defunded and the money goes to social services which actually help reduce crime and poverty.
The property tax is way too high. When compared with countries like Norway we are paying 10 times for for the same service. This is very unfortunate.
The public is involved in decisions of large use of the budget money.
There is conversation with citizens, accountability from council, adjustments to spending and focus on the future of our city
They are looking ahead and building for the future not for the present. They are willing to spend for the right infrastructure
They are seriously focused on city hall cost reductions and on accountability from all areas.
They have never met expectations. What I would expect is NO MORE IN CAMERA MEETINGS! Stop wasteful spending and take responsibility for the screw ups you are doing.
They have not met my expectations.
They never have
They never have. But if they did, it would mean at least 5+% decrease in total spending.
They stop paying inordinate amounts of money to city workers. Cut salaries and pensions. City workers are paid too much for what they do.
They stop voting themselves in razors while taxing Calgarian's out of their homes and businesses
They support programs that help the homeless, make public transit better, and ensure that police are properly trained for law enforcement (and removed from office if they are violent or cruel). Committes are consulted to inform next steps on accessibility for the disabled and a future for FNMI citizens. They ensure that the services Calgary provides makes Calgary a safe and equitable city.
To involve people in a different way of talking..that means to encourage a city for all. Invest in a tram and many more connections on a tram or trains so the disabled can get around where funds they receive are low
Transparency on budgets and future plans. More online meetings where Calgarian can share their insights (such as the meeting on racism in our city). More easy surveys like this one! Also, it seems that many councilors are reluctant to have plans longer than their terms in office. How can a city be transparent in its spending if it can't even create a plan beyond securing jobs for politicians?
Vision for the future. Reduce sprawl. Keep climate imperatives in focus
We diversify our economy by investing in areas of business that are more sustainable than oil and gas (I.e. tech, science)

We don't have huge tax increases year over year.
We need more money invested in public transport, more trains, a new line that covers north and south Calgary. The blue line should connect directly with the airport (like in any modern city). More money to Police and Emergency Services. An efficient public transport system will reduce the use of cars and personal vehicles helping the environment.
We need to find ways to lower our taxes and spending.
We will stop reading stories in the news about Councillors that require police investigation for fraudulent spending, other Councillors that approved that fraudulent spending, bloated severance packages, and other amoral behaviors.
Well designed communities, ease of transportation, facilities in the north central part of town not jut the south all the time
Whatsoever we face in time we going through, our livelihood is way far important than any other issues come by either it is by nature or by our own plan.
When city administration engages citizens in conversations about the future the city becomes a place where all feel safe to progress as community and where none feel unwelcome and silenced by those in power.
When honesty and humility are values that city leaders exude.
When the city maintains budget we can put our direct savings into the things we would like to see in our city, our over all value all Calgary will go up and engage citizens in Calgary
When the city transit is on time and runs consistently. For eg: I would love if the 167 and/or 168 ran on weekends and throughout the day once an hour instead of just at peak times.
When the right resources are put in place to invest in new and ageing infrastructure roads buildings pathways parks. And that administration is making smart investments for the future growth and evolution of the City
When they appropriately use their budget to increase healthcare and ambulance services
Working within their means without spending more than what is earned. Be accountable to the finances and spend the money wisely.
you need to significantly become more efficient - you are far away for being fiscally responsible for the ego of the few
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - free and accessible transit - public housing - rent control - no more suburb development approvals - prioritizing the needs of the most vulnerable in our decisions about infrastructure development
A minimum 10% reduction in my residential tax bill and a clear reduction of city workforce numbers by 10%
Actually follow and improve upon existing climate and sustainable policies.
Advertise engagement opportunities on multiple platforms; make engagement easy and inclusive; share citizen input transparently. Engage more in these times, recognizing that COVID-19 and the economic crisis have shifted Calgarians' priorities, hopes and fears for the future.
Anti-racist and equitable spending on new infrastructure to support communities, active transportation, and other initiatives.
As a low-income transit user, I am disabled and on a fixed income. Large increases at this time to make up for loss of income with covid-19 economic downturn has me very concerned for people like me.

being clear and not wishy-washy on their beliefs, their spending, how the vote during council meetings ext.
Budget does not to up and property taxes aren't the highest of every city.
Budgets have to be revised to reflect actuals so future spending is adjusted. This is good management
Building more bike lanes, The green line, the new conference centre, etc. Calgary needs to make investments in all types of infrastructure for us to stay a world class city. I am a big supporter of mass transit, so to me it means getting the green line built is a big priority. Also a B.R.T line to the airport, and a rail line to Banff via Canmore.
Calgarians in need continue to receive assistance as in the past
Calgary has a critical housing affordability shortage. Constructing Affordable Housing is critical, but the timeline to completion is too long to alleviate the current pressure.
The City of Perth, Ontario just announced a \$5000 grant to homeowners who build backyard suites. Even if these suites are not managed by an Affodrably Housing provider, their existence will alleviate pressure on the AH
citizens have their priority needs met.
City Admin includes a sustained effort in educating both council, and the public about the social and economic benefits of increased infrastructure spending.
City administration would look smaller. Looking at this Engage page it seems to have a lot on the go - some vague Chinatown cultural project, designing elaborate bike racks, a "responsible pet owner" bylaw. This is not focusing on spending. It's 2020, not 2007, the city should simply not have the resources and manpower to pursue whimsical social projects in times like this.
City to cut spending and reduce the budget. City should focus spending on essential services and reduce spending on non essential services like art, culture etc. City should stick only to its primary jurisdiction and not go into other govt. jurisdiction like "climate". No city funded subsidy. Property tax bills should not increase by hike or reallocation or any other excuse for next 3 years.
Core services, police, fire and roads, are properly funded with no tax increases. No spending on arts. Art fund contributions eliminated and fund is reduced by 50% and money used on road repair.
Cut non-essentials. If its a nice to have and not a essential for the citizens daily lives, please defer it. Eg. The 180k mural the city had planned
Did not meet the expectation.
Ensures proper quality checks and tracking are in place, schedules are maintained and budgets are respected.
Expanding transit, reducing its fees.
Fiscal responsibility and well balanced budget for maintaining stability while planning for the future of our city over a long term calculative process
Full access to documents, meetings, financials, reasons for recommendations, friendly and helpful staff, REDUCE SPENDING instead of more user fees and property tax
Funding to education and healthcare. Investments made in the form of job creation for teachers, smaller class sizes, better equipment and sanitation services for the hospitals.
Get adequate services at front line levels without having crazy wait times; less "electronic/online" services and keeping people on the front lines.
Get more value from city staff. work harder. keep spending in check.
good

Honestly communicating with citizens about the budget and where taxpayer dollars are spent. Increasing communication to receive feedback about issues that are important to citizens and working with citizens to implement changes. Accountability among members of City Council in regards to following through on their plans to have actions representative of their words.
I don't know what it looks like, I have yet to see the city meet these expectations. Stop spending money would be a good start. Get rid of the high priced help.
I feel funds are being channeled to critical services like infrastructure without overspending.
I feel that my area is serviced and I'm accessing services available
I wouldn't know . You should stop spending money and give everyone across the board a pay reduction . Like the private sector
If the expectation is met, it would look like the city administration would be capable of carrying out it's core functions without requiring tax increases in excess of inflation.
I'll know when I see it.
Invest in modernization, digitally native services to make it easier to find information and interact with the city
Invest in the services that support our high quality of life. That means investing in social services, health, and education. The province is of a "slash and burn" mentality, so I expect the City to continue to support these essential services as best they can.
Investments in services, streets and public transport
Just like in my own household budget I have had to take a good honest look at the difference between a want and a need and trim off excess expenditures during these trying times. Revisit all expenditures and see if there is a way to cut back as in do I need it or just want it and get the most value for my money.
Lean Organization, too much spending on police, transit, and city employees.
Less [removed] money spent on ugly or non-necessary projects.
Locate areas where tax dollars are not being used to their fullest value. Cut back on waste, trim budgets, cut overstaffing.
Lots of public works projects that keep our city working and profitable. Diversifying from the need for property taxes towards other more stable sources of income.
Lower tax increases, improved services with better efficiencies to reduce waste of money, time and resources. Top level management have taken a wage reduction.
Maintained roads, side walks, recreation facilities, efficient public transit,
Make cuts to useless and top heavy management
Make sure ALL Calgarians have a say in where the funding goes and the laws and bylaws of the city.
More private involvement in the current services. Ie, Garbage, roads.
More social programs being funded, allowing Calgarians to access services that are fundamental for their personal development which will lead to a better, more just society
My property taxes and user fees stop going up while providing the same service.
No more community orchards apple tress, plums, pears, apricot tree
One word: transparancy. Be transparant with the city finances. It should be easy for a city resident to look up what the city is doing financially. The makes is hard for the city to be fiscally irresponsible. Also, a balanced budget. A person will crumble under the weight of debt, and then it becomes my problem when you all raise taxes.
Prioritizing community services and events as much as possible and always striving to adapt. This means giving higher quality and more varied services.

Prioritizing the voices of QTBIPOC folks who expressing their lives experiences & asking for more thoughtful & equitable distribution of funds towards social services like affordable housing/services for addiction&homelessness/library/education/childcare/mental health/etc RATHER than policing which only contributes to inequity/oppression for vulnerable/racialized calgarians.
Property taxes are not increased.
provide infrastructure (paths (bike and walk), transit, and reduce road bottlenecks, improve road maintenance) that is functional, not extravagant, and uses small affordable changes to make large improvements, and does not get bogged down within administration - contracted out to keep costs affordable too
Reasonable expenditures, no government waste, good value for my money
Reducing administrative costs by ensuring Business Units work together for the greater good.
Reducing workforce to meet reduction in demand. All companies in Calgary have had to reduce workforce in the past 6 years and the City has not kept pace.
Reduction in budgets and taxes
Services provided align with the needs of all citizens but be flexible for when needs change. They should be approached with a proactive lens when possible and appropriate (rather than always being reactive) and should be based on current data. Giving rationales about why a service is provided or not allows citizens to understand the reasoning and allows citizens to give meaningful feedback.
Showing how things being done will benefit people in the future, being upfront about costs that will be incurred, Actually listen when there is an engagement session
Since we lost trust in the way city spend money, his action will make us put our trust in the city and will help in balancing the books
Stop pushing through dumb improvements to my neighbourhood that no one asked for, and that downgrade the usability of my neighbourhood.
Surveys
Taxes are reduced.
That city councilors who file phony expense claims are kicked out of office.
The ability for me to get to essential services in a timely matter.
The City is an attractive place for new talent and leads to future growth and prosperity.
The City overseas and manages services efficiently and effectively. Citizens know they can rely on services to be of high quality and for them to be available when needed. Important services include parks and pathways, libraries, roads, public transit, waste management, emergency services etc. There should continue to be transparency concerning how money is spent and how contracts are awarded.
The city should make all homeowners aware of the changes made on their streets in their neighborhoods. And not just install a bus lane on 17th Avenue SE to turn 12 Avenue SE into a freeway.
The infrastructure projects that the communities wants and needs get approved (Heritage building and community preservation (Inglewood and Beltline). A reduction in the attention that NIMBY attracts (Greenline). The closure or the mitigation of programs that negatively affect the communities they are established in (Safe Injection Site). A focus on improving existing communities instead of buildin
There is adequate affordable housing for all Calgarians. Public transit gets me to all parts of the city I need to go. Arts and other cultural institutions are alive and well and affordable to attend. Poverty in our city has significantly declined. City parks and pathways are maintained and attractive. Construction projects are keeping workers employed.
They are prudent on what they spend money on. No unnecessary hiring or projects. I would like to believe they have our best interest at heart, but I'm not convinced.

They get input before making decisions or changes
They lead by example.
They would Stop unnecessary spending for pseudo art projects and financially support police ems and fire.
Town hall meetings are accessible, the chair efficiently manages the length of time each person has when speaking and everyone has the opportunity to submit questions verbally, in person, online or in writing and receives a response to their questions and/or comments in a timely manner.
Unfortunately Administration is ruled under the Mayor
Very good
We actually build infrastructure instead of just talking about it, and it is on budget.
We consider the long term impact of infrastructure on our quality of life (amount of time spent stuck in a car to get anywhere) and impact on budget (massive cost of roads and infrastructure to services or sprawl)
We don't increase our budget by 3.5% every year without rewarding the city employee with at least inflation increases.
we don't look like a neglected city, parks are a priority both in supply of space and in maintenance. infrastructure for those who walk is given greater focus - and safety is not further eroded by other active modes who are traveling at different speeds.
When citizens are engaged, it looks like effective solutions are discussed and implemented both from and for individuals from all walks of life. Everyone's unique needs re listened to and addressed, and we can find a way to navigate our new climate together.
When meaningful cost savings are achieved. The city budget should be able to decrease year over year. Show Calgary citizens that you aren't as incompetent as you appear and can actually manage a budget.
When these are met the health, wellness, and happiness of Calgarians is a top priority. putting money back into things that matter and taking away from things that are less important or already have too much money.
Will not be approving 14 new communities to increase taxes, will focus on basics, water, infrastructure, and stop contracting so much out (especially in Planning).
Year on year spending decreases, city services are focused on essentials and not nice to haves, reduction of staffing levels, all cost savings opportunities explored, contracting certain services to local companies where appropriate, reduce the number of full-time consultants.
You guys need to radically cut spending and taxes. Please focus on core services like everyone else
We know the value of the services we as taxpayers are investing in.
City needs to budget and live within our means. Some pet projects may need to wait. We don't have the money here we used to. Maintain infrastructure we have, maintain basic services. Stop wasting time on pet projects and political boondoggles: LGBTQ, BLM. Everyone is important, please provide infrastructure and services for all rather than focusing on the loud special interest groups.
Citizens has a say in the major decisions tjat will affect or benefit them all. From the collective vision emerge the best ideas and solutions, since it is the people who live here the ones who know what they need.
With the economic downturn and high unemployment rate, I want lower property tax and no tax/fee for garage.
City Administration finds the money to maintain services for the vulnerable and increase spending on climate action, social housing, and reduced reliance on private automobiles.

Developing the city to allow more methods of transportation to become practical. I drive and I don't want to because it is wasteful when it comes to resources including money. I'd rather pay higher taxes so that I don't have to drive anymore. I have a \$7000car, I make 45000/y. With fuel, maintenance, insurance, and the car loan I pay 17% of my income towards personal transportation. I
Be fiscally responsible and keep spending within approved budget. These year on year tax increases are unacceptable. Be responsive to changing economic conditions and adjust accordingly with tax reductions.
Early and meaningful engagement on actions and strategies. Using the engagement results to tell a truthful story about what the engaged citizens say. Reach out and engage with communities that do not have the capacity to engage and have the City represent them strongly in decision making.
They have not met mine. They have never reduced spending without the threat of cutting Police or Fire. Show some real leadership and make the spending cuts.
Climate change is a clear (and communicated) priority for the City of Calgary (embedded into all business units). Urban sprawl stops.
Government for the people and not just a great pension. You are elected to serve the people not yourself.
They don't
value for money. holding council to account on what is reasonable and sustainable. hold council to original budget and spending figures.
An economy that is independent of oil and is more dependent on construction and other upcoming professions like technology and renewables.
Densification with a plan based on science and subject matter expertise. Terminate the arena deal.
Continually finding ways to better use tax payer dollars
Savings can be passed on to residents of or the businesses in Calgary.
Not allowing Councillors to take advantage of the system for their own gain.
Calgary is safer because transit is prioritized and properly staffed with enforcement (COVID protocols) officers; snow removal is appropriately handled on all primary and secondary roads, particularly off ramps and merge lanes where buses also stop (quality control!); firefighters and EMS have the tools and staffing needed to keep us safe; essential services get priority during this pandemic.
Building up public infrastructure and services while interest rates are cheap and people need the jobs. Moving to free and widespread public transit.
Massive budget cut and spending within our means.
Working to improve the website, social media presence, and other ways to get more engagement from creating strategies to make it easier to understand and input opinions to create more conversations with city council.
Defunding the police
Fewer bureaucrats working for the city and those employed doing more. Fewer union workers. Pay reductions for both groups to bring their salaries back to reality. No more defined benefit pension plans. The City providing the services the citizens need and stop doing a many things they shouldn't - golf courses, etc.
It provides the quality services that citizens are used to Do not sell out to privatize our services. It lets everyone down with higher costs and poor service provided

Concerns are acted upon and government runs in a transparent and accountable fashion
Citizens understand where their taxes go and they understand the importance of such costs.
When a city is in a downturn for 5 years, you don't keep spending more and more and tax more and more. That is asinine.
Keeping tax and service fee increases inline with inflation
How about NOT raising taxes all the time! The mayor and others taking 'bonus' amounts to pension, etc.
We build what we need, when we need it and support our citizens and economy.
I don't know. My expectations have never been met.
Less wasteful spending on expenses, construction workers standing around, lower pension and retirement funds
We stop spending money we don't have
Spends less than it takes in, and is able to reduce the tax burden on its citizens.
overall, property tax amounts need to decrease. The budget needs to be drastically streamlined over 3 years to get it where I think is reasonable
They dont give hundreds of millions of dollars to billionaires to build an arena for them
Practice what you preach.
That they invest in good public services for all Calgarians to live a full life.
I see what I pay for the service per month and agree that it's "worth it". Ie, \$5 for recreation opportunities seems good...\$6 for libraries seems like too much, comparatively
satisfied citizens receiving services for which their taxes pay
We have a balanced budget. The City (like every household) needs to make tough decisions on what we can afford, what are our priorities, where can we find efficiencies (from top down - lead by example) to live within our means. We all have needs and wants but we need to focus on our needs first (especially during these challenging times). Start with the pensions (why do some have 2)?
It's clear who does what at the city, and we can trim back on the work on "how to" deliver service so that expenditure is focused on actually delivering service.
No degradation of essential services in the city.
reviewing the current corporate structure to see where efficiencies can be made. especially with upper mgmt
Stop cutting emergency services to the bone while you blow money on art and bike lanes. Stop spending money on tearing up streets to put in planters and traffic calming when important services have been decimated by this council
A safe community for all with a balanced budget. An administration that doesn't look to cut taxes, then have insurance companies turn around and take those savings away from citizens.
They need to show respect for residents' tax dollars. These dollars need to be wisely spent. Lining the pockets of Flames owners, for example, is not a wise or respectful use of tax dollars.
Funding 9-1-1 staff, including police communications officers, EMS dispatch and fire despite provincial "consolidation"
Providing opportunities for Calgarians to engage with enjoyment of living here. Roads and transit are great, and we also need to get out of our homes to enjoy culture and nature.
More work done and less committees
About committees
When Administration proposes progressive options and recommendations that allow Council to see the long-term and nuanced benefit of often less popular choices.

Emergency and essential services are maintained. Do not cut budgets in these areas.
Taxes are not increased for either businesses or citizens. Calgarians believe the City employees are working to ensure we get the best value and productivity for what we are spending.
Everything every person in municipal positions of power should be accounted for. Every diner, cab ride, lunch, meeting, etc, should be available to the public at all times on the city website. You work for us, the public. The elected officials Work for us, they are our employees and therefore should let the citizens know everything that is happening.
We need to spend on infrastructure to ensure the City can run; without the structures of the City Calgary will never be an attractive City. Spending money on other perks like art, can wait. That said we also need to eliminate expensive programs that are not producing results - pools that aren't turning a profit.
Finally there would be honesty
I feel the city should invest more into the fire department. We need to lower the response time and that is a must.
I have no idea they have never met the expectations.
Cut taxes
First responders have enough employees and tools to be able to keep our communities safe.
My street is clean and free of snow
Keep spending in line. No spending on item absolutley not needed
It looks like the City Administration is listening to what the citizens of Calgary are saying. City Administration seem to project an attitude that they know what is best for the Tax Payer without considering the Tax Payer's concerns.
We get key services and taxes do not increase
The City puts emphasis and funding towards things that will benefit not only large amounts of people, but the people that need it most - transit, active transportation options, recreation, affordable housing, etc...
There is not a mural in a place it does not belong. BLM in Chinatown does not make sense.
They actually achieve more with less. Innovate ways are found to be more efficient.
City services such as police and fire at a reasonable cost but highly effective
Sharing budget, where that's being spent, ensuring citizens know how it affects them. Focus on the people and not benefiting developers. For example hopewell in mahogany is trying to rezone and area that we bought into to make an extra buck. This is unacceptable but the city sees no issues with it.
Timely response, delivered efficiently and economically.
Smart spending on infrastructure maintenance and improvement.
The city needs to put value into services Calgary offers to its communities, specifically police and fire. The idea of trimming their budgets even more than already done is only pushing the envelope to see how far you can go before we lose a police officer, a fire fighter, or a member of the community due to unsafe conditions.
It means well msintained roads, bridges,water sewer services libraries, recreation centers, parks and many oyher areas that make Calgary a place people love to live.
It looks like lower tax increases and why can't city aldermen take a 0 increase for once?
Looks good for the administration; sometimes looks bad for council.
I don't know at all where you get your 5 priorities. The 'Citizen Satisfaction' (or lack of it) survey shows, year after year, their dissatisfaction with the most basic of services that the City never seems to improve on. Snow plowing (add residential roads/sidewalks). Transit (your routes are not optimized and now you are doing 'on demand' service which has failed / was costly elsewhere).

Compared to private industry, the City has far too many management layers. And it's not efficient.
Stop spending money on stupid stuff like artwork, social justice projects. Put the money into policing and service delivery.
Full transparency over fiscal issues.
I don't know. You just hope they're at least listening and taking the in-put and feedback into consideration.
Do more with less.
Council expenses are audited regularly
Cuts to administrative services and non essential services. Increase funding for essential services.
Proud to be a part of city of Calgary .
City Administration needs to hold the Calgary Council accountable for the poor decisions being made. As per City website "The ALT exists to... balance priorities in the best interests of the city community as a whole." Well get to it then. Calgary Communities do not need a new hockey arena for \$275million, or another piece of artwork for \$500000. We need properly funded services fire/transit/etc.
Administration is able to articulate the value it provides to citizens. Administration targets services to support those who need them most.
Delivers good quality projects, considers other people rather than just drivers (transit, pedestrians etc.) and maximizes the choices available to live and travel the ways we want.
It would look like a significant reduction in property taxes for the services delivered. In order for the expectation of no. 4 to be met, then in my opinion, no. 1, 2, 3 & 5 must be a prerequisite. So, number 4 is the most important and I do not believe that any of the prerequisites are currently meeting expectations. Therefore, No 4. Is a "DOES NOT MEET EXPECTATIONS"!!!
Increase in taxes to pay for services that help reduce harm during the pandemic, like affordable public transit that takes us where we need to go that is accessible, available, and affordable.
Listen and act on what is important to Calgarians and prioritize accordingly. Ensure transparency, engagement and opportunity to inform Calgarians through various media venues that reaches the most Calgarians of all age groups; consider alternate communication strategies; news, signage, texts, variety of media, community news. Currently, this info only reaches a small percentage of Calgarians.
Trimmed down workforce; outsourcing of services to non-union (i.e., less expensive) partners; cancel pet projects that favor a small number of squeaky wheels (public art, bike lanes, traffic calming); only one pension per person.
That calgarians remain safe
Tax reduction.
Invest in new ways of geeting money such as solar power,
Also Arts, Safety, Education, Jobs are in at a good level in Calgary.
No self-serving spends. That hardly used bus lane on 14th St SW is a huge waste of tax money. Eliminate art spend for now. Maintain police funds, things are only going to become more lawless with all of these terrible protests. Cut workforce, far too often you see city workers wasting their days away. Re-evaluate bussing, too many busses driving around empty. Go digital in permit dept.
Property taxes are not raised for a number of years
Job secure and a safe community
No cuts to the fire or police departments in regards to staffing or funding. Take funding away from the mayors pet projects

Lowering wages and pensions to match the private sector
Reducing costs within the same or lower budget. Eliminate unnecessary pet projects and finally lower wages expenditures (ie salary and wage reductions)
Unity. No petty in-fighting, Strength.
cutting the budget for overpaid managers, fire department, and upper management. use that to reinvest into Calgary economy
A clearer financial and accountable road map to follow and execute.
As citizens we want to be well informed about the services the City offers and what our tax dollars pay for. We also want to be engaged in investment decisions.
Delivering on the City's Climate Resilience Strategy alongside regular reporting to and engagement with the public regarding progress on the city's climate goals. Ensuring that comprehensive information about issues Calgarians are concerned about, such as police violence and the way CPS operates, is made available when these concerns are voiced in such large numbers as they currently are.
They bring down costs and lower taxes.
Stop wasting money on top heavy administration.
If there's a problem (in any department), and reasonable attempts have been made to rectify it, and it still fails, then this should not be kept hidden from citizens. Needs can change over time. Engage citizens to help understand what is required (I'm not saying this hasn't been done before). I find it more respectable to admit errors and faults than trying to hide it and having it found out later
happy active / engaged people from all walks of life
It prioritizes services and infrastructure that puts the health and well-being of individuals first, with tangible and practical solutions. It is planning for sustainable development that is considerate to environmental impact and long term vision.
Administration ensures that they are providing Council with a budget that maintains a safe, secure and service provision for all Calgarians. We need to recognize that if we want our streets cleaned and maintained, or emergency support services available and our garbage/recycling collected and an active healthy city sometimes taxes need to be maintained or even increased slightly
Salaries and compensation need to be cut in all areas with City council leading the way.
Tax money is spent wisely keeping in mind the safety and security of citizens first and foremost.
My taxes go down
They produce a budget that is realistic and cuts back on staff and spending by city council
We need leadership that protects our social services, transit, and other programs essential for all Calgarians
Critical thinking is exhibited in the information shared with the public, engagement is utilized, transparent and clear communication about reasons, budget, timeline, and being open to feedback.
City is listening to what the tax payer is telling rather than dictating to the tax payer what City Administration THINKS is good for the tax payer.
That roads and bus stops and emergency services that my tax dollars pay for are actually going towards the value of how these things are done and not used to pay salaries of city council.
Potholes are ignored. Some have been repaired . Most are ignored Homeowners are ripped off with 3 garbage bins. now you want us to buy BAGS (MORE TAX) A useless Mayor with a crook and a thief being paid on Council.
It means that we don't privatize essential services, we don't cut essential services. We stop stupid spending on art, expensive transportation options and council wasting taxpayer money on travel and

liquor that is unnecessary. If council people go out of town to help grow our city they don't stay in 5* hotels and they can buy their own booze. Also the homeless situation needs a lot of help.

Money is not spent on unnecessary projects. Like a new arena for hockey and concerts. I'm tired of paying for the rich to enjoy these things.

So much is going on right now - high unemployment, people trying to coordinate working from home while managing childcare, an unpredictable provincial government, looming evictions, small business failures. The City should concentrate on watching spending in the midst of lower revenue sources.

The city continues to provide high quality services and important infrastructure that benefits all Calgarians.

It means city workers being paid well for the great work they do.

Participant comments: expectations of Council

What does it look like when City Council meets this expectation?

- meet Calgarians needs as top priority. Enforcing bylaws (& writing realistic measureable & enforceable bylaws) , maintaining parks & recreation, less development and more green spaces. Focus more on safety.

^^

A beautiful city envisioned in 1912 by William Reader as "a destination place", a place well managed without chaos; where respect abounds; where people from the world are welcomed; where people with mental health issues are dealt with humanly and with great compassion; where people feel satisfied and strong; where children are valued as precious and nurtured into strong & powerful adults.

A city council that is able to live within it's means WITHOUT continuing to raise taxes.

A council that looks beyond their tenure to the growth and development of a city that future leaders want to be a part of.

A lot like it does now. I am happy to see an increasingly higher level of opportunity for citizen engagement and easy-to-find info. I believe a government is much more efficient in serving its citizens when it involves the ideas of everyone, not just the ideas of elected officials. It is wonderful that current technology allows for this to be done easily and efficiently.

A lot of new faces on council.

A more content general public and more fulfilling services. Less of a sense of wasted money.

Accessibility for all not only for ppl rich enough to afford a car.

Actively seeking out the guidance and opinions of citizens, particularly community leaders living and working in Calgary. Also engaging with community organizers who work with marginalized groups and vulnerable sectors. Talking to citizens in their wards about what is important to them and ensuring these discussions are with people ranging in age, racial background, and gender.

Actual decisions are made, partisan politics are left out of it - UCP skills not wanted, stop the constant bickering, adhere to the 4C's that city staff are accountable to, get rid of councillors who take advantage of the system and STEAL public money - Joe. Make a tough decision and actually stick to it. That is what you are elected to do.

Actual management of city spending

Adequate housing for our homeless population, a wet shelter, less people using drugs in public, more Supervised Consumption Sites

Administration give updates and summaries of the views expressed by citizens.

Again how can you ask a question like this. this is no appropriate for a survey. questions like this can be interpreted many ways
Again, money in is greater than money out. You can't just increase taxes to satisfy every little cost. Some things need to be cut or suspended until revenue picks back up, same as any business works.
Allocating funds to projects which will benefit the most Calgarians.
Also never have. They refuse to look at spending decreases.
As I mentioned above, all city workers must sacrifice some of their pay as most Calgarians have had to do over the last 5 years. Now I read that council is looking into further ways to raise money through taxes. Enough. Calgarians have paid a high price these last 5 years and we expect the city to show they understand by cutting wages and waste.
Background work is done, key stakeholders are engaged in conversation and a Strategic Plan is approved. A plan for priority projects and steps are in place.
Be bold on choices that support a vibrant future for Calgary
Being honest with citizens. a rate freeze is NOT a cut. cutting core services instead of fat is political gamesmanship and we see right through it.
Better quality of life, better standard of living and more affordable and more environmentally friendly and sustainable infrastructure
Better quality of life, less upset citizens, less taxes or slower increases in taxes. Citizens would trust the city more because we would see results without over spending. Makes city accountable.
Better than it is now.
Better transit service, roadways, pathways, and bikeways.
Bold vision, clearly articulating the benefits in the near and long term. Not silly squabbling and input from the powerful and wealthy. Not revisiting decisions for years and years.
Calgarians are happier and their spending power Increases
Calgarians see the benefits of being frugal. The city keeps with in its means and doesn't spend excessively on special projects.
Calgary becomes a better place to live
Calgary will be vibrant with saving and budgeting
Cancel and defer any and all projects that are "nice to have"...focus only on must-have. No cuts to front line services. Direct that savings be found in every area with cuts/deferral of even small, nice to have projects that add up even tho individually they remain small. Layoffs if necessary in those areas where those projects are cut.
Citizen input is actually used to make decisions
Citizens happier with tax increases when they see value for their money. Examples: driving on smoother streets, having proper merging lanes and over passes, no bottle-necks, improved road drainage, wider walking paths, sidewalks without heaved spots, trees or signs in the middle, boulevards concrete not weeds, plant large pollinating gardens in all parks for researchers & educators use with kids
City council and city employees share the economic burden ordinary citizens are facing, forcing some of them to feel it in their own pocket book through large-scale mandatory salary reductions at all levels, and significant layoffs of staff.
City Council are our leaders, and we should be able to rely on them to make informed decisions and choices based on conversations had with Calgarians
City Council doesn't serve the people, they are overpaid and under worked.
City Council might have to struggle to keep city service up to the standards.

City Council prioritizes essential services and reduces delivery of non essential services. City Council is actively looking for savings opportunities and is reporting out on progress. City Council discontinues closed council sessions.
City Council shows it is willing to cut jobs, and reduce red tape if necessary to achieve leaner staff and more efficient delivery of services. Keep parks and rec, transit, and planning approvals, cut useless 'business advisors' [removed]
City council shows spine and final understanding and will battle the unions with full support of the balance of Citizens: 10% cut accepted
City council supports bylaws that support the safety of Calgarians and remove that no longer serve that purpose. They listen to the disabled on how to make the city accessible and FNMI to address the needs of indigenous people in Calgary. They ensure that Calgary is a safe and equitable city.
City Council will provide reasonable timelines for citizen engagement (unlike The Flames Arena) and will not simply throw away a "rainy day fund" arbitrarily simply because it is too large. This dwindling fund could have been used to support the community opposed to a private interest group. The City will be effectively run & not waste time deliberating "risky" project phases over and over again.
City Councillors would be accountable for what they put out in social media, and their expenses should be verified by a third party. City Councillors are actively anti-racist and ensuring that the recommendations in the White Goose Flying report are followed though.
City councils need to think and act like leaders. Their main concern shouldn't be trying to justify their position to their constituents. Leaders provide normal Calgarians the hope and vision of a the future. It shows what people need before they even know they want it.
City has a vision to work towards, and decisions keep that vision in mind. Councillors are too short-sighted, and ill-informed. Should take time to learn and communicate without shock tactics.
City is operating efficiently, prudently and effectively (cost-effective and good quality of services provided to all citizens), less wastage of time, money and resources.
City programs are appropriately funded and able to help every Calgarian that requires assistance. Also a greener more sustainable Calgary.
City staff are scaled back (not frontlines or emergency workers)
Communities progress faster without cmhc type initiatives.
Continued discussion of how to entice different industry into Calgary to try and fill DT offices in order to boost tax revenue there so small business and residents don't have magnitude increases like we've seen with dropping values on our property. With 2020, we simply CANNOT have a 8-14% increase in our taxes.
Council and administration need to CUT services they no longer need to provide. Why do they need an in-house advertising agency? Why does the city need an innovation lab or hundreds of buildings to maintain? We do we keep increasing police funding and hacking away at social programs? Why can't a third party (or the province) do assessments and tribunals?
Council follows the direction of committees that review salaries, don't just vote to change the mayors salary but the councilors salaries. They listen to needs, adjust with greater speed and transparency to how the city is changing.
Council is unified about services and information for staff. Council is committed to knowing and sharing facts in context.
Council must revisit past policies like Planit and SNIC bare pavement policy. Past policies are NOT carved in stone
Council needs to take communities seriously and not just listen to who agrees with them.

Council plans and approves infrastructure that will improve this city beyond their elected term, and considers how we can make this a better city for generations to come.
Council resists the temptation to fund vanity projects. Council should focus on ways to reduce costs. Out of the box thinking is required.
Council shuts up gets out of the way and lets the engineers and contractors do their jobs. And they quit spouting off about “engagement” just to buy votes and look like they are doing something. Hire an engineer who can design the best value and most functional, cost effective designs and then get them out to competitive bid quickly
Council solely taking ownership of its discretion becomes clearly accountable for political decisions that deviate from approved policy and plan. The decision making chaos is much reduced, the personal/employee stress of not doing what we say we are doing, what we are paid to do, is much reduced, and the illusion of a more holistic city plan becomes reality. Logic reigns over fearing and hoping
Council voting in the best interest of the greatest benefit and value of Calgarians in need of services
Councillors don' waste time challenging Alberta Health SErVICES by ensuring citizens are safe. They understand long term investments in liveable, safe neighbourhood design/planning, no sprawly development and safe transportation
Councilors listen to residents in an open and honest way
Creative decision making always bearing in mind the cost, value & transparency of out offerings to our citizens
Cut services - be bold; make the tough decisions. If policing is a big line item- cut its funding.
Cut spending lower taxes.
Cutting spending.
Cutting taxes. Period. The spending is completely out of control.
Debate and rigorous justification for every tax dollar spent on projects that will serve a clear purpose for projects. Justification in costs and taxes required
Debt is manageable, essential services are supported.
Decisions about budgets and spending must align with the priorities expressed by citizens of Calgary.
Decisiveness and a willingness to look at impacts beyond four year terms.
Decrease in tax rates.
Defund the city calgary police and focus the money on social programs and rehabilitation services that actually prevent crime
Defund the police
Defund the police and hold them accountable. Put more money into social programs like mental health services, addiction services, services for unhoused people, etc. Take real action against racism in Calgary.
Develop salaries and services based upon what Calgarians can afford and need for day-to-day living. Stop creating programs (like art around the city) that waste our money that could be redirected to more important services.
Eliminating extra pension for mayor, council taking a rollback on salaries and not voting themselves raises would be a good start
Encourage and foster more community involvement and diverse participation. Better and more meaningful engagement with a diversity of citizen perspectives. Remove barriers to involvement in the public hearing process and dont just pander to the vocal minority.

Everyone has what they need, without anything extravagant. All essential City services are provided, but each cent is accounted for and there is no waste.
Expanding the cycle track network, designing complete streets that are able to be used by all mobility types.
Fairly, honestly, and objectively advocate for Citizen needs in reviewing recommendations from Administration and considering the balance between Citizen needs for services and the cost of services. Finally, weighing the benefits and consequences of new community growth and developments, particularly at the periphery of Calgary.
Fire councillors who lie.
For City Council, this means that Council is truly seeking out and listening to the voices of constituents and using their voice to represent people who may not be as readily heard or listen to. It means that Council puts in the effort to hear from ALL Calgarians, and does not simply favour the loudest, richest, and/or relatable voice, but considers the full community.
GC cara ward 9 is worst councillor works in favour of builders more then citizens
Getting budget back on the priorities and the necessary needs of the city & not funding things like art & unrealistic, unprofitable transportation (ie: SW BRT). During this time of economic distress, (yes, distress), Nunshi needs to have ALL Calgarians in mind!!! His Greed in raising taxes will make me homeless within a couple years. If that is what he wants I will give him my brains.
Give the SE a train line
Good and happy. A well working place for everyone.
Good things
Greater focus on spending carefully, less "investment" in arenas, convention centres, etc
hasn't happened yet to know. We wouldn't have a mask bylaw forced on us for sure if you listened to the people
Healthier communities. Focusing on the individual and not just padding the pockets of the developers for re election chances
Helping construction of the green line move forward on schedule.
homelessness goes down, more jobs and houses are created, more community based groups and organizations are made, communities are happy, poverty goes down, crime rate goes down.
Honesty, accountability and straight forward communication.
[removed] My house taxes and utilities need to be revisited as to how they can be lowered and the City find ways to cut the fat to help Calgarians.
I can hear the results and recommendations being implimented
I don't know, because they (Nenshi) don't seem to be doing a very good job of managing tax payer funds and using them appropriately. There's only 3 councilors that actually seem to care about the people who are impacted by frivolous spending and insane tax increases.
I doubt you will ever reach this expectation
I really am yet to be impressed with their efforts toward my desire of them being fiscally responsible.
I really don't know. I get the feeling there is a lot of ego thumping and unwillingness to look at other cities, globally, to get better ideas.
I think investing in tech companies is a great start. If more tech companies come to Calgary then can use up some of the empty buildings we have downtown

I want to hear that councillors are fighting for the identity and quality of the city - not just allowing endless infrastructure because it's an easy way to add money to the city. Surely we can be more creative (and sustainable!) than that.

I would fire you all for spending that is out of control. Lower taxes!

If these actions were taken seriously access to libraries would be 24/7 if not close to that, the provincial curriculum would be revised to include all parts of history, healthcare would remain a top priority for EVERY resident - meaning funding antiracism programs in healthcare facilities, and ensuring no child or parent ever worries about after school care of meals.

Improved credit rating, job creation, legacy of infrastructure, without user fees

In the right ways is essential. Make sure roads, schools, health, safety (including police), social services are funded but be really careful about bikelanes(make sure they are in the most travelled areas and separated by thin pylons or concrete I beams visible in snow and NOT with huge concrete curbs. Stadium should only be partially funded if the city gets a cut of the gate from all events.

Invest in more outreach programs like rehabilitation centres, mental health resources and women's health services. Allow for citizens to feel safe and protected when accessing these services by providing and funding proper training for volunteers and workers. Invest in public educational campaigns to inform the public and promote a more inclusive city environment.

Investing in c-train infrastructure, bike lanes and bike paths. Investing in affordable housing and inner-city densification

Investing in transit, affordable housing, public spaces to improve people's quality of life.

Investment and approval of projects to improve cycling and transit. Ensuring appropriate budget allocated to these projects.

It also demonstrates respect for taxpayers and stops the entitlement culture

It cuts costs in an amount commensurate with our budget problems. It acts today and does not push off problems until the next election has passed.

It keeps our public services public and not do something stupid such as privatize. That only saves city money but costs the citizens pay far more for worse services

It looks like a green light on green line, tax breaks for small business while still in or after the pandemic, using spaces we already have/ improving them for community enrichment instead of tearing down and starting new.

It looks like making changes based on the priorities of Calgarians. For example, reallocating the police budget into services that benefit communities and people, like housing, and mental health, and education. It means putting the city's money where it's mouth is. If the wellbeing of Calgarians is important, then nobody should be homeless, nobody should be beaten by police and abandoned in -30.

It looks like property taxes are kept flat or decrease year over year. It looks like council finds efficiencies and negotiates with unions wages based on market realities. It looks like pension reform so public sector costs are more inline with private costs. It looks like accountability to taxpayers every year not just in election years.

It means no increase/less tax for home owners/businesses.

It means our families can reduce stress and not worry about how to afford to feed our children healthy food. It means we can potentially have money to inject into the local economy through children's programs and small businesses and dining. It means the city can flourish and average citizens can LIVE instead of survive.

It means transparency and openly declaring to the public every piece of legislation that is being discussed with workers and the least fortunate at the table with quality representation.

It shows an alliance with City Administration
Keeping/not a significant increase in property taxes
Less red tape and overhead. We are management heavy
Listening to citizen's feedback about priorities so the value is inherit to the investment made
Lower cost of delivery fo services through enhanced efficiency
Lower property taxes and expenses to citizens
Lower spending and lower property taxes.
lower taxes
Lower taxes and Nenshi out of office.
Lower taxes, proper service delivery
Lowering property taxes.
Mindful of spending and citizens - taking care of our pocketbook as they would their own if they were overpaid yes-men.
Money is not spent hand over fist with little to no results. Public sector workers are way overpaid for the results we are getting.
Money is services that are required like recreation, housing, front line protective services and transportation
Money isn't wasted on pointless things like city art and police and fire have full funding.
Money well spend
More access and broader public transit. Making sure companies arent spewing carbon emissions at night after the cut off times. If you didn't notice, you haven't cared.
More meetings open to the public. More surveys such as this one (and made very public - campaigns to spread these so it's been easily accessible and the public knows about it). Anything that affects the public should BE public - body cam videos on cops, for example, should all always be uploaded to a publicly accessible site.
More parks and money for parks
More surveys like this for deciding what's in the public interest. Disclosure. Community Centered decision making
Move away from oil and gas and develop infrastructure to promote alternative energy businesses and technology to move our economy forward. Oil and gas is not the way anymore. Creating programs and bills to promote these new businesses and stop oil and gas from running everything would be what's expected.
Moving forward investing in environmentally sustainable practices to improve our footprint now and in the future as well as keep Calgary clean. It also means investing in art to promote a sense of community and vibrancy in the city. Art doesn't have to be seperate from infrastructure - we can put art on the sides of bridges besides roads such as the fish on Glenmore by Chinook Mall.
My council person needs to come back to us in their constituency and tell us word for word what's going on. Stop hiding behind covid and nenshi or anything else... the transparency needs to be crystal clear where our money is being spent and how they (the council person) is working for us in his riding!
My taxes do not increase
My taxes don't go up by 10% - please stop these ridiculous increases. Living in Calgary is getting more and more expensive!
My taxes go down. That's how I know the city is doing its job maintaining focus on our budget and spending.

My wallet does not get lighter
Nenshi stops talking or No Nenshi
No idea they have yet to do anything right.
No increase to taxes and practical projects, like road maintenance and police force prioritized over art and culture related events and projects.
No longer stepping in human excrement or fear used needles in parks
no more cops! :)
No tax increase. No salary increase. No one else is getting an increase this year.
No unnecessary spending
no useless pet projects and throwing money toward social causes. Focus on infrastructure and maintaining a clean, safe, city that moves efficiently.
Not approving projects that require much funding and only benefit few or are widely unpopular
Not purchasing more land for sprawl.
No entertainment/conference spending budget not until finances are better.
Thinking about first how the spending will effect citizens.
Not raising property taxes - maybe reducing them.
Not spending beyond our means and not raising taxes - business and individuals can't afford any further increases in taxes right now
Not to just talk but to do. Have a mini London tube type system that encourages people and youth in to the city again and update it.
Overall spending is maintained or reduced on a per capita basis. Capital spending on new non-transportation projects is reduced.
People actually speaking to teens and young adults. Maybe having a certain day dedicated to where young people have access to a public speaking platform to our cities leaders
Plans for 10 to 20 years from now to meet x target for public transportation or x target for upgrading public infrastructure to be more green. Act as leaders by living more sustainable lifestyles and changing their homes and offices to be more carbon neutral.
Police training *specifically* for understanding systemic racism Against indigenous peoples, but more importantly investing resources in social programs in indigenous communities (and under-privileged communities in general).
Prioritization of projects that get people around more easily and cheaply.
Prioritizing funding and initiating these services
Property tax reductions
Proposing and passing motions to make the projects happen. Continued support throughout to ensure a thorough and an efficient completion
Quit approving new communities we don't need. Cost of growth is unsustainable
Raise taxes and stop cutting vital services
Read the engagement reports and not ask for more consultation if you don't like what was heard
Reduce the spending as much as possible. Stop spending.Cut pay.
Reduced cost to taxpayers
Reducing city budget for policing with increased budget towards other services focused on harm reduction.
Reduction in pay across the whole of the city. Only 1 pension.

Reduction in spending. Not tax increases.
Responsive and accountable.
Safe city, less crime, more exotic presence.
Salaries will be less for council, pensions will be less for council and my taxes will stop increasing on a yearly basis. If you dont have the money then stop spending and make cuts up top.
Salary cuts, expense reductions
Same
Same answers as question 2
Same as above
Same as above
Same as above
Same as above.
Same as above.
Same as above. A coordinated, smart approach into leveraging investment now into future ROI through economic growth.
Same as above...
Same as answer 2
Same as number 2
Same as when city administration.
Same expectation. Long term thinking and doing things the right way. Setting us up for successes that are longer than a Council term
Same thing. Making a change that we know will make a POSITIVE difference. Decisions MUST make sense for the foreseeable future.
See above
See above.
Show citizens the numbers behind the decisions. Stop letting developers and the rich business men dictate what they want. Show citizens that their money is going to things that help the community overall, not just what developers and big businesses want to pad their profit margin
Similar or better services for similar or less dollars
Slightly lower taxes. Makes city more attractive to new companies and individuals. Council more responsible for needs rather than "dreams"
Smart investments in transportation and public services. Less spending on vanity and things that will only benefit private interests. Looking at you Calgary Flames.... they took advantage of city funds.
Social services + serves is for the people in need (homeless, poor, etc.) are met.
Spending is less and taxes are less.
Standing up to special interests. Consistency in budgeting and policy direction. Evidence-based decision making
Stop in fighting and focus on public good
Stop making decisions based on fear and vague notions of cost. Take advantage of low costs, invest at the community level, stop dumping money on megaprojects (arenas and event centres)
Stop taxing us like it's going good out of style

Stop trying to please everyone. Hard decisions need to be made to balance the budget. Some will suffer more than others but it needs to be done. So do it!
Supporting projects that improve the livability of the city, not the drive-ability.
Taxes remain flat or go down. Staff takes a pay cut like the rest of the city has had to and ridiculous pensions are stopped.
Temporarily cut non-essentials like arts and culture. Communicate a plan to revitalize these areas when the economy improves.
That the council aggregates represented populations concerns and makes a long-term committed approach to solving our challenges vs. quick fixes or short-sighted outcomes.
That the politicians get out of the way and allow the city to make the right investments. And relieved that council stops wasting time by going around in circles
That they are responsible in direction of spending and keeping expectations realistic as to how the average family would be spending in the current financial times. Not spending on "wants" when we can't afford it. It's no different that you would budget at home. When you don't have the cash you don't just keep spending and asking for someone else to pay.
That they support or ask the hard questions of Administration as representatives of the taxpayers as their spokesman
That you finally did your job. People voted for you to speak up and take care of them. Fight for us.
The City Council will consult with current and emerging tech leaders on how to attract talent and companies to the city (i.e. by encouraging them to take up space in vacant downtown buildings)
The city must listen to citizens and take action accordingly; be willing and able to acknowledge mistakes and correct course - and be open about it - even if that means dramatic shifts in thinking and budget allocations.
The public has voted in some way on how to use their money, therefore they are more inclined to participate and support City Council in the future.
They actually support what citizens ask for when we provide feedback on city surveys. Why do these surveys if you don't support what citizens are saying? Why cut 311 I can't get through anymore
They are bringing needed projects to the table.
they are working "for" the citizens of Calgary
They don't just spend money wherever they want. They actually care about the budget. Lower property tax while lowering spending.
They hear and heed the needs of fire, police and health. They stop cutting essential services! Spending on arenas and bus lanes?! Over city safety NO. It's not a luxury it's a NEED. They deal with & experience trauma. Their work day involves seeing people who are experiencing the worst day of their life. What other city job has consequences as dire-PTSD, shortened life expectancy, health problem
They look amazing if they meet this.
They make sure the administration doesn't make over spend and keep them on budget
They never will
Transparency, clear objectives, and removal of some processes from political interference. Far too often arbitrary rules get enforced or not and that cause people to distrust council. Additionally it makes it very hard for both communities, but also businesses to plan for their futures. And the economic downturn is not an excuse. These are long-term investments in commerce and communities
Understanding that voting in favour of infrastructure spending during an economic downturn is a good way to get Calgarians working and encourage the economy

Uphold Council policies about safety on streets: Safer Mobility Plan, Pedestrian Strategy, Cycling Strategy. Uphold policies like CTP about limiting suburban development.
Upkeep and management of existing and aging communities and infrastructure are prioritized over building new investments.
Use our tax dollars for what they are meant for. At least do maintenance once in the spring and once in the fall. This is a total safety hazard, is damaging pour vehicles, and driving away customers. This is Pacific Rd NE. Please look up the road complaints and maintenance history.
Vote to decrease the Calgary police services budget and put that money towards raising up communities in other ways like better social services
Voting with the well-being of citizens in mind, rather than corporations or wealthy donors. Understanding that decisions may be unpopular at times, but taking leadership nonetheless.
We don't have huge tax increases year over year. And we don't get smoke blown at us telling us that we haven't had huge tax increases year over year when anyone who can do math can tell you that's not true.
We like to benchmark as the best city but so far the cost of property tax has been left to balloon too high.
We see reasonable expense reports and balanced budgets. The snow gets removed efficiently without bashing up curbs. Parks are mowed and weeds and dead trees are removed.
We will continue to see Calgary thrive in its ability to support Calgarians at risk by keeping charities and non-profits running and doing so effectively. In addition, removing decreasing transit fees and not criminalizing individuals who are unable to pay for a ticket.
Well designed communities, ease of transportation, facilities in the north central part of town not jut the south all the time
What this looks like is less spending on items we don't need new vehicles raises that should of not happened. Raising taxes to try and cover over spending.
When bylaws are created and there is clarity and once something is decided to stand up together in support of the decisions made instead of the immaturity being shown among the councilors even after decisions are made.
When city administration engages citizens in conversations about the future the city becomes a place where all feel safe to progress as community and where none feel unwelcome and silenced by those in power.
When City Council is able to look ahead to the value of projects like the Green Line that connects our citizens.
When honesty and humility are values that city leaders exude.
When police brutality is stamped out, without mercy. Systemic racism is thoroughly and utterly removed from government systems. When there is no longer any use for police forces.
When the City meets this expectations it would be easier for people to get around, this will benefit businesses, reduce trafic on main road and pollution. Having more trains running will facilitate distancing and help deal with the Covid19 situation.
When there are more medics working on ambulances in the city and less being displaced to the oil feilds because of lack of in city jobs
You stop bickering, show leadership and think about the community not your political or individual bent. I'm so tired of hearing comments like I heard through the mask debate that people need less government control. Council members have forgotten the role of government - it is to represent ALL voices and do what's best for ALL, not the individual.
20% cat cut

a leader you can trust and you know where they stand
approving new projects, and maintaining transparency in the approval process. engaging with all members of the community to access their needs for the future. proposing new infrastructure projects to Calgary.
Awesome
Being advocates and publicly and vocally supporting public services. Also, reflecting what new services or adjustments to existing ones need to happen based on public need.
Calgarians should be able to take transit and not have it take forever. 15 minutes by car is often 90 minutes by transit.
Cautionary front line cuts; explore other ways to save money than lay-offs/jobs being loss.
City Council uses the tools of sovereign debt management; advocates for greater financial autonomy from the provincial government, and takes a progressive stance on green infrastructure investment: transitioning from fossil fuels, spending on public transit, etc.
City councilors put quality of life for all Calgarians over lower taxes as a priority.
Council are a bunch of incompetent bureaucratic clowns that fight for themselves and their self-interest as opposed to the public good.
Council members working together to implement changes and meet the needs of Calgarians. Having a diverse group of representatives working together to address concerns brought up by citizens.
Council stops grandstanding over pennies.
cut spending in these departments
cut the budget, reduce taxes, cap spending. Cut the gravy train perks
Decisions are made in a timely manner without interfering egos, projects are logical and completed within budget, problems are taken care of swiftly without hidden agendas, counselors are diversified and we can certainly use some changes (ie. Should be a cap on years to serve) with respect to those who have spent several years on council who are unable to change with the times
Definitely, council will gain our trust. However, having the city being one of the top 50 employers is making us feel that the council live in a different world that's its citizens. Councilors salaries need to be cut, salaries of city employees need to be revisited. 1
Did not meet this expectation.
Discuss and debate during council meetings, engage the public, make decisions and take action in a timely matter.
good
I am not sure they ever have
I don't know what it looks like, I have yet to see the city meet these expectations. Stop spending money would be a good start.
I feel it shows responsibility and an understanding that there have to be some limitations. Money doesn't grow on trees it comes out of tax payers pockets.
I honestly do not know the difference in power/responsibility between our city administration and council so same as above I suppose.
If the City announces surge a program like this, there will be an immediate surge in building permits for backyard suites. Permitting should be streamlined. This program could result in hundreds or even thousands of rental suites constructed within the first year.
In conjunction with administration, locate areas where tax dollars are not being used to their fullest value. Cut back on waste, trim budgets, cut overstaffing. Avoid raising taxes.

Invest in citizen led projects, and support vulnerable people in our city to have a voice in things that matter to them. Invest in affordable housing and poverty reduction.
Investments in services, streets and public transport
It looks like coordinated, tri-lateral decision making between citizens, council and administration.
It looks like we actually use tax payers money for essentials services and improve safety of ALL Calgarians.
It means value for taxpayer's money, and ultimately some saving so that we can reduce things like property tax.
It should look like property taxes tied to inflation.
It will look like a very different council with most of the present Councillors gone from office and new Councillors not having multiple pensions.
It's difficult to picture, the idea of council focusing on responsible spending and budgetary discipline seems improbable and fantastical, I would need a child's imagination. Maybe two Councillors are at all interested in delving into the city's expenses with a critical eye, and the rest of Council treats them like pariahs or, ironically, irresponsible.
Just because the federal government is giving out money to do these dumb upgrades does not mean you should push through upgrades that were never needed.
Lead by example, fiscally responsible.
Less grandstanding and voting for a budget that makes meaningful changes to address improving the quality of life in Calgary and not funding interchanges.
Lol, council won't do it.
Mandate the Administration to carry out it's core functions without requiring tax increases in excess of inflation. Also a squash on "vanity projects" for Councillors etc - such as the "Peace Bridge" for former mayor Bronconnier & Councillor Farrell, and not spending on projects designed to spite or punish neighborhoods - such as the unwanted SW BRT lanes on 14 street SW
Mayor and councilors do not get raises. Their offices have implemented efficiencies for cost savings as well
My property taxes and user fees stop going up while providing the same service.
No arguing or putting each other down in the public eye, no problems with expense claims, acting like the leaders we expect you to be
No closed doors or behind camera meeting. All information including votes documented and easily accessible
Not bringing 14 new communities online. Stop \$4000 personal promo pieces from Farkus and stop the extra committees, audits, studies and \$\$\$ extras that Farkus instigates. Take a hard look at employees SAVE suggestions. The City is top-heavy, cut contracting (which dept contracts out the most-Planning), cut CSC liaisons, there is lots to do, so far council asks for feedback but doesn't use it.
Not spending outrageous amounts of money that only a fraction of the population will use. If it's not good for everyone, it's good for no one.
Only once the residents agree on the funding decisions and the changes up for discussion will anything be implemented.
People and counselors understand why the projects are needed and how they will be funded. The elimination of excessive influence by developers on the approval, design and feeling of new communities (over focus on density without sufficient focus on the design of the buildings and the integration into existing communities.

Prioritization of programs, initiatives, etc. and ensuring citizen's needs are met based on their input, as well as their experiences
Prioritizing the voices of QTBIPOC folks who expressing their lives experiences & asking for more thoughtful & equitable distribution of funds towards social services like affordable housing/services for addiction&homelessness/library/education/childcare/mental health/etc RATHER than policing which only contributes to inequity/oppression for vulnerable/racialized calgarians.
Property taxes are not increased.
provide infrastructure (paths (bike and walk), transit, and reduce road bottlenecks, improve road maintenance) that is functional, not extravagant, and uses small affordable changes to make large improvements, and does not get bogged down within council- contracted out to keep costs affordable too
Recognize that COVID-19 and the economic crisis have shifted Calgarians' priorities, hopes and fears for the future. Council needs to listen to their constituents, recognize that things are different now, and shift their decision-making principles. Calgary is on a tipping point, with the opportunity to tip into a bright innovative future or to careen backwards into a failed past.
Reducing planned spending. Making difficult decisions to cut budgets, cut pay and reduce workforce.
Reduction in budgets and taxes
Same answer as #2. As well you can only slice one pie so many ways, you can only slice one taxpayer so many ways.
Set targets for cost reduction and do away with zero-based budgeting, reform compensation and benefit structure, commitment and leadership from council members and the Mayor for cost reductions and reductions to the level of services.
Surveys
That Calgary Transit service be improved in areas where the service has been cut-back, restricted or removed that has created hardships for its users, especially low-income users and disabled users.
That city councilors who file phony expense claims are kicked out of office.
The City is an attractive place for new talent and leads to future growth and prosperity.
The City overseas and manages services efficiently and effectively. Citizens know they can rely on services to be of high quality and for them to be available when needed. Important services include parks and pathways, libraries, roads, public transit, waste management, emergency services etc. There should continue to be transparency concerning how money is spent and how contracts are awarded.
The council should be accountable to the city who elected them. There is no transparency with much, and they pass the blame when someone makes a financial blunder.
they actually meet policy direction - pedestrian strategy focus more on what can reasonably be accomplished in the next 5 - 10 years and much less on the detail future planning for the next 40 -
They lead by example and do not take raises during a pandemic or economic downturn. They do not spend money on art when the roads are filled with potholes
They listen to citizens before deciding anything that affects citizens' lives.
They listen to city admin who are experts in this field
They listen to the people and don't just make decisions on their wants and desires
They probably have been voted out. No confidence in this council.
They set vision and direction and listen to experts, not politics
They take a public vote on mega projects and actually listen to the feedback they get. They seem to be making a lot of unilateral decisions (on a lot of things) over the last couple years. They are running their

own agendas and disregard anyone else's. City council needs to care more about the pulse of the people around them, not just the yes-men.
They vote in ways that increase the public good, rather than always to reduce spending
This council is incapable of meeting citizen expectations. They just refer things for studies as a CYA strategy.
Traffic will flow better on 17th Avenue SE instead of turning into another 36th Avenue where it takes 30 mins to go 10 blocks.
We do not build unnecessary projects like the Green Line at the expense of putting out city in financial distress and potential bankruptcy down the road.
When city council meets this expectation, nobody gets left behind to deal with complicated loopholes in an already difficult situation. We discuss and come up with effective economic and social programming that sustains Calgarians, even in the worst of circumstances.
When engaging with communities and looking for feedback, it is important to be collecting input from samples that match the diversity in the population. Also, talking with subject experts as they can give further insight on topic. If there is a large disconnect between the thoughts of the experts and regular citizens, it should be addressed and clarified if it is due to misinformation.
When the leadership stops endorsing expensive pet projects.
When they hold administration accountable for city spending. When they stop using the cop out that the only way to save money is to cut essential services like police and fire fighting. The mayor right out lied about the tax increase for 2020! Do the right thing and stop the self serving politics and excuses!
Not voting to cut essential services while spending tax payers money eating out and drinking wit their friends (Magliocca)
I'm confused this is the same question as number 2.
Not impressed with the function / disfunction of Council. Disgusted by the inappropriate spending by Councillor Magliocca.
More excessive transportation city-wide (north LRT line?)
Police officers and firefighters need to be able to perform their jobs safely and with adequate staff. If the departments are too "top heavy" then address that specifically. But cutting frontline members is creating unnecessary risk.
It means that are doing their jobs well and listening to what Calgarians want and spending tax dollars wisely.
City Council has not met this expectation. There are certain Council members (Committee chairs) who run meetings with their minds closed and barely suppress their disdain while "allowing" the public to speak. Other Councillors only listen to their constituents who agree with their position.
I really don't recall much about City Council meeting any expectations.
It's 2020 and the City has wasted so much time on the Olympics bid the majority didn't want, when you should have been (citizens were asking you, begging to focus on the economy) and here we are. Lack of transparency, spending discipline, meaningful engagement, all the while repeatedly admin pats itself on the back publicly 'what a great job you all are doing'. No, you have a lot of work to do.
Leaving essential services alone, and concentrating on the many layers of management. Without an outside consultant to figure it out.
See above. Stop having secret meetings and giving yourself raises. Stop hiding tax increases in fees. Stop approving transit projects that do not provide value. Stop talking about useless, unenforceable firearm bans that criminals will only ignore, that will waste police resources and will penalize and criminalize only the lawful citizens that pose no threat to the public.

More accountability regarding spending. Do the Calgary Flames really need a new arena at the tax payers expense? Most of us can't afford to go to any of the venues anyway...
Same answer, but with additional feedback: I don't know. You just hope they're at least listening and taking the in-put and feedback into consideration, although it appears too often that they're not listening at all and are too busy arguing with each other and pushing their own political agendas. (The current city council is appallingly bad and far too divisive and unfocused.)
Do less with less.
more trust in Council
Savings on management salaries, less taxpayer funded pension plans.
Feel Proud that we select good Candidate
Lead by example. Continual cuts to important city services all while maintaining the salaries going to the pockets of City Council is not leading by example. Instead of asking your frontline workers in emergency services to take another budget cut council needs to take a pay cut. Stop wasting money. \$275mil to arena, and then cuts to services? Keep our emergency services running instead.
Council members are partners with Administration in providing messages about value for service, not merely about cost cutting. They do not disparage Administration for being inefficient constantly.
Stops approving contradictory things such as sprawl communities that even the experts recommend against (as it increases taxes and problems from traffic, reducing freedom to live and travel the way people want).
It would look like a reduced budget (reduced property taxes) for the same or better services delivered.
We do our best to ensure Calgarians are included and can help contribute to society either by volunteering, connecting with others and working. We are true citizens, we are safely housed, we feel safe to go out at night no matter where we live in the City. We can drink the water out of the tap.
Council focuses and acts on priorities identified by the majority of the public. Council and city employees are accountable to Calgarians of ALL age groups.
Council members stop threatening citizens with less fire/police service when you know darn well there is money to be saved by reducing pet projects, outsourcing, and developing a smarter/leaner workforce.
As above.
It looks like Mayor Nenshi.
Telling the truth is the most important thing. I like how he does not lie just to make people like him.
It would also be great if you could help the CBE get out of there terrible lease that is costing our children money that we don't need to waste.
Reduce taxes. Eliminate unnecessary jobs. Help the struggling citizen save some money for groceries for their families. If we don't NEED it don't buy it.
Property taxes are not raised for a number of years
Commitment
see above for details
Reducing the number of pensions City Council have
As above and for once reduce the unnecessary growth in city bureaucracy and deal with the every growing union wages
Operations undertaken within reason. Meaningful, not fanciful projects. Councillors are doing what they were elected for, including challenging the mayor and each other to keep Calgary balanced.

cutting the fire departments budget, less bureaucracy
Following the direction of the constituents that voted them into office, and not implementing their own personel agenda.
City Council should really listen to its constituents and make investment decisions based on what Calgarians need rather than want.
Acknowledge the current conversation about race, police violence, and inequality in our city - this means ongoing public engagement, followed by action. Put forward bold policy and initiatives in alignment with the Climate Resilience Strategy - this strategy is bold and is something to be proud of but our actions as a city need to align with what we say we value, which for me is climate action.
They bring down costs and lower taxes.
They provide easy to access open source documentation of how they have streamlined and cut back on administrative spending.
1) Staying "above board" on all aspects. None of the shady "expenses" used by one Councillor in particular. 2) I've watched council meetings now and then for years. Last year I noticed a lot more negative behaviour/attitudes among Councillors towards each other, sometimes even from the mayor. There's such thing as constructive criticism and valid arguments, but what I witnessed was not that.
like they care about quality of life for the people of calgary
It prioritizes services and infrastructure that puts the health and well-being of individuals first. It is choosing to embrace projects that are environmentally conscious, sustainable and equitable.
Council ensures that their decisions will reflect a City that has first rate services and supports and provides for a healthy, active and safe life style for ALL Calgarians
Ther Privatizing many of the services including the fire department and getting rid of their uunion. They have no work to do other than shopping, cooking, working out and sleeping on the taxpayers dime. However they sang Happy Birthday to seven thousand kids this spring. City Council should pay for gross art projects such as the one at COP out of their own salaries.
Our police and fire departments are funded so that they are meeting expectations for a city of well over one million citizens with excellence in service to the people.
I do not see tax increases every year
They stop their own excessive spending habits and find as many ways as possible to save money and eliminate vanity projects
We need to ensure that we are funding our social services more now than ever. Everything from low income housing, to mental health support to subsidies for low income calgarians.
Critical thinking is exhibited in the information shared with the public, engagement is utilized, transparent and clear communication about reasons, budget, timeline, and being open to feedback.
Same as comment about City Administration.
Our city is a better oiled machine with transit and roads that are efficient and emergency services that help everyone in the Calgary area
Good Question. When does Council plan to meet our expectations? Most council members and the Mayor should quit and leave the province. You know who you are.
Citizens are more satisfied with outcomes than they would have been had they not had a say in where our tax dollars go. Also the city will quit taking from the poor and giving to the rich which is what they are doing now by increasing citizens' tax rates and cutting big business tax rates.
Council actually considers ALL Calgarians, not just the ones with money.
No big financial surprises, with a bit of the budget set aside to deal with the potential for social hardship is there is another wave of Covid and lockdowns.

<p>Council recognizes the importance of adequate services in making our city a good place to live. It means better public transit (congratulations on the Green Line!), and it means seriously prioritizing affordable housing and groups like Alpha House and DOAP team.</p>

City Services verbatim

Questions asked

The City provides a wide range of services, from the Aquatics and Fitness Calgarians enjoy, to essential services like Water Treatment & Supply and Public Transit. [This page](#) offers detailed information on all of the services that The City provides.

These questions were asked three (3) times.

- Which City service would you like to provide feedback on?
- What should we know about this service?

Tell us things like why this service is important to you, how it impacts your life, or your ideas about this service.

Affordable housing

<p>I was 33 with a Psychology degree and embarked on an MA. I contracted Lyme Disease. Not only is the understanding and information terrible and out of date but the struggle for support is very real. Even the UKs low amount to live on is supported by home care or affordable homes in nicer areas of safety. People are afflicted not lazy.</p>

<p>Everyone deserves a roof over their head. The City has numerous buildings that could be renovated. We have a lack of seniors living complexes, veterans, homeless, very low income families, need apartments. Decommissioned schools, could be seniors living spaces with rec facilities. The City with associated contractors should take advantage of these buildings and other buildings in the city to create affordable housing with rec areas, libraries, leased areas for stores, personal grooming, banks.</p>

<p>It's not the cities job to build housing.</p>

<p>In a city that has seen the amount of wealth that Calgary has there is no need to have single calgarian without a home. Affordable housing needs to increase in our city and been given the priority that council would feel if they themselves didn't not have housing! To End homelessness all must be given the opportunity to have an affordable place to call home.</p>

<p>People are constantly taking advantage of these type of services. I know form my experience through my own career. Taxes continue to increase and a lot of low income people continue to abuse the system on the working classes dime.</p>

<p>Affordable housing is very important, especially in the middle of a financial crisis and global pandemic, if the city doesnt do a better job of regulating market prices, homeless shelters will be overrun with even more people living on the street</p>

<p>Housing should be a right. It is also cheaper for the tax payers then homeless.</p>

<p>We I need to make a bigger investments in affordable housing.</p>

<p>It is an important initiative to end homelessness and should continue to be funded.</p>

During the Covid-19 pandemic Calgary was able to house hundreds of homeless people and provide them with essentials, why is this not always the mission? Further, low income households struggle on a month to month basis given current rent prices.
Thé city is in dire need of affordable housing units
It is more important now to support our citizens to find affordable housing due to the increase of unemployment in Calgary
We are judged by how we treat the most vulnerable. Let's treat them well and get them back on their feet with a secure place to live, a foundation that they can build on and that costs taxpayers less in the long run.
There are no where near enough affordable housing options available for Calgarians, and the cuts to these services in 2019 were incredibly demoralizing to those of us supporting Calgary's homeless population. We can do better at shelter residents from Calgary's deadly winters.
We desperately need more affordable housing too, especially for families who have experienced hardship.
To have less people homeless.
Affordable housing is lacking across the city and the quality of those spaces is poor. I have personally met dozens of citizens who live in Calgary Housing, and their living conditions are abysmal, and their request for support from Calgary Housing is unreasonably delayed and insufficient.
Up till last year the managing director always put on a 'lunch' for recipients of this program. This was a monumental waste of \$\$\$\$. Employees had to hide the messaging around this lunch in order to not attract media attention as they knew it'd be a liability to The City.
I have known many people who have been homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Affordable housing is key to people with limited income to get out of poverty. Providing stable housing and necessary supports allows them to address the challenges in their lives and have a safe and comfortable home.
The ability for people to have dignity in their lives, and the lives of their children. This should be with a support system in place for those people such as social workers.
The long wait lists for subsidized housing concerns me. It impacts my life since I am a landlord who meets potential tenants who ask for discounted rent. I feel sorry for them, since a few of them are single parents.
Increased access to affordable housing
In 2020, there should be no people living on the streets. I believe tiny and small homes can be the solution. We don't need 4b 2 car garage homes, we need attractive affordable tiny homes for individuals and couples. (Also less calls for police when people are housed well, not freezing on the street
Due to cost of living many seniors need affordable housing, as do the lower paid. These should not always be apartments. Townhouses might be a better solution as they then lead to building a community
DEFUND [removed] POLICE SO WE CAN AFFORD TO PUT MORE PEOPLE PUT OF THE STREETS.
There needs to be more affordable housing for Calgarians and in locations with access to transit, grocery stores, etc.
Calgary is shrinking due to your ridiculous policies. No need for affordable housing when so many houses are empty.
Find partnerships to reduce spending of public funds
The City of Calgary should adopt a housing first initiative in addition to the housing programs they offer.
Doesn't seem to be available or any kind of priority

This service is only going to increase in importance given the economic crisis in Calgary. Calgary should aim to have all of its citizens safely housed.
As a plus 60 year old and disabled, there are little or no options for low income/fixed income and disabled housing for people like me.
More funding needed for this across the city, this should take priority over Police services. When folks have access to affordable homes/living wage employment there is less crime/need for police. All calgarians deserve to live with dignity in their own homes, no one should be homeless in this city.
we NEED more affordable housing. There are so many houseless people and so many empty office buildings. Get creative and invest in turning those buildings into housing. Stop building ugly suburbs.
Expand it into more affluent neighborhoods.
Rent should be monitored and regulated by the government to make it affordable for all, especially those with a minimum wage full time job. Subsidized housing should be eventually an un needed commodity if you regulate rent.
Building more housing similar to the Veterans Village would be great. Some could be a bit larger for families. Safety, affordability and hope are more important than building less dwelling that are larger and roomier.
Affordable housing is important for individuals and families that have unexpected emergencies or are unable to make a higher income. People shouldn't have to struggle to afford rent. Affordable housing could increase money spent at businesses. Take money from police funding as citizens want!
Affordable housing, what little there is, is most often located or built in communities with higher rates of crime, fewer "niceties", with lower quality materials and finishes and higher densities. It ghetto-izes and stigmatized people even more.
Housing is the most important determinant of health. This must remain a priority for spending.
Calgary needs more affordable housing. A single person can better afford a mortgage on a small condo apartment than afford a rental apartment in this city.
Calagary was named again as one of the most livable cities in the world. Without enough of affordable housing for every individual this title can only serve as a decoration at the City Hall entrance.
Providing people the basic need of a home is paramount to a safe and prosperous city.
I want a council and administration that makes affordable housing for all people in this city a top priority. This is a basic human right that all people deserve.
Stop giving money to groups like the Calgary Homeless Foundation. You are only subsidizing real estate developers. Homelessness will not be solved 24 new units at a time. They money you gave the foundation could have bought so many homes
There is far too little affordable accommodation in this and every other city for that matter. Profiteers and slumlords abound, how bout letting our tax \$ go to very poor people to help them help themselves.
Consider selling off some affordable housing sites to external non-profits
Too many rooming/boarding/halfway houses in residential areas like in the north east. There are all sorts of renovations and changes made to the inside of the houses and when police and emergency services respond to these house, it make every situation very dangerous.

Appeals and tribunals

little to no information on this process with complicated appeal process

Arts & culture

Art is the lifeblood of humanity. It's a shame The City has to let go of it's governance.
Don't waste money on arts right now. Times are tough.
We should be spending less on stupid art and asking locals to create the art instead of paying others no one knows of to do it
More concerts
Art is what makes calgary and amazing place to live - having a strong arts and culture scene attracts business and individuals that help our economy grow and make our city vibrant!
Please invest in the arts. The city is bleak and meaningless without it.
Funding for this should be slashed
[removed] the sculpture budget if you're not going to hire/buy from Canadian artists. Indigenous content creators.
I appreciate that this is a focus in the city and I'd love to see it continue to be a focus and develop. Supporting festivals and local artists is great. Please continue to support local artists when large projects are done.
Sorry, why is transportation not on this list? Mural art in key areas is appreciated.
Far too much emphasis by government. Private individuals/corporations should be primary supporters. If government encouraged success in business, citizens will support culture that THEY want.
These programs should have reduced priority given economic conditions in the city
Temporarily cut budget, but make a plan to revitalize when the economy improves.
Cut cut cut. Now is not the time to waste money on this
I feel that public art is crucial to building a city that is liveable, enjoyable, and attracts tourism. I am deeply distressed that this is being turned over to a private organization. (Continued)
Stop wasting our money on art. I can barely put food on my table for my children and my taxes go towards this!?
Ask for our input before spending money on art that only a small percentage of Calgarians will see (i.e. the blue ring is never seen by people unless they're driving to Edmonton/the airport/Cross Iron)
At times like this where we are experiencing a recession and need to cut spending, city services should be limited to only the essential. If the people have a demand for the Arts, that can be demonstrated by a willingness to personally pay.
Arts and culture are not a necessity right now. Our budget is bloated, tax revenue is down due to businesses being driven out due to high taxes. A household doesn't go buy a new flat screen television when they are struggling to make mortgage payments, the city needs the same mentality.
This is a waste of money
City should cut funding completely. If some funding is maintained it should only go to city/province based businesses.
Why are the new bus shelters so elaborate? Custom formed stainless steel columns and beams, custom cut glass, architectural wood features, glass doors. They must cost us 5 times what a simple functional shelter would, and how much more to repair. What are you people thinking?
This impacts my life negatively as I never see the art but my taxes keep rising to pay for it. This spending needs to stop until Albert a is back on its feet.
While not a nessesity, the arts in the city do make the community tighter. I'd like to see local artists given more opportunity on a city scale.
In tough times cut this.

Enough with the art program, especially when the building is a work of art, such as the new public library. While art is important, the \$\$ seems excessive. Local artists should be preferred.
More please
I work in the industry
Public art enhances our city and brings it in to the modern era.
I love all things art and culture in this city. Instead of investing in public art sculptures invest in ways of educating, gathering and bringing community together.
We need to pay more artists and provide studio space
The city should continue to invest in and support arts and cultures through public art, affordable art programs to continue to make Calgary a world-class city to live and play. The investments in public art like Peace Bridge, Wonderland and the central library have put Calgary on the global map
I'm still really confused why we outsourced our arts budget on the blue ring (which you can only see if you drive a car in a specific place) and the roadside art by C.O.P. Keep that budget local and impactful.
I think it's wonderful that there are so many murals around Calgary, and it has been invaluable to developing and showcasing our city's incredible and diverse cultural landscapes (and artistic talent!) More art, please! :)
We could definitely spend taxpayers dollars on something much more important than Arts right now
It is a luxury that Calgary can no longer afford
Rather than hiding behind a private company, our public officials should be educating and encouraging community discussion and even participation in public art.
Arts and culture will need help after covid, but public input is needed. Plays, some beautification is needed but not huge and expensive sculptural installations.
Ironically I would not pick this in other years as a key service, but 2020 has been brutal yet this is where we should turn to for healing. Please continue to support the arts and culture groups to assist them to see innovative ways to continue their services with difficult financial times.
Too much money goes into this budget. It should be significantly cut.
Too much is being spent on these kind of things that aren't necessarily needed at the moment
Cancel needless and wasteful spending on arts projects
It really needs to be worked on. I believe that the schooling board and colleges and universities should really influence on these topics and really learn and push into it.
Stop it until the Covid situation is over!!
Hire local emerging artists to fulfill Arts & Culture needs. Do not implement the blanket mandatory 1% arts fund to beautify projects.
Art is a 'want' not a 'need' Budgeting 101 would indicate too much is put into art and the amount spent on 1 specific item is outrageous. Smaller projects with local artists ONLY would be acceptable Spread out the dollars
I think providing good opportunities for all calgarians to enjoy quality arts and culture helps to level the playing field while building strong communities where all types of people can come together.
Public art is an astronomical waste of money
STOP THE SPENDING. FOCUS ON ESSENTIALS. NO MORE WASTING OUR MONEY
Instead of art work that very few enjoy, could it not be used in functional art? Eg, a beautifully designed beach along the river with an artistic playground beside it.
Should only spend money on art for around the city when there is extra in the budget and should be at least Canadian artists not foreign artists

I love seeing all the murals downtown. I wonder if there is a way to archive old murals in the city that way people aren't so upset when they are re-painted. It would be nice to have more events that incorporate indigenous culture to honour our commitment to truth, healing and reconciliation.
Being able to take advantage of cultural activities is one of the best things about living in this city. It enhances my life and provides great social opportunities. We need accessible, affordable cultural institutions and investment in the NMC, the Glenbow, and performing arts is critical.
Arts should be put on hold until our local economy is stable again
You can do better. Art is subjective, but it seems to me there is a lot of waste here.
Spending needed funds on art (one person's interpretation) is irresponsible. Who looks after prioritization for spending. It seems to be a dart board approach.
Complete waste of taxpayer money
We don't need to spend \$120k on a Marxism mural. We don't need to spend hundreds of thousands on any public art. This type of spending should be the first thing cut.
Continue to fund public art as it is an important piece of being a world class city.
Nobody moves to Calgary to enjoy driving. The roads are amazing, but people come here for the vibrant multicultural opportunities to enjoy after work. And the mountains, but mostly local art and events.
Stop commissioning bad art. Sure art is objective but let's try not to push that. No more rusted artwork, no more weird light posts. Just weird. And does not improve the look of the city. Art should be decided by someone that has better taste.
Stop wasting money on ugly and distracting public art installments. I say this as someone who supports the arts and believes art and culture are important. But times are bad and art and culture should be put on the back burner for now.
We need to focus on needs not wants.
Not a necessary service. Individual groups should provide their own fundraising. This area affects a very minimum of the population sector.
Arts program for youth is super important. It would also be wonderful to see an indigenous lead arts center. Or indigenous lead art galleries. Or indigenous lead dance spaces.
Neither hold much importance in these Covid times and won't any time soon. Both have lifelong impact but it's no longer something city should be funding — just regulating what and where. Spending on arts and culture municipally is frivolous.
This city service's yearly budget should be reduced by one-third, and the savings redistributed to the Police, Fire and Transit annual budgets.
No more spending on public art please.
Beautifying our City is important, but it must be done right. Too much controversy has occurred in the past. Change, if needed, rules to ensure local artists are used. Focus on murals and simple ways to make our spaces nicer without huge costs for infrastructure and construction.
The city needs to reduce spending in this area as we need to focus on the essential things during this challenging time
When a city is in crisis that is one area that should completely stop. If you don't have money to pay the bills you can't spend money on the fun stuff.
The Glenbow has great potential to be a tourist attraction but it is in need of an upgrade. Invest in more new art, and renovating the space.
We really don't have money for this and shouldn't be spending to spend.
this is your first point of cuts. Period. Pull in and weather the economic downturn with essential services only. Art will come later

In the midst of a pandemic and economic downturn, we shouldn't be wasting money on art at this time
I don't feel this is the place to be spending money right now
Why is the City supporting the Glenbow (who happens to have a Nenshi friend / supporter on the Board) as an art gallery, when they seemed to drag their feet on Contemporary Calgary as the City's art gallery, and now will have two art galleries with city funding?
Public art has turned into a well-intentioned mess. Hit pause.
citizens of Calgary should be used, and citizens should decide not council.
I believe that a vibrant Arts and Culture scene in a city is important. However, these times are very difficult and public art is, in my opinion, not something that should be high on the list of priorities for expenditures. Other areas need to maintain or increase their budget for the safety of all.
We must continue to invest in our arts and culture. This are such important parts of the wellbeing of all Calgarians.
No need for art when people don't have jobs and I can't even get through. Cut this budget please
There is no reason that local artists shouldn't be featured in Calgary. Having said that we can live without art so the money can be used for the fire department response times.
The City needs to (yesterday) decouple itself from the influence and conflict of interest being too close to the Stampede Officials (and the things that go along with that, such as where the Greenline runs to (right by Stampede), what gets pushed through and funded (the Arena, BMO Centre, etc.).
This is a service that does not provide enough value to the majority of Calgarians. It is a "nice to have" that should be sponsored by corporations. Public art should definitely not be paid for using taxpayers dollars.
More indigenous representation.
Less public art and much less Black lives matters public art. We don't need an American hate group putting up pictures on our walls. Divisive American hate groups are bad and should not be receiving public money in my city.
I love art but spending money on this at this juncture is crazy. Open the museums for example to people for free. Many people cannot afford any arts or culture, it should be available to rich and poor alike.

Building safety

What are we going to do to retrofit our existing buildings with new ventilation systems given what we know about the aerosolization of the COVID-19 virus in enclosed spaces?
I am a tradesperson who specializes in HVAC service. During the down turn of the economy I have seen many businesses stop maintaining their equipment and adding extra risk to ordinary citizens to save money. There needs to be more accountability for building owners and operators.
I have built in 8 municipalities and Calgary is the only one with multiple inspectors for each project. HVAC, Plumbing, Framing and development should be 1 inspector not 4. I have never seen a more inefficient approach.
I am a building consultant and I would like to see more city involvement for building safety requirements and energy efficiency for not only city owned buildings but all buildings in Calgary and have requirements for inspections and upgrades.

Business Licencing

It is important not to put added hurdles for businesses right now.

business licensing and taxation. I have friends that make substantially more than my company and pay nothing in taxes because they run their businesses from their home vs my bricks and mortar business. The fact that the city has done nothing about this speaks to their ineptitude.

Go digital. Getting a small permit at city hall is so frustrating. All of the paper that gets pushed from one desk to another is embarrassing & slow. You could do it all on one digital form. Eliminate workforce to find savings.

Bylaw

We could reduce tuitions in our schooling

I just moved here and recently realized when my neighbors got a bylaw compliance warning that I was violating at least ten different bylaws. I think I could catch most of my neighbors in a violation at any time if I wanted to. I appreciate that my neighbors (also new here) only got a warning.

Being able to call 311 helps keep our community safe and enjoyable to live in. It would be better if the turn around time wasn't so long. I have called a few times about the state of school property this summer and was told that it could take 10 days for bylaw to come by.

- bylaws: too long to respond
- noise bylaw: hard to get help on this. No response, or too long. Can't come when it's an issue (even police in the middle of the night takes hours). Need lower ticketable levels & respect of noise actually needs to be enforced.
- example: mand masks: write tickets

Bylaws should not be instituted without citizen approval. WE are the people who should decide. It's as though city counsel makes triggered, quick, uninformed, uneducated decisions. Did anyone read any current info on mask use? If they they had, masks would never have been mandated.

Needs a total overhaul. We have been harassed by bylaw officers without merit. Crack houses and grow-ops and terrible property maintenance go unchecked.

They fact that I can get a bigger ticket for speeding on bike than in a car is ridiculous. One would likely less to a bruise, the other interrupts community and kills

This is not a regular time in history, and I cannot deal with one more conspiracy theorist who thinks they are a doctor. Mask and cleanliness bylaws need to be enforced. And people need to be fined for verbally abusing those who are trying to follow these bylaws.

I would love to see an "anti-social behaviour" bylaw that discourages the neighbourhood bad apples that can spoil life for many people. They know how to skirt the letter of the law or bylaw but have a pattern of constant bad behaviour that involves constant noise, harassing neighbours, etc.

The officers with the cowboy hats need to go! It's 2020, we have other hats that don't offend people. Every time I see an officer harassing indigenous people downtown all I can think of is cowboys and Indians and how incredibly disturbing it is to still see such evident traces of colonialism

The ppl of Calgary hate being forced to wear masks. I go out every day in fear that if I have no mask, even if by accident I will be accosted and fined. I know ppl shopping outside city limits to avoid it. What an idiotic decree...

Noise bylaw update for setting and chate with loud voice

Really looking forward to education surrounding keeping backyard chickens, so the neighbours understand they are a peaceful addition to urban life. So much better than noisy dogs.

We need Bylaw officers dedicated to Natural Areas to enforce offleash, damage to habitat and wildlife, and pollution and disease caused by not picking up after your pet. Tickets issues could self fund these greatly needed positions to maintain environmental health, clean water, etc.

There's beyond adequate education provided. Compliance enforcement and consequences need to be upped. Citizens are aware of the rules and get away with as much as possible. There's too much leniency.

Calgary 911

It's the only that isn't an abusive waste of money, still it could be made privatized and would be a lot better.
Ensures emergency services are dispatched in timely manners to emergency situations
As a result of AHS contract being ended prematurely, the loss of 9-1-1 EMS/police/fire jobs due to EMS dispatch "consolidation" must be prevented and funded by the city to prevent increased wait times for 9-1-1 across all disciplines — police, fire and EMS.
I want 911 response to every call .
Leave 911 as it was. Seconds means possible lives lost or saved.
When calling 911 you shouldn't be put on hold. It's an emergency!!! Seconds count!!!
This is VITAL to a safe and fully functional city. Please DO NOT cut the budgets for these services.
Should have fought harder to keep dispatch. Local knowledge is a large factor.
We desperately NEED better addiction services. My mom is an Addict and whenever she has a relapse and becomes a threat to herself, we often resort to a 911 call. Usually officers show up with absolutely NO addictions training or knowledge and make the situation worse. Why is renfrew the only detox ?
Not needed for EMS as they create delays and use tax dollars when a system is already in place that makes them obsolete
Keeping the city's 911 call centre instead of amalgamation is essential. The City needs to fight for this.
Helping first responders help us
PSC has been ok for years. That being said, AHS needs to now handle their business, and having Calgary EMS crews dispatched by PSC, while EVERY surrounding community is with SCC makes 0 sense. It creates a huge disconnect, especially as the Rural crews are spending the majority of their time in yyc.
More police..... east village is overrun with drug addicts
Calgary police services need to be severely defunded because they do not help the community feel safer.

Citizen Engagement & Insights

City focus is Increased spot development instead of existing community residents
It allows for opinions to be shared and affect proposals
The city does not engage those affected by what they are planning and they need to do a better job of doing this
These programs should have reduced priority given economic conditions
Cut the chatter and let the builders build.
Citizens seem to never get engaged on important things (masks, event centers, council spending), only on minor issues.
Major Nenshi has become belligerent to Calgary citizens. Especially in the last 3 years, I feel he bully's to get his own way and has demonstrated a real lack of collaborative leadership. Shame on you Mayor.

Bloat.

These forms are good and I hope they help. Citizen engagement is important, so I'm glad there are some newer options like these to help gauge thoughts and opinions from us. Different formats of these online options could be helpful too!

Citizen Information & Services

Cost cost cost cost

This is so important to me because not everyone has access to this. And I think it's just so amazing that us as Canadians are so lucky to have this.

This is too confusing. I want to find 311 but very hard to find it. I like 311 I can call anytime and get answers or report issues in my neighborhood. It seems I have to wait longer to get through. The staff are always pleasant and knowledgeable

The citizens need to be consulted about what they want and see what will be done to achieve it

311 should be an outsourced call centre. I can't even believe the city hasn't done this yet. What private company honestly pays for their own private marketing company and call centre?

I like 311 but it is harder to get through. They say the have lost staff. Hire more staff for this not less! How am I going to ask for city services if I can't get through?

It gets pretty difficult for newcomers to get used to and find information about the laws. Also companies' reliance on "Inside hiring" is a hindrance for immigrants coming trying to find jobs. Many I know have left Calgary because of this so a centralized hiring system or access to connections needd

I think this is 311. I use it for many things. The people are friendly and polite on the phone. I can get updates but sometimes I would like to see better responses from the areas responsible. I feel I can be heard and have access to services without having to find it by going online.

The 311 call centre is essential for citizen support and contact. The wait times are horrible and more staff are needed to ensure citizen's feel supported and heard.

City Cemeteries

No responses

City Planning and Policy

The city is wasting far too much money in unnecessary projects and doing a bad job managing them. The projects are far too expensive. Proper management would see the capital costs significantly reduced

Calgary is very spread out; I'm not sure what other policies are currently in place, but encouraging the building upward in urban areas and increasing the incentive to live downtown as opposed to fringe communities.

When we stuck to our existing plans means we are not proceeding with other cities advancement plans that put other cities ahead of us. So keeping advance plan in hand as always keep our city as standard as other major cities around the world.

This is one cause of great red tape. Reduce zoning requirements drastically so businesses can open fast and cheap. Make sure approvals are automatic where simple. Reduce headcount by 50% by making the process simple and fast. "Approve unless"

Stop spending beyond your means now

The city spends too much time catering to community associations where most associations can only speak for the few members on the board. Most are NIMBY and the city created this platform for them to gain strength. The system needs to change and the city need to take control on the information and do

not rely on grassroots groups to connect with the neighbourhood because they only do so to benefits themselves.
I would like to see the city focus on improving greener infrastructure. Development of better access to c-train transit, bike lanes and bike paths.
I would also like to stop the city sprawl and increase focus on inner city densification with better access to community services.
It is important to ensure councillors and family members are NOT politically connected builders. To listen to the needs of the people and not pass buildings (I.e. RNDQR in Inglewood) prior to the community hearing and debate in chambers.
The planning framework must meet the needs and realities of current life, not only aspirations for utopian ideals. More reflection and experience of international successes would be useful.
Keep focus on increasing density. Support transit hubs and stop sprawl without costs to developers
I'm not happy that the city is forcing change in established neighbourhoods to increase density and make everyone fit their current vision. Diversity in communities is wonderful because you can choose a community that fits you. People are different and communities should reflect that.
Build up - not out. While there are certainly benefits to approving communities further and further to the edges of Calgary, it is not sustainable to provide affordable, quality services across such a large area with low density.
[removed]
Stop trying to push through upgrades that are not needed and are not actually wanted in the neighbour hoods some examples are the temporary traffic calming measures, which later become permanent. Also upgrades to intersections that worked just fine for 20 years (NORTH MOUNT DRIVE UPGRADES!).
Because it is eroding community - so much energy is spent on future planning that many of us will not see in our lifetime, supporting infrastructure is unfunded, ideas set expectation of citizens ... speculation investment with out enforcement of community standard bylaws in the interim
Council has lost all respect from many communities relating to the guidebook. It just needs to stop.
I believe good planning as a whole solves many problems in the future. I believe more and more, that mixed-use areas will be the way to reduce congestion and integrate communities more.
It will reduce greenhouse gases from travel, allow people to be more community orientated.
Keep communities connected physically and ensure walking/cycling access
Stop contracting out work to [removed] The City has dedicated designers for it's work as well as talented expensive planners. A senior planner shouldn't be just tweaking copy, they should be authoring documents. [removed] has had a good laugh at The City, it's their bread & butter.
The urban sprawl in this city is out of control, and Developers have too much influence on what gets built. We need infrastructure that we can actually pay for, is sustainable, and NECESSARY. The 14 new communities Council approved last year did not match the recommendations of Administration.
The city should look at best practices outside Calgary. It seems unless it was invented here it isn't worth considering.
Build something new, then a month later dig a hole for someone to put in sewers or cable lines or something else.
The hostile over development of our established communities is harming our quality of life. Replacing 1 bungalow with multi-unit residences is hostile and needs to be stopped. In our community 1 house was replaced by an 8-unit complex and that is far too intense for us. Show more respect.

A moratorium on making out city bigger. We cannot afford urban sprawl. We do not have the tax base to fund the infrastructure and services we have now. Let's improve on what we have.
More indigenous representation!!
Sprawl is bankrupting us. Can no one remember the early 1990s?? Stop approving every new community proposed by every campaign donor and we'd have much more resources for the people who actually live in the city.
CoC should not be allowing developer funded ASPs. It's a conflict of interest. Growth mgmt area/unit should be reduced and external consultants should provide growth mgmt boundary and then CoC should stick to it.
All treaty 7 lands should be returned to indigenous sovereignty
City Council has approved an over-supply of serviced land for new subdivisions. In this time of economic and health troubles, developers of new subdivisions must contribute more to balance the City budget. They need to provide the funding that is currently coming from utilities and the property tax.
Stop building more suburbs and subsidizing their services.
Stop the sprawl. Eliminate zoning requirements for secondary suites. Encourage mixed-use zoning and creative ideas like laneway or "tiny" housing.
If LRT expansion/development of Green Line is part of this dept. then this impacts my life because it is now 1/2 the length and double the cost, for something that may not be required for Calgarians post Covid and beyond. When was planning commenced 10 yrs ago? Calgary is a vastly different city now
Calgarians need to know where the city is headed in the future and how it will effect our lives.
For us to thrive in the future - we need to heavily invest in innovative approaches to planning. Driven by sustainability and usability - these models should provide a future vision for Calgary.

Community Strategies

Totally useless. Should be defunded and the money used for better things.
Placemaking often utilizes a greater proportion of city spending, when private sector companies would actually inhabit unused areas of the city just as well with the correct amount of business incentives. Why are cmhc unable to attract development companies and local business which occur elsewhere
I live in a community with a high unemployment rate & a struggling business climate. More money needs to be invested in skills upgrading or transitioning people back to work. The Youth Employment Centre should help all vulnerable Calgarians with our tax dollars; not only the youth demographic.
I feel that all communities can be attractive. It adds monetary value and makes residents feel comfortable and proud of their communities. Many homeowners and absentee homeowners allow their houses to become run down, decrepit. Just painting a home makes it so much better let alone repairing it.
New developments become more important than existing community residents
The DOAP team is one of the best investments our city can be making. I see them out all the time and have called them a few times, they have generally been responsive. Please continue supporting this work.

Development Approvals

These decisions should be left to the planning department with no outside interference from the council. Make the rules, follow the rules. If the rules aren't working, change them, but stick with it. There should be 'exceptional' circumstance almost ever. Too much council time is spent on this garbage

Impact is an understatement on our lives and our communities. Council wants to approve any developer who is willing to invest in development in inner city. They could care less of the people that actually spent hundreds of thousands to purchase a home and build community.
Focus on approving building that the city needs/wants and the completion of stalled projects throughout the city (Place 10 on 10th ave). Do not overly focus on projects that result in the destruction of well used/usable heritage buildings while resulting in an overabundance of vacant housing (condo)
City should reconsider none drive thru zone to be approved for drive thru as that is the future for fast food restaurants to survive
Inglewood. the City NEVER listens to feedback from citizens & residents. The City ALWAYS does whatever the developer wants. Why are you wasting everyone's time when the outcome is predetermined? Why have Plans if you break them whenever a developer asks? Nothing about the City is more infuriating.
Charge developers more and require they pay more for basic infrastructure to new communities. They will pass on to their customers. Calgarians living in other communities should not have to pay for the suburban sprawl
Urban density goals are too aggressive.
seems like it takes forever to get this done on the business end of things. I am not a business owner but it seems like this is an issue that needs to be looked at. Too long to get approvals through the system.
We have to ensure that smart development occurs taking into account the protection of our water and environment. It is important to comply with our Green policies and implement them. We have to avoid building in floodplains to reduce the huge costs associated with this practice. Be proactive.
The push for condos everywhere in the city cost me several thousands of dollars. There is far more inventory than need and you've killed property values for those that have them
stop building new districts until you can afford to service the ones you have properly
More community input; not just from the developer.
A moratorium on making our city bigger. We cannot afford urban sprawl. We do not have the tax base to fund the infrastructure and services we have now and convert capital to operational as we are in a pandemic
Stop approving every single development for new condos and townhouses. We have a ridiculous surplus and the market is going to crash. Trees are being torn down in the inner city at an alarming rate making neighbourhoods so ugly. We need trees. We need nature. We don't need condos

Economic development and tourism

Calgary still has a bit of a reputation for being a redneck oil and gas rodeo town. We need to attract new types of visitors so they can see we have more to offer. Companies don't relocate to cities their employees don't want to be in. Tech and innovative industries has a high percentage on non-straight and people of colour; they need to feel safe and welcome here
I would like to see the city put funds into better promotion of our city as a attractive place for new industries to set up shop. We need recreation, arts and culture and progressive idea to be forefront in selling ourselves. We have an image problem and I worry it will lead to stagnation.
We need to diversify from being reliant on the oil sector and must attract mid to large size businesses this increasing the tax base. Tourism is also vital to our city as are exhibitions and conferences. Offer short term incentives to attract business, but add penalties if they bail out after the s
This benefits hotels, restaurants, attractions and some shops. Keep that in mind.

Calgary needs to widen the horizon on economic development. Attracting new businesses will allow us to check many of the other boxes on the list.
This service is not netting results for the city and its carrying debt. It should be shut down.
We have to shape and ignore the province, by not promoting it as a oil/gas city nor just the Stampede. Focus on liveable neighbourhoods, housing not as expensive as other big cities.
CED must be supported further and receive additional investment to help transition Calgary into the future. We are still not doing enough to attract Tech and Innovation jobs into the city. Unfortunately, Calgary still has an “only oil town” reputation specially in the coast where a lot of companies
Affordable housing, infrastructure, parks etc can be addresses once we address economic development. We need to get the right people on the job. Look at which companies are propping up the stock market during the pandemic. Tech and pharmaceuticals!
It's more important now than ever to diversify our economy and make the transition from oil and gas to more sustainable fields like tech and science
Tourism is a boon to the economy. The world wants to come to the mountains, but also find a way to get them to stay in Calgary and spend money in the city as well. Idea would be to do what Vancouver tourism does and gives a AMEX gift card if you stay 2 nights or more at city hotels
I work in the tourism industry and the hotels are suffering. We need to refocus our funding to tourism and give people a reason to come to Calgary-not as a stopover to Banff or 10 days in July. What reason do people have to come here? Certainly not the museums and outdoor art structures
Do more to bring sporting events back like the X-Games and World Cup events - freestyle skiing, speed skating, skiing, etc
We promote people to buy local, shop local, and invest in Calgary business, direct capital funds from event center to operational crisis services, social worker/police teams to help deescalate the opioid crisis and ensure our services like public transit.
I would like to see cleaner Chinatown with better urban planning.
It seems that there is no or little progress coning out of numerous announced CED's initiatives whereas some that could be done quickly and attract tourists, like the Surf Wave on 10th or train to Banff, are ignored and pushed aside. The city must prioritize long term projects that benefit us all. To become a world city, we need better transit and longer hours. I'm not a huge user but people come to cities based on transit. Stop making roadways for cars and stop building suburbs. This is how transit becomes unaffordable.

Emergency management

this council needs to stop tearing down emergency services to make budgets. Lives are being put at risk so council can waste money on their personal projects. The safety of both the public and the emergency workers should be first. I kike art too but if my house burns down, i will not care about art
Make the Department less militaristic. The Lead should be called Director, not Chief.

Environmental management

Simple things could be done to help the environment, for example they just built a tunnel behind my house, they leave the lights on 24/7, during the day these light do not need to be on. Just one example of how we're wasting energy for no reason.

Increase investment into energy efficiency to reduce long term operational costs and GHG emissions. Energy is a significant operational cost and reducing this reduces ongoing operational costs, and increases our global reputation to attract newer industries to this city.
Being in Alberta we have a terrible environmental record. A push for no single use plastics, better recycling services that cover a broader range of the 1-7 numbers and a step away from oil & gas powering all homes. Perhaps re-introducing solar/ nest rebates that UCP stopped but municipal.
We need more money helping the environment. it is a literal crisis and we need to do our part in helping save the planet.
Climate change needs to be more front-and-centre in all City of Calgary policies. We are lagging behind other cities in the country.
I think going forward in the next few years, the city should do more to invest and engage with more environmentally conscious businesses and technologies, striving to become more of a 'green leader' in the province.

Enabling services

Why are so many services buried in 'enabling'? Digital transformation is required for front line services. Not just technology. Processes, data management, and analytics Are key to a modern municipal government. Reduce service levels, but fund innovation and change.
Health and safety of employees. I am connected to employees at the city and I know that they have been under a tremendous amount of stress. I'm worried about their mental health and wellbeing.
There needs to be a way to decrease the cost for these services, can it be streamlined better to decrease the cost?

Fire and emergency services

Stop cutting their budgets
Important service to citizens of Calgary, we cannot be cutting our department short. We should provide all resources necessary to provide high level service and protect firefighters safety
Its everything. They dont just deal with house fires. If my child is hurt, if I get into a car accident, if I find needles, if my grandmother is hurt. If my home floods, catches fire, has co2 leak. It's all these men and women and it gives me peace of mind. I have 2 young kids, thier well being is first. To cut their budgets so drastically means longer response times, lacking in training and new hires. It cant be prioritized anywhere then top 3
I am going to work in this service, it impacts me when I can't find jobs working for AHS and have to supplement by working outside the city
This is an important municipal requirement but Calgary cannot be the leader in wages, staffing and citizen interaction
They're great and they deserve \$160 lunches not lying councillors.
It is critical we keep this funded property for citizen safety as well to keep insurance premiums down to a minimum for family's.
Peace of mind, knowing we have support and visible resources in our communities
This service should not have their budget cut. The budget for EMS and CFD should be no less than frozen. The ever-growing demand for emergency services is evident, and it seems to me that the services have been under-appreciated.

I feel the fire department is vastly over funded for the role it plays. In the end, million dollar fire trucks are not what's needed to respond to traffic accidents. Structure fires are not nearly the threat they once were. That money could be better spent in other emergency services.
With increased activities outdoors and indoors within the city, I am sure you could find other areas to cut besides police and fire.
Without this service many in the city would be in grave danger. It provides assistance to those in need and needs more spending
Too much, please reduce budget
Don't need to send firetrucks out to minor issues like stalled buses
We have amazing Fire Fighters and medics in this city, they should get what they need to do their jobs, stay safe as they serve Calgarians.
Keep 24 hour shifts for Cfd as it will save the city money in the long and short term. Aiming to reduce response times will have dangerous consequences
Do not make more cuts to the already bare bone fire department! Seconds matter when it comes to emergencies! If you or your loved one called 9-1-1 you would want qualified people there immediately and making more cuts will make responses longer. The citizens of Calgary have spoken with a 99% approval
We absolutely cannot seek to save less than \$7 per year on municipal taxes in order to lengthen CFD response times. As a nurse I am fully aware of seconds count when it comes to saving lives.
If you cut from the fire department in order to save money for tax payers, Insurance companies will slide in and charge tax payers higher rates. Longer response times mean more damage & loss. Insurance companies are not in business To lose money. Weaker service for the same money to the tax payer.
Over paid and under worked
This service should top priority. Citizens need and want this service to perform at the highest level all times; and I expect willing to pay more taxes to cover costs if necessary.
This is the most vital service that the City provides and the employees are responsibly working to keep costs stable by measures such as: 24 hr. shifts, arriving for shifts 30 mins. early so OT is kept to a minimum, adhering to proper protocols to prevent spread of Covid and thus reduce sick time.
The fire service needs more help from council. There have been too many budget cuts to the fire service in the past 5 years. Also, the ambulance service needs more help also. They are over worked. We need more ambulance in the streets.
Why is fire continuously cut when they go to variety of emergencies
Don't take money away
This is an essential service because it's the difference between me feeling safe in my own home.
A family friend's house burnt down to the ground in legacy because of the lack of fire crews in the area, as one was out training, and there wasn't a station close. We need to be able to have crews training and be able to have proper backup.
I believe we should have a minimum of 2 classes/ year
I don't want to die.
I do not want city council to cut the budget for Fire and Emergency. 30 seconds is a lot when you are in a burning house.
It is obvious why it is important. Tired of council talking about cutting police and fire budget. Cutting response times. You cannot cut here. Maybe take away all council's perks for now, work on their wonderful pensions

As everyone will agree, this service is necessary but there is an excessive amount of expense being made with the structure of the Fire Department. There is far too much costs associated with the non fire fighting personnel (District Chiefs, Batallion Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs)
RESPONSE TIME!! I think every second counts. When my friends son was choking seconds were critical!!
essential, should not be cut back
Seconds count in an emergency. By taking money away from an essential service you are putting your citizens' lives in danger. They don't just respond to fires. Instead, the city council should take a pay cut of 20% just like the rest of us have in this city.
I don't want fire & emergency services budgets cut
Response times should not increase to save money.
Maintain current response times and coverages. Charge AHS for services. When CFD responds to medical calls.
I think the budget for fire and emergency response should be maintained or increased to maintain the level of service currently provided.
My husband (and therefore a large number of extended "family") are members of the CFD. By cutting their budget, the city creates situations based on financial constraints that are potentially putting the lives and safety of the CFD frontline members at risk.
Thes service are important to all Calgarians lives and in fact our lives depend on these service being properly funded and maintained.
We need shorter response times because of the outrageous amount of fires in this city...whats up with that!
This is an important issue, along with Calgary police.
Do not cut this service.
CFD is no longer willing to help paramedics carry Calgarians on calls where a lift assist is needed. Yet they are screaming about possible budget cuts. They sit at their halls and make meals and watch movies and work out and eat. Make them help carry the sick and injured. That's why they have gyms.
1st Responders are life savers. They are the front line for someone's worst day! Why are we entertaining cutting their budgets and increasing their response times? It's all good until you need to call 911 bc your infant is choking and it takes an extra 90seconds for pre-hospital care to arrive!!
Expand it.
I do not like to see an increase in response time. In emergencies literally every second counts.
DO NOT cut back on fire response times. a few second can keep a fire under control or save lifes.. Fire moves VERY QUICKLY!
Please do not cut response times.
It is imperative that the budget NOT be cut. Fire doubles every 30 seconds. Longer wait times could easily mean death in emergencies.
This might be surprising for most of city council but, unfortunately for Council, Emergency services don't generally MAKE money. Despite this they are an incredibly important service. Stop making cuts to CFD! I want to be safe in my City, NOT be burned alive because Nenshi wanted a hockey arena!
Fire service is important, however you could reduce their costs by changing land use. Stop adding more tract housing that triggers a new firestation (or longer response times) that then increases the fire budget! Lower fire budget by reducing sprawl.
We need them... period.... cant make more cuts to them.

In order to allow Calgary to thrive and move forward with new communities and to try and restore our economy. People need to know that they're safe in their own communities.
I see that the fire department is encouraging people to complain about any budget cuts or freezes to their department. I would be a lot more sympathetic to their cause if I didn't see large fire trucks and firefighters at the grocery store every time I go! The rest of us do our shopping on own tim
Cutting funding to this service is stupid. This is a critical service to Calgarians.
Saving 6.90.cents is not worth a life.
We need these people to help us in a emergency
Do not make cuts to funding fire or police services or staffing in regards to response times
Fire Department response times are critical to life and infrastructure survival. If you have a heart attack, stroke or are in medical distress seconds count not minutes. If a person is unable to support themselves after an incident they then start to rely on the City and Provincial services \$\$\$\$\$\$\$
the fire depart is way over paid, and they dont do any work, take a good look and see how much money they are wasting
Emergency services - such as Fire - need to be well funded as they provide the basic security we all need to safely live in densely populated areas with wooden construction. Recent big apartment fires and natural disasters just prove that. We need faster response times.
This service should be important to everyone. I am willing to pay extra on my taxes to keep these services. Fire and Rescue much needed.
Fire Dept. Budget should not be cut if response time is slower.
When a crisis happens we need those best trained to respond in the quickest and most effective way possible. Lives matter and the faster and easily available service is critical.
It is out of control sub bureaucracy and needs to be privatized, or their salaries and benefits cut by fifty percent. Their main purpose seems to be reduced to shopping, cooking, working out, sleeping and singing Happy Birthday.
As the City has allowed developers to build residences closer together, the need for as fast as is possible responses by Fire Services is more urgent than in the past. I'd rather my taxes went up \$7 for this service than another dollar for the green line and the rink for Calgary Flames.
Calgary is a city that spreads out significantly and newer neighborhoods are denser. The response time of fire and emergency teams is critical to saving lives wherever you live. This service should not be compromised.
It impacts everyone. The FD has faced too many cuts over too many years. You need to provide then with proper equipment to keep them safe so they can keep us safe. Other communities of firefighters see CFD as a joke
Seconds count when it comes to saving lives and fighting fires. Fire doubles in size every 30 seconds. Arriving 30 seconds later can be the difference between a fire that burns down your entire home, or is contained to the kitchen. I'd rather pay more in my taxes than see response times cut.
The Fire Department is extremely top heavy with high paying jobs that does nothing to fight fires. Reduce this unnecessary structure and put that money into having more fire fighters.
This service helps so many people, fire fighters are always the first responders to arrive on the scene they save lives and taking care of their needs ensures a safer environment that people feel comfortable in.

CFD does indeed respond to medical calls to assist EMS. But, the calls where CFD truly makes a "life saving" difference are quite minimal. That being said, on a cardiac arrest, there is no better. CFD has also ceased assisting EMS with certain calls. So pretty hard for me to believe CFD is about medi
Do not touch funding for this. I have not been touched by such an emergency but many citizens have and this service needs to be fully funded.
Restore their budget (The one cut so the Flames could have their free arena) and the safety of our city.
They creat a scare program based on flawed data
An essential service that should not even be considered for funding cuts .
This an essential service, along with Calgary police.
Calgary is not being served well by AHS EMS. AHS is utilizing Calgary ambulances as labour in hospital hallways, making them unable to respond to emergencies. Rather than holding to the international response time standard of 8 minutes, they conveniently changed the standard.
I sleep better knowing that we have a well trained, well equip fire department!
Find a way to force AHS to release ambulances from hospitals so they can respond in the community. Force AHS to release statistics on response times and community coverage. Contrary to what CFD claims, it is ambulances you need to have a timely response to medical emergencies, not fire trucks.
Very essential service and should not be facing cuts.
To maintain this essential service I'm willing to give up bike lanes, public art, pedestrian bridges, council expense accounts and free downtown parking, pathway snow removal, expensive bus lanes and bus shelters, and publicly-funded rich union pensions.
I feel money for this service should not be cut as lives depend on it.
I believe that the Calgary police should require more training in areas such as mental health, conflict avoidance, de-escalation, accountability. The Police service's job is to serve and protect the people. They should be held to the highest standard with more hours of training being mandatory>1500 (from fire tab)

Fire inspection

We need them. Period!!

Fire safety

Along with having enough firefighters, we should be having sessions with public to inform them on proper annul things to do around the house to prevent fires

Land development

I am worried about the strain we put on our environment and the relentless development capitalism seems to think we need in order to be happy/function as a society.
No proper consolation with residents, example 80 ave ne saddle ridge
Hit pause on new neighbourhood expansions, focus on building up existing neighbourhoods and increase density.
Make sure all land development projects have carbon and pollution offset projects attached (ie planting a grove of trees for every field plowed over).
Stop wth the dang infills. They're expensive, ugly, and attract awful people who drive bmw's
Just stop allowing suburban development. There is more than enough high density housing and low density housing to go around.

We should not expand. We can not afford to maintain the sprawl we have. I was disappointed (angry) to see the vote late at night to buy the Sirroco land.

The creation of Home Owners' Associations was a huge mistake. Homeowners are forced to pay additional fees for "enhanced" landscaping (and I use that term loosely) being run by incompetent Boards. When the Board controls the information that residents receive, it is impossible to fight them.

I am concerned that the City is not practicing their fiscal responsibility when making land development decisions in new communities. Is full cost accounting being completed for these? Rate and type of growth is something that is fully within the City's toolkit.

Promoting densification results in transient neighbourhoods, loss of families and schools, unmanaged garbage, loss of community. Please restrict rooming houses in established communities or impose responsibility onto landlords for property maintenance.

Library services

As a new mom I have utilized the services of the library in many ways - classes, books, meeting place. This is an amazing service and I'm so glad the city provides it.

Library's offer a safe space to children, teens and adults. Keeping them open later allows children whose parents work long hours to have somewhere safe to stay for that time, as well as making them accessible for all calgarians including those who work non conventional hours. Please fund libraries more

Calgary Library is an extraordinary service, and it is a crucial resource for underprivileged groups to build better lives for themselves. The digital offerings are spectacular. Would like to see more foreign languages and Indigenous authors

This service is no longer needed. We all have the internet with more up-to-date information than the library can provide

The public libraries are beyond excellent in Calgary. I am so happy for the services they provide to our community and hope they continue to receive support and recognition from our city

I am on a very fixed and limited budget, So to use my library is a great asset to me! I love my library! It offers free programs that are good quality, and has everything I need and use! The staff is amazing!

It's the best thing in our city!

I have lived in several municipalities and I have to say that the Libraries in Calgary are great. They seem to have something for everyone. They system of placing holds on materials throughout the city is very convenient. Most of all, I love the programs offered (FREE of charge) at the libraries.

It is made available to all Calgarians for free and is a much needed resource in many areas.

Calgary's libraries provide outstanding programming and are a hub for communities. Please keep investing in them!

Important resource for all Calgarians. Provides endless amount of recreation and a point of engagement . . . a community hub.

We really love the library system!

More hours please

I love to study at libraries, I love that libraries are encouraging children to be at libraries. Children are noisy and make it hard to study. Make quiet nice study areas? (Top floor of central library is 11/10 A++). I like a quiet library like the medicine hat library.

This service is critical to our family of 6 with 2 young adults at university online and 2 with special needs. The safety of our local library (Signal Hill) has been exemplary from being able to pick up holds to now allowing quiet properly spaced study to give our home a break from so many online

another place that welcomes all regardless of their socio-economic background. a place to study or work remotely when you can't work at home. huge source of reading online for me during COVID closure

This is one of the most valuable services the city provides. Libraries promote literacy and community. They are accessible to all Calgarians. They provide assistance and guidance in many areas.

I'm so deeply proud of Calgary's libraries. Please protect and preserve them and support their ambitions.

These services should be cost neutral for the city.

Municipal elections

The last election was so poorly ran that there were massive line ups and polling stations ran out of ballots. Please ensure every citizen gets a fair chance to vote

There had better be more than enough ballots for the next election. What happened last time was reprehensible by our city.

Recall capability for lying councillors.

We have so many secret meetings in Calgary. What does city council have to hide.

Honest, transparent leadership matters. Yet somehow, the City cannot, will not get a proper voting register in place for the elections. Can you do that for us so we can have some confidence that people are voting who are supposed to be and not twice? How difficult is this for the Clerk?

Neighbourhood Support

In the NE we pay taxes, as does the rest of the city, yet our part of the city seems very neglected. Blvd not mowed, garbage not picked up, easeways broken, full of trash, alleyways are in complete disrepair. I guess our tax dollars go to maintaining the rich neighborhoods.

Calgary is very much a city of neighborhoods - they each have a unique personality and series of needs. It is critical that we look at ways to make each area self sufficient, but also ensure that Calgarians have a desire to explore each other's hoods - because each one offers something unique.

I feel like many neighbourhoods are neglected specifically in the winter when all the ice forms. Nothing huge just that really, I understand you guys have a certain amount of employees but I as well as others would be very grateful for more the ice to be cleared, especially for elderly & the disable

Better mediation for neighbourhood disputes with general education of neighbour behaviour is crucial.

Please stop building so many new neighbour hoods. It's not scalable.

Being in suburbia, it feels like we are distanced from all the services available inner city

I believe that development can be wonderful and beneficial, but more thoughtful consideration should be given to preserving the character and heritage of our older neighborhoods.

This service is essential. They bring programs to the community, combat social isolation, help with community economic development programs that improve peoples lives. I think more could be done to support the workers to do more in communities around antiracism work. It is a big problem.

Please take care of North east Calgary equally

Parking

As a truck driver in this city, I tend to avoid parking downtown if I can help it. The times I do park downtown, it's usually in a lot or a parkade. That being said, my truck does not fit in many of the parkades downtown. Moving forward, I think when buildings are under construction, the regulation height for parkades or underground parking needs to be higher.

Remove parking minimums.
Parking downtown is inaccessible and there isn't enough. This stops me from ever wanting to go down town unless absolutely needed. We need more parking downtown.
Have never felt parking was good value in this city. Parking to visit hospitals is outrageous
How much money has been wasted on bike lanes.? 95% of the time I'm unable to find parking where parking used to be because there are now bike lanes which are literally empty. Or I'm stuck in one lane of traffic because a bike lane now lives where the second lane used to be & no bikes to be seen.
Get rid of all parking minimums for residential and commercial development.
If there is bylaws on the books - enforce them.
Reduce parking rates down town. It is ridiculous!
I would like not to have permit only parking I cannot have any visitors without using the app which is slow and sometimes doesn't work. I have to call for relaxation when I entertain or have work done. I feel this is a violation of my privacy. I want my family and friends to visit freely.
We understand that parking is a source of revenue for the city. However, we strongly feel NO parking fees should be in place in emergency areas of hospitals and any parking fees for visitors should be drastically reduced or eliminated. Similarly, students should have a substantial reduction at uni
Parking is horrendously overpriced in all areas of the city. Its also extremely inefficient at the c-train stations
Consider open and free parking on city streets. Around the U of C in Brentwood & Varsity there is 1&2-hour parking on some streets during the day. Ridiculous since most people living on those streets work during the day and streets are empty. Restrict late afternoon & evening parking, not 9-5.

Parks & Open Space

Stop building over parks and open spaces
I use these spaces for recreation and exercise, with my friends and family. They are vital for mental health and happiness.
Parks and urban natural spaces contribute to a sense of community and mental wellbeing, the phenomena spawning a discipline of study termed eco-psychology. Exposure to these spaces having various therapeutic effects including the reduction of anxiety and the increased robustness of immune system responses. The spaces can host outdoor classrooms/gathering places facilitating social connection and outdoor exposure vital to our continued health and wellness. Social isolation = vulnerable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - too much development. keep the green spaces! - more parks & places to gather outside. Every park is over run with people - more snowshoe parks in the city - more disc golf.
Our parks need a lot of love. This summer particularly I have noticed it's difficult to go and find a place to picnic or hang out. Downtown has beautiful green spaces but the outskirts is really lacking
We use off-leash parks on a daily basis. Besides healthcare, these parks across the city such as Sue Higgins are how we enjoy time outdoors with the family. It's great for our collective physical and mental health. These spaces also promote a better balance between city and nature.
Build more parks opportunities in the NE and NW. All the good parks are in the south end and often inaccessible or a very long bus ride to get too.

Our playing fields are littered with weeds. Our children do not play sports on grass but in cut down weeds. It's embarrassing for our city. Youth sports are vital and our children playing on these fields is radículas
I love all the city parks, they are extremely valuable to me and I would love to see more park education opportunities for citizens.
The more public spaces and amenities that are available year round, the happier and more connected people are.
Overcrowding in parks sometimes is a problem, especially with the current pandemic. I would like to see more outdoor recreational areas in the Northeast portion of the city where families can enjoy time together.
Would like to see more off leash dog parks in the Northwest.
This is especially important for the next year or so, because of COvid. Trails in our neighborhood need to be maintained, garbages cleared. Winter clearing of more pathways will help to move people in a safe way (bike, walking), but currently it's too hard in the winter to bike because of no clearin
Calgary parks are very special. This pandemic has shown how important beautiful natural spaces are to Calgarians. The department's efforts to build the tree canopy and encourage natural landscapes are integral to the sustainability of our city as weather becomes more extreme. Expand naturalization
Suburban neighborhood parks could get help from citizens if the City cared to ask.
the maintenance of park space is inadequate / park space ratio to population is not meeting targets..often the city then just changes the target. Natural areas need maintenance - renaming does not eliminate need - the city is looking unkept -start these pilots in the affluent neighbourhoods first
I like that there seems to be a lot of green space in Calgary. Most of the parks I have used are well maintained and I have been able to enjoy them with my family in a variety of ways (walks / hikes, sports, dog parks). I think it is vital to preserve these spaces & keep them open to be free for all
Need more community open parks and playgrounds. That have proper running tracks and outdoor activity. Especially in redstone and skyview because as this is most dense populated place in the city and highly text paying area.
COVID has shown all of us how important these spaces are to our well-being
Parks and Open Spaces are essential to our health and wellbeing, especially during COVID. It is important that we continue to protect healthy natural open spaces for biodiversity, clean air, water, soil and should invest to ensure the environment remains healthy for our own health into the future.
Parks are my only resource to keep mental health now and I appreciate the wifk the City does by keeping them safe and clean.
All Calgarians need the area so that we have spaces to get away from the feeling that we are not living in a concrete jungle.
Create calgary climate friendly designs. Choose native vegetation and actually look after the street trees. More care to snow removal on bike paths/ walking paths. Snow/ wind shelter.
I really appreciate that we have as much as we do of this service. Please don't try to offload parks spaces like the province has been doing lately
I live near Nose Hill Park and I think it would be awesome if the City put aside some budget for the year to plant trees or drop seeds to improve the park.
Because of the Pandemic, many of our children 0-18 are facing mental health issues, nutrition concerns, lack of physical activity and poverty. We need to ensure that Parks and recreation do all they can to foster an active and safe lifestyle for ALL children and youth

Pet Own & Licensing

needs enforcement
I think the fee to license should be lessened for ALL pet owners.
I feel that there should not be conditions on certain animal breeds. I believe it should be mandatory for all pet owners to take training in order to make sure they have good control over their pets. It would further stigmatize the breed vs. the owner.
I would like to see greater restriction on all animals that can attack and harm people. Also I would like to see restrictions on people keeping farm animals in the city.
Banning pitbulls would be a great start to making our city safer.
No pet should be discriminated for its breed, owners of nuisance dogs (any breed) should be held accountable and punished appropriately
I would like to see FENCED off-leash areas in NW. Areas that are NOT off-leash are being used as off-leash and it isn't enforced. I'm sick of the dog poop and dogs running off leash. The area that affects me is along Shaganappi Trail just north of Dalhousie Drive.
No to BSL
Breed-specific bylaws don't work -- listen to veterinarians and the Humane Soc. Dogs behave well when trained properly and treated well. Germany is proposing that dogs (by law) must be walked twice a day and not be left alone for more than 4 hours. Do that and a lot of dog issues go away.

Police Service

The CALgary Police Service receives a disproportionate amount of our budget. They should be defunded. The idea of policing in Calgary should be reinvented. The funds should go to programs that actually reduce crime such as addiction services, housing and mental health and employment.
We are leading Canada in gun violence. This can only be managed with effective policing
Weird question - what is your point? Public safety is priority.
Crime seems to be getting worse in the beltline. We now have people breaking into our parking garage and breaking into cars to sleep in them. CPS is already too taxed to deal with the level of petty theft and break-ins in the beltline and a neighborhood watch should be started, and combined with more community policing to track and discourage these petty crimes.
we need to defund the police. we're not leaving them with nothing but we need to re send this money to other places, like education and housing. in our high schools we had to re use toilet paper and make our own paintbrushes. the schools got nothing. there needs to be less money and MORE TRAINING for the police. let mental health professionals go on wellness calls. Let the community, social and guidance workers help. Leave the crimes to the police.
please, give the police less of a budget, they definitely do not need all the money they are getting.
Defund the police, take the measures needed to end police brutality. Do your research on what's happening within our city and others and educate yourselves and put the money in places it's actually needed, not the abusive police.
Defund the police
Need to stay focused on keeping Calgary safe.
With the recent events in the world, we have started to shift our mindset and look deeper into the mistreatment and misuse of the police force. The police are there to protect and serve citizens, not to harm and prosecute citizens. The amount of funding and the overall mindset our city (and globally as well) has towards the police is blatant militarization. We don't need to be owning a tank for our city or the newest weaponry. We shouldn't feel unsafe when near a police officer like we do now.

Pleade reduce police equipment budget and move it to other services like affordable housing (reduce homelessness) or increased quantity of social workers (reduces burden on police).
With defunding and eventually abolishing the police, we can make the city, and the world a better place. We must remove funding from police forces, and move towards trained professionals in dealing with mental health problems and episodes. We must have deescalation services, and unbiased professionals to help and empower the community, especially the bipoc community. We must take the mass amounts of tax payers dollars out of these institutions and put them where they can truly be useful.
Without them we would be a mess. Pay more in order to attract the best.
The system is out of date and harmful to minority communities. Although it's helpful to some it's tremendously dangerous to others. The system is overfunded and if we took even just some of those funds and displaced them it would be beneficial to people and communities from everywhere around the city
Why are all officers in the Calgary police department armed when so few interactions are in response to violence?
Realize there is a problem just like everywhere else. Turn the focus back on SERVING and PROTECTING the PUBLIC. This includes ALL people. Not hurting and trying to get as many charges and arrests as possible.
Funding for police services needs to be stopped and directed to real support for initiatives that truly PREVENT crime (not just intervene crimes that have already happened): homelessness, mental health, access to healthcare, abuse, trauma, education, transitions into adulthood, etc.
I would like to ask for a redistribution of expectations for the police, be it crisis management, de escalation training, etc. There is simply too much resting on their shoulders.
CBC documentary above the law on Calgary police service. Very little public accountability due to the power of police union. Bullying and abuse of power by officers goes unchecked. Recent examples include those using CPS position for private gain spying on people.
Not every problem needs to be fixed by police. The police is seriously over-funded, when reallocating funds from the police into things like housing, education, mental health, unarmed community servants who are trained in de-escalation who help instead of detaining or arresting or fining people.
There should be more training for active anti-racism and anti- racial profiling in the police, as well as mental evaluations that occur more often.
Calgary Police Service (CPS) receives an unjustified amount of money from the city's budget. Reinvest money allotted to CPS into community health and wellness, specifically mental health services, youth programs, affordable housing, senior care, arts and culture, and education initiatives.
CPS have done an amazing job at keeping our city safe. However as the city has grown, so has petty crime that is going unchecked due to lack of resources. As a downtown resident, I fear for the future of our amazing inner city if we don't get a handle on break ins, low level drug activity, etc.
Too much, please reduce budget
Defunding the police and filtering the money into other projects, mental health & harm reduction causes will be best for our city!
Keeps our city safe, safety and security are the basic building blocks of any western Civilization
Defund. Our subpar education structure could use the money.
DEFUND [removed]. FUND OTHER CITY SERVICES INSTEAD. WHY DO WE SPEND 7.5 million a year replacing police cars while we only spend 3 million on homelessness services. [removed]
Defund and de-arm the police. We need way more oversight over the actions of the police.

Calgary's police services budget should be significantly cut, with funds reallocated into communities (ie education, mental health, community programming, housing security, food security, etc).
Defund the police.
There needs to be more transparency in their spending, more accountability and real consequences for their actions. I have never had a positive experience with the police here even when I have been the victim of a crime. I don't feel safe in their presence.
Funding for police helicopter should be reassessed and reduced.
Get rid of it.
Defunding the police would be disastrous. Money needs to be invested in social services to lessen the work load of CPS, however the fact remains police workload will not instantly decrease with a shift in finances. I hope the city has the foresight to not blindly follow an ill informed movement
DEFUND THE POLICE. There is so many better and affective things that the city could be finding. For example, community services that would PREVENT CRIME. Police don't prevent crime, they show up after it happens.
Police should not be asked to address every social problem we have, instead they should focus on violent and serious crime. Reduce CPS funding and re-allocate some funds to the services that actually serve Calgarians (housing, parks, rec, social programs, transit). INCREASE Police Accountability.
We need more active community involvement like friendly cooperation as school liaison and police need to be trained in de-escalation. Police , social services (SS) need to be more closely linked police need awareness, sensitivity to cultural differences, Mental Health SS need public safety awareness
I would like to see a smaller budget allocated to police and more towards mental health services, social services, affordable housing, and education (lower tuitions and increased funding for schools)
The police are forced to serve too many functions in the city. The system would be more effective if the police budget were decreased to fund different social services such as emergency mental health responses.
We absolutely should not be defunding the police services!
Massive noise issues due to speeding and traffic needs to be policed and funded appropriately
We love our police force. They are honest and moral. Do not decrease their funding--they deserve every cent.
I'm very concerned to hear from fellow citizens that they have been harassed and mistreated by Calgary Police. I am also concerned see that the police force is investing in ever more militaristic equipment. I think we should use funding to get at the root of issues like addiction vs using police.
While the police provide a valued service, it's time for them to stop threatening increased crime in the face of cut backs. They have often been sheltered from cuts and therefore have no reason to reign in costs. Some police funding should shift to affordable housing and community services.
Given the current movement, police matters should be delegated out to service providers who are better able to handle it, leaving things like investigations and violent crimes to the police. Funding should reflect this change.
It is more important than ever. There seems to be a rash of petty theft.
This service needs a drastic overhaul & massive funding cuts to be redistributed to social& community services that help folks most at risk of being unfair targets of a police system steeped in structural racism, sexism & colonialism. Please defund CPS and put \$ back into communities & calgarians.
The police must be defunded and replaced. DOAP and the Bear Clan Patrol do more for public safety and community service than the police ever can. Also, the absolute disrespect for citizens exhibited by the CPD is so blatant. They are incurably racist and violent. We deserve better.

While many of us are either being laid off or working from home, we are seeing the crime rate is dropping. It is reasonable to cut our police budget.
Defund it and use the money on social programs and transit. I have friends who were cops and they said 60% of their calls didn't require police. What a waste of resources!
With this being such a hot topic right now. We need to act and do the right thing and move money from the over funded police department and put it into more social programs such as education or affordable housing as those in poverty are more likely to be arrested to why wouldn't we help instead
It is the most needed service, Calgarians want to feel SAFE. They deserve more respect from city hall (maybe some sensitivity training for Druh Farrell after she insulted them publicly)
Corruption is an epidemic with CPS, professional standards are as crooked as everyone else there is no accountability these people undermine our rule of law and interfere with an essential service. Calgarians deserve the RCMP.
Increased diversity training regarding racial profiling and conflict de-escalation needs to be increased in officer training. Racial minorities (Black and Brown individuals), those with disabilities, low-income households, etc. are dis-proportionally affected by the lack of training in these areas.
It keeps the citizens safe in their own city. With more crimes around the city, we need to improve the number of police officers and their training so that they can insure the safety of business and people in the city.
I'm asking for research into defunding the police, with police spending diverted to social programs like free housing, counselling services, job creation, and food security for vulnerable populations
I think Calgary Police services are one of the things that's actually working pretty well. I would hate for a defund the police movement to gain any traction in our city.
The funding for the Police service should be reviewed and it should be defunded. Funds should be allocated to more preventative measures for addressing crime and maintaining peace such as affordable housing, mental health services or changing the personel that responds to specific emergencies.
401MILLION DOLLARS of ourtaxes? Unbelievable amount of police brutality that needs to not only be addressed but reprimanded. There has been to much complacency and not enough transparency from the Calgary police department and they have far too much money to be wasting it by harrassing Calgarians.
Defund the police.
Police are a vital part of our communities. There will never be a perfect system, so we must always be improving, but in these difficult times we need to celebrate our Police officers, champion their mental health and training, while continuing to ensure they receive the resources to keep us safe.
Y'all use the police to harass homeless people & that's it. get rid of them. they're wasting money.
Should be reviewed and standards set in light of current events... Defund ing should not be part of that activitu
Why do we suddenly have vehicles on the roads that do not have exhaust MUFFLER systems? They now have exhaust ENHANCER systems instead.
As an American who's seeing much worse happen across the border, I thoroughly appreciate the police's respectful non-violent presence at a Black Lives Matter vigil I attended. I hope the police remain open to dialogue about how to better serve all Calgarians.
redistribute 50 percent of City of Calgary police fund from officers to mental health, etc.
Since the Victoria Park station closed there has been an increase in crime and nonsense in the area
DEFUND THE POLICE. Increase spending on public works that actually help citizens, like mental health liaisons, drug safe houses, homelessness reduction, etc

CPS officers are required to respond to far too many situations. Situations requiring mental health intervention, wellness checks, addictions intervention, among others should be handled by other emergency services preferably medically based services.
They provide law and order and a sense of well being and safety for my family.
We have increased robberies and properties stolen in our neighborhood. But not enough manpower in the police force.
Funding needs to be reallocated so experts in their fields can deal with issues. For example family services to deal with domestic issues. Also photo radar [removed]
Defund the police. Stop inflating the police budget when they are not capable of not murdering citizens.
the police budget is big. Perhaps reasonable savings could be found here.
While CPS is essential in many ways, we are now aware of the many ways they are non-essential and being asked to answer calls outside of their expertise (well being checks, mental health, homelessness and addictions). Redirecting funding away from police and toward social services would benefit all.
Police have far, far too much responsibility, as well as funding. If the police funds were instead used towards treating the root causes of crime such as housing/food insecurity, health issues, and addiction, then we'd all be far safer and happier.
I am concerned with all this talk about "defunding" the police and feel if anything we should be increasing funding to the Calgary Police Service !
CPS spending is ridiculous and unsustainable. Drop in crime and other factors should result in a substantial drop in funding. Eg: helicopters are a want, not a need. They are money pit to operate and provide almost no value. Salaries and number of officers must be substantially reduced: at least 20%
Do NOT cut funding. This city needs to remain lawful. The defund the Police movement is a terrible idea. Our police dept deserves better than the slander the mayor has provided them, so disrespectful.
As unemployment rises in Calgary, so is crime. Police are more important than ever
CPS, like all police forces, is oppressive, racist, misogynistic, transphobic, and more. The vast amount of dollars spent on them should be immediately Redirected to community, poverty, and support programs.
I would like to see an increase in the police budget and more officers on the street
Calgary Police Service is the reason I call this city home. Calgary will always be my city where I feel safe, protected, heard and respected knowing that a service like CPS is out there working tirelessly. I strongly disagree with any budget cuts or defunding coming from the Service.
Police culture is toxic; it needs to be defunded. Please defund the police and start seriously funding affordable housing, transit, and social programs. I've heard too many painful stories of bad encounters with the police from my friends of colour.
more social services programs and support for the police so that weapons/Bullets are always the last resource
We have used the non emergency line during the pandemic to access community support and traffic control. The community liaison officer is fantastic and had great practical tips as well as being extremely understanding and compassionate to citizen safety concerns. More funds for community policing!
Defund the police
This service should be defunded. Many issues that the police handle provide only short term relief and don't solve underlying issues. Put money into solving those issues (not enough affordable housing, social services, etc.) Ex. Police scare off drunks from train stations, but they just come back
ACAB

Again, this is a service necessary to the safety and protection of all Calgarians. If possible, without risking this service, more dollars could be allocated to social services and mental health relieving the police of some challenges they face every day.
Nice if council some support for the Police who put their lives on the line for each one of us. Council members sit in a protected environment shooting their mouths off and never deal directly with the public who often are drunk or on drugs as do our Police Officers do on a daily basis.
You again cannot cut this budget. They are far to important to the safety of citizens. I for one want the reponse when needed.
essential, especially in the down turned economy, uptick in crime and drug use. should not be cut back however better training on talk first before physical force needs to be rolled out
It essential to the city and budget needs to be increased not deceased.
Police budget should NOT be cut. We need more of these front line personnel for safety and to avoid the idiocy that's going on in the USA.
This is an very essential service and should not ever be facing cutbacks.
Keeping us safe
More funding more police are needed.
in a city as diverse and spread out at Calgary, we need the very best Police Force to ensure a safe and responsible community. Rather than defund, social supports need improved and a partnership expanded with police services
Amazing group! I have nothing but respect and admiration for the fine folks of CPS. As someone who deals with them frequently in my job, I love them!
Defund the police. That is all.
Police don't ever have public audits. How can we trust this budget when there is no accountability. Let's reduce the police budget now in 2020 while the need is the lowest in years.
Police are essential but I believe they need more training and or screening. I have witnessed many aggressive and racist incidents by Calgary Police. More support to encourage BIPOC to join the force or put in management roles. More CRO officers to support at ground level and prevent crime.
Restore their budget and maintain it. They do good work and should be protected so that they can protect us.
In order to maintain safe communities throughout the city and properly funded police service is a must.
More help is needed in the police where mental health is involved. For calls that involve mental ill or unwell people, there should be more experienced people present such as social worker, psychologist etc...

Property Assessment

lower taxes
Property values are decreasing while tax themselves are increasing. Seems that the projects still being funded need to be re-evaluated against the current economic situation
Assessment is flawed. My taxes went up 150 per month based on a terrible assessment
The value of our homes continue to go down but property taxes keep going up. This is unfair of the government, especially with the economic downturn. Harder to make ends meet. Assessing a lower property value makes harder sell.
My property taxes went up by \$780 last year alone. This is absurd. Get bent and stop the ridiculous spending.

This service is not important. It should be privatized or taken over by the province. Assessments are once a year yet there is an entire department dedicated to this one task, and managing all the complaints. My assessment doesn't even show me the past 3 years of my home value.
Assessment has taken a beating by council and the public over the last couple years. Neither party fully understands the function of the department and has led to questionable decisions that affect their function. Let the experts do their job.
Why does city assess the value on higher side, I was told they asses the area not the individual house why ? I brought my house for 280k city is assessing it at \$340k city says we cannot take the value you brought the place at
Your housing assessments are not correct. You over assess houses so you can collect more taxes, it's criminal.
I believe when my property assessment goes down my taxes should reflect that and go down too.
Tax increases are ridiculous in this City.
When are you going to remove the business tax portion from my residential property tax? Then you want to charge another \$3 for extra garbage, give me a break.
City council has a spending problem. Rather than looking at new ways to tax citizens they need to look for ways to cut taxes. Private industry has had to cut back 10-20% but council continues to spend like drunken sailors. Enough already, prioritize what is really important - maintain what we have
Not a business owner. But business taxes need to come down. Residential taxes need to take on more of the share. Businesses cannot continue to take on the brunt of the tax share for the city.

Public transit

We live in new community in the south, at least 1 bus to come by every hour, and not skip any hours.
Why hasn't the Ctrain been extended to the airport? This seems like a no brainer to me. Also, when building parking for LRT please please make them bigger, they are never large enough to accommodate the vehicle demand and people park all over streets, in residential areas and in other business parking lots.
This service is important to insure mobility for elders, kids and a large part of the population that uses them daily to go to work. The price of the monthly pass has increased 10\$ in a few years but the services have been reduced. We need to run more trains to ensure distancing is possible during covid19 ! If the blue line connected directly with the airport this will help the city bring more money in. A better public transport will lead to less traffic on roads (less incidents in winter).
That it needs to run more, it has to be more environmentally friendly and sustainable and it's need to continue to expand to make sure the city is able to have sufficient transit for all citizens of Calgary
This service is at risk due to the pandemic, but service is required to maintain ridership on existing investments into MAX BRT, and LRT. If service is not maintained, ridership will fall further, and citizens will no longer wish to support further transit infrastructure. We know from other countries, that post-pandemic, transit ridership will recover, as will vehicle usage, necessitating mass transit to provide a more efficient method of moving citizens.
I don't believe that the current proposals are in the best interests of the majority of Calgarians.
This service needs DRASTIC improvement. In the past, as a poor university student, I have nearly gotten frostbite waiting for trains in the winter in -35 conditions only to see another one won't come for hours. We need reliability, decreased fare funds to help homeless people and lower income people get around the city. Transit users are NOT second class citizens, and it is awful that we treat them as such.
Invest heavily in this - and other active transportation modes. This makes a great city. Dont build more roads. Make transit free.

Very important in helping create livable city. Very hard decisions with providing service during covid, but city has taken right approach to continue to provide these connections and service span to make them a convenient alternative for citizens.
Public transit is crucial to a well functioning region. I want to take more public transit but find the times on lots of bus routes are not feasible to plan a schedule around. I would like to see more frequency specifically on MAX routes, how can you call them RAPID with 20 minute wait times?
I am happy to see that the Green Line will move forward. This is a positive step in reducing car traffic and making transit accessible for all Calgarians.
In the wake of a world wide epidemic our city decided that it can't sit still while everyone else is and have the OK stamp of approval to move ahead on the green line project.. where will you get the money? The over 50,000 unemployed people of Calgary? Think people think.....
tickets on the my fare app should not expire in a week. they should not expire. if someone is paying real money they should get their ticket no matter when they use it. this is the worst thing to happen to transit since half the lines were cut and everyone was screwed over:)
Public Transit in Calgary is okay, but not great. It takes an hour to get from Marda Loop to Chinook Centre by bus, which makes public transport impractical. In turn, this means that most people drive cars everywhere, so there must be a lot of parking spaces downtown, instead of community buildings.
As a way to save money, communities outside of Stoney Trail should have transit on-demand instead of regular service. The sprawl has become too much as the amount that these services are being used to do not seem to make sense.
Service level does not match the price. Too expensive for lack lustre service
I do not have a vehicle so I do rely on transit. The scheduling is atrocious, even before the pandemic. Busses routinely leave as a train pulls in, causing a 20 - 60 minute delay. Why not be scheduled to leave a minute later?
Unfortunately most of the time the buses are late, and we are the only huge city with no fast public transportation (for eg: Vancouver has sky trains that are reliable and run often and sync up with each other so you can properly plan your commute)
I like Calgary Transit. It's great for work and for fun. And it is fun for the whole family.
The city is so widespread now, we need more ctrain lines to reach these areas
Please continue keeping the Green Line a priority. There are some who are lobbying against it, but I am very much in support of it. The 302 BRT is brutally slow.
Public transit is a must for me. I do not have friends with cars and have to rely on transit to assist with basic needs in my life, such as groceries, banking, doctor and medical appointments and also maintain my social life.
An underground subway should have been installed on 17th Avenue not a bus lane.
I have noticed unless one is traveling through the downtown core, where apparently the rules don't apply, banning bikes from transit occurs at times that disallows any bike/transit combination commutes.
It is not reasonable to expect citizens in the south to have a longer commute then those in the north. Going south 1 Ctrain line, But going north there is 2
As someone who doesn't drive, public transit is crucial for me to get around the city. I wish it were more reliable in the winter months as many don't have any other means to get around. I'm thankful that I am able to walk an hour to the trains when buses aren't working but not everyone can do so.

Please invest more in transit. For example, free wifi services would be great
I have actually had to flat out run out of terrifying situations. I do not feel safe on transit. I have witnessed verbal abuse, assault, drug use, racism, total creepiness, no heating or cooling at stations, and now funding and social distancing have been removed. Terrible idea.
For day to day use, for work and transportation. We need more frequent buses and c-train service. Blue line need to expand in northeast till redstone. Same more public time. C-train parking should be more bigger in northeast. less private car on road and less traffic and pollution.
I see buses driving through the neighbourhood every day. They are always empty. Maybe on these routes service could be provided every 45 minutes instead of every 30 minutes. Think about saving some money. Use small buses instead of big buses on routes that still require service but have less
It is my lifeline to getting around the city. I find many of the routes don't connect well. It takes hours to get across the city with multiple transfers. I work in the Foothills industrial area. I need to take 2 buses and a train to get to and from work. Improvements are needed.
Invest in train lines, not bus systems. No one who actually uses transit likes the bus, no matter how "max" you make it.
I sometimes ride public transit, but it's quite inconvenient. I worry about how long building train lines will take and how they are disruptive. We should have more express busses with nice warm bus stops instead of train lines.
I rely on transit and don't feel it is safe, even before COVID. The new MAX routes don't get me anywhere faster since I live in a transit dead zone. Make it easier to get where I need to go.
Public transit should be free and equitable. Keep investing in new train lines and better service delivery. Calgarians should be able to reduce their reliance on cars.
Stop taking all our money! I work full time and almost can't afford a bus pass and I can't get a cheaper pass
I'm seeing many empty CTS buses. Could ridership be reviewed?
Public transit should be adjusted to more closely meet ridership likely this would result in a reduction of service (therefore a cost savings).
I don't own a car, a driver's license or can I afford Either one, so I rely on my transit system to get me to my jobs, go shopping, and visit my library. I hope that the city counsellors will do their best to keep the passes at a reasonable cost for low income people.
Use it daily.
All buses should use the bus lane that the city built on 17th Avenue. They should not park on the street and further slow down traffic.
Essential service, pls keep it running
It is reasonable to reduce transit service while seeing ridership plunges.
Having accessible transportation for all Calgarians is important. Transit also provides an alternate environment friendly options to travel throughout the City and can provide savings to Calgarians as they can avoid paying high monthly parking fees. Build the Green Line-SE needs better transit.
The recent cut back of services have left it taking all day to get from one end of the city to another. Last week my father took a bus from 39Ave and MacLeod Trail to Cedarbrae. It took him 3 hours.
Cancel the greenline, it won't be needed with the advent of driverless cars.
Impacts the life of patients. The reduction in services reduce the ability of these people to leave their houses- direct impact on health

I use public transport in a daily basis but most of the time I don't feel safe since there are lot of drunk people wondering in the traing and sometime using drugs. The buses' seats are dirty most of the time and it is a major concern now due to the pandemic.
Having lived in a variety of Canadian cities in my life (Kelowna, Vancouver, Montreal) I can say objectively that calgary has by far the worst public transit system. Often, routes are not well connected, not frequent enough and NOT reliable. REALLY pathetic. We must invest in our mobility future
Public transit needs to provide more and cheaper service to make it viable.
I used to use transit all the time in university. From a cost and ease perspective, it's cheaper and easier for me to drive. The cost is far beyond what is reasonable
I strongly believe that as much investment as possible in public transit is critical to getting Calgarians to use a services that is notoriously unreliable and underfunded. I want to see the transit system expand, not contract, and for transit to be and remain financially accessible to all people.
No Green line. We can't afford it and by the time you finish it cars will be self driving.
We need to find a more effective way to manage off peak services. Many buses go by with no or single passenger
I appreciate that we have it but wish people would magically buy in. Interest is always so so, even those Transit does a lot to creatively improve their service
Transit is an essential service for our city. Many persons are dependent on transit for work, school and health. We must continue to make it affordable for those who are dependent on it in order to be a community where everyone can participate.
Calgary Transit is running full sized empty busses all day throughout the city that there is no need for. Many of these busses are running through neighbourhoods where the occupants have never used busses. Why? What about the new SW BRT White Elephant and its lavish bus stops with few or no riders.
The Westbrook LRT station is a crime hub surrounded by a 10 acre lot of mud and weeds. The station is unsafe and needs security on site at all times. This is an ongoing issue that seems to be ignored by the city. More security please.
I would like to know why high school kids have to pay to take the bus to school?
it is funny the city paid to lengthened the bus aprons but put small buses on the routes,a complete waste of money.
Make payment required to enter/exit LRT platforms. Too much money is missed with making it easy for people to access the service without payment. We NEED transit and it is failing most. It needs a better source of income to allow it to grow and create value for citizens.

Real Estate

Stop the city's expansion outwards. Focus on what we currently have. Denser population should provide cheaper service cost per household.
the corp should be as minimally involved in development of sites and property holdings that are not related to specific services such as affordable housing, Heritage sites, parks buildings, mixed use w/ essential serv (west end CFD) . CoC should sell sites such as the strip mall on McLeod trail.
The current property tax is way too high compared to the actual market value of the property m.

Records Management

Expand open government. Make more data available on your open data site. The new economy needs it.
No New

Recreation

Build more new facilities from large recreation centres to local skate parks, and close the ones that are beyond lifecycle.
I enjoy these immensely, but they need to cost more. These should make money for the city, not operate at a loss or require subsidization. These are 'nice to haves' not needs to fulfill the city's mandate, and as such you need to charge more for these.
Council should consider divesting facilities to private operators and use the proceeds and savings to reduce tax burden on small businesses.
Affordable, introductory and essential for community.
compared to say even edmonton, our variety and amount of recreation facilities seem limited.
More focus on adult recreation
It would be great if the city could sponsor a splash park like the Spray Lakes Sawmills Family Sports Centre in Cochrane, in Quarry park for residents of the three communities, Douglas Glen, Riverbend and Quarry Park. Perhaps some of the businesses in the complex could help fund it. "Imperial Oil Family Splash Park". A Joint Project of Community and Business.
Very important for health plus the location are very convenient monthly price or yearly price is too high comparer to private gyms like good life and gold gym
City should continue to offer affordable recreation and physical exercise activities accessible to all citizens of Calgary in all neighbourhoods. It's important for both physical and mental health and needs to be affordable from children to young adults to women to seniors.
I feel it's so important to have access to high quality but also affordable recreation for health and community building. I have always really gotten so much value from the programs I have been involved with.
Pls ensure we keep recreational facilities open during these challenging timed
Calgary has amazing, world-class recreational opportunities. They are well maintained and make a huge difference to quality of life. Keep it up.
I enjoy the Inglewood Aquatic Centre and I hope you do not shut it down.
All recreation and fitness opportunities should be funded by those that use those facilities or attend recreational programs - not taxpayer dollars. Only a small percentage of taxpayers and their families use the facilities or attend programs. They seek out other opportunities from private providers.
Generally speaking, this service has been beneficial to me and my family, which we use in various ways (skating, swimming, sports). I still remember good memories of Leisure Centre visits when I was a kid! (Southland). I'm a bit wary during Covid (as with many things) so I haven't attended in a bit
thank you for making recreation happen even with covid

Sidewalks & pathways

I know it may sound silly or not important but I am frustrated with the design of our sidewalks. I am very confused how some sidewalks will have a ramp to get across the street and then literally the next one I need to use will not have one. Very poor planning. It's extremely difficult for parents with strollers which is my situation but also anyone in a wheel chair. It's dangerous bc you then have to go on the side of the road.
I cycle to work all year long (this has had wonderful impacts on my health, finances, and general well-being) and the only way that this type of commute has been possible is because of the city's excellent pathway maintenance / snow-clearing program. Thank you! Despite not being on a central route (I cycle

from Marda Loop to Southland), I have found that I can rely on the city to ensure a clear, safe journey for me all year long!
Need lots more pedestrian bridges in this City.
Cycling is great, and there are a lot of accommodations for cyclists. Many cyclists don't follow the laws, speed and crowd pedestrians on sidewalks. Cyclists should have to buy licenses. Even a nominal fee might instill a sense of responsibility in riders.
Sidewalks need to be wider especially in places with high tourism and traffic flow. Easier to pass people and walk with others. Other major cities have a better sidewalk system than Calgary with a focus on wider sidewalks that are better maintained and not falling apart.
Safer walk/cycleways
It's great to see pathways built and maintained throughout old and new communities. Pathways for me are more important than bike lanes.
The pathway system in Calgary is incredible; I feel connected to the City when I use them, and see others using them. Maintenance of pathways costs money; Calgarians need to make the connection that their taxpayer dollars contribute to a better quality of life.
Pathways and green space are great, bike lane starlight downtown are not great for bikes or cars
focus on "missing links" initiative within parks. A lot of work has been completed to identify these, now please build them. They promote healthy living (exercise, outdoor living, access and support to local business, reduction on road systems)
This service is very important providing transportation to work, school, and shopping as well as recreation. Dismaying that it is treated without any respect compared to roads. E.g., pathways closed without notice, left closed for months or years without any work done.
Stop trying to push through upgrades that are not needed in neighbourhoods like those temporary traffic calming measures that end up becoming permanent. Most of the time they are in the way, and actually decrease usability of the neighbourhood.
Every sidewalk in my neighborhood (the beltline) 2nd street specifically is under repair. Walking is dangerous. Bikes riding on sidewalks is dangerous. I think the city has forgotten about pedestrians in the haste to make cyclists happy.
Safety from traffic-related crashes needs to be the top priority. There is a lot done, but more focus needs to be put here.
Can we please just follow the plans and standards that Council approves. Nothing more or less.
I am sick of my tax dollars going towards bike infrastructure. Cyclists are the anonymous trolls of the roadways. If they want to be treated as equal vehicles, they need to be licensed and insured.
We should spend much more on pathways and sidewalks, especially in dense communities. COVID taught us how useful those lane closures have been to support businesses, pedestrians and give more space. Make them permanent and give all businesses easy ability for patios (plus more walking room)
Thank you for the great pathway system in Calgary. Now that so many people are working in 'burbs and spending more time outdoors, this is a great time to encourage more cycling instead of driving for errands and short trips. Maybe better wayfinding signage on the pathways and bike routes?
Sidewalks and pathways should be cleared, not left undone or left up to residents, many of whom may be unable to undertake this work. They are a public service and should be maintained as such.

Social Programs

This is so key right now. It works to prevent scenarios down the road and helps keep our citizens healthy.

Important to end poverty and to help low income individuals and families Provide more services, better education opportunities, more opportunity for recreation, invest in infrastructure, expand Library and activity services, decrease funding and support for activities only accessible by the wealthy
We have some great services in place but they don't have enough funding. Alpha house is a savior for our city and should get way more funding. Adult addiction services downtown also offers an array of services but not enough people know about these wonderful services
Why is the city putting \$600,000 towards grants for systemic racism? Organizations that are most in focus (like the police) already have processes to examine this and the judicial system has ways to address other problems. How about the city stop this spend and the cost of administration for it and keep tax rates under control instead? Poverty is a bigger issue than systemic racism for people's well being and higher taxes makes it worse.
It is not important to me at all and should not be funded
More focus on proper rehabilitation- addiction services
I think this City Service is important as it provides front line intervention directly to the most at risk Calgarians. It also helps save money in the long run as it provides support and intervention services to address presenting risk factors.
Emergency and school workers need to have the ability to connect the people they meet with the services needed (housing, counseling etc.). We need a comprehensive system that actually has the funding to help the people who need it, when they need it.
This is important as there are so many types of social programs that help everyone, and they should be more easily accessible to people in desperate need.
The Fair Entry program is incredible and has truly been life changing for low-income Calgarians. Nicely done!
Support our social agencies, like Drop In Centre, Distress Centre, all the shelters, CARYA
Poverty reduction initiatives are essential as the province struggles economically. However, before a person can move out of poverty, their basic needs must be met. This means investing in local community supports to address the gaps in basic needs services like food, clothing, shelter, and telecom.
This is not City's essential service. Cut all funding from this sector.
Ensuring that programs that help families are readily available, affordable and accessible. Childcare, eldercare, and domestic violence support should be easy to find and use.
The reality is that the province is stepping back from supporting our most vulnerable. The City must strategically examine how it can continue this support as the government who will ultimately are the brunt of these disinvestments by the province. Failure to do so costs us more in the long run.
Increase funding! Take from police services!
More essential now than ever- struggling people need to be taken better care of, have more options for help. Doing so will reduce desperation leading to crime, overall a safer city.
These services are important and will most likely become more important in the years ahead after the pandemic ends. Please ignore the current provincial government (which most people seem highly dissatisfied with) and continue funding social programs so Calgary will remain inclusive and progressive.
All social programs that provide Calgarians with access to recreational opportunities or services that contribute to their overall health and wellbeing (both physical and mental) are a top priority for me - these are key to the vitality of our social fabric in the city.
NO cuts to social services.

The police budget is nearly 10 times that of social services and affordable housing combined, despite the fact that these types of programs are proven to address the root causes of crime more effectively and humanely. Defund the police and give it to social programs and affordable housing. PLEASE!

Specialized Transit

Impacts the life of patients. The reduction in services reduce the ability of these people to leave their houses- direct impact on health

I don't use it but I appreciate that there's an option for this population. The cost per month seems reasonable, and I can only imagine how much it'd otherwise cost in people's time to replicate the service if it wasn't there.

Not sure if this refers to additions to the current LRT system, but related to that issue, the Green Line should be shelved, regardless of gov'ts providing funding. Post Covid there may be so few people working in downtown or not telecommuting that this line will not be required.

Stormwater

The flash floods this summer have worried me that we do not have a good enough storm water management. Flash floods on highways should not happen if the sewage systems are regulated and installed correctly.

Lack of maintenance is leading to localized flooding. We can't touch the sewers, but the city is not interested in much needed maintenance to ensure they are able to cope with the influx of melt and rain water

Something should really be done to understand the source of pollution to our rivers, especially the Elbow River and it's feces contamination.

I think we need to do better here. Whether permeability targets or solids reduction it feels like a lot of the development decisions we approve do not balance with these needs. With the right funds and administrative clout we can meet development and environmental objectives

Critical - saves my home and business from damage and keeps our rivers healthy - invest in it!

The City provides flood protection for those with land or facilities in floodplains. Unlike other utilities, landowners & City departments are not charged a fee for this service. Such fees should be charged to recover an equitable portion of benefits provided. Direct to dept. that builds the works.

Streets

Spend money clearing roads, not pathways. Broken, legs and arms cost less than vehicle accidents.

City council knows what regular maintenance needs to be done due to Calgary's quickly changing weather- pot holes, plowing, etc. It's the same thing every year, year after year, and yet it is taking MONTHS to fix potholes in this city. Even during the gift of Covid, when the roads were almost bare, and so much street work could have been completed, almost nothing got done to address potholes. I want to see the City be proactive to weather-related road repairs instead of always playin catch up.

Signage needs to improve across the city. Too many exits with little to no notice or poor signage. For example: Glenmore and 14th right 2 lanes exit. There is almost no warning resulting in a lot of late breaking to move across 2 lanes of traffic to avoid the exit.

In poor to awful condition in most areas now. Limits the ability to get around the city. Damage done to vehicles hurts the monthly budget

Deerfoot and Stoney both need to be repaired

Reduce the threat of automobiles to my safety walking and cycling in my neighborhood. I feel threatened by aggressive driving and large pick-up trucks.

Some areas of the city could use infrastructure improvement, to decrease congestion if possible. Such as under and over-passes. It looks like everything major is under work now. But this should be a focus so we do not become overly congested in the future.
We see so many road closures for construction that is not actively happening. This process needs to be amended to decrease interruptions. Also city workers should not be doing routine work on stat holidays.
Fix the roads! My god 14th street is a like a mine field always dodging, also the street by woodbine Safeway is total garbage since the Max yellow got forced in.
We need it to get to our businesses. We have to all drive on the west shoulder of the road, the rest is impassable.
The streets in our neighborhood are terribly maintained. We have so many potholes on our streets that need fixing, the painting of crosswalks is crooked, it looks neglected in Mckenzie lake. It's such a nice community. The city needs to focus on outlying areas, not just downtown. Come on guys!!
WE need to examine the way we do SNIC. Use of highly corrosive Calcium Chloride may be reducing the life of ALL city owned resources like vehicles and road infrastructure. Rethink bare pavement policy
Everywhere I drive in Calgary, there are issues with roads. The roads are blocked off, and no one is around actually doing the repairs. If there are workers present, they are just standing around. Traffic is impacted and if there is ever an accident, the City becomes gridlocked.
The quality of our roads has diminished massively. Especially when they tear up the road to do work, it seems to leave massive pot holes everywhere which biking and driving on them is unsafe. Please put more direction into planning, especially if it's a new road and repair damage properly.
I wish The City considered a variety of metrics for a successful project. There seems to be a heavy focus on capital spend rate, but other factors should also be considered.
Road repairs need to be kept on a strick timeline. To have lanes of traffic closed off for over 3 years is unacceptable (Memorial Drive)
The temporary lane closures for covid need to be cancelled. It is dangerous for traffic to be dodging fallen pilons. There are 10 cars to 1 biker/walker
Being handicapped, it is necessary to drive to stores and medical appointments. Many streets are very rough with potholes and worn-out asphalt; some have improved of late.
To much community space is devoted to cars. Speed and speeding are destroying our community life as kids can't safely play outside except in fenced area like dogs
Whatever happened to having a plan that would be followed for 20 kms of cycle tracks?
Consistent road signage and lighting around construction sites continues to be poor.
Snow removal needs to be amended. We spend the same as Ottawa and yet they receive an astronomical amount of snow and it is always cleared on time. My street is never plowed all year. Invest in the proper vehicles like Cochrane does.
How come I can't report streetlights through 311 anymore? I have to go on Calgary.ca. The map doesn't work and I can't get updates on why things haven't been fixed for so long. What a dumb idea. Is this my tax dollars at work?
More needs to be done to complete roadworks projects in a timely fashion. Construction zones cannot stay up the entire summer.
I've witnessed several examples of street sweeping during evening hours in January / February, only to have the roads sanded due to snowfall days later. Completely wasteful use of taxpayer dollars and leaves the impression that such practices are culturally embedded within the city.
Investment more in street repairs and cleaning. Alot of streets around ward 13 need replaced ASAP

More active transportation infrastructure and support. Enact Vision Zero and increase support for active transportation across the city. FOLLOW OUR CLIMATE POLICY
With the cost of all of the premium equipment that is underutilized, this could be privatized. Ask yourself how many people it takes to purchase a lawnmower with the check and balances.
Potholes, poor street maintenance was a problem before Ralph Klein started the pothole patrol. It's become a problem again now thru neglect. We need to take pride in our City again and maintain our streets.
Streets should provide equitable movement opportunities for everyone. Calgary has focused its streets on motorized vehicles only; so much that it was recently named the best city in the world for cars. How about we become the best city (in Nort America) for pedestrians?
I have to report streetlights online. I can't call anymore and it is not on the 311 app either. They said they can no longer take them due to roads devision. How stupid! You are reducing service and my perceived value. Also quality of the roads are deteriorating. Potholes everywhere no happy!
Traffic light synchronization used to be a goal. If you drove down almost any street driving the speed limit you could catch every light as green and move freely through the city. It seems now the opposite that lights are purposely timed for "traffic calming". This is incredibly annoying.
Road users pay less than 25% of the full cost of Canada's road network. Most of this money goes to the Province and federal government. The City needs to charge road users fees to equitably share the costs of Calgary's road budget and climate impacts.
Do not universally decrease the speed limit to 30 on residential streets. There are a lot in the suburbs that are fine the way they are.
An increased focus on transportation for that other than vehicles. Greater budget put towards cycling infrastructure, safe pedestrian access, dedicated bus lanes and more. Look 50 years into the future and base policy on what we want the world to look like then, not how we see it now.
Streets in Calgary are 100% for huge trucks getting everywhere as fast as humanly possible, and parking wherever they want. There needs to be not only a reclamation of some of this public space, but safer engineering to produce lower speeds and better pedestrian/cyclist safety.
We have been waiting on a stop sign and a street sign in mahogany for over a year now. Two dump trucks almost collided in front of our house the other day. Extremely dangerous.
The same problem and question for the past 10 years: why does the City snow removal department ignore the critically hazardous hill ice-up of Bow Trail from Old Banff Coach Road/Strathcona Blvd east ward to Sarcee Trail SW until after multiple collisions have occurred. This should be a "Priority 1".
we need roads that work, and roads department that listens. Our back lanes are every year getting rutted, and no one says we can fix that except park on the city street which is not happy as why have a fully built garage when in winter it cannot be used due to roads refuse to level the ruts out.
Is this streetlights? I used to be able to call 311 now I can't. Shame on you. What a waste of time trying to find out what is going on with streetlights Now. No updates and the map is out of date. A step backwards in my view
Why do you still need the curb lanes on 17th Avenue set aside for Patio's? Social distance and wear a mask the right way. The kids have gone back to school and don't need to social distance as long a mask is on their face.
Mostly residential streets need repair .
Most our streets are too wide adding costs in maintainance and replacement. When roads come up for renewal, reduce their size and give space back to parks, sidewalks or sell to development. Reduce costs while improving life!

stop trying to reinvent the road, stop making traffic enforcement roads that force you to go one way or to use one entrance or exit. just leave it alone.

Taxation

Council and management need to understand that the property owners in this city are not a never ending source of revenue, and make spending decisions accordingly. Spending is out of control.

We don't need to be the lowest tax jurisdiction. Does not attract good employers, does not allow us to build and maintain the city that would attract those employers.

Stop being disingenuous in saying yyc taxes are low compared to other municipalities. Factor in all the user fees paid through utilities.

In both my personal and professional life (as a small business CEO) I have seen the negative impacts of out of control city spending, zero accountability by either Management or Council and a shocking disregard for any viewpoint that violates the narrative that Calgary is a well managed municipality. This has been the singular most negative part of living in Calgary over the past five years. Please do not take this to mean that I need another insert in my Enmax bill telling me that I'm wrong.

Our taxes have doubled in 10 years. It has a massive impact on our family to afford other essential items.

I saw a list of areas that the city is looking at taxing. This is not the way you balance the budget. A small wage cut will go a long way to getting to balance. It will take courage but Calgarians will respect it far more than yet more taxes.

A not very significant increase

I think our tax dollars are being mismanaged, and the current mayor is doing a horrific job of meeting the needs of the many, while pandering to the few.

At a time when economic strain is at its greatest heights and will continue to rise among Calgarians - what justification does city council have for raising taxes? What is city council prepared to do when the inevitable incapacity of taxes charged are unable to be met in the case we hit a depression? This can become a difficult barrier for many that may be looming in the near future...

My business can barely survive with this level of property taxes. If something isn't done, I can easily move it out of city limits and no taxes will be received. stop spending like there is still an oil boom and cut unnecessary expenses.

In my opinion our property taxes are quite high considering the services we receive and how the city is maintained like grass on city property up to my knees snow removal not done well on residential streets if done at all.

Citizens are overtaxed at all levels of government

We need to re-assess the property tax situation. It's getting out of control. Instead of blowing cash on intra-council media productions or other non-necessary spending we can give working class families a break.

Raising taxes should not be the default to a missed budget. Cut costs and services across the board as every business in Calgary has had to do.

Our taxation is out of control and not transparent. I have no faith in council to tell the truth without spinning it in their favor

Taxes need to be reduced!

Stop increasing property taxes.

Property taxes should not have to increase every year.

Lower taxes! Economy is dying and you continue lavish spending.

City should be establishing austerity in this down times rather than increasing taxes to cover costs

Why would you hike rates? Why would you not offer incentive for early payment?
Lower it!!! 40% hikes? Just wrong.
We are taxed far too high. Nenshi has 3 pensions and we have the highest prep orth tax in Canada.
Higher taxes destroy homes and business. The city needs to run debt to pay for mega projects
Increases in property taxes should be tied to inflation.
Stop raising taxes . I took a pay reduction and you raised my taxes . Do you have any idea what the common man is going through ?
Taxes form the basis of city budget. Home owners still pay low taxes relative to Alberta cities and Canadian. Increasing taxes can stabilize revenue - needs to be done with strategic investment in modernization of services
Taxes in this city are too high. During this downturn the city has shown no restraint on spending. Just squeezing more money from taxpayers, this needs to stop.
We need to see a reduction. A 0% increase is not a reduction, the tax rate needs to be negative for a few years.
You guys have a massive spending problem and need to drop taxes now
Why does city council think they have an unlimited check book?
Stop raising taxes! Learn to balance the budget. I have to. Unfortunately, when you balance a budget, you have to say no to alot of things.
Calgarians are being gouged on taxes because of the city's reckless spending. City councillors, mayor and admin all need to take a pay cut
Taxation should be higher for those with larger incomes but not to the point where it would penalize people for making more money. It is important to invest into our communities and governments so that we can have better public systems.
Encourage more businesses into Calgary so the mid and lower socio economic group can stop going into debt to pay for large corporate tax cuts.
I am on a limited income. I'm tired of paying more taxes, and more fees, when city should be reducing costs
[removed]
Continue advocating to the provincial government 2 modernize our taxation system. Property tax can't be the only way the city can raise revenue
City admin should be directed to cut taxes.
Tax increases especially during an economic downturn. Taxes should be on the higher income wealthy citizens. The lower and middle class would suffer or struggle to rebound when paying more unjustifiable property taxes. It is unfair and inconsiderate.
Our taxes are way to high and the number one priority for the next year should be lowering taxes to return money to a community that is struggling
My property tax has almost doubled under this current council - meaning when Nenshi was elected. Stop raising taxes for pet projects and unnecessary infrastructure and programs that help special interest groups.
Focus on redistributing services and taxes to the communities that use the services. Redistribute taxation from high density condominiums that use less municipal services to large single family homes that have access to services like waste removal and recycling which are not available to condo's.
Just curious as to how property values are actually determined, and where the rates applied actually come from.

I've heard that it's all done on a single giant ancient spreadsheet, and that no single person in the administration actually understands the whole thing. Any public comment on that?
The taxation (special property taxes) must be kept under control and as low as possible. With higher number of unemployed people in the city, this tax have a high effect in their monthly expenses.
I believe Taxation is one of the main revenues for cities and government, that enables them fund various programs and services. That being said, I also feel that folks in NE are hurting financially and consideration should be taken when assessing their property taxes.
The City needs another source of income besides property taxes; needs greater control in creating and implementing revenue-generating strategies.
City Council seems to forget that the money they are spending belongs to the citizens of Calgary. When Calgary / Alberta are going through numerous years of economic hardship, we want our representatives on Council to respond accordingly and not reduce taxes and spending.
It is important for the city to respect tax payers and keep increases inline with the inflation rates. Otherwise it is abuse and mismanagement
I think that our mayor should stop spending, spending, spending! Art projects are stupid and need to stop... Also his pension has to go!
Too many taxes, we can't afford that.
cut taxes
Very confusing to understand my tax bill. Too complicated. Why do you send me so many letters? I don't know what is a bill. This needs to be simplified
cut taxes
STOP spending my tax money on hockey arenas, and art projects. My tax money should go to ensure that my house doesn't burn down, or that if I have a medical emergency my life is saved, but instead City Council put my money towards an arena that I can't afford to buy tickets to go to anyway. Shame!
Calgarians need a tax break. Our city is struggling. Downtown core is slowly disappearing, it is starting to resemble Detroit.
cut taxes
The property tax increase this year on my house was 400 a month. it is crushing me.

Taxi, Limousine & Vehicles-for-Hire

Transportation as a Service TaaS is the way of the future and Calgary needs to begin now (I expect you already have) as I believe that in the next 5 - 10 years our use of alternate car use will seriously affect how we all live our lives. Major cities have 1/3 of their land mass for parking!!
Just a question - why is one taxi service, "Uber", running by a different set of rules (eg, fares, licensing, no taxi plates required etc) than the rest? Why isn't the city collecting the same fees from them as the other liveried Taxi/Limousine services?
I use these services as I do not own a car and public transit is not always reliable. I found it extremely beneficial when Car2go was operating in the city as it provided another transportation method. I would really like to see another service similar to Car2go come to Calgary to fill the gap.
Stop giving preferential treatment to taxi drivers at the airport. Let Uber drivers pick people up in the arrival zone.
This city service is not important to me. A number of private companies have offered these services successfully for years, they use technology and free market principles to go where they are needed and charge appropriate fees. Why is the city still involved in this business at any level?
No New

Urban Forestry

It appears that many of our new trees are not lasting more than a year. A lot of trees are dying because they are not being cared for and disease is not being managed.
Need more trees and to take care of the ones we have.
If you are making investment into planting. You need to invest in maintaining the trees. It's a waste to spend money on planting trees and having them die the next year. This is not just this year, but for many years. Stop planting until you have the funds to maintain them.
Planting trees is the ONLY thing that actually reverses CO2 emissions by capturing carbon and emitting Oxygen. We should set a goal of planting 1 million trees, in addition to replacing any that are cut down.
I love the trees in Calgary! I would really like to learn more about them.
Need to keep up with the amount of trees a city this size should have, and replace the diseased/broken trees within a year.
Urban forestry is great because not only is it good for the environment, it also makes the city feel cleaner. An interesting take would be to use a lot of moss and the like instead of grass, and also using moss on the sides of buildings.
Please give priority to accelerate the Urban Canopy Expansion Program, it is an affordable and practical way to rejuvenate our aging tree coverage, and by expediting the program, results will appear in an earlier generation.
More transparency and information regarding CoC-tree vs. Owner-tree. A tree I want to cut down looks like it's on its death bed, but the Urban Forestry person visited and says it's not dead yet so I can't. CoC website also says "Maintained by Calgary Parks", but there is no maintenance. Frustrating.

Waste & Recycling

If you go ahead and privatize great services such as this for just an example this does not save any money for your citizens. It saves city small amount of money but costs citizens way more for worse services
in a townhouse of 4 units we each pay and have to find space for 3 bins. as 4 single people we pay 4x the amount as a family of 4 on the same geographic and waste footprint. its unfair financially and a challenge to find space for 12 bins.
I'd like to stress the importance of waste and recycling, an essential service, remaining public. Over the past few years, the city has done a stellar job creating and maintaining an easy-to-use system that continues to increase waste diversion. It's truly excellent. Privatization of this has a bad rep of worker's safety issues, strikes, and reducing trash diversion; Toronto is one example. If there is doubt, consider releasing budget and operational data and crowdsourcing ways to save instead.
This is a service that should be reduced or scaled back. Given the realities some of this material is now being stored or dumped in the landfill anyway the entire program needs to be reevaluated. Instead of green bins why not give households compost bins. Save all the ongoing costs. In terms of recycling why not go back to the centralized drop off points. Our household used these before blue bins and it worked just fine saving taxpayers collection costs
its not important to me. It is too expensive for a service that used to be included in my taxes, now I taxed and charged a monthly fee for it. Way too much
privatize ,or replace present management.
I seriously have no idea why we're focusing so much on this service. The price seems very fair. Aside from adjustments to collection frequency I see no need for privatization.

How we recycle can impact our environment. I feel citizens should be well educated about how to recycle each and every item they throw away. The city can also provide incentives for those who recycle compostable items (like food scraps) in their backyards.
I am sure that the private sector can provide better service for less cost.
Costs are staying the same or going up and the level/frequency of service is going down.
Cancel the program as it is a drain on finances and actually does no good.
Why is this so expensive? Why is there a blue cart program when no one buys the recycled material? recycling materials collected with our blue carts should be recycled, not sent to the landfill. doesn't seem like it's right to have us split out materials only to trash them on the other end.
I saw there is a new Solar panel field out by the recycling depot, when will we see the cuts to consumers because we are using solar
Have heard rumours about privatizing these services. That is insane and will create a disaster in this city. It costs far more money for the citizens and give poor quality service. Only the city saves a few pennies all the while you will enrage your constituents. You need to stop it now!!
Blue Bin contents taken to dump. Bins are picked up too often. Trucks waste time and money travelling empty. It has been suggested that we recycle the blue and green and use only the black on a weekly basis
Expensive and inefficient.
These services used to be part of property taxes. Now I can truly see how expensive this is for a 1 person household. I'm tired of subsidizing the rest
The green cart killed any hope of efficiency.

Waste water

When our basement had multiple sewer backups over the years of the home we were renting, the city helped clear the blockages with an auger. The staff were always polite and the city was patient, giving the landlords all the time they needed to get the sewer replaced.
Wastewater costs are too high.
Our costs for this service continue to rise to rates that are unacceptable. Another money grab.

Water Treatment

When our basement had multiple sewer backups over the years of the home we were renting, the city helped clear the blockages with an auger. The staff were always polite and the city was patient, giving the landlords all the time they needed to get the sewer replaced.
Wastewater costs are too high.
This is an essential service. Without it there is no city. THIS should be the city's prime concern—not transit lines or bike paths or stadiums. Without water there is no city.
The basic charges for these are extremely high. It now costs more for the waste water, storm sewer, water than it does for electricity. My consumption averages us below average.
Charge us more than once for water used for food production. re gardens and fruit trees

Fire Service Verbatim

Question asked

The second area that is being looked at is how fast the Calgary Fire Department responds to Fire & Emergency calls. Right now, the average household in Calgary pays about \$263 annually for Fire & Emergency Response.

One avenue for potential savings is response time to emergency calls. A 30 second longer response time target could mean an annual savings of up to \$5.8M, which works out to about \$6.90 off the average annual residential property tax bill.

As in most cases, this decision involves trade-offs. Not all calls are major emergencies but when they do happen, the impact of this slower response time might include:

- A fire expanding beyond the room where it started before firefighters arrive,
- A person experiencing a heart attack having a 5% lower chance of survival,
- A fire doubling in size before the firefighters arrive.

We want to hear from you about how you expect The City to manage these trade-offs. Do you think it is reasonable for The City to take on more risk in order to achieve annual cost savings? What would you like The City to know when considering these cost savings and potential service impacts?

Participant comments

Putting peoples lives in jeopardy for \$6.90 a year seems illogical.
Nope. Dosen't sound like a good idea to me to increase response times. I've seen first hand the good life saving work our firefighters do. Please find savings in things that dont affect our public safety and health.
Absolutely freaking not. Science says a fire can double in size in 30 seconds, that is not worth \$7 and I am incredulous you would suggest this.
No I do not think this is a good trade off. Essential this is lowering the number of fire halls and firefighters within the city. This may work to lower costs, but what is the value of a life. And with fewer Firefighters how do you expect to deal with large scale events, like the 2013 floods. Maybe look at spending less on building new fire halls. The stainless steel on the outside of the hall north of Chinook Centre probably cost \$200,000 plus to fabricate and install.
I think rather than lengthening response times by reducing budgets you could have firefighters doing city admin tasks throughout their days. It's very well known that firefighters have ample time in a shift where they do nothing fire related. Perhaps auditing their day to day could provide much needed cost savings to other departments. It's a bold faced lie if CFD claims that their employees are not running side businesses and cleaning their personal vehicles while on shift.
I would pay the extra \$7 to make sure that the the response times of the CFD does not change. I believe we need a robust fire service especially with the climate change and the amount of floods and extreme weather phenomenons we are seeing.
This is a terrible place to find savings! You are risking people's lives and homes. Not only the lives of the people who have made the emergency call, but the lives of your first responders. This is careless and shows a complete lack of respect for your city of Calgary residents and employees.
No. Risking people's lives and safety, and putting further risk on those emergency responders is careless. It shows a complete lack of respect for your city of Calgary residents just to save a couple bucks.

No it is not reasonable! Keep the greater services, even if it is more expensive. I work the front desk at a health club near downtown and we call 911 often, whether its due to fire/gas leaks in the kitchen, police for people causing a nuisance or trespassing, or ambulance for medical emergencies. I can honestly say 30 seconds matters IMMENSELY in many of these situations and it would cause more problems then not.
I am not happy that the city would consider slower response times to save a few dollars, lives and property do matter! Slower response, results possible higher death rate ,from “heart attack” more property damage,higher insurance costs, this could continue to snowball out of control. Provide the service,
The city has enough other places that they can reduce expenses, that they don't have to touch the public sector. They deserve a pay cut at the very least, if not an entire pay structure remodeling. It is disgusting that they even consider this an option.
No. A \$6.90 savings per year is not worth the risk. Firefighters are one of those things you pay for and hope to never use. DO not decrease taxes by \$6.90 to add 30 seconds response time.
Life safety could be biggest trade-off when it comes to slower response times, the fire department needs every second possible to save lives. Homes need to be evacuated for life safety as the rate of fire spread is so fast in many parts of our city. Time is one of the only elements that can be controlled by the City. The city should try to reduce the time it takes for the fire department to respond to help save lives.
I do NOT think it is reasonable to increase risk to achieve cost savings. Increasing response times by this much will have a detrimental affect on the outcome of emergency calls in city. Not even mentioning what less trucks mean when there are multiple incidents happening at the same time. This could have a huge impact for little saving to individuals taxes.
Absolutely not. The risk far outweighs the minuscule savings. I wonder what the impact would be to insurance premiums?
This would be a horrible trade off, 30 seconds to a life in need could be 30 seconds too late!
To constantly stretch our front lines thin and ask them to operate on a budget that simply does not meet the needs already in an ever growing city is simply neglecting the most important area we as tax payers come to expect. We want to be protected when we sleep at night / knowing there is an engine in with sufficient staffing that can help make a difference - not a truck without water that this current council has approved as sufficient. Risking the lives of people to save money is not right.
Most houses are fully engulfed in flames in about 5-10 minutes because building codes have changed. A fire in Evanston today (Sept 8) burned TWO (2) houses and damaged TWO (2) more. The fire depart was there quickly because of being close. How many more would have been burned/damaged otherwise. For \$6.90 a YEAR!!!! that barely buys a coffee nowadays. NO I DO NOT THINK IT IS REASONABLE FOR CALGARY TO RISK THE ABOVE TO SAVE ME \$6.90 WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE PASSED ON TO GARBAGE COLLECTION.
I do not believe that more risk to achieve annual cost savings is a realistic idea. We are talking about people's lives on the line. When firefighters are called on they perform and are willing to sacrifice their lives to save ours. So I believe we should set them up for success. If it was your family or friends who needed help wouldn't you want them there as quickly as possible in case a critical intervention such as cpr or naloxone. Please don't gamble with our lives for 7 dollars.
No. The safety of my family and families In the city of Calgary should be priority over their budget
Are we really taking about \$6.90 annually per household divided into monthly payments less then 58 cents a month! It's all fine to live in a hypothetical world of looking at 30 seconds as nothing but that's not taking into consideration the over lapping district rig also being out on a call.

At that point it won't be 30 seconds it will be several mins I think if you are going to close fire stations for a cost of 58 cents a month the public should be aware what stations are on the chopping block.
I completely disagree with cutting the amount of fire fighters to save money! We depend on them in times of need! If there are less we run the higher risk of more fatalities!! It's NOT worth saving \$6.90!!!
Can you please elaborate and provide very specific data with proof of how a 30 second increase is realistic. Where does that number come from? Will fire trucks be shut down in any communities? The "30 second" increase you're speaking to seems arbitrary and vague. Please be more specific regarding this.
Who would possibly vote for a 30 second longer response time over a \$7 YEARLY savings? It is likely that fire insurance would have to go up to compensate for this, and likely a lot more than \$7. Also, that 30 seconds would almost certainly involve closing fire stations, as how do you shave off 30 seconds from all areas of the city? You can't. Clearly what would happen is some fire halls will be shut down- hopefully not where you live..... All for the price of a Starbucks coffee PER YEAR!
I do. CFD even at their busiest stations are able to cook and make 3 meals a day. They're not so over worked that it's possible For them to do 24 hr shifts without fatigue. They all get a gym session and a pickle ball game in at least 1x per shift. As a tax payer I believe we can absolutely afford cuts to CFD - cut CFD from medical calls and dispatch multiple ambulances on delta and echo responses and we could function on a volunteer fire department. 90% of Alberta is volunteer.
No, absolutely not. I'm happy to pay the \$6.90 in property tax. I think it is absolutely ridiculous to risk the homes and lives of the citizens of Calgary for a \$6.90 annual savings. It's about time Calgary start to increase the property taxes.
Absolutely not. Cost savings should never come out of emergency services. As a city that went through a massive emergency (2013 flood) why would you cut costs on essential services? Maybe take the funding out of the ridiculous art spending
I think they way this is written is scaring people and forcing a specific response. The easy way to fix this is change building code to less flammable material, better education and communication to prevent fires, perhaps sprinklers required when doing upgrades. Why focus on stating scary things without looking at other options to reduce the cost? Get out of the ambulance business possibly or send the province the bill for the response?
No, fire fighters are an essential service that provides safety and help to civilians. The budget should not be cut. Thr funds and the time are necessary for the fire department.
I am a captain with the calgary fire depart. and have 28 years on . This is the first time I feel compelled to reply. This is quite simple, we see it all the time, 1, 2, even 3 at a time houses going up in flames because off the vinyl siding acting as an extreme accelerant. Adding 30 sec. to response times we will see an increase in lost homes 3,4, maybe 5 now this poses an extreme risk of injury and even death to family's and firefighters. Let's not forget fentanyl epidemic. NARCAN FAST !!!!!
Those 3 higher risks are not worth a few dollars in savings. I would rather maintain current levels of service.
I do not support any reduction in Fire or police. Support emergency services as they support us!!!!
30 seconds can mean the difference between life and death! I choose life!
Do not consider any curs to the fire department, especially for \$7 a year. Ridiculous to even be talking about it.

It's a horrible idea, these response times are based off industry best practices for good reason. It's extremely irresponsible for the city to increase these response times putting citizens in danger.
No, take money from almost anywhere else but taking away from emergency services for a growing city makes no sense.
Life hazard
Increasing the response time is both dangerous and irresponsible. Please disregard this idea of doing so. Not worth the risk.
No it is not reasonable to cut back on response time for a merely \$7 annual savings. This seems to be an entirely irresponsible cut.
No - the wording of the question is confusing "The City" sounds like the council, not the people of Calgary. Also to basically put a price tag of \$6.90 on a life is beyond ridiculous.
I don't think is reasonable for the city to take more risks. With the Fire departments responses times. I am more than happy as a taxpayer. To pay the \$6.90 a year. To get the level of service I want and need as a citizen of Calgary. I would even go as far as saying I would pay more for additional firefighter and stations. The fire departments budget has already been cut beyond what it should be.
Thank you for asking the citizen what is important to them.
No. It is not worth the risks A fire will double in size every 30 seconds. A simple kitchen fire will become a full house fire and with light weight construction it can damage multiple homes To save less than \$7 a year the risks are unacceptable. How much will it cost the city for a firefighter funeral?
Why go backwards on essential services. To risk people's lives for saving costs is the most ridiculous thing I have ever heard... I would pay extra money annually to have the response times 30 seconds faster
I don't approve of 30 seconds increased response time
As a Calgary Tax payer I am unwilling to accept longer response times for the Calgary Fire Department. The service I have received is exceptional and I want the same or more Fire Service. Thank you for your consideration.
I don't like this idea one bit about increasing response times. If anything response times need to be equal or even quicker. I'm willing to pay the \$6.90/year for this service. We need to moderately increase taxes a reduce costs in other areas of the city. I think fire has had to make substantial cuts over the past couple of years.
No. The fire quickest response will equal the best possible outcome to the emergency.
No. There was a great focus on response times to get us to where we are. Now it's ok as long as it saves money? Maybe let's look at some other places the city can save money. Start at the top.
No. It is not reasonable.
Its shocking to witness that CPS and other business units like CEMA dont get looked at yet we will strip budgets from the department that essentially helps Calgarians on any type of emergency. Fire is the catch all for when other business units cant assist. Why do we fund CEMA and all their employees to standby for a small chance a major incident happens. Even so, it would be the fire department that would take the lead. Fire provides more value to Calgarians than they are getting credit for.
Absolutely not acceptable to put lives at risk for \$7. You guys already know this though. At least I hope you do.

No- definitely do not cut response times. This is even ridiculous to even offer . A savings of \$7 ?? Get stuffed if u think peoples lives are worth risking to save that amount
I need more information and context to provide meaningful input to this question. How exactly does 30 seconds longer = \$5.8 million? And how much would it cost to have a 30 second faster response time? Maybe that is what I value, safety.
It is incredibly dim witted of council to think that by the fire department slowing response times is a good way to save money. Every time they go out it is important to someone. Getting there slower for a fire or medical or serious car accident could have serious life changing (potentially fatal) ramifications.
I do not think it is a reasonable solution to the savings issue. With an already growing city it makes it difficult for first responders to arrive at 911 calls and to make plans to have these arrival times increased only creates more problems such as more or bigger house fires, patients not receiving the care they need or patients being trapped in life threatening circumstances such as in a vehicle accident. I would rather pay the \$6.90 per year knowing this will help with response times.
No it is certainly NOT acceptable to put Calgary citizens & firefighter (your employees) lives at risk as a cost cutting measure. This is a VERY irresponsible consideration by city council & should be removed immediately from consideration. Council could very easily make by far more revenue with a small personal tax increase & be able to provide better services to the citizens as we each pay a small portion of this cost across the city. I am a definitive NO to slowly CFD response times!
NO! This is not acceptable. This could have potentially grave impacts and could also severely affect our home insurance premiums. This is not where we need to be cutting costs.
To consider this is irresponsible. Exhaust other areas of city budget fully before looking at front line workers and first response / law enforcement.
First off, how would you feel if this was your neighbor, your family or friend being directly affected first hand? How will this affect overall insurance costs? Will premiums increase, so any savings is completely offset due to more insurance costs? What if this were a child involved emergency, can you justify saving 30 seconds then? I would feel comfortable with my annual taxes increasing by \$6.90 to decrease times by 30 seconds and help the fire fighters of this great city.
I do not think this is reasonable, when there are fires in new communities within Calgary the fires are already taking 2 or 3 homes. If a fire doubles in size every 30seconds that means more houses are lost during 1 even. What does that do to my insurance rates when we decrease the response time? Doesn't make sense. For me its not even a question. Find the money elsewhere.
I feel that bureaucratic administration can be seen to be reduced while maintaining frontline support and workers. Keep the ones getting there hands dirty working
It's not worth the risk I will pay \$6.90 to keep my services The same These guys deserve a raise for what they do
When we have big fires time is essential. New materials are burning faster and hotter so time matters. Don't make response time longer to save e few bucks
No it's not the city taking more risk it's the Citizens of Calgary who take on this risk perhaps without knowing the full ramifications of slower response times.
The recent fires in Evanston really highlight to me how dangerous and wreck less it would be to aim for extending firefighters response times. Peoples lives could be lost and more families will undoubtedly be forced to watch their homes burn to the ground while they wait for help. Budget cuts to the CFD are unacceptable at this point.
Fire response to medical emergencies is a crucial part of the first response network in the city, the general public isn't aware of how stretched thin the medical resources can be in the city. Seconds count

in structure fires, gas leaks, hazmat responses. 30 seconds can mean the difference in saving a life! It isn't worth the risk!! Not for my family or anyone else's!
The city has already passed on risks to homeowners by allowing builders to not only use vinyl siding but to build houses so close together. I'm am not willing to let you pass on MORE risk to homeowners. I will gladly pay more money to keep my family safe.
I am extremely upset that the city would consider closing firehalls to save a small amount of money which could be taken from other city departments that don't affect the safety of its citizens. Maybe we need new councillors who don't spend our money on dinners and vacations? The city can't have their cake and eat it too.
It is never alright to delay someones chance of survival or having multiple homes burn down when a fire could be contained to one. There are already neighborhoods that lye outside of the average response time. I do not agree with a 30 second longer response time.
Absolutely! Unacceptable that we would consider putting putting public safety at risk, or even reduced for that matter, especially when Calgarians took on "mask" wearing in the name of public safety. It seems very hypocritical to even consider this an option to save money.
they just saved money by stealing from us on garbage pick up,,,added 3 dollars for a bag and every second week pick up,,,yet money off taxpayers still the same,,bs...we need a mayor that is able to understand what this fire department does,,hearing sirens constantly in ne calgary,,,this service is essential,,,maybe have nenshi do a day of a fireman,,if he can handle it,,,maybe his attitude would change,,
How much is a life worth?
The fire this morning in Evanston more than 10 fire truck on scene. A fire takes a lot of resources which in turn spreads our coverage even thinner throughout the rest of Calgary. Please can you tell Mayor Nenshi and City Council that the Fire Department can't afford anymore cuts, we need more firefighters in fire stations to be able to protect Calgarians and their property. For \$6.90 to protect my house it's not Worth it. Please stop playing with our safety. No, No, for first responder cuts
Sure fires aren't everyday but when they happen, it's often multiple houses. All these new communities have housing that is so close to each other. For \$7 more per household doesn't make much sense.
Intentionally decreasing responses time is unwise, there are already parts of the city were it would take 10 plus minutes to see a fire truck.
No thank you. Please keep the emergency services in tact.
Do not change the current model. For under \$7 a year per household there could be much greater consequences. There are many other areas we can cut funding, starting with some of the horrible choices in art around the city. And it's too late now unfortunately, but the new transit lanes/bridges were a huge waste that could have been a massive savings.
Not reasonable at all.
Safety is one thing that my family would not sacrifice for cost savings. An increased response time is not acceptable. We would be happy to pay more to reduce response times and increase the safety of our community.
No I do not think that's acceptable.
I don't think it would be prudent.
This subject should not even be tabled and discussed. When it comes to our loved ones, immediate family, relatives, friends, coworkers and their families lives, there isn't a dollar value that can replace a life or quality of life of injured loved ones. The short term and long term mental and physical strain that

the network of affected individuals suffering from an unfortunate circumstance would also be exponential. Myself and my family vote an absolute no in increasing response time.
Leave fire budget alone - there is way better area to find funding (arts and wasting money on sculptures)
If you want to stop developers build houses so close together, then reduction in response times would be ok, but since that will never happen then leave the Fire Department alone. When you have councillors (Ward Sutherland) who is openly against the fire department with nonsense like this and 3 person fire engines, this is very worrisome.
No!
I would not be happy with increased risk for my family and my community. I'd gladly pay the \$6.90. Please find savings elsewhere.
Absolutely NOT! \$263 per household is equal to having the CHEAPEST insurance guaranteeing an optimal response to send help. That is an expense of \$0.72 per day to have a professional service come to your door should you need it. I know my family is worth that and more. If anything, I'd be happy to invest a bit more in this service to know that my family and neighbourhood is kept safe. No question!
I do not believe we should add 30 seconds to the response time. I think paying \$6.90 is worth having firefighters if I should need them. I'm not willing to wait an extra 30 seconds in a possible life threatening situation.
I do not think it is reasonable. I'd be happy to pay another \$6.90 a year for better fire response.
This is the most ridiculous idea i have ever heard, trying to cut down the response times to save \$7 a year how would you feel if it was you or your loves ones that needed the help and did not get it in time because you wanted to save \$7 a year all of you should be ashamed of yourselves for even suggesting that if anything they need more money not less
DO NOT LOWER RESPONSE TIMES. I would rather pay more and have shorter response times than what we have now.
No it is not reasonable! Response times should be decreased, not increased. I'm willing to pay more
You have got to be out of your mind. Why doesn't the council members take a pay cut? That would save all of this. There is no reason why that can't happen. We need firefighters. We don't need all of the board members.
We cannot accept more risk for minor cost savings. The fie dept should not be cut and cutting is not an option
Given modern building codes and materials, a reduction in fire services seems reasonable. That said, Firefighter reductions should be balanced with an increase in community ambulance availability. Focus on saving lives over property.
no lives are more important then fiscal restraint.
This is ridiculous to even be considered. \$7 per year per household? That is less than a bag of beef jerky
There is absolutely no scenario where it's okay to lower the fire department's budget any further, find savings elsewhere please.
No. Do not lower the CFD budget to decrease response times. This is not a valid option.
Yes
It is irresponsible to reduce response times knowing that fire doubles in size every 30 seconds and that critical seconds count when someone is suffering a medical emergency or a motor vehicle accident. less than \$7 per month is a good investment. There are many other places the city could cut and have minimal impact to the citizens.
Human life is not worth saving \$6.90

<p>This would be the last thing I would cut. I would rather see my taxes go up, then increase fire response times.</p> <p>Fire and Police are all in the same boat. If cutting fire response times is being considered. I would expect that Police budget be reduce as well.</p>
<p>Cutting response times is insane. IN emergencies time is a factor every second counts, even if AHS says it does not. Losing EMS from the City will already cause delays</p>
<p>This seems a bit of a farce - save lives or save money? This is a poor reflection on Council's priorities which seem to be based more in an old-fashioned ideology of cutting costs regardless of consequences rather than the supporting the inclusion provided by publicly funded municipal services.</p>
<p>The average annual rate for a monitored residential alarm system is more expensive than \$263/year. Seems a little ironic if alarm companies can make sales and profit off the mere concept that their product will initiate an emergency response. I think the actual Fire, Police and EMS workers who show up are worth a whole lot more than a bunch of cameras, sensors and a call centre. Sounds like the Fire Dept is a really inexpensive service and they should be commended not cut.</p>
<p>You're asking people if they'd like to save \$6.90 on their property taxes? This is designed to get the answer you want to here - no, we don't want a tax reduction to sacrifice fire services without actually getting real insight into responses. Shame on the survey designer and City for approving this question.</p>
<p>Seeing as though our Fire Department currently does not meet accepted standards for response time due to underfunding by the city, it is very hard to support a further decrease. The Calgary Fire Department understaffs its' apparatus and spends far more time and money virtue-signalling about current social trends than building actual firefighting skill and an effective department. The mandate of the CFD is to protect citizens lives and property from loss, not reflect the whims of City Council.</p>
<p>Please increase my taxes to improve my fire protection.</p>
<p>Absolutely not, health and safety is not an area that should ever be cut. How do you put a price, especially something as small as \$6.90 annually on someone's health? The answer is you can't.</p>
<p>Not at all this us unacceptable. The city is putting its citizens at risk as well as the firefighters. The cost to Calgarians is minimal, this shouldn't even be an issue.</p>
<p>Do not reduce. To increase risk on safety is bananas as an option for budget cuts! Instead maybe city staff should take and pay for their own transit instead of downtown parking. Or stop annexing more land or building out more communities.</p>
<p>I don't think emergency services are a place for cost cutting since health and safety is impacted, as in the example above. A double size of fire has other long term costs and implications so it's a false economy to wait in that case, and a life as we know, is priceless. Calgarians have a history of expecting services/infrastructure without cost increase, and I don't think that's realistic.</p>
<p>Fire response is very fast in Calgary. It could be slower. Specifically, fire trucks should be smaller. Roads should have lower speed limits, we should have more speed bumps, we should have smaller turning radii on curves. All these increase fire response time by seconds, but vastly improve safety in the city. GET SMALLER TRUCKS to save money. BUILD SPEED BUMPS to improve safety. Newer communities should pay entirely for their new fire halls and all operating fees.</p>
<p>Don't care. The amount is negligible and they will arrive when they do. Money will not change bad weather, terrible no snow plowing or the distance to travel.</p>
<p>Yes I do think it is reasonable to take on this risk. How many fire's are fought annually from each hall? I think a 30s longer response time would be appropriate to achieve those savings. We also have police and paramedics to support medical emergencies. I would be interested to know how many fires are contained within one room by the time firefighters arrive.</p>

A household saving of \$7 (the price of 2 coffees) is not worth the risk to my family or any other Calgarian. The fire department is one area that should not be cut - they respond to more than just fires. If my loved one needs help or my house is on fire, I want them there as quick as they can. 39 seconds can make all the difference.
Absolutely not, please maintain the current level of service. Not willing to sacrifice my families lives with the extra 30 seconds.
Absolutely not. The fundamental needs of our essential services such as CFD CPS and EMS should not be part of the savings. Instead I would much rather sacrifice few proposed murals, art sculptures and even pay more taxes in order to exclude any of the social services. No life is EVER worth risking for the sake of saving few dollars on a essential service response.
The fire service should be a top priority not a place to cut money from. Put yourself in a situation where your house is on fire or someone you love is dying would you want the fire to double in size or your loved one be dead all so you can save \$7 dollars a month. Everyone in Calgary would pay \$7 dollars.
In no way am I in favour of increasing response times in order to save money. You're basically telling the citizens of Calgary that their property and lives aren't worth the extra cost.
No, emergency services should fall under the priority one pillar and NEVER have a majorly altered budget. It should only fluctuate according to population size, that's it.
A savings of \$6.90 is not worth the risk of greater fire damage or a person's life.
I am MORE than willing to pay approx 7.00 a year to have that 30 seconds on every Fire Dept call.....I actually think it's appalling that council is even suggesting this. We live in one of the lowest taxed "big" cities in the country, I would prefer to pay more tax than have service cut. The mismanagement of yearly funds by city council seems to me to be the bigger issue.
Absolutely not! Find another solution.
Cut out the non-tech Rescues; Make Rescue Engines from the Extra Engine companies in the city (46-50,60,61). Either or new true Aerials or re-equip the Quints and make them carry the fans etc.. Order more Aerials (CFD really does not have enough in service) With the extra ff's you now have, staff the Aerials with more or bring back the medic units. Look at LAFD,LACOFD, FDNY, Vancouver fire. Start generating ideas instead of making tax payers pay for your mistakes in blood, money and tears
This is irresponsible to consider every Calgarian will gladly pay \$10 a year for our Fire Department to respond as quickly as possible what we should be asking, can we make it quicker or better, not less.
We are in an era of doing more with much less and change is the norm. If the Chiefs of the department and the union are not on board for changing things operationally, saving money and such - then its time for a change up. There are many things in the department (operationally) that could change. CFD wants to stay a leader in North America? Keep changing and evolving then
No. Arriving at the scene as fast as possible is critical to the safety and cost reduction from damages.
There are in the area of 262-300 ff's per shit. Your job is to keep as many boots on the ground as possible. Look at cross staffing some apparatus - Tenders, etc. Re-write your Hazmat program - look at Edmonton, Toronto, Vancouver, New York, South Metro Colorado at how they run Hazmat. Switch from Rescues to Rescue Engines and keep the Tech units as true Rescues. With these extra ff's, start staffing medical units, (use the District chief vans that are about to be replaced) buy more Aerials
You as a city council have completely lost touch with reality. You have taken so much out of emergency services budgets in the past number of years. Now you are threatening homes and lives for pennies. I hope non of you are reelected next year. Absolutely makes no sense to extend timelines. What if your home or loved one were in danger, im sure you would want them there as fast as possible. These are trained professionals, give them the resources they need to keep all of us safe

The city will be generating paltry savings but the people with the fire damaged homes and the dead loved ones will ultimately pay the price. This is not a good idea. Consider that 7\$ per household an insurance policy
Fire response is already cut thin, it will become a danger to firefighters and citizens if any further cuts like this are made. I do not want any longer response times.
No, emergency services should not be cut. Every Second matters in an emergency
Defunding existing services to cover city council costs is absolutely unacceptable or necessary. I would like the council members to demonstrate what they have done and are doing to reduce their costs.
Longer response times could mean.... Slower response times might include.... You are stating broad opinion with no facts to back them up. NFPA sets the safety standards for a reason, to optimize firefighter and citizen safety. That is the bottom line for essential services. Deviating from these standards is not a reasonable trade-off when budget management has cuts from non-essential civic partners services to consider.
It's not worth the less than \$7 saving per house. When there have been house fires multiple homes are impacted. With an increase in response time there is chance for increased number of homes and families impacted. Fire service response to assist with medical incidents and car accidents should not be reduced, the risk to community is too high.
New idea!!! Takes Engines 46,47,48,49,50,60,61 - Make them Rescue Engines, take a couple Rescues off the streets - sell them. Staff them with 3FF's and then you have more FF's to staff other NEW Engines or replace them with medical units that also respond on fire calls or replace them with MORE (lighter) Aerials. Buy more Tenders, cross staff ALLLLLLL of them. Buy new Air/light units, cross staff them and cross staff the Highrise unit (make it a back up air/light)
Point is, CFD has to CHANGE. Council cannot keep taking money out of them and expecting the same level of service - that's the definition of insanity. The department needs a new way of thinking or honestly.. more money. CFD is one of the best departments in the country and one of the lowest costing ones too. Start cross staffing less utilized units, take EMS back over, start looking at reducing rescue companies by making highly functional Rescue Engines
REPLACE the ANCIENT tender trucks (that are past life expectancy), buy a third tender, cross staff them with Aerial crews. BOOM 6 FF positions saved and decent tender coverage around Calgary!!! . Maybe start making Rescue Engine companies and replace the Rescues expect for the tech teams - Run Rescue and Squad companies. Start looking at FDNY, South Metro, OTHER DEPARTMENTS IN THE US for answers. Buy another Hazmat recovery unit and cross staff them with a haztec officer or Engine company
Longer response means hight chance of lose of life. Fire departments are the first on scene and of anything should have more funding.
Unexceptionable. The whole system needs to change. Maybe take a couple pages out of South Metro Fire's playbook in Colorado. Go back to incorporated Fire/Ems service. Contract AHS as an additional Ambulance service. Drop down to 3 ff's on an engine and run 2 ff's in an ambulance out of the same station. Likely cheaper in the long run and would make everyone on the ground a lot more happier in life INCLUDING TAX PAYERS
A thirty more second response time will directly lead to more deaths. Lives are not something that is worth risking for cost savings.
Don't change this to save money. Many other programs and funds can be removed instead.
Saving that amount of money is not an acceptable trade off for increasing risk to t he city. Do not increase response times.

Give your heads a shake! I'd pay an extra \$7 to REDUCE the response target by 30 seconds instead! Make cuts where they don't effect people's safety.
30 seconds is huge in terms of a fire spreading I don't think this is a cost savings worth the increased risk. I don't think this is a wise cost saving measure
I don't support the idea that the Fire and Emergency Dept. Would take 30 seconds longer to respond in an emergency or any life threatening situation. Always remember that time is always crucial in rescuing somebody and helping everyone in the community. Pls. Don't cut budgets for the Fire and Emergency response.
No! Start with city employees. Ridiculous pay and benefits for the jobs they do. Leave fire and police alone! Slash the huge pension plans and crazy benefits of city employees!
No I don't think it is appropriate to significantly increase risk. I would look at ways to better prioritize calls to slow response times to non critical events and focus times to critics events. Response times to different events makes different amounts of impacts, a minor car crash response is different than a heart attack!
These potential savings are too minuscule for the added risk taken with increased response times!! Our City is already spread out so much that some outlying area's don't have adequate Fire coverage right now as it is. I think cuts to our essential services are very short sighted. I do not agree with these cuts. Find this money elsewhere
No, there are other areas to cut.
It is not reasonable to risk lives in order to save lives.
This is a bad idea.
Absolutely not. You shouldn't be just telling people what adding more response time will do; tell people what our current response times are compared to the rest of Canada and other national and international targets. We should try and be leaders in safety, not rationalizing why we should increase it further.
no
Yes!!! Fire needs their budget cut. End of story! Give the extra savings to the police who do a great job with less. I'm tired of seeing fire fighters making over 100k a year to have BBQ's and sleepovers. I'm aware that fires are about 4-6% of their yearly call volume. They are making FAR too much money for a service rarely provided. They also need to go back to 2 days 2 nights. Also bothered by the fact that CFD has used those "Birthday" runs as part of their call volume. Once again manipulatio
I would rather pay the extra \$6.90 annually to insure that response times are not compromised. I do not feel the city will be able to adequately manage the risk in order to save annual costs and to me it is more important to have the best possible response times to keep Calgarians safe and healthy.
Police and fire are the most important services to all Calgarians. Obviously everyone will say this is a bad idea. This is a manipulative question designed for one response & one response only. Who and why are we paying someone to design this ruse. It is insulting to say the least. We are all aware above market wages , excessive pension plans and overstaffed city departments have not been properly addressed . Start and finish with that .
Fire and police are two of the most essential services that the city provide. Just the fact of THINKING about cutting service times in these areas is ludicrous, and demonstrates how far the city of Calgary has drifted from its core reason for being. If the administration has no idea where to look for cuts, I would suggest to start with all the new expenses initiated in the last twelve months, as well as the current job postings. Anything ESSENTIAL to the basic services that the city must do?
Seriously?! You think cutting response times is the answer? Pathetic. [removed] let's elect someone truly for the people instead of for his own pockets.

[removed] Delaying any kind of emergency response is only asking for future issues and potentially legally towards the city for making such asinine decisions.
Find another way to save the money, I don't support you cutting the fire budget at all
\$7 per person savings for emergencies that have risks that escalate with delayed responses?
Why are we even debating this? This should be completely off the table in 2020, and it is an embarrassment to our city that our municipal government is even suggesting it.
We should be adding to our budget so we can have world class emergency response and preparedness. Thank you for reading.
It is not acceptable. It is not acceptable that you had \$120,000.00 [removed] murals, but you are considering cutting the fire department budget. It is infuriating. Stop throwing money at useless projects, and do not cut essential services. Since identity politics is everything these days, I say this as a furious black person who was raised in this province and is disgusted with the city council's inability to prioritize the things that actually matter to this city.
Yes, during this time of financial austerity saving \$5.8M is a very valid option. Also please share with general public how much does a Fire Fighter Annual salary is into 12 years of service and their work schedule i.e. number of days in a month a fire fighter works on the job.
No its not worth the risk.
When are city os going through a tuff time essential services like fire and police are busier then ever. Cutting these services is not the answer to save money.
I think that it is a bad idea to the citizens of Calgary at risk with longer response times.
This is not reasonable. Cost should be cut elsewhere. Not when it comes to saving lives and property.
30 second is reasonable for delay as it the fact multiple cfd units attend for same call
Cutting the fire budget is the wrong way to save. Increase taxes and reduce the mayor's salary and pension
Life safety trumps all. Calgary citizens and Fire Department employees all deserve a city that adheres to national safety standards.
It is not reasonable for the city to take on more risk to achieve savings. I would like the city to know that response times are critical for achieving value for the money that i pay for fire and rescue services.
Absolutely not. I have recently observed a situation next door and not long ago myself experienced situations where the response time from - call to responded arrival was woefully poor.
I want firefighting response times to stay the same or decrease. I believe investing in our fire department as a pillar of the city
I am totally against the cuts. It seems to me that it is the CITIZENS not the City who would be taking on more risk if these cuts were to be made. Homeowners burden of taxes being shifted people should be able to depend that the essential services they are paying remain timely and mitigate loss as much as possible. There are other places to cut costs. The mayor receiving two pensions is should be only one. Reduce the amount of money councillors (& others?) receive for their pension contribution
No, we should prioritize the fire department budget. Seconds matter when it comes to life or death. It is important that the fire department has sufficient amount of money to do their job as efficiently as possible.
No it is not reasonable to put citizens at a higher risk for a mere \$7 tax savings per year.

Absolutely not! \$7 is nothing when it comes to saving a life....or many lives. Let's dig into funds spent on artwork and other "nice to haves" in this City and find cost savings there. The citizens of Calgary are stressed enough these days without adding the worry of delayed response in an emergency situation.
If fire response times are under 6 minutes it may be worth considering. If it is over 6 mins then I would be willing to pay \$6.90 per 30 seconds to get it down to that. Safety of my family and neighbors is worth it
Listen to the fire, police & emerg response teams they know. [removed] city council that are stealing us blind & not earning they daily wage. The fire dept gives us their all, it's about time we give back.
Public safety must be the first consideration. I do no support any reduction in public safety spending including fire and police
I do not support reducing Fire department response times!
No, it is not reasonable to extend response times. The savings for the extended response is not worth it at all.
Lives are worth a lot more than \$5 million dollars. I can't believe this is even a consideration. Why don't we closely examine the police budget instead? I am sure that \$5 million could be easily reclaimed from them without significant impact to our citizens' safety. What short sighted thinking to even suggest a cut to fire services, so disappointed in our council.
I do not think this is reasonable. What you are not telling citizens is that the current response times are already 1 minute slower than the standard average. I don't believe this is an area we can afford to slip any further. With the recent changes to the 911 call process for the medics we would be compounding the impact and putting more lives at risk.
I do not support this. I'd gladly pay the additional \$6.90/year for a quicker response time. \$263/year overall is only \$22/mo. That's like two Starbucks coffees, 1-2 fast food lunches, a fraction of a monthly TV/Internet package cost, etc. Fire Fighter response and services is quite important to me. If cost-saving here is an issue, are there other areas to explore? Software licensing agreements, product purchasing discounts / other suppliers, outdated processes, etc.
Have volunteer fire fighters, 20% or something of the force should be volunteer. Ottawa has this, as do other places.
This is not acceptable in any fashion. A \$7 savings is an absurd trade off for the consequences you yourselves listed. Never mind that homeowners insurance will likely increase and offset any savings to the individual. This is a service where EVERY SECOND COUNTS. Please do not defund the CFD.
As a 67 year old resident, I am appalled this is actually a potential outcome for the cities 2020/2021 budget. It gives me little faith that my husband and I will be rescued if there is a fire, and the house we have worked so hard for over the last few decades will surely be destroyed. This is depressing.
Is this an actual legit survey or a hoax? Is the City of Calgary actually asking us to save \$6.90 a YEAR even though this creates an even more unsafe response by the vital 1st responders that will be in charge of protecting and saving my property and or loved ones??? And who will then cover my insurance that goes up because the City can't balance their budget otherwise? This is a joke.
Not reasonable. Risk is not worth the savings.
No, don't do this. Emergency services funding should always be increased, not decreased. Please calculate how much more it would cost for response time to be 30 seconds shorter.
Calgary Fire response times are already too long. Absolutely NO to increased response times.
I think the nature of the question is too narrow. What other savings opportunities have been explored and why is fire response the leading tab? This seems to emotionalize the issue of reducing City costs and misrepresent the opportunities for savings. This undermines my confidence that this review is a

genuine effort to sensibly reduce costs and support Calgarians and Calgary businesses which have been forced to reduce costs to survive. Very disappointing.
No! I do not support cost cutting measures that increase the risk in an area like this which could be life or death. Our emergency services need funding and our support, and I will happily pay \$6.90 and more to make that possible.
The cost savings would absolutely not be worth increasing the risk and the probability that a life could be lost. Additionally, damage costs would increase which would ultimately erase any potential savings on service costs.
Do not cut fire response in any way. I am fine with paying \$6.90 or more if needed.
As a citizen, I would be happy to pay the "extra" in taxes to keep response times as fast as possible. Seconds count in emergency situations. I do not think it is reasonable or responsible to choose cost savings that would risk negative impacts to service.
The city should be looking at police before ever considering reducing the fire budget.
No. I would rather pay an extra \$6.90 and have a 5% better chance of surviving a heart attack.
I think this is an unreasonable avenue for fiscal savings. I am more than willing to pay the extra \$7 to ensure help is there as fast as possible when myself or one of my family members needs that critical assistance from the fire department. Also, who's communities are you willing to jeopardize by increasing these response times?
Council should be putting more money into CFD, front line trucks like Rescues and Aerials are stretched beyond thin and compared to most major North American cities CFD is understaffed. CFD's budget has been cut every year for the past 5 years? Firefighters are having to use Tender trucks and Aerials that are 15-20 years old. Council should give CFD 10 Million Dollars to start, not be taking money away from them. Keep cutting the budget and you will see more injury, death and property loss
There should not be a reduction in response times. The longer it takes for fireman to arrive it puts buildings and people at risk.
No this is an unacceptable trade-off as the Calgary Fire Department already struggles to meet the National Fire Protection Association's response time benchmark. The savings per household are nominal compared to the devastating impact it can have on a family that requires fire services when the time comes.
No. 30 seconds means life or death. Be better City. Just be better.
Save the money. If we know anything is that fire will always over exaggerate these cuts and the result of them. We saw it with the response trucks that had zero impact on any services
[removed]
Citizen Safety should never be considered in budget cut backs.
I definitely think we should reduce funding to Fire service. Better codes and standards are meaning that fire is less likely.
Please do NOT cut the fire department budget. We need these service providers responding quickly and well trained.
I'm a Paramedic in Calgary and would suggest changing policy on medical first response for CFD. Discontinue most medical responses and respond only to cardiac arrest events and in turn have availability to respond to EMS requests for help. As it stand currently CFD refuses such requests. As a citizen of Calgary and mutual aid partner serving my fellow Calgarians I am disgusted by the practices of the CFD and seeming gross mismanagement of tax payer dollars.
Not worth the savings, please do not cut their funding

I am personally losing faith in the city as they are proposing absolutely ridiculousness as of late.. from this to BSL .. they really need to get their priorities straight and put their brains to some use.
they just saved money by stealing from us on garbage pick up,,,added 3 dollars for a bag and every second week pick up,,,yet money off taxpayers still the same,,bs...we need a mayor that is able to understand what this fire department does,,hearing sirens constantly in ne calgary,,,this service is essential ,,maybe have nenshi do a day of a fireman,,if he can handle it,,,maybe his attitude would change,, wake up My answer is no no no no no
Cut back on response times to save property taxes results in increased insurance premiums. We end up paying the same in the long run, with decreased service. I did call my insurance and he told me it will go up by \$30 minimum per year. So I End it will be a lose, lose situation for me. Less services and pay more insurance
The money the city allocates to "art" instillations, which is 15% of all city of Calgary projects, could go to the fire and police. Think about it, the cost of one "art" instillation could buy a new fire truck or new station
Maybe if they audit more council members expense accounts they will find extra money
We had a fire [removed]. With supposedly adequate resources at that time and yet [removed] substantial damages both from fire but mostly smoke and water. Change the way of thinking it's likely cheaper to replace than remediate badly damaged homes. Have a threshold for acceptable loss. I say add a whole minute or more to current response times. I challenge the thinking that this will result in significantly more negative outcomes.
More than 50% of CFD calls are medical response with AHS EMS. And yet CFD is refusing lift assist requests from EMS when needed. CFD is being disingenuous with the citizens of Calgary. They aren't too busy to help. They just moved to 24 hour shifts and this is manageable due to the low call volume. Take a look some halls will have no calls in 24 hours as a regular occurrence. This is not tax payer dollars well spent.
I am NOT okay with the potential harm as a result of saving \$6.90 per year per household. I would only be okay if the funding for fire/emergency response was left how it is or increased
Not when seconds count only to save 6.90\$ per year.ill pay the 6.90\$ thank you.
I think this is a no brainer. The cost of lives cannot have a price tag. Also the savings in property, personal items and overall citizens safety should never have to be bartered or compromised to save a dollar.
Please divert money from Calgary Police before Calgary Fire.
I do not think this is a reasonable change, please do not divert this money from the Calgary Fire Department.
People's lives are not the place to look at saving money. Fire & Emergency calls can be critically important. I would happily contribute \$263 a year knowing that if something happened to me, I would be getting the best response time possible, especially since Calgary already has lower than average response time. This will also likely just trigger an increase in insurance rates anyways.
No, do not cut the fire department. A savings of \$6.90 off an annual bill is never worth a life lost. Defund the police!
Yes. Just do it, avoid the temptation to resist making a decision based on fear of the catastrophic - other cities have worse response time then you're proposing and they get along just fine. Just act. Don't ask us, we're not smart enough to understand the argument As presented - e.g. savings for heart attack deaths.
No. Save lives, not money

Fire response is not the place to cut a budget. I will gladly pay an extra \$6.90 on my property taxes each year to maintain fire response times. I would even be open to paying more if needed.
I can't believe this is even being considered; it's completely unacceptable. Look elsewhere for your 'savings'. Perhaps redirect funds from the arena or the police instead. Or stop approving new communities which will require expensive new infrastructure.
Very minor savings for each household is not worth slowing down response time. It's not worth the extra risks.
It is absolutely ridiculous to think that anyone would want to try and save money instead of saving someone's life. 30 seconds can literally mean life or death for someone. The answer seems pretty clear to me. No, do not save costs here. Look elsewhere. Lives matter! If it were your family burning in a building or having a heart attack, I think the answer would be pretty clear. Ridiculous that this is even a question.
Putting citizens safety at risk to save \$6.90 is NOT a reasonable trade off. Maybe took a look at Detroit city and what happens when you start cutting emergency services.
I absolutely do not believe it's reasonable to expect the citizens (and definitely not The City) to take on the risk of higher CFD response times. Response times to incidents can be literally the difference between life and death for those involved, and the urban sprawl and road design of much of the city is already challenge enough for those responding to emergencies. I am not interested in saving a whopping seven dollars to increase risk of death for someone who has experienced an emergency.
Any cutting of emergency services is unacceptable and should be the city's last resort, not the first. It is openly shameful that this is even being considered.
I would rather pay \$60 extra and have as fast as possible of response time!
CFD is misleading the public and the City Leaders. Their call volumes are low with most events requiring no services provided. As a tax payer this is disappointing. As a mutual aid partner with AHS it is appalling that the CFD refuses our calls for help as they once did. Now when Paramedics call for help with lift assists, we are refused. The CFD is not serving the citizens of Calgary as they say they do.
I would pay more to save more lives... 30 seconds is a long time for someone in need. Are you guys serious?!? Unbelievable.
Definitely not, we should not be cost saving when it comes to emergency responses especially in terms of medical situations. Thirty seconds sounds like an average number and the amount of deaths is unknown. Rather the City of Calgary should relocate Calgary Police funds to the fire department.
I want my tax dollars to continue to support reducing response time. I think it is unacceptable for the City to place Calgarian's lives and safety at greater risk, and would instead support greater budget allocation to emergency responses.
This is NOT ACCEPTABLE. There should absolutely be no cuts to this type of service. Cut council wages first.
I think you are crazy to risk lives to save \$6.90 Shame on you for even considering it
No. The reason for first responders is that they are there when you need them.
No it's not reason
I have doubts the statistic of 5% lower chance of survival in heart attack victims. In fact the treatments available to the fire department have zero and potentially negative impacts on myocardial infarction when considering oxygen therapy. If "heart attack" refers to cardiac arrest, then yes quick access to a defibrillator and effective CPR are important. Don't forget that many public settings have defibrillators and other resources available to provide high quality CPR.

I think citizens safety is not a place to cut budgets. In situations where people need help the faster that can happen means less deaths, injuries, or damage to properties. Espically if it only means saving \$7ish. I would rather pay that then have someone lose their house or loved one.
You could save tens of millions if you changed the insurance requirements for proximity to fire halls. [removed]The fire crew and many outlying fire halls do zero, not a single call, in a shift and sometimes in a tourn of duty. I appreciate the support of the fire department however you could save millions by changing current practices. Also change the concept of loss, because any structure involved in a fire is decimated by water damage, either way the structures are lost.
No. I do not think the savings attained by cutting the budget for emergency services outweigh the risk involved with increased response times. It's easy to say it is worthwhile until you are the one in need of their services. Those 30 seconds can be the difference between losing your home or loved one. There are better places to save money. Cutting the ridiculous wages of swim instructors and lifeguards is a far better place to begin than our emergency services.
To continue to cut the fire budget and now increase response times seems irresponsible for Council to look at doing. I guess it all comes down to "it's worth increasing response times and cutting budgets as long as your not the one that needs the help or is being effected by the emergency."
For my family and my area and to be quite honest my city, I want the best care possible and a fire responce that arrives sooner rather than later. Later doesn't save anything in a emergency. Thank you.
Not in support for cutting CFD budget or decreasing level of service.
NO MORE CUTS TO FIRE OR POLICE
Absolutely not. Our fire service response rate is already below other similar sized municipalities. Our current home construction materials and home proximity is not very fire safe/resistant. If we were to increase response times even further we will see more multi home fires. Personally I would be happy to pay more in property taxes to ensure the safety of my home and that of my neighbors and of the firefighters themselves.
I believe taking on more substantially more risk to citizens is NOT worth an average annual savings of \$6.90. Response time is key to providing emergency services to citizens and protecting firefighters when responding to fires. More Calgarians WILL DIE due to a decreased response time. An "average" decreased response time means some communities will not be effected, while others will experience a change of 60 seconds or more significantly affecting their chance of survival. It's life and death.
It is reasonable for the City to take on more risk when it comes to covid 19 not fire response. I implore you to look at eliminating the face covering bylaw in this type of context. The trade offs/"risks" in that situation are worth it. There are many aspects to it including financial but in particular, this supposed "layer of protection" of masking up is having severe mental health effects on the population and is a disproportionate response to the supposed risks of not doing it.
this is not the place to cut.
No! Do not deacease first department funding. Eliminate arts program to cover costs of emergency services
This is absolutely NOT the place to cut funding. Those seconds are precious.
For a \$7 saving a year, it not worth taking risks. by extending response time.
Why is it you keep cutting from emergency services?! That is arguably one of the most important services that are provided to citizens when we choose to live in a city. If I wanted to a long response time when I am having a heart attack or my house is on fire I would live in the country where I wouldn't have

to put up with the bureaucracy. We all know that \$6.90 per house is not going to save us from this disaster you have mismanaged into the ground called Calgary. Quit cutting essential service
This is crazy. There are much better ways to save money. Don't cut fire department funding!
This is not where we should cut costs. We are spending money on murals and other 'nice' but not life saving initiatives. Cut the fluff and keep the response times as quick as there are currently. If this city feels this is where to cut, it speaks to a massive issue with city council having skewed priorities.
NO. Absolutely unacceptable. People will die from this change. You do not get to choose that some people aren't worth saving for a minuscule cost savings.
No it's not responsible. The \$7 trade off is not worth the risk factor. I'm sure there are other areas in the city that you can find saving that don't effect lives.
No I do not think it is reasonable for the City to risk citizens lives just so they can save money. That 30 seconds could be crucial to whether someone lives or dies or a small fire becomes a bigger one.
I believe other services should be reduced before life and property saving emergency services. This is low savings for a significant increase in risk. Increasing response times will not only increase life and property loss but also increase the risk to life and injury of firefighters having to respond to incidents that have doubled in size in those 30 seconds.
This is not a responsible cut when it comes to the safety of the citizens of Calgary or the firefighters on the frontlines.
II
No, lives and infrastructure should not be sacrificed in order to save \$\$\$\$. I believe other city service budgets (the Arts) could be trimmed, and those savings allocated to essential services.
the Calgary fire department is way overfunded and you should cut their funding by 50%. heart attacks are for EMS and paramedics, not firefighters. Cut CFD budget!
No it is not reasonable for the city to take this stance. The fire department response times to some areas are already putting lives in danger and now the city wants to some increase that?City council please get your priorities straight!
Absolutely NOT! My father went in to cardiac arrest 2 years ago. The fire Dept was on scene in less than 7 min to provide life saving defibrillation. With extended response times, he likely would not have survived. Taking more risk to save money will cost Calgarians lives!
Absolutely ridiculous that the city keeps cutting costs to essential services. Our family is VERY against this. Huge vote for NO
I do nit think we should risk our citizens well being by delaying response times . I want to feel safe in my city and the fire department gives me that piece of mind . They have national and international standards fir response time and you need to respect t those . Let's look at city council salaries and pensions we have big spenders in city council and they need to be reigned in .
The potential saving is not large enough to warrant extending response time . I would keep the funding the same
No this is not reasonable for the city to risk people's lives and property to save money. I feel that there are other areas the city can cut from, other than emergency services.
I cannot even believe this option is being considered! In an emergency every second counts. I'll pay the extra \$6.90 on my tax bill. Do not cut the fire budget!
I don't think Fire Fighters should have budget cuts
\$6.90 of savings for ONE YEAR is not worth the potential loss of life/property and should be considered ridiculous to actively look at this as an option

This is an irresponsible proposal. Fires spread fast. 30 seconds can save a life or a structure. 30 seconds is with every penny of that 7 dollars. Please do not muck with the safety of your citizens. Fire safety is not where you should be looking to save a buck.
NO. It is absolutely worth it to invest in the fire department, and continue investing in it.
I absolutely feel that for \$6.00 I'd like to have a better chance of having my home, a neighbour's home or a life in our city saved. There must've be other ways to save. And if not, I'm willing to pay more.
Maybe if they audit more council members expense accounts they will find extra money
Is life worth the savings I dont think so.
No they appear to be trying to buy votes and using the safety of citizens as a means to pay for this self serving behaviour.
This is a really bad idea. Please don't do this...the risk is not worth the money savings
Please don't risk our safety
A fire twice as big or \$6.90? Just reading that proposition out loud sounds beyond logic. I have lived in Calgary for 18 years and we pay some of the lowest taxes in the province. Perhaps running the city and budget without worrying about the election all the time would get the city much further ahead and recovering from this mess.
No. Do not cut emergency services, period. Stop bending over for the sports teams and make them pay their own way. Emergency Services are life and death.
I will pay to have shorter response times
Money is not a reasonable trade off for anyone's life. The City is already aware and has been shown proof that 24 hour shifts for our firefighters would have a higher impact on cost savings as well as being beneficial for their health and wellbeing. The real question is: Why are you wasting valuable time and resources to find an alternative solution when the best solution has been proven and presented to you?
I would rather pay more in taxes, or the same as now, to keep our fire response as it is now. This is not a place to cut costs.
No. I absolutely do NOT think this is a reasonable cost savings plan. Fast response times save lives and are not an appropriate area for cost savings.
No this is dangerous. A fire and fire prevention is truly an emergency and this should be a firm priority to keep citizens safe
Don't touch the fire service. The fire department has had too many budget cuts in the last 5 years.
Not at all!! Luckily we have never had to utilize the fire department, but any delay in response time could have serious consequences!!!
This proposal horrifies me. 30 seconds is life and death in emergency situations. My gut tells me this could mean an extra person dies each year because help didn't arrive in time. Is 2 cents a day more important than that to me? [removed] No! I could never endorse this planned reduction in response time for what amounts to a rounding error in savings. When I saw this on the news I instantly stopped the DVR recording and sought out this page in protest. No No No No NO!
It is irresponsible to increase the risk of the health & safety of Calgarians and negligent to increase the risk to infrastructure. Having been in medical emergency situations I am assured that we are not supportive of increasing fire fighter response time by even a second. If the city takes measures to increase response times, any savings could be negated by insurance companies increasing fees. Appalling if city councillors are considering this. Tiny savings for HUGE consequences, no thx
No. I feel the impact on human life and property is more important than saving costs in this area.
I feel that 30 seconds delay is tolerable so I support this proposal.

No it is not worth the risk. I willing to pay the required tax increase to keep fire response times the same. It would be irresponsible for the City to allow this.
Absolutely not. Fast response times are crucial.
It is definitely not reasonable to cut response times to emergencies for tax savings. That is risking people's lives, homes, property, etc. Look elsewhere to show us Calgarians you have compassion. Especially during a time like this. We need our security and our families.
I'll pay the extra \$7 for fast response times. I'd definitely pay even more to have faster than current response times!
Ask the people that call 911 if they mind the fire truck taking the long way to their emergency. I'm pretty sure every single caller would be livid if you even asked. Don't do it. Stupid idea. If things weren't well in my personal budget first thing i'd let go is the superfluous art.
Absolutely not! Do not cut the CFD budget to save \$5.90. That is ridiculous! I want the same or better response time!
The City isn't taking on more risk...the citizens take on the risk with cuts to save \$6.90. So, no, cuts should not be made to save that per year.
NO!!! I do not support this idea, we need to keep services as they are. The cost savings is not worth it. The city has plenty of other overhead costs it can reduce without touching the fire department... I want to live if something goes wrong.
I understand the decisions you have to make are complicated. Do not trade our safety, or lives for seven dollars a year. Please find another way to save money. I have bias, but I am a husband, and father who values my community. This household completely disagrees with any more cuts to our world class fire service. I work for you, and I love working for you! The best career ever! I am having my say as a tax payer. I love this city! Please find another way. #loyalemployee
I do not agree with any reduction in ANY of the emergency services. I am prepared to pay MORE in taxes to ensure that services stay as they are. It is not reasonable for the city to take on risk for cost savings. If the city wishes to reduce costs of municipal services they should stop allowing new communities to be built that are undersubscribed. City council is lining the pockets of their campaign donors (developers) while assuming the full costs of servicing half full communities.
No do not take on more risk. Increased fire damage and potential increase in unwellness of a person do not save money - items damages by a larger fire have to be replace/repared, sicker people require more/longer health care which costs more -> increasing costs in other areas is not a saving especially when health is involved!
The city of Calgary already don't meet the recognized response standard. Too increase response times would be irresponsible. Insurance rates would increase, lives and property lost. Say no to cuts to fire response.
Calgary Fire 5.8 cuts in place with be responding at 8 min BEST CASE SCENERIO that leaves them only 2 min to perform a very time restricting advanced technical vehicle rescue that reqs stabilizing the car patient and traffic before they can start their job. what world do you think CFD will be able to perform that rescue in under 2 min every time? That was one example from the list of things the CFD does to make sure Calgarians can come home to their families as they are away from theirs. shame!
I think it is deplorable that The City would consider cutting funding to the Fire Department, for a cost savings of \$6.90 per household. Fire and Emergency Response are necessities, not luxuries. There are other luxuries (i.e. wants not needs) that the city could decrease funding to, such as Library Services, which should re-implement membership fees to cover a funding decrease.
Why is it always response times to fires? Cutting 5.8 million is also a cut to response times including all the above!! It takes someone 10 minutes without oxygen to lose brain function- If there is a car accident

and someone isn't able to exit the vehicle themselves because they are trapped or become unconsciousness due to the injuries they have sustained they only have 10 minutes to live a normal life again granted that they aren't already dead.
Calgary Fire and Calgary emergency services has been the same as we've known it for years back not a single positive adjustment just constant funding slashes Firefighters aren't just Fire Fighters they show up to EVERYTHING Unlike Police EMS who deliver very specific services Fire includes Motor vehicle accidents, traffic control hazardous spills, technical rescue including advanced rope work structure stability Medical services Water rescue Ice rescue and the list goes on So why only stat fires
While I am all for contributing to arts and culture in good times, in these economic difficult times people's safety should not be on the chopping block so that we can fund new arenas, murals, etc. I am happy to pay an extra \$6.90 per year if it means people can get through right away to 911 and there are no delays with the fire department getting to where they need to go.
No I do not want to take on more risk! I don't want more risk to our city, my family or my home. Our city fire dept is amazing and professional and we are a growing city and need more fire halls. I want my city fire dept to respond fast and have all the staff and equipment they need. The city budget needs to give more money to the fire dept of Calgary!
EXTREMELY UNreasonable.
How is this even up for debate, admists a global pandemic we are having the discussion to take on a risk in OUR emergency services??? How does that make sense? Who responds to covid calls ? Fire/EMS who has the appropriate protective gear? Fire/EMS. These Men/Women are putting their lives at risk for YOU, Calgarians. Leaving their famalies 24hrs at a time to help others when they are already taking on a HIGH RISK that they may bring that home THERES ALREADY TOO MUCH RISK
No, this is not reasonable. A lot can happen in 30 seconds and a savings of \$0.60 a month per household is not worth risking someone's home or life. Considering the number of medical calls the FD responds to, it's surprising and misleading that only a heart attack call is mentioned. People need to be adequately informed if you're asking for their opinion. How will this savings be achieved? Will halls be closed? If so, which halls will be closed? Which neighbourhoods will be impacted?
Do NOT cut funding for fire department. This would be a disgrace and such a loss to our city. If cuts need to be made anywhere CUT the Arts funding.
No
I don't believe this is an acceptable risk in order to have cost savings. The City seems to be a large enough corporation that there must be other non-emergency services that can be reduced or made more efficient. It is difficult to accept that we need to alter essential services levels when we have a Councilor that has been caught with fraudulent spending habits and a lack of transparency on capital projects spending and public art. Truly demonstrate that we have exhausted these options.
City is putting citizens in very dangerous situations.
No we should not take on more risk
[removed]
Absolutely do it immediately. Fire union overplays this constantly, AND they are WAY WAY WAY into the wheelhouse of ambulance services supplied by Province. Key area in which City "stepping in" is costing us significantly for platinum service at diamond price. Stop buying HUGE trucks that can do everything from rescue cats to fighting highrise fires. downsize and right size the fleet ASAP, and save \$\$\$ at same time
No, I don't think it is reasonable to take on more risk - especially as the risk is not quantifiable in terms of the potential consequences. It might up a very expensive decision as disaster is allowed to expand to

potentially less controllable phases with more human life at risk. This is not an area that should be looked at for savings.
Early retirement for those closer to retirement [removed]
Cut spending, an increase of even a minute or two to save money is required at this time. Using these figures a minute reduction in response time would mean \$13.80 less in taxes per household. It's not much, but that's about what people have left in their wallets, not much.
Absolutely not. Peoples lives are at stake and I think cutting emergency services to save a few dollars is a horrible idea. Please place a higher value on lives of calgarians.
Salary reduction to ensure essential services are maintained at their current level. No suction in service but a pay cut like all the rest of us have had to contend with
No not even close to reasonable! Someone, either a resident, or child or Firefighters are going to get hurt, millions more in insurance claims, which means your "savings" will be null and void or even cost you more when your insurance goes up! Definitely other non essential places to cut the budget.
Yes. The fire budget is huge and there are efficiencies to be made. Who else gets paid to sleep/cook/exercise for most of there day.
No! Do not cut the fire fighters budget. Is \$6.90 worth a life? You think you save \$5.8 million but did you calculate how much more will be spent on insurance claims, hospital and medical care and funerals! The ripple effect of slower response times impacts mental, physical and emotional health when people can't get the help they need right away and are further injured or die.
Just when I thought he City and council couldn't make worse decisions this is absolutely shocking that this is even on the table. When did pennies become more important than human life. Nenshi and council is fine putting a mask bylaw in which has been proven over and k we ineffective but we want citizens of Calgary when in a real crisis to wait which could be the difference between life and death. I could go on but I can't even truly believe this is even a discussion - how embarrassing!
\$263 per year seems like quite a bargain for the great service that we have seen from our fire department and a reduction of \$6 to have a loved one's life jeopardized by increasing travel time seems like a ridiculous place to try to save the equivalent of a Starbucks coffee..... and what if its not a fire but it is a carbon monoxide call or a SIDs call or a gas leak??? In my opinion the fire department operates on a "time is of the essence" type of reality and I will gladly forego one coffee
I do not think its worth the risk and the damage/loss of life that could occur. I believe its worth the extra \$6.90.
Do not cut fire response times. 30 seconds could mean the difference in between containing a fire to the kitchen or having the entire house engulfed in flames.
Don't cut CFD budget.
My wife and I do not want defunding for the Fire, EMS or Police Departments. There are so many other ways the City can find annual cost savings other than looking at the most essential needs a city requires. Considering what little an Alderman does for the city, cut there wages and take away the ridiculous pensions and other benefits they receive.
Ridiculous to even think about trying to save money with an essential service such as Fire. No cuts to the Fire Dept, we need them. Cut arts, social services, recreation, transit, communications, Police, etc. but do not save on safety. Needs over wants.
I believe as a Calgarian in an every growing city, we should be be working to achieve faster response time, man power and training in our fire departments. Our fire and emergency times are a direct correlation between life and loss. It is our responsibility to continue to fund and increase funding for these services. 6.90\$ per household is two Starbucks worth. Isn't our family and homes worth that?
More risk is never ok in my books.

Terrible idea, these are essential services to our community. Not paying \$6.90 a year for a possible life threatening event would be a very poor decision. Time to look at other departments for savings, would be smart to start with non essential services such as the arts etc. Maybe city golf courses shouldn't pay people bagging carts \$30 plus an hour
I think it's acceptable. I would be interested to know why it will take 30 seconds longer though? Also fireman really don't have a huge impact on heart attack patients as they cannot administer Asa or nitro.
No, it is not reasonable. \$6.90 a year is worth saving 30 seconds on response time especially when talking about fire
I do not agree with this as 30 seconds could be living vs dying and it is too big of a risk to take for such little savings.
Disagree, 30 seconds can be the change in a life or death scenario and you can't put a price tag on a human life. This shouldn't even be considered. People will pay the extra tax in order to have better first responder response time.
No, it is not worth the savings.
Disagree, don't defund emergency services.
Yes, moreover I think the Fire Service as a whole should undergo a realistic audit to what they truly provide to the City of Calgary.
The city administration needs to ask themselves what are they're willing to risk. As a taxpayer, when I need help and have called 911, I want to know I will get help as quickly as possible. 30 seconds to a Traumatic event could be the difference between life and death if an artery has been severed. Or the difference between getting out and not getting out of a house fire. I don't like The City making decisions that may affect the lives of myself and my loved ones.
The savings is not worth the risk of putting property and LIVES at risk. Do not consider cutting the Fire Department budget. Thank you!
Emergency services such as firefighters should not have services and budget cut. It's fine if it's not your loved ones or your home, but none of us want to lose our homes, our loved ones because of cuts and slower response times!
The reason CFD are able to have success in dealing with these crisis is because of Availability, Capability and Operational Effectiveness. To say that a reduction of any amount of time to responding to emergencies is acceptable is stating that you are willing to risk firefighters and citizens lives. Increase taxes to account for shortfalls that have been happening for the last four years.
I do not want my fire department response times increase! i would rather pay more taxes then a reduction in my fire service.
Annual cost savings are NOT the priority and it's ludicrous to even think about trying to save a few dollars in exchange for response times to situations where EVERY SECOND COUNTS and could potentially mean life or death for someone. Perhaps instead of this being the cost savings we could cut down on Nenshi's pay and his many pensions.
Definitely not cost savings for fire and police and emergency services. These are too important to even consider cutting their money. Target salaries and union pay instead.
It is not reasonable to make response times longer. It is imperative to in fact speed up response times as many energies are already waiting longer than is reasonable when human life may be at risk! Do not cut fires budget!
I am staggered to hear the latest "plan". To imagine that you could constantly sprawl the city limits and then think reducing fire service to the windswept hills and plains for about \$7/household makes sense is tragic, especially while two police helicopters (I won't mention their recently purchased ARV) and a

questionable police service enjoy unfettered access to budgets. And I try not to think about the arena. It seems to me "world class" cities would normally include proper fire protection.
Do not reduce funding that would increase response times of the fire department. Response times are already longer than what they should be to save lives and property damage. This is short term thinking as longer response will ultimately mean more property damage and increased insurance costs far outweighing the savings for each household.
I would rather pay more tax for police and fire, but the rest of the city needs to become more efficient. The system is bloated and needs to be trimmed, find a way to get rid of the deadwood even if it means layoffs.
I don't want you deciding, where the money goes. Cut somewhere else that does not interfere with our safety. The fire department provides vital services to Albertans. Do not apply the need for savings to the fire department.
I vehemently disagree with accepting longer response times. In fact the city should dedicate resources towards gradually shortening response times in order to comply with universally accepted emergency response standards. My family's safety and my property should not be subject to hit or miss decision making when science based standards are available to guide elected officials in their budgetary deliberations.
Omg no. Our lives are on the line. I understand that something has to give but it can't be our lives. Take away from arts (which I value btw) or an area where Lives are not on the line.
Yes, for sure. Every dollar I can save off of my taxes is worth it. I'm sure we could save more from the fire budget if they look. Pay freeze, lower starting salary, fewer managers.
My opinion I don't mind paying a little more taxes for fire fighters to be able to respond to an emergency. I think is not far for the city to even think about cutting annual costs for firefighters when they risk their lives to save people or houses. I don't think we as a city want to see longer response times for emergency crews.
Find the money somewhere else. Leave the fire department alone.
A little bit absurd that this is even a consideration. Risk someone's life or property over a mere \$7 per household? Perhaps the focus needs to be on cutting administration and wasteful spending therein.
Just because City Councillors are heading into an election year and are worried about having a tax increase associated with their name impacting their chances of re-election, the fact that BASIC services to the City have been underfunded and under staffed for years (despite continued population increases and tax base) shouldn't factor into City Council budgetary decisions. Any decrease in emergency response (police, fire and EMS) that directly impacts the lives of citizens should be left alone.
Absolutely NOT!!! Raising death rates due to slower response time is NOT acceptable! Make cuts to non-essentials like art, culture, new builds etc!!
I support the cost savings and decrease to funding to the fire department. It is only a small percentage of their calls that are fires. Primarily they respond to false alarms and medical assist of which they are very limited until EMS arrives anyways.
Absolutely not. This is not an area to save a few dollars per household. A quick response time by CFD isn't just a convenience, it is essential to saving homes, pulling people out of vehicle collisions, administering life saving first aid.
No, this is ridiculous seconds matter and I am not interested in saving money in this area.
Absolutely not. More people dying is not worth \$6.90/year. I'd pay an additional \$6.90/year for better Fire service.

If the city and the union and union members are serious about public safety but faced with a budget freeze or cut, then the union and it's members should take a 10% pay cut to ensure service levels are maintained.
Leave as is, the saving is so small it should not be undertaken at the expense of the risks sited!
No, it is not reasonable for the city to cut funding and "take on more risk" - it is the homeowners who take on the risk!
\$6.90 a year for that peace of mind to minimize damage in 30 seconds or give someone a better chance of surviving heart attack is worth it.
The city should not cut the fire department budget to save less than \$7 per household. Response time matters and should not be compromised.
I'm willing to pay more taxes to keep a full service fire department. Saving money is not more important than saving a life.
There is so many other areas where sensible cuts can be made without serious impact on citizens. This is a critical service that has to be maintained. Cut the funding to "Big blue circle" art projects. Its a no brainer!
DO NOT TOUCH the Fire budget, savings can be made in other departments, tax payers expect the same level of service or better.
The fire department budget has been slashed enough. No more cuts to essential services.
Absolutely NO to cutting costs by increasing response time. Though I realize there are other factors in play that limit how quick response can be, if increasing taxes by a few more dollars could reduce response times even further I would support that as well. Response time is critical!
No! Are you punking us? Maybe this is a passive aggressive way to get citizens to want their taxes raised. I find the question insensitive, and idiotic. When seconds matter, let's not add 30 to response time. We don't know yet the impact of the provinces restructuring of emergency services on response times. Don't do it.
No this is not a reasonable option. A life is worth more than \$6.90! What if it were your family member that had to wait another 30 seconds and didn't survive? How about looking at Council's salaries? We all are being asked to do our part, that should include not increasing your salaries when you're asking citizens to take on additional costs or compromise on essential services. How much money can be saved if Council took a pay cut?
No, the city has already reduced response times in the outlying communities where houses are closer together than in inner city neighbourhoods. 30 seconds does not seem like a long time until you are watching your house burn or your loved ones suffering in pain or dying then you wish they were there 30 seconds earlier.
I do not support saving money on fire response time. In emergencies, seconds count. The \$7 per household saving is not an acceptable or wise trade off. Thank you
I would be prepared to pay the additional cost (\$6.90) to maintain our current levels of fire and emergency protection. Our fire station members are wonderful, and we need to provide them our with our support!
It is unreasonable for the city to ask citizens to increase risk to their safety for a few bucks. Our council's priorities are off and it saddens me to see the city I was born and raised in to be on such a decline in services.
No.

Fire response IS NOT the place to cut for the sake of minimum savings. I live in an apartment style condo and those 30 seconds could mean the lives of hundreds of residents as fires in these buildings tend to spread very quickly.
Leave all emergency services - fire, police etc., alone. This is not an area where cost cutting should happen. City council should look at cutting their own salaries/budget.
No, response time with emergency services should never be compromised, in fact we should be doing more to improve response time not less.
Saving money at the risk of people's lives is a terrible trade off. My husband had a heart attack last year and the fire & emergency response were first on the scene when my son called 911. Letting a husband and father die to save less than \$7 a year on property taxes is not worth it.
I believe the cost is a small trade off for the added safety and I would hate to venture a guess at what my insurance provider would charge for the reduction of service. Thank you for the opportunity for feedback.
What is a human life worth? 30 seconds or more is an eternity when you have a loved one in need of help. This shouldnt even be discussed. More money should be invested as we grow as a city, not taken away because of poor management with tax payers money.
No, the City should NOT take on more risk in order to achieve annual cost savings. Fire, Police and Emergency should not be at risk due to budget cuts. Response time is essential. Anything longer than 30 seconds can be life threatening and catastrophic.
I believe that it is completely unreasonable to trade 6.90\$ of savings for any of the stated increase in risks. A 5% higher chance of death due to cardiac arrest means several people a year will die. Who in their right mind will refuse to spend 7\$ and have 60 dead people a year on their minds
Do not put Calgarians at risk. Do not lengthen the 911 response time.
Absolutely not. I believe that emergency services should be kept and increased as the city grows. Putting my family's life at risk for \$7 dollars shows me that the city council needs to change. Why is Magliocca still working after admitting to basically stealing while emergency crews are asked to do way more with less? If council cannot get behind our emergency services, I cannot get behind them and know how me and my community will vote.
This is a non-question, do not cut the budget, seconds matter in these situations
Yes, it is reasonable to take the risk of longer response times. Council's decisions to grow the city inefficiently, place houses closer together and not require fire resistant building exteriors causes unnecessary expenses. Address those problems to see long-term cost savings on fire response.
I would like more funding to these services! Lives matter! Save money on stupid artwork around the cities! There are many artists would love to showcase their art for free around the city! As well cut the wage and pensions that city workers make. It doesn't make sense that customer service people at the leisure centre make more money than many firemen! Absolutely ridiculous!
Absolutely not. I think response times in some areas of the city are already outrageous and dangerous. Give our firefighters what they need to protect us!!
Areas like emergency response times should not be considered in a budgetary mindset. When we think of the cost, of course it's easy to say I don't want to spend that money but if it's your house on fire or your loved ones suffering and heart attack you would spend any money you needed to make sure that those thigs were saved. I would much rather see budget reductions in things that do not have a life or death impact.
This is absolutely unacceptable. A fire doubles in size every 30 seconds. Alberta is a very dry province particularly in the summers. With houses already being built so close together in some newer or urban communities, by increasing firefighter response times we are setting the city up for failure in supporting Calgarians in crisis. We must prioritize people's safety and well-being over saving money.

I'm not interested in placing the public in greater risk to life and safety to save seven dollars. Really???
If the city proceeds with these cuts, it means Calgarians will DIE! Whether it is a fire or an overdose, every second counts. And with the poor structure construction happening now in homes, homes are burning down faster and hotter. This puts Calgarians at far too much risk.
City council, give your head a shake.
I personally think it is worth extra cost to have a fast response in the times when it is life saving or altering.
Absolutely absurd to reduce response times that will threaten property and the lives of citizens and first responders. It is ridiculous that this is proposed as an option with the impact listed above. Are those individuals that came up with this proposal willing to wait to have their loved ones receive medical care, have their house burn down to save \$7.00? Time to clean house at City Hall.
100% not worth it. I think the idea that this is even on the table is ridiculous. The CFD budget has also already taken major blows recently - find somewhere else to get your money.
This cost saving could end up costing Calgarians more in house and personal property insurance premiums than they save on taxes. This is a very bad idea.
Safety of Calgarians should not be compromised in order to save a few dollars per household. I am strongly opposed to this proposal.
Absolutely not. Emergency services should be a top priority.
First of all how are you making the fire Dept respond 30 later to a call anyway.....? And how is that even saving money? Your trying to save \$3 on a tax payer, that's a joke. Edmonton and other city's have higher taxes. In the long run your going to cost the city a lot more in the process in trying to save. Some of the decisions the city is crazy e.g having 14 bridges built in the Stoney west highway by the grey eagle, I confused people more than anything. Plus the cost per bridge is millions
No it is very unreasonable to risk citizens safety and lives for the cost of a coffee. There are more reasonable places to cut costs that would not have such potential detrimental outcomes.
[removed] I will gladly pay an extra \$7 to save someone's life or home. Frankly I find it offensive that this is even up for debate.
This is ridiculous, this puts both the public and the fire fighters at greater risk. Fire doubles in size every 30 seconds. Cut some administration positions. Try asking the fire fighters themselves for cost saving initiatives if you need to cut. That's basically their job they solve problems and they would have some great ideas that would not hurt front line service.
I most certainly do not.
Absolutely not. The cost of lives always outweigh minor incremental savings. The fire department already barely meets the Fire Response time outlined in national standards.
These fellows do not just put out fires! Emergency response in any sector is measured by how quickly a response is enacted. Accident victims require help as soon as possible. Fires grow at extreme rates quickly and slow response time will mean more people and structures could be lost. I hope the City will find another way to save money and it should not be in any emergency response.
Yes it is reasonable. I think a 15% reduction should occur over two years. I think there are too many fire staff and their rate of pay is far too high for the job duties performed. Dual response with ambulance service is a redundancy we do not need. The river patrol is a waste of tax payer dollars. River rescue should only occur when a 911 call is made. Police also have a river boat. Another redundancy. Thank you to The City for asking for our ideas now please do the reductions. Be responsible.

No! The cost saving per household are minor in comparison to the impact of reduced response time. Minor cost reductions should not compromise safety!!!
I do not. Yes saving money is vital, but these arguments are simplified. Fire Rescue also covers water rescue. 30 seconds extra could be a death sentence. Fire also covers Highway collisions. Would you want your child with a critical bleed sitting crushed in a vehicle for an extra 30 seconds? Now lets look at the thing that drives politics. Money. What will 30 seconds of extra response time look like to an insurance company and will the cost be greater than \$6.90 per year?
First of all take the medical end of things out of it. That is AHS responsibility. City of Calgary hot rid of EMS over 10 years ago but still tries to be in that business. I would except I min longer response times. I live near a fire hall and in the evening it takes them almost 5 minutes toeave the fire hall probably because they all sleep. I see the ambulance leave within 30 seconds and fire tople out 3 or 4 minutes after every single time.
\$6.90 a year per household is not a reasonable amount of money to potentially put lives and property at risk. Timely Fire and medical response is an essential service that we DEMAND at tax paying citizens. A fire left to double in size? Not a chance. There must be other areas to cut cost other than frontline emergency services. This is unacceptable.
Fire funding should remain the same as they genuinely save lives and are good for society. If you're looking to cut costs, then defund the police. They are the highest funded department in the city, and probably the most wasteful with it. We need fewer police, not fewer firefighters. It is almost offensive to suggest cutting the fire budget over police.
The city can provide statistics all day regarding the implications of longer response times, which are extremely concerning in of themselves, but the implications that have not been discussed are the impacts these cuts have on our firefighters. They already have an extremely difficult job, and this stretches both the Calgary fire service as a whole, and the individuals within it, to a much greater degree. Please consider revoking this cut.
By allowing houses to be built so close together to increase the property tax base, we've gone from one house burning at a time to three houses burning at a time. The decision to allow such crowding was finance based - increasing the property tax base - so increasing response time is "double dipping". The more the city increases housing density, the LOWER the fire response time MUST be - the trade off decision was made in the density decision.
No I'm happy to pay an extra little bit as I've used these services and know how important response time is
It's worth the \$6.90 to me too have those extra 30 seconds in an emergency. Please keep response times the same and keep our families as safe as possible.
No. Response times are getting longer and longer over time. My hubby is a retired CFD captain. He worked when response times were shorter. So many changes within CFD. The length of response times matter. So many calls for CFD are not even fire calls. They are medical calls and often CFD arrives before paramedics. People in car crashes are hurting. They need out of vehicles and into ambulances. Heart attack victims need help. Remember, CFD arrives before ambulances to work on these people.
Whoever came up with this idea should be fired. Secondly, I would guess "you people" have never needed the services our fire department offers.
I will gladly pay \$6.90 for baseline fire coverage. Fire service response should follow best practise based on North American guidelines, not propositioned out to the citizens for uninformed feedback. We pay experts to make this decision. This is an arrogance of Council and administration to try and transfer risks

back to citizens. Prioritize your spending on core services and cut other programs for 0 added cost. Decision making by citizens for life safety issues is ridiculous. Stop this now.
No. Response times matter. 30 seconds is a lot when someone is in medical distress or a house fire is spreading.
No, this is an essential service. Lives matter. It is not acceptable to reduce this service.
These men and women choose to put their lives at risk to respond to life-threatening/life-altering emergencies. Cutting down response times is not the solution. A slower response time likely just will lead to longer times for the fire dept on the back end of the calls. Find another solution.
No to cost savings when it comes to the fire dept. This is an essential service and in pandemic situation this is the wrong area to cut costs.
No- the small savings aren't worth the risk involved
The risk of doing this is not worth the little amount each individual would save on this. I would rather pay \$7 more to ensure these services remain as they are then cut back on something so essential. Whether its an emergency or not, each call has the potential for it and reducing this service is not worth the emotional or financial impact it would have on those affected by longer response times. Find the money somewhere else as this is not somewhere you should be taking money from.
NO. Fire Protection is a core service. If you want to save 5.8M take it out of the library, [removed] murals, public art, that sort of non-required nonsense. Police, Fire, Utilities, Roads, Parks & Rec are really what our taxes should pay for. Anything else is just fluff. Cutting the fire department while spending money to paint silly messages on the side of buildings isn't worth it.
Absolutely not acceptable to reduce money in this area. Keep the money exactly where it is.
No
I think the minimal savings to each household and vastly increasing the risk of a longer response from Fire is definitely a NO for me. As a spouse of a Firefighter, I'm well aware of how much work the department is doing to keep the response time at what it is currently with previous cuts, and increasing the cuts is not going to help. You are basically putting a \$6 per household value on unnecessary deaths and lost homes due to fires, and frankly that is very disheartening to hear.
Consider your family members when making a decision.
Well, would Mayor Nenshi be willing to have his home burn down to save \$6? I highly doubt it. Perhaps for savings within the fire department, there is a hiring freeze and instead allow The current members work overtime? The savings of training, full time employment, pensions and benefits would be significant. If new halls need to be staffed, look at halls with multiple trucks, some which do minimal calls, and look at reallocating them.
The \$6.90 annual savings is not worth putting the lives of citizens in danger. Do not make any service cuts to the CFD especially now during a pandemic. Their medical response is vital in savings hundreds of lives ever year from heart attack victims to drug over doses. The quick response from CFD is vital in saving lives a slower response will result in more needless deaths. Secondly with homes being built so close together less than 5' with zero lot line homes fast response to fires are vital.
Nothing is worth the risk of someone losing their life, please maintain the response time
I want the city to actually review and discuss the current risk in Ramsay. We are currently taking on more risk than we should.
I do not think it is reasonable to trade off response time for the fire department to save money. It is never alright to risk safety to save money. The fire department should be one of the top priorities in our city. Please do not consider cutting costs here. It is not right to risk lives for the budget. Thank you.

Isn't there like a standard that we follow? I believe from my internet search it is called NFPA. To be clear is the city with stupid budgets relating to art projects asking us as tax paying citizens to accept a standard lower than the NORTH AMERICAN standard? Raise taxes 7 bucks a household to cover this VITAL service, are you guys crazy?

In short answer, NO I do not think The City should take on more risk in order to achieve annual cost savings. Peoples lives could be at stake and having watched the news report our City should be adding more Fire Department fire fighters not eliminating them. They are invaluable to this City in so many ways from education, first responding, fires,. \$6.90 off our residential property taxes is peanuts compared to what they do. I have 3 homes and gladly would pay any amount for their service.

Hello. I think that the idea to cut this services is very foolish. Developers have pushed council to make houses close together, and out of flamable materials. This is a pennysaved and a pound stupid. raise taxes to cover this and maybe stop buying expensive art when we can't afford it. By approving communities like Legacy, council put the whole city at risk as now we need to provide emergency services for a far flung community. What about in a new area there is a rider on your taxes to cover?

Dear Madám/Sir!

Did you lost your mind???

[removed]

Saving cents in a 365 days period on firefighters????

WHY??? How??? WHAT????

I WANT TO PAY \$7 more annually, to have the firefighters 30 secs EARLIER on the scene!!!!!!!!!!

Are you kidding me? City council was fine with allowing the city to expand to the point where our infrastructure is under stress and now that we have to pay for these services, they want to cut them? When they allow houses to be built 1m apart at the request of developers, they now want to cut the very services we rely on to keep these tinder boxes from going up on a block wide scale? No. Raise taxes, cover this vital service. Quit playing stupid with tax payers.

It sounds to me that the City Council has no plan....can you be more specific in how the city will allowing longer response times? Is this another example of showboating by council members? Time well spent policing the city councillors with their expense budgets may be of value....perhaps we start there? This suggestion is ridiculous...raise taxes, charge user fees...and re-elect a new council.

I absolutely do not think it is reasonable for the city to take on more risk to save money. If there is one thing the city should not skimp on it is life saving responses for its citizens. Cost savings will equal more death and more damage from time sensitive issues. The bottom line is not worth one persons life.

I don't think its reasonable to cut the Fire budget and add the chance for slower response times.

No, this is not an area that I think is appropriate to take on more risk. Surely there are other, less essential, places to save money than the potentially life and death situations the fire department respond to. I would be willing to sacrifice public art and possible even park maintenance to keep emergency services fully funded

An emphatic NO! We cannot take on this risk for the minimal cost per household. Lives may be lost. Damage to properties could be drastically impacted! Please do not take this risk on, please.

No, charge the extra \$6.90

I do not believe the city should take on the risk the 263 is good value for the safety of my family and friends. I also feel we would be putting the brave men and women at extreme risk by allowing the situation they respond to get worse by the second. Their lives are extremely important as they serve us we should support them and their expertise.

It is unbelievable that on one hand the city wants to cut from the firedepartment and on the other hand build a new hockey arena that we cant even go to for the foreseeable future! It is unreasonable to make

the cuts to the fire department for more risk, less service. The city needs to focus its budget on the basic services and cut everything else (the nice to haves). Focus on clean water, policing, fire department, garbage pick up. These are the basic services. Everything else can go!
Saving \$6.90 on my annual property tax bill & in return, for a slower response time if my house was on fire or my family is suffering from a medical emergency is completely WRONG & unethical. Shame on you for putting the lives & livelihoods of Calgarians at risk to save money. I am disgusted & hope that YOU, one day won't lose all your prized possession or love a loved one merely because the city decided to slow response times to save money.
The person having a heart attack will think those extra 30 seconds are an eternity!
No. That 30 seconds could be the difference of owning a house or an empty, charred lot.
The risk is unacceptable. I do not support this marginal tax savings when the possibility of loss of life is increased. This move is against common sense and good morality. Tax payers don't want less services. How about cancel the Flames arena deal? That would save hundreds of millions!
Yes, you should absolutely cut the budget and focus on the highest priorities only. You will only succeed in finding efficiencies and stopping low-value work if you actually make the cuts rather than just wonder about them.
Fire staff do not work enough hours. Many have second jobs and businesses as a side line. Increase hours worked and reduce funding. reducing costs will not increase response time, get more efficient, employees work longer not less.
Do NOT cut the budget, a \$6.90 savings is not worth even one life - consider the increase insurance costs overall, the increased healthcare costs, the increased damage to property - all to save 30 seconds. Don't do it please
Bad idea ! Put more money into this budget and hire more staff
I don't think it is a good idea to reduce response times to save money.
Cutting response times is 'cheating the system'. Innovate. How about sending smaller CFD vehicles/crews to fender bender and medical calls rather than fire apparatus? With fires "doubling in size" in neighbourhoods with minimal side yards, this could be tragic. Offset the Green Bin collection to 2 weeks and find savings there - my bin is rarely half full.
No
I believe that if they are able to work 24-hour shifts then they are indeed not busy and can afford to suffer a decreased budget. They receive far too much already. They are padding calls with those birthday things over the pandemic to appear busy, when in fact they refused to go in to situations where medical emergency services required them. FIRE DOES NOT WORK ON MEDICAL CALLS. If you are having a heart attack you need MORE AMBULANCES.
No, Not at all. Human life is more important than money. Think about heart attack, stroke, accidents. Delayed response could cost life.
There is no way this is a good idea. If yours or my family member is trapped in a fire, I want the fire department to be there as fast as they can. Medical emergencies are also very important to have a very quick response time. Cutting response times is a very bad idea.
No, how many people need to get hurt or die before enough cost savings and risk is enough?
No... you can not compare fire response to arts and culture... clearly fire is a need. Leave it alone
No, even if it is low risk the risk is still there and this should not be cut back in order to save a few dollars.
I will forego the potential \$6 savings per year to ensure that fire fighters are able to respond to fires and other emergencies faster. They are an important part of our communities . They lie at the core of our communities and provide much needed support.

No.
No! A savings of \$6.90 to each household is not worth the Increased risk of Loss of life, injury and property damage. Do not cut funding to emergency services.
This is the most ridiculous idea this council has come up with yet. Your previous budget cuts have already increased response times and firefighters safety and public safety. It is obvious this council has no regard for lives in its jurisdiction
Peoples lives are more important than adding Art and other unnecessary aesthetics to our city.
No I do not I have lived in this city since 1981 and I remember over the years that the response time has been adjusted several times in the past and it always seems to be a slower response time . It is time council and Administration started showing some leadership instead of being concerned about next election cycle.
Yes please cut fire budget, take them off all EMS calls, let Paramedics do their own calls and we can cut 50% of cfd's budget as over 50% of fire department calls is just to "help" ems carry a bag Into a stomach pain call for 10 mins, then head back to the fire hall to wash their personal cars.. Ask how I know. Pls look into their avg time on ems calls it will be 10mins or less not really useful and huge waste of my \$. Cfd is so slow they can work 24hrs straight because they sleep for 8+ hours...
I am not willing to accept cutbacks to fire department and police department budgets. Public safety is paramount. If the City is serious about cost cutting, art projects, administration and council salaries and pensions need to be cut back first. The City asks about taking on more risk. Does this mean the City would cover the cost of repairing my burnt home that might not have been so badly damaged if not for this decision? I very much doubt it.
No. Is the council insane? Cut the arts and culture budget entirely to pay for fire rescue. If I am unfortunate and lose my home because of this, a lawsuit is in your future.
Are you kidding? I would like to keep paying 60 cents a month for the great protection we receive ! How about cutting the new arena we can't go to!!
Not worth the risk. Also, financially, savings to individuals may be offset by increases to insurance premiums.
Absolutely not. Why would we ever consider putting lives in danger over such a small amount of money/ household.
No, no, no. This is not a risk worth taking. Timely response from the fire department is critical for all of us. Please make the RIGHT choice; it cost money to operate critical services and that's ok. I would rather have an increase in taxes than reduce response times
Fire fighters are our first responders. This means they could be the difference between life or death for someone. Saving time and money is not the gamble and/or savings that need to be thought of with this group! Risk vs reward, is that what we are thinking about now? I choose to lower risk vs saving money on my bill if it means a fire could be reached faster or lives could be saved faster!
Absolutely not. I can't believe this is a real question being asked.
No, it is not reasonable. There won't be any savings to the citizens as the decreased taxes would be more than offset by an inevitable increase in insurance premiums. That industry uses several metrics to set rates and fire department response time is one of them. I assume you know that and are willing to appear to seem responsible by presenting a false economy.
The City should absolutely not endeavour to save money if it means increasing the Fire Department's response time. If the extra 30 seconds results in a fire doubling in size, this could mean immense property damage adding up to greater costs than the proposed saved amount. Furthermore, human life

may be damaged or lost in that 30 seconds (by fire, smoke, drug overdose; in a car crash; as a result of drowning; etc.), and the value of even one human life simply cannot be measured in dollars.
Yes taking on more risk is ok. The cost benefit is worth it.
There HAS to be a better way to save money than to watch more houses burn and medical response lengthen, AHS just made their dispatch system slower too, not looking like a very safe city of these are the way we choose to save money
No, please do not move forward with this. In 2011 my husband suffered a massive heart attack. His heart was stopped for over 9 minutes In total but because Of FIRE AND EMERGENCY's quick response and how they worked tirelessly to save him , he is alive today. 30 seconds might save money but it could also cost lives and lives are priceless.
The city would be foolish to even consider this.
Absolutely not! Essential services are essential. Plain and simple!
None of these risks would have to happen if firefighters took a 5%-10% wage cutback. Why is this not the first option? If fireman are concerned about response times then ask them for a wage roll back. It is reasonable to take on some risk. How does Calgary's response time compare to other communities?
What you seem to have forgotten is it is citizens and firefighters accepting this risk, the city is not. However, the costs to citizens and the city will greatly increase. The value of property saved by timely for response far outweighs the cost. Increasing response times will increase the costs of property damage significantly, not to mention endangering the lives of citizens.
Are you guys high? The risk is absolutely not worth the savings and to even suggest such a thing is completely irresponsible
Cutting Fire Department budget is wrong, and puts lives at risk.
Any decrease to the overall life safety and wellbeing of citizens should never be "bargained" with for the sake of saving a buck. No one ever plans on an emergency, but they happen with out prejudice. I would not find this proposal acceptable or responsible. Generally, residents do not enjoy property tax increases, I believe that it is the most responsible and fair option to not burden any one service or group. A small increase for a large population just makes sense for fiscal recovery.
No. Please do not increase fire response times.
It is not worth saving \$6.90 off my tax bill. I do not want slower response times from the fire department. I will happily pay an extra \$6.90 to keep response times where they currently are or a bit more to improve service times.
Absolutely and categorically NO! Fire fighting is not a discretionary service, and in now way should the risk be increased - while a small saving on annual tax bill the insurance premium increase will be far greater! The fact that this is being considered is ludicrous and insanity. Please let common sense prevail - go look else where for savings!
Less than \$7 a year in savings... My family's lives are worth more than that. Don't cut on emergency services.
No amount of savings for the tax payer is worth sacrificing safety for themselves or for their family members. I strongly advise against increasing response times within the city to save a mere \$6.90 per household. The CFD does extremely vital work for the citizens of Calgary, and has been doing so for a very long time.
If you don't value human life and people's property/possessions then purposely delaying emergency response is a good idea.
No - seconds matter in Response to emergencies. Fires can double in 30 seconds or an overdose or heart attack victim may no longer be saved. Not with the risk for the cost of a cup of coffee.

No. Absolutely not. Emergency responders including the Fire Department should not have their response budget reduced. I would gladly continue paying the "\$7/year" to ensure the safety of our community. The savings are not big enough to outweigh the value of an individual's life, their home, and also the safety of our firefighters. Please do not reduce the response time. It literally can save a life.
The very nature of this question is biased. The city needs to stop playing fear games. Cut fire funding to reflect real risks and response criteria. What are bench mark standards and how are they measured. The city must cut spending!
I honestly want more info. I don't understand how charging less money will add 30 seconds to a response time. I don't think first responder budgets should be cut and I don't think saving each person \$6 dollars is a good enough reason to risk lives in fires
No, the risk is not worth
I would pay more for fire services to keep times low. Do not sacrifice the services that keep us safe!
No.
The risks are not worth saving \$7. In 30 seconds a small contained fire could become a full kitchen fire and the insurance cost alone would be worth more than \$7. Find the money in a different department and stop sacrificing services that can be the difference between life and death.
I think it sounds like the city is pulling at imaginary ways to "save". I think our Fire Dept does an exceptional job and have a great response time. Please keep my \$7.00. <insert eye roll emoji here>
The risks are not worth saving \$7. In 30 seconds a small contained fire could become a full kitchen fire and the insurance cost alone would be worth more than \$7. Find the money in a different department and stop sacrificing services that can be the difference between life and death.
It is ridiculous to even think that citizens life and property are being put at risk in order to save on tax dollars. Our city keeps sprawling to an unforeseen limit and our fire protection and services aren't keeping up. This has to stop - the frontline workers and feeling safe in my home is what matters to me the most as a tax payer. Our city continues to look past fire protection and our standard is decreasing on many levels. This needs to be addressed by city council once and for all.
Are you freakin crazy?! Don't you dare cut firefighters costs . 40 seconds is huge when you're kid is choking it your house ha on fire. \$6.70 saving for that??!!!! No way - that's even ridiculous to propose. Shame on you fir even asking
No. Don't touch the fire budget. Find cost savings elsewhere
No,Is the city really ready to jeopardize humans for a few bucks
No, it is not worth the risk. This is an extremely important service and should be maintained at the highest standard. This is not where cuts should be made. Any cuts to this service will unnecessarily cause much greater issues. This is something that could affect any one of us.
Emergency services are needed by everyone in our city however they seem to have very little support by city counsel. The idea of giving the fire department cut backs is ridiculous!! They have the most dangerous job in this city and you are going to start cutting them back?? Less funding?? This can't be serious. Meanwhile millions is spent on art projects that no one likes and debating if a perfectly fine mural will or will not be repainted!! I vote NO for increased response times!!!
No absolutely not. If it was my home or my family member needing the fire department I would want them there as soon as possible. We can't keep cutting our emergency service.
No. A \$6.90 per year saving on property taxes is not worth the potential risk.

No this is a bad idea. CFD doesn't even meet the current NFPA response time benchmark. This is ridiculous bordering on dangerous.
Services are spread too thin. People who live in new neighbourhoods on the outskirts of the city should be paying a development surcharge to support the construction and staffing of fire stations, or they should do without.
No. \$7 per year is not worth cutting when you're putting safety on the line. 30 seconds can save lives and property
One fire hall that posted their figures said only 2% of their calls was for fires, while 56% were for medical. Maybe we should have more ambulances?
The City needs to find ways to make cuts that do not decrease effectiveness of services that save the lives and property of the citizens paying for these services .
Is the city really so hard up for 5.8m that they're really willing to put peoples safety at risk? I'm pretty sure the sidewalks and roads they're tearing up and replacing to replace existing bus stops I'm my neighbourhood cost at least twice that
I would pay 6.90 extra for no decrease in the response time..
I believe that you should never cut from a service that is already running below NFPA standards for apparatus staffing... trying to sell a 30 second delay in response times to save 5.8 million dollars, how did you come up with that number; seems a bit skewed. Besides 30 seconds is a lot of time when you're in need of help!! The city continues to grow in size and if you're thinking that 30 seconds delay is a fire station not being built in a new community to protect the citizens then no!!
No, absolutely not. \$6.90/year to have a 30-second better response time is tremendous value. Ask for another \$14/year from every household and drop response times by another minute. Every second counts and no household is missing \$7/year.
No. There is other bloat and responsible government spending/savings where money can be saved.
Don't change their budget, it would NOT be worth it for the minuscule savings per year.
The Calgary fire department is currently being utilized as approximately 80% medical first response that is not regulated by the alberta college of paramedics yet they claim to be trained to the emr level and utilize skills that should have oversight from a regulatory body, if the fire department stuck to putting out fires and not building massive over build stations there budget could be shrunk significantly with no change in service. Make a budget for the actual fire related calls
Saving \$6.90 on my property tax bill doesn't do anything for me and my family! It is not worth possibly losing my house or my neighbours houses in a house fire or a family members life in a medical emergency. No for cuts to the Calgary Fire Department.
Not in the least . Emergency services need to be supported regardless of the economic times. It may be argued that their services need will increase over the next few years.
No, don't cut costs to essential services. I'm more than happy to pay an extra \$6.90 a year to ensure the safety of myself, my family and my community. We already have a slower response time due to previous budget cuts, the idea to cut more from their budget is ridiculous.
Absolutely not! Fund the fire department. Do not increase response times.
The consideration to cut back on emergency services and first responders budgets is ridiculous! Everyone in our city relies on these services and these services save lives! To be honest I don't know why this is even up for discussion! Less first responders means longer response times which ultimately results in a more serious situation and an increase in serious injury or worse death. All which could be avoided....
Re think councils wages,

No it's not reasonable to take on more risk for these savings. You should be working to reduce response times NOT INCREASE. Have you perhaps heard of a little thing called NFPA standard response and best practices? You should be striving to improve not settling for mediocre and gambling with peoples lives in the process.
No! Find the money elsewhere like the arts section. If someone dies from a delayed response time from this absurd budget cut, I will support them if they sue the city. It will be the cities fault.
Please review fire policy. If you moved vehicles from one area of the city to others to cover vacancies when crews are out on calls all aspects of the city would be covered. Many halls have 2 available apparatus to respond to fires. Medical emergencies are better served by EMS. Some of the outlining communities have manned fire halls where there have been no calls for days. Request accurate stats on unit utilization or time on task. Birthday parties and pr events are not time on task
I think it is reasonable to take on more risk
I think it's dangerous to make cuts that will result in the longer waits to get fire fighters on the scene of an emergency, both to the people in need of help and to the safety of the firefighters. If it was your loved ones who needed the fire department for a heart attack, drowning, traumatic injury or accident, fire etc where time counts to save a life then you would think \$6.90 was worth a life. Do the right thing and charge the \$6.90 to keep our loved ones safe.
This is not enough of a cost savings to be worth the added risks of longer response times. Our city needs more fire stations to better serve the growing population not less. I think it's a irresponsible savings option for the city to consider.
Response time should be decreased to the minimum, including if property taxes need to be raised much more than a paltry \$7 per year.
I will rally a boycott at city hall If you cut the budget from the fire department. I can't believe the city can even get away with putting people at risk for \$,
If we as a city have made it to the point where we're looking at cutting the budget from the Fire Dept, council And nenshi need to be replaced. I don't think cutting the fire department budget is a good idea.
No. This is not reasonable. Not only are you risking the lives and properties of many, you are also increasing the risk of firefighters having to have more challenging calls with worse outcomes, increasing the likelihood of PTSD and other negative impacts on their health. I would gladly pay \$7 a year for this service.
Absolutely NOT!! It's a disgrace that you would even attempt this conversation! City council needs to reevaluate their whole thoughts processes regarding savings. 30 seconds can mean the loss of a room compared to the lose of a house! How dare you put lives and property at risk.
Absolutely not. The risk for reward here (\$6.90/household) seems outrageous. Response time is critical in an emergency situation, we've already experienced slower times in newer neighbour hoods and extending the "allowable" response by 30seconds more puts households at the farthest distances from a fire hall at greatest risk.
Information from CFD personnel state that they are stretched thin at the best of times let alone when 1 or 2 critical events (multiple apparatus assigned) occur simultaneously, throwing the city wide emergency response coverage into disarray. Further to that concern is that with potential risk of increased response times comes with the fact that actual firefighting vehicles have to travel further on occasion as specialty apparatus maintaining 'coverage' lack actual fire rescue capabilities, etc.
Do not take away any funds from emergency services! This is LIFE! Get rid of high city salaries, useless public art,recreation etc. Do not defund fire,ems, or police. This is utterly ludicrous to consider!

I think that when my family, or myself for that matter, have an emergency which requires the fire department to attend, every second counts. I am happy with the service now, and believe city savings can be found elsewhere
NO!! This is ridiculously stupid. Not enough savings to even think about doing this. You are putting lives at risk for a few dollars. Give your head a shake!!! NO. JUST NO!!!!
I am happy to pay \$6.90 for quicker response time. If I never use it great but if I or a family member need them I want fast. Fire department paramedics responded first to my mother's heart attack and I've never been so happy to see someone in my life.
I'm fine paying \$6.90 for the current level of service.
It is not acceptable to risk the lives and property (or both) of the people who reside within the City of Calgary for a savings of \$6.90 per person annually. I personally am willing to give up 1 or 2 coffees a year in order to receive the same level of service the fire department provides every day. There should be no cut to response times for the fire department.
Do not take away from our emergency response times, a life or loss of home is not worth the extra \$7 a year. Please DO NOT do bigger cuts on emergency services
Personally working in a hospital setting I understand the crucial aspect of timing when responding to emergencies. A minute to even a few seconds can make a difference in life or death scenarios or within the severity of damage being dealt with. Thus, as a Calgarian on the receiving end of the fire departments services I must say there is simply no argument to say that a small savings is worth my or my family's life potentially. No life should have a price tag.
The risk vs reward seems out of proportion. \$6.90 over the course of a year? So not even .02 cents a day for a longer response time that may lead to higher insurance premiums? I don't feel the extra risk is worth it.
Yes. Most calls the fire department does are medical calls. Which out of those most are not life or death situations. The days of large budgets for municipalities are over. We must start making budget decisions based on reality, logic and common senses. Not over unions propaganda
Absolutely not. Cut your salaries, and pensions first. This service is essential, find another way.
City of Calgary management should take pay cuts long before essential/emergency staff funding is reduced. City council can take the pay cuts first followed by all the administration people.
Reducing a tax by a few cents does not make sense. The Fire Department is an important service for all Calgarians; not only in the loss of a house and belongings, but what if someone died.
No, we need to increase funding to police and fire. We currently are way below national standards for both. I would pay more for more police and fire services. Seems like these have already taken major budget hits lately.
Minimize risk, people's safety is the primary responsibility of government.
No. CFD doesn't even meet the current NFPA response time benchmark. This is ridiculously bordering on dangerous.
The City is UNREASONABLE in thinking cutting ANY funding from the CofC Fire Department Budget!!!!
It would be REPREHENSIBLE, IRRESPONSIBLE [removed]
The CofC NEEDS to STOP OVERSPENDING period!!!! Our Members of Council and CofC brass have NOT reigned in their OVERSPENDING in years!!!! The CofC NEEDS to start ASAP by laying off hundreds of CofC (overpaid/unionized) employees and contract out same services and save taxpayers MILLIONS by doing so!!!

No, I don't think putting citizens at higher risk is a reasonable trade off. As citizens we have an expectation that our tax dollars will provide a critical service such as fire, police and ambulance service to save lives and property. Perhaps cutting back on City Administration salaries, or 10% on art programs such as murals to be painted.
I DO NOT endorse this change to response times. Arriving 30 seconds late can be the difference between a fire that burns down an entire home, or is contained to the kitchen. Firefighters don't just fight fires. They respond to critical medical intervention calls, such as heart attacks, choking and opioid overdoses. Again, seconds matter during these emergencies and can be the difference between life and death.
Not worth the risk, end of story.
Definitely not. Funding to essential services should not be cut, especially when it has such a small annual impact on tax bills. As someone who once waited 45 minutes for a fire truck to respond to my house on fire (in a rural area) I well know that every second counts.
Definitely think it's not worth the savings at all. \$6.90 a year off property tax is a joke and not worth a 30 second wait when you need a fire truck.
No it is not. Typical for the City to threaten us with reduced emergency services or raise taxes or charge user fees. How about the mayor, council and the unions take a cost saving pay cut.
If there are savings to be had it should NOT be in any area's that would put Calgarians lives at risk. Police ,EMS, and firefighters are services that must be fully funded and maintained.
Please do not gamble with people's lives and property for the sake of a few dollars. While every call that fire, ambulance and police go out on may not be a life and death call it is a vital essential service that our city needs. Use your heads and be practical. Essential services need to stay intact. Do not cut their budgets. I will gladly pay the 7 dollars.
No, cost savings do not need to come at the expense of emergency response times. I'd rather someone's life be saved as opposed to saving \$6.80 per year.
I will gladly pay the \$6.90. This is a bad joke. ?Find something significant.
How is cutting back safely response time bettering the day to day lives for calgarians? A Calgarian who would loose a loved one because of a 30 second delay may not agree that it was for the betterment. Nor the loss of their home for that matter. If we have learned anything through Covid response, having a home and safety measures rises above everything else. Cut back in areas where people can do without or be replaced with alternatives. Death is not an alternative.
I do not think emergency services should ever be cut back. A reduction in response time by the fire department could be the difference between life and death. I am not willing to save a few hundred dollars a month if that means cutting fire service.
Absolutely not. Emergency response is not somewhere that should have costs cut.
NO cuts to Fire, (police, or EMS). These are human basic life saving essentials & expectations when we frantically call 911 for HELP everyone in Calgary knows we're going to get the best and fast as possible. OUR MODERN BEST PLACE IN NORTH AMERICA to Live" is based on universal services such as dependable response to "HELP we're on fire!". CFD is universal to one and all not just rich or poor. A great equalizer. \$7.00/household is diddly squat. [removed]
City should not put citizen's safety at risk just to save money. If they want to make up the \$5.8M difference, take it from other areas (bike paths, Art Projects etc.)
\$6.90 off my property taxes is not worth further risk of people's health and property damage.
The fire department is so overinflated in regards to what they actually perform. Their highest call volume is medical calls. In which they have no actual medical training and provide minimal to no assistance. Their second highest call volume is false alarms. Stop paying untrained medical personnel over \$100,000 a

year to provide no medical assistance. Base your budget off actual fire calls. Not the fire department providing “assistance” to something they have no training or education in.
No it is not reasonable at all to consider this. If it was you and your child was choking, or overdosing, or needing to be saved from a burning house, would it be worth that messily \$7 to wait that extra time increasing their chance of dying? No. Never. This shouldn't even be considered.
City Of Calgary already cut our fire service continuously over the past three years, now we are at the breaking point. It's incomprehensible to me that we are willing to put peoples safety at risk and increase the probability that they lose their homes over an estimated \$6.90 per household/year. The City continues to waste money and councilors continue to overspend. Spending does need to be controlled but cutting emergency services and putting Calgarians at risk is not the answer. The answer is NO
No. Emergency response matters
No. Fire Response is important and seconds count in an emergency
Do not reduce fire budget. Ever.
No it is not with taking on more risk. Human lives are more important.
no. Above and beyond fighting fires, they are community builders, first responders and provide a better sense of security, a peace of mind more important now than ever.
No. The risk of someone losing their house vs. a small blaze is not worth the cost savings. Presumably bigger fires also have a higher risk of catching other houses on fire, leaving more displaced families. The risk is too high for the cost savings. Many households could spare another \$7 per year, and ones who cannot can have their portion spread among the wealthiest 1%, living in multimillion dollar residences, who won't even notice.
No, it is unreasonable for the city to cut Any essential service budgets as they are essential for a reason. If you cut services, you have a city that is unsafe for people to live in. Maybe you should try cutting city counselor's salaries to save money rather than cutting the budget of people who actually risk their lives everyday.
No. The potential loss of life and property isn't worth \$6 per household. Knowing qualified help is coming when you are in need is more important then these types of cost saving measures. Can't we look at frequency of garbage pick up instead??
There should be no change to fire department and emergency services. If anything raise taxes for faster response times.
We should not cut the Fire Department budget. Seconds can mean loss lives or lost homes, and either outcome is not worth the cost per tax payer increase in any scenario.
Do not make fire and emergency services response times slower to save \$6.90 off the average household. This is a vital service that should almost never be compromised. Find savings elsewhere.
I do. It think it is worth saving \$7 per household per year to reduce essential emergency response resources, such as fire, and take-on the additional risk. Not for this small financial impact per family. These funding cuts should come from non-emergency sources.
Are you kidding? This is an absurd idea. You people should give your heads a shake! All to save a measly seven bucks? Good grief!
No!
The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city
I think we should keep it as is. Safety communities are important.
There are critical services that should not only be maintained but significantly increased in funding and growth: all emergency services - fire, police and ambulance. There is no justifiable rationale for

increasing risk to our citizens safety and health; certainly not to save a couple dollars that can easily be taken from low priority frivolous areas.
The last things that are cut from a budget are emergency services and education.
Absolutely not. Risk is okay until it's you or your loved ones that suffer the consequences. 5% seems low until it's your spouse/child/parent/loved one that is In that 5%. Emergency services should be the last thing cut.
This is a terrible idea. Emergency services, especially EMS, are already overwhelmed. Minimal savings to risk peoples lives and increase first responder burnout. Absolutely terrible idea.
A savings of an average of \$6.70 per yr (the price of 2 americanos) is not worth the drop in services. No further decreases to the Fire Department. I suppose you could go to a Volunteer Fire Department simialr in other communties and your savings would be huge
Do NOT cut \$\$ to Calgary Fire Department. Response time is Extremely important & it Cannot be Comprimised!!! No More Cuts to CFD!!!
No. You have to stop cutting the budgets of emergency services. Lives are at risk.
Great idea we will save lots of money by having more dead people!!! Truly inspirational thinking. I can't believe someone actually sat down and put these words in this order then posted it on social media thinking it was a legitimate idea.
Absolutely not. Fire response is VERY important to me
No, the city should not take that risk. I'd rather pay the \$7.
No. No life is worth the costs. Should be scaling up not back in life or death situations. 6\$ is nothing for savings.
Yes. The fire department is an outdated overly tradition laden waste of money. Do not bend to fear, uncertainty and doubt that the fire department tries to scare us with. Move on.
I don't believe that cutting any essential services like Fire, EMS or Police would add value to our city nor would it encourage more people to want to move here or move their potential businesses here?
No I do not. The fact that it's recognized a fire can double in 30 seconds says enough. cost savings are extremely minimal for the potential negative impact. Safety of those who live in this City should be of paramount importance.
Not worth the risk!
no.
I would pay the \$6.90 To save lives and livelihood. I expect Someone to be there to help me as quickly as possible when calling 911 whether it is police, fire or Ems. These are Worth paying for, and hoping you never need it!
No. This is an absolute joke that you would even consider this.
\$6.90 is nothing. I would rather pay that and get the best service possible. If we were talking about hundreds of dollars, maybe but paying less than \$7 to know I'll get top fire coverage is worth it.
No. We are in a pandemic. Health care is being cut. Access to service will be reduced. This means people in the community would be sicker and be calling emergency services. Lives are not where money needs to be saved. Try sports instead.
This is a terrible idea! For how close you build houses and how sprawled out the city is becoming, if anything you should charge more for the fire department so response times can decrease, houses now are made of glue, wood chips and vinyl siding, it's already dangerous enough with the response times the fire department has let alone trying to increase it. It's literally \$7 extra a month per person, give your head a shake

I think it's absolutely appalling that this question is even being asked. Shame on you for suggesting that we should be saving money at the expense of the health and safety of Calgarians. We need more investment in our emergency services like the fire department, not less.
Absolutely not
Emergency response times are crucial. \$6.90 savings? Find something else to cut.
I do not want any delay for fire and or police service, the cost savings is not worth the risk potential. I would be willing to pay more for these services
You are putting peoples lives at risk. There are other places to cut long before you get to first responders.
No, it is not reasonable to take on more risk!
I am willing to pay an extra (\$10 or \$20) a year for better fire response not slower. At our 40+ condo in Tuscany with 250+ units and an aging demographic. I am seeing on average 3 to 5 ambulances here a week sometimes with a fire truck. Thank you Calgary for the Tuscany Fire Station. The City of Calgary can cut back or stop the short YouTube public awareness commercials for garbage collection et al.
No, save money elsewhere like murals and art installations
No. Don't mess with the fire dept. Get rid of art spending instead.
I will gladly pay \$7.00 more a month to keep fire departments services as they are.
Are you really serious that this is the only spot you can think of to save money? Are you being deceptive or are you just incompetent? An example: I love the library, but does it need to be free to use? Instead you propose this as an alternative? This is really shocking that this is the result of what paid employees of the city come up with as a solution. Transit ridership drops massively during COVID and the service hours barely change - how much did that cost us? Try a lot harder next time.
How about you start looking at long response times for ambulance and increase paramedic services instead of sending fire on medical calls when they dont have the training or equipment. You could seriously decrease the number of fire fighters needed if they stopped going to medical calls. But you would have to force the province to deal with poor response times and lack of services keeping up with inflation of residence. But it would be a provincial budget issue and not a city of calgary one.
Absolutely No, we cannot take more risks. We already have browning out of halls that don't have a crew on site in some halls. The Fire Department does not have the man power currently to fill new community fire halls. Response times are ALREADY extended. We should NEVER put our communities Or public at risk. These could also be medical calls and it is imperative for quick response times. So ABSOLUTELY NOT ACCEPTABLE!!!
I feel that the fire department is an essential service and should NOT be cut. If services are cut, then response time slows and lives hang in the balance.
It is unfair to cut funding from necessary, life-saving services. There are many other areas that could be cut before firefighters, police, paramedics, etc. Do NOT cut this.
I ask if the city is willing to accept the potential added loss of life and property of its citizens? I feel like the more vulnerable will be the ones to suffer more.
I would actually not mind paying an extra \$7 per year to increase survival, slowing a fire spread and prevent the fire from doubling.
I don't feel this is an area where cost saving should be explored unless there was gross misuse of resources.
NO. Seconds count and for such a minimal saving it makes no sense.

I disagree that it is
I do not think it is reasonable to increase the response time for firefighters. For minimal savings there will be an increase in poorer health outcomes and an increase in property destruction. Irene Jackson
Decrease FF pay to allow for more positions/crews thus allowing for resources but not breaking bank to pay for their wages.
I do not support this area for potential savings. I am a single mother supporting 2 children on one income and would decline the \$7 savings to ensure a 30 second faster response we rate. Please do not implement this change.
The city should not be cutting police or fire. They should reconsider spending on large projects like the green line.
Saving money at the potential cost of people's lives is NOT the right choice. Fire services is a necessary service and should not be put at risk as it could cost the city more with residents who have lost their homes relocating, residents dying, etc which decreases the property tax revenue stream for the city. City Council should put themselves in the shoes of those who may need fire services and think about how they would feel if them or their loved ones lost their life or their home? Worth it?
No I would rather pay the \$6.90. Besides more fire damage then insurance goes up.
No. 30 seconds can be life or death. Valuing response time in dollars over human life is despicable.
CFD provides less than 5% actual help in a medical emergency. Using medical emergencies as an excuse for even more funding on an already fat budget is appalling. Shame on you all.
NO. Do not cut fire services.
The best way to reduce risk to the City of Calgary would be to get rid if 90% of the current council and Nenshi.
No, no reasonable to take in more risk in the area of Fire Response. There is no reasonability to trading off lives vs dollars.
Investigate dollar savings in other service lines, such as Parks and Rec i.e. non sustainable pools, ice rinks, review-increase fees for wealthy seniors, unionizes staff wages vs. market for local 37, outsource, etc. known issues, all feasible, requiring political will! thank you!
No home or life is worth \$6.90. If anything we should be insuring that all areas of the city have the best possible response times.
No I am strongly opposed to cutting the fire department budget. This is an essential service that is already underfunded. I am concerned about the negative impact of longer response times. I would like to see the focus on non-essential services where reductions would not negatively impact life or property. (e.g. delay funding some initiatives that are "nice to have" until the city is in better shape fiscally.)
How about you take a pay cut. I can't believe that you guys are even floating this idea. There is more useless things to cut costs to, in order to save \$\$\$. Use common sense when tendering projects and repairs
It is NOT acceptable to reduce service response times! As a heart attack survivor, the quick experienced fire department and ambulance service saved my life. Cut the recycling program out
No this is not reasonable. There are way more less important services in the city that could have their budget cut such as the public art.
I believe that the minimal amount it would save each household is not worth it for the increase in risk of property loss or even worse loss of life.
No lives matter. Firefighters save lives the faster they get there the better chance for a better outcome.
It is very sad for me to see, that the city of Calgary management is even considering putting citizen and First Responders in danger of 7\$ a month. As the economy is still going downhill and crime and

emergencies increase a city needs strong emergency services. There is nobody else to blame for the situation the city is in then Mayor Nenshi and his council.
No. The safety and wellbeing of citizens are a priority and fire, police, EMS, mental health, addiction and homelessness funding needs to be sufficient to maintain any kind of quality of life in this city especially given the current social and economic situation.
Response times are extremely important, this is not an area to cut back on. We need faster response times not less.
I'll pay my 7.00 to keep this as it is. Too important an area to cut.
No, it is not reasonable to cut costs. The role that firefighters play is essential, and as someone who has seen a house burn to the ground, every second does count. The City should stop cutting on resources that affect those who are, or would be left, vulnerable.
I do not think it is reasonable for the City to take on more risk to achieve a savings of \$7.00 per household annually. That's ludicrous. I would pay an extra \$7.00 per year to make sure that response times are instant. Firefighters save lives. Let's not become America here.
Do not cut back fire emergency response times. Cut back on other non- essential services.
The City should not be cutting response times for any fire, police or medical emergencies. Every second is critical in saving lives and homes. Maybe we should cut the response times to the mayors and councillors (except Jeremy Farkas) homes. Cut the budget for arts and culture and [removed] murals.
Do not touch the fire department budget. Safety is critical to our city's quality of life!
I do not want delayed response if I my house is on fire- the are essential service
I would rather keep paying the current rate. If we take on more risk as a city, our Home insurance rates will go up because the fire service is not able to save our property/lives as good as they do now. This is a no brainer. Sure we can pay more on insurance but you cannot offset the lose of an injury or death of a loved one.
No, I think increasing taxes on all emergency services is money well spent.
I've been on hold with 911 for 6 minutes for a crime in progress. Police response time was 20+ minutes. So, happy to pay extra for all these essential services and the valuable members within.
I feel that this is an extremely misleading question. The only way we can change current response times is by actually closing Fire Stations. I strongly believe that if that option was listed in the possible consequences it would resonate a lot stronger with most citizens. The Calgary Fire Department has gone through sectoral budget reductions over the last few years despite the continued growth in the city's population.
Rather than looking at specific areas like this why doesn't the City look at their overall payroll and salary expense. Many private companies in Calgary implemented company wide 10-20% pay cuts with the downturn in oil prices. Why doesn't the City do that, a 5% across the board cut for all city workers rather than picking certain areas like Fire and Emergency services for a few million dollars. At minimum 5% reduction for all areas should be the goal.
No. In a fire emergency time is critical. I do not feel the paltry savings justify the increased risk of slower response.
Do not cut city services. I have used them far too often. I have needed emts far too often. What if is your mother,father,son. Sorry I forgot that bigwigs don't fall under " normal" situations. May you all suffer if you make the wrong choice.
The fire department is using fear as their strategy to justify their costs. Why isn't the City highlighting the truth to the public? Paramedics are the only ones that can do anything in the event of a medical emergency, yet the fire department is claiming they save, seconds count wrt medical calls like possible

heart attacks. THIS IS A POLITICAL GAME!!! The fire department is valuable, but they are way over staffed and over budget.
I think we need the fastest response times possible. Saving \$7 annually is not worth the risk.
This is unacceptable. Cutting emergency services puts lives at risk. Why are we not cutting and trimming within city all first? Lead by example! Lives are way more important then flowers around city hall! Pack you own dam lunches and pay your own bills like all the other citizens in Calgary! City council members of had it way too easy for too long!
No I don't think fire service response times should be considered as a cost saving.
As a resident of this city I am prepared to pay for Fire, Police, and EMS. There should be no cost cutting in any of these areas, they are necessary and essential services.
While it's important to review and find cost savings, emergency response times is not where the savings are. Longer response times means more impacts to health, insurance (from worsening fires) etc. is the cost of a Starbucks really worth the increased risk? Are we so poor as a city that risk is less important than dollars and cents? When seconds count, dollars shouldn't.
The City should not take risks especially when the risk involves fire or the lives of people at risk. The city's priorities are to keep its citizens safe . The City should consider cutting other budgets like the monies invested in art projects since it's not a necessity right now. Health, police , and fire should never be compromised.
I think it's reasonable. City departments like CFD play on people's fears to maintain budgets while most employees spend their days and nights doing very little.
Keep response times to a minimum, look at other departments for cuts such as arts, keep city services as is such as waste collection. Stop nickel and dimming is. Cut councillors salary and perks.
No, it is not reasonable. Saving money should not come at the expense of lives. In addition, the savings on our taxes would be offset by the hike in our insurance premiums as these premiums would be increased due to greater fire damage costs.
Do not reduce the fire dept budget. It should in fact be increased to provide better protections. The city can reduce non important expenses such as public art, cycle tracks.
Emergency services should never be cut, we have to service all citizens in these circumstances to the best of our abilities. Other areas should be examined first
There are very few actual house fires. I am ok with slower CFD response times. I am tired of seeing CFD grocery shopping.
I do not think the cost savings are worth the extra risk. Seconds make a huge difference for fire spreading and I think it is worth \$6.90 to not have a longer response time.
No. Life saving services should be a priority. Save on art or something else not something so important.
No! to cutting the response times for emergency services, what is the cost of a life? .30 sec may be just enough time to save you or your loved ones life.
No. Human safety is not negotiable.
I am happy to pay \$6.90 to keep our vital firefighters able to do their work effectively.They are needed to respond to calls as fast as possible....thus the word EMERGENCY
No, the city should not even think of cutting frontline services to save \$7! How long does 30 seconds feel in a medical emergency, a vehicle accident, a fire? It would feel like an eternity, where professionals are not on scene to deliver the care/ interventions needed to control an emergency situation. If you feel 30 seconds is worth the savings you should be able to look at your family and confidently say "I hope that we never need to call firefighters, but if we do your life may be worth \$7"

This is a ridiculous idea. For the price of a cup of whatever at Starbucks, we can still maintain our response times?! I honestly cannot believe that this is even in question. There are many, many areas where the city can cut costs, but one that could potentially put even one Calgarian's life at risk is, without doubt, not one of them. Our first responders are stretched too thin as it is. I witnessed what 30 seconds can do in a house fire and it's terrifying! Find elsewhere to cut costs!
I believe a savings of \$7 when seconds matter should not be considered at all!
The citizens of Calgary and the firefighters who help to protect them and their property deserve to be given the best chance for saving lives and property. Seconds matter when it comes to life and property in an emergency situation. Emergencies are defined as a serious, unexpected, and often dangerous situation requiring IMMEDIATE action. So if this is the definition, why would the city think it's okay to delay the response?
Tax reduction will only cause insurance hikes from further fire damage
Yes. The fire department currently covers for the provincial EMS when attending calls. The City should either receive money from the province for this or stop attending calls that are not for a fire event.
It's really not reasonable to take more risks. And honestly \$6.90 is nothing compare to the safety of the Calgarians.
The city should not compromise our safety, just because it does not want to raise taxes. I think we should stick to whatever the standard is for all Canadian cities.
No. The cost of life and property Outweighs the cost of a few dollars saved on property tax.
Absolutely not. There are many other places to save money. Look at CEMA - an empire that Tom Sampson built that does what? Epic waste of money.
Very bad idea to cut Essential Services such as Fire. At a savings of \$7 per household. The City of Calgary council would rather see a reduction in Pre-hospital medical care, potential loss of an entire structure as opposed to a room and contents fire. Perhaps you should start looking at the Arts, and other Special interest groups funded by taxpayers that do not put Citizens and property at increased risk. Leave it to City of Calgary council to further decrease the most Important City service.
Absolutely no trade off. It is unconscionable to even ask this question. We need the response time to be faster not slower. A household can usually handle 7 dollars.
City should find avenues for savings but they should not be at the cost to human life. I am confident City can find better ways for optimization without having to touch emergency services
Provided data does not mention correlation between 30 second longer response time and an impact on actual fire unit response time. I feel better information should be provided to residents to make an informative decision. Please provide better examples and impacts on operations.
No, it's doubtful that cost savings will be passed on to home owners. My insurance rates will most likely increase significantly if this happens. Look else where for savings.... perhaps: -public art -New arena -The storage of recyclable material that just ended up in the landfill anyway.
Never, you can keep my \$7 or even charge me more if it goes directly to the first responders.
The city should prioritize the physical well being of it's citizens over the negligible impact of \$6.90 per residential property. Unfortunately I am not a home owner, but I would definitely stick a tenner in the mail and send it to city hall if that is all it takes to increase a heart attack victims chance of survival by 5%.
How would I feel if someone died or lost their home because I could save \$6.90?!!!! No brainer! I definitely do not agree to this silly, yes silly idea of saving \$\$\$ DON'T do it!!!!

I believe it is appropriate to reduce the size of the fire department. Currently most fire-halls are under utilized. Fire no longer will assist on lift assists with EMS. Fire has limited abilities on EMS calls and rarely perform lifesaving techniques prior to EMS arrival. City should be holding EMS accountable to response times
I think taking on more risk to achieve a cost savings of \$7 annually is not worth it. With insurance costs increasing exponentially, it is more important to have efficient, effective fire response for fire, medical, hazardous materials emergencies. The overall savings of a structure or life is much more relevant than the savings of \$7/year. Calgarian would rather pay \$7 on fire and rescue services and give up ordering 2 coffees instead!
I think there are many different and better ways to save a couple of bucks rather than putting citizens at risk. There Are certain minimum standards that us calgarians expect when we pay our taxes, and one of them is that the fire department will show up in time when we need them.
Absolutely. Flammability protections, suppression systems and safety codes have improved remarkably since the early 20th century. This means an instantaneous in-person response is not always necessary, and not worth the expense.
I think this is absolutely ridiculous. What if it was your family that was having needing a critical Medical intervention Is 5% worth 7\$ per month. I don't think I can put a price on someone's life. Or a fire doubling in size. What if it's the middle of the night. A single house fire now consumes 3 to 5 houses. Give your heads a shake. 7\$ / month. Most people wouldn't even notice that. Find your savings elsewhere and start to think of a fire service as insurance model not an efficiency model
Please don't extend the CFD's response time. Most, if not all households will not even notice \$6.90 of savings per year, but many people will feel the unfortunately consequences of a longer response time. Please, if anything you should be trying to shorten the fire response time. Thank you
No! The "savings" are absolutely not worth it.
Absolutely NOT. A savings of \$6.90 is not worth the potential consequences. I can't believe this is even being discussed. Put out the same type of questionnaire for the art budget. At least that would be logical.
Avoid risk, a few hundred dollars in taxes is well work top quality emergency services.
No —savings is minimal for potential damage/loss of life that could occur. I do not support this.
Please do not reduce the budget for fire/police. I think what citizens pay for fire Protection is Just right
There are lots of places to 'trim the fat' but cutting the fire department is not one of them. It is a service that If it is cut, will have immediate negative impacts on the citizens of calgary. With the current state of the Provincially run ambulances, we will need the Fire department more than ever to insure a timely response. Do not cut essential services, lives are at risk!
Fire and Police should never have funds cut.
No
No not in terms of services such as fire department. If their house was on fire and 30 seconds meant saving their photo albums or someone's life. For safety I think should look for cost savings else where
I do not think it's is reasonable for the City to take on more risk..[personally identifying information removed]
Yes I believe the cost savings greatly outweigh the risks. Heart attacks need identification and treatment. Currently CFD cannot do either. Having certified medical staff with a fire crew may benefit the citizens of Calgary.
As the city has already cut fire services cutting it further is absolutely and morally wrong. This city's financial planning is ridiculous.

Find some cost saving measures somewhere else (public art program) The Fire Department cannot afford anymore cuts, maybe auction off the blue circle lamp post. Please put a stop to these unsightly public art projects and put the money where its needed. Emergency response
No way. If anything it should be faster. The fire department isn't even arriving as fast as they should right now. Fire grows fast and try holding your breath for 30 seconds longer than the current standard. Too important to cut
No. The fire department should be funded based on industry standards, this needs to be a core service for Calgarians and visitors to our city. Public safety should be a priority service, not cut. Approved city growth needs to be done in a way that adds to our city, that is attractive to future businesses and Calgarians. Instead, the bad pattern over the last number of years is to approve growth that puts strain and thins out our services, which then leads to cuts and reductions to city services.
It is very unreasonable! All citizens want and expect emergency services in a timely manner. Seconds can me lost lives and/or property damage.
No, I am not willing (nor should the city be) to take on the extra risk to cut funding to an essential service. They should be cutting office workers first and foremost. The city and resident numbers are growing. Essential services should be growing proportionately as well as their funding.
No, unless very minor situation. No indoor fire should be delayed to save cost if it has a detriment on life.
The Fire Department has already undergone big budget cut backs. They are our insurance policy. For the cost of a cup of Coffee at Starbucks/month I am good with maintaining or expanding the fire department budget.
Response time is key! These budget cuts are unrealistic in a fast growing city.
I would happily pay the extra \$7/year to ensure that my family and neighbours have fire/medical response ASAP... Especially with the uncertainty of AHS taking over EMS dispatch services from Calgary 9-1-1
I think it is ridiculous to consider the city taking on more risk to save a measly \$6.90. \$6.90 is not worth someone's life or house. This would be a very bad decision by the city.
No, and I think the risk is severely under representative and simplistic. Do better. The least you can do is be honest about the effect it would actually have. As a citizen of "a world class city" I would hope that in order to save 7 dollars they wouldn't even remotely put someone else at risk, and this 3 line blurb reeks of minimization.
Do not change response times! It is the difference between life and death in a lot of situations ! All lives are important and it is \$7per house hold!
Don't change it ! Her first responders on scene ASAP! Not 30 seconds later
No! Do not put us at risk to save money. How about we cut public art and other luxuries as opposed to essential services like police and fire. Why do you ask the same questions every year? Start listening to your citizens. Start being creative. Stop spending recklessly on things we don't need.
Seems short sighted to sacrifice people's lives, homes for the sake of a cup of coffee over the year. Cheap flammable building materials have reduced survival times and now the firefighters are left to deal with the fall out.
You are writing this in a biased way. How about being objective. List the total fire budget and the actual percentage that this reduction means. It is all how you frame it and I think you have framed it as the freest factor. I see the smoke screen. Give up the 5.8 million
I do not want to save \$6.90 cents to cause a risk to the city. If insurance companies catch wind of this, all of our insurance would go up. Also, with EMS being so busy, fire are often on scene first, so, as a nurse,

I know how valuable they are in that situation. They can save someone's life whilst waiting for EMS, but you want to decrease the fire service to day 7 bucks??? That sounds crazy to me! Please leave the fire service as it is!
I think this is absolutely ridiculous to even consider. Lives are worth more than and money savings. The department already took a budget cut this year leading to trucks being put out of service and trying to cut even more is insane. Response times are already hard to make on a good day.
I'd be prepared to pay more for even shorter response time
The fire department is NOT the place to be cutting costs. It is NOT reasonable to be taking higher risks when it comes to human life and public safety. It's disappointing to even see this as an option.
I can live with a 30 second reduction if the city doesn't cut other services. Every year it seems fire and police scream up and down they can't afford a cut. Sure they can. Keep fire trucks and other equipment a year longer before they get decommissioned. I am sure there is more that 5.8 million there. Let AHS respond to Health emergencies. Left fire respond to fires.
Absolutely it is not worth risking the lives of Calgarians for such a minuscule increase. Fire response is critical as they are attending more and more medicals with the absence of ambulances in the city due to AHS.
Ambulances are coming from all over Alberta as hot responses into calgary due to the lack of ambulances and fire is providing first response so delaying their time could be life and death for the patient.
If anything we should be removing funds from the arts and relocating it.
Absolutely not, my house and my family is worth far more to me than \$6.90.. the fact the city is even considering this is deplorable.
Doesn't seem like a very good trade off. Surely there are other less vital areas that can be cut.
Stop going to medical calls altogether unless requested by EMS.
Absolutely not. Citizens in Calgary pay less per household for fire suppression and all other things the Calgary Fire Department is tasked with, hazmat response, water rescues, technical rescues, medical first response to name a few, than all other municipalities in Canada, and arguably North America.
No people health and well being is a number one priority
No. Emergency response should be top priority and is worth the cost.
We are currently in a pandemic. Does it honestly make sense to cut the budget of our first responders? This is nuts. Cut things that aren't essential. Like the salaries of our city Council. This is ridiculous.
Personally, I would rather pay \$7 extra a month and not have the lives of my family and friends be gambled with. It is not reasonable to take on this extra risk at this time, especially considering that so many more people are struggling with mental health issues during COVID. Cutting response time and increased need is the perfect recipe for disaster. Thank you for your consideration
30 seconds could mean someones death. Take 6.90 out of the art budget.Keep fire budget funded
This is absolutely absurd. For \$7.00 a year per household you will risk the lives of Calgarians? People spend that on a breakfast sandwich every single day. Is it worth a fire doubling in size, potentially spreading to many more homes. Is it worth the loss of someone's life? City counsel needs to look beyond emergency services for budget cuts.
Absolutely not!! If it was your child trapped in your home, I'm certain no amount of fiscal savings would be worth increasing critical response times!!

Absolutely not. We can't cut essential services like fire when we spend crazy amounts on things not nearly as important as fire services. Even 1 life lost because of these cuts is unacceptable and if an increased budget saves just one life it's worth every penny. DO NOT CUT FUNDING
This is such a leading question, who could answer anything other than what you want to hear. How about you cut the administrative staff who wrote this survey and leave response times alone.
Yes - potential savings can be found through the use of highly paid IAFF members in day staff roles, where other, more qualified folks would be cheaper.
Are you kidding ?
No cuts!!
I will happily pay the \$7 to avoid this, you don't mess with peoples lives
No chance, get emergency services to the site of the emergency as fast as possible!
Let's ask you this... for \$7 a year are you ok with the fire department taking extra time to arrive at your kitchen fire which might lead to your whole house burning down because of longer response times?? Or if a member of your family is having a medical emergency? It's not worth the risk to you, you're family or the members of the FD.
Response times make the difference between life and death and total loss of property
Is someone's life or house worth \$6.90?!!!! This is absolutely ridiculous. Understaffing fire engines is also a part of this initiative, are first responders lives worth \$6.90?!!!! I can't even believe this is something that someone would vote for or agree with. Firefighters are first on scene most of the time, they save lives, they save property, they are crucial to the safe operation of our neighborhoods! First responders deserve better than this, they have given so much during this pandemic!
Calgarians do not want cuts to the Fire Dept's budget. Keep 24 hr. shifts--during Covid and flu season they allow for fewer contact between employees on varous shifts, reduce pollution as staff are not driving back and forth as often. Firefighters also save OT costs since they now arrive @ 7AM for shifts that start @ 7:30--so less OT, this saves the City money. Mayor Nenshi is on the wrong side of this discussion; taxpayers demand cuts and changes, but NOT to Calgary Fire Dept!!!
What does this really mean? Am I to believe that the firefighters speed in responding to a call is based on how much money I pay in taxes? Or does this mean certain halls will be closed down and the departments already taxed resources will be spread even thinner. If there were a busy incident (flash flood, hail storm, snowtember, how are we going to protect our lives, property, and responders if they can't keep up with the call demand.
The risk outweighs the 7\$ of savings. Don't do it.
A nearly \$6 million dollar savings could easily be lost with allowing the fire to spread from the initial house to the neighbors, or in a large condo complex, let alone the loss of loved ones who might have survived had emergency services been properly funded. Cutting here is inexcusable, heartless and short sighted for a very very insignificant cost savings. Pass on the expense of new halls to the developers determined to create new suburbs and who blatantly fund our council.
No it isn't reasonable. Already one of the lowest per capita cost for fire service. Find funds elsewhere than response times and number of firefighters. Have cut enough in the last couple years. Maybe look for province to pay for some of medical services they pay for or stop the fire department from doing medical calls at all if they won't. Save money on medical gear and training
For the price, the fire department delivers tremendous value. I DO NOT agree with increasing response times and increasing public risk.

More response time means more risk to the public and firefighters. Safety is more important for EVERYONE then cost.
Do I think that fires should be allowed to double in size so that I can save \$6.90? No. [removed], raise it to \$7 and let's make response times faster. The Calgary police spend millions on helicopters. How about we reduce that? A Calgary city councilor received \$5000 in illegal expenditures. Maybe he can make up the difference.
Are you kidding???
No emergency service should be cut.
Absolutely not. It seems like you're cutting corners, we shouldn't be paying for LESS standardized care. I remember reading an article saying Calgary is already below IAFF standard for response times... and you are contemplating reducing it further. This is an essential service, I'm sure you can find other areas to trim the budget if it's that dire. One that won't result in lost lives.
Absolutely not. \$7.00 for safety in our city, how is this even being debated. This is a time to bring in less risk. My insurance keeps going up, and more risk doesn't help that.
The fire department budget is already over inflated. It's possible to trim their budget by more than \$5.8 million and not have an impact on response time. What you need is some innovation in the way they conduct business, not to keep all but response time as the status quo. First on the block is the 24-hour shift. Despite what they may tell you, it is not a cost savings. Sick time doubles when each shift is twice as long. They are pulling the wool over your eyes if they say differently.
DO NOT INCREASE RESPONSE TIMES - THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE
Putting the safety of firefighters and public at significantly higher risk in order to save annually what would cost each taxpayer less than a burger and fries is insane and should be criminal.
This doesn't seem like a good idea based on the examples listed and the savings per household. I have elderly parents and if one of them suffered a heart attack I would want firefighters there as quick as possible.
I think it is a ridiculously terrible idea and shame on whom ever come up with it because you can't put a price on saving peoples lives.
Trade offs??? Seconds matter and you want the fire department, my taxes to go to these guys so they get to my kid that's choking slower??? Get bent. How about you fat paid Counsellors take a pay cut AND give up your three pensions for one and that'll save us the \$5.8m you're looking for.
I do not think this is reasonable. I am confident there are other cost saving measures within the City budget that do not impact CFD or CPS. Considering we remain in a Pandemic and there is significant political unrest just across the boarder from us, I haven't been more thankful than I am now to have the emergency services that we do. I urger you to look elsewhere and not jeopardize the safety of citizens at this extremely unsettling time.
No it is absolutely not safe to make the fire department response times longer. That is ridiculous
Do not change the response time find the money somewhere else I want them at my door sooner if my house is burning or if I just need the fire department they are essential and should never have funds cut
I do think it is worth the potential risk. CFD is important, but a 30 seconds difference isn't all that much. Where the city should consider investing in getting EMS back. AHS is mismanaging EMS so badly, ems response times are through the roof, staff retention is low. Care that the public recieves from paramedic is great, but the public has to wait far to long for ems to arrive due to red alerts and no ambulances being available. Cfd generally isn't supet useful on many ems calls unfortunately.
I would rather pay the \$6.90 knowing that if my house catches fire that the fire department would be coming from the station in my district and not having to worry about if the city would close down my station and I would have to wait for the next closest fire truck to put my house out. How can the city put

peoples lives at risk for such a small amount of money per residential tax base ? Leave the first responders budgets alone and find your money els were !!
Absolutely not. Frankly, it's offensive to have the question posed. Any cost saving from the property tax bill in this regard would just be tacked on to the back end of every household family on their insurance costs as no doubt insurance would rise with any cutback to the Fire Department responses...which are already not adequate to all parts of the city. It's terrible that the proposal does not flat out say how the savings would be made...by closing stations and laying off people.
Don't cut funds from any first responders budget, a ridiculous suggestion in the first place.
Please do not do this. The risk is not worth the savings.
No, it is not worth the cost savings.
I work as a first responder/ firefighter with the city of Calgary and I'm a tax payer for the city of Calgary. I am against reducing seven dollars from the taxes I pay annually to save the city money. I would much rather have had my property taxes increased by 3 percent five years ago and or even now than save money where it shouldn't be cut. I've personally lost my 20 year old younger sister to a heart attack and I know 30 seconds matters wether it's fire or health related. Thank you
No, this is not reasonable. A fire doubles in size every 30 seconds. By saving \$6.90 per year at the risk of increased damages or loss of life due to fires is unacceptable.
Essential services are exactly that, ESSENTIAL. How can this city even consider trimming fat on any of the emergency services. It's time this administration focusses on kick starting our economy and look towards non essential areas to cut. In the mean time they can also kick themselves in the butt for spending stupidly on things like ART BUDGET during good times. Absolute waste of what could have been a rainy day fund for times like this. It's time Nenshi is done! He's horrible.
Yes
This would be a very poor decisions you have already cut from firefighters over the last few years! I have seen them save houses and family friends in medical distress and how cutting times could mean more people loosing homes/ valuables let alone I hope never lives.
Whoever wrote this should be fired for being biased. Even if you didn't write it so it was a choice between "save \$6 or your life", I'd still choose to never take funding from fire and rescue. If I have to pay more in taxes to make sure the fire fighters can do their job, then I'm fine with it.
Lives are at stake in making cuts to fire service. Find it else where please.
For 7 dollars a year it's worth every cent for 30 seconds less in an emergency. Try to imagine your husband or wife having a heart attack or a child choking. Dont think 30 seconds is a long time? Try holding your breath that long in an nonemergency situation let alone standing helpless over someone you love.
6.90 is the cost of a ream of paper. Or a light bulb staying burnt out. Or a box of pens in our councils desks. Safety should not ever be an area to cut. I could live if a Blvd lawn wasn't cut. But if I have a heart attack or my house is on fire I would rather they show up fast and in large numbers.
NO. ZERO. DO NOT CUT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. IT IS BAD ENOUGH WITH ALL OF THE URBAN SPRAWL. NO MORE CUTS.
No trade-off needed= Simple math: 1,298 Firefighters (per 2019 budget) @ avg \$100K year =\$130M in salary so a \$5.8M cost savings = 4.5% wage reduction with no staff or response time reduction. Most private sector has taken at least 5%+ in the last couple years.
When you have an emergency you want help as fast as possible. I would pay more on my property tax if I knew the response times for emergency would be less.

Under no circumstances should you put the lives of calgarians at risk. How is this even being brought up? There is no reason to increase response times when they already aren't meeting their benchmarks 100% of the time
I do not think taking on more risk is reasonable at all! I think this would be an extremely large mistake if this decision were made! We have some of the lowest tax's in the country, our lives should not be jeopardized just too keep these rates this low!
I think that it is ridiculous to even consider this. You cannot put a price on saving lives , and when seconds count , I would be glad to pay a very small fee if that means the difference between life and death for someone.
I would pay MORE tax to ensure that firefighters maintain or improve response times.
There is no savings to the consumer here without a correlating provincial law preventing insurance rate increases due to the longer response times. This shouldn't even be on the table for consideration.
Is one life worth \$5.8M? Two lives? 10? I think it is ridiculous to put people's lives at risk in order to save money. The firefighters were instrumental when my father had a heart attack. My vote is NO to longer response times.
Maybe the city needs to look at talking to the province about having more ambulances available. It would increase the survivability having paramedics there instead of the fire department. The city needs to ask the province about ems response times and the amount of red alerts eks goes into daily.
No. It's not just the City that is taking on increased risk. It is the citizens and the firefighters. This constant moving away from scientifically established standards is a recipe for a catastrophic disaster. Just because you might get away with it for a while doesn't mean you should do it. You can always find jurisdictions to compare yourself with who are "getting away with it" but it's a race to the bottom with peoples lives and property on the line. That's just foolish thinking.
No. Why would you gamble peoples lives for budget savings? Find the money somewhere else.
I would like to know who places a \$6.90 value on their loved ones life if that is the difference between life or death. The City needs to do better and shave back areas that are not going to sacrifice safety responses. Why be beefing up COVID response if they diminish life and safety factors in other areas.
Absolutely not. This is a horrific idea, and one that will result in more Calgarians dying. I can't even believe you'd consider this. It is even an irresponsible question to ask. I'll gladly pay \$7 more - \$100 more - to have response times reduced. Firefighters saved my life, and count yourself lucky if you've not had to have them save yours. Trust me, if you've been in a situation where they've needed to, you'd never ever consider cutting their response times. This suggestion is heinous.
Response time should not be compromised. No amount of cost savings justifies a cut.
Good question. What citizens expect is for you to focus on real controls - not a trivial question like this. How much savings to the taxpayer would be realized by dropping pension benefits by 5% at city hall? How much savings to the taxpayer by reducing staff by 5% (much less than change in quarantine demand or work)? How much savings to the taxpayer by not approving 12 new suburban communities near Airdrie? These are the questions YOU should be asking City Hall. Not Calgary citizens.
No. Cutting corners on this service is irresponsible. Constantly expanding the city is the real problem. Council has already cut the fire department budget and done countless studies. It's an expensive cost of business that is unavoidable.
The stats show that Calgary fire department call volume are majority medical so yes I don't see a problem with cutting the budget for the fire department. They get paid well for the chance of something happening but stats show that fires have decreased drastically over the years. there is plenty of fire Staff

for the amount of fire calls. Currently medical needs more help so why cut the medical response units when they are the busiest. It's what is best for the citizens of Calgary.
No, this is not an area to budget cut, this deals directly with citizens lives and well being as well as increasing danger to the firefighters whom already risk their lives for said citizens. Police, Fire, EMS are NOT appropriate areas to cut, SPECIALLY when council just approved the development of SEVERAL new communities (so much for the Mayors promise to develop inner city and not outwards)...the more communities the more fire department coverage will be needed!!!
To save me a lousy 6.90 on my taxes I would say don't do it. Response times should be shortened not lengthened. What a joke, how about City Hall take less breaks for the money we are paying them and they work longer hours for their pay, and why did we need to fix old City Hall in a downturn.
Are you serious? This is an absolute joke of an idea. How about you cancel all the art projects. Or take a paycut yourselves. City council gave themselves a quiet paradise last year while trying to screw over every employee they have. Great way to lead by example.
What about the Fire and Legacy last year. Do you think 30 seconds would have save 1 house instead of burying 3 houses ? Instead of cutting the budget they will have a fire station there. But no the city of Calgary preferred play with the safety and house of peoples. All citizens of Calgary say over and over stop cutting the budget for first responder. Stop cutting the budget for first responder. They are the one risking their life and you guys playing with their life and all citizens of Calgary
This is completely ridiculous. I am losing all respect in our city council. Cutting back on public services, thus potentially putting citizens lives at risk is unacceptable. Our city council cares more about their own personal income and city art than their own citizens. I cannot even believe this is an option. Give your head a shake city council.
I think more should be done to look at the cost savings created by the 24-hour shift rotation schedule, and other operational measures. Just look at the recent survey of firefighters and their partners about the mental and physical health benefits alone with this schedule. Reducing absenteeism and sick time will also save money. I think it's short sighted to tell citizens their lives don't matter as much as administration's spreadsheets. In short, response times matter. Find another way.
I do not think it is reasonable to take on the added risk to save such a small amount per household. Those are significant, life-changing changing/ending consequences. Please do not increase response times - we need timely first responders.
No, this is a silly idea. \$6.90 a year savings, I could have three fewer coffees a year and save that.
What impact will this have to insurance premiums? Will the trade off be higher premiums to cover the extra risk.
How can people answer the question without understanding what the \$5.8M cost includes? New trucks? More or less firefighters? Don't build a new station? Wage and benefit reductions for union contract?
No I do not think it is reasonable. I think there are other places you could cut from, like the art budget, or maybe delay the new aren for the flames.
To all councillors, please stop play with our safety. For the last 2, 3 years I noticed you cut the budget a first responder every single year. I think or safety is more important than art transit Road or anything else. For 7 dollars extra per year I think it's not even a discussion. 30 seconds might be a huge difference between life and death for medical, vehicle accident, fire and everything else the fire department do. I hope you will make that great decision and stop playing with our SAFETY
No, more risk to the citizens and firefighters is not worth the 5.8 million dollar savings. I would gladly pay \$6.90 to have the fire department fully staffed and functional. The city should consider raising taxes instead of cutting costs. We pay very low property tax compares with other cities in Canada. The mayor

and the council should take into consideration the safety of the people instead of wanting to look good before an election year.
DO NOT CUT EMERGENCY SERVICES AND RESPONSE TIMES...Cut the optional funding things like arts and heritage and recreation....though I personally love those things, the greater good needs to preserve and enhance emergency services, not cut them and response times in favour of other things! USE COMMON SENSE here. You don't buy a new car when you cannot afford groceries and utilities.
Frankly, it's not "The City" taking the risk. "The City" is not the one experiencing a heart attack, MVA, or child choking. Fire response should be the very last thing we cut back on - especially considering they support EMS in critical cases often arriving first. Having been a designated first aider when I had an office job, I can tell you 30 seconds is one helluva long time when there's a crisis and everyone is silent and straining to hear the reassuring sound of approaching sirens.
This is beyond ridiculous. Trading life safety for a few bucks a months vs either increasing prop tax in suburban communities, or charging appropriate fees to suburban developers? C'mon man.
I hope the city opens their eyes and realizes how important the fire department is. These are people's lives you're talking about. WAKE UP!!! Stop putting peoples lives in danger because upper management can't handle the budget. And stop spending money on \$25,000 stoves that the fire halls don't need. [removed] Stop spending money on useless shit that the fire halls don't need
No certainly not.
No change to response times
No, I do not think that increased fire response times is a safe plan for the future. There are many other service areas that do not carry the level of risk to life or property where more cost savings can be achieved.
Good grief no! What a crazy idea this is. How about reducing councils wages by \$6.90.
The savings isn't enough. I'll gladly pay \$7.00 to have a 5 percent higher chance of survival during a heart attack.
No, this doesn't seem like an appropriate area to cut back on.
Given the already underfunded situation for fire response and response time currently well exceeding accepted industry standards for North America, it hardly seems responsible or reasonable to think about increasing response times. The responsibility of the city is to adequately fund emergency services. Budget cuts should be primarily on non essential programs to the point of eliminating them before cutting essentials.
Absolutely not. I think it would be very irresponsible for the city to consider putting its citizens at risk for a couple dollar savings. We have one of the lowest taxes of any of the cities in Canada. I will be voting for anyone willing to make the smart decision to raise taxes to get us out of this recession. Putting the lives of citizens and firefighters at risk instead of raising taxes is the wrong decision.
Absolutely not. Fire doubles in size every 30 seconds. To save such a small amount of money per household. There are far more effective ways to make cuts.
Hey council, give your head a shake! When its your loved one locked in a burning building or choking to death on the floor when seconds are the difference between life and death was saving \$6.90 worth it??
No.
7\$ to cut life saving service? No thanks. For that kind of money I don't know why they would even consider that.
This is the most important service to citizens of Calgary. I would pay more to keep the level of service that Police and Fire offer. This is NOT the place to make cuts. We already have low property taxes for a major city, we cannot make anymore cuts... Stop wasting money on useless art work!

DO NOT CUT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. SECONDS MATTER. THEY PROVIDE A VERY VALUABLE SERVICE!!!!
Don't cut emergency services, this is ridiculous.
Please do not cut in means of safety to the citizens of Calgary. Calgary Fire is vital to the safety
I think that first responders like CFD are already stretched thin and would not want to risk a life over \$7/year
I understand that the savings sounds big (5.8 million) but is that cost savings worth someone's life ? Or safety? Or well being? I realize savings must be found somewhere and do not envy politicians to make this decision however, firefighters are always first on scene and the community respects and appreciates the work they do. I would happily pay the \$6.80 per year to keep the level of service and response time.
No!
This is not an area to save money. Calgarians have worked hard to ensure response times are reduced, in turn saving lives and property. If cost savings in this area were implemented, It would take years to regain the same level of service.
This is an issue that effects every citizen of Calgary. The wide spread risk to safety, security, and health seems negligible to every single individual with in the city that council represents. It is alarming, and indeed a bit concerning, that this is even a question to be raised during a global pandemic, where Calgary citizens need further help and assistance not a municipal government to turn their backs. Fire needs more money to serve the city please don't even consider longer response times
No it is not reasonable to do this. Please keep the response time target as it is right now. It is much more important to be able to respond to emergency calls fast than it is to save a couple dollars per year!!
Potential saving of \$6/yr per household by reducing response time by fire dept. how about not spending city money on unnecessary things. Sure, defining what is unnecessary is not easy but spending \$200k on art and then having to reduce emergency response does not seem wise. I think the peoples need more FF than Art.
How is the city taking on more risk? It seems to its the public that are taking on the risk for the city. Maybe start with asking people who have needed emergency services to save the life of a loved one or to stop their house from burning down if they would have been ok with waiting a bit longer. 30 seconds feels like a lifetime when your child cant breath. No, do not add more time to responses in order to save a few dollars. Is that all your family is worth to you? Mine is worth a lot more.
Do not cut firefighters. These people literally save lives and sometimes it is a matter of a few seconds between life and death (or serious injury). If they are not saving lives, they are always first on scene and keeping our city safe. I would rather pay the \$6.80 and feel safe knowing they are there if/ when needed.
No
Absolutely not. Risk the life of myself and my loved ones in order to save \$7 on my tax bill?? How is this even a question. I understand the need to save money especially in these times but that is not where to pinch pennies. I don't think you can justify a \$7 tax saving measure when that extra 30 seconds could cost someone their life or their property
First we need to be extremely clear that the "City" is not taking on more risk with this ludicrous idea, it is the people that live here and the firefighters that will have to save them. The risk associated with this minor cost savings is unacceptable anyway you look at it and the idea should not be entertained. Any of our emergency services should be left alone while the City attempts to find a solution to their poor choices from the past.
Absolutely not, I would rather not wait an extra 30 seconds for my house to burn down, or a family member die because of cost cutting. Find somewhere else to cut

It is absolutely unacceptable to expect households experiencing emergency to have to wait longer. This is some callousness on a baffling level, to ask "is reducing your loved ones chance of surviving a heart attack worth \$6 to you?" Is having half your house destroyed worth \$6 to you?
No. I used to live in a US county that had the best heart attack survival rate in the US because of the FD response and technology (signal pre-emption) that got them places quickly. Safety should trump all
It is not reasonable at all for the city to put its citizens at higher risk to achieve savings. The City and it's citizens needs to think about this if it were their house or neighbor's house involved in a fire or a loved one or someone close to them requiring an immediate life saving intervention. People's lives and property are not the avenue to acquire annual savings.
When lives and property are at risk, I find it ridiculous to save \$6.90/year to increase that risk. If anything Calgary should increase the operational budget of the fire service. There are less firefighters per 1000 population than there were in 1985! Toronto residents paid an average of \$325/year for fire protection, Calgary is at \$263, if anything please increase the value of people's lives by protecting them from harm.
Absolutely not! Seconds save lives and 30 seconds extra is detrimental!! It takes less then 30 minutes to make 6.90\$ working minimum wage. This Is not a reasonable budget cut!
I think our fire service is grotesquely over funded. Its nice to hear that someone is willing to look at this without the IAFF releasing publicity of sad puppies to gain public support. Please consider giving some of their funding to other services.
I don't believe the City will take on more risk in order to achieve annual savings. This is trying to shock citizens into thinking CFD is invaluable. EVERYONE needs to be prudent with money during these times. CFD should absolutely receive a budget reduction, I see they haven't voluntarily offered to reduce their budget, as CPS did....
Not acceptable lay off all the fat from over staffing problems solved
Absolutely not. The negligible household savings is definitely not worth the risk to my home, my or my families health or the responders who daily are willing to risk their lives for other Calgarians emergencies. The fire department is stretched as thin as a big city department can be as is, you can look at any other department in Canada for examples, let's not stretch it any further and endanger my home or their lives anymore than it needs to be.
Of course not. I'd rather pay \$6.90 more a YEAR (not even the cost of a non-dairy coffee at a chain shop) than risk someone losing their home or their life. It's unbelievable that we as a city in the so-called "first world" would even consider such a ridiculous idea for such meagre savings. Maybe cut that \$6.90 from the annual salary of public servants making more than \$100,000 a year if we're looking for a solution.
No definitely not. I think there are many other areas that could be considered that don't put myself or my own families lives more at risk. I can't speak for all Calgarians but I would not think they would want to take that risk either especially for less than \$7 annually. Definitely not worth the risk
No, there are many areas to save that don't impact putting people's lives at risk. Emergency services like fire should be the very last thing to cut, long after after the nice to have items like art.
The city should consider stopping outward expansion of newer communities. The costs of roads, services, infrastructure, lighting, signage, etc for a new community is huge. Then, add a new fire station, truck, personnel, equipment, etc and this cost balloons significantly. Stop building outwards and you no longer need to grow the size of the CFD. Build upwards and use spaces already vacant. Stop catering to the "boom" of the housing market. The oil market golden goose is dead.
No. Maybe stop wasting money on things like artwork or bike lanes, and focus on important things like infrastructure, citizens safety, and Cut back in the wasteful spending...

This is ridiculous, houses in Calgary are so closely build, No reduction in response times!!!!
I think 30 seconds sounds reasonable, but am concerned that this is an average and that service impacts may be much more serious than this in some neighbourhoods. I'd also like to understand if there are one-time investments that can be made to reduce the likelihood of fires (e.g. subsidize new smoke detectors in all homes, like the toilet program a few years ago).
I absolutely do not think that \$6.90 in savings should put response times in jeopardy. Emergency services should not have to be cut in order to cost safe. Not when complete loss of home or life is at stake
It is unreasonable for the city to take on more risk in order to achieve annual cost savings, particularly when it comes to emergency services. It is irresponsible of council to barter with residents' lives & homes. Budget should be cut from departments that have no impact on health or safety (e.g., public art). The fire department and police service are the last departments that should face budget cuts. It is appalling that the importance of these services is not clear to council.
When lives are at stake why consider cutting the money to first responders is all I can say
This a reasonable risk. House fires have dramatically reduced in frequency. Fire Fighter Union and Calgary Fire both prop up response times as a way to misinform public. An average fire fighter sees very little action over the course of their lucrative careers where they fight actual fires. Compared to other front line response workers (Police and EMS), their responsibilities and work load are not comparable. Movie rooms and sanctioned naps in the fire halls while working are prime examples.
I'm a paramedic in Calgary. Stop sending CFD on medical calls unless EMS requests them. This is overkill on 99% of medical calls they respond to. "Hello I'm a FF and EMS will help you". The city needs to look into how many times we cancel them and stand them down. EMS is confident that when we request CFD they will be nearby and readily available. Fire doesn't save heart attacks, they're great at initializing CPR on cardiac arrest. FYI - Heart Attacks and cardiac arrest are different.
I think it is reasonable to make this trade
No, there are far better areas to cut costs than removing funding from Fire Fighters. The risks to this could also mean insurance costs go up as damages increase from the slower response times so we as citizens will end up paying more in the end and it is not worth it.
No I want firefighters to arrive as quick as possible if it were my family emergency no questions asked. 30 seconds late to a fire or heart attack is certainly not worth the 7\$ savings.
Absolutely not!!! For less than a dollar a month???
Maybe council should re-think 0% property tax increases that they think will get them re-elected...
Yes. After working around the fire department for multiple years now I can safely say that they are over staffed and heavily under worked. Many of these halls that have 2,3 or even 4 trucks in them spend the majority of their shifts washing personal vehicles, playing silly frat house games, watching TV or working on personal projects all while toting the line of "we are heroes." Cut their budget, reduce their numbers and just make them actually work for their pay. #backtofillingpotholes
No. I think they should get more money as they are already running lean.
Lowering response times so I can save .019 cents per day seems ridiculous. I'm not in favour of this risk to cost savings ratio.
Yes
By increasing emergency response times you are not only putting the public at increased risk but also the firefighters as fire doubles in size every 30 seconds. this equates to requiring additional resources

and cost more in the long run. As a tax payer I am fine with paying the costs of maintaining the current response times because when me or my neighbor's call CFD seconds matter.
\$6.90 seem an insignificant cost to pay given the increased risk that a longer response time would bring. It seems irresponsible of the city to be considering something like this. This can't be the "lowest hanging fruit" they could find
No I don't think it's reasonable for the savings presented. 30 seconds is a lot when an emergency situation occurs. Without hearing the specifics, I am also very dubious that making this change won't result in delays greater than 30 seconds as it gets rolled out and implemented.
I'll skip buying two cups of coffee so there is no cut back to the fire service. Who comes up with these types of savings? Hopefully they aren't being paid as this is not a smart place to make cuts.
When lives and expensive property are on the line, I would pay more for the fire service.
The Fire Departments budget should be maintained. \$7.00 savings is not worth the risk that my family will be put at with cuts to this vital department.
No. I think response times are important. You can't put a monetary value on human life.
CFD has been instructed since the beginning of COVID to not enter the homes of patients with COVID symptoms. These symptoms typically include shortness of breath and chest pain, both of which are COVID symptoms. CFD has been instructed to wait outside of homes until EMS arrives and assess the patient. Due to EMS's lack of resources (due to lack of funding) this often results in CFD waiting outside the home longer than what would be the extra 30 second response time. So why bother? Save the money
I think it's absolutely ridiculous that this is even an option. To put peoples lives at risk for \$7. I disagree! Perhaps the alderman and above can take a pay cut like everyone else.
I think it's shameful to be even considering this. You're putting civilian and firefighter lives at risk on a daily basis, and now you want to increase that risk. Time for new city council as far as i'm concerned.
when did the city administrators start putting a monetary value on life safety?? 7 dollars a month in exchange for possible lives lost!! Instead of reducing emergency services, how about getting rid of things like useless art that costs millions!!
Absolutely not. I truly hope this is satire. Cutting from the fire department should not ever be on the table.
I don't think this is a good trade off, there are other areas which should be cut before the safety of Calgary's citizens. Administration costs are always extremely high as well as city facility upgrades and expenses could be cut as well. Tax dollars are tax dollars no matter what budget you are cutting them from. Stop taking money from essential services like fire and police, start taking it away from people behind big fancy desks.
I don't agree with saving money by increasing risk to both the public, and the firefighters responding. This is a small amount on an annual tax bill. The 30 seconds however, may mean the difference between life and death or significant impairment to quality of life for members of the public. It also means that the firefighters are being asked to respond later into an incident when risks to them may have significantly increased. Thank you for considering our input.
With the current building materials and synthetic furnishings the rate of fire spread is much faster than in the past. The CFD also responds to many other time sensitive emergencies such as gas leaks and vehicle collisions. To increase response times for such a modest savings is irresponsible
How long should children or seniors with limited mobility wait to get rescued ? The answer isn't longer . Cut services that will not endanger lives
No way, 7\$ extra year to save lives that's not even a question. The city should try to cut the budget of the fire department for 7dollars per person per year. Unbelievable, does City of Calgary do really

desperate to try to cut the budget of people try to saving lives. Why not cut the art or anything else even you guys salaries before cutting the budget of the people saving lives. That's a BIG No, No, No
Absolutely DO NOT make response times longer. As someone who experienced a life threatening heath crisis, i would not be here today if i did not receive quick intervention. Its hard to understand the risk if you have never experienced an emergency. Most people do not expect it will happen to them. That's simply poor planning and irresponsible.
No. I want timely life saving intervention and protection.
No, this is ridiculous. Find cost savings elsewhere, not from any first response services.
This doesn't make sense to me. How would you reduce fire response times? Would you tear down all the present firehalls and build new ones that were spread out 30 seconds travel time further apart? Replace all the fire trucks with slower and cheaper ones? Have you split the cost of fire service only amongst residents? Doesn't commercial taxes also contribute to their fire protective services? Please advise how you'd achieve that! You can email me at...thomasrossiter@netscape.net
No! Absolutely not. These are life saving services. Find areas to cut where it's not life or death
No I do not think it is reasonable at all, it's very irresponsible and just plan ridiculous of the city to propose this. The safety for the people of Calgary should be a higher priority than saving a few dollars. Shame on you city council for even thinking of doing this.
Currently, the most junior members on CFD drive the apparatus. They are typically inexperienced, timid, and lack assertiveness behind the wheel. CFD promotes exclusively by seniority. Create a driver stream that puts senior members behind the wheel; not only will response times be reduced, but overall member safety is increased.
No absolutely not. Not only would these risks greatly impact public safety, they would also greatly impact firefighter safety as well. I dont think for a second that the little bit of tax payer savings is worth life safety for anyone.
I can't even believe this is being looked at. Please stop cutting front line services. Stop wasting money on public art and look for savings elsewhere.
No it is not. Cut your wages that would be a good way to save money instead of attacking the emergency services
A fire doubles in size every 30 seconds. That means any extra time it takes a first due engine to show up, will give the fire a even greater start to advance from controllable to uncontrollable. And crews having to go defensive. It also greatly reduces the chances of anyone inside being able to survive. Maybe instead of looking at numbers. Ask yourselves if you're willing to make your loved one wait that extra 30 even if it means the difference if them making it or not. Cut counsellors pay first
I truly believe the City of Calgary could cut expenses from other areas other than from the fire department or the police department!! They need to learn to control their spending and quit wasting our tax dollars on frivolous [removed]!
Not acceptable at all. The city is now placing a cost of approx. \$6.90 on someone's life. It would be hard to find a taxpayer who thinks that \$6.90 is too much to save a life.
Not acceptable. Bring in smaller, less expensive vehicles instead of the Bronto trucks.
Not reasonable at all, nor responsible of city council to even consider this as an option
Cutting fire and response times will have a negative impact on citizens of Calgary. When you delay response you are putting citizens health at risk. Maybe the crooked city council and mayor should spend the cities money wiser instead of trying to cut essential services that actually have a positive impact on the city of Calgary. The council and mayor should be ashamed on how they are having a negative impact on this city and running it into the ground. We will be the next Detroit soon.

Longer response times is NOT the place to save tax dollars.
People's well being is the most important. When you need them most, 30 seconds is longer than you think. Irresponsible for the city council to even debate this.
Absolutely not, they need more support not less. We need a safer city not a cheaper one.
Emergency services is the single most important service I would like to support with my tax dollars. I do not wish to have slower response time. I would choose to save this money in other areas of our City budget, like public art, and unnecessary committees. Please do not decrease our emergency service coverage.
NO! Fires double in size every 30 seconds. Response times matter! CFD also responds to choking, overdoses, medical emergencies, crashes....30 seconds longer in response time could be the matter of losing your entire house instead of just the kitchen, or losing a life. Find another way to save.
I don't think it's reasonable for the city to take on more risk. Calgary Firefighters are under funded and under staffed going an exceptionally difficult job. The \$7 per household is well worth the price and the savings could be found in other city run departments. The inefficiency in Calgary transit alone would save the city millions of dollars. Cut front line jobs at your peril, you won't understand the effects until it's too late!
Please do not reduce the response times of the firefighters to save money. Thanks
I would like the fire dept to take less time to respond. If I pay \$7 more would we get a 30sec faster response? If so sign me up!
No, not the type of risk that impacts the safety of its citizens. I believe there are other places that cuts could be made that wouldn't impact citizens so negatively.
No. The city could find better ways of saving money. Having the possibility of more destruction from delayed response is merely transferring the funds from A to B in the long run. How is that actually saving money?
Please do not cut funding for response times for the fire department.
It is not reasonable at all for the city to take on more risk to achieve annual savings. There are things that shouldn't be touched when we are looking at saving money, and essential life saving services shouldn't be one of them.
No.. as this could mean..instead of one house on fire.. we now have two. Also.. for each minute CPR or defibrillation is delayed.. survival decreases by 10%.
The current guidelines are already under strain through funding restrictions. Any changes in the rules will have a drastic impact on safety and minimal impact on cost savings.
Putting citizens at a higher risk no matter what the savings, is unacceptable. Seconds count in a fire or medical emergency and this cost saving measure will cost lives and property.
I feel the City should not increase response times just to save money. Find other avenues for cost savings(less lawn cutting in parks for example). Emergencies involve people & they pay taxes to insure help is on the way. Cutting fire services Is short term thinking & puts the citizens at greater risk.
I am more then willing to pay a mere \$7 extra a year for preserving our current fire dept budget. Seconds matter in an emergency and that is the price of a coffee which seems insignificant. Not only will the public be at greater risk but I suspect the firefighters themselves will be stretched thinner which will add needless danger to their already dangerous job. Don't cut emergency services!
The increased risk is not balanced with the savings incurred. For less than a dollar a day I wish to receive faster response to any 911 call where the fire department responds.

Response to save and preserve life and safety should never be slowed. Every second counts and the savings are negligible. I completely disagree with this. Take the \$6.90 and put it towards to continuing this service.
Spend more money on the fire department! They don't need more cuts. How ridiculous that this is even a conversation. Lives are literally at Risk if we create more of a delay in response. Stop making cuts to an essential service. I wouldn't want family or friends waiting longer for help to arrive
Absolutely not!! With the uncertain economic times ahead of us, the fire department will be taxed with increased call volumes for service (medical, fire, vehicular accidents, hazardous materials response and technical rescues to name a few). This will impact an already thin fire service which will lead to increased property loss, and citizen safety. Building codes have not been improved to make an impact to justify the increase in response time. This is a foolish response to bad tax decisions
No. This is not okay. The societal costs associated with the increased damage, disruption and loss of life to homes and business are far greater than \$5 million per year. Please, just raise taxes and fund services appropriately.
I think it's outrageous to consider altering a response time where people's lives are in jeopardy. All for \$6.90 worth of savings. There are many other ways to save money. I couldn't see telling someone they lost a family member and house because \$6.90 was too much to spend. Yet a art project was being built somewhere in the city. The city council is supposed to serve the people and the basic is providing safety for people's live then properties. They're failing if they allow this to go through.
Savings is not worth the risk! In an emergency seconds matter! Do NOT cut money in a trade for time. Keep it as is.
I'm not willing to sacrifice homes/lives for the savings of \$7 a year. Give your heads a shake. Look elsewhere than emergency services for cuts. Get creative and use our funds more efficiently across the board.
No it is a ridiculous consideration for a mere savings of \$7 a household. I understand that financial times are tight but we can cut the more frivolous things like art before cutting our emergency services.
Absolutely NOT. City council is making educated decisions by uneducated councilors. Councilors need to allocate monies better. You do not reduce emergency services because of mismanaged budgets due to councilors at the risk of our families safety. I am a strong believer in making the correct decisions for our cities safety and our council has it all wrong...so sad...
Seconds save lives. Please do not increase response times!
I think we could probably find a savings in a non-essential service that would equate to a similar savings of around \$5.8 million. I don't think saving \$6.90 (\$3.45 per person in my household) yearly to jeopardize lives, property, etc is worth it! Would doing this not also increase insurance costs, therefore saving people nothing?
I beleive the city has an obligation to manage risk to its citizens and the public. At the same time I understand the difficult position the city is in and the need to cut costs. I would hope the city would look at other avenues within the CFD first, before looking at response times. This may include eliminating management positions, closing community safety and cutting fire prevention. Have the fire department used for its core mission, fire response. Once this is done look elsewhere.
No cost cutting should be implemented for this service at a cost of \$6.90 on are property tax
No. Anytime there is a risk to life or property, cost savings should not be considered. For \$7.00 a household in savings you would consider risking a life? I would rather see the grass grow longer, snow plowing take longer, even a few more potholes not getting filled before affecting the fire departments response times.

As a tax payer I am extremely alarmed that this is even considered. How many more times are you going to threaten to cut the emergency responders budget?
No, it is not reasonable, i don't want more risk for a insignificant saving do not cut the fire department
I think there is a lot of be bureaucracy that can be eliminated and programs that only benefit small groups before you jeopardize people's lives and property.
The Firefighters already been cut so many times in the last couple years, can we please find somewhere else to cut? There is many branches of the city's spending that would be concidered "luxury" money like recreation, parks, Art, etc.
Cutting life saving department like police and fire is not the way to go.
I don't agree with the Fire department having a budget cut AGAIN.
Because you guys miss managed the money so bad that we payed for and now you are trying to take away from the fire department??? Because you think this is even a consideration makes me sick. You guys should all be voted out of office. Maybe we should look at better people to take care of the money.
Not reasonable at all. This is a terrible idea. Fire dept is more important than majority of city programs. Find other ways to cut but not police and fire which we depend on
I think that our safety and our first responders safety far our weigh the \$7 a year I would save. This is a bad idea!!
Absolutely not! Lives are not worth any price. I find it appalling that this would even be considered, especially for such a small dollar amount per household.
You're telling me that my family might burn to death before firefighters arrive, or that my neighbors house fire will double and be my house fire.... All to save me the equivalent of 1.5 Cappuccino's a year?
Need I say more? The answers lie in your question. You have been elected to step up and LEAD our great city. Start doing so. You do not waste away the good times, and then cut essential life saving services to make up for it during the bad times.
Please do what you were elected to do.
It is not reasonable to take on more risk. House fires that the city would allow to double in size would most likely be the difference for a single house fire becoming a 3 house fire. This plan is reckless and dangerous and they city is gambling on human lives.
It is not reasonable to take more risks when a persons life and property are on the line. In an emergency every second counts and increasing response times for minimal savings is not the way to help budget. The city needs to look to its wasteful spending in other avenues before impacting emergency services.
Absolutely no. \$6 a year savings i can achieve with one latte less a year. Ridiculous thought. I can think of many other areas where you can save.
For \$7 Ridiculous. Keep the service where it's at The city I want to live in is 1.safe

Do not cut any essential services.
Yes make longer response times
Absolutely NOT! DO NOT lengthen response times, a person's life is invaluable! Me, my family, and all the citizens of Calgary work hard and deserve to have their livelihood, properties, and belonging protected each and every day by the dedicated Men and Women of the Calgary Fire department. DO NOT make cuts again to the Calgary Fire Department.
Hello, not if it costs lives leave the FD alone and look else where the FD has taken many cuts in recent years. They need all the tools to do there job safely. Its irresponsible to even ask citizens this....
It is not reasonable to take risks with Calgarians lives and their homes to save a little bit of money for some individuals. Our public funds should benefit all, not just a few wealthy individuals.
Absolutely not, that is absurd. Extremely unsafe and I can't believe someone is even suggesting this as an option. To save the average household \$6.90 a year. It wouldn't be the city taking on more risk, it would be the citizens and firefighters. Someone should loose their job for even thinking this way
I don't think any life is worth me saving \$6.90 a year, or risking a whole home to burn down. Outrageous to even consider that. This also puts our firefighters at higher risk too, fighting a fire that's now doubled in size! Jesus, what's wrong with you people even thinking this might be a good idea. Please, whoever came up with this idea, get a new job. You're clearly terrible at this one. Wow, Just wow.
No to cutting Fire budget.
I do not want to save \$6.90 a year to have a 30 second longer response time. Every second counts and could mean life and death. I would agree to increase our sales tax and we would have a choice either to purchase something or not. This way no lives are in danger.
NO. Do not reduce the budget to Fire & Emergency Response.
\$6.90 off my tax bill is not worth the trade-offs. However, the trade-offs that are listed here are 'might be' speculation. Fire needs to examine new ways to doing things. What if the fire dept bought smaller trucks - would we find savings short term (e.g. less fuel costs) & long term (less need for wider streets which save money in infrastructure development)
Not reasonable at all. Long term this is not a trend I agree with. Doubling in size is an exponential issue that seems minimized here. Not an acceptable tradeoff to me.
I'm no way is this an acceptable trade off! Our taxes are skyrocketing and now we do with less or pay more?! Unacceptable. Why not use more temp fire halls like in Walden to get the trucks closer to communities. Reduce the massive halls that are servicing to large of areas.
It is completely unreasonable to take on more risk to achieve cost savings related to fire. I am not willing to risk a person dying or a home destroyed to save \$6.90 on my tax bill. Tax me more for these services!
Cutting emergency funding to first responding services is foolish. There should never be cuts that will endanger the public (the taxpayers) and therefore there should be no cuts to the Fire Dept budget.
I think this is insane. The dept has already in the past voiced concerns about the rising response times and you want to take things even further the other way? Makes no sense and what will the fallout be on everyone's already expensive insurance rates when we start to see more damage from fires costing more to repair? This also has a direct influence on public and firefighters safety. Both unacceptable especially coming from some who have never had to put themselves into harms way for others.
ABSOLUTELY NOT. Keep their funding at minimum or even raise it. We CANNOT cut them anymore before our citizens die and property is destroyed by longer response times.
Why does city of Calgary want risk lives with the citizens of the city. You just want to cut the budget all responder for a 7 dollars a year. You guys need to wake up, stop playing with peoples life. Stop cutting

first responders but yet we need them. Every second might get a different from dead or alive. We need them for fire accident on medical. Maybe cut the budget of the transit or the art(nobody care about the art right now) roads, etc. Please stop cutting fire department budget . No no
No, this amount of savings is not worth the risk.
Is it to save money to response to fires or for someone in medical distress? Firefighters are often the first on scene and have proven to be valuable in those few seconds between life and death. I do not support this tax credit, we need them to save lives, not for the city to save 6.90.
No, it is not reasonable for the city to take on more risk in order to achieve annual cost savings. I think the fire department is an important essential service that should not have its budget cut.
No this is not reasonable at all. Safety our of city and its citizens take priority over other budgets. ie art, bike lanes. \$6.90 well spent.
We shouldn't cut corners on fire response, especially since it takes EMS forever to get to calls now. There are calls that have a 20 minute response at shift change and if fire wasn't there, no one would be. What will save money is putting a baffle around the flare off tower on the calf robe bridge, we send so many full building fire responses when they're flaring, everyone on deerfoot calls it in. It's a waste. There are other such recurring issues we could deal with too to cut back on calls.
Essential means essential. Find other areas to cut/ find efficiency. Arts, social spending are nice but need to be controlled during these times. If I don't see public art for a year or two.....so be it. If a neighbors house burns and damages mine it would be on this decision. I can see more fires coming up in a down economy, more arsons (insurance fraud etc). Wrong time to decrease fire depts capabilities.
Do NOT cut back on the response time. I would rather pay \$263 annually for F&E response than be a victim someday because of lousy cut offs. There are other ways to trim down on the budget but hands off to emergency services. Keep the current response time, don't wait for the victims to die just because it took 30 secs longer for the fire dept to come in.
Absolutely not, this is a very dangerous consideration. Fire doubles is size every 30 seconds. An already stressed system can not be pushed any further. AHS response times are not getting better with their situation. Fire (CFD) provides life saving skills in all sorts or emergency calls, to increase the response times will put the citizens of Calgary and first responders at a greater risk. Please think about your loved ones and if they where to require The skills of Calgary firefighters.
Is there any way to redirect some of the funding to Paramedics? Instead of having fire first on scene (as they have less volume), perhaps that would be a good compromise.
I believe the last services you should be cutting are emergency services. The building construction used today makes time "of the essence". You can't magically add 30 seconds from everyone's home, you take out one fire hall and depending on where it is in the district that response time may go from 6 mins to 10 mins and in 4 mins that property goes from saveable to a write off with possibly taking out the next house. Borderline it doesn't make sense and puts calgarians lives at risk.
Not worth the risk. Instead of saving fire response should be receiving more resources instead cutting them
NO IT IS NOT REASONABLE!!
No, more risk is NOT reasonable. Cut the fat in non-essential services.
Increasing emergency response times in order to save money is absolutely ridiculous! Response times already can make the difference between life or death, saving one or multiple homes, etc. Cutting funding to the fire department is irresponsible and puts the lives of Calgarians at an increased risk.
Really risking people's lives is where we're at in trying to manage the budget. Give your heads a shake, that's absolutely ridiculous, how about we're done with stupid art projects dog park and trail building. Oh and perhaps just maybe we don't need a new arena. I could care less if we don't have a NHL team. Half

the people in the stands wear the other teams jerseys anyway. Also we to get a new mayor and several councillors. They seem to think it's their city and money. You work for us nenshi

No. Fire response times should not be where you find savings.

Let me get this straight.... you clowns at city hall are so fiscally inept, that you would rather risk the lives and property of your citizens than tighten your pocket books in other grossly mismanaged areas? What an absolute embarrassment you all are. Any lives lost due to this disgusting "innovation" should be laid at your feet. Hundreds of thousands of dollars on divisive "art" is justifiable over the choking baby that would have survived had the fire dept arrived 30 seconds earlier. Shame.

This is a completely unreasonable and dangerous proposal. Fire doubles in size every 30 seconds, which could be the difference between losing an entire home, or just a room in the home. Furthermore, firefighters respond to much more than just fires. Public safety and the safety of our first responders should never be jeopardized. City administration has a public service responsibility to the citizens of Calgary. Increasing response times to save less than \$7.00 per person per year is ridiculous.

No! I don't you the city should EVER decrease emergency services to save money. It's not worth risking people's lives or livelihood

No,

I will pay higher taxes for a shorter response time. However, not every emergency needs an entire fire truck. Have more rapid response units with emergency first aid equipment to attend a scene until ambulance arrives.

Everything is a risk vs cost decision, but in this case, I believe that the additional risk is not worth the savings that it would produce. I think that although an extra 30 seconds does not seem like much to many people, it is significant in an emergency situation. Having a father who survived a cardiac arrest, the 5% increase in survivability is significant. I would feel the same if I was watching someone choke. As noted fires grow rapidly and 30 seconds can make the difference.

When compared with a significant reduction in services I would not find the savings of \$6 a worth wild trade off. Putting Calgarians at risk is not worth such a small expense. Response times matter in all types of emergencies that the Calgary Fire Department responds to and further reducing there already stretched budget would add unnecessary risk to all citizens.

The fact that this is a consideration shows true incompetence in city council.

I think it is bad idea and doesn't save enough for the added risk

Do not take on more risks and I would gladly pay the \$6.90 a year

I can't believe this is even a question. This is horrific. Please do not increase response times to save money.

Terrible idea, work with financials that don't cost loves

NO!!!! Time to look at where tax monies are spent in other areas and how that money is allocated to non essential services! How low have calgarians been pleading to council about our ridiculous art budget!?

I do not want my fire department to have a slower response time. There must be another way to cut cost without impacting response time? Please leave that essential services alone.

No. \$6.30 is a coffee but the chance that more serious damage may occur is not worth the savings.

6.90 is just over \$0.01 per day per household which is not very much to have highly train professionals close by in case of emergency 24/7 I would rather pay that amount then have a fire double in size and burn my house down and my insurance to go up and lose my belongings. And possibly someone in my family or neighbours die because of a slower response. Please keep the fire department funded fully

Please keep the response times for Fire & Emergency services as low as possible. I am very happy to pay higher residential taxes if it means a higher chance of saving someone's life and reducing fire damage in Calgary!
No way, for 7 dollars I prefer the fire department get that's money, they save lives and they come anytime we need them without any question. Why not cut CPS, Art, transit or Roads instead. 30 sec might be the difference between dead or alive on any circumstance(fire , accident or medical). Please don't got that money for fire Dept. It will be the worst decision you guys will make
I do not need \$7/year more than I need my children to be safe. I am appalled that this is even a question. If the city is having trouble managing the trade off, I suggest increasing fines for things like impaired driving that are unnecessary and cause an increase in emergency calls.
This cost reducing measure could mean the difference between an uninsured family having a bad day or losing everything. It is not just the city taking on more risk, but every household and citizen therein. In fact I would suggest that the City as an entity takes on very little risk but passes all of it onto its citizens, while reaping most of the benefit from cost savings.
I don't think we should cut the fire budget as seconds count in emergency and I was saved by cpr by for firefighters arriving before EMS and I am alive to tell the story. And I would like my house saved if it ever caught fire and not doubling in size
No. It is reasonable to make new suburbs pay more for this service or, better yet, stop expanding and actually take care of the citizens you already have. Expansion should be proper suburbs, their own towns. CFD should not be at a disadvantage to save lives and property because select councillors think increasing surface area is a good idea.
If there is one thing that we can take away from Covid-19, is that we can't keep cutting emergency service budgets, response times have already been increased and if we keep increasing by 30 seconds this year and 30 seconds again in the next few years, it's going to get out of hand fairly quickly. They are here to protect us and should be treated accordingly.
No. Every 30 secs a fire doubles in size. Seconds count when it comes to saving lives and fighting fires. It is unreasonable and unconscionable to even consider increasing risks on the lives of firefighters, citizens and pets.
Absolutely not! Saving \$7/year is not worth the risk.
No. Totally unreasonable. There are cost saving to be found over time through reasonable, negotiated changes to the collective agreement.
Making this cut would be grossly irresponsible. Increase wait time for fire fighting is the difference between life and death. Fires double in size every 30 seconds.
Absolutely not. Saving money at the risk of my health, safety and home irresponsible. Start cutting your salaries and see where that gets us first. Your actions I've the last year has already cost most of you my vote anyway. Enjoy the rest of your tenure.
NO. We need faster times, not slower! Firefighters don't just fight fires but they are first responders that can perform CPR and other life saving measures. I'm not risking my family for \$6.
I think that response times should be as fast as possible considering how devastating fires are and can be. I would much rather continue to pay as much as I am or even slightly more if that meant the same or even shorter response times.
This is not reasonable. The savings is equivalent to a cup of coffee at Starbucks over an entire year...this will surely result in much greater loss in property and worse, citizen safety.
So I can save 56 cents per month AND I get to put lives of citizens AND firefighters lives in danger??? Not to mention increase property damage which in turns costs millions??? Absolutely NOT!!! No cuts to fire department!

Is this a serious question. Of course it's not resonable.
Let me rephrase your question for you. Should we risk friends, family and loved ones lives to save money?
I rather pay more than have firefighters take longer to reach the people that need them. Keep the emergency services out of your budget savings. We need fire more now that you guys have made AHS responsible for ambulance dispatch. [removed]
Cuts to the FD are ridiculous- it's already an understaffed dept
What an absolute joke. Whoever came up with this idea is obviously making way too much money at city hall. I cannot believe that the city would risk the lives and property of Calgarians while council continues to collect massive salaries and are able to expense everyday things to the tax payers. Maybe next election we will get some decent councillors and a mayor that actually care about the well being of the city rather than themselves.
Their are many avenues for savings the city could find, and reducing anything from the fire budget is not it. Raise the taxes like any other major city, quit trying to appease every last person, you can't. Fire response and their personnel need to be given all the tools to do their job properly. How many millions over the last few years have they already given up? Shame on the city for trying to get more from for less from them!!! This is peoples lives and property. People from this city.
No. This is small expense when it comes to people's lives.
Absolutely not. The \$6.90 tax saving would likely lead to an increase in insurance of more than that when Insurance companies assess the increased risk of slower response time. Nevermind the cost to the health care system.
Leave the budget where it is. Stop putting people's lives at risk. I can't believe our Council is putting this out there. Stop building more new communities. Which we all know that a couple council people own or benefit from construction companies/developers, etc.
No way, for 7\$ I prefer to keep the fire department closer and save lives or house. Maybe cut the art project will save more money
98% of Calgarians want the same or more investment in the fire department. Listen to your citizens.
No, savings per household are not enough to justify longer response times. Fires burn fast in new building construction. This is all houses that have been built in the last 20 years. That's a lot of houses in Calgary. Currently in these areas the house of origin is a loss and fire fighters are protecting the houses on the sides. With longer response times we will definitely see bigger fires and more loss of property. Insurance rates would likely go up and home owners will be left with the bill.
No. We ask more and more from fire response, including their often onsite for medical distress and overdoses. And as more areas are vacant during the recession, why would we increase risk?!
I believe this is an unacceptable risk to take to save \$6.90. A price cannot be put on to the lives of my family members or myself. The loss of my family or house due to a fire doubling in size would be devastating as the loss of a life, home, personal heirlooms and memorabilia would bring undue financial hardship and mental stress. I believe during this time we need to keep the funding for our fire service at its current level or even improve its funding to ensure we don't have loss of life.
No cuts to the fire department or any other essential services. Cut all the green pet projects like art and bike lanes... how could you justify putting lives at risk over optional spending areas. In any emergency, seconds count...
No. It's ludicrous that this is even being proposed. This would be a step backwards for a department that is already underfunded. Raise property taxes to cover expenses.
30 seconds can be the difference to having a fire become catastrophic. There are better ways to save cash.

This is without a doubt the stupidest idea for cost cutting the city has proffered in decades! Reduce the safety of the public? Are you mad? These "cost savings" just get transferred into bigger insurance premiums and higher costs of living overall! Surely you can find other areas to meddle with than the people that by definition are here to save our lives! That 30 seconds is critical to how they perform their duties, especially with the cluster that AHS ambulance service has become.
I do not believe we should put lives at risk by cutting the Fire service. I would be willing to Lose non essential services but not Fire and Police
When we are wasting funds on non emergency projects, inefficient policies & procedures, lack of communications and unnecessary frills there is no way we should take on more RISK just to achieve annual savings! Find the money from some non emergency fund. Or if you have to, increase property taxes an additional \$5.00 per household. You can not put a price on safety and in the event of an emergency, the actual cost would be less no matter how you look at it.
No I do not think it is reasonable at all. The minuscule amount that would be saved is not worth the risk.
Cut the non essential services like the massive size of the Communication Dept rather than Fire and Emergency Response.
Consider how many units and what types of calls Fire responds to, e.g. for traffic management/barriers for other emergency responders during road collisions.
Absolutely not reasonable for the city to take on more risk. The cost savings per household is not enough to justify taking on this risk. Budget cuts to emergency services would make my family and myself feel unsafe
Please provide the data on point #2. Do not treat us like idiots. Include context and comparable data to the overall survival rate of people experiencing cardiac arrest (because that is the term you should be using)
The city can manage their money better and not cut essential devices. Putting firefighters and citizens lives at risk because you are a bad manager is not an option. Get your priorities straight.
30 second longer response times in our city is a horrible idea to save money. This will put citizens and firefighters at risk, we have already seen the results in the legacy fire.
Fires in new communities are 2-3 houses on arrival, longer response times will add more houses on fire and potentially more victims to rescue.
Absolutely do not take more risks, the city must invest more in the emergency services NOT less
No! Absolutely not! My life and my families lives are worth more than \$6.90!
Absolutely not. Seconds count. Calgary is already lagging behind against the industry language. We are gonna shift more risk to the public and fire fighters. Terrible to out more risk on those citizens and out peoples lives at risk
Not reasonable at all
The stated risks of increasing target fire response time far outweigh the \$6.90 off my tax bill. Increasing the chances of property damage, injury, or loss of life should never be considered when looking to cut budget. Frankly it's alarming that this is even a suggestion.
The options above leave out a lot of other accident responses that don't require two large fire trucks. Nonetheless a cost savings is a reasonable tradeoff with response times, particularly when the public is able to respond to MANY MORE heart attacks than in the past (defibrillators are widely available, and yet have we factored that into our "risk aversion" of having fire fighters respond with longer time?). Traffic congestion is far less than in 2007...have we adjusted fire response times?
Do not do anything that increases response times!

No
Its terrible that the only way you can save money on the Fire budget is to pretend that you can only cut front line times. [removed] dont cut their budget, cut admins budget
Absolutely not, you are putting the citizens of Calgary at risk and you are also putting firefighters at risk with less back up in times of need. Putting peoples lives in danger to save a few dollars?? 100% against this!
Do not increase responses times. I want my firefighters as quick as possible. I will spend more in taxes to maintain or improves the level of services from fire and police.
ABSOLUTLEY NOT Having to choose a place for your family to be safe and between Life or Death, is not something that should be put at Risk. This service is priceless and cannot afford to be taken away from anyone Fire service is already stretched, the city continuing to approve new communities with out proper services in place. Fire is always the first to a call ahead of EMS and cops we need to show them respect and thank them for their hard work not take away the tools they need to keep us safe
Well-being and health of its citizens is important especially given the provincial government's attitude toward health spending and doctors
A false question is being asked. Pls look at non-front line solutions such as vehicle and equipment replacement decisions which currently exceeds industry norms. Staffing levels of non-front line personnel should also be reviewed
Fire ems and police are more important than most other industries. Tighten the belt on the wasteful, and fund these first responders on par with other major nations
I would like road design to lower speeds and move people to active transport in the city to promote community .. this should reduce the \$ of roads to be maintained.. and could increase fire response times
Absolutely not!!!! If one single person dies or is severely injured just to save a few dollars then what kind of city and society do we live in? Disgusting to think that this is even being discussed in the first place.
Definitely not, risking more harm and damage to the city and it's citizens is not worth saving the cost of a large latte in a year.
don't risk lives to fire to save money. Time is really important. Maybe the firefighters don't need to attend many type of events in the big fire truck. Re-evaluate the type of emergencies they could attend in a smaller vehicle. The person who answer the 911 call could be trained to analyze if the big fire truck is really necessary on scene.... you can use interns to help study once more the logistic, students can provide fresh ideas that will help them do their thesis to graduate
Human life is worth too much. Don't decrease the fire department budget in any form
Absolutely not. 30 seconds could mean someone's life and saving \$7 on propert taxes is not worth it. Save the money somewhere else where lives are not at stake.
Why is this an option? You want to gamble with people's homes and lives?!This is terrible. Find something that doesn't risk people's LIVES.
I cannot believe this was put forward to the public. Do you realise how this looks? We have a municipal government that values money over the actual people. Terrible terrible. Whoever opted to put THIS as an option should be ashamed of themselves, and find a new career. You work for the people when you work in government. Risking lives isn't an option.
Its not the City taking on risk, it's the citizens. Leave the fire dept alone!

The fire department should be handling fire and spill activities. It should not be handling health emergencies. The ambulance service that is the responsibility of the Alberta Government should respond in a short period of time to health emergencies. There is not reason that the Fire department should arrive faster than an ambulance.
No saving should be done on life threatening events. I want to know that when I am in trouble the City cares and does not save money on me.
Tax dollars are best spent by taxpayers...cut taxes
We are arguing over \$6.90 a year? Wow. Pinching pennies! Fire service is paramount. The CFD budget has dropped for the last 7 years. When will this stop? Stop funding art, sending councillors to big lunches in other cities and huge arena projects. Who will be there to protect these new buildings? The ridiculousness of this question is absurd. If anything the CFD budget should increase with city size increase. How about calls other than medicals and fires (car accident with entrapment, floods)
Cut salary instead.
Find a way to reduce spending on this without scaring taxpayers. You could cut salaries and benefits without impacting response times.
Are you kidding me? I'll take safer for \$7 a month please.
Absolutely not worth the cost. As a taxpayer, I would gladly pay \$6.90 and more if it meant even saving one more life. To me this is non-negotiable, find the savings elsewhere
No. Cut the police budget instead
It is key to balance Often multiple crews respond to fires and medical call. 1 min is worth the risk
This is a reasonable trade off
Yes, taking on more risk is acceptable while achieving annual cost savings. I would like the City to look at all call out scenarios whereby the CFD responds and ensure they are truly necessary. I am not suggesting that some aren't, however one thing gov'ts do poorly is re-assess the type of services offered by various providers (CFD, CPS).
I do not think it is reasonable to take on more risk to achieve annual cost savings. I would rather be charged an additional \$6.90 per year than lose 30 seconds in response time. Those 30 seconds can make all the difference. Cut the police budget and invest that money into the Fire Department.
The Fire Department sit around their stations playing video games and working out, and sleeping, and getting paid to do it. There has to be something they can be doing instead that is actually worth the taxpayers money. Some stations don't see a single call all shift - these men and women are getting paid very well to work on their side gigs and hang out with their buddies. Redeploy them, make them work between calls.
So the city agreed to pay more than a quarter billion dollars to fund a private entity and now are purposing cuts to emergency services? Shameful.
We cannot put a dollar value on a person's life and wellbeing. Do not increase response times
Emergency services are already at a reduced effectiveness when compared to other metro fire departments. Often I see only two people on the trucks, the stations near us each only have one truck in them and on occasion are totally empty. When I look at value of emergency services versus public arts as well as the wasteful spending in other areas, council needs to get back to running the core business of the city and stop with all the pet projects
I think for \$6.90 a year is a reasonable cost to bear to minimize increases in insurance and health related costs.
Agree with change. 5 million is a lot of money. Could offset by putting 1 million a year on education and review of fire prevention standards

No, I don't think it's reasonable to reduce fire services in order to save money. Why are emergency services *ever* considered for service cuts? Just no!
Not with fire department.
Are you kidding me? You're basically asking if Calgary should increase property damage and save less lives. Insurance premiums are high enough as it is.
A brighter idea might be using more volunteer firefighters, or tasking fire fighters who are on-call to other duties; such as maintaining their engines, or providing city services.
Please do NOT reduce funding for Fire Services. I am willing to spend a little more for reduced fire response - as long as that extra money actually does go towards it and not to general coffers or somewhere else.
My understanding is that the majority of calls to the fire department are related to traffic collisions. Is this an efficient use of this resource? What about using smaller vehicles to access areas; this could result in a more nimble response and be able to make up for any changes in response times that are planned. Finally, how would this change in my community? I live near a fire hall. Is this only applicable to new communities?
Need more information How often is property damage exceeding the cost savings? What is the actual response times?
The fire department has taken a lot of cuts the last few budgets. I feel like the financial impact isn't worth taking on more risks. Does insurance decide to increase rates because of this? I think there are many things we need to take a stand on despite the economic uncertainty.
This is not area I would be willing to put my home, friends or family at risk for. Not all calls are an emergency but when they are such minimal savings just simply aren't worth the trade off. If anything we should be considering INVESTING more in this department to help them better serve their communities. The fire department is something I'd be willing to pay an increase in taxes to support. Crippling their ability to serve isn't something we should even be considering.
I think that it is completely unreasonable and irresponsible of the government to want to extend any emergency services response times especially the fire department. The city continues to grow larger and all the fire department sees is cuts. The mayor's office and council just want more for less and it is scary that they are willing to roll the dice with civilian lives. I think that instead of cutting \$6.90 from our taxes and raising response times we should pay \$6.90 more and give it to CFD.
As the fire departments is one of the largest items in the budget, I do support this trade-off. I would like to see this as a shorter term solution but currently this is a sensible approach to help balance the deficit.
we should not have more risk for a tiny savings
I do not support this trade-off of risk for cost savings. The City should seek cost savings in other areas before touching an already underfunded fire response
It is absolutely unacceptable to increase CFD response times. These times are already stretching the safety of citizens and firefighters and extending them is a complete ignorance and failure of common sense. Shame on this idea, Maybe, for those council members who support continuous budget cutsplease provide your home addresses. Perhaps you can be put on "do not respond" list, or "take your time to respond" list. Let's see what you or your close ones think when you actually need help.
absolutely not. not a reasonable ask to downsize any of the emergency services, especially the fire dept who is already under funded and understaffed. please use OUR money responsibly. when times are tough you cut the "nice to have's", public art, bike path expansions, arenas, greenlines etc. do not the "must have's" like emergency services.

I know that protecting my family is the upmost importance when I am paying my taxes. More important than arenas, LRT expansion and other trivial things such as bike lanes. I am ashamed to be a Calgarian that our city council would even entertain something like this to save money. We should feel safe within our communities and that means having a fire truck there when we need it.
I would gladly pay an additional \$6.90 to increase the chance of one of my loved one's surviving a medical emergency or saving my home, its contents and most of all my family from the devastation that can happen from a rapidly spreading fire. How could anyone approve this decrease in safety for what amounts to a savings of 58¢ a month, less than 2¢ a day?
No I don't think more risk is needed to be taken. If anything less risk is needed. Having the residents of the city know they are safe and can have the response they need when in an emergency. I personally am a firefighter and think this is appalling that the budget has been cut from emergency sectors. That is one place that should never have money cut from. Take a look at how much the city officials and mayor is getting paid and maybe cut some fat there to save some money for where it's needed!
Absolutely do not do this in any way shape or form. The fire department is a crucial service in the safety and wellbeing of all calgarians. The increase in risk is not worth a measly \$7 in saving a year. It's laughable. There are so many more none critical areas you could reduce funding to save this money. Do not touch the fire department. Give them more money.
Due to amount of timber frame construction in city of Calgary it would be irresponsible for city council to cut fire department budget to impact response times.
\$6.90 does not seem like a real savings for the potential "cost" that citizens could end up paying. If a 30 sec faster response from the fire department can save me from a \$1000 insurance deductible or a loved one from a medical emergency because there are no ambulances available, I'd wish I paid the \$6.90. There are plenty of better places to the city could save 5.9M. Maybe a few less comitties to decide to have more committies about nothing
Do not reduce fire response times. With increased housing density and population, the city needs to keep our citizens safe with optimal response times and improved fire protection.
No ! Definitely not ! Nothing is more important than our safety! What just to save a few bucks ? No no no !
fires double every 30 seconds and will put everyone at risk! It's not reasonable!
Why would it be reasonable? You're willing to put yours citizens & fire firefighters at risk by closing fire halls, increasing response times, and potentially lowering the NFPA standard to three people on a fire truck to save money. Less than seven dollars annually is nothing when you consider what you're willing to give up. Seconds matter. Listen to your citizens, think about your citizens. Think about the lives of your firefighters and stop these cuts. You've already cut too much.
Stop cutting money to essentials. Cut the art budget instead. 30 seconds is life or death in some cases, and I don't want that on my mind for \$6.90.
I think if the fire department made strategic procurement choices with other groups (CPS, transit) when it came to bulk purchases of non-engine vehicles, that would have a bigger impact on savings than threatening to cut response times. Also, ensuring we're getting the best value for our engine purchases that aren't the "fancy" options, but the best vehicle for the job. CFD and CPS get over 50% of our taxes - they are important, but they're only two of over 60 lines of services.
If I were voting I would opt to not reduce the property tax bill. To me the cost shaved off is not equal to the ability for someone to get help when they need it.
No, it would be ridiculous to reduce response times by that much when it does mean someone could have far less care or you could easily loose a house or 2 just to save \$6-7 per year. That is based on an

average response time which would be far longer and more detrimental in some areas of the city and it's definitely not fair to have some citizens with out help for that long. If anything we need more equal response times across the city. I think you need to look at other ways to save \$6 if needed
Do not take on more risk to achieve annual cost savings. It is unsafe to add longer wait times in order to save money. I would be extremely disappointed in Calgary if we money was valued more than other Calgarians lives.
Fire services in Calgary are BLS, and have very little to no effect on medical outcomes, and most house fires in YYC these days are defensive attacks, the house is destroyed, and the Fire department works to put out the fire while saving or limiting the homes close by. An extra 30 seconds absolutely will not make a difference in most calls.
In the past year my extended family has had a couple emergencies and needed to call 911. With each of these emergencies, CFD was first on the scene and had they arrived later, we may have been faced with negative, deadly outcomes. The CFD is worth every penny we pay them and I would change nothing about their funding.
It is Absolutely not reasonable to take in this risk. I will happily pay the \$6.90 to keep my community safe.
This is not a reasonable risk for financial savings. Problems with wild fires and hot dry weather have been increasing. Firefighters are also often the first responders to many types of emergencies.
No. 30 seconds counts. Lives matter, do not take a risk with someone's life.
No!!! Emergency services are there for a reason - an emergency! Which by definition means an urgent event.
Shame on city council!!! This is appalling! Cut administration, council pay and perks. Not fire.
No. Crazy.
No, the fire depts are an essential service. Their value exceeds the cost savings. The population is aging. Our need for first responders is increasing. Timing can be the difference between life or death. Cut the flower budget. Human Life is more important.
No, its not reasonable and it is irresponsible to cut emergency services when frivolous spending is evident elsewhere!
I absolutely do not feel the benefit of saving \$6-7 per year is anywhere near the risks associated with a slower repose time. Seconds count when fighting fires, saving lives, and dealing with emergencies. This is NOT a reasonable risk!
What if it was your home? Is the fire expanding to another room worth \$6.90? Your loved one who had a heart attack? Is their survival worth \$6.90?
I urge The City to re-evaluate this option, it is simply not worth it.
No, please do not put the people of Calgary at risk for savings. There has to be another way to save money. Keep safety a priority, especially in a pandemic. No cuts to Fire Response!
How could you put a dollar amount on someone's life? What if it was your home burning down or your loved one having a heart attack? Would you be ok with waiting an extra 30 seconds as you watch your home and all of your possessions go up in flames? Or maybe that 30 seconds is the difference between whether or not the CFD can save your child or yourself from burning alive...all to save \$6.90/year. Give your head a shake! You should look to make response times shorter. Raise the fee to \$270.

No. I don't want to see any cuts regarding the most important departments that help the people. In these times of crisis more calls will come in and that 30 sec will increase which will be the difference between life and death. I would rather them cut the ridiculous spending on massive art projects that don't matter.
I live next to a firehall and I would never ask to save money to extend the response time. I use to be really proud to say I was a Calgarian and now I'm disgusted. I can't believe this would even be a conversation from @cityofcalgary to save \$6.90 a year. Hard No!!!! Without the fast response time of the firefighters my father-in-law would NOT be with us today!
Never. 30 seconds or more can mean all the difference when it comes to response to Cardiac arrest or a house fire. A slower response significantly decreases the survival rate of someone in cardiac arrest. A slower response time could mean fire spread to neighbouring houses instead of quickly being contained to one house
Response times matter. Calgary is already below standard, any other decisions to lengthen response times by the city would put peoples lives in danger.
No additional cuts to Fire. Please.
ABSOLUTELY NOT. What kind of question is this? You're asking people and their homes to take on additional risk, not the City.
I do NOT agree with the City taking risks to save a few \$\$ off of a residential annual property tax bill. Did you know a fire can double within 30 seconds. The people who lose their houses will likely be unable to afford property tax, never mind saving a measly 6.90
NO. Take the required funding from the art program. Budgeting 101 - pay for must have first. Art is not a must have.
I think the fact that city Council wants to risk lives and property over \$7 a year is the most irresponsible decision to even put on the table. This is an absolute no brainer, definitely do not cut the \$7 from the fire response budget, in fact, increase it to shorten the response times as much as possible. With houses being built at an exponential rate only 5 feet apart with vinyl siding and basically Wood chip and glue interiors, multiple houses will be a total loss
SPEND MORE ON FIRE DEPARTMENT
Do not put our lives at risk. Find another way to cost save do not Cut funding from he fire department
Absolutely not. These first responders risk their lives to keep us safe. To take away from their budget not only impacts the level of service in an emergency, but it also potentially endangers their lives. These fire fighters don't get any sort of danger pay, so they deserve every cent they get and I would have for a home to be lost because the city took away from emergency services. Perhaps look into cuts for councillors & the mayor. They make much more than firefighters, and do much less.
We should not be cutting costs where peoples lives are the cost. The fire department should have more funding I think to keep citizens and firefighters safe.
No it is not reasonable to risk the lives of citizens who pay for this city. let alone the risk it puts on the firefighter who are risking their lives to save others. I couldn't imagine life without my husband because he lost his over saving the lives of others and died doing so cause of a budget cut. There are other areas cutS can be made. DO NOT RISK THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE THAT LIVE HERE AND THE FIREFIGHTERS THAT DO THE JOB TO SAVE LIVES.
I feel it is unreasonable to create this extra risk and lay off fire personnel to give people a savings of \$6.90 each year. The property tax decrease would almost definitely be offset by increased home insurance costs due to the slower response time allowing fires to develop further and cause more damage.

It is not reasonable for any city to put lives and properties at risk. Adding 30 seconds to a response time whether it is Fire, Police or any emergency service is totally irresponsible! These are front line services and as the city grows, they will be even more important.
With a growing population and expanding city, we already are running short on emergency services. If this was the first year that the department took cuts, it may be doable, but this would be compounding on cuts already taken year after year by the fire department. The city should take into consideration that we are in unprecedented times and having a fire dept that is able to react to the growing needs of the city should be priority. Also, the fire fighters should be taken into consideration.
Do not restrict the CFD in any way. Seconds matter and I do not want seconds added to the expected response time. Thank you
I want the city of calgary to keep its insiting response time for fire departments. 30 seconds could mean life or death for someone. I would much rather pay the \$6.90 property tax bill than to watch my property burn down.
Do not cut these taxes, every second counts whether it is a medical emergency or a structure fire. They could keep a kitchen fire contained but if they are 45 seconds later it could be burning the living room and the dining room.
The CFD is more than an essential service. We watch them to respond to so much more than a fire. Having had a fire start in our kitchen their response time saved out home, more than a house to us. Arrived first after a senior friend fell, suffering severe concussion. Thank you CFD for your response and kind care.
NO. For pete's sake. Want to save money? STOP sending the firetruck to every 911 call.
NO! 30 seconds can mean the difference between life and death. \$6.90 is worth a life? NO. Get a grip.
For a city that's only growing larger geographically and in population size each day, response times are already suffering. If it came down to myself or my family having an emergency I would want emergency services there as soon as possible and believe this is a poor area to make cuts.
I would accept higher costs now, but the city needs to quit expanding beyond its current city limits. If the city had a higher density, emergency services could assist the communities faster. The city needs to increase its urban density.
As someone that has had to use the services of calgary fire fighters I can tell you first hand that a 30 second difference could have meant I wouldnt be here today to write this today! Don't make cuts on life or death services!
A fire potentially doubling in size For a handful of dollars in change is not a good trade off
I'd rather see councillors and the mayor take a pay cut than cut fire service. Worst idea ever! The city needs more fire service and investment not less
Absolutely not. There are so many other areas where the city can make sacrifices (ahem, travel expenses for councillors). The safety of our citizens should be top priority. Nothing else can happen in our city if people are dealing with life threatening events that the fire fighters respond to. Are they all emergencies? No, but no one would be willing to risk \$6.80 for the one time that it was an emergency and the 30 seconds meant life or death. It's disgraceful that this is even a question.
no, money is money but someone's life will always be more valuable than saving 6 dollars.
ABSOLUTELY NOT! I am defiantly against ANY AND ALL reductions in the Fire Department. REALLY? A reduction of \$6.90 average annual residential property tax bill??? OMG who would see that as a reduction in there taxes? If it was \$690.00 and you took it from your roads budget yes please by all means. The Fire Department is not an acceptable area to reduce costs. Why? Because peoples lives are at stake. How many people's lives are at stake if you don't build a proposed road project?? NONE!!!!

Financial Conversations: Engagement on The City's finances and services – Verbatim comments

I think we need to reduce the wait time for fire response, and more effectively deploy resources to support medical calls. Right now fire responds to medical calls, and that can delay their response to fires. We need their expertise, but we need more support for medical 911 responses.

No. There is a chance that reducing the response time could mean life or death. It is not certain if I will ever end up in a situation where it is but people's loved one and their friends will. So to summarize, don't cut the budget from and emergency service especially the fire department.

I don't think it's smart or necessary for these cuts. I don't think \$6 is a big enough savings to matter to most households or make a difference in finances. I'd rather pay an extra \$6 if it means having faster response times and possibly saving lives/homes in the process.

Definitely NOT- I would be okay paying the 6.90 to ensure that the response time to my emergency is quick! I don't think we should be cutting fire response. If the city wants to save money they should look at the S/A time being paid to their unionized staff and how much that costs the tax payers. (in particular Transit) if unionized workers were willing to not get a raise every year and save their jobs the city would save a lot

No! Raise the taxes. You want to live in a great city? You don't get to do it for free.

No, not reasonable.

No, my life and safety is more important than \$7. I will pay your part too if you truly can not afford it, but the unwillingness to pay is not acceptable. Having your life and health is more important than anything.

The way I see it is either saving money or lives and I choose lives. I'd rather pay even \$20 more just so the response time stays the same or gets better. In my case I'll be working with them as a paramedic and they can be the vital tool between life and death. It's not worth the huge risk especially for such a minimal savings. Maybe looking at other, not so life or death service to cut before fire would be a better decision.

\$6.90 per household is not worth the consequences that being 30 seconds later will cause. Instead, why don't you look at billing AHS for every medical call that CFD responds to because ambulances are too busy or there isn't enough. Firefighters are saving lives every day. Sometimes they're there for a significant period of time before medics get there. The city could bill for these services.

This comes to express my concerns that the City is considering reducing the budget for Calgary Fire. While it is easy to look at the large budget items it is not always the correct way. Calgary Fire are first responders to calls, most importantly fire and to delay response times further is putting the citizens of Calgary at risk. Last week the fire in Evaston there were homes saved because of the current response times. \$6.90 in savings is no reason to adjust! Council needs to get more creative!

Do not cut fire or police services. Response time is already a joke in some areas.

No! We need to stop cutting emergency services that are literally SAVING LIVES. This could mean members of your own family are injured just to save the city money, that's horrible! Meanwhile we're spending millions on art projects around the city. Maybe we should be cutting costs on things that are not life and death?

It is embarrassing to add a cost value to a human life. Every second counts and every dollar cut in the aim of saving money rather than lives is a disgusting oversight past the importance of human life. Increase the fire budget to better support the community.

No

No

A Person's life is worth more than 30 seconds.

Additionally, slower response times would increase damage to property and have a longer term effect on home insurance costs.

This should not even be a consideration given the Fire incidents this year Legacy fire with over 10 min response leaving a family watching their house burn to the ground and the one beside it due largely to long response. Evanston fire a week ago would have been four houses lost had it not occurred so close to a station.

Happy to pay \$8 more. City needs to evaluate ares such as unnecessary curb and sidewalk replacements NOT fire services.

Fire and other emergency services are key and core the health, safety, and overall wellbeing of this city. Making cuts to essential services is absolutely unreasonable. The impacts to life and property that a delay in response time has implications that reach far beyond the cost savings this cut will bring. Do not do this!!

No!! Keep the response times as is!

Absolutely not. The budget for parks should be decreased before our fire response time is even considered. Not having as many flowers around the city is definitely more reasonable than potentially risking someone's life due to slower response times.

Absolutely no to 30sec longer call times, city council officials can take a pay cut to cover the \$6.90/year. A persons life and home is worth far more than \$7

Absolutely not. 30 seconds in response time can make a huge difference when you are talking about saving lives and homes. There are other places to save money that dont impact peoples risk of dying.

NO one life and or property is too much of a loss for the sake of \$6.90!

No I do not think the city should play with a higher risk of the lives in our community for cost savings. First responders and health and education are the most important thing to our wellbeing and future do not cut things on these areas rather support them.

No. Life safety services are top priority. When you go down to the granular level of \$6.90 annually per household, the majority of people would rather pay that in order to have piece of mind for their personal safety. There was recently a house fire in my neighborhood and the CFD responded in minutes, thankfully, however the fire was out of control and destroyed two homes in the only few minutes it took the CFD to arrive. Seconds count. I'd pay more for recycling to offset cuts to safety.

No it is absolutely unreasonable for the City of Calgary to make this cut with such detrimental impacts to response times and services. This is a terrible trade off for negligible, really no savings at all - the equivalent of a couple coffees!

I would rather pay this much MORE per year for enhanced response times and services not less. Further first responders should not be experiencing cuts of any kind.

Hell NO!!!

No, risk with people's homes and lives should not be increased to achieve cost savings at the city level. The fire department has faced many cuts in recent times and there should be an additional means to maintain or increase fire department resources.

No! Are you kidding?! You'll increase insurance premiums, put the public at more risk and put firefighters at more risk!

I do not think that a longer response time is appropriate. While it may save money upfront the potential damages to property and to people could far outweigh it. Seconds count in response to an emergency and I do not think cost saving is appropriate in the face of a person's life or personal property.

I do not support the increased risk for the cost savings associated. I prefer to pay the tax.

It's absolutely not ok to risk lives by cutting emergency services !

Don't cut any fire services. This has impacts to safety and jobs! Peoples lives and livelihoods are absolutely not worth the risk. There are more places to cut than fire. Fire services are SO important. As a city employee I ask you to please look elsewhere!
Absolutely not! This is one of the most irresponsible things I've ever heard. Calgary Fire Dept. is already grossly underfunded, you should be finding a way to increase their budget not reducing. We need more boots on the ground, there aren't even enough firefighters to fully staff each hall/apparatus, which puts each of them in danger. Taking funds away puts them, as well as the general public in even more danger. What are you willing to spend to hold a firefighter funeral if this continues?
I would gladly pay the \$6.90, or more, to continue to have the fire department show up faster, for not only my emergency, but other citizens of Calgary too. The city and its citizens should NOT be taking on more risk, especially when speaking about emergency services.
No. I would gladly pay 7\$ for a faster response time.
Incredible to think you actually consider this an acceptable risk! Go back to the drawing board looking for cuts in other City departments rather than even considering cuts to an essential service. Idiotic suggestion
Absolutely do not cut the fire budget
No. Every second counts in fire response. Saving \$5.8M but compromising the fire response time is not an acceptable risk.
Do not save money in this area. Their value is very high
Don't make any more cuts to the fire department. Why would we literally risk lives to save 6\$!!!? The fire department needs to stop having their budget cut.
No, a persons life and home should not be at greater risk to save an immaterial amount to a household. The other potential increase to this if it becomes effective is insurance rates could be likely to rise.
No, emergency services are important and not the place to be making cuts. \$5.8M is a drop in the bucket for city cost savings when considering the potential implications of such cuts.
I believe the response time from first responders are a top priority for city budget, as well bringing more firefighters, police and EMS so they don't overwork themselves. I believe it's manageable if the city can budget the money properly and not spending it on unwanted wants, e.g. art and bike lanes, etc.
Do not cut the budget to emergency services, bad idea, I've seen it in the UK and it is not worth the risk.
No. It's unreasonable. The cost saving isn't proportional to risk being taken, and is disgusting to equate life to a monetary value. An unresponsive 14 week old baby, a woman trapped in a vehicle after a collision, a heart attack, an OD, a fire in a family home...would you want to wait an extra 30 seconds or more for your own child, mother, spouse or property to receive critical care? Hold your breath and pray for 30 seconds, if you cut the budget that's what you'll be doing in the future.
No, I do not think it is reasonable to take more risk just for homeowners to save \$7 a month. I'd rather spend \$300 annually and know I will be safe with quick response times.
Don't change the response time. That's just playing with peoples lives and property.
The consideration of further cuts to our city's emergency services is absurd and dangerous. Risking lives to save an amount of money that most won't notice from their monthly expenses makes little sense. Please focus your attention on finding cost savings elsewhere.
No, the risks do not out weigh the cost savings. I don't think this is an appropriate area to skim when it comes to our safety.

No. Do not cut funding to Calgary Fire. Seconds matter in their response time. These services are essential and necessary. Re-allocate funds to CPS in order to pay for critical services and save Calgarians money.
No this is ridiculous. This increase in response time will result in loss of life. Please please please do not do this. I would way rather paying extra for this service to know I am covered
No! This is silly. The risk of losing your entire house or someone you love because of slower emergency response times is not worth saving 7 dollars!
Response times are important, because you can never truly know whether the emergency is important or not. Please do not cut the firefighters, they are a life line and there has been to many cuts already that we cannot keep doing it.. people's life's are at risk.
Absolutely not. \$6.90 is not worth losing lives. This is unacceptable
The cost to life and property is not worth the tax saving and it is ridiculous to even consider cutting first response services. Cut the salaries of the top 10% !
No!!!! My home insurance will go up by hundreds of dollars!!! Fire should get more money, not less. I honestly cannot even believe this is an option.
People's lives are more important then a \$6.90 reduction on my taxes. DO NOT increase response time
No not at all!!! I believe that 30 seconds could potentially save a life, so I would suggest adding the \$6.90 to the tax bill instead Thank you
We need to coordinate fire and EMS response better since often both services show up when an ambulance is called, often at the same time.
No. \$7 off my tax bill is not worth the risk. Houses built as close together as they are in some areas we need for response to be as quick as possible. AHS continues to book down ambulances we need someone to respond quickly to people in serious medical distress. The fire department has been taking too many cuts over the years in my opinion.
No the city should not take on more risk for a \$7 annual fee reduction per household. This is not a place to make cuts. The \$7 is more than worth it!
Less than 2 cents per day is very little cost when a majority of times the fire department arrives first and gives primary care to a person that may be experiencing a life altering medical emergency. Calgary Fire Department has undergone huge financial cuts over at least 5 consecutive years. The cuts have meant 5 less apparatus to respond with, as well as massive administrative cuts. Now its affecting the citizens firefighters are supposed to protect. All for 2 cents per day. Just wrong!
I think Fire & Emergency calls can collaborate with schools and local community halls to educate Calgarian not to call 911 for non emergency matters. Each new immigrant should get a brochure about Fire & Emergency calls, and not to abuse the 911 line.
No, I do not think it is reasonable for the city to sacrifice response time for less than \$7 in savings for a household. The City is not taking on more risk, the person in need when contacting the fire department is taking on this additional risk.
When it comes to human lives and property, I am more than willing to spend a mere \$6.90 per year. In fact, I would spend more than that in order to have the potential of saving a life or minimizing damage to someone's property. I hope the City of Calgary and it's citizens value lives and property more than \$6.90 per year.
NO. cost saving isn't worth the additional risk that even 30 seconds longer: which is AFTER event, person gets to communication device,calls it in, message passed to responder.
Saving lives, homes, and businesses should not be associated with such a small dollar amount off of the average annual tax bill. People are always going to think about their own pockets first and will later

complain that the fire department didn't get their in time. The onus will still be on the fire department to do everything they can to save lives and buildings, but will shoulder the blame when they aren't able too. What will the mental health costs be one fire fighters and their families?
The City isn't taking on more risk; The City is asking the citizens to take on that risk. Increasing the chances of fire damage, injury or death in exchange for saving pennies per annual tax bill is not a balanced trade-off. Fire fighters are already risking their lives. This proposal not only risks the lives and property of citizens, but also increases the potential danger fire fighters face on a daily basis. This proposal is not an acceptable option.
Why are you taking this risk? Live in a big city, pay big city taxes... look at Edmonton realize we are paying big city taxes for the equivalent of a small volunteer department. Firefighters will be killed by your changes. Nenshi... just tell us what community doesn't deserve fire protection.... when we follow your orders. And people die... what's your email??? Bcause it's all on you.
It is NOT reasonable for the city to take on more risk to achieve cost savings. I'm appalled that it is even being considered to reduce funding for the Fire Department. A savings of an average of \$6.90 per household is NOTHING and we should not be reducing their services. We should also NOT reduce funding for the Police. Again, I cannot believe that is even being considered.
It is completely unreasonable to lengthen a response time to save a bit of money. You are playing God by extending a time researched and established by the NFPA
The benefits of a healthy and responsive fire department cannot be measured in monetary value alone. They are an essential service and should be treated as such. If necessary, funds should be allocated from other services, such as the police budget, which is fairly bloated and much larger than it has any right to be.
I would rather pay the additional 6.90 per year to avoid putting our citizens and firefighters at greater risk. 30 seconds could be the difference between saving a life or a home/business. It seems like a very small price to pay for piece of mind.
I do not think its a smart choice. The city doesn't need lower response times. If anything we need quicker. Get rid of the [removed] art projects and focus on emergency services.
I would rather spend the money for them to be quick to respond.
Seeing how fires double in size every 30 seconds.
No I do not think it is reasonable for The City to take on more risk to achieve annual cost savings. The Fire Department response time has already been increased to accommodate more development in new communities without proper firehall coverage. When it comes to fires, car accidents and medical emergencies seconds can mean the difference between life and death,a burnt room or a destroyed house, life long effects or a full recovery.
Collectively we should always try to maintain or improve on a good thing. let's not regress, the UCP is making this unlikely.
No. The cost saving per house is not worth the risk
Absolutely not!! The fire department is an integral part of this city and should be treated as such. Cuts should not be happening here. An increase of 30 second call response is NOT okay. People will lose out (with property & lives). I would rather pay more on my taxes specifically for fire services than pay less. This is an absurd recommendation.
Such a menial amount of savings is not worth the risk to my family and my lifestyle. I live in the city, pay taxes to the city, and therefore expect a city level of service. If I didn't want my garbage collected, my parks maintained, and a level of safety and reduced assured by the Fire Dept- and police for that matter,

I would live in somewhere rural. By many metrics across Canada the Calgary Fire Department is cost effective and any savings would likely be offset by higher insurance rates.
\$6.90 is not worth a life or a persons home. 30 seconds could mean the difference between someone having an emergency living and dying. Any type of emergency service is not a reasonable place to look at cost savings.
The cost savings does not warrant the risk of life. This should not even be a comparable!!
NOT reasonable! reducing taxes for this is ludicrous. The costs in additional losses to property, human lives, & emotional/physical trauma is worth way more than \$6.90!! Insurance companies will likely increase insurance rates to account for increase risk... Will cost more than the savings by the city. BAD DECISION! As a fire survivor, we should reduce wait times please! 30 sec would have caused much greater loss. Can't put a price on trauma to families, communities & city.
To push back allowable response times with the end goal of saving an average of a \$7 a year cut on individual property taxes (a couple of cups of coffee at Starbucks), is not a well thought out plan. The cost in property losses and lives lost is not worth it. Ask questions. Next year is an election year.
Not worth the risk. Continue with measures that ensure fast response times.
No. This is a very dangerous proposition. As someone who relies on emergencies services for my work very frequently, the quick response we currently have helps protect everyone involve.
I do not think it is reasonable to take on this risk of precious lives to achieve cost savings in this area with the Fire Department. Lives must be considered a priority and if savings are necessary for the City to do, consider some other areas, like (Glenbow Museum upgrades or the area of Arts. Please make lives #1. Thank you.
I am wondering how you expect to achieve a 30 second longer response time? Does this mean fewer halls and less staff to achieve this? The city is growing with so many new housing developments and I am concerned fewer halls would not be in the best interest of Calgarians and I think \$6.90 per household is worth the investment.
The trade off of 6.90 for the life of someone and the possibility of higher insurance rates is most definitely not worth it.....
I think you should save your money, on things that are more important then this, like helping People with there problems and also saving it for new other projects that could ferther help our economy and city.
Having known 2 people recently that lost homes to fire one in calgary and one in bc those few minutes can make a world of difference may not have changed the outcomes for my friends but you never know. I Can't believe the city councillors really think about that, come on mayor and councillor, don't play with peoples live for \$7. Hope you never need there help because you will regrette for the rest of your live. So No to budget cut for FF
NO. I can't understand how the City is considering this! I would rather pay those \$7/year than know that if I'm in an emergency, the firefighters might not get there on time, I might die, or my house and my neighbours might burn down. I know the CoC needs to find ways to save money, but risking people's lives and livelihood shouldn't be a way to do this. You are a bunch of intelligent people, and I'm sure you'll find a way not to risk our lives. BUT PLEASE, don't put this on the firefighters!
This is a bad idea to cut the fire dept budget. Seconds count as life or death for this emergency services. Fire, police and EMS SHOULD NOT HAVE BUDGET CUTS!!! This idea for savings is ridiculous!!
The difference between 30 seconds and be life or death. Is that really worth it to the City to save \$5.8M. A \$6.90 average annual property tax charge is nothing in comparison to knowing the CFD is there when we need them. This is a ridiculous proposal. W cannot cut the budgets of those who save lives! Instead

we need to be grateful for all the men and women who work to protect us and save lives. Thank you CFD. Thank you CPS. Thank you AHS.
A majority of Calgarians would not think a savings of \$6.90 a year is worth longer response times. It's a ludicrous to think this is even on the table.
With the province already banding all Paramedic calls together and there potentially being a delay due to that, I don't think now is the right time to cut fire. Let's see the impact of the changes to ambulance dispatch, then change fire as necessary, even if the money is needed now. That being said, if a change did need to happen, I think the trade off at this rate is okay. Calgary fire does an amazing job currently, but a few seconds and millions could be a greater benefit I think we can manage.
There should be no reduction to the fire department budget. There is no way that anyone can change the response time by "30 seconds". If the city builds fewer fire stations, the response time will be far greater than the suggested 30 seconds. Whatever percentage of reduction to the fire department should also be applied right across the board to all city departments budget including the alderman and mayor.
I find this question loaded. The most I see fire fighters is when shopping at grocery stores. Why do we pay them to buy groceries on the job? Why are they now working 24 hour shifts that requires mandatory sleep time? Do better.
This is something I've thought a great deal about and I feel as though the response times in general are already slower than they should be. It's not something that makes a difference in the average day perhaps, but when it does, it could very well be life and death, for either our citizens or our fire fighters. This is not a good idea.
So, save \$6.90 savings for lower quality service? No, if it means increasing taxes I would rather those times be reduced.
NO MORE RISK! DO NOT CONSOLIDATE 9-1-1, DO NOT CUT CFD, or EMS!
Fast response times are important when every second makes a difference in medical or fire emergencies
Do not allow a slower response time. Not all calls are emergencies, but there are enough calls that are emergencies, life or death, that need to be taken Seriously. If fire can double every thirty seconds, we can't take that risk. If someone is experiencing a cardiac arrest, are we going to tell them to hold their breath for another 30 seconds? For the cost of less than \$7 is this worth the risk of lives? Absolutely not. Do not increase this response time to save a dollar!
No. Emergencies are life changing events and the minimal amount I would save on taxes does not justify the suffering incurred by a delayed response time.
Absolutely not, stop defunding the fire department.
No. The small savings per household are not worth the risk to the members of the community.
No it is not reasonable to take on more risk in favour of budget changes. These are life and death situations involved here. In cases of heart attack, stroke and fires we know time matters.
No. The science shows a fire can double in size every 30 seconds. News has shown the typical house fire happening in Calgary today involves a minimum of 2 houses. Now you want to extend the response by 30 seconds??? Making the fires that are happening it seems once a week to involve 4 houses???? We should not be even considering urging any money from The Calgary Fire Department. Sounds more like we need more fire halls, trucks and firefighters to staff them!!!!
When it comes down to the life of a human versus the programs/services/infrastructure they interact with, there is no question -- the value of human life has more value. I strongly believe that risk in relation to response times is unreasonable and should not be an area considered for cost savings.

I dont think the City should take more risk. I recently attended a toddler drowning call. If it took us longer to respond even 30 seconds , I dont believe the outcome would have been the same. CFD was first on scene to this call, followed shortly by AHS and then CPS. With all emergency services being stretched so thin now days , can we continue to cut these services ? Thank you
No, this is one of the stupidest things I have heard of this city doing. Do you seriously think that the safety of the people in this city is worth a \$6.90 savings? This city needs to completely replace this city council there are way to many councilors that have been there too long and have lost touch this this city.
This does not seem worth the increase risk and lives lost. Find other non-necessary projects and money spending from the city. Like big projects we can't afford, not life saving services. There are so many non-essential life saving areas where they can cut.
Do not touch emergency services as they are already understaffed, and underfunded. Art vs emergency services.....hmmm, if thats a hard decision for you, get out of our City Hall.
The cost savings would be irresponsible considering the increased risk to citizens and firefighters. The cost to get professional & high level of service is more than acceptable.
I do NOT think the city should take on more risk to achieve cost savings. When someone has a real emergency they don't calculate the costs, they just need help as quick as they can get it.
This is not somewhere that the city should be looking for visa cuts. Response Time is essential and can make the Fortenberry between severe brain damage and a full recovery or even life and death.
When a fire arises, again response time is critical. With how close together the houses are together here due to zero lots, being able to work on putting out the fire before it spreads makes a huge difference.
No. If the city does go through with this I want my councilor to personally pay for any insurance increases and increased loss. Make them responsible to their decisions and they may understand it is a bad idea.
No do not cut emergency responder spending. How about if it was your loved one who needed the quickest emergency response? How about if it was your house that was on fire? Would you want the responders to slow down? Look to cut other budgets such as wasteful spending on city workers for streets and highways. You don't need 6 employees on a shovel to fix 3 potholes. Those people don't save lives. Think more strategically as to what is really necessary.
I will happily pay more to have a prompt response time. 30 seconds is critical for the fire department to contain fires and save lives and it is not worth \$6.90 off my property taxes. I vehemently disagree with these cost saving measures
I think it's important to make the public aware that it is not just a "30 second" longer response time. If that hall is in a call already then another hall that potentially may not even be in the same district as the call has to respond to the fire/incident which means it will be well over 30 seconds longer. Cutting the fire budget and reducing halls will have a MAJOR impact on our community.
Absolutely not. We should never consider reducing the response time of emergency services for the sake of saving money. A 30-second delay in response time is immense in a life or death situations.
You're asking us to risk our lives and houses for 6.90? That seems like a bad decision. That's less than a cup of coffee. I'm sure you can save more elsewhere in the City such as Art, Transit and Olympic bids.
The administrators of the City of Calgary need to accept that a fire service is not a luxury, but a necessity. It is shameful that reducing fire department funding is being considered. The impact of reducing fire department spending will have a tremendous ripple effect. For a meager \$6.90 in potential tax savings, Calgarians will be making sacrifices that in their times of greatest need, will have devastating consequences. To compare dollars and cents with chances of survival is reprehensible.
Consider how the Citizen's suffer when there is a significant medical, fire, or rescue event. Recently there was a house fire close to a fire station (Sept.8 Evanston) and a quick response saved the

neighbouring houses ('only' 2 houses lost/ and 1 or 2 more damaged). A 30sec. longer response would undoubtedly have resulted in at least one more house lost, another family displaced, and significantly more trauma suffered by those involved.
Yes I believe this to be reasonable.
Perhaps savings could be found through requiring firefighters to apply as trained firefighters- versus operating an incredibly expensive recruit training program.
I think that the city needs to cut non-essential service like art and new libraries over cutting essentials like fire department or the police force.
No, I value my life and the lives of my family'. For the sake of a few \$ savings a year in taxes? Not an option.
No! We need more firefighters with quicker response times! We keep telling you to invest more in fire protection, and you keep trying to lower the level of service. You're not listening!! Please reduce the response time target, DO NOT increase it, please!
Seriously you are willing to put a price of 6.90 on a person life and/or property. In the high density communities in Calgary 30 seconds will be the difference between losing 2 houses or 4. It may not mean someone dying from a cardiac arrest but something as simple as administering Oxygen 30 seconds sooner can be the difference between living a semi normal life or having your diapers changed for the rest of your life. I Imagine you will save me \$7 and my insurance will go up\$100 for 30 seconds.
No there are lots of other places to save than to try to save 7.00!!!
Absolutely not. Slower response times mean a lower chance of survival in a life threatening situation. Having experienced first hand how important it is to have first responders arrive as soon as possible, I cannot stress how important it is that budget cuts are not made in these areas. The Calgary Fire Department cannot take any more budget cuts. Fire & medical emergencies do not discriminate & can affect any one of us. I implore the city not to consider making further budget cuts in this area.
Maybe its not about Fire response and them specifically. Maybe just dispatch the correct service, fire goes for pretty much every call, do they need to? is there insufficient services in other emergency response areas to cope? or reduce the sending of two services until determined its required? If fire is going every time let them make the call for additional services.
I rather pay the 6.90 and not reduce odds of saving my house in case of a fire.
I do not feel that saving \$7 is worth the increased risk. Is there really a price you can put on the difference between life and death?
I am not in favour of longer response times for the fire Dept to arrive at emergency incidents. I don't believe a \$6.90 saving per year is worth the longer response times. Thank you for this opportunity to give feedback.
Under no conditions, should the safety of the citizens of Calgary be compromised. Do not cut the response time of Fire, Police or Paramedics. Cut out the art programs or something that does not involve life or death. This is ridiculous and you should give your heads a shake.
I would gladly keep paying what I do to make sure fire services is getting to me, my loved ones, or my home and it's contents as fast as possible. I'd also remind citizens that the fire department responds to tens of thousands of critical medical calls a year. If your child is choking, or your parents are having a heart attack, fire services are always dispatched and typically arriving before AHS based on being closer and stationed in our communities. They will always have my support.
There is no excuse to extend fire response times.
The City should know that lives of citizens is more important than cost savings! I like the idea of eliminating/reducing the retirement fund for City officials and/or Councillors. When a City official is found

to break the law, embezzle, cheat taxpayers...they should be fined and fired. Maybe less spent on investigating and just getting rid of them. First responders are far more important than many other services provided for leisure! Besides lives, this affects insurance, property values etc.
No
No. My wife and I believeStronglyHelloYou have already cut more than you should have in the Fire Department. They provide a key element of life safety support to ourselves and all citizens in this community. With the increased risk of increased response times is not an acceptable alternative to us for us savings of \$6.90. We ask that you not consider further the cuts to this service. ARt & Donna Froese
No! The people who risk their lives on a daily basis do not need to put themselves in greater danger than they already do. WE SHOULD NOT TAKE ON MORE RISK IN THIS AREA.
This is a mistake. As a registered nurse here in YYC for the past 13 years, cutting costs to essential services never wins. How can we justify impacting the wellbeing of Calgarians, response times matter. Let's look at budgeting around non essential services, it's the backbone of Calgary's overall safety.
Its a joke that this city council and mayor don't really care about the safety of its citizens! This council and mayor need to to look inside and start to cut huge pensions and retirement bonuses. If I could see them saving from the inside out I might consider other alternatives!!!! I am not in favour of slower response times to keep our citizens safe!!!!
The fire department is one of if not the last area that you should look for savings or cutbacks. The savings provided by the fire department in both in both lives and property warrant their budget. Indeeed in this department more money could be invested. There are many other areas where the city wastes money - investigating a crooked alderman at a cost of 12 times the amount stolen is oneand then doing nothing about the theft is a case in point. DON'T SCREW WITH THE FIRE DEPT!! WE NEED THEM!!!
Do not make this essential service longer. Really this does not effect every Calgarian that much financially. But the physical cost could be limitless.
That's only \$0.57 a month! If anything...Increase the amount to make coverage better and pay Firefighters what they deserve. Not a 0% raise!
Absolutely not! That 30 seconds could mean the difference in a child living, that extra 30 seconds in a trapped Smokey house could cause an entire family to die!! Do not make cuts to any emergency services!!! Try cutting by law officers before firefighters!!
I think the recent fires have shown it would be a bad idea to increase response times.
The cost you are asking the tax pay to pay for this service should never be in question, you are playing with peoples lives for \$6.90
I think paying 6.90 a year to potential save someone's life is worth it. I would be happy with a 15 second longer response time, would the savings still be in the millions and saving 3.45 a year?
Please keep response time the same. 30 seconds is a very long time for a fire to totally consume a residence.
No I do not, as we have seen recently in the city a single family fire had overtaken 3-5 homes simply due to longer response times. The city is willing to put citizens lives and property at risk simply because of very poor spending in the past. Stop installing bike lanes in the downtown core, stop painting sidewalks with stupid and useless slogans. Instead of the mayor wasting time and tax payer's dollars driving around doing birthdays, work. Work and earn his pay
This is an essential service. You can't place a dollar against human life. If 30 seconds means lives are saved then you must maintain this funding.
I prefer to pay \$6.90 per year to maintain a shorter response time.
No I don't think this is a reasonable trade-off. The savings is absolutely not worth the risks incurred by an additional 30 second wait in an emergency. Having been on the receiving end of first response services,

30 seconds seems an unreasonable and downright scary amount of time to be in need of help in an emergency. I also wonder if this wait time is an underestimate given the growing population of Calgary. It seems shortsighted.
I do not think it is reasonable to take on more risk. I know that if it were my family experiencing an emergency every minute that passed would be a minute too long.
I do NOT think this is a reasonable risk to take on in exchange for 6.90\$ off my tax bill. I also don't think the City is being forthcoming with the information that a 30 sec longer response means likely closing halls. The distance from my house might be 30 secs longer, but that Hall and the trucks there now have a larger district to cover and are more likely to be on a call, when I need them. In reality it could mean several minutes longer. Please be honest with Calgarians. Terrible idea!
I will gladly pay \$7 / yr to keep response times from getting any longer.
The CFD has had enough cuts over the last few budget cycles, find cuts elsewhere as in the green line or Flames private stadium.
ABSOLUTELY NOT! Are you really trying to save the taxpayers (me) the price of a coffee but increase the time it takes to get help to me if needed by half a minute. 30 seconds could mean the difference between getting a pulse back or not, surviving a stroke or not, my house burning down or having just a deck fire or a single room fire. Response times do matter, to both the citizens of Calgary whom you are supposedly looking out for, and for the employees of that city department.
Reducing funding to fire services is detrimental to all Calgarians. Funding needs to remain at the funding level to preserve citizen piece of mind as well as those who serve on the CFD who know how seconds count. Re-assessing how medical calls are handled by the province who dispatch ambulances might be able to take the pressure off our fire service to respond to medical calls.
The phrasing of the background information raises two questions for me, what is the current goal response time and how often is it achieved. You need to provide more information than 30 seconds saves me \$7 a year but with what you've shared, my answer is simple, spend my \$7. Please share more on how this saving would occur and I would reconsider. In the meantime, please consider the use of firetrucks at non-emergencies. Smaller vehicles that could manage a small fire at a car crash = lower cost.
I do not agree with cutting fire services. If you want to save money get rid of spending on ridiculous art or funding groups representing a minority of Calgarians. Being able to have a viable and effective fire service impacts 100% of Calgarians. Short sighted decisions cost more in the long run.
An increase in response times and a reduction in resources puts citizens at a greater risk. To gamble with a Fire Service's capacity to respond to major emergencies is not responsible government. Perhaps The City should measure the effects on service to citizens from existing budget cuts before imposing more?
No
Absolutely not worth the savings!! Risk vs benefit of life safety. Fire dboubles in size so fast, a child under water for 30 more seconds than they have to be, a Father having a heart attack and waiting 30 extra seconds for a life saving AED. Theres no value that replaces a life!!! Come on Calgary!!!
Stop spending money on dumb useless things and then asking essential services to take a cut
No. Do not cut fire budget take it from the unions or our mayor first
Do not recommend increase response time

Civic Partners Verbatim

Question asked

The City invests in Civic Partners in order to deliver effective programs and services in targeted areas, develop and advance strategies, and construct and manage assets. More information about The City's Civic Partners can be found on calgary.ca.

As we plan for a future review of these partnerships, we want to better understand what value for investment looks like to citizens, when it comes to our partners.

Some of the aspects of value that have been considered in the past include things like:

- **Innovation:** Provide access to expertise, knowledge, and resources to push boundaries and help find new and creative ways to improve all areas of society including the economy, arts, science, social services, etc.
- **Efficiency:** Disciplined use of funding that produces maximum impact for dollars spent.
- **Equity:** Fair and equal access to the services being provided, and/or provision of services that actively help remove barriers to inclusion.
- **Affordability:** Provide affordable services and programs to all Calgarians.
- **Specialization:** Allows Calgarians to access services, facilities, and programs that might not otherwise be available.

Question one was about overall value for investment. The we asked about specific areas of service:

The City of Calgary's Civic Partners provide services in many different areas, and a full list of Civic Partners is available on calgary.ca

Keeping in mind the aspects of value you discussed above, tell us what value means for each of the following areas of service and what your expectations are in each area.

What does value look like and what are your expectations for partnerships that focus on:

- Economic Development
- Arts and Culture
- Tourism
- Cultural Attractions
- Recreation and Parks
- Poverty Reduction
- Library Services
- Heritage Preservation

Participant comments: value

Using the prompting words above, or in your own words, tell us what value for investment means to you?

A balance of great service with affordable fees.

A MEASURABLE return or benefit that is appropriate relative to the amount of money invested and risk taken on.
A safe city - clean, infrastructure that is maintained and upgraded in a timely way, with emergency services quickly at hand, and police who know how to de-escalate, instead of escalate, situations (For instance asking why you are being handcuffed is not resisting arrest, it's a reasonable question, and if the officer can't answer it, probably shouldn't be doing it.)
Accessible services for the entire community that directly impact quality of life.
Accountability. Simply giving money to organizations who claim to be making an impact is a strategy that does not provide value for that money. Those organizations should have to provide statistics that can be independently verified/confirmed on the benefit of their programming. Organizations under the United Way umbrella currently do not have to do this, or do so only in a very limited capacity.
Affordability, means not spending money on things like "should we bid on the Olympic", "should we build a new arena" and then suggesting we cut emergency response time to "save money".
As far as innovative goes I think any money spent on arts is and will be huge waste of money.
As far as I've experienced in the past 8 years living near City Hall has done a very poor job in terms of ROI (return on investment)
As long as you aren't subsidizing billionaires, it all sounds great.
Asking how are Calgarians better off because of x\$ spent, and maximizing the return for each dollar spent. Civic partners are better positioned to support Calgarians due to reduced bureaucratic restrictions and internal cost structures
Bang for the tax payers buck
Being able to get what you need at an affordable cost delivered efficiently, and with little difficulty.
Best bang for my buck, meaning minimal City of Calgary bureaucracy. Do not be tied to City union workers.
building things we need, not what would be nice to have. No pet projects,
By funding the work of civic partners The City is able to more effectively respond to social issues in Calgary. The work is important and the fact that they are on the table for "savings" is a poor reflection on the Corporation. Additionally, the divide and conquer approach as presented in the subsequent list is shambolic.
Citizens have opportunities to learn, play, and engage in diverse ways.
City scrutinizing all options in search for the best at the lowest cost to benefit the most. Emphasis should be on benefitting the MOST.
City services should focus solely on maintaining infrastructure (Roads, water/power) and attracting/supporting entrepreneurs/business (economy). Without that pillar (priority 1), the foundation for ALL other city services (priority 2) either won't exist or remain compromised. Hence the reason for this survey....introduce more direct decision making with voters, less council please.
Civic Partners often have the ability to be nimble and respond quickly to community needs. It's important to support them.
Creative/innovative ideas to progress the economy and social aspects of Calgary.
Defund the arts
Delivery of first-class services, accessible to all Calgarians, at a competitive cost (compared to other jurisdictions)
Do not cut money to our fire dept and police services. We talk about equality but everyone should have access to life saving measures above all else.

Do not invest in items that which only benefit a few Calgarians. Utilize limited resources to benefit the most people even if that means shutting some facilities down. Calgary has spread resources over too many partnerships
Don't award contracts to friends of people who are employed by the City of Calgary and are making outsourcing decisions.
Don't build a big new innovative arena that can't have any spectators in it, the City of Calgary cannot afford it.
During this time focus must be on need to have vs nice to have.
Efficiency
EFFICIENCY
Efficiency and Equity
Efficiency and equity - fair and equal access are very important to me, as is disciplined use of funding. I'd like to see projects that help all Calgarians.
Efficiency in spending is a major priority, council needs to stop threatening to reduce police and fire budgets, take the money allocated to bike lanes and use it for the Fire department!
Efficiency in use of all funding.
Efficiency is important given restricted budgets. A focus on providing Innovative initiatives that can make a large impact while using limited funds, not everything has to be fancy and pretty (we don't need more landmark library's we need things that work and provide access to city services)
Efficiency needs to be the primary driver with a focus on the things all Calgarians value (including the silent majority) affordability, equity is not a government concern. This should be derived through the non-profit sector.
Efficiency- pay per project not on a timeline and paying overtime to get something done because contractors did not stay on target. Equity: equivalent spending in all areas of the city- spending should not be based on complaints, or demographics such as income levels or immigration status of residents.
Efficiency!!!! The city seems to have an incredible ability to keep spending and spending. Tax payers should not be treated as a piggy bank by the city.
Efficiency, affordability
Efficiency, worded as above. Monitoring the work being done is as it should.
Efficiency: I have been involved with several renovation projects involving the city and are continually amazed at the amount of red tape and extra money that is spent for minimal benefit. Need to look at more efficient use of money and time, need to look at things as a business rather than a never ending bank account. Improved policies procedures, and training would go a long way.
Efficient, which implies well priced, delivered timely and comprehensive.
Ensuring that investment supports programs and services that reach in the most direct way individuals, families and communities who are disadvantaged in a market economy. Ensuring that those who need services are not disadvantaged by the very circumstances that create need, in ability to access those services.
Equity and affordability
Equity and efficiency. Tax money should be going back into the communities/ communities that most need service improvements and environmental improvements, and not into paying the municipal governments top heavy administration.
Equity and specialization are the most important

Equity is important above all -- what services are not accessible to citizens but should be? The City receives value from the investment when our most vulnerable citizens can access essential resources with dignity.
Equity is the most important to me and would mean that people are given equal opportunities to realize their potentials we are still a long way from that today but it should be a goal for getting the most value from investment.
Equity, affordability, flexibility
Equity, affordability, specialization
equity, affordability, specialization
Equity: ensure vulnerable are not left aside, and consider future generations in our investments so they can live in a climate friendly city.
Fire department and police should be exempted from budget cuts.
Fiscal responsibility and transparency.
Generally speaking, every activity that can be provided by private companies is more efficient, more customer-oriented and cheaper. Any interference of the City outside its mission is a damage for the community.
Getting the most for our money while preserving what makes Calgary a great place to live.
Getting value for our hard earned money is very important
Given the current state of affairs, I think affordability of services is critical so that Calgarians can re-engage in the community
Good value for all of the above as long as it is done cost efficiently
Growth and stimulus of city economy and public service. Diversifying city businesses. Attracting tech and film industry back in to the city.
Having a significant impact on quality of life. The bigger the impact, and the more people it reaches, the better value for the investment.
Having our most vulnerable Calgarians fully supported through public services.
I agree with all of the above points
I believe all these areas are important and it is complex to balance all of these in today's economic environment. I believe efficiency is a sound place to start and let the others flow.
I believe that providing equal access and affordable access to the programs in the city is paramount to the city getting stronger.
I fail to understand how 130 or so people can speak to the city about their feelings of racial profiling by police, without the need to provide proof and out mayor can say that there is a systemic problem of racism within out police. So les than 0.1% of the population is all it takes for there to be a problem. Most would suggest that this proves the opposite. I pay my taxes to have f'1st responses
I like all of these aspects. For me, I care about being able to move around the city, provide my child with development opportunities (The library is THE BOMB), and know that start up businesses, like my husband's, are given opportunity to become future economic drivers.
I would see a lot of value in focusing on economic diversification and small business growth.
I value services that are efficient but don't compromise on quality when possible. I also value having access to services that are affordable
I value: Efficiency and Affordability

I would feel value for my investment if it was used: 1st to ensure Equity completely exists, 2nd to leverage Innovation-that-improves-funding-Efficiency, 3rd to focus on pure funding Efficiency, 2&3 should help take care of Affordability, then 4th raw Innovation which I feel would have a bleed benefit into Specialization. Basically, make what we have work better, then once that's fixed branch out.
In the current circumstance, I believe we should focus on basic needs until our economy improves and we can enhance arts and recreation...this means police, EMS and FIRE are crucial elements NOT to cut during our austerity.
In the current times value for investment must mean any civic investment will lower costs (and correspondingly taxes) or generate private sector jobs which will increase the tax base. Increased tax base should be used to find efficiencies/economies of scale and LOWER taxes and fees.
Innovation
Innovation and affordability. We need to remake and revitalize Calgary's personality away from a dying economy stuck in Oil and Gas and into a vibrant diversified affordable city full of culture and friendly communities.
Innovation and equity
Innovation- could also use new technology to provide increased efficiency and access.
Innovation- could also be using cutting edge or front of the pack thinking of civic services. Stand out services will help us maintain our high livability and attract investment from individuals and businesses
Innovation should be off the table for funding at this point in time with the economy.
Innovation you need to do more to diversify the economy without hurting essential services
Innovation, Equity and Affordability are the most important values listed to me.
Investing in the right programs for Calgary citizens. Vetting and auditing any third party programs to ensure dollars are used properly.
Reduction of spending to reflect an understanding of respect for taxpayers money.
Investment means a return for services rendered, as well as the provision of services provided for those who, on their own, are unable to access them.
Investment means maintaining and growing business, economy, community, research and education.
Investment means putting money into services and supports that everyone can utilize.
Investment that is sustainable, eco-friendly, non-partisan.
Investment to me means that it will have good return on investment in terms of social services, monetary or health.
It means everything, I don't want wasted money on useless projects and programs
It means paying the right price, not the over-inflated, over managed, half-hearted service we receive from the City of Calgary. The City Administration wastes money on vanity projects and virtue signaling. You are so far out of touch with the climate in this City you think it's still 2014. You are in for a rude awakening in 2021, it's not just the councillors who need to update their resumes.
It means taking a strategic view, looking down the road at long-term impacts. Recreation facilities are a great example because the long-term impact is a healthier community.
It would be beneficial if information such as tax payers investment and civic partners books (revenues & expenditure breakdowns) be made easily accessible, so tax payers could be more informed when providing feedback on the below. My guess would be that most Calgarians don't realize that they fund 27 partners through taxes.
It would be that the end product brings back equal or more than the cost/initial investment

Less public art projects in times of austerity.
Let's manage the City as we would our own household. Set priorities. You can't have everything. Our taxes are too high. We have too many rec centres , swimming pools and ice rinks. Recreation needs a 10% budget cut. Police needs a 20% budget cut with several million dollars of the cut transferred to community outreach programs like the Boys and Girls Clubs. Fire needs a 15% cut. We can do this!
Lower taxes so all Calgarians can live in a home.
Many people are affected positively, both in the short and long term.
Means a Lot To Our City And Our Citizens That Investment Brings And Inspires Us To Tell What Is Important On Our Minds to share New Ideas And Projects.
Means spending tax dollars wisely and not on the mayor and councilors stupid pet projects.
Measurable positive return on investments.
Nice grandstanding. Taxes are to high and to much goes to wages and out of touch art programs.
No value.
Offering services for the well-being and safety of all Calgarians with thoughtful consideration of efficiency and affordability
Offering the best service to the most people, for a reasonable cost. Evaluate the cost per household for the service and see that when spread out among so many, services are definitely worth it.
Our city departments seriously lack efficiency. The two the primarily come to mind is streets. They should be focusing on a few areas at a time then moving on to the next instead of having construction all over the city taking years to complete. The police definitely need more training and are obviously over staffed when have excessive numbers of officers attending minor incidents
Our investment should help build a more sustainable, livable, and just city.
Prioritizing based on needs and resources.
Proactive investments that improve quality of life and citizen wellbeing so money isn't needed to address issues down the road in expensive systems (ie. justice, health, CPS). Help people live their best lives NOW, we are only going to struggle more with Covid and increasing living costs, people won't survive more cuts to services. Invest in grassroots social programs that support people.
Programs and services that clearly benefit citizens and the city and programs that are difficult or impossible for the city to run themselves.
Provide services that require a "seed" investment (something the private sectors have not initiated on their own).
Providing a safe and effective delivery of the public services that Calgarians deserve.
Providing access to unique experiences that hold up a mirror to who we are as a community, such as a science centre.
Recognizing that the city, having taxed its citizens and companies fairly, provides first and foremost public services (i.e., the 'investment') available to all the people who live here according to their need (i.e., the 'value'), while at the same time making the city a desirable place for people to develop their own businesses, and their own lives, sustainably.
Reduce the top heavy management positions within the corporation, that would save us tax payers millions of dollars!!
Reduce waste of our tax dollars. I'd rather essential emergency service ALWAYS be a priority over society "extras"

Results based. Every dollar spent should have a measurable outcome attached to it to know if it is achieving the goal. Cost effective. Every dollar spent today should save 1-2 dollars down the road, either because it is run with a business mindset to have revenue or because it is preventing more expensive issues in the future. Last resort. Cut red tape/barriers before handing out cheques.
Since Calgary is a very multicultural city, investing and supporting a single race by donating tax dollars for murals based on the current situation in the USA, certainly does not come close to a definition of value for investment. Instead 120 000\$ dedicated to 4 murals could possibly put a lot of food on the table of the less fortunate members of the “black community” during the upcoming holidays
Specialization, Efficiency, Affordable
Specifically regarding fire fighting, time matters. A fire doubles in size every 30 seconds. That 30 seconds is the difference between life and death. It would be grossly irresponsible to increase response time for fire fighters. Cutting this fix don't would just further display the city's incompetence
STOP THE SPENDING AND GET RID OF GHE ARTS COUNCIL. COLOSSAL WASTE OF MONEY. STOP TRYING TO SOCIALLY ENGINEER US AND GET BACK TO THE BASICS
Stop wasting money
Tax dollars are best spent by taxpayers...cut taxes
Technology should be a priority. Since Covid City Hall has come a long way but please put money into Technology and Efficiency to save money - I can think of 1000 ideas off the top of my head on how City Hall can save by adding Technology
that everyone has access to the same services and that they are affordable
The biggest saving could be found on the pay scale and benefits of the employees for the City of Calgary as in some departments they are overstaffed or some are getting paid high compared to the same level private sector companies.
The Calgary Public Library embodies ALL of these propositions and as such, should be a top priority for the City of Calgary. The impact of our library network extends beyond the borders of our city, and has put Calgary on a global map for innovative thinking and community engagement. Nothing could better articulate “value for investment” in my opinion.
The city doesn't seem to be innovative when it comes to projects and are not at all disciplined when it comes to spending. There seems to be a few projects that just won't die even though the public is as a majority against it. And other projects the city seems to take a “council know best” approach.
The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city.
The City is not able to see the Value of the Calgary Fire Department. How would you feel if you were in your home doing CPR on a loved one WAITING for the Emergency Services to arrive? Or standing outside your house WAITING for them to show up as the fire devastates your home. The work of the Fire Department is essential. Do not cut their funding! Find another way to save money.
The City of Calgary is the opposite of efficient. We pay for gold plated, world class services but end up with average at best. Most Calgary services are unaffordable already.
The City should be working with employees to have them recognize and suggest areas for improvement. An outside party or consultant (“partners”) are not always required. Reward employees for innovative ideas.
The City should provide essential services, and other services should be procured by the user.
The creation of opportunities for employment and new businesses, through proper civic alignment (competitive tax regime, safe communities, recreation and arts access).

The investment in civic partners is the backbone of a vibrant and healthy city. The civic partners are key to bringing joy to the city. Without them why would you want to live, work and play in Calgary.
THERE IS ONLY ONE PRIORITY. EFFICIENT USE OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS. How many times do citizens have to beat you over the head with this info before you listen? Too many staff being paid too much salary and benefits. While you suck the blood out of every business through absurd p. tax increases.
This is the time to concentrate on Efficiencies, including value for money and accountability. Without a proper accountable budget innovation, equity, affordability and specialization are much harder to accomplish. Short term pain for long term gain. Get the budget under control. Essential services must take priority.
To me, value for investment can be measured by what is gained (knowledge, skills, access to equipment/tools/space) and how much it costs (affordability, time). It is important to have equity or equal opportunity as well.
Ultimately, we need to ensure we are using our resources (both public and private) to their fullest extent. Value comes from freedom of choice. For city of Calgary services, that means a reduced footprint.
I value the fire department far, far, far more than the police and than city council, in that order.
If there are going to be aggressive cuts, the: 1: cut the police first 2: all strategic and decision making positions should be 'no pay' voluntary positions. Quality of candidate will still apply.
Value for investment for me means to use the money where its due such as the frontline workers and making sure they are number one in safety and benefit. front line workers such as EMS risk there lives each day and need to be recognized as the main problem solvers and transport for traumatic events.
Value for investment for my family is our safety first. I, like most Calgarians, am frustrated with continual cuts to first responders, such as Police and Fire, while the city is prepared to paint a mural that provides instant gratitude to some, but no measurable benefit to tax payers. I understand the importance of balancing budgets and that the city can not satisfy all.
Value for investment is something that accessible to most/a large group of citizens, things that improve quality of life, and things that make our city unique to both citizens and visitors.
Value for investment looks to the long-term and is affordable. It should be something that benefits many rather than few, making a difference to those who need help the most.
Value for investment means "Specialization" to me. There is a threat that the long-term diversity of publicly available services will be hurt because of cutbacks and the COVID crisis. Now more than ever Calgarians need more free-of-charge activities and services.
Value for investment means being efficient and affordable and conscious of the costs. Many friends who work for the city will work for a year on a project and then the project gets shelved. This is not a good use of taxpayer dollars
Value for investment means intentionally and consistently striving to make accessible to and affordable for mid, low income and poor Calgarians all basic and enrichment services and programs. High income Calgarians are able to afford their own way.
Value for investment means not only a functional city with great roads, hospitals and transit, but it is library services, swimming pools and the art we view throughout the city.
Value for investment means providing opportunity to Calgarians. To me, this looks like defunding the Police services and reallocating those funds to communities; like funding education, arts, and internships

in low-income communities; like hiring BIPOC Calgary/Alberta creators for our public art & architecture; like affordable, safe housing; like well-advertised grants for art & innovation.
Value for investment means something that government does not have the will to accomplish - efficiency! Ask any business owner what this means in these times and you will get a straight answer. Ask the city what this means and its like a carnival fair of games with the spendong of tax payer money! I will be greatly suprisd if the city ever learns the meaning of living in your means!
Value for investment means that I get out what I put in. If \$2 of my taxes goes to fund a program, I expect that I will get \$2 of value from the program, not \$0.20 or \$0.02, while the rest is diverted to programs and facilities in the outer suburbs.
Value for investment to me means my tax dollar being used to keep me safe, and provide usable spaces for me to enjoy.
Value for investment would also mean that the City NOT step into areas the Province should be funding, thus protecting the Province from having to put efforts into it. Yes, would mean an adjustment and pain, but City doesn't have the resources to continue filling the Provincial gaps as much as they do, and that needs to change.
value for me means putting money into innovation, equity, affordability, and specialization. Efficiency doesn't matter if you're cutting the other facets.
Value for me, is the ability to attract people, businesses and the knock-on economic benefits from prudent investment in not only business opportunities, but also attracting newcomers to a culturally interesting and vibrant city which retains families even if their initial occupation changes.
Value for my tax dollar investment means I expect: Efficiency overall, with innovation to help and increase or maintain efficiencies.
Value investment should focus on the efficient use of tax dollar, ensuring that each investment has a net ROI or benefit to the community. However, it is important that Calgary also focuses on the new economy by properly innovating, this will enable it to attract more citizens, business, creation in the city and increase its revenue to avoid future issues such as currently faced.
Value is assessing what your needs are over wants. Reducing costs while maintaining services.
Value is directing City funds in ways that make individuals more informed, involved, and prosperous and investing in supports that help people in a difficult economy, have the broadest possible reach, and are relevant across demographics and in unpredictable times.
Value means does this investment benefit all calgarians! This means over time does it directly or indirectly benefit citizens.
Value means greater affordability and equity with a focus on increasing social economic participation and improving quality of life for low income Calgarians. It also means investing in the public good - things that private citizens might not invest in on their own, but reap significant benefits from over time. There should be clear cost-benefit analysis for investments in civic partners.
Value means not raising taxes every year. My income hasn't risen in 10 years, but taxes keep rising. Cut city staff wages. Cut number of city employees. Actually have 2022 spending lower than 2021.
Value means providing service in a timely manner without duplication
VFI to means that the City provides services and innovations that the citizenry both needs and engages with. Frivolity has no place in civic decision making as budget margins are quite slim to begin with.
We are living in a different world today than we were twenty years ago, but government is largely operating in the same ways. Innovation is the key to all meaningful change that needs to take place: finding efficiencies, building a more equitable and just society, approaching affordability problems, and developing specialization. Innovate. Dream bigger. Solve the root problems.

We ensure citizens have services that ensure safety (traffic calming,etc.), clean air/water/parks, rec services, transit, library services and some free public events.
We must keep our spending under control. At this time investments must be minimized. We are in economic crises and the city should know this. Value for investment must include a way to reduce costs
We need to ensure equitable access to services so that we continue to build a cohesive community instead of a bunch of individuals living in proximity to each other
We need to make Calgary attractive for businesses to come. This will bring more people to come here and work, live here, spend money here. Pretty straight forward.
We should invest in services that ensure everyone has equitable access to opportunities; this helps our City by empowering as many people as possible to contribute and prosper. Taxpayer funded organizations need to innovate to stay relevant and to use public resources efficiently. Public organizations should also work together to complement each other's specialized services and programs.
Whatever service or product outcomes an organization exists to deliver, all must demonstrate sound and resilient financial, forecasting and management practices. The City should never bail out poorly managed Civic Partners as that enables their board of directors and management to evade their responsibilities.
Whatever value is being provided by the civic partners should be akin to significant, tremendous, or beautiful for 2021. Ordinary, repetitive, or unimaginative value should be rejected. This year is different. The ultimate benefit to the City may be marketable or exponential or never to be. I'd rather try than not though. I'm an optimist.
When a service is more efficient.
When the City invests I expect that most of the investment will go to providing the service. A miniscule amount should be spent in City administration overseeing the service.
While I'm all for providing said services and access to such services, I can't help but emphasize the times we find ourselves in economically. "Affordability" must be on the forefront of the city's mind right now. I expect council to be very "disciplined" when it comes to spending in the coming budget. If all we can afford is the basic and essential services, than that's what must be done
Zero value
Value for investment is when the city is able to provide a service to the public sector is unable to provide or the private sector would cost more to the individual
The term 'value for investment' is meaningless to me. The phrase needs to be worded more simply.
Affordability and equity are my main priorities and values for where we should be investing into. As people are struggling to make end's meet, it is important for Calgarians to be able to access the services and resources in order to help overcome these times of hardship. It is hard to look beyond the bare necessities at a time like this.
In our current environment and the years to come, the City should focus on partners and programs that can help Calgarians in need and providing an equitable playing field - affordability, access, schooling, diversity. The other area the City needs to focus on is how we will re-position our city to face new economic challenges and attract new industry.
Money spent results in tangible benefits to the community and has other benefits like helps create a stronger social fabric.
I think that the City's Civic Partnerships should allow citizens to get equitable access to affordable services. I think all citizens in Calgary should have access to the social services they need. I think the City needs to be innovative with how and what services are available.
It is critical to the quality of life for all Calgarians and to attract new people to the city to have the services that our civic partners provide.

Innovation, Efficiency and Equity
Value returned for dollars invested
Value of investment for civic partners includes equity (like the library that is open to everyone), innovation (like Spark that has shifted and experimented, and the Library that pivoted to curbside and online services), and efficiency, like the library value for dollars invested (meaning that the entire community benefits), and affordability (library is free for everyone and fine free too!)
We need Efficiency Experts to analyze cost savings. Perfect example: [identifying information removed]. What a waste of resources!! Police need to focus on Crime!! Rather than budget cuts have the fire and police departments come back with their efficiencies.
To me, value for investment means that your dollar goes as far as possible to benefit as many Calgarians as possible. Rather than spend money to benefit specific groups, our taxes should benefit everyone. Parks, libraries, police and fire services help everyone.
Increasing public library funding will address all value aspects, particularly Equity and Affordability. Library content and programming are free and available to all. Investing in the public library equates to investing in Calgarians.
Reevaluate where roads and sidewalks are being upgraded or replaced. 24 Ave NW between 14 St and crowchild is completely unnecessary spend of many millions\$\$\$. Put those items on backburner instead if looking at increasing risk to citizens by cutting fire and police.
Value is a combination of quality, accessibility and price.
Innovation; Efficiency; Equity; Affordability and Specialization. All topics above
provision of services that are needed in an efficient manner.
The library is a service I use. I could not afford to read without the library. Books are expensive. I also use the pool at the Calgary Jewish Centre and, because I'm a senior, pay less. I'm not sure if the City of Calgary subsidizes this pool but I imagine it does and I'm grateful. I love bike riding in Fish Creek Park. The park has been a god send for many Calgarians during the pandemic.
Efficiency and affordability should be the keys. All avenues should be looked at for this. All governments (not just Calgary) have extreme inefficiencies in many areas, that could quite likely be solved by eliminating many high paid redundant bureaucratic roles, and quite likely privatizing many services on the blue collar side, as well.
Increase in value and return. Cut out on expenses.
Specialization
Value for investment means focusing on essential services when money is tight, and recognizing it is not the time to focus on "nice to haves" such as the arts.
Equity would be the greatest value for investment. I don't want services offered off they are not accessible for every person in our City. But funding innovation is often a way of funding the rest of the promoting words (specialisation, equity, affordability, and efficiency) and so I think we would do well and receive a high value on investment with a focus on innovation. Sustainability is key.
This means having quality programs and services that are transparent and are making a difference in the society. It means investing in services that will effect citizens directly.
Fire. Nenchi and cut taxes
Allocation of City resources on the social, economic and environmental welfare of a community
[removed]
Our budget needs to protect essential services. This loud push for defunding police doesn't represent the majority. Our CPS members are now having to deal with the general public who have developed a

complete lack of respect and human decency in their interactions. It's dangerous. We need to stand behind the people who work everyday to keep people safe by ensuring they have the resources to do so.
Equity and affordability are most important, I want services that enrich citizens lives, promote Calgary's unique culture and preserve its natural environment
Speaking in Government tongue - cash grab
The City needs to continue to focus on Equity and Affordability. Services for the most vulnerable and low income Calgarians need to remain a priority. Services like affordable housing, fair entry, fee assistance and social work are needed now more than ever. As our economy falls the poor need more services at the municipal level.
More value to local companies should be given. Keeping g our money in our community supporting our citizens not international companies
Investment that brings benefit to the community in terms of employment, safety and education
This means spending out tax payer dollars on non-essentials when we are already struggling financially.
For me, there is no better example of strong value for investment than the Calgary Public Library. Not only is the new building a cultural icon that draws tourists and interest from across the world, the system itself as a whole lifts up our entire city. There is no one entity that reaches so many people and has so much potential for good.
Value needs to be prioritized. In the current economic environment, more attention needs to be paid to distinguishing 'nice to have' from 'need to have'. Value in the NEED to have currently is a priority.
Getting useful services for a reasonable cost.
Efficiency - disciplined use of funding was sorely lacking when it came to street art in the city. This was a fiasco and the people involved should be fired.
Innovation - this is always good, but needs to be affordable to all involved.
Equity - Very important to remove all barriers. Should be inclusive to all.
Affordability - Calgary is lacking affordable living accommodations.
They vary for each service.You can measure results for economic development, tourism, Poverty reduction, Heritage etc. It's much more difficult to measure results forCultural attractions And Arts and culture.Recreational facilities pathways an open spaces are an essential componentOf any community. We must take it advantage of every opportunityTo do something good in these areas.
Equity:
Affordability and Equity is important in a city that has such beautiful diversity. Many citizens move through different phases of life here and need to have access in all those phases of life, to affordable resources to help them live healthy and balanced.

Participant comments: economic development

What does value look like and what are your expectations for parternships that focus on Economic Development Services: may include promoting Calgary as a location to set up business, attracting investment, and supporting innovators and entrepreneurs.

?
A \$100m slush fund to be spent on junkets around the globe is the exact opposo
Absolutely critical.

Advertise with CED, worldwide our office, warehouse space. Do NOT lower taxes for businesses. That has nothing to do with economic future growth.
Agree
All contracts must be reviewed and cancel ones are unfair to City's budget
All for attracting head offices!
All of the above
An agency dedicated navigating municipal bureaucracy? Why not just address the bureaucracy?
Any efforts here should be targeted ones - for either specific industries or specific consumer groups. Generalizations have limited effect. The provincial corporate tax cut hasn't stimulated any new growth; the City should avoid the same mistake.
As long as this promotion doesn't mean more hands in the pockets of especially low income seniors.
As long as we can do this cost efficiently without raising user fees or taxes.
attracting business and quality job creation.offering tax reductions, advantages to open businesses in Calgary.
Attracting investment
Be less focused on making Calgary a cheaper option (e.g., lower taxes) but have better foundational services attracting value-for-the-money investment and entrepreneur opportunities.
being a modern city...with a modern municipal government. In addition to modern, I include risk. Risk is important to innovation. Thoughtful risk!
Bring jobs! Bring jobs! get the tax base up
Build the O&G economy back up
Calgary can attract if prices to locate are going down. Reduce spending and taxes is the goal for the City, and the business will come.
Calgary needs to do a better job of attracting and supporting small, local businesses. Trying to attract giant companies is a waste of time- they hire relatively few people compared to their overall size,&leave as soon as they get a better offer elsewhere
Calgary should focus on diversity in businesses and eco-friendly opportunities that respects the entrepreneur, the community and the land, not sacrificing one for the other
CED has struggled to make a positive impact. Biggest campaign was 4 Amazon. Ended up with a warehouse in RV County. How is it we can't fill DT back up when rents = 0 and we have the lowest corp tax rate in Canada? Wind down CED partner with Chamber.!!!
Change the designation of downtown office towers from strictly office buildings to building that can be both residential and office together so that people can live close/next to where they work and rebuild a tax base to support City services
City shouldn't be in this business
CPL has several programs that help those requiring the most support to establish themselves economically in Calgary. This spans from new Canadians to those interested in starting businesses or transitioning careers. This is truly valuable to our community
Creating economic growth and job creation greater than the value of the initial investment
Cut
Defund the arts
Develop a surf wave on the bow river. The cost/ benefit is through the roof on that project
Diversification of the economy (i.e., Business and Jobs). Significant infrastructure development (e.g., transit/trains).

Diversification of the economy and letting go of failing industries like the tar sands. We need to plan for the future, not cling to a dying past.
Diversification of the economy. No more oil and gas focused investment. Active transportation focused economic development
Diversification should be top of mind - we need something other than oil and gas; technology would be a good focus
Diversify economy
Diversifying our portfolio so Calgary is attractive to many industries
Do not defund our first responders
dont
Economic development is an important part of the future for Calgary but all ED projects MUST have accountability and measurable economical goals as a criteria for any expenditures.
Economic development looks to me like making Calgary business friendly, making new businesses financially viable more than anything.
Equity, innovation
[removed]
Focus on infrastructure improvements, keep a free market economy, tax dollars should go to services that are accessible for everyone. If you want to encourage business build an attractive vibrant and people/ pedestrian focused city.
Focus on tourism
Focusing on new technology's and tech investment.
Freedom of choice, no regulation, no taxation.
Government has no business in business
Great idea.
High value. Key for the housing market and economy. Low taxes and other barriers for small, medium and large businesses. Diversification away from oil and gas
How about supporting existing business instead of taking them to death. Missed a huge opportunity to partner with Tsuu Tina
I am very disappointed about losing the Olympics as it is weeks of free promotion & advertising the city as an international dynamic home & business hub.
I believe that in the year 2020 Calgary has grown to become quite well known worldwide. I don't believe many funds should be earmarked for promoting Calgary, especially in these current days when money should be spent elsewhere.
I don't believe we are getting bang for our buck here. It seems as though we are paying a lot of money for this for zero results. let's see some metrics and outcomes with respect to progress made with tax dollars and some transparency on the wages
I think it's important to have a diverse number of service partners
I think the city does a great job here.
I think this is great. Calgary is a beautiful city with a lot of available business space available.
I think this is very important as long as we are diversifying Calgary and innovating the site away from oil.
I think this should be one of the key points to focus on. Bring business here that will help provide jobs, opportunities and bring people to Calgary
I value this but at the same time feel the provincial govt needs to step up and do more

I'm a business owner where is my support? You upped my taxes but cut my services.
If the city was serious about economic development, it would stop catering to the private developers and start listening to its residents and other businesses. Redevelopment of established areas is far more cost effective than the ever expanding borders.
I'll to see actual resources available for citizens without any restrictions on age, or income. So people can make use of the city's support.
Immediate measurable success is required in this area. Is it truly value? Or are we chasing value instead?
Important
Important in terms of economic recovery.
Important to not only promote but maybe give some incentives to bring in business.
Important, we need to expand business and bring work to this city
In moderation.
In this economic climate, the city is wise to retain its business people and attract new ones.
Increasing economic participation for low-income Calgarians. CED takes a trickle down approach that benefits people who already have a lot of privilege and options. We need to see more of an equity focus in economic development work.
Innovation - Attracting new businesses to Calgary, with a focus on our local innovators and entrepreneurs.
Innovation and equity
Investment in corporate attraction is crucial to long-term econ sustainability. We can't ignore the energy industry which built so much of Calgary too! AND look after our other businesses that diversify our economy.
Investment in education and culture so we are an attractive city for people to want to live in. If our essentials services and cultural industries are constantly cut it sends a terrible message that we really don't have much to offer and we so do!
Investment in multiple areas, not just oil and gas.
Is every step forward in this area going to be undermined by two steps backwards by the provincial government? I think this is important but I'm frustrated by how contradictory Calgary is marketed. Are we cutting edge or stuck in the past?
It's always a good thing to promote new business, help entrepreneurs that means potentially more employment for others
least important
Lower business taxes
Maybe don't waste the municipal budget on an arena and invest in the tech sector. Wait too late.
Measurable results (jobs created/\$) and resources adjusted based on the economic situation at the time.
Needs to be efficient.
No business will move here if there are no police to deal with the high crime rates and city council wants to reduce response time by the Fire department!
No value.
Non-oil based businesses are the way to strengthen our base for the future. Fossil fuels can be a prosperous industry but when it busts, it really busts. Diversification needed please.
Only if services benefit the most, not only specific sectors.

Partners should have accountability and transparency on who is invested in and who is not - feedback is important and can be used to help others be more successful. Equal opportunity is very important here.
Priority 1 Value, all other categories are less value (priority 2)
Promote Calgary as a location to set up business
Promotes variety and diversity; looks for innovative solutions and industries and how to engage them so that citizens have job opportunities.
Promoting Calgary is a long-term value to the city, even if we don't see immediate fiscal results.
Promotion must be subject to rigorous measurement in terms of outcomes that align fully with the organization's mission statement and strategic priorities.
Provide an environment that attracts businesses and investment
Provide assistance for rent/tax relieve for limited time for new businesses.
Provide attractive programs for businesses to open. Invite high tech. Anything will work as soon as they are here and not somewhere else.
Provide interesting experiences for stay-cations and draw people from across the province to visit.
Real, measurable impacts from economic development efforts. Partnerships with other municipalities in the area should be formed to attract companies to the region.
Recognizing that a city needs its business owners to survive, but at the same time not kowtowing to that base as those people represent a small portion of those who live here.
reduce budget for the next 1-2 years or until covid is over
Reduce the top heavy management positions within the corporation, that would save us tax payers millions of dollars!!
Removing barriers to small businesses (such as foreign-owned property that they have to rent from) to keep more money LOCAL. Small businesses keep the majority of their money local. We gain nothing by them having to close.
repurpose/retrofit downtown office towers into combined residential and office space, change zoning so property management companies can pivot to provide new tax revenue for City services
Results based. Specific, measurable objectives. Sound business principles. Diversify beyond O&G
Return tax dollars to business from Economic Development Fund to allow business to prosper
Should be left up to private business and capital. Companies are best attracted to setup in a city by making the city a more attractive place to live (ie. parks, recreation, nightlife). These can be promoted through good urban design and cultural funding
Should be our top priority. If we don't invest in the economic viability of our City, our children will move away.
Show the innovators of the world that Calgary is a city of innovation: make all public transit fare-free. It would also be a huge boon to economic equity, social cohesion, and climate change. It will drastically change the way people view the city.
Showcase both the economic advantages and the human oriented opportunities, such as creativity, inclusivity, generosity, and diversity. Emphasize that these human factors are economically sound.
Spend only when you can ensure to get returns
Spend zero on incentives. Reduce regulation and red tape for starting businesses. Equalize tax burden between commercial and residential space.
stay out of the way of private business, do not subsidize businesses, promotion is good but the city needs benchmarks to prove it is effective.
Stop cutting taxes to dying industries, focus on renewable resources, tech, entertainment, ect

Stop incentives to move business here. Low taxes, simplified permits, city of Calgary needs to create a business environment. Reduce labour costs, union labour, including pensions should not be 1.5 to 3 times more expensive
Support for economic diversification, however it has to be focused on industries that can actually provide opportunities for economic development. Need to be ruthless in where we spend money on this front to actually see a return
Support for new businesses: easing regulatory hurdles and access to support for new Canadians to navigate bureaucracy. Active promotion of the tech sector to diversify away from O&G. Tax structure that fairly assesses the ability of the business to pay.
Support for small business
Support small local businesses. There are lots of young people seeing an opportunity to start something, but lack the means to start. Even free public education opportunities on business startup/management would be great!
Supporting businesses to settle in Calgary, supporting schools to train individuals in areas that support growth and innovation
Supporting local businesses and economic diversification to embrace the zero-carbon economy, move away from supporting oil and gas
Supporting small and locally owned businesses, making Calgary an attractive place for employers to bring jobs.
Supporting small, local business is the way to go. Supporting multinationals? No thanks. Local entrepreneurs? Absolutely! Local innovators? Absolutely! Bring in Canadian companies to our city? Absolutely! Multinationals like Amazon? No thanks.
Tax benefits for companies, do not spend money you don't have on advertising.
The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city
The city should do a better job at attracting new economic development.
The city should have control over development, but the red tape process is overwhelming to most and they give up. This means losing many good ideas.
The economic benefit of attracting and retaining young, educated, and diverse people is immense and should be included in economic development and viewed as an import and stimulus to the economy. Value for economic devt. means attracting young people.
The Opportunity Calgary Investment Fund has not demonstrated successful return on investment for citizens and the optics of how the program has been managed continues to erode public trust. OCIF should be abolished.
The partners should attract investment in areas that help diversify Calgary's economy.
The province is smothering us; anything that can pitch Calgary is great but Kenney & CO's provincial policies make this an uphill battle. I strongly support Calgary working to bring new, diverse industries here.
There is so much empty office space throughout the city, especially downtown. Promote these places, and mandate a fixed rent or lease so they're affordable to entrepreneurs and new businesses.
There's obviously the overwhelming need to attract business back to the city, though I believe it can mostly begin to fix itself once Covid has passed. Small incentives and assistance is never a bad thing, but only if we can afford to help sooner

These are unprecedented times. Let's be smart and take care of what we have. We have tried to encourage business to come here for a while now with limited success. Take care of US the taxpayer now.
These should be low cost but effective services.
This city and province are in the dumpster. We absolutely need to diversify and there needs to be more programs for entrepreneurs and financial resources available for entrepreneurs.
This is a big concern in a time when job loss is at an all time high. I think we need to support innovators and those who are opening diverse businesses that hire high numbers of people.
This is a MUST right now, as we are seeing a forced shift from petroleum energy business. We must attract new business to increase the tax base.
This is a top priority. Having studied and lived across Canada and many other international location, Calgary is still seen as a non innovative "oil and gas" focused city. It needs to better differentiate itself. This is currently being done by the CED.
This is an essential and necessary to help pull the city out of this recession
This is important but must be done right. Not like the province paying for people in houston
This is important but we also need to balance helping existing businesses survive during this tough time.
This is important, but current CED operations focus too much on status quo rather than needed innovation/diversity.
This must be encouraged as the future is small and new business
This should be a secondary concern. People first and investment / economic benefits will follow.
This should be measured based on cost per number of direct jobs created, with some criteria on the quality of jobs, ie some sort of multiplier for jobs that pay more than medium income in Calgary.
This should be on the forefront of the city's agenda! Attract business. Do not scare them away with unreasonable bureaucracy and taxes.
This would be ideal as we need as much economic development as we can get these days.
Thoughtful, useful, no changes needed beyond usual examination of budgets to ensure value.
Total cut
Value is actively engaging with businesses to determine their needs and to develop joint ventured outreach to new businesses. Promoting tourism from other provinces and countries.
Value is when there is a return on investment. Committees, ThinkTanks, Working Groups - give them up.
Value looks again like efficient spending, but strong supports for innovators, entrepreneurs.
Value looks like investing in Calgary as a Film hub; there is so much potential for studios to thrive here. Economic develop looks like investing in a future that doesn't rely on oil and gas.
Value needed if they plan to diversify our economy
VERY bold and authentic partnership marketing. Every city in the world is doing this. So we need to support really innovative projects and initiatives -- that will substantively deliver on the promise.
Very important
Very Important
Very important to me
Very important.
Way more support and promotion for local and family owned bussiness

We desperately need to diversify our economy, we can't rely on oil anymore and must invest in attracting emerging new industries, be it technology, green innovation or something brand new.
We need to attract new sectors like clean energy and AI/robotics. Supporting entrepreneurs is important.
When new communities are being built, they should reflect how maintenance practices will be like before they buy.
Who gets to travel the world for free while telling everyone how fab we are?
With out economic development other partners can not exist ie art and culture.
Wonderful long standing goal. Have to address better why Calgary vs RedDeer etc. Any incentives though have to be well overseen to see that promises are met.
Work with the province instead of fighting with them.
Yes I think this is very important and we need to support a diversification of our economy attract industries besides just oil and gas. Also Calgarians being able to work for companies outside of Calgary with new work from home capabilities.
You won't be able to if you promote wasteful spending. Increase essential services, decrease non essential services and grow the economy, that's how you promote investment.
Zero value
During this time of economic upset and corporate retrenchment I do not see any value in spending monies on business promotion. Calgary as a business hub is certainly well known to the Canadian corporate community. Spend nothing on promotion now.
Mentorships and having a hub to connect different resources may be a cost efficient approach to providing resources.
This is one of my prime interests. We have a ton of good talent here - let's refocus this in a post-petroleum world to attract new industry
It means jobs are created, small businesses thrive or at least stay afloat, and more people are able to improve their economic situation.
I think economic development needs to be innovative. Calgary and Alberta as a whole needs to expand what this looks like and not repeat patterns of the past.
To attract new business and diversify the economy we just have more than just the mountains. People must be able to live work and play IN our city - let's not forget our history - innovators and entrepreneurs were critical then and now and in the future
More economy support for business with less regulations or barriers, in order for business to create more revenue for city services
Business growth, and diversification.
CADA, CED, Heritage Calgary, the Library, Tourism, and Sport, Platform are all things that attract investment and innovation to the city. Love the new central Library (it puts our city on the map and is open to all)
I appreciated the City's effort to bring Amazon here; however, rather than have one big employer who will be able to push the City around, instead try to bring in 10 smaller employers. Training for potential local entrepreneurs would help.
I would like to see as a priority, assistance for small and local businesses
The City can continue to provide tax incentives, but I think a collaboration/think tank with universities, businesses and business owners is needed to target specific segments.
Very Important as a value
I expect this type of investment will lead to jobs for Calgarians.

I hope Calgary can survive economically in these difficult times by attracting investment.
Promoting should be done using private companies that bid on the work competitively, and are evaluated based on results.
Heavier tax on foreign investors.
Efficiency
Encouraging business and attracting investment is important but spend limited money on the actions that will make the biggest difference.
Being able to offer a diverse economy with many ways to thrive as well as key infrastructure such as a strong transit system is key for attracting and encouraging business development and attracting and keeping skilled workers. commitment to reconciliation
Attract, support diversification into clean growth areas: tech and green energy businesses
I would like services that promote and support small businesses, keep large businesses accountable to us and have the maintain strict environmental and public mandates. For entrepreneurs, opportunities to be supported locally instead of sourcing from afar
Fire. Nench and cut taxes
Imao...who wants to invest here...taxs are through the roof...
We desperately need investment in economic development. We need diversity in this area beyond oil and gas.
Continue to promote to film industry, craft breweries and the green economy
Also needs to focus on community economic development with capacity building and opportunities for the under employed. The community hubs, youth employment centre and social work play a vital part in this.
Create work specially for woman and youth. Work with long term benefits and growth
This seems important depending on how the money is spent, if spent wisely
Supporting entrepreneurs through business development and mentorship and efforts to diversify the economy - ensuring that talent does not leave Calgary simply because oil and gas is suffering.
Targeting investment that will bring jobs and opportunities to Calgarians.
This is an excellent team. My wife and I disagree strongly with 100 million Dollar fund to award money to businesses That may bring jobs. This is a slippery slope of And once you start Offering these kind of Subsidies You will not be able to get out of it.
The city need to re invent the cart wheel and stop living on the past oil and gas industry. Start looking a tech comanys who will enyothe fact we have an international airport on hand
Innovation is important to diverisfy our economy to expand into sectors previously not considered. Promoting our city to investors in innovation helps us move the dial on liviblity and draw people to our city.

Participant comments: arts and culture

What does value look like and what are your expectations for partnernships that focus on: Arts and Culture: Services may include performance venues, and grants to support arts and cultural organizations.

?
A \$100m slush fund spent on junkets around the globe is not what we want. You have no sense of how budgets and business Development runs in the real world. [removed]
A city's character is shown by it's Arts and Culture. We should embrace that aspect of Calgary.

A diverse range of arts and culture experiences, experiences at different price points so that many Calgarians can participate, and age range.
A given. However I have noted that there are two Calgary's. The close burbs are neglected and need to develop everything on their own.
Accessibility, equity, innovation, diversity.
Adds no value to the city's bottom line and does not fill vacant office towers
administration could be cut back to offset costs
Affordability is a struggle for many arts and cultural organizations. A variety should be supported (going back to equal opportunity as well).
Again, the province is smothering the arts so more burden is on the city to help. Money to help make arts accessible or create innovative exhibitions is very important.
Art and culture is one of the areas where we must not spend for projects during these incredibly hard economic times. We don't need more "Big blue circles" or "rocks and iron" art on bridges. Its more critical to fix dangerous bridges. Its common sense
Arts and culture are so important but you need to make sure other basic services are covered first like : education, fire response, health, etc.
Arts and Culture funding needs to be better balanced between keeping our large institutions afloat and creating new opportunities and supporting new forms of art for younger generations. Support innovation instead of propping up the big players.
Arts and culture is not often priotized but it is very important and we should support local and especailly indigious artists.
Arts and Culture should take a backseat instead of increasing our taxes to support them. Desperate times call for desperate measures and the city should be slashing the Arts and Culture budget to give people a break, instead of just arbitrarily increasing
Arts are important. However, many decisions sadly reflect a questionable vision of what is beauty and enriching, uplifting art. Sometimes shoving unpalatable "politically correct" visual concepts down throats and using taxpayers' money is unacceptable.
Arts should be a low priority when the city can't afford to maintain current services.
As A Artist Myself -The Arts Are A Very Important Venue To Our Cultural Part Of Our Society In General
As long as the performance venues aren't focused on one area only as in sports.
As long as we can do this cost efficiently without raising user fees or taxes.
being a modern city...with a modern municipal government. In addition to modern, world class is also expected. World class venues for sport and entertainment.
But a hold on funding for now - times are tough
Canadian artists!
Cancel all arts programs!
CPL partners with many other arts and culture organizations, creating content, programming, and events that integrate Calgarians as one broad community. This conscious partnering creates a rich network that supports Calgarians from all walks of life!
Create opportunities for Calgarians and visitors to enjoy their community and decrease the need for them to travel elsewhere to have top cultural experiences.
Creating opportunities for artists and increasing low income access to experience arts & culture
cultural events are important when jobs and economic opportunity is tight -
Cut

Cut A&C until we have a large surplus.
Cut Arts Funding. Need lower taxes so people can afford to live rather than buy art / theatre
Cut back to only a few well run organizations. No money for cancel culture.
Cut, cut, cut. Sorry but you are very non essential. This is a big want and not a need, cut it!
Defund the arts
Develop and pursue realistic and sustainable strategic and business plans that bring demonstrable value and measurable outcomes to Calgarians.
Disagree. Budget should be reduced or scrapped. Waste of time
Do not defund our first responders
Don't forget the Arts but be mindful of budget percentages
dont
Economic advantages may be enough to attract people initially, but without culture few may choose to stay. I don't know anyone who choses to live near the oil sands by choice or for the culture.
Enable access to city resources (venues, streets, etc) to promote events that will draw both tourism and create a culture that attracts new residents.
equity, specialization, innovation, affordability, diversity, visibility
Far too much money has been spent/Wasted on art in the city. The blue ring looks ridiculous and the Peace bridge cost way too much money.
Film/theatre industry needs major support. Massive loss of industry occuring in province and city.
Get rid of the arts commission. Digital surveys of all proposed art installations. If indigenous involvement is desired, go to the source for art. Certainly promote the each proposal with the treaty centers
Giant waste of money
Government has no business spending tax dollars on art
Grants to keep facilities in good repair
Grants to support arts
Grants to support arts, affordable arts opportunities in schools
Greatest area for improvement is decision making over public art - Resources are wasted when people don't realize that painting over an existing mural in good condition is going to be controversial and the Chinese Cultural Centre isn't the place for BLM!
I am not supportive of increases in spending on arts and culture. The city of Calgary does not need to provide these services as private vendors will do it and most of this benefit goes to people who can afford to pay for a play ticket already
I believe arts & culture programs should be cut during these difficult economic times. Money should be saved not spent on "extras"until the economy has recovered.
I do not wish to have my tax dollars spent on arts and culture. This money can be spent on police and fire services.
I expect that Calgary encourages events, investing in venues and organizations that make cultural events possible. Calgary needs to do more in terms of grants to make this place in Alberta stand out.
I like living in a city with affordable access to many different types of arts and culture
I really appreciate the variety of public art throughout the city.
I think of the horrible use of tax payer money on public art still weighs heavily on tax payer minds.
I think the city does a great job here

I think the city has done a terrible job of this and have a hard time getting behind this. From the blue light circle, to the new area in the midst of cutting services. Things like heritage park are amazing but need to be creative to bring back value.
I think the value of this area is intertwined with Tourism. It will be difficult to attract visitors is we don't have either the attractions or arts scene to keep visitors engaged (and not simply heading the mountains). Donor area?
If its important it shouldn't need subsidies.
I'm all for arts and culture, but they cannot be deemed an essential expenditure in these times. I don't believe arts and culture disappear without extensive city investment
I'm sick of essential services being cut for things that look pretty. Pretty things don't save lives and provide long term economic stability. When we have more tax base then yes, not now.
important
In these economic times money should be spent on services to citizens, not raising taxes for arts and culture
Increase funding to outdoor interactive art exhibits, museums
Increased funding for public arts (e.g. art displays). Increased funding to programs like BUMP (like Edmonton's RUST festival), demonstrates creative ways to improve community character and investment value.
Incubating places and groups that are marginalized and can't access investment. Provide non-monetary support such as simplifying permits and bylaws to remove barriers, and incorporating local artists into city promotions
Innovation - Competing with other major cities (conferences, concerts, sports teams) and development of specialized attractions fitting of our heritage.
Innovation and equity
Instead of funding large development corporations(who can only really provide minimum wage service jobs), fund the actual creators & innovators.
Investing heavily in the arts to make our city vibrant and worth living in
Investment in Arts and Culture needs to drive tourism or foot traffic to the city.
It is important to foster the cultural aspect of Calgary to educate the current population and attract and retain future talent. Moreover tourism is an essential aspect of the city's diversification
It might be a good opportunity to revise the budget when it comes to senseless art sculptures (blue ring, COP rocks etc) and divert this money or at least part of it towards mental health.
It would be good to make available a parking lot or any other venue so different groups can organize an event. Example: a day of art, any artist can pay a fee to expose their art/ the city will earn this money and I bet many people would volunteer to orga
It would be nice to see more performances and concerts in our city.
Keep grants local and small to increase people's opportunities and NO MORE spending on things like the blue circle, it adds nothing. Spend as if you are a single mom living right on the poverty line.
Kinda already dropped the ballOn that with wasting so much then not going forward with the olympics
Less projects like the big blue zero. More public input into decisions
Less public art installations during times of austerity.
Let economic redevelopment market arts and culture's beautiful submission for 2021

Let's support the organizations that show efficiency and collaboration. Many organizations may not survive these COVID times. Don't cut organizational so much that they are really not viable but maybe support organizations that are lean and efficient.
Likely City should get out of this business and just leave to CADA solely. Public art was very badly handled for far too long, just fund some support to CADA instead so its more nimble and get out of arts and culture internally completely.
Looking the kind of art around the city, it is better if the City stays outside of it.
Many venue upgrades have already been approved - this should not be a funding priority until the new arena, BMO centre and Arts Commons upgrades can start creating a return on investment. Cultural investment should be open, not targeted to specific ones.
Medium. Like the murals and art projects
More funding for the arts that include ethnocultural works, support for public art and programs, as well as festivals.
More grants. More opportunities and support for BLM, lgbtq2s+ and Indigenous communities
more street art and performance in different neighbourhoods, affordable venu
More support for grassroots arts that promote accessibility for all.
Much more effective at attracting companies and young people which drive economic development.
Multi-purpose venues that can be utilized for accessible arts & culture as well as rented out to offset those costs.
Needs to be efficient, affordable (little impact to my tax) and accessable to all people.
No civic money should be used for art and culture.
No clue
No grants for arts or culture.
No grants/support for arts at this time. This is not a necessity at this time.
No one wants to live in a cultural wasteland. Famous cities that attract millions of tourists do so for their arts and culture. I think this reimagining of Calgary will move us out of being known only for oil and gas and present Calgary as world class
No value. Not the city's job.
No. I buy art. I don't need the City to do that. At all.
Not important at all!!!
Not important now. Economy is struggling.
Not important.
Not right now, unless they produce revenue
Not supportive during economic downturn, this is where hard decisions must be made.
Not sure
not sure, but working on attarcting internationally recognized artists in terms of ballet, theatre, phillarmonics, art expos, etc. besides country music and stampede kind of acts, there is cery limited culture offerings of high quality, feels small town.
Not with our current economic client.
Opportunities open to all Calgarians.
Outdoor permanent art, opportunity for public to participate virtually, some at home classes via rec.
Priority 2 (lower value), let private sector create & evolve this.

Program outdoor venues such as Riley Park bandstage on a daily basis during the summer. It is an outdoor venue and citizens can safely social distance. Reduce the Police budget by 20% and put those funds into community outreach, art and music programs.
Programs should focus on public art rather than vendors/ venues. I love Calgary's public art scene and think the city is on the right track.
Promoting arts to students, maybe in-house performances. Free performances in high profile public venues to jointly promote tourism.
Provide an environment that attracts appropriate shows and artists
Provide resources for public realm improvements in Chinatown. Need multi-lingual, culturally-appropriate representative to work as community ambassador and liaison between City and Chinatown.
Providing services for the broad population at little or no charge to individuals. Large profitable organizations don't need public funding.
Recognizing that a contemporary city is known for what it can offer people beyond just a house. Especially in the COVID-19 era and after, cities will attract people through the culture they offer.
Reduce the top heavy management positions within the corporation, that would save us tax payers millions of dollars!!
Right now is the time to cut back on arts and culture.
Seriously. Scrap this unnecessary topic while other life saving services like our fire dept and police are having to cut services to fit within a box.
Should limit money spent on these types of things until better days. These are not needed at all in this challenging time
Some support may be warranted BUT focus needs to be placed first on reducing City costs to keep value producing Calgary business open and competitive and attract others. We need jobs in private sector to generate taxes first b4 we spend on A&C.
Sorry, but although I personally think these important and vital, they do not meet basic needs criteria. I would rather the fire or EMS dep't show up on time so I can enjoy the arts another day when we can afford to help support arts. rts better
Spend zero. If people want to see the arts they can pay for it.
Stop spending money on ridiculous art pieces and continue to fund organizations to enhance our A&C initiatives.
Stop the art projects!
Stop wasting money and this when in a depression and dealing with a pandemic. This is the first thing that should be eliminated, not doctors or firefighters.d
STOP!!!!!! Colossal waste of our hard earned money
Support through improved access to city-owned spaces for grassroots orgs. Promote events, provide funding for organizations focused on marginalized communities.
Supporting experiences and opportunities to create joy, spark thoughtful discussion and support community connections
The art scene will need help but every penny should be allocated to local artists
The Arts are the lifeblood of not only a city but a society. Calgary has historically struggled in this area compared to, say, Edmonton or Montreal or Toronto. We need to do far more here than we are now.
The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city

The city take a “buying art is easy when it’s not your money” approach. When questioned by the public they give an “un cultured people don’t understand art” answer. 100% of the art fund should support local artists
The funds provided should be reasonable and provided to organizations that all Calgarians can access.
There is a shortage of art and culture events in the City. But first make sure people have jobs. Then the money can be spent on art and culture. Not before the jobs.
These are nice to haves
They need to be self suffecient.
This is a must for me arts and culture are what holds community together and Calgary is in my opinion lacking in this area.
This is a want not a need. Cut here first.
This is critical to a livable city that is desirable for residents and visitors.
This is important for health
This is very important to build community.
This is vital to the prosperity of a city IMO. However, money needs to be directed to proper channels with consultation of Calgarians. Let's avoid the Blue Ring and concrete death towers and let the public have their say where that 1% goes.
This leads to actual vibrancy in our city.
This should be 100% defended. Any amounts budgeted for arts and culture should be given to police and fire departments.
Time to cut non essential services and focus on emergency and essential services. I can't believe we are even having this discussion. Time to step up and lead, and make critical designs that affect our lives and safety. Everything else comes after that.
Total cut
Unsure
Value comes from Calgarians taking part in Calgarian things. Not having to go to other cities for a taste of culture and entertainment.
Value for me here is that arts are inclusive, uncensored, and accessible. One example, Indigenous artist are invited and welcomed to express their art and culture as they see fit.
Value right now looks like supporting the major players in Calgary's arts world who are already lean, and foregoing expenditure on festivals, street events, small attendance/ fringe events
Venues
Venues would work as they could make money to support the facility. Love arts but think of other ways to promote without writing a cheque from the taxpayers. Until the economy improves we don't have allot of money for frills like art.
Very important for locals and maintaining Calgary's status as a world class city.
Waste - we are suffering this should be cut until we ar well on the road to recover
We cannot afford additional costs in this area. Focus on core services. Why are we cutting the Fire Department for this?
We can't afford it. Sorry. Maybe in times of plenty.
We have a great arts community. Lets keep it alive and vibrant.
We need to support the Arts Commons expansion, and increase funding for arts organizations and public arts. This includes affordable studio & rehearsal space, and subsidized artist housing.

Welcoming and emotional high quality experiences.
Well advertised, accessible grants (especially for BIPOC creators) are necessary, as is funding for venues, organizations, and services. I think the Central Library is an incredible example of an arts hub and public service that received world attention!
Who cares. Let artists express themselves on their own and let the community judge them.
why are we granting \$ to a select few special interests. Concentrate on core services.
Would be nice if the city provides every family with at least 5 free passes to see a cultural venue that sometimes is difficult to pay for. And help the community to immerse themselves on cultural matters.
Yes important to have arts and culture. I would expect the city to support local artists and projects that are also diverse and inclusive.
You need to stop this. Emergency services is far more important than art. Nenshi needs to stop wasting millions on this
Zero I repeat zero worth.
Zero interest on arts and culture, there should not be 1 cent spent on this
Zero value
Zero value.
Zero promotions and expense.
Cut performance venues to zero and reduce A&C expenses to bare subsistence levels.
Arts and cultures are important to the mental health of Calgarians but I dont think providing financial support to venues is currently the right step.
Arts are important, but right now, we desperately need to improve our economy and our standing in Canada. The provincial government will not do anything to support.
Value means we have a diverse and thriving cultural community where all levels of artists (emerging, mid-career and established) have the opportunity to find an audience. Calgary supports arts and culture as a way to build a civic identity.
Make this accessible for all - regardless of income.
A City with strong arts and culture programs and systems attract more development an innovation than those that do not. I think that strong Arts and Culture investments benefit all citizens
You cannot have a world class city without arts and culture - from the artists through to venues we must ensure a thriving arts culture and also ensure accessibility for all.
The city can help with venues and promotion of the arts but the arts needs to create a sustainable business plan
Support local artists
Arts Commons, CADA, CED, Heritage Calgary, the Library, convention centre, zoo, fort calgary, heritage park, and the list goes all. Without all these things to attract talent and celebrate who our city is and our people, why would you want to live here?
Not a priority right now. Rather than support specific artists or cultural organizations, support people's ability to make art by financially supporting art and music classes. Please do not spend money on public art. They're invariably an embarrassment.
Arts and culture are important to a society. Support for our local theatrical, musical and arts based organizations both large and small, are important to be able to keep ticket prices affordable, and therefore keep the arts scene sustainable
As a low income earner I see these as a luxury and am content using our parks and walking through historic neighbourhoods.

Important as a value
Investment in arts and culture is important, and all great cities are committed to it.
Services in this sector shine a light on society and should be supported. The arts and culture sector also provides jobs for Calgarians and should be supported.
The library is a big part of my life. Thank you for investing in Calgary Public Library.
If spending money, it should be done using local artists and companies. The outdated noise bylaw should be modified to allow major outdoor events and concerts that bring millions to the city. Right now these are all bypassing and going to Edmonton.
Like Edmonton Art Walk/ Fringe in the summer.
Equity
When we need to save money and budgets are tight such as right now, we don't have the luxury of spending money on arts and culture. It does not need to be subsidized by the City, it can be privately run.
This is so important to our city. Grants to encourage creative endeavours, arts and culture education, encouraging diverse voices/stories, and also finding a way to make these accessible to everyone is valuable.
Invest in world-class quality, not mediocrity. Make available to all.
to me this looks like not putting arts and culture as an afterthought. This is a strong and vibrant part of our city and there are many arts agencies, programs and services that engage citizens through the arts or bring tourists to our city. Important!
Fire. Nench and cut taxes. Get rid of the million dollar circle ○□ embarrassing
oh joy..more garbage art
This would be great - but if we're talking about defunding essential service like Police, I have a hard time with the idea of funding theater productions..
Instead of using development dollars to outsource giant public art sculptures build affordable community studios and invest in existing attys organizations
need to continue developing vibrancy for all, not just with mega entertainment centres but for grassroots arts and cultural groups. Groups like Antyx in the SE/NE working with youth need access to space and support.
Programs that support education, opening the eyes of kids and youth to the world and its people
Do we really have money for this right now. Probably not, except if it leads to lots of economic benefit.
Supporting arts and cultural organizations large and small. Thriving culture and art scene is a reason people choose to live in a place.
I like the idea of supporting art but there has to be more community engagement. The recent fiasco associated with BLM murals is an example. Please continue to support the CPO so more people can experience their great performances.
I am familiar with the concept to expand the art center. I think the concept is flawed And spends access Money For a glazed foyer. This money should be going towards the facility is required by the Art Center
We have wasted enough money on art that is unnecessary in this time
Efficiency needs to be considered. These venues and cultural components are building blocks not just for entertainment value, but also health and education.

Participant comments: tourism

What does value look like and what are your expectations for partnerships that focus on Tourism Services: may include promoting Calgary as a vacation destination, and attracting events.

?
Again in moderation.
Again, desperate times call for desperate measures, Tourism dollars should take a backseat instead of arbitrarily increasing taxes, taking more money away from citizens.
Again, I fail to see the transparency and return on the spend here.
Again, this focus needs to include redevelopment and revitalization of established communities. Save money by spending on upgrading infrastructure instead of ever expanding. Make areas vibrant and people will visit.
Agree
As long as we can do this cost efficiently without raising user fees or taxes.
As someone who works in tourism, I love this.
Attracting new musical and arts events
Being able to demonstrate success through data, being reasonably affordable, using cutting-edge and multiple marketing methods, advertising to many different peoples.
Calgary as a destination in itself (not just Banff/mountains), emphasis on Calgary arts, culture, and heritage, focus on walkability, criteria to help orgs contribute to the strategy and fill gaps in what Calgary has to offer
Calgary doesn't need much promotion
Calgary has so much to offer outside our city limits; I feel like there's more that can be done to promote the city itself. Like, we have Stampede and we have Banff, but attracting more events/festivals/conferences/expos may help make us a destination!
Calgary in itself isn't a great tourist destination. Banff and the mountains are. I don't think investment in this has value
Calgary is not a vacation designation. Stampede, winter skiing, that's it. Just focus on the economy.
Calgary loves outdoor festivals, more would be great, but again they are a bonus and shouldn't take away from basic needs being met. Citizens should be taken care of first. We can't have Texan's riding bulls to win \$\$ When people are sleeping rough
Calgary needs areas that attracts tourists. Currently this is just a stop for people wanting to go to Banff
Calgary needs more events! It needs to show luxury and endless possibilities.
Calgary Stampede
Calgary will be a destination based on people going to Banff, there is not a huge need to spend dollars on its own as it will always attract the peripheral from the Mountain parks
Calgary will become interesting on its own if you give people more freedoms.
City shouldn't be in this business
Covid killed tourism. This probably won't be relevant for a couple years
Create a culture of promoting tourism for all businesses. Fund improvement of tourist attractions (NOT the Stampede or Banff)
Creating and supporting profitable events - excited to see what the new winter carnival is about
Currently doing what is needed to attract people across Canada. More work needs to be done internationally.

Cut
Cut all spending until July 2021
Defund the arts
Depending on revenue it brings in and tax dollars raised. Not a focus if those two things are not the primary goals
develop some winter attractions during ski season when people are going to Banff and not everything in the stampede basket
Do not defund our first responders
dont
Efficiency (work with Alberta as many of the attractions to Calgary are found nearby (Banff, Canmore, etc).
efficiency, diversity, affordability, equity
Focus efforts on regional tourism. It's the obvious position given COVID, but regional tourism also has the least climate impacts.
Focus on creating vibrant public spaces that encourage a night life. Let social media do the marketing for you. Dont waste public dollars on shitty advertising.
Good for the economy but not something that is essential
Great idea.
Green tourism
Hard to do now given the current context. I support pitching for major events in the future (conferences at Stampede, Olympics). Tourism \$ to support local culture (businesses, museums, arts) will help give Calgary an edge in a tight market.
Having a regular winter event like the xgames could create a new tourist season.
helping an important part of our economy navigate ongoing crisis.
Highlights local experiences (restaurant industry, local makers, etc.)
hire someone who can use free promotions to the max on social media
How about promoting to people who live here and pay the bills. Citizens should get a break on admission. Open the Glenbow evenings and weekends so people can learn about our heritage.
I agree with promoting Calgary to tourists, however I would say we need better investment in infrastructure to support More tourists (I.e. more parking/more affordable parking in popular tourist areas)
I can think of anything of value to provide here.
I see tourism as part of the overall Economic Development plan so any projects should have measurable goals focusing on immediate, short term results. I see Tourism as a big part of the transformation of Calgary's economy.
I think Edmonton has
I think there are only a few things that are bringing people to Calgary, the stampede, and Banff. It would be smart to create more year round tourism and bring creative how that is done
I think we need to focus on shopping and staying local. Travel will not rebound for awhile.
Important
Important
Important to bring investment and dollars to our City.

In Covid times for the foreseeable future yet (another year or two?), it doesn't seem it would be a need to promote tourism. With travel bans, restrictions in place in industry, and the cancellation of big events we shouldn't need to promote much
In the midst of a worldwide pandemic..... please save some money in this area
Increased funding for Summer events. Less restrictions on public drinking (i.e. no restrictive "beer garden" areas). Less focus on family events (we are the youngest province in Canada after all), perhaps having "Adult Nights" at festivals as a compromise
Incubating marginalized groups like indigenous tourism, or tourism that supports multiple objectives like sustainability. Otherwise it needs to demonstrate specific return on investment
Innovation and equity
Investment in tourism, events, and attractions needs to grow. Especially in the winter. Value is abundance and appeal. No tourism brochure will ever say "Come see our low property taxes"
Investments in tourism need to increase the number of visitors to the city.
Is Calgary truly a destination? Hockey games and Stampede, perhaps; ultimately, YYC is a gateway to the Rockies and this is what Calgary cashes in on.
It would be good to put in a calgary website the things to do each day. So anyone can pay a fee to promote an event. It's hard to find what to do, would be great to have it condensed in one page
It's not but you could find a way to tie it into Banff that's a vacation destination
Less important to me
Limited investment.
Lots skip Calgary because we don't have much summer or swimmable lakes. It's winter here for 2/3 of the year and we do t have any good indoor swimming or amusement parks like Edmonton. In the winter they skip is to go skiing.
Maybe not so much of a focus right now...but once Covid is over I think it'll be a slow process to return
Maybe the fancy new stampede convention centre will attract people...lol.
Meh
Must promote with the times.
Need to really advance this. Need more tourism.
Needs to be efficient, and affordable.
No increases. This area should not a priority for funding, particularly the old Convention Centre as their work is not relevant to the economic health or community vitality of the city, and brings no value to Calgarians in its current state
None. The province of Alberta can fund tourism advertising.
Not a priority right now.
Not clear why the city has a role here.
Not important now. Economy is struggling.
Not much value to be provided here until Pandemic is over
Not needed in challenging times. People know what we have and will come regardless
Not sure on value. YYC is usually a stepping stone for banff.
Not sure we are getting NEW tourism out of this investment, seems to be just support of same old same old. Rethink mandate, and require truly NEW tourism delivery return on investment (not just organic growth in traffic of same stuff)
Nothing to say

Partner with surround areas to generate travel opportunities. Co-ordinated efforts with Banff and Canmore should minimize redundant efforts.
People will naturally want to come to a clean, safe city.
Priority 2 (lower value)...let private sector create this element.
Promote Calgary as a vacation destination
Promote heavily. Focus on attracting Canadians during COVID
Promote our western heritage, stick to what works, we are not Europe so stop trying to change us into something we are not. We have snow for half of year, promote that aspect, not cycling.
Promote the new cavalry soccer team as well as the okotoks dawgs. Not everyone cares about hockey or the flames
Promote to visitors during COVID makes no sense
Promotion should be to Canadians for the foreseeable future.
Provide a multipass fee/brochure for city attractions for travellers to enjoy that provide a savings value.
Provide resources for public realm improvements in Chinatown.
reduce budget until after covid
Reduce the top heavy management positions within the corporation, that would save us tax payers millions of dollars!!
Right now I see less value in heavily promoting Calgary. Let Alberta and the Rockies do the job.
Right now this low on the priority list
See the above surf wave project
Should be secondary to the needs of those who live in Calgary.
Similar to the above answer (a city's culture is what will bring people to it to visit, and perhaps to live).
somewhat important
Somewhat important
Somewhat important.
Spending here needs to be at least self suffieient.
Support may be warranted BUT and funds deployed need to demonstrate value to Calgarians and Calgary businesses. Business case must support jobs in private sector to generate taxes.
Sure, let's bring in others to our city. Ideally not Americans, but I'd love to have more travellers from across Canada and elsewhere in the world!
Sustainable, year-round toursim, not just focused on 10 days in July.
Tax dollars are best spent by taxpayers...cut taxes
Team up with Tourism Alberta instead of duplicating their work.
Teaming up with economic development to promote Calgary. Business brings tourism and vice versa.
The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city
The new arena, BMO centre and Arts Commons upgrades will hopefully do much of this for the City in the long-term. Focusing on short-term, less expensive projects should be sufficient until then.
The new event centre was already approved so...
The New York Times featured the Central Library, bringing visitors from all over the world to YYC.
There are already people doing this.

There is no point in promoting Calgary as a vacation destination if there is nothing here to SEE. We have sub-par museums, galleries and children's attractions- start there.
These should be low cost but effective services.
This is important, but Tourism Calgary needs to modernize.
This is most difficult during COVID to solicit acceptable tourists. Combine this group with economic development to promote a Calgary lifestyle. Use this group to promote infrastructure to potential businesses
This is not a great time for that. Tourism Calgary is better to attract new business, place to live..
Total cut
Tourism is steady and should not be increased
Tourism means nothing until the city stop with the covid nonsense.
Tourism promotion must be subject to rigorous measurement in terms of outcomes that align fully with the organization's mission statement and strategic priorities and clearly help position Calgary favourably nationally and internationally.
Tourism should always be a focus, during good economic times
Tourism should not be directly promoted. Arts, cultural, recreation, parks and urban design should be funded which in turn drives the attractiveness of the city for tourists.
Tremendous value.
Unsure
Vacation destination
Value is seeing the new convention site and other local offerings marketed and increase in tourists and tourists from events. This is an important part of Calgary's economy. And many local business rely on this marketing support
Variety of ways to enjoy Calgary, from big events to ease of access to beautiful, fun and easy public spaces. Stuff to do and enjoy at any budget.
Very difficult in current times but I think the city does a great job of promoting Calgary
Very important
Very Important To Promote Tourism And Make Sure That The Tourists Know What Alberta Has To Offer
Very important.
We are blessed with being a gateway to one of the worlds best natural environments, decisions such as cancelling the X-games recently are tragically short sighted as the exposure attracts tourism and dollars from across the world
We definitely need more tourists. Social media can provide more info. Use trip advisor format to promote events with an option to leave a comment, photos etc. This will give a more lively effect than just brochures.
We need to actual assets to promote, and a way to connect them (getting there is half the fun. Think of gondolas in Venice, or horse buggies in Quebec, or rickshaws in India.)
We need to be pairing family tourism, with Alberta's UNESCO Sites & attractions, while working towards being the affordable Conference Centre of Canada.
We need to promote tourism as much as possible.
We need to show everyone how beautiful is our city and promote small business as ways to attract people to share how we live and work together.
We spend far too much on this and get little in return.

we want to bring tourism in and the funds that they bring into the community
When we are through this emergency situation, then resume work on promotion, not now
Who would want to come here with crime on the rise
Why paying employees that have no skin in the game? Let the hotels and other structures do this autonomously. Just reduce taxes.
With covid this is less important for now but will matter once travel is back to normal.
With the new arena and conference centre, I feel this is a perfect time to LONG RANGE plan what tourism can look like. Engage volunteers more in this area. Look for innovations in Europe to lead the way
Without the new stadium in place - long overdue not likely to get much bang for the buck beyond what is already happening.
Work with local businesses who wish to be represented.
Wouldn't something like the Olympics be great for tourism!
Yes - we need Stampede and a new Saddledome
Yes a vital cog to help our economy grow and diversify.
Yes this is important but not a good idea during COVID. Once this is over, then promote Calgary.
Yes! And a great place for international business, conferences, sport events.
Yes, interesting architecture like our Peace Bridge, etc. St. Patrick's island are all very important.
yes, promote Calgary as a tourist destination but don't do it at the expense of other things mentioned above
yes, this is also an important aspect of Calgary, we are a gateway to the mountains and have a rich western history that we should promote and support
Yikes
Your attempts at promoting Tourism is pathetic. Spending thousands of dollars on flashy videos doesn't attract tourists
Zero value
Zero promotions and expense.
Spending money on attracting tourism during a global pandemic seems like an illogical step. The people who come will come and will not be swayed by an advertisement campaign.
Value means that Calgary is seen in its diversity and not just for Cowboy/ Stampede stuff.
It would serve us all well to showcase our amazing city as a play to stay and spend \$ in as opposed to just a pathway to other places.
If there is assistance for business or arts & culture, tourism will grow as side benefit.
Quit changing the slogan every 5 minutes.
So many of the civic partners make this city a great place to live, work, and visit. I take all visitors to the Central Library, Heritage Park, the zoo, etc. These are the things that tell people who we are as Calgarians.
Other than Stampede and the Comic Expo, Calgary doesn't have many exciting activities or beautiful spaces compared to other provinces. Think a lot of people would volunteer to be part of a city beautification project.
No comments particularly around tourism

Tourism is a major employer, and it will suffer during the COVID-19 pandemic. Post pandemic, this sector will need support.
Better facilities (like the new arena) are needed for more major events. Changing the current noise bylaws would also allow for much larger outdoor events.
Promote globally to attract tourism especially during winter time.
Innovation
Tourism is important for our economy so spend less money in this area but focus on the activities that will get the biggest results.
Having strong infrastructure, spaces for events, and a vibrant arts and culture scene will all help to attract tourism. My perspective is that Calgary doesn't need a lot of PR with our proximity to the mountains. Protecting our historic spaces is key.
Build on top of what is already there. More world class year round attractions. New library, peace bridge are examples of function and tourism attraction. More like these please.
keeping our arts and culture scene vibrant to attract people from all over the world. Maintaining our local parks, tourist and historical attractions. Being innovative with new ways to attract people and investing where it counts.
Fire. Nench and cut taxes
dont care
Difficult to do with covid - not sure about this being the focus currently.
Sell Calgary as a unique arts destination, protect and preserve mountain parks. Promote first Nations culture with first Nations nations input
If we don't support independent businesses, the city can't offer anything different than any north american mall, it will remain as a stop to the glorios Rockies (only because the airport is here)
Depending on the economic benefit this could be money well spent
Hoping we can bring all our festivals back next summer.
Calgary in the region is it tourist destinationWe must continueTo promote it.
Tourisum all ways need to be promoted
Focusing our spending strategically and to the right audience

Participant comments: Cultural attractions

What does value look like and what are your expectations for partnernships that focus on Cultural Attractions Services may include facilities that showcase arts, cultural and conservation.

?
21 days of stampede for 2021.
A good cultural scene will attract employment and opportunity.
A huge waste of money, you council needs to spend tax dollars on the essentials
Accessibility, equity and innovation.
Affordability (even if it's senior pricing or special lower-cost days) are important. Innovation is important here too for those with disabilities.
Again unless this is something that will generate potential revenues, the city and or it citizens no puplic money should be invested.
Again, CPL is a keystone in the network of programs and cultural events in Calgary, from BUMP to Sled Island and beyond.
And science -- people love unique experiences. Science is one of our superpowers.

Arts
As long as it gives room to amateurs... make it accesible for people to expose their talents
As long as we can do this cost efficiently without raising user fees or taxes.
As noted above, absolutely. Calgary is lacking here terribly. Also, no, the Stampede isn't an arts and culture thing. It's a crass vestige of a past that Calgary needs to leave behind.
As part of a sound tourism strategy, some ares, culture and conservation entities could be part of the overall plan but spending for the sake of spending in these areas must stop. Measurable goals are a must.
budget
Calgary should be the arts hub of Alberta. Why not celebrate our film scene more?
City should be supporting low overhead organizations such as BUMP which have high city transformational abilities, but come with low overhead and maintenance costs.
Connection to tourism, need to better articulate the value proposition (costs vs. benefits of public investment for economy - direct and indirect impacts over time)
conservation is especially significant in these times
Create opportunities that spark joy, support experiences that bring families and friends together to strengthen personal connections, and spark thoughtful discussions
Cut
Cut all spending until 2022
Defund the arts
Develop and pursue realistic and sustainable strategic and business plans that bring demonstrable value and measurable outcomes to Calgarians and help position Calgary favourably nationally and internationally.
Diverse, accessible (cost and otherwise), welcoming to all.
Diversity is key. Avoid getting trapped by either focusing on something that's always been done, or only on issues that are "trending". Leave funding applications open to all ideas and award money based on merit and proof of impact.
Do not defund our first responders
dont
Efficiency (focus on where we have built in advantage - like Stampede - while adding incrementally to these working with First Nations).
Enough already.
equity, specialization, innovation, affordability, diversity, visibility
Focus on marginalized communities. Showcase Calgary's indigenous history and cultural diversity.
Fringe and Winnipeg folk festival are two things to build or enhance
Funding for artwork or galleries/museums
Giant waste of money
Give the Stampede money to survive.
Have you had a chance to do you COVID-19 Parks tour yet?
Heavily investing to attract more people
Heritage park is and other type of spaces are great, cultural when supporting history both past and present and not forcing a particular view (in any particular direction)

How about a police department and fire department that is properly funded and staffed to protect our lives? My culture won't matter much when I'm stuck on the second floor without a fire department on scene when my house goes up in flames.
I am not educated on this issue enough to comment.
I do not wish to have my tax dollars spent on arts and culture. This money can be spent on police and fire services.
I expect the city to ensure strong partnerships with Indigenous groups and work on sharing the cultural aspects with calgarians and visitors in creative and accessible ways
I fully support the investment in Calgary's cultural endeavours. Losing the Olympics is going to be a huge blow to this city in attracting more festivals and investment that comes with them.
I love this for our city.
I think Edmonton or even cities like Nashville have done a far superior job to Calgary. Ice castles, unique events, walking city, recreational areas.
I would like to see the city hold a referendum on what Calgarians want to see here. Cultural attractions are the ideal platform to educate and eradicate cultural bias, but the community should have a voice on what this looks like.
I would very much like to see more indigenous cultural awareness
Ideally making art, cultural events and conservation easier to access locally, nationally and internationally. Thru a priority of local, safe transportation, & online access.
If possible use culture to attract economic development such as stampede.
I'm sick of essential services being cut for things that look pretty. Pretty things don't save lives and provide long term economic stability. When we have more tax base then yes, not now.
Important
important
Important for building community.
Increase spending in mature neighborhood's on arts (i.e. 17th Ave)
Incubating marginalized groups. Incorporate into city promotions. Established groups need strong business plans
Innovation and equity
Investment should be deferred.
Investment to upgrade, protect and maintain distinct cultural areas where Calgarians gather (historic Inglewood, Chinatown, heritage buildings in inner city areas, etc.)
Investments in tourism need to increase the number of visitors to the city.
Keep up with good venues
Keeping these alive will demonstrate that Calgary has culture. The Stampede needs help, so does Folk Fest and Beakerhead. These are reasons why people come to Calgary initially, then stay and see other local attractions and spend more \$\$.
Leave to CADA, get out of this business, support CADA.
Like public art? Not while we're trying to save money.
Limit to a few self sufficient highly popular facilities
Love to support but not at this time
Maintain funding
Maybe if they are no selective. Ie open and inclusive to all ages and citizens

Minimal. YYC is one of the youngest cities in the world and has minimal culture compared to Euroasian or middle eastern countries
More concerts and sports games
More funding for arts
Need more attractions that can sustain themselves.
NO MORE ARTS FUNDING - lower taxes
No. Cultural events are put on by event hosts. We can buy tickets. They are not Public works projects.
Not a need, clearly a want. It's nice to have but I am not voting for anyone that proposes a tax increase for this reason.
Not a priority right now.
Not a worthy expense for governments. These should be privately done
Not at all important.
Not important
Not important now. Economy is struggling.
Not needed during a pandemic.
Not sure how this is different than Arts & Culture
Nothing to say
Once again this is important for local communities as much as it is for tourists.
Only by popular demand or scientific merit.
Pretty Important In This Area to Keep Attractions Like Arts, And Many Other Festivals That People May Enjoy.
Priority 2 (lower value), let private sector create & evolve this.
Properly promoting events and attractions so everyone is aware of available services.
Protect our current heritage, still keep venues open with restrictions, be innovative.
provide a mutil passes for city attractions that provide value and allow attractions to have less busy days/times filled
Providing a good mix of small and large venues and making sure they are accessible to the public and not hidden behind a pay wall
Public poll: ask citizens of Calgary what are our "Cultural Attractions". Zoo, Stampede, Bell Music Centre, Heritage Park, ??
Put on hold until we improve economically and can afford to reinvest again in the "nice to have", but not vital category.
Reduce the top heavy management positions within the corporation, that would save us tax payers millions of dollars!!
Remove barriers such as space or venues but encourage more multicultural showcases. I want to learn about our Indigenous culture. Opportunities to LEARN reduces people's fear of each other.
Same comments as above for this category.
See above
See above reference western culture.
See above, arts and culture
See answer above.
See two points up. Emphasis on variety and inclusion.

Should not be spending money on this
Similar to the above answer (a city's culture is what will bring people to it to visit, and perhaps to live).
Somewhat important
Sounds good do more it gives people a reason to spend money in the city
Spending on arts that are effective (ie Blue ring seemed like a waste), vs. Peace bridge is bang on. Events such as Beakerhead, BUMP etc... need to be kept to attract people
Support for the Glenbow museum
Support may warranted BUT needs to demonstrate value to Calgarians and Calgary businesses. Business case must support jobs in private sector to generate taxes.
Supporting the arts only for now, let's book the ones we have.
sure, but make sure you also have investment from the private sector so you don't compromise the services your workers are trying to provide
Surf wave on the Bow
Tax dollars are best spent by taxpayers...cut taxes
The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city
These need to cover their own costs and not look for a handout everytime.
These require reasonable investment, without them we wont attract big fish like Amazon
These should be cut until our economy has recovered and our taxes should NOT rise during this time for unnecessary "extras"
These should be low cost but effective services.
This can be done by private companies.
This is a necessary aspect of being a city on the world stage; every major city I've lived in or visited has a robust arts scene, including museums that are financially accessible; theaters and galleries; parks, outdoor art, and markets.
This is critical to a livable city that is desirable for residents and visitors.
This is important
This is the same as Arts & Culture
This should also be 100% defended. Any amounts budgeted for arts and culture should be given to police and fire departments.
This should be a private enterprise and not supported with my tax dollars
This sounds like advertising what is being done for these areas, I'd rather see funding go directly to arts, culture and conservation, rather than advertising it.
Total [removed].
Tough choice but not supportive during economic downturn.
Track record is sub par. City art planners need to be fired. Nemshi that racist is trying globalize and erase our western heritage.
Treat the whole city as a cultural attraction it seems artifical/ forced when it is not allowed to happen organically. Create opportunities for more Native American design influence in the design of infrastructure and services, with consultation of course
Value is cultural attractions accessible and affordable for all.
Value is having all season events and attractions that celebrate Calgary and it's character. Places where people can spontaneously gather and socialize outside of office hours for little to cost.

Value right now means we cannot expand on these events/ facilities. Maintain or decrease budget somewhat.
Very important to expand these areas at a time when people should be limiting travel.
Waste
Wasting taxpayer money
We are in a pandemic. We have thousands of empty offices downtown, unemployment at an all time high and you want to spend money on arts and culture whilst people starve and cant pay their bills.
We are in a recession. Conserve our money and fire evert bureaucrat that isn't glued to city hall.
we have arts and culture already. Conservation is likely covered elsewhere too.
We have enough facilities, just need to promote cultural events
We have enough.
we have facilities, we don't have artist/acts that are high quality, but mediocre, small american town
We need better museums and galleries, especially ones that promote First Nations history and culture.
We need more events but it seems that economy does not allow citizens to enjoy. So very little are attracted to come to perform in Calgary. Come with subsidized tickets and the table will flip as people will want it more.
We need to show everyone how beautiful is our city and promote small business as ways to attract people to share how we live and work together.
While I don't want to see such facilities go, building anything new would not seem appropriate at this time. It's a sad reality that many places are having to close their doors temporarily. If support can be given to a minimal degree, then by all means
While this kind of inclusive venture is important for engagement, I wonder if the value here it to leave it to cultural groups to support this in the next few years, without government help
Wide range of diverse attractions
Yes. This is key in creating a more exciting and positive image of calgary. Our beautiful land is a huge asset as well - parks and proximity to nature. These are the things that make cities great and thriving
You can pour millions into cultural showcases but it means nothing on stolen land especially when CPS is busy beating up people for being of different cultures. There are systemic issues that need to be addressed first, art is just a bandaid.
You keep eroding western culture. When did you stop teaching kids about firearms and hunting in school.
Zero value
Mothball.
Cultural attractions are an important way to support community. This may make more sense at the neighbourhood or association level.
We need more world-class architecture and destinations. The Central Library and Studio Bell are a start, but we need more.
The city can help with venues and promotion of the culture but the culture groups needs to create a sustainable business plan
More arts targeted to kids
Value comes from providing these cultural facilities. It's critical that we celebrate arts and culture, libraries, etc.
Lots of festivals in the summer, pre-Covid. I don't think this should be a focus right now.

In partnership with Indigenous groups, we should be showcasing that side of our heritage. Also, we have a world-class zoo that is heavily invested in conservation. This needs to be supported
Important as a value
See Arts and Culture
Hard to tell. With the economy in the state that it is now, it's hard to justify spending new money on something that likely doesn't have a financial return. Possibly using current facilities would be a solution.
Chinatown, Little Italy, Little India, develop more cultural community.
Innovation
When money is tight such as right now, arts and culture should be much lower on the priority list than essential services and those that support economic recovery.
Meeting industry standards and finding innovative ways to be relevant to everyone, providing outreach, and ensuring representation of all groups and ensuring our history is not whitewashed. A commitment to reconciliation.
Need more, significant cultural attractions. For most the list starts and ends at the Glenbow which does not rate in comparison to other major cities
more investment in facilities that showcase arts and culture. Looking at placemaking and making walkable cities. making unique attractions for visitors that showcase the vibrancy of our culture and not just the "stampede". developing our film scene more.
Fire. Nench and cut taxes
[removed]
We are a multi-cultural city and that should be celebrated. We should be involving local Calgarians in these types of projects to celebrate the different cultures and communities.
More festivals, more money to existing festivals and arts organizations that already attract people to the city. Promote first Nations culture
The library does a good job. The music scene is great but the venues are suffering....
okay, depending if taxpayer dollars are being spent here
Not sure what this means.
The attractions in this community reflect our history And the fact that our citizens are knowledgeable because they travel. This is an adventurous community That is landloc. Our strength is to learn from others And apply it Through our businesses an community

Participant comments: recreation

What does value look like and what are your expectations for partnerships that focus on Recreation and Parks Services: may include recreation facilities and building new parks, pathways and open spaces.

A priority to ensure access and mobility of citizens across the city (especially in the new COVID situation). If in quarantine/wfh people need to still enjoy the outdoors within the confines of the city.
Access is important. There should be spaces for all. These spaces are important for health and the environment and should balance both.
Accessible where people need them, affordable, lots of opportunities and options for families and individuals.
Affordability
Affordability - key to maintaining lower crime rates and healthy populations.

Again the city of Edmonton should be our model. Better parks, better parking, these are important.
Again, defund the police and desicion makers before you defund park maintenance.
All of the above
Allows Calgarians to improve their health and wellness, increases a sense of community, and encourages tourism.
As long as we can do this cost efficiently without raising user fees or taxes.
As we have seen in the recent months parks and recreation facilities are vitally important for Calgarians to cope with the the resulting affects of COVID
being a modern city...with a modern municipal government. In addition to modern, world class facilities and parks where we can attract and host events and promote well-being.
Bike lanes or cycle tracks are NOT a priority in Chinatown.
Bike path system is amazing!
Calgary has excellent green spaces, and we need to preserve that.
Calgary has great greenspaces, continuing with this is useful investment and increases quality of life which attracts money
Calgary has nice parks and paths and souls continue at their current level
Calgary has so much to offer in this regard that it should be promoted constantly. This city often feels urban and rural/rugged simultaneously, and that is massively appealing to so many.
Calgary has some of the best parks and recreation in the world. Providing more access to these parks through bike paths and transit is the next step.
Calgary is already known for its open and greenspace. We should be encouraging this as much as possible. It also hopes to change the conservative, anti-environmental narrative of the city.
Calgary must maintain the largest green spaces per capita in North America (for tourism, community interactive arts events and for the Mental health & physical fitness for Calgarians.
Can never have too many parks and pathways. But if there are substantial savings from holding off on any new developments than it seems like it must be done at this time. Luxury versus necessity in these times
Can not open new parks at the same time as cutting public services
Citizens are travelling locally. These must be kept clean and safe
Close some of the golf courses that no longer produce revenue and convert them into parks and green spaces.
Contract out staffing, should not be paying students \$30+ per hr. Rec centers should be privatized along with golf courses, get out of the business and leave that to private industry.
Could never fault the city on this.
Currently being used by many Calgarians. Fosters and develops community, healthyhis is where the first discretionary dollars should be spent
Cut all spending until 2022
Cut the grass
Defund the arts
Do not defund our first responders
dont

Enough bike paths. Get extra funding by enforcing existing laws thstbicyckists break on our roads every day. Use that money to pay for new bike paths when they can show that they will abide by rules of the road
Ensure cost to the City of providing such facilities and their quality are comparable to other cities of similar population and align with local demand.
equity, specialization, innovation, affordability, diversity, visibility
Fix up river access and egrees locations for river users ie. rafters . Provide parking and porta potties at multiple locations along the Bow River. The pathway system is awesome and it is free. Again more public toilet facilities are required.
Given how much Corona Virus has shown the inadequacies of the parks network in the city, with more people getting outside it is important to build out this network to accommodate the city. This is accessible to people of all wealth brackets and backgroun
Good idea.
Heavily invest
High- open spaces and parks make the city more livable and increase value of current living spaces
High value.
I do believe this budget should remain, this affects the citizens of Calgary directly.
I find huge value in our parks, pathways, and playgrounds. But I need to see some of that money invested in mature communities. It's frustrating seeing constant new development getting all the money.
I like parks, but the city does a[removed] poor job of maintenance in outlying communities, especially lower income areas. Stop expanding into new developments and make what we have already established a priority.
I like the recent parking lot events
I love our parks, more trees and pathways are always good
I really value the pathway system in Calgary and would love if it extended more throughout the city. Rec facilities are ok but would lean towards private facilities more. Parks and playgrounds I think are key to enjoyment and being able to connect them
I think you need to figure out if there's a need for more parks. Maybe work on the ones that already exist or build more in communities that need them
I wasn't aware you spent money outside of the inner city here. I can't tell. You don't water. Don't cut grass. Don't really do anything.
If COVID taught us anything, it was the importance of these area. DO NOT follow in the provinces footsteps my making it hard to access natural spaces. And keep up the great work on supporting bike commuters. This is the future. Not cars.
I'm sick of essential services being cut for things that look pretty. Pretty things don't save lives and provide long term economic stability. When we have more tax base then yes, not now.
Important
important
Important
Important Part Also To Include New Projects As Well
Improve parks with fountains, statues that will give people a reason to go there
Incorporating sustainable practices to lower maintenance costs. Incorporate broader eco objectives like flood mitigation. Require developers to pay for all parks in new developments
Increase in green spaces

Increased security for the green spaces.
Innovation and equity
Investment in recreation in parks needs to result in additional local users
Investment in the maintenance and patrol of existing parks, pathways and open spaces
It is important to help with the upkeep of existing services. At this time building new ones would be a lower priority.
Keep them safe for everyone.
Keep what we have and do not put more money into it.
Maintain and expand existing infrastructure. Don't let well used and loved community infrastructure die from neglect. Developers should be required to provide pathways, playground and sports centres as part of the creation of a new subdivision.
Maintain and expands green space and corridors and rinks and playground (free activities)
Maintain current services, but NO to adding on right now until economy improves and makes it viable.
Maintain the existing systems better. Your outsourcing of mowing and plowing is not providing good value. The contract resources do the job as quickly and cheaply as possible to minimize their time to maximize their profits. Weed control is poor.
Maintain what you have and put the rest on hold til the economy I proves
Maintaining pathways and grass for a clean and
Make existing parks and pathways safe and user friendly
Make pathways safer
Make public parts more suitable to all the seasons. Heated shelters, windblocks, adequate and comfortable seating (none of that seating that is meant to be the very discriminatory homeless deterrent seating), public washrooms
Minimal need
more active transportation opportunities, separated cycling infrastructure
More important than ever as we need open, free, public space!
More parking, having a better reservation system for fire pits in parks, better parks and pathways in communities
More rec facilities need to be built in the inner city- the suburbs have brand new YMCAs and we are making due with 60+ year old facilities, and driving for miles to access rinks and pools.
more value to be received here. More \$ on pathways, with the pandemic, this is ideal considering how many people have utilized pathways and closed streets this year. Fitter population is happier and healthier
More water parks, bike tracks, walking paths, etc. Put these where people live. Current facilities are far too crowded,
More winter indoor parks with natural light! The winter can be grim and indoor spaces to play with natural light make us happy!
Most definitely maintenance since it's free, de-stressing & important to locals.
Must open up Rex services ASAP to make some revenue to help with our challenges
Need them, people have to get outside
Need to find a way to make parks and recreation a vector for access to Internet for those without.. free wifi and terminals
Needs to be accessable to all, efficient in it's maintenance, and affordable.

New parks & pathways, maintenance of existing
New parks for new areas, maintenance of existing parks. Continuing support of GREEN parks to ensure environmental stability.
New parks. Complete with maintenance.
No bike lines
No further investment at this time. This is a nice to have, not a necessity that benefits the MOST.
no more bike lanes, create parks that people can use not look at. Refinery park is a mess because environmental interests in the city don't want people to actually walk on the grass and be able to use the disc golf course. There has been no upkeep.
No thanks. Too expensive if managed by public employees.
Not during economic downturn.
Not important now. Economy is struggling.
One of Alberta's huge draws is its natural beauty and outdoor activities. Maintaining parks and facilities is so valuable. I think it's also valuable to consider how to make park experiences accessible (example: some parks having a road to a lookout, etc)
Open spaces for people in search for peace and more family adjusted parks with amenities- the more the better.
Open spaces should be given priority. Natural green spaces are more versatile in their use, accessibility and appeal.
Our outdoor pathways have been so crucial to quality of life throughout this pandemic. You are doing amazing work!
Our outdoor spaces have never been so important. Maybe beef up more natural, lower cost options and adopt a space programs.
Outdoor spaces are important both in summer and winter. These should be able to be accessed by anyone
Parks and open spaces are VERY important. Pools are vital as well. Less money spent on service lines that compete with private sector (gyms, yoga classes, etc.)
Parks are so important and are accessible by all people regardless of socioeconomic status. Do more to let people know the parks exist around the city and what they offer.
Pathway
Pathways are clearly popular and they're a great way for citizens to see more of the city and be active. I'm not sure about more parks, I'm not informed on that. Rec facilities seem popular, though I don't personally use them.
Priority 2 (lower value), let private sector create & evolve facilities. Separate the term "Parks" from this, that should be affiliated with infrastructure.
Privatize this
Provide online purchases of access to recreation facilities to avoid long lineups. Keep all pathways clear in winter not just bike pathways.
Public recreation facilities should be publicly owned of there is a profit it should go to the city, not some corporation
Public spaces in the SE forest lawn area need a lot more attention I never see city works in these areas and the broken glass, used needle and general filth makes it very obvious the city is not caring about these communities.
Reaching communities that have historically not had access.

Recreation adds to citizen wellbeing so yes it's needed. But facilities need to be inclusive and accessible (physically, financially and socially).
Recreation and parks are an important part of the quality of life for Calgarians. Expenditures, both operation and capital, on things like Golf courses should end. Golf is both noninclusive. Focus on areas not requiring costs for users. Tennis, etc.
Recreation facilities should be City run at low cost so that citizens have recreational outlets. Parks and pathways are important, not profitable, but should be maintained by the City.
Reduce the top heavy management positions within the corporation, that would save us tax payers millions of dollars!!
Seek sponsorship from interested partners.
Severely underfunded in operations. Stop aiming for fun, shiny new for politics, and actually invest in maintenance of existing facilities. This has long been a critical mistake of Council here.
Should be a significant reduction in budget and eliminate as many jobs as possible
Some support may be warranted BUT every reasonable effort must be made to fully explore cost savings including partnering with the private sector and contracting out maintenance to reduce costs and improve service.
Somewhat important
Sounds good build more bike paths outside the city to Airdrie, Cochrane, Harmony. have the paths lead to Calgary businesses you'd have bikers spending money in the city instead of again going to Banff
Southland Leisure Centre has a inventory of beverage and food items that will soon expire in the coming months. Perhaps there is another area within the City who can by product from SLC or use it so that it's not simply thrown out? [identifying information removed]
Sports facilities for professional sports organisations should not be funded by taxpayers but by the sports teams owners and investors themselves.
Spray for weeds. Hire students at minimum wage to mow and care for parks, not unionized city labor. Do not build anything new.
Stop building bike lanes and cycle tracts. This is an example of a media savvy fringe group that got a disproportionate amount of funds for benefit AND has excessive impact on business
Stop building ridiculously expensive facilities (North YMCA and new Arena) add more bike paths and pathways in parks.
STOP with the bike lanes. Charge too much now to use city facilities.
Support healthy and self sustaining local ecosystems, and create spaces for recreation and social connection
Surf wave on the Bow
Tax dollars are best spent by taxpayers...cut taxes
The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city
the COVID situation has demonstrated how important outdoor spaces are to all of us
The most value for investment besides frontline services. These are places used by many citizens especially during pandemic times
The new Central Library and Memorial park are valuable contributors here.
There is huge value in seeing parks and recreation centres used as places for individual and community-wide emotional and physical well-being, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Parks beautify the city and help make it a great place to live.

These are high value services, even better when teamed with reducing urban sprawl, so open spaces we next to affordable housing and quality higher density dwellings.
They are there. Need to devise some method of maintaining and securing them.
This department is like it's own little fiefdom, with allot of inefficient staff. Maybe outsource some services.
This is critical to a livable city that is desirable for residents and visitors. Calgarians love their parks and no cuts should be considered here.
This is important for parks, pathways, open spaces. Keep our city green
This is important for the citizens of Calgary, as long as user fees don't go up.
This is important. Doubly so with COVID restrictions let's see more investment in trails and outdoor spaces. Douglas Fir trail could be improved for connectivity. If you want a healthy city increase alternate recreation in green spaces for winter sports
This is the heart of our city.
This is what makes for a healthy beautiful city. Even heard of Central Park? Stanley Park? Yeah, we could use more substantial green areas. We've not at all added enough in the past decades compared to the relative population growth.
This should be done strategically with a focus on high usage areas.
Too much is being spent on projects that only benefit a few and inconvenience the majority of Calgarians. eg Bike lanes
upgrade pools, close the non sustainable ones, review fees accordingly and staffing structure.provide toilets and water fountains in more parks!
Value
Value means service hour cuts to rec centres, operating efficiencies and splitting programs between rec centres, and usage valuation Cost/person. Tough love. Outdoor pathways maintained, no new parks unless minimal.
Value means thinking long-term and funding services. Closing Richmond Green saved less than \$100k! That was a stupid move by Council and showed a short-sighted value decision with long-term impacts for minimal savings.
Very important.
Very important. We should have low fee or publically funded recreation for all Calgarians
Walkability, ability for people to enjoy, allow alcohol, interpretive signs, programming to activate spaces, partnerships to attract people
We all need to access outside spaces and this is even more important now.
We are fortunate to have many parks and pathways in the city. Not enough recreational facilities. Taking out lanes on roads for bike lanes that few people use is absolutely ridiculous.
We have an excellent pathway system and it's great to see people enjoying the outdoors.
We have beautiful parks and need more recreation facilities, particularly for sports.
We have enough
We have enough.
We need to build more recreation facilities to ensure healthy calgarians.
We need to do more in this area.... Expand opportunities and spaces.
We need to invest for the future facilities - they are falling down. Especially Arenas for kids - we have a hockey town with a big participation level for Calgary Citizens young and old

We need to prioritize this second
What part of can't afford it is confusing?
Yep, new parks will feed the starving and homeless, but sure will make the City Administration feel good.
Yes we need these places to sustainable and usable
YES! This is an essential service to the citizens who pay taxes - These should be prioritized over art installations or cultural attractions.
Yes! Pathway parks are very appealing such as the Highline Trail in New York.
Yes, these are important, more should be created as they are lasting areas for all to use for free.
You wasted millions on bike lanes and the core. Your not welcome at the grown ups table.
Facility maintenance only, no new building.
Please keep washrooms open during the winter at places like St Patrick's Island and Prince's Island Park to help encourage outdoor meetups.
Imcrease in green spaces is wouod be an great addition
Recreation facilities need to keep up with growth and parks and pathways are one of the best gems in our city.
Keep public spaces public, accessible for all, and free for access.
Recreation and Parks serve all citizens. There is a huge body of evidence that suggests that access to parks and recreation facilities increases overall quality of life and wellness. I want equitable access to these facilities for all citizens.
A huge part of our appeal is our amazing pathways and parks. They must be protected and considered an area of growth going forward
For the city to continue to encourage active living and use of bike paths, parks or use of open spaces by expanding paths or providing programs
More rec space we are so far behind
Recreation facilities are critical to positive lifestyles for our community. Vivo, cardel, YMCA's, etc. are gathering places for our community and support healthy lifestyles and wellbeing, and good mental health, which is so critical for a city's success
Parks, nature paths and public recreation like golfing should be kept open. It benefits everyone, adds to the city's beauty and allows for social distancing.
Tree planting throughout the city needs to be supported. So many dead trees are never replaced.
Poor choice to add additional path at Confederation Park west end. Put more bike racks and support items at playgrounds and gathering ares more of a prioity.
Parks and pathways are available to all citizens. I believe citizens would be better served by businesses and organizations owning and managing recreation facilities.
Very important as a value
Parks, pathways and green spaces are more important than ever with people not being able to travel and trying to maintain social distancing.
With so many recreation opportunities curtailed by the pandemic, our outdoor parks and pathways are increasingly important. Recreation facilities also need to be maintained.
Fish Creek Park and Glenmore Reservoir Park are important to me. The Calgary Jewish Centre pool is also an important destination for me.
Calgary has some of the best outdoor parks and pathways in the country already. Not much is needed here. Possibly some outdoor workout playground places to encourage more physical activity. They are inexpensive to build, and encourage good health.

Specialization
Recreation and parks are great but right now we should be focusing on economic development and recovery, not "nice to haves" such as building new pathways and parks.
The current cost of city recreation facility access and programs is quite good. Better promotion of these programs and services would ensure they are better utilised. Promoting existing parks before building new ones. Keeping pathways safe. Wild spaces.
Calgary has great quality of life. This is a big reason why people come and stay. This quality has kept people in Calgary during other downturns. Please ensure the vibrancy of the parks and recreation opportunities. Do not start shutting stuff down
I think you should always build new parks.
Parks and pathways are very important to our ability to support locals and bring in tourists. Keeping our green spaces maintained, and attractive and plentiful. Especially since Covid has us needing to use these lots!
Fire. Nench and cut taxes
bikes dont belong on the roads
We have beautiful parks and pathways and I value them. It pains me to say but I am not sure focusing on building parks is a priority currently in such an economic downturn. Maintaining the ones we have, yes.
More bike lanes, more inner city green spaces
recreation and parks are important as a municipal service. With programs like fee assistance or fair entry the City facilities and programs are accessible to all regardless of income. For many this is the only option.
Important recreation options and maintaining parks.
Build bike lanes across the city, so we can cycle safely and not have to share roads with fast cars. Our current driving culture is also not sustainable. We need to invest in bike lanes for the sake of our planet and also our physical & mental health.
Please continue to maintain our excellent parks and pathways.
Important to keep parks and pathways up to date.
We are slowly catching up with our Actual requirements. We Object to theExpensive regional recreation centres. The city could've built two or threeFor the cost of the new Northwest facilities. The facilities are much more important than the look.
With an ever growing city we need to keep expanding and adding to existing facilities

Participant comments: poverty reduction

What does value look like and what are your expectations for parternships that focus on Poverty Reduction Services: may include coordinated approach to reducing poverty in Calgary.

?
???????
1) Defund the Calgary police. 2) Invest in long-term housing facilities - the drop in doesn't allow privacy or stability for our unhoused citizens. 3) Invest in educational opportunities for young people as well as older people.
100% agreed. Look at the "defund the police" movement, and their workload. What budget can be removed from them to create the programs to take people off their call list and into these facilities?

A concerted effort among like-minded organizations to support poverty reduction adds value by helping people facing barriers get a leg up. The work is most valuable if there are clear deliverables and supports are easy to access and widely available.
A coordinated approach is the best way. Single charities and NFPs working in silos do good work, but it takes collaboration to dismantle the root cause of poverty. Thank you for considering coordinated efforts.
A fair and just taxation system, at least made more progressive in comparison to other cities, would allow Calgary to address poverty more than it does. However, poverty is a component of Canada's economic system, and to change this is unlikely.
Absolutely essential. Will strength is as a city making us attract that diversified economy we so desperately need.
AFFORDABLE HOUSING
Affordable housing
Affordable housing
Affordable housing is always a good spend
Affordable housing! Affordable summer camps for kids! More outdoor programming for all! Low barrier community grants for activities/projects especially in lower income areas! Fair Entry applications in multiple languages! Affordable childcare and rec!
Allow more spending
Also not the city's job.
Anything to reduce poverty would be great, social programs to help people.
Approach through economic opportunity, there needs to be a long term vision that changes to prospects for people and not just a band aid solution
As a citizen, I only see an ever increasing amount of vandalism and crime in my neighborhood. Less enforcement, despite and increased social services these issues are not going away, so no, I am not for a socialistic approach to poverty!
As Canadians we have a responsibility to care for all Canadians.
As long as the money is going directly to help people help themselves.
As long as we can do this cost efficiently without raising user fees or taxes.
As this is a public service it should recieved more funding if there is a change
At last, but I guess you wont be able to find money for this. You will have spent it on Art and Culture
Attracting businesses and getting people long term employment is going to greatly help with poverty, then with a bigger tax base we can work on small houses project to get more people off the street
basic facilities are what is needed, like the change to the hotel in the NE that is being used by the working poor.
Beware of inequitable regressive user fees
Calgary has an abysmal record in this area. Safe affordable housing, lower rents, eliminating homelessness, ensuring high quality affordable senior care facilities - not run by greedy corporate conglomerates - all need to be priorities for City leaders.
Calgary is a city of extremes - helping bring families out of poverty creates prosperity for all
Calgary needs more humane ways to help the homeless particularly in wintertime. Citizens should know who to reach out to when they want to help someone.
City and business should work together on reducing the impact of poverty, especially through school food programs
City hall needs to look in the mirror on this one. Reduce taxes and fees so people can offord to live here.

City is spending millions and the results are evident. Charities are always better
City should not be subsidizing services that promote illegal activities and drug use in the city. Reducing homelessness by providing housing with low /no interest mortgages should be promoted.
City to work with community organizations to reduce poverty
Come with job options for citizens in need. Use grants to assist people to find work.
Continue to support this. Take money from the public art programs and put it toward those who need it more.
Create public spaces where everyone feels respected and welcomed with well kept public washroom facilities. Public wifi. Indoor heated shelters for ANYONE who finds themselves out in the cold. Proper disposal facilities.
Cut
Definitely a area of concern, I believe we need to focus on children here.
Defund the arts
Defund the police and reroute that money into social programs.
Do not defund our first responders
dont
Equity
equity, specialization, innovation, affordability, diversity, visibility
External resources need to be used more.
Extremely important in this difficult time it means supporting those who have little and those with increased barriers. Fair Entry needs be less bueracratic and more people oriented in its application process.
Feel what we have is good
Focus on determinants rather than symptoms - housing, oral health, child care, education access, community support networks
From talks, educational movie screenings, partnerships with community organizations, accessibility, etc. CPL is a leader here.
Funding for DOAP team and more dedicated resources for mental health and addition issues
Give people more freedoms, less regulation, no taxation.
Great work farms outside city limits. Send homeless there to work on agriculture or mines.
Heavily invest
Help the vulnerable but showcase success stories and have them pay it back.
Homelessness reduction is critical - but mental health care is a provincial responsibility.
Homelessness strategy focused on providing decent, long-term housing (see Norfolk Housing Association model) + promoting active transportation (cycling and pedestrian infrastructures in all calgary are those are free) + affordable and efficient transit
How can we let people in a "rich" and thriving city live in poverty? If we have, then we've truly failed.
I agree with this, more investment is needed in this area, and more support needed to support mental health and addicitoon
I always donate to goodwill that makes profit out of it. I would like to donate to the city so homeless can have access to That. Maybe exist but more information to incentivarte psychologist, doctors, hair dressers to help homeless. Sponsors could pay
I am not interested in having tax dollars spent on reducing poverty in Calgary.

I assume the poverty rate is growing, and thus a smart place to invest
I don't recall voting for any candidate that promised to "reduce poverty". Little above your paygrade as a lowly municipal politician with a BA right?
I think every dollar we spend here will be returned to us double. Invest in our people. Keep them healthy, safe, and educated. It costs less to house people than do deal with the consequences of someone being unhoused.
If these are vetted programs which have shown to have clear social and monetary return otherwise no investment.
If we're not meaningfully investing in this, we aren't serious about a socially just and sustainable society.
I'll like to see all the non profit organizations that help poor people to have accountability for everyone they help so everyone can understand and make good use of the services provided, and to give back as well to their community in some way.
important
Important for our citizens, many of who are new to, and ashamed of poverty and needing help.
important, moreso during pandemic. Value to be gained here may not appear soon.
Important.
Increased spending in this area is desperately needed
Innovation - a number of local NPO that should be augmented (CUPS, Mustard Seed, Inn from the Cold)
Innovation and equity
Innovation is key here. Being willing to experiment and follow up on what shows success. Not discriminating against those in poverty, especially homeless.
It is part of our social contract, the disadvantaged do require investment
Keep spending the same.
Leave this to aid organizations, NOT THE CITY
Leave this to charities and the province.
Less drug clinics, more rehab
Look at Victoria
Look. I live in an area that is overburdened. I support increasing these services, but PLEASE DO NOT make all inner city neighborhoods the only target area. Spread it around or we will fatigue and no longer be supportive
Looks to create long-term solutions instead of mere bandaids.
Lots of non profits to do this
Low cost housing is important but again a percentage of the budget.
Maintain current programs.
Maintain funding
Make our legacies affordable and accessible. Maintain areas with lower incomes. This will foster community pride and allow more engagement from outside the affected area. When this happens, investment and support follow
More information is needed to explain this. It's a good idea but 1/3 of Calgary are in poverty right now, can't help that many.
Move the shelters out of downtown. For the cheaper properties you can have addiction counseling services on site. then sell the land that shelters are on for more profit.
Necessary

No increase here. They don't want it and do not appreciate the help up
No magic wand here. With addictions at crisis level, unemployment at highest levels, I feel any initiative is about treading water at the moment. True change requires a stronger economy and until that is stabilized then this remains a large problem for th
Not a municipal function. Lobby for provincial and fed support
Not the cities responsibility, stop robbing from the Haves and giving to the have not. People make choices and need to learn to live with the consequences of their choices
Not your mandate. The role has to be maintaining pressure on Province and Feds.
Not your problem. It's the provinces problem and job creators. So lower taxes and elect conservatives so we can let them do their thing
Ok this is needed however balance should be provided with non profit sector
Overcoming barriers to access to services.
partner with civic partners to reduce poverty.
Partner with landlords to utilize empty D class office towers to centralize health, addiction and shelter services reducing emergency costs and vacancy rates (potentially stabilizing or increasing rental rates for other properties)
Poverty is earned.
Poverty is systemic, so coordinated approach is good.
Prioritize addiction and mental health services.
Privatize this. Secondary suites for all neighborhoods. Stay away from the tiny homes trend. This is not something that should be paid by property tax. At best funding should come from higher government levels and administered by city
Provide multi service access points in diffenet areas of City to support programs for those in need. The fee assistance programs at Village Square centre is lineup most days and perhaps a better model could be achieved
Reduce poverty
Reduce restrictions on building low income housing and increasing density. Remove zoning restrictions on basement suites.
Reduce the top heavy management positions within the corporation, that would save us tax payers millions of dollars!!
Results oriented. Coordination within city services that deal with homelessness. Developers must incorporate affordable housing into all developments and pay for transit infrastructure. Focus on saving on future costs to the city
Services and concrete outcomes that demonstrably reduce, not enable poverty.
Some of these services go too far, for example bus fares that are ridiculously low especially for seniors. I am a senior and I can pay more.
Somewhat important
Somewhat important
Sorry, look after families but not the addicts that don't want help.
Start programs to help those in need.
status quo
Stop safe injection sites they don't work, this should have been obvious when looking at Vancouver and their problem

Support poverty reduction.
Tax dollars are best spent by taxpayers...cut taxes
The best coordinated approach the City can make to reduce poverty is reduce taxes in an effort to preserve and attract business and jobs. Having a job helps to reduce poverty.
The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city
The most effective strategies would be ones in coordination with other levels of government - not just in terms of funding, but for shared knowledge as well.
The return of high quality career jobs (with benefits & pensions), social supports for addictions & mental health issues, & a commitment to family's support to reduce & prevent family abuse & coercive control.
The social safety net will help the city buy time as we begin our transformation out of oil and gas.
These services are important and should be measured. Children and people should all have access to safe nutritious food
This is a must!!
This is a provincial and federal responsibility. Reaching out to the province and federal government for support. Managing private relationships.
This is close to my heart and I would love to see people given opportunities to get out of poverty.
This is even more important now with the COVID situation
This is for the non-profits. Build them up promote them. Stay out of it governemnt
This is important to me.
This is more important now than ever. Lots of people in hard times right now, but any layoffs to city employees sure doesn't help with that. People need to work, we need more jobs not having more people out of work
This is the best value for taxpayer money. Shifting costs from emergency services into proactive services which help people escape poverty.
This is very important and needs to be a continued focus for the city and province. Having support services in people's neighborhoods is vital. Supporting working mothers is also very important. Programs for children so that they can access healthy adults
This is very important. New rec facilities are not a benefit if people can't pay or can't get there
This seemed to have gotten worse this year. Not sure if budget was reduced but we cannot let this continue. Help needs to be provided from the province.
This service will always be needed
This should be a provincial or federal initiative, not a civic one.
This should be our top priority when funding civic partners
This should be top priority. If we cannot ensure all Calgarians have food and shelter, we should not be subsidizing business and tourism.
Top priority. Support for people suffering from addictions, homelessness, etc
Unfortunately social services can't be untouched by the economic realities Calgary is facing. Focus needs to be on basic programs but it is likely that this issue will only increase with the economy crashing.
Unsure
Useless because you miss people and only support the flavour of the month bunch
Value is coordinating all levels of gov't to support education, housing, food programs, physical and mental health programs, and childcare services. This is not an area to be cheap with, if you own property you are not in poverty and should help out.

Very important
Very supportive of keeping all funding.
Waste
We need guaranteed housing for all, a livable minimum wage, and strong harm reduction strategies.
We seem to have way to many individual programs/ social agencies all working independently.
Consolidate services and agencies.
whatever amount is recommended by administration should be reduced by at least 30%
Whatever the service related to this is, it must be efficient, you cant take funds from one group to lift another out of poverty and waste money doing it. It also has to be affordable by all, you cant drive one group toward poverty just to even the field
With a strong economy, this isn't necessary.
With the UCP government in power, the poverty in the city is escalating and will continue to escalate.
Work with city partners to promote them, low fare for seniors, low income, etc.
Would have to see hard benefits
Yes
Yes please reduce homelessness
Yes! It's always important to work towards reducing poverty and making sure everyone has access to the same basic services.
Yes, in full support of helping homeless of the streets of Calgary.
YES. Reducing poverty gives back over and over. Particularly childhood poverty. I think this is the single most important area to concentrate efforts.
Zero value
Maintain essential services at current levels with periodic budget review for fund increases.
Continuing any already in progress plans make sense but to try to innovate or change the course currently might not make the most financial sense.
YES - we need this.
Value is when there are tangible results and poverty rates go down
Anything that helps reduce inequality and support vulnerable groups I support.
Reducing poverty leads to increases quality of life across the board for citizens and leads to reduction in addiction, suicide, crime, etc.
We must continue to support our vulnerable population
Continue to help organizations with homeless and affordable housing. Also more resources for mental health among the homeless.
More investment in existing services
Having agencies and institutions working together with a wrap-around approach is critical. Core infrastructure like libraries, and vibrant communities calgary are key elements in this work.
Training or re-training so that people could enter in-demand fields would help. Also, the drug problem is way out of hand and drives others away. Supervised consumption is a failure. Need to look into rehab facilities and conservatorships.
Such a big issue, encompassing literacy, training, employability, fair wages, housing, transit fares - hard to know what areas are more important and where to focus efforts
Affordable housing and skill retraining
Very important as a value

Reducing inequalities is in our city's best interest.
Poverty reduction is needed for a just and equitable society. We should not be saving money on the backs of the poor.
I don't know enough in this area to have an opinion.
Efficiency
Collaboration between providers and innovative, evidence based solutions (even if many people disagree with things like providing homes to people experiencing homelessness).
Homeless is major problem/expense. Investment needs to happen in advance of problems presenting themselves. Coordinate fed, prov. city effort on mental health & life training supports early before coping via drugs takes over lives
a food charter at the municipal govt level that looks at food access, food deserts, food accessibility, local gardens, supporting small businesses and indigenous people. looking at how to make services like transit/library/rec accessible to low income
Fire. Nench and cut taxes
looks at neshis 2 pensions
Access to mental health resources and addictions services beyond safe consumption sites.
Affordable housing. Rent control
As the economy continues to fail we need to place more resources in to supporting the poor, underemployed & marginalized. Community hubs & social work are vital ie Mobile markets, fresh routes, free kids programs, CED, community grants, lending libraries
Provide education so people get a trade and work.
Some efforts should go to this but perhaps not large amounts of money
Why do we keep defunding social service programs when homeless people are becoming increasingly visible? We need more housing first, addictions treatment and mental health programs. Also invest in prevention programs.
We'll do this best by creating job opportunities. Far superior to giving away money.
Need more affordable housing.
We Applaud the Efforts Of our politicians And volunteers In the service area. Clearly it needs more work. The answers are not easy.
This could cover a large amount of poverty you need to be more direct to what you are covering
This is essential to our city to spend our money in the right way to help promote opportunities for individuals and families struggling. It needs to be a multi faceted approach to account for various factors contributing to poverty.

Participant comments: Library services

What does value look like and what are your expectations for partnernships that focus on Library Services.

Allows all Calgarians to access resources and services for education, job-seeking, and leisure.
Already adequat
Also a tip priority. Equitable and easy access information has a benefit to our society
Amazing please continue to support the library they add so much accesibility to a lot of the above catergories and help build community in a hundred ways cannot wait until they are able to offer more outreacha and programming again.

An important service that most Calgarians don't use but I feel is still important for at risk, and provides learning opportunities for economically disadvantage. There should still be value for money considerations.
Antiquated, and needs updating.
Are free mostly
As long as we can do this cost efficiently without raising user fees or taxes.
As we have been moving more digital, physical books are less important and providing spaces for learning and access to technology is more important.
As we transition our economy, the services the Library provides in terms of learning and support are going to be crucial.
budget should be reduced.
Calgary does a great job
City does a great job. Keep up the good work!
Complete waste of money. This will not be a popular statement as the city just opened its fancy massive new library that a small percentage use
Continued free access (no fines, no card fee), programming to support increased economic participation for marginalized and vulnerable groups, unique innovative activations like the Locked Library, Wordfest events, etc.
Convert libraries into truly open universities. Fill them with info sources, and reading lists for any and every specialization.
Coordinated approaches. Revenue models from physical space. Joint ventures.
CPL provides vital services to every Calgarian, with no barriers to service. So many great resources!
CPL would obviously be the most important here.
Critical. What a great value for service. and no late fees? Is this not one of the most efficient library systems in the country?
Crucial
Cut
Cut all spending until 2022
Defund the arts
Digitize, brick and mortar are horse and buggy thinking
Do not defund our first responders
Don't use them don't think I ever will
dont
Efficiency
Encouraging use. Allowing easy access.
Enjoy, but they have to keep up with the times on how to engage kids and adults to read.
enormous value. Should be promoted more. How much money have I saved by borrowing books? A smart population is better for the city
Enough done with the massive downtown library that will be an ongoing maintenance cost.
Equitable opportunities for learning, and enjoyment of media (written, digital etc)
equity, specialization, innovation, affordability, diversity, visibility
Free

Free learning
Good right now.
Good to have.
Good value. Keep as is.
Gotta' pay off that beautiful building. What is the useage of it, as compared to the old downtown library? How has online borrowing and free memberships affected budget?
Great job already!
great services, keep it up!
Great so far
Heavily invest
How about we assess use per capita for services such as these, and adjust accordingly? It's 2020... Time to re evaluate things. Most people aren't using Library's anymore. Most people will need an ambulance at some point in their lives though!
Hugely important issue as for many, this is the only resource for study, computer access, and the history of the city many have. The library and its contents (books, videos, e-learning opportunities, after school programs, etc.) serve a greater purpose.
I LOVE CALGARY'S LIBRARIES. That's all. It's such a valuable service.
I love our public library. The books, the play spaces, the programming.
I see value in libraries as they are community hubs, where everyone can come together to find resources to improve their lives. They educate, inform, connect people to economic and employment activities, and provide free space for citizens to collaborate.
I think the library is both a great place for employment but also for education and free service to those in need. I would not be where I am in life without everything the library provides.
i use library when i need to print something and the 5 dollar free coping is really great.I borrow a lot of books and dvd from library and my daughters go there to study with their friends and working on a project.It is safe place for everyone.
I want to see access to books and information for all, but not as soaring "art" installations. The inside is what matters, and accessibility to them (along c-train routes not industrial rail?)
I'd say keep library's innovative - more technology than old school library format
I'm happy with the current library services
I'm very proud of the services our library provides and would like to have more online services specially would like to take any restrictions on the free online courses, because they are a good way to keep learning for people who don't have money to pay.
important
Important but no more money should be spent on them during this recession.
Important but not critical. Can be cut if necessary
Important for lower poverty imbalances.
Important services for marginalized communities. The library is about more than just books. Provide training, gathering space, information services, employment assistance, etc
Important to keep
In moderation.
In the days of Covid, whole library services are important, efficiencies should be found.

Increased funding is necessary as essential services are provided to all citizens. Libraries need additional support to accommodate increased need/demand for services and programs; as well as necessary safety upgrades that allow for usage in COVID19 times
Innovation and equity
Investment of Library services should include advertising what services are actually offered at the library so that they attract more users.
It's good, no complains
Keep good
Keep it as is.
Keep it to local ones, small ones. This is 2020, not alot of folks use libraries anymore, especially massive multi million dollar ones.
Keep the current services
Let the Library Foundation deal with new expenses.
Leverage library services and facilities to partner with charities who might be struggling in the current environment.
Libraries add value by helping people achieve their goals in changing times. They serve those who need information, training, and technology to find jobs; children developing learning skills for lifelong success; and people seeking community connection.
Libraries are resources according to utilization. If few users have fewer staff.
Libraries need to be hubs where families can access free programs as well as books etc.
Libraries save lives. Spending money here is important.
Library services should be maintained
Library's have value and investment should continue in libraries that people use. The central library is nice, but one such building is enough
Limit salaries and benefits. Too much of the library budget is people. Charge user fees.
Limited investment to none. Libraries don't benefit MOST, only some.
Main library is a massive waste of money. Very difficult now to access material at the small branches
Maintain clean and user friendly libraries
Maintain funding
minimal
Monday to Friday 8 to 4 and more online options/access
more!
Must be a cornerstone of every single community, with multi-generational programming & to provided meeting space for other community groups..
Need to make these community hubs for equitable access to services
Needs to be innovative, efficient, equitable and affordable. In this case, if there was a nominal fee to make sure our libraries stayed at the top I would support it.
No increase needed here. Decrease. It's a warm place for the homeless
NO MORE !! These are just tutoring buildings now. Nobody going there for books any more. NO new construction...almost everyone has a phone which is an instant library in your pocket. The new one DT should NOT have been built! Waste of tax payer money !
No not needed.

No value. It's 2020 and we have the internet
No. We regularly use library services, and are happy to pay user fees.
Not important
Not important now. Economy is struggling.
Not important. Everyone has internet access.
Not interested
Not overly important to me
Not too concerned with library services
Nothing to say
Obsolete
One of the most important parts of any city, absolutely deserving of pride of place in considering which public services to grow.
Open access, ease of use, programming which reaches all.
Our libraries need more funding. The services they provide are necessary for large portions of Calgary's population.
Places that foster social belonging and connection as well as universal services are essential to a vibrant city
Please initiate a survey of what people want to read. The choices available are very limited. Huge waiting list for books people want to read. Just check the wait lists and improve. Online reading is a great option yet the waiting list is bad.
Priority 2 (lower value), let private sector create & evolve this.
Programming for youth all over the city, not just the central library and crowfoot.
Provided basic reading tutotial by staff (not volunteer run) Encourage homework clubs/diploma prep classes in library perhaps run by paid university students. Eliminate volunteer run programs in favour of staff run programs. Programs for seniors (tec, card)
Reduce funding for all the high tech digital d-19reads and bring back real books!! Libraries used to be pleasant, quiet welcoming sanctuaries. Now they are everything but that.
Reduce spending (although the new East Village location is gorgeous)
Reduce the top heavy management positions within the corporation, that would save us tax payers millions of dollars!!
Reinstate library card fees to help increase revenue
Renovate or upgrade libraries, improve online services
Smarter people makes for a smarter city, better decisions, stronger community, more arts, more innovation...yeah, increase libraries.
So very important! Funding to ensure accessible programs, enhanced collections, hours of operation, and innovation.
status quo, although central library a bit overbuilt and overfunded for capital. Money would have been better spent on programming throughout the city and not one shiny object.
Stop unnecessary spending!
Support library services.
Tax dollars are best spent by taxpayers...cut taxes

Tech makes the discussion on libraries both difficult & interesting. To reduce costs City should look to partner with the school systems to lower costs, improve access and be nimble for tech change. Tech sb levered 2 lower costs & improve service/acces
The Calgary Public Library is an essential service that lifts up Calgarians of all backgrounds. A strong library is essential to a socially just city.
The Calgary Public Library is far and away the greatest part of this city. Not only is it beautiful in its architecture but it is a world class system that deserves whatever it needs to shine more and help more people.
The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city
The city has built a number of new libraries in the past few years, so no new facilities should be required. More digital licences on new-release books would be a good way to attract more users online.
The Library brings together everyone. It's a true community centre. I hold it as the pinnacle in value. I plan on donating more money personally to the CPL, the programming, spaces and resources are exceptional,
The library is a critical service, full stop.
The library is great for affordability and specialization.
The library is so very important when times are tough. many people don't have internet/computer as these are expensive. the resources to use at the library are required for many folks.
The library is the heart and soul of Calgary. We are known for our innovative library system, we must support that.
The Library provides resources for all Calgarians - literacy is a tool for all ages, and in this day and age the only place in the city where print, visual, and digital services may be found.
The new library was a complete waste of money, but Nenshi had to out do Edmonton, same with the arena.
These are important so people of limited income have access to services
These should be low cost but effective services.
This is a declining construct. Focus on core services as a priority. Why is culture and recreation prioritized ahead of the Fire Department. You have your priorities backward here.
This is a service that is vital in our city. It deserves our funding and attention.
This should be City financed. It is not a profit center. Library cards should continue to be free to encourage library usage.
This worthy but needs to be more digital and fewer buildings to maintain.
Top notch.
User fees should be reintroduced.
Value is about providing access to information and knowldge. Library services are closer to informal and causal education where everyone has access to knowledge.
Very Important
Very important I think allow a online library would be beneficial
Very very important
Waste
We have a fantastic libary service in Calgary, would love to see it continue.
We have a lovely new library, our pride and joy.

We have a world class library, and the value from education is difficult to over-estimate though the internet does have an impact. I would maintain current funding but not increase it
We have good and affordable library services
We have such a fantastic library.
We should keep funding the same but it isn't the time to increase funding right now.
What a debacle. How are the administration/opex looking on this project? Right in line with projections? Did you by chance need to lease some more office space for admin staff to work in? BOOOOO
What we have is good. Central library is beautiful and a good tourist draw
Yep, another vanity project. Empty offices, no jobs, businesses going bankrupt but at least we have a fancy library for the unemployed to sit in to keep warm
Yes
Yes! These are such an important part of our children's learning development. Having access to library materials as well as knowledgeable staff is essential. We value our libraries so much.
Yes, continue on. :)
Maintain at current levels
Library spaces are critical for communities and different socio economic backgrounds. Different library programs help facilitate education and foster community.
Yes we need this
More funding contribution to increase the library services to low income neighborhoods required
Library services support so many other sectors; education, arts and culture, community building, access to services and poverty reduction. They are incredibly important, equitable and accessible to all.
Always support the library. It provides knowledge and is one of the last public spaces where you don't have to have money to spend time.
CPL is a draw for people coming to Calgary, Central library acts as a tourism highlight. Central and all other community library branches serve the city in big and small ways everyday.
Education, inclusion and accessibility all rely on a free public library system
Libraries are important for ELC, for accessibility for all readers, for continued learning and for assisting school literacy
Calgary has the BEST library system. The central library is amazing, and the community libraries all have their unique flavour and character. Great resources, great spaces, and a place where the community comes together. It's critical that it is funded
Hugely important services here, offering free books, music, classes and computer access. Investing in libraries is to everyone's benefit. There are plenty of things you can't get for free online. We need the library.
The public library offers everything for free. They have a wide range of content and programming and definitely need to be supported because everything they do, gives back to the community
Critical to City. Many youth use as an area for growth.
The library has done a good job of digitalizing their services and resources and is a valuable resource for low income families and people with special needs. It's niche is partnering with agencies and government services to provide literacy.
very important value
Library embodies affordability and equity- open for all citizens, membership is free, printing and using computers are free, and overdue fines are no longer charged.

The Library fosters literacy & early literacy (what children know about reading & writing before they are taught those skills). It also provides essential access to the Internet for needy families. What's more important than that?
Please continue to support Calgary Public Library. Without the library I would not be able to afford to read the number of books that I have at my fingertips.
Libraries have a place, but need to find a way to be relevant in the age of digital information. How much are they still used now that basically everyone has access to the internet. Possibly integrate them into something more modern.
Affordability
Library services are not as essential as economic development and recovery.
Providing innovative programs and maintaining barrier reduction, accessibility, equity, access to information, an emphasis on alleviating illiteracy, ability to provide service in many languages, diversity and representation in leadership. Reconciliation.
Invest in the website. The user experience and navigation is TERRIBLE. Who built this?
adding more libraries and lots of free programs both online and in person that citizens can use to better themselves, gain professional development, experience cultural activities, etc.
Fire. Nenchi and cut taxes
no comment
More outreach services from the library
our libraries are sanctuaries for many, with free and accessible services they are heavily relied on and needed for our lower income families
Love the library, but make sure the fees and fines are back. Getting a book will take forever if everybody keep books for months.
This is important
Again, the Library is the best option we have to support all groups within Calgary. The Library has potential to change lives - from seniors who are isolated to young readers to job support. The Library has a BIG role to play in pandemic economic recovery
Good as is.
Very important. Everything is free with no barriers or restrictions. It is a great help to all in need.
We believe the designers did an outstanding job on the new library. It is an inspiration to our citizens and our community. Library's Are the key To our Education And Our Future.
Great service
We can't lose this, we need to continue to fund public libraries and their programs and the safe space they provides.

Participant comments: Heritage

What does value look like and what are your expectations for partnerships that focus on Heritage Preservation Services: may include promoting and supporting preservation of Calgary's historic buildings.

?
Absolutely - that has value for the Citizens of Calgary
Agreed

An absolute must, but we do not have to reinvent the wheel, learn from other cities that have met & exceeded there expectations. Unless it is poorly designed and built traffic circles - they need to be ripped down & rebuilt
As long as we can do this cost efficiently without raising user fees or taxes.
Bare minimum to maintain....not enough money to fund this right now.
Bare minimum. Enough to remember who we are but not a penny more
Beyond support for Heritage Park, Heritage Preservation is not high on our family's priorities. The scope should be appropriately contained and focused on economic development, increasing tax base thru value accretion and reducing overall tax burden.
Burn them down. Seriously. If you keep spending like this we might as well burn the whole city down. We'll be a slightly larger winnipeg if Druh, Naheed, Evan, and Gian get there way.
Calgary does a great job
Calgary has a habit of tearing down its past, and it would be great to see more of its neighbourhood character preserved. At the same time, as the city grows and (hopefully) densifies, these neighbourhoods may need to change. The balance must be sought.
Calgary has rarely invested in heritage. Out with the old and in with the new
Calgary truly does not seem to care about preserving historic buildings and this is a real flaw in the design of this city. We should not just be a city of glass.
Connecting businesses to opportunities which incorporate historical properties, staying true to principles of preservation without excluding creative use of properties.
Council needs to make this a PRIORITY
Critical for our preserves culture.
Cut all spending until 2022
Cut back on the waste associated with city "art " purchases
Declare and protect heritage buildings if possible, but these needed to be assessed for cost benefit analysis.
Definitely agree, I think it's important to preserve all historic buildings
Defund the arts
Do not defund our first responders
Do not let old buildings rot for decades, creating safety hazards, then decide they're historic and have to pour millions in to undo the neglect, maintain maintain maintain!
Do not spend on this. Simple specify the some old and architecturally interesting buildings cannot be demolished or modified.
Do what we can with limited funding
Don't know much about this.
dont
Education for all people, access to experience and learn more about these buildings.
equity, specialization, innovation, affordability, diversity, visibility
Focus o core services, current and future infrastructure, planning, parks, then this...
For present ones. We haven't heard about city hall unveiling...give public virtual tours..
goes with tourism
good idea but only allow a very small budget

Good, we have young buildings but preserving them helps keep the character and history of the city
Heavily invest specifically in indigenous focuses
Heritage builds community character and should be celebrated. Value would be through asset-backed interest free loans through the CAs or BIAs to preserve/restore private property.
Heritage is important to preserve. Maybe make a list of what is considered heritage
Heritage preservation for the Canton Block and Ho Lem Block in Chinatown. https://www.calgary.ca/pda/pd/heritage-planning/inventory-of-evaluated-historic-resources.html
Heritage Preservation should be regularly assessed as the best use of the location. Preservation of these properties should drive tourism to the city.
Highlighting more of the historical buildings in Calgary would be essential. Tying this in with the startup community in Calgary there could be some neat workspace that come up versus only office towers.
Historical buildings are important and should be preserved
How? Please explain...
Huge value. Find money for this.
I Agree - There Should Be More Attention To Protect Our Historical Buildings In the Future.
I am not educated on this issue enough to comment.
I believe this falls under arts & culture.
I cant do this any longer.
I don't have as much deep desire to preserve heritage buildings as investing in the other areas.
I feel history is important and we can learn lessons from same.
I like this. Pretty hard to preserve those old sandstone buildings but hopefully we can keep some old buildings.
I support the additional 2 million dollar funding increase being debated in Nov. As an active member of the Heritage Community, I support the need to preserve the heritage buildings we still have. Make it it worthwhile for Landlords to keep and renovate.
I value this
If its falling down and a danger to public, fix it or work on getting some Provincial/ federal funds. Perhaps private sponsorships to improve or save historic places.
If poverty, access to information, arts, parks, and transit are already fully funded.
If they lasted this long they can wait a few more years for the economy to improve.
I'm sick of essential services being cut for things that look pretty. Pretty things don't save lives and provide long term economic stability. When we have more tax base then yes, not now.
Important but not an area we can invest large amounts of capital at this time.
important but should not be increased
In moderation.
In specific areas of key areas in Calgary - keep it to significant buildings with unique characteristics
In these times..... be smarter
Incorporate into city promotions. Coordinated with other services like arts, tourism, libraries, parks
Increase focus on this -- it supports tourism and unique attractions.
Increase to maximise service
Innovation and equity
Keep the current preservation

Keep them preserved, but don't over pay to keep them up. Get corporate funding .
Leave it as is.
Less tear down of heritage buildings.
Limited investment, does not benefit MOST
LoL. What heritage? Knock that down to make room for development
Lower fees at heritage park so more can go and make it economically viable
Maintain current levels of funding and support.
Make historic venues available for events/meetings at low cost.
Massive fail to date. Either do it properly or not at all. Funny how a "historical" building was burned down instead of being "preserved ".
Meh
Memorial park is an incredibly important historic site for the city— one that I believe not enough Calgarians are aware of!
minimal
N/A
N/A
Need to increase broad understanding of why heritage is valuable and how it contributes to economic development and growth. Not saving things just for the sake of preserving something old. About telling stories and creating opportunities for new stories.
Need to remember our history
Nice but new mixed with old works well enough.
No
No public funds should be used for that.
No thank-you.
No value.
Not a fan but see it's importance in appropriate cases. Let the market sort out the rest.
Not a huge priority. Keep nice buildings around, but this is not as high a priority for spending as services that provide increased opportunity for citizens.
Not important
Not important in constrained budgets
Not important now. Economy is struggling.
Not interested
Not key at this time
Only by popular demand or scientific merit.
Only if financially logical
Only if they can produce revenue
Our heritage is part of our identity, calgary has not had a strong past of preserving historic buildings
Preserve Calgary's history
Preserve more heritage buildings, stop gentrification
Preserve our natural setting that is the draw.
Preserve, but if restoration costs are in the millions, abandon it. Support humans over buildings.

preserving character buildings is important to keep what makes calgary unique intact. Sandstone buildings keep things interesting.
Preserving the look of a neighborhood or a building is not important to me if you weigh it against the other services you discuss here. Pay the firemen, get people out of poverty, make libraries better, improve transit and scrap this sort of thing.
Priority 2 (lower value), let private sector create & evolve this.
Private donors? I don't know how this can be a priority in the economic climate we are in.
Promote historic buildings
Protecting aspects of built environment that tell our collective story and help explain who we are and why we have the city we have today.
Provide funding for historic buildings to build modern additions with art installations
Questionable value in these economic times of hardship.
Reasonable investment should be made to prevent future significant expense, see the British Houses of Parliament for example of the cost of delay
Reduce costs, find efficiencies, reduce red tape, cut cut cut where you can.
Reduce the top heavy management positions within the corporation, that would save us tax payers millions of dollars!!
Save for later date when we have \$
Some buildings, like those along 7th Avenue downtown just east of the Hyatt, may be historic but are an eyesore. Other initiatives, like preserving Ingelwood's architectural style, are worth investing in.
somewhat important
Sounds great there aren't many buildings it hard to prove we have heritage without saving some status quo, do not add more resources, vocal but small crowd that doesn't focus on true historic resources but aims for anything and everything "old"
Tax dollars are best spent by taxpayers...cut taxes
Teaming up with economic development and tourism. Heritage tours, using heritage sites as business conference venues.
The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city
The protection of heritage buildings should be a legal requirement and should be promoted through approval processes for development permits.
There are already people doing this.
These should be low cost but effective services.
This is a City committee.
This is a good idea but sometimes not feasible due to degradation of the site. Try to do this with private money and volunteers rather than pouring money into it.
This is a nice-to-have, but we should be focusing on supporting Calgary's citizens in need first, buildings second.
This is critical to a livable city that is desirable for residents and visitors.
This is essential. Increased learning and reconciliation with our history is important.
This is important.
This is not personally important to me.

This is so important. I love places like Heritage Park; when my family have visitors, it's always one of our first stops. Preserving historic buildings is preserving part of Calgary's story.
This shouldn't again be funded at the cost of taking more money from Calgary's residents.
This work helps keep character in Calgary. Tourists want to see something unique to the place that visit and locals want to feel connected to the city's past. This is an economic investment. It's also better for the environment.
Total cut
Unsure
Use a Belgium solution. Keep the facade but no need to keep the buildings
Use bylaws to prevent historical buildings from being destroyed. Look at how the cities own development allowances are distroying the historical make up of neighborhoods by tearing down existing homes for higher density duplexes ake up of n
Value
We are a relatively young city. Stephen Ave is the core of our heritage buildings, as is Heritage Park. Continue to support, but not at the detriment to more immediate needs like affordable housing and shelters.
We must accept our history, leaders, builders and societies were flawed. This does not mean that we should dismantle, destroy, remove, hide, deny or ignore the full contributions as well as the harmful realities in our past. Accept and learn from it.
We need immediate protection for all historic buildings (particularly anything built before 1920)- they must be preserved and maintained at all costs, with steep fines if they "accidentally" catch fire in the interim.
Whichever ones are left, yes. Too many are already gone, so yes, hang on to what is left.
White culture already gets enough attention. Stop spending money protecting old colonizer houses. Encourage the use of proper indigenous languages in signage and identification of features especially in parks.
Xero value
Yes this is important but should be tabled until the economy has recovered so it doesn't raise taxes.
Yes we should value our own history
Yes, some buildings should be preserved and cared for (Laugheed House, Old No. 1 Firehall), at least those that have served a purpose for the city and do have a legacy. But some buildings may be too far gone or too expensive to maintain and should be let
Defund
Is it possible to design QR codes and have audio clips in different languages as a way for people to do things outside and learn about the heritage of our buildings
Along with new beautiful architecture, we need to preserve the few heritage buildings left.
Please stop tearing down historic buildings. Having attractive interesting history props up arts and culture, tourism, etc.
PLEASE never go back to tearing down our history!! It must be retained, maintained and promoted!
A city that doesn't preserve it's history is doomed to repeat mistakes of the past. Investing in heritage grounds the community in who we were, and helps inspire who we can become. This also supports local industry and craftsmen.
Other than preserving historical buildings, don't think Calgary history is a priority right now.
I don't have any comments on this aspect.
Very important as a value

There is value in preserving our heritage
Work with private companies to repurpose these types of buildings so that they are still intact, and are being used, rather than sitting empty.
Efficiency
Heritage Preservation is important but right now with limited money we need to focus on economic development and recovery.
All forms of heritage included buildings and spaces. Commitment to reconciliation and actively seeking Indigenous input.
Neighbourhoods are better, draw more people, are safer with some history preserved, mixed with modern. Sadly this rarely happens in Calgary.
Should always keep the historical buildings.
look at how to make the process easier to encourage developers to support and refurbish heritage buildings instead of tearing down and replacing.
Fire. Nenchi and cut taxes
need a law protecting our statues
Collaborate with arts organizations to preserve and enliven existing spaces
Yes, keep old buildings !
somewhat important
Please engage the public more.
Yes, we need to preserve these important buildings!!
We think we're doing all that is necessaryIn the Heritage preservation Area.This is a young communityAnd does not have the diversityOf older buildingsThat older communities Have.
Historic buildings should be preserved
Heritage is so important and used in educational capacities as well.

Online Services Verbatim

Questions asked

We are also looking at services we can deliver online. We want to hear from you about potential impacts to you.

- What opportunities do you see in these new ways of providing service to citizens? How could this make it easier for you to get what you need from City services?
- What challenges do you see in these new ways of providing service to citizens? How could this make it harder for you to get what you need from City services? Are there other ways you would like to use services or have them delivered?
- There are a few areas where we could save money by moving the services to online-only. And like with other changes to services there are trade-off. We know some of them already and want to hear more about what could be the impact to you if any of the following services were made online only:
 - What would be the impact to you, positive or negative, if recreation information was online-only? This would be information about classes, programs, etc. at City of Calgary facilities.

- What would be the impact to you, positive or negative, if your property tax information and annual bill were online-only? This is the paper mail statement that most Calgarians get every year. Right now a small percentage of Calgarians already get their statements electronically through myID www.calgary.ca/myid

Participant comments opportunities

What opportunities do you see in these new ways of providing service to citizens?

It would be wonderful for me, especially in time of Covid. And going forward as more people realize they don't have to go out for everything.
I think if services such as paying property tax was done majorly online, that could save on having many tellers present to receive the payments. Also, teaching Calgarians how to purchase transit passes online may reduce the need for in person purchases or having a way to buy the monthly tickets at the LRT may also help. Like in New York or London where you can buy monthly passes at the station
The more services online the better for me!
Online accessibility is essential right now
More options to report concerns
Online services allow for better citizen engagement. For example, allowing for people to speak at council without coming to city hall has made the process more approachable and removes the power dynamic of council chambers.
Everything possible should be done online. It reduces cost and time.
It doesn't. Use people to deliver services;
Online makes things 24/7 accessible (online resources, pre-recorded videos, etc). It is also more accessible for those with disabilities as they do not need to travel and can use home equipment to access information and services.
Online access is great when mobility, transit access or a pandemic is an issue. I use online pet licensing and have bought transit tickets this way. It's very convenient.
Very user unfriendly . Hard to find information. Need to fix the search function and insider terms Pkain English would be helpful.
More online implies more efficiencies and as such, I would expect reduced administrative head counts where possible.
Submitting applications for services such as fair entry is quick online. Online program searches/registration for recreation programs can be brutal. Either a million programs pop up or none!!
There's lots of things that can be moved online, all development permits, appeal meetings can Continue to be run online
Online is the future.
k
I love the online resources and would love to be able to access all my city based needs in one place.
Not absolutely certain how providing more online services to us could make it easier for us to get what you need from City services, however, we support the principle of leveraging technology to reduce the cost of City services while improving the quality and responsiveness of services. In summary, we expect the City to use technology to REDUCE taxes and fees.
Don't know but I am sure you could save money in the area of staffing monitoring these online things
Please just move services online. The benefits are known. The cost is worth it in the long run because the municipality makes conducting service easier for the customers that want to use it online (growing,

not shrinking number), it can have meaningful savings impacts (there's no merit to the taxpayer in protecting outdated jobs), and it makes your organization look competent (ie "with it")
I hate making phone calls and in person requirements, so this would mean I can actually request the services I need/want
On line services make it easier for people to access the services they require. For example, being able to renew our annual dog license on line is a great time saver for me. To be honest I am not familiar with all online services currently available so cannot offer more insight.
The city should continue in expanding their online services, until is has fully gone paperless.
Online chat with 311 for issues that are not listed in the app.
I don't regularly engage in city services, so I don't have useful feedback for this.
Improved timeframes
Local staff who are knowledgeable. Don't outsource
using the 311 online system as an example, providing more online has vastly improved services. the world is becoming more digital so increasing the services in online formats should help reduce costs of services and focus resources on services that require physical assets.
Keep it simple, we don't need an abundance of options, a website and social media will suffice.
I think the more services that you can provide online, the better. This would remove wait lines and the need to travel to specific locations to obtain services. This would also reduce the pressure on serving the citizens who are unable to obtain services online due to computer access, age or illness-related limitations, etc.
More online is good as long as other positions are eliminated. A 20-30% staff reduction in any area that increases online services.
Alerts via text when there is something new to see, with a link to it. (Currently it is difficult to find most things on Calgary.ca)
I really don't know how the City could advance opportunities for citizens concerning online delivery. I have never had issues and 311 is great.
None
The services I use are already online.
Could be a useful tool for Covid times.
Put real time gps in busses etc you'd be able to see how some sit around doing nothing all day and the public would see when they should leave to catch certain rides, we live it the cold 6 months a year
provide a one window portal for taxes, permits, user fees, etc.
If you go online, you need to be responsive, currently response time is non existent or 48hrs later which is totally not acceptable.
311 is a good clearing house for services. My experience using telephone 311 and online has been positive.
I like online services as long as these are secure. Much quicker and convenient. Online services need to work for mobile and computer devices.
Online services, if properly designed, can improve user convenience. . . Less wait time is a potential advantage.
None- it's just a way to decrease staffing (because what we need is MORE unemployment now!). City of Calgary websites are often laid out so that the information you need is buried behind layers of links- it's often faster to call someone and get the information that way.
Would be easier than 311 if material is easily found and or searchable.

I think it is a great idea. Citizens can get access to services any time they need them, anywhere. The City website isn't well designed and I'd like to see a more modern, easy-to-use design.
If the online service is easy to use, my experience is it's too hard and frustrating to not talk to someone.
Much easier
None. Go online. Reduce the number of employees by a considerable amount.
This is the online era, and is very important to have all services accessible online for situations like the quarentene we just got.
It wouldn't.
The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city
If it saves money Put it online. But this survey is garbage. It doesn't even say which services you are thinking of putting online?!
Transit app and website is VERY confusing. Please make more user friendly!
Make direct telephone access available to the public. Make it easy to bypass the 311 answering service. The city online services are not intuitive and hard to use.
Online is great. Get a building permit, file a complaint, buy a bus pass or pay by app. (The parkplus app is great. I don't use it often but it's nice to just punch in the code, start, end easy)
Would not make easier.
I love the online app that tells me when my garbage and compost bins are being picked up. The reminders and helpful hints are just great.
Provide an option for all Services to be online. Permits etc
Online is easier in every way, however not everyone has access to the internet or a computer. Kiosks should be set up at city for free access to online only city services.
Any permits, tickets, licences can be done online.
It is at your finger tips, easily accessible for most but not all.
Not being restricted to business hours to find out information.
It's the modern way, evolve with it
Tutorials and pubic awareness
answer concerns and fix issues don't ignore people
A much better database, easier to search, of all civic bylaws would be of real value. All of the city's bylaws should be easily accessible and in one central location online.
Submission of All signed Agreements - accept digital signatures and corporations digital stamps, payments for permits, repayments, levies And deposits, online submission of letter of credits and bonds. All tax information digital and ability to pay online.
Everything should be accessible online
cut the red tape
I'd personally find it more convenient. If the primary source of info is online, sites would be more likely to stay updated.
inspections can be done via facetime/team meetings and photos /screen captures can be sent back and forth.
I like doing everything online. The more online the better.
Cut the red tape it is difficult to get the right answer from the right department. Too much passing to some one else

Information can update frequently
The vast majority of the population is using their phone for information as it is, putting more services online just fits this trend.
Increasing the amounts of data available for open use.
I only ever do things online, it's way simpler
Much easier - reduced wait times, less in-person contact, perhaps longer available hours? A user-friendly system could also walk people through forms, etc.
Maybe online chat for 311 in addition to the phone line.
Online services are cheaper to deliver and better for standard applications/issues. Focus the staff resources and expertise for more complex files.
Ease of access to information is a useful tool that comes from better online services. But don't get so far gone that vital human interaction is taken away as well (building inspection, clarification of an issue, 311 services that the online tool can't handle). There needs to be balance with the progression to online servicing.
The vast majority of interactions with citizens should take place online. Registrations / permitting, information exchange, payments, etc. should all be occur online.
Will it cost more? Don't do it.
Cost reductions could be achieved this way, no waiting in lines (as long as your website doesn't crash)
I don't need anything from the city usually. Property tax and garbage info on occasion. All services should be online these days.
Offer a number where people can ask for help texting instead a phone call.... sometimes if you are in danger is more discreet and fast a text and share location from the phone if needed
I already have a City account. The biggest problem with complex online services is that the information on a site is provided as if we are the experts working in the department. Instead, the online site should anticipate that we are newbies at the task with quick links available for those with more experience.
How about you get rid of the green cart program and we can just keep our compost at home? Waste of tax dollars!
The more online the better. Please care about easy access and an intuitive flow of the access. But care about seniors too. Plan B for them should be in place.
Tax dollars are best spent by taxpayers...cut taxes
They are excellent. A universal login would be awesome
In 2020/21 we should be more online and more automated.
Services as much as reasonably possible should be Online only (i.e. it's 2020..)
An awesome opportunity to hire more people.
My current interaction with the City is very minimal, however I wonder if the process for disputing property tax bills could not be much more streamlined and made cost efficient through the use of technology.
Having information available online is great - for many, this is the simplest and time-effective means of accessing information.
Promote online interactions over 311 call centre as much as possible. I have called into 311 dozens of times over the years for garbage/blue/green bin related issues (missed pick ups due to house being in a weird spot). I imagine servicing an inquiry online would be more cost effective.
Online is much easier for most
Everything should be moved online.

As someone in my 30's this would be an easy adjustment and help reduce unnecessary physical contact during covid19.
If we can offer the same or better service, sure. But it also increases access issues for some groups, and reduces community interaction.
What types of City services? What kind of question is this?
Make more services accessible by 311 app. Such as requesting a new garbage bin or reporting an animal at large
There are lots of ways the city provides service effectively online. 311 works well.
No need to take time off work. This would be a huge help with every service available online. It would also help in paying any bills on time as it can immediately be done and not so easily forgotten about.
Some services could be done online, but we have to make sure that they are very friendly and accessible to everyone
24 hour access to many services.
Yes! I would rather get an email response than be on hold waiting forever on the phone.
Convenience is key and so helpful for someone such as myself who has computer literacy. However, not at the expense of someone who does not have easy access to an internet connection or possess adequate computer literacy skills.
There are a few things I would like to report online like noise issues or the fact that the garbage truck missed my garbage. Can't do that using the 311 app and I don't even see streetlights there anymore. Sometimes the record is closed yet the pothole is still there, so I have to call. Those should be fixed. My wheels fell off the green cart awhile back, had to call it in should be online too.
Pushing to a better, more friendly online experience would be amazing. Potentially consolidating the numerous City of Calgary apps into fewer for example instead of having one per department. If it's user friendly, even the site, it would be great to be a one stop shop for everything regarding the city.
Everything and anything. I'm used to finding information online and hate going anywhere in person to fill our forms/apply etc. Make everything online for the majority. But provide people from older generations a couple of locations where that can go in person as well.
311 already has an App to provide services. I think it makes sense to expand online access city services.
All services that can be taken online should be. Example is recreation refunds, if I pay in person, why can't I get a refund online.? Why do we still print program guides and bus schedules? Fitness classes could be provided online, using lunch breaks and early mornings as people are now working from home.
Make it easier to do business. Don't force me to go downtown city hall.

Participant comments challenges

What challenges do you see in these new ways of providing service to citizens? How could this make it harder for you to get what you need from City services? Are there other ways you would like to use services or have them delivered?

I can see elders, disabled, and those without access to technology having issues, but I hope that more services available online would free up the in person systems for them to be served faster.
Education, there will be an initial cost in educating the public.
It wouldn't make it harder for me but maybe for some older Calgarians it would be an issue.
Online is important but A human component can't be replaced
Online not working or doesn't have answers I need.

Government websites are about ten years behind the modern web. Things like modernizing notification systems, creating a better search experience, etc. are required to make the online experience meet modern demands. For example, why can't I subscribe to hear about all the public engagements taking place in my neighbourhood?
In person should be reserved for those who do not have access to the internet.
Not everyone has technology or the ether
Depending on the service, it can be expensive and time-consuming to set up. Users may have questions or concerns not answered online and need phone or in-person consultation.
None known. As long as it's secure!
I am not very tech savvy and I feel this is another way to shut off residents.
Keep supporting the app, everybody has a smart phone now. Very few don't and for them, keep a few 3-1-1 staff available.
Language barrier and technology literacy. I work with kis and For reference it took 1hr and 43 mins to apply for fair entry online for someone with limited English, that was with one on one guiding over the phone and screenshots with instructions.
More departments moved online no need for all the office space currently used
People with limited internet access will have difficulties accessing services they need.
k
It would likely impact the ability of the poor and elderly to access city resources.
Many do know have computers or are computer literate.
For us we see believe it will be EASIER for our family to access City Service online and less costly to the City. We expect the City to use technology to deliver services more efficiently and effectively. In the end we expect lower City costs to do so and a REDUCTION IN taxes and fees.
None
Design it around the user and it just can't make it kore challenging. Listen to users more than risk-averse resistors and you'll be just fine.
online is absolutely the best way to provide service to me, but not everyone has access to good internet or a computer, and not everyone is computer literate
Internet service and computers aren't accessible to all. The challenge is ensuring those with low incomes and seniors are just some of the people who would struggle if services were not available in an on line format.
I understand that a low percentage of the population would find difficult to cope, like using not owning a computer or smart phone. but again what is the percentage. Public services should be aimed at providing services for the majority of the population, as they provide most of the taxes collected. Civic government plan should not be based on a very small minority .
I don't regularly engage in city services, so I don't have useful feedback for this.
No
Delineating services that cannot be done online and ensuring that no barriers to access are created due to lack of technological access.
The city itself is its own biggest obstacle! Look how long it took for Transit to finally get its act together on electronic fare payments, and HOW MUCH and HOW LONG did it take? Ridiculous. And thats just one example.
No

The City has already made some great strides in moving things online. Challenges come in when you can't find what you are looking for because you are using different terminology than how it's set up online. A powerful search engine to better come up with results on searches would help. Also the option to open a chat with someone online to help with questions or issues using the online service.
Have back-ups and cross train. If I need to stay on hold a bit longer than fine.
Via phone or app.
Again, I have no issues with the way the City delivers services. Plenty of options available.
None
The volume of online requests and client expectations for rapid response/resolution creates increased workload and demand for resources. Resulting in no net savings.
There is a huge gap in people who don't have access to computer/ internet and people who are not fluent or capable online it is so easy to leave this huge chunk of the city behind and they are usually the ones who most need the help. Online is helpful tool but online exclusive leaves people behind. I think increases digital access and literacy is key.
Bad question
A challenge will be the increased liability risk the city takes on with online services and technological security. I trust the city has hacking insurance?
The 311 app is a good start. refresh online platforms with updated service fields to represent a broader service category list. Older populations and vulnerable populations may not have as much access to technology.
-online is good providing it is efficient and responsive, no delays, and results in lower costs
Telephone and online are the easiest options available. Most people now have smart phones. Fewer physical offices needed in the community if managed via a call centre. This is a non-issue.
Not everyone has or can use a computer. It seems that this would leave many citizens unable to access services and uninformed.
Would not make it harder. People without mobile devices or people with physical impairments would have difficulties.
Many seniors lack the computer skills to use online services. Also, people of modest means do not always have easy access to computer equipment or the means to pay costly cable bills to allow online access.
It makes getting information more difficult, especially for people who don't have access to computers or don't have experience in the online sphere.
One off or unique situations or circumstances would be much more difficult to receive support.
None
Talking to a real person is best
Possible longer wait times for a response for service
Very little. Onsite visits still require delivery, but so much more should be online.
The need to help people to understand how to navigate and use online services safely. Per instance we can get all the nonprofits to support the city on this.
An automated menu system can never provide the answers, knowledge and expertise of a person. A person is the only one who can understand various intricacies or odd details and how to or to whom questions may be resolved or referred.
There still exist many people who do not have the means and access to computers.

The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city
What service are you thinking of putting online?! How can you know what challenges you might face when you haven't told us which service it is!
With the city running it, it will likely cost more than present services.
Easy telephone access. No wasting of time with answering service (311) . No call centers. Contract out as much
There are still many people with limited ability to use online services. There still needs to good phone, in person access for them.
Prefer mail.
I suppose if people do not have access to internet or a computer, it would make it difficult to access city services online, but I like the idea of reducing paper but still giving everyone access to information.
People will need to adjust and there may be resistance. Some won't have computers and options will need to be spelled out. A huge percentage however would use online
Not harder for me, but for the vulnerable population who may not have access, computers or other barriers. Alternate means like Kiosks and a "general" city desk should be available so in person transactions can still take place
There is no impact on my household however for citizens who are older or disadvantaged may not have access to technology so this would have to be taken into consideration when deciding on which services might be affected.
Software might be an issue or in case of any not standardized requests it might take longer to get answers.
Access to online services is not available to all.
Face to face offers more understanding of nuances rather than pick from 3 choices.
Make sure that things are updated quickly so that online information is accurate.
It may disadvantage elderly and low income Calgarians, some mailouts should be maintained but internet services should be encouraged/incentivized.
Those without the tools.
Yes dont ignore people don't say that the concerns will be looked after when you get time just get it done
Only challenge is if internal staff doesn't have proper equipment to receive online submission.
I want to do everything without having to go anywhere or call anyone
cut the red tape hire best people for the job
If I'm not actively seeking info about my community, I wouldn't come across it - harder to discover things about where I live organically. Sometimes it feels like our whole lives are online and we neglect our tangible surroundings, which is just an existential bummer.
LOTS of things can be done virtually/online and given how large the city is, it would save on travel time and maybe allow for 'off-hour' requests.
Not everyone has internet access. An integrated service centre that can help people over the phone or in-person (perhaps doing things online for them) will be critical to support access. This needs to be available 24/7 via phone and easily accessible in-person in multiple locations in The City (maybe mall kiosk locations or at train stations?). Business hours don't work for many families.
It may be difficult for lower income Calgarians. Making services mobile friendly would be important.
Online

Special needs or folks who have difficulty using the web (whatever the reason - economic or skill related) will still and should be provided alternatives
I think the aging population may have issues with it. From a personal standpoint though it wouldn't make it harder for me to get what I need.
Long term governance is often an issue that gets overlooked in planning.
No Challenges going digital for me unless you are using the system you are using right now. It is not user friendly.
Older people won't be able to cope with online only, the city should leave a 311 option for them so they can call
I worry about seniors, newcomers and those without access toe technology.
Focus on the user experience of citizens.
Some people don't have access to Internet and some refuse to learn to do it (like my mother). There still needs to be alternatives to online servicing even if in a scaled back version.
Moving services online would have no negative impact for me.
Equity in access to devices is the stumbling block as well as acecess to internet/wifi. You would need to ensure that those who do not have access to these at home would have an alternative access -- ? through libraries? elsewhere?
You must still provide offline services for the technologically inept, or the poor without access.
Not equitable for those without internet access
It's great to offer the possibility to share location with the authorities instead making a phone call and talking to an operator and while someone is about to be rape, been kidnapped or suffer from domestic violence, etc... easier to hide in the bathroom and text for example...
Make websites mobile friendly
Some people don't have computers, and can't/won't work at the library. Many people are afraid to work on computers. And some people just work better with the human touch.
Info about changes is not always delivered. Maybe add a page about latest changes on the website for citizens to get a review. Social media seem to be helpful in delivering.
Tax dollars are best spent by taxpayers...cut taxes
Making sure the login is consistent would be nice. Perhaps with tracking of pets and addresses
Some citizens are unable to utilize tech. Support should be available
None, we should be an innovative city in this regard and progress moving as much as possible to online
Ok for me, but could be an access problem. Not everyone has reliable internet access and some are not comfortable with online services.
If people have no choice they figure it out or don't bother and miss out.
I don't believe using on-line services should have any impact on getting what we need from the City. In fact I would see this largely a way to improve and stay relevant with other industries/service providers. While moving online one consideration is to ensure you have local agents for either online chat or direct phone call.
The primary problems I see with having a solely online service are 1) Accessibility. Not everyone has access to or understands how to use the internet (think seniors). Being able to call and ask for assistance is necessary 2) Similarly, sometimes online info is not clear, or someone's situation with fall between the cracks. Having additional resources - like a phone number - is important.
Online only might be a challenge for the disabled or elderly, but reducing call loads by a material amount as more people shift online should be the goal.

Barriers to senior citizens of exclusively online
While it wouldn't make it harder for me specifically, I could see a less technology savvy population really suffering with shift. I think that if there are online services, this should also be afforded through the telephone or with trained personnel at outreach stations such as the library or community associations etc.
What types of City services? What kind of question is this?
It is harder for seniors or those who can not afford to access computers or cell phones. No everyone wants to be sent to the library to use the computers, especially after Covid 19. Some paper or telephone/in-person service is always needed.
The challenge to this is equitable access. How do you make this accessible to people who don't have internet, or a device, or knowledge of how to use a computer. There needs to be a GBA+ analysis of this approach, and ways to mitigate any potential challenge for those who are the most vulnerable.
No challenges for me. I would be concerned about elderly folks, but for my parents as an example, their kids all try to help take on any difficult electronic tasks.
Seniors, new immigrants are not computer savvy and they may have difficult handling an online service
It wouldn't effect me personally, but what about those who don't have easy access to the Internet? The Library could help them, but not if it's budget is cut.
Online services provide a barrier to service for those without easy access to internet connections, computers, or who lack the computer literacy skills to navigate online forms even when they have access to a computer /internet.
Still want someone to call if I have a concern with the issue not being fixed. I trust people more than web pages in those instances.
There are people who aren't as technically inclined as others that will still need some assistance. Giving 311 the tools to handle that but pushing people to go online first and use that as a last resort (rather than calling 311 immediately) is fine. Potentially even a online chat system like some teleservice providers with a call back option from a 311 rep.
not all citizens have access to the internet and or a computer. Moving services online only will create hardship to some citizens.
This would not be a hardship for me in any way but can affect vulnerable people who have limited access/knowledge of internet.
Sometimes it is useful to have phone access and people who do not have readily available online access would be disadvantaged.
Access to digital devices would be a challenge. Not all Calgarians are equipped to be completely digital.
If I can't call do I have to do everything on the web? Not always easy to answer to a computer.

Participant comments online-only recreation

What would be the impact to you, positive or negative, if recreation information was online-only?

No impact, I already seek out information this way.
I do not mind if that information was online. It just needs to be clear and succinct for the everyday person to comprehend.
no impact
Im fine with that but people over 45years old will struggle
Does this mean I can't call 311 anymore? I don't want that.

Positive, providing the websites were made very easy to navigate! Scheduling a birthday party for example, or school event.
This would have no impact on my family - we only view these details online. That said, an online survey asking if information went online-only seems like you might be missing out on the results from a key audience: those people with limited or no online connection. There has to be a plan to still provide these individuals with the information they seek.
Online only is okay as long as there are resources (perhaps at library) to enable access. It is also necessary to support seniors or others that are less tech savvy.
Positive, if everything possible was online people would learn to go there for information. As long as it is user friendly.
Negative
There would be no impact to me. It could be confusing if you do not search information and show up at a recreation facility and can't get information or know where to go. Not everyone has a smart phone to access this information on the go.
They should be online only. That's how private fitness business operate.
I would only access it this way for planning, and haven't referred to a paper guide in years. A print on demand option is a good idea for patrons who find online use difficult. Staff could print it at the facility, for instance.
Negative as there is never timely information and really hard to find
Zero impact, prefer online if it means cost savings.
It would be fine if the system was more user friendly. Creating an individual recreation program is easy but registering and the section where you search based on days of the weeks/times is brutal and only works sometimes!
None
Great idea. As much as possible online
N/A
k
No impact. Completely support.
I would be fine with this initiative however, those who are illiterate in computers would be excluded.
POSITIVE. Again, for for family we see believe it will be EASIER for our family to access City Services (recreation or otherwise) online and less costly to the City. We expect the City to use technology to deliver services more efficiently and effectively. In the end we expect lower City costs to do so and a REDUCTION IN taxes and fees.
The set up for viewing programs on-line at recreational facilities is extremely poor and cumbersome. The hard copy program guidelines are much easier to follow.
None. You can find everything online and no need to have a live person
Positive only, it's the only place I'd look anyways. To be honest, if it wasn't online and easy I probably wouldn't bother.
For me there is no impact as this is where I get all my information. But consider the people who don't have reliable internet and computer access - even kids who are visiting recreation centres to get info. And seniors/people who are not computer literate.

I think most people seek out this information online first already. Having the program guides in some rec facilities is nice for parents to read while they wait but not as necessary in large quantities. Could print less brochures and instead create some ads for programs and direct people to website for more info.
No negative impact to me provided the system to access the info is user friendly and intuitive to use.
Positive, I find that kind of silly to print those activities booklets a few times a year, I would be interested in finding the cost associated with that.
I would be fine with this. Although I might be concerned about lower income levels having access. Bit as long as library internet access remained available I think it could work.
To me, there would be no positive or negative. Just the hassle of learning how to find it the first time. However, for my 81 year-old technically-challenged mother, or friends that don't have Internet/cellphones, they would be negatively impacted if a call-in line wasn't available.
No negative impact. Have employed online services only, for years.
No impact. I believe that most people have access to the internet nowadays or knows someone who can get the information for them.
individually, I would find it positive and more useful and helpful as anything printed cannot be updated readily so I feel I have better access to the most current information. I would generally look information up online before doing anything else. I generally look up any business online to verify hours, make appointments etc. I find it more efficient than waiting for someone to answer the phone
Absolutely, do it immediately. Start a "MyCalgary" app or something to provide, the city website is a mess to find anything on despite the Google association.
I didn't know there was another way except phoning the rec centre, how would not having someone there save money as it wouldn't be open? Online is fine.
Moving recreation information to online-only would be preferable to me as long as there is a strong commitment to keeping this information up-to-date. I prefer this mode of access. Having said that, this could make it very difficult for those without access to a computer or unable to use a computer for a variety of reasons - handicapped, elderly, mental/cognitive disorders, etc.
Nothing should be online only.
Positive
I worked in this department years ago and as long as we own and operate facilities like leisure centres, pools and arenas, there is no reason why we can't maintain walk up access for those that don't have online access, especially the poor and seniors.
None
Little impact, however, I already own technology that allows me to do this. Making payments online would be easier. I would still want the option of calling to make unique requests.
Negative as I work with a community that struggles with digital access and literacy.
There are so little that the city provides this would not matter
I think it is beneficial to have paper copies at recreational facilities for people to take home if they want in limited quantities. I don't see a need to mail them out or place them in other locations. Perhaps if you do go online only greater advertising of were to find this info would be required.
This is the only way I look this information up but marginalizes people without access to or skills in technology - most likely people already marginalized (new immigrants, seniors, homeless)
I support more movement to online and efficiencies created, but not at the cost of removing front line operations workers who provide face to face access at service sites like pools, offices, etc..
no impact, it s/be online.
Oh no, calendars, pamphlets and in person information is very important

If 'online-only' involves actual employees responding, I support this. If you go to an automated system such as Shaw or TELUS have done, I am fully against it. Simple info can be answered via automation, but there needs to be somebody managing the more complex or lengthy inquiries.
I have found programs that I would not have thought to look for by browsing print materials. When I look for similar information online, I find the information less easily accessed as you have to have specific starting points, i.e. specific location or subject matter. I predict enrolment/participation would decline. Of course then you would have justification to delete programs...
It would be great. It all depends on the set up. It is also very important that everyone has equal access. No one or no organization, group because they may superior IT capabilities should have quicker access. For example signing up for a very popular course.
This would have a negative impact on my household. My spouse is not able to use online services.
I only get this information online currently.
I would be concerned that information (class offerings, hours of operation, safety notices, etc) wouldn't be updated quickly enough. People on the ground often have the best information.
No impact.
I think it would be positive and more accessible.
It works for me, however, many citizens do not have access to "online". Internet, etc is first to go when you can't make bill payments.
Positive. Why pay to advertise our services on tv/radio
You will have to reduce your workforce. Please do not play that card. Everyone is getting laid off. Just reduce the number of employees immediately.
Im agree to have free Classes and programs online available for all. But outdoor activities and sports should be as they are because they are an important part of community involvement.
Negative.
The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city
It would be positive
This is fine.
Positive for me, I go online for information on all City of Calgary facilities via my computer, iPad or iPhone.
ok if you significantly improve functionality of online guide and registration!
Not all people are comfortable with using computers. This would further impede access to information.
No issue with this.
Negative
Online is the first place I would look for this information.
None, all online
None for me, but impacts to those who do not have access or other barriers to the internet
No impact so find this acceptable.
None - I only check online.
It would be great, prefer online to in person or phone questions.
Seems reasonable
Easy savings here. I don't look for rev info anywhere else other then online. Another factor is the carbon footprint of having to print all these flyers or info sheets.

No problem, I already access this online.
No change to me
Just in time service.
If the city also provides free digital services at all their libraries, the impact should be minimal on low-income families. Especially if there was a mobile app that provided all the same information and service options as the website - the vast majority of households have at least one smartphone.
Would not impact me either way.
All positive
No impact
good
No impact to me - I would look for this info online anyway, so no change. It could have a negative impact on those with limited access to the internet.
It would need to be 'flawless' or partially staffed for when you need questions answered.
This would work for me - especially if there was an app where I could book classes, buy passes, book childminding, etc. It would be a reason to switch from Goodlife to using City services. Much more amenable to how I like to schedule things on the go. Some in-person/phone support would still be important.
Positive. Less paper waste, full info online.
Positive
Completely ambivalent. I use the online services entirely for recreation and facility information already.
Zero impact, I'm already finding all this information that way anyways.
That's how I find pretty much all of it now. Awareness via paper would still be good though.
It would be positive. However, there needs to be a revamp of the City's digital services. The service design is awful.
No impact to me, but there may be impacts to lower income Calgarians. What about adding a touch screen to pools/libraries for people to access the information digitally in person?
Positive, I look online only anyhow
Personally - not much. I access information online already. Perhaps printed sheets could be made available at rec locations for those without access to technology.
I don't know the last time I used a printed guide at all. Please move these online. Printed, not glossy copies could be available for reference at rec centres and libraries.
no impact.
This would be a bad idea. There are details that even when printed in black and white are better presented by a warm-blooded person or at the venue itself. Plus, there are still access issues for many people.
There would be no negative impact.
As long as its cheaper go right ahead.
I do it online now
None
Need to ensure equitable access to Internet ... Free city wide basic wifi and more computers at libraries
Great
This would have no impact as I already access all recreation information online

None
Online all the way! With plan B for seniors and others with no computers.
Tax dollars are best spent by taxpayers...cut taxes
None
I currently only find this information online anyhow, I don't think it is worth the cost to even have printed program guides. I'm sure many end up in recycling anyhow.
That would be fine.
Best idea ever
This should be Online only (i.e. it's 2020..)
None
Positive
Personally, the impact would be limited as I know how to use the internet and a smart phone. As long as 3-1-1 would also be able to address questions as well, I think it could work.
No impact.
Minimal
I think this is a good change and surprised it hasn't happened already.
I would be less informed unless I was ACTIVELY looking for some piece of information. I'm unlikely to browse the CoC website to look for the guide whereas I would look at the guide if I saw it in a community centre
What about people with little online access, or limited internet knowledge? Can we not look at ways to improve the environmental and financial cost of printed materials rather than entirely reducing them?
That would be fine.
no impact
It can be challenging to navigate registration for online services only, and for families. This needs to be easier and less confusing.
Every service that could be moved online would be an excellent move for my family personally. It has been a learning curve but it allows us to take less days off work, spend less time on hold, and get things paid and done faster.
It won't be any problem at all for me
Little impact, especially if the online interface is easy to use and searchable/filterable.
No problem.
Most of this is online already and too many things get thrown out when dates expire. Printed material costs a lot.
I don't mind. Online is good!
Would never know about it
I would not mind at all if recreation information was online only. Easy cost savings ideas such as this are way better than terrible ideas like reducing funding for essential services like the Fire Department or Police.
To me... not much. But to others the impact could be negative. I also think information for classes needs to be promoted more, which cannot be done solely online.
I think that is an ok move but what about when the pool is closed? The website isn't always accurate for these sorts of things. I still prefer to call so if you are removing that as an option I would not be in

support. Nothing like taking your kids to the outdoor recreation class and realize it has been closed due to weather of some other issue.

Think that's fine. Most other places do that anyway. However, if recreation staff at facilities can field some of those calls or inquiries in person, rather than 311 or a call centre, that could be fine and save some.

No negative impact.

My main source of information related to Recreation programming is online currently.

This could be a place where the city could make cuts. These without home computers or wifi access capabilities would be discriminated against. However as long as the online system was functional, there would be less need for phone access to city program information.

No impact as I do all registrations in person. Kiosks could be provided at locations for people to register with some assistance.

How do I find swim times if I can't call to find out multiple classes. It is easier to call and get an answer though I have to wait a long time.

Participant comments online-only tax information

What would be the impact to you, positive or negative, if your property tax information and annual bill were online-only?

No impact, I already receive them this way.

I would like that. I think that will even save paper and the cost of mailing. It just means that the City of Calgary accounts for Calgarians will need to be very secure.

no impact

Totally fine

I don't like the only comment. I don't mind getting my tax bill. It is however confusing so I call 311 to speak to someone. I don't want online option at the the expense of Not being able to call 311. Taxes are confusing!

Fantastic! Only problem I can foresee is individuals without access to a computer, or computer illiteracy.

Fine for me. But once again, an online survey asking if information went online-only seems like you might be missing out on the results from a key audience: those people with limited or no online connection. There has to be a plan to still provide these individuals with the information they seek.

No impact.

It would be ideal. Less paperwork and not having to go to the post box when there is very little snail mail anymore.

Negative

No impact, I'd prefer to get it online.

Totally fine if it saves \$\$.

No impact to positive impact. I'd rather not receive it by paper mail since our mail is sometimes misdelivered.

NEGATIVE!!! This is one of the single most important documents in a person's life. It is impossible to get information when someone dies and everything is online. Under the current legislation you must provide these documents in writing and must be mailed. Stop cheating out on something so important. Quit squandering money on blue hoola hoop stuff.

Prove you can offer this service securely and efficiently, poll the people...until that time, continues with Hybrid communication (paper/electronic).

none
Great idea
Would prefer online only it is much more convenient
There would need to be email reminders about accessing the info, not just telling on people remembering to check online.
k
No impact. Completely support.
Would be fine
POSITIVE. Again, for for family we see believe it will be EASIER for our family to access City Services (property tax information or otherwise) online and less costly to the City. We expect the City to use technology to deliver services more efficiently and effectively. In the end we expect lower City costs to do so and a REDUCTION IN taxes and fees.
We get inundated with paper but it is also time consuming and maxes out computer hard drive space when everything is sent on line, or we have to print it out which has a cost to it.
It's the way of the future.
Positive only. I have zero expectation of receiving a paper bill and, honestly, I think it's kind of silly when I do. I know there's lots of people that still like paper, that's ok, you gotta do both, but the absolutely clear trend is to online - make the default choice for every citizen online-only. Let exceptions be just that, exceptions.
no impact - I do not pay property taxes
I think moving to a paperless system is much better, everything else is moving to online and this is one more thing to streamline. If someone wants a paper copy they can opt to pay for it. Just like bank statements.
For me this would be preferred. No need to waste paper or money in the postage cost.
Positive . Our world should continue to go paperless.
As long as I got an email notification about it I would be thrilled for less paper.
I would be OK with this if two conditions were met: 1) it could be setup that these mailings would be emailed automatically every year, and this did not require any login or action on my part (i.e., a yearly push from your end, not a manual pull from mine), and 2) the email address provided would be strictly held, isolated, and only used for that purpose without sharing with any other service.
No negative impact
Fine
Positive. There is no reason why a home owner needs to still have these statements mailed to them, and for privacy reasons I prefer to access this online.
I wasn't aware this option exists and might consider using it instead of receiving a paper mailed copy. It would be generally positive although I'm skeptical depending on whether I would be notified of my bill or be required to look it up myself. I view it similar to when the Province changed license renewals and put the onus on individuals to remember or enroll in notification systems.
Absolutely. Do it now.
It should be online only, a waste of money mailing everything. Unless you option to have it mailed to you, online should be the way ahead. It's 2020 after all.
I think this is the preferred way to go as long as an email or SMS message is sent to say when it's available online and with a link to the statement. Again, there should be an option for people to still receive a paper copy in case they are not able to access/use a computer.

Not a good idea.
Positive
You have to offer options for people who can't afford online costs and/or people not comfortable using online like seniors or people with disabilities.
None
I would pay extra to automatically receive a paper copy of my tax bill and assessment. I do not trust online record keeping and require a hard copy.
Negative as I would have to help so many frustrated people who don't have access or fluency with the internet.
None
Maybe, as long as it is emailed to me.
I would be fine with that, provided the City has hacking insurance, and robust security; most of that info is already on line. There will still need to be a mailed option for those without access to technology.
This would be good but legacy online records should be available for 10 years of reporting as many people get behind on document retention.
s/be on line, HOWEVER, there s/be a much fairer appeal process. Charging people to appeal unfair tax increases restricts complaints so only the rich can appeal. Citizens should be able to set property tax increases (based on published provincial inflation increases, not manipulated by city council)
I think it's important that you tell us how much we'd save and what the cost is for all these questions - i think people need more information to respond
No impact. Save the postage and give me an online account as most banks and investment firms and CRA have done. Send me an email when my notices/assessments are available.
It might not affect me greatly, but my 90 year-old, home owning, computer illiterate mother would be adversely affected.
I am only concerned about security. Otherwise great.
This would be extremely negative. My spouse is unable to access online information. Please do NOT make "online only" access for any City services. Citizens should be allowed to choose mailed paper bills.
No negative impact, I would prefer online.
I've had problems with logging on to myID- that never happens with paper statements.
I would prefer online-only property tax statements. I expect that there would be some savings in postage and labour to mail these statements.
Negative impact. I prefer to see paper bills because it is easier for me to find, store, and understand.
I would be fine with this information moving to an online only system.
I would love this.
Negative - unless it is in your calendar to look, you will miss looking it up before deadlines come up to disagree.
Cost saving from paper mail .
Zero issue. I need you to send me an email reminder that it is ready for viewing and the date it is due. Get on with it. But you need to reduce staff!
Very positive I prefer that.
Negative.
The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020. I've never been so ashamed to be from this city

It would be positive
This is fine, as long as a printer friendly version is available.
Positive for me, I receive most of my bills via the internet. I also have myID with the City of Calgary and have a recurring bill sent this way.
Please do this! This should have been made optional at least a decade earlier. Lest paper, lest mailing costs. And extend this to other services, we have LEAF/ELM in our community and they continuously mail out notices, waste of paper, waste of money.
go! no need for paper in 2021!
Another bad idea. Forcing people to enroll in your computer system to receive tax bills is outrageous. This shows no respect for the public
I like my paper copy, though I don't need all the pamphlets I understand how it works. My mother however would not be able to access hers in this way.
Would cause me great anxiety as I do not get any bills online for security purposes. Will not create a myID account. All bills are to be provided by mail
Do not make this online only, please continue with paper.
Most of my bills are accessible online and I've moved to paperless with all my bank statements. Online is where it is at as far as I am concerned, but I also have internet and a computer.
Put it online...we get everything else online.
None
This is fine we don't require paper copies.
None. Easier access, less waste... only positives
No impact
No paper to remind me to pay. Can I customize how often I get reminded or when?
Make it more we'll know that that is an option. I was unaware of this. Or better yet, make it automatically all online unless citizens request otherwise. You will likely find most people won't care.
No problem. It would be a good idea to make this system "opt-out" such that bills were automatically online-only unless someone specifically requests to have a paper copy.
No change
That would be perfect
some people do not have computers or some people don't trust computers
No impact, so long as logging in isn't restrictive.
I require a papertrail to document the runaway train of "assessments" and vast increase of taxation in both residential and commercial property. It's the only thing I have to grasp to the reality of how the last 8 years have changed.
That would make it harder to do taxes and harder to keep track of our finances.
Nothing it's about time
Need an email reminder or else I won't think to check my account
good
Completely irrelevant. You think I will ever own property? LOL
Great! No change.
This would work for me and my husband (tech savvy 31F and 36M). Many seniors will seriously struggle with this.

Positive. It's easier for me to organize my info online. It would also be great for saving money printing and mailing letters.
None. But city would save money
Completely ambivalent. Allow opt-in to keep receiving a paper copy for those who are unable to do things online.
It would be highly preferable!
This is a great idea in general, save the money and postage on paper and transition it all online.
Smart way to save money by defaulting to online only. People can print their own bills if they want but leave the option open to switch back to print for those who have limited or no access to technology.
That would be great. I'd be concerned about data security and needing on more password. Support for some of the single sign-on services would be nice.
this is a no brainer
No impact - would prefer this as it's a great way to save paper, postage and money.
Positive, less paper to store
It could get lost with other emails, but would likely be fine.
This would be amazing, thank you please provide this.
no impact.
To me, it's a non issue, but for many it is as they don't trust or understand how to use the internet for such transactions. There should at least be an opt-in option for either way to receive the bill.
There would be a positive impact in that there is no chance of loss or delay due to mail carrier error.
As long as its cheaper go right ahead.
the physical copy is a good reminder but is not absolutely essential
None
Great!!
Good, I would need at least a last mail of reminder because I have never logged in there and we do need that info for taxes
This would have a positive impact - papers get lost. As long as there is an email communication and payment reminders sent out this would be an improvement
None. I already check the information online. But every year the myID changes for access so that will have to stop.
Positive. Love it.
Tax dollars are best spent by taxpayers...cut taxes
Negative
Im not sure I even knew I could get this online. I would gladly go paperless for this. So many people already get many bills online anyhow, I don't think it would be much of a stretch to have people access their tax bills online
That would be great! Save on paper waste too
Best idea ever
This should be Online only (i.e. it's 2020..)
Ok for me, but could be an access problem. Not everyone has reliable internet access and some are not comfortable with online services. Could be opt in. Everyone switched to online, with an option to opt in to mail service.
None

Positive
I am not a homeowner.
It would be positive, as long as it is secure and not email based
As long as records of previous years are accessible, this could be a good idea.
Minimal, but would need to transition period and fair warning for people. In some ways would create a barrier to seeing the info (have to login with an account). But having the link to submit or make changes online make offset this. Would be important to communicate the cost savings and what benefits there would be
This is a good change
Positive - reduction of paper used Negative - easier to forget to pay unless it was set up so that it could be paid at that moment or a reminder email generated to pay
I would be ok with this.
Not fine.
no impact
I already get my statement online and it works for me, but what about those who don't have devices, internet, knowledge of how to use a computer, and good English skills...
Positive. Slightly less environmental impact and more secure privacy.
I don't like this. I don't want anyone accessing my property information and I want to keep a paper copy with myself for future reference.
No impact, as long as there is useful information about how to get the information online.
I prefer to receive a paper copy of these important documents.
Online statements are fine as long as reminders are sent more than once.
I m fine with online statements or 100% online. Don't care as soon as I save money.
BADLY; electronic data can be easily corrupted, misdirected, misleading - with no INDEPENDENT {i.e. snail mail} documentation (which includes screen print-outs), can "legally" lose home for no reason.
I think it is a good idea to provide property tax information and the bill online only to save money and a lot of paper. It is low-hanging fruit such as this that should be implemented to save money and not ridiculous ideas such as reducing funding for the Fire Department or Police.
I would be happy to (and maybe already do?) receive an electronic statement. This is an easy cost savings. But people should be made aware that they have a choice.
Positive: Getting my tax bill electronically and not in the mail Negative: It is still confusing to understand it so unless it is super simple then I don't think making the tax information online only is a best solution. I want to be able to speak to someone like 311 to get specific answers not the general stuff online.
Make myID a little easier to use and access as well as re-login. I use it and it's amazing, but from what I remember, it was a little difficult to get on and not the most friendly to use.
not everyone has access to internet and or computers.
I'm all for it.
The City portal is not user friendly or intuitive. Paper copies are also helpful for accounting purposes and easy access to archived material.
This area makes sense to take online. I would support this measure.

No impact - all City services should be online. Similar to online banking, I can pay my credit card, apply for a loan, renew my mortgage, order a new bank card, update personal / business information. All my interaction should be like online banking in one place. Add a new pet, register for swimming, pay for a parking ticket, pay taxes, get a building permit, see my assessment and appeal it, etc.

I prefer online bills like so would support this but still want to be able to call 3-1-1 if I have specific questions.

User fee verbatim

Questions asked

Three questions were asked about user fees.

Different services delivered by The City can be funded in different ways. Some services are funded through taxes which all property owners pay and some services are funded through user fees which only the customer using that service would pay.

Some services, like those listed below, are funded through a combination of user fees and taxes. These include things like:

- Transit,
- Recreation programs or facilities,
- Permits for street closures, hoarding or excavation,
- Pet Licenses,
- Arts programs,
- Fire inspection, and
- Site booking fees for City parks.

For services like these, that are funded through a combination of taxes and user fees, The City would like to know:

Question 1. How would an increase in user fees, where customers pay more but less is paid through property tax increases, impact you and your family?

Participant comments impact of increase

How would an increase in user fees, where customers pay more but less is paid through property tax increases, impact you and your family?

"...I'm sorry, we have permits for hoarding?!"

"Arts programs should be 100 percent sustained by user fees.

"I believe that people who use the services the most should pay accordingly.

"I would avoid using the services if fees went up.

"The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020.

"This makes sense. Let's not

"This would be welcomed.

"Tough to say...we would pay for services instead of paying more taxes.

"We should create a residential parking fees. I live in Hillhurst. I can park for free in my street (while I have also a rear private parking). I can also have 2 free visitor permits.

"Why are pet licenses listed? My understanding is that the money taken in through the sale of licenses funds Animal Services.
"Would not affect me. I do not use: Transit,
A balance of user fees and taxes seems fair. On the other hand, I think the library should remain free since fines and fees at the library are barriers for the poor who need the library more than anyone. I'd hate see fees for using City Parks. Again, a barrier for people who have so little to begin with.
A huge impact. I'm hard pressed to find the value in a monthly transit pass that is already 50-70% subsidized by taxpayers as is. I live immediately beside a c train stop, and when driving (with carbon tax) is becoming more efficient than transit - I can tell you that you have an operating cost problem within CT. Take a hard look at your opex and biggest culprits, then get back to us.
A little.
A small increase in user fees would be acceptable to my family situation, as I rarely use these things. Paying a bit more for a one time use doesn't bother me.
A user fee increase is okay as long as it's not a large increase, I. I do not use all of these things but I believe they should be subsidized by taxes.
About the same
An increase in user fees would have a significant impact on our family. As a single parent every dollar is accounted for. Having to pay more for transit, pet licence, recreational programs would mean omitting some and a loss to my child especially.
An increase in user fees would positively impact my family. Reduce the property tax and apply that to those who use the facilities or services.
And I wouldn't be subsidizing people from outside Calgary to use daily transit. Maybe only sell monthly transit passes to Calgary citizens. Thus being able to recover costs from people who do not pay taxes in Calgary"
Arts programs,
As a low income renter, increased user fees would negatively impact my budget. My landlord may be taxed less, but those savings would likely not reach me.
As a user of city facilities this would mean I would pay more, but it is fair. If me and my family want to use it we should have to pay for it. There should be some safe guards for lower income families so they can still afford to use the facilities.
As long as it is reasonable it wouldn't impact me to much. I would rather see that the a increase in property taxes..
As long as its not just a double dip hidden as a shift in collection/funding methodology, carry on.
As not all citizens use the listed services, increasing user fees for those who do is a fair way to reduce the burden on the taxpayer and free up budget for more essential services.
As someone that lives alone, this would place a higher burden on me to pay for services I do not use to subsidize larger households. I only support lowering user fees for transit and user fees for low income Calgarians.
At present time money would be saved off property taxes. My concern is accessibility for lower income users and families.
at this time it may not have much of an effect but in older age it could seriously impact me
Better to spread the burden broadly. Users of transit are often already lower income
Better, as I don't use any of those services
by increasing the user fess, it greatly lessen the burden of homeowners in the city, we already hard hit by the covid19 and the bad economy, an increase in property tax will put us into worst hardship.

Calgary is a very expensive city as it is to move around. Increases in user fees will not only affect our living costs, but will impact our yearly savings plan for retirement.
City funds aren't being managed properly if you have to implement user fees. Take a look elsewhere on how to save money rather than make calgarians pay.
Core services should be free, everything else should have user fees. Read soak them!
Couldn't afford to use public services such as transit and recreation centers.
Currently this would impact my family as it's young, but in 7 years this would impact us as much.
cut the fire departments budget and use that money
Definitely don't want to have taxes increases and would like to have free transit parking all year round and without any restrictions. We already pay for a transfer ticket and pay registration taxes, insurance premiums car maintenance all those costs keep our economy going.
Depending on cost, it may prevent us for participating in some activities (but the reduced taxes could go elsewhere)
Depends on how much more the user fees are—also known as “hidden tax”
Depends on the fees. I am not sure I would trust that my taxes would actually be reduced vs just more costs.
depends what service the fee increase would be for and for how much, and also how much of a reduction it would be on taxes per household. I would prefer this over an increase in taxes/reduction in user fees. Taxes are already too high for the value of my property!
Don't you already do most of this? If people are interested they will pay whatever or they will just stay home.
don't do it. i'd rather see a cut to city services. why is there a community division and an engage division? why do 2 division have to engage the community?
Either way we end up paying for stuff we don't use.
Enough with raising costs and taxes. This is ridiculous. This council needs to stop wasting time arguing and find more constructive ways of cost savings.
Fees s/be the same or reduced and PROPERTY TAXES s/be reduced through efficiency and LOWER SALARY AND BENEFIT costs. It is not a trade off. Cost MUST COME DOWN
Fine. As long as provisions are made to support those who can't access these services at the higher rate.
Fire inspection, and
Firstly the city should be doing everything to reduce costs before user fees. There should be a way to charge non residents higher user fees, transit, and transit parking parking, User fees should not be used to subsidize other city services. I would not be that affected but families would be.
For me i think the impact would be the same whether i paid the consumer fee or through my taxes as i am a homeowner and pay property tax as well as use transit. So for me it is like robbing Peter to pay Paul - it is the same thing,
For transit I would most likely stop using the transit service if the cost increased and look into parking options downtown rather than paying for parking and also for transit as there is no way to get to work on time without driving to the station as there are no buses in my area early enough to catch the first train.
Great Idea!!! And fair!
Great idea. Why should families pay equal for something they never use? If you use a service regularly, you should pay more for that service than someone who never uses it at all..

Here's an idea, contract out staffing for rec centers. It is ridiculous that some student makes \$30 / hr to work there due to being a city employee, hire out contract staffing and you will reduce costs. Stop increasing fees and start cutting costs.
How about we just increase property taxes. We are in a pich and we have the some of the lowest property taxes in the country. With the way you guys let developers run rampant you're killing our property values anyways. The last property tax increase still had my taxes lower than the previous year. How about we get real.
How would it impact? I would pay less property tax and more user fees"
I agree with this. Should be paid by use and not just blanket payment for everyone through taxes.
I am in favor of user fees.
I can barely afford most of these things as is, so it would be exceptionally detrimental. There should absolutely be more paid through taxes and less to customers. The customers who are more likely to use some of these services (transit, recreation, arts) are the ones who couldn't afford to pay out of pocket if it increases.
I do not think this would greatly affect me as I rent
I don't mind paying higher taxes is my city is a better place for all to live.
I don't think it would impact my family at all!
I don't think less needs to be paid for property taxes-however you need to be careful where you increase user fees. If more user fees are increased, people may stop using the services completely. How about you look at options to spend more wisely??? On stuff the city actually needs. We do not need art, new arenas-we need essential services (fire,police,transit). Make those deductions instead.
I don't like how this question is phrased, user fees are subsidized because of social benefits. If you are only asking about personal impacts it completely ignores the social benefits my family and all Calgarians receive."
I don't see any impact
I feel like looking money together through taxes provided a greater benefit by keeping costs low for everyone.
I feel like we would be positively impacted by changing some fees to user based such as Transit, Art Programs, fire inspection fees and site booking fees. We don't use most of these services and it would come with savings to our yearly property taxes. Perhaps for some road construction projects tolls could be added once construction is complete to help cover the cost of the project until paid off.
I like user pays for optional services rather than be included in my property taxes.
I may be less inclined to participate
I rent my home, so property taxes don't concern me so much as they do my landlord. Increasing user fees is reasonable for these services.
I rent, so I do not foresee this having a major impact on me
I support this approach, assuming the services are not used by the majority of city residents.
I support this. User fees = less taxes.
I support user fees. Those using a service or venue should accept more of the cost.
I think all of the above should be solely user fees. For items that are not considered a basic need, people should only have to pay if they use it.
I think Calgary transit is ridiculously overpriced. I've lived in Toronto and Vancouver and in comparison our transit is terrible and not worth the money. So please don't hike the prices any more. I'm okay with the prices for others services increasing.

I think increasing user fees has a large negative impact on the demographics who are more likely to use city run programs. I would expect that to be people who are middle class or lower and don't have a ton of extra money to spend.
I think increasing user fees is the way to go. As I do not use any of the above services listed.
I think it should be examined on a case by case basis - why is there any tax component to pet licenses, street closures hoarding, excavation, site booking fees??? Reasonable for transit, recreation facilities, arts programs. Why is there a fee for fire inspection at all???
I think it would be great, to have in the city service's, because not only are you reducing taxes, but also improving on services that people need the most.
I think that increases to individual choice fees (gyms, pools etc,) are ok however things like transit that people don't have a choice is not appropriate. Transit keeps getting more expensive with no real increase in service and it makes it now to the point where it become almost as economic to drive
I think this is a smart way to do things
I think transit is an area where user fees cannot increase anymore than they are currently. It becomes less attractive to many who could either drive or take transit, and unfairly impacts those with less income.
I think user fees makes sense in many cases - especially when there are some families that utilize resources many times what they pay into those services.
I would be concerned about further increases to transit fares, particularly for youth fares . Would raising the cost of fire inspections put people at risk if companies don't pay?
I would be fine with paying more, as long as fair entry continues to allow for reduced fees for low income Calgarians.
I would be less likely to use these services or use them less often. It has a larger impact on poorer or less wealthy residents of the city.
I would be ok with paying SLIGHTLY higher user fees to reduce overall property taxes. Putting the burden on the user is reasonable for the most part. The exception to this is transit. There needs to be support for low income Calgarians who require transit to be able to do so at an affordable price and I would pay taxes for that to happen.
I would be ok with this. Your recreation programs and pet fees are very affordable, so a slight increase would be manageable.
I would be willing to pay a bit more per use as I don't use it every day.
I would gladly pay an increased user fee for pet licensing and to book sites for City parks - although the framework for this would be key so as not to deter access. Transit fees should stay as is but we should charge for parking at transit stations. It is critical to continue Fair Entry. Private permits for builders/developers to have street closures, hoarding or excavation should increase.
I would hate to have to only be able to access the most profitable services because they are what individuals fund. I appreciate having services that while not profitable as individual enterprises do add to my community
I would like more user fees and less property tax.
I would like to see things like road closures and fire inspections (that benefit private entities primarily) be all fee based.
I would prefer if more taxes were paid. Especially for transit, it has become a bit unaffordable for many people.
I would prefer to pay more for services that are completely optional, like pet licenses. Things like transit that are a major help to lower income folks should not go up. Don't add barriers when we should be removing them.

I would say yes - however, this perspective is from my privilege background. We need to consider a balance and choosing particular fee increases. from this list provided I would pay higher fees for street closure permits because I do not use this service very often, however, would pay less for Rec programs because they benefit all society
I wouldn't mind paying more for the services I use.
I'd rather user fees be raised instead of my taxes so I can choose whether I can afford user fees or not.
I'd like transit and healthy living options to keep the lowest possible user cost so I wouldn't want those to increase. I could accept a small increase to arts, fire inspection, and city park bookings but of the listed options I would like for street closures and pet licenses to be the biggest increase since those are optional. People need transit but they don't need a street party or cat.
I'd need to see a breakdown on our property tax assessment of how much we are already paying in user fees to property taxes. Coffee shop talk is that the City hoards extra tax dollars for their slush funds. [removed]
If I don't use the service, I'd hope my tax dollars are better allocated, or returned.
if it is items that are mandatory by the city, ie: fire inspections, building inspections, etc, then it should be covered by the city. Optional activities, such as arts and recreation center should be more heavily funded by the users. Having the city put in rules saying a certain inspection must be conducted, then raising the cost of the inspection does nothing but create bad faith in the city
If the costs/fees are paid as needed then it won't impact me.
If you have to pay for transit and parking i might as well drive comfortably to my destination and pay for parking there. No double dipping!
If you use it people should pay extra.
I'm ok with more user fees for administrative and regulatory functions. Some service fees are ok for gatherings and group use of public spaces. Individual access fees for outside recreation for individuals households should not be increased or created. People who want extra for special groups and projects should pay extra as they have the choice.
I'm on a fixed income and have not received a pay increase, yet fees continue to rise. Not everything is subsidized. I'm leaving the city because I can no longer afford to live here
Impact my family? I suspect I'd pay less tax and save a little coin. But it would depend on the service. I would be saddened if this made subsidized transit passes or programs or facilities less available to those less fortunate who needed them
In a neutral way. The only service listed above that my family pays for is transit, and I am willing to pay more individually for that. As long as service stays AT LEAST at the current level. I would not be willing to pay more for a reduction in service.
Increase fees for recreation not parking at train stations where people have to go to work EVERY DAY. Working is essential. Rec centers and park site rentals are NOT an every day essential.
Increase in user fees is just another tax
Increase public transit fee. I rather have a lower property tax.
Increase user fees for arts programs and pet licences. You've already lost half your riders due to Covid and now there are even more troublemakers on the train. Raise transit pass fees and lose the rest of your paying ridership.
Increase user fees for fire inspections, street closures, and pet fees.
Increase user fees for non-infrastructure services (pet license, booking fees, programs), as these will not necessarily benefit all citizens over time.

Increases to user fees that only benefit the single user and don't respond to economic incentives (ex: parking, pet licenses, fire inspections, site booking fees) seem reasonable.
It could push many programs out of a price range I can afford. The poorer half of Calgary - the ones who would really feel a user fee increase - don't own property to pay tax on.
It depends on the service. I don't mind paying higher property taxes if it means that transit is affordable in the city. I think permits for things like street closures could be increased, but recreation programs should not be higher.
It has worked well for utilities, why not for other services?"
It seems appropriate to raise user fees rather than use tax money that could really be used somewhere else. Now is not a time of wants as opposed to needs
It should be more of a user-fee system, less for the taxpayer. Exceptions could be still provided for low income families or individuals
It would be detrimental to our living as the CofC already TAXES me to death!!!
It would be fine and beneficial. But the real issue is admin and cost control to administer these fees. Registering a pet for example; I was told by 311 that the city makes no money on this, then why do it? find a better way or don't it. Fee inc. is not the answer. Property tax's are accessed to pay the difference anyway. I have little confidence this would not be the case and have no benefit to me.
It would be fine. I support user pay structure. My family would pay more in some areas and less in others
It would continue our reduced usage of services (recreation, transit, sites in City parks) because the user fees negatively impact our ability to use them. It should not cost more for a family of 3 to take Transit than it is to drive and park to events that are serviced by the C-Train.
It would deter me from using whatever has those user fees.
It would effect us but why not
It would have minimal affect. We pay one way or another. I would just use less city resources.
It would have no impact. Either your paying directly through taxes, indirectly through rent, or through user fees. Either way I'd end up paying the same - so why may it complicated. Just raise taxes and fund services properly.
It would help. As a single paying through taxes makes it way more expensive for me verse the family of 4 or 5.
It would help. However, certain services only should be handled this way: permits, site bookings, anything that benefits only a few individuals.
It would impact me less as I rarely use those services so user pay is best especially being a senior on a fixed income where less property tax is desired.
It would impact me poorly. Why don't you check tickets more often and give out fines for people not paying.
It would make a major hit as the taxes are too high already and with the economy crashing, where do you think the extra money will come from for hurting families.
It would not
It would not
It would not impact me at all, except for a pet lisencing increase.
It would reduce how much I pay, since we don't use a lot of city services
It wouldn't much at all

It wouldn't, user pay makes more sense. Leave the need to address societal imbalance to the other social programs you (and others) offer. Pet licenses and park rentals, and all of your examples, do not need subsidy.
It wouldn't.
It wouldn't. Would prefer it.
It wouldn't impact me much directly, but I strongly believe affordable transit is a priority for a city like Calgary.
It wouldn't. I agree user fee increase is good.
I've never been so ashamed to be from this city"
Keep it the same
Less likely to use transit if fees go up significantly.
Like anyone else. I use some of these services and not others. User fees seem to be the fairest way to proceed but with a exception to services like transit that I don't use but I still benefit indirectly since less people use the roads that I drive on. Things like golf courses should be 100% cost recovery. Its a luxury activity.
Limited, i'm paying either way but better services and programs are worth the expense. The race to never increase taxes doesn't benefit society, it's merely a bandaid where council tries to pretend its the other guy's fault and I for one would rather have a higher quality of living through quality services like transit, recreation centres etc than two lattes or even a couple hundred bucks.
little personal Impact
Longer transit trips should incur greater transit fees. I would also like to see bicycles licensed so that there is some regulation - I see many cyclists on the road who do not follow rules, jeopardizing other cyclists, drivers and pedestrians. services that impact the safety of the community are a first priority"
Lower income would have harder times to access
Makes sense for permits and licences. Residents can choose to have pets or not, so they are a customer of the service by choice. A company would build the cost of fees and permits into the budget when deciding to proceed with a project, so again it is their choice.
Manage your budget with the money you have and stop punishing citizens for your greed and poor decisions - an arena, greenfield communities, etc. You can't even get a councillor who basically "stole" money from the City in expenses to publicly apologize?
Marginally
Minimal impact to my family as we use few of those services, however it would a greater impact to those with lower incomes who often rely on these services such as transit and recreational facilities.
minimal impact, fees should increase
Minimal impact. Users need to pay a percentage of what the services they use are costing the city or else they have no respect for the services provided. However we need to look carefully at the estimated savings v actual savings obtained from things like transit use v massive expenditures on road "improvements".
minor impact but lower income families will feel more impacted who dpend on transit and need pets as support.
Most certainly would be negative, transit in the city is already expensive compared to other metropolitan cities across North America. Calgary will be in a recession for a long time with Oil and Gas not ever coming back to what it was pre 2014; the city will not draw in people the same as before and communal properties such as transit will need to be affordable to those that need it.

Mostly positively. My family only accesses Arts programs.
N/A
Neutral
Neutral. More impact can be had on evaluating priority of projects (eg. replacing sidewalks and curbs that aren't in terrible shape, adding bike lanes to sidewalks -ex.24 Ave NW)
No big impact. I'd rather see a slight increasing user fees since the users are the ones benefiting from the service.
No impact
No impact
No impact
No impact as we can't afford to use any of these things
No impact.
No increases are welcome.
NO REDUCTION IN TAXES. I'm happy to pay MORE taxes to ensure we have good, sustainable public services for EVERY Calgarian. That is the heart of what a community and civilization mean. Service fees for "single user" services (pet licenses etc) are good - that income supports service delivery. So long as all public funds (taxes AND fees) are used in the public good, keep them!
None of these should have any taxpayer subsidy...these should be 100% user pays
None these things need to be paid for otherwise the city would suck more than it does
Not all families pay property tax directly (rent), And not all families use facilities. Customers can pay more but keep options for those who can't afford it. And keep some parks free of site booking fees. This case wouldn't impact my family as we don't use these services often. And if we needed to financially adjust we could, scale back. But not with property taxes.
Not at all
Not at all
not at all
Not at all. Charge more. Or just raise my taxes.
Not at all. I expect that if I'm going to receive a service, I should be expected to pay for it.
Not sure it would impact my family. If we are talking about a few dollars a month would it be worth while cutting all of these programs?
Of the examples provided only the pet licence affects me & I would be ok with an increase of user fees to save property taxes for those who don't have pets. Any changes to transit funding should be thought long & hard & include much user input before changing as it affects people's ability to maintain their livelihood. I now work from home but support inclusion of property tax funding for transit.
Other than that, increasing the cost of the services makes sense. There should also be a provisio to help low income Calgarians."
Our family would save money and more families would consider services provided by local businesses.
Overall this seems like a reasonable plan as I would generally only pay for services that I'm using. I don't use public transit generally and seldom used the Public Library prior to having young children. I've started to use the Public Library very frequently now.
Parks and recreational facilities increase would put large strain on my family. Other paid programs would not affect me.
Pay for things we don't use. If you use them, you pay."

Pay per use means the people who use the service pay for the service. Having people who can afford to pay should and use the tax base for those who cannot afford it.
Perfect scenario. You pay to use the facility and those that don't use it don't end up paying for it!
Permits for street closures, hoarding or excavation,
Personally I don't use the services much so would rather the users fees increase! With the exception of transit as I know it's good for my low income community members and good for environment
Pet licenses should be lower.
Please no more property tax increase. I can't afford to live with this huge hike in property tax.
Positive
Positive
Positive - user fees are always better than blanket taxes.
Positively
Probably cost more for people who use transit. A lot more than the savings on their property tax. I don't use transit but save a few \$ on this would not be worth the increase burden on students and less fortunate that don't have cars
Property taxes are pretty low already. And let's be honest, 10 or 15 dollars off a \$3k+ bill doesn't make much of a difference. But the user should always pay the real cost of their service, or at least the majority. Maybe not transit - that is just an expensive department. But certainly building permits, inspections, arts programs, pet fees, that should be carried by the customer using it.
Recreation programs or facilities,
Recreation programs user fee can be increased.
Reduce the city hall salaries and perks. No to increased user fees
Riders need to pay and also employers of those in lower income wage bracket should pay - not the tax payer for someone to get a reduced rate.
Should all be user fees, should not be funded by property taxes. User pay system. And/or outsource
Similarly we could have user fees for water, waste, and municipal franchise (on energy bill) proportional to consumption.
Site booking fees for City parks can be increased."
Site booking fees for City parks."
Small impact to my family, I like the idea of paying for the services you require. A fire inspection for example is probably not a cost that people have all that often. Transit on the other hand, we need to stop increasing fees, particularly when the service rarely increases to reflect the value.
Some of the above services are used based on people's individual choices (e.g. having a pet) and user fees should be increased / not funded by tax revenue. But, Transit is a service that should be easily accessible to Calgarians, not just those who can afford it (Transit needed to strengthen the economy & improve environmental outcomes for example) - continue using tax revenue.
Some of those fees above are just a cash grab. A pet license offers no value and should cost the City nothing. The Animal Services section should charge people if a pet needs returning or other handling. Permits for street closures etc. is another cash grab as the City doesn't experience any costs. Site booking fees should cover the cost of the garbage clean-up afterwards but nothing extra.
Sounds like [removed] when the city is funding a stadium for billionaires.
Still an increase. We should show people how our tax rate compares and why average service requires average tax.

That seems like a better idea to increase user fees than increase tax
that would be good
That would be perfect. Taxes should only go to the basic necessities of city life.
That would depend on how much the fee increase is. I think it is reasonable and fair for users of the services to pay more, but it can't be like Transit tickets now where the price goes up yearly. There needs to be some metric of how and when fees increase.
The effect to my family is minimal on a day to day, but to those it does impact, having limited access to online surveys due to internet access and cost associations with access (owning the technology required to access) these user fees could be crippling.
The fees and taxes in this city are already outrageous. We have the most expensive parking fees of anywhere in the world, which should not be the case. Land values in Calgary are a lot cheaper than Vancouver, Toronto, New York, Hong Kong and most major centres
The people using the above services should pay their fare share and it should not be paid by the tax payer
There are certain fees I think every house hold should pay into wether they are used or not, like transit. The better a transit system is in a city, the less vehicles on the road. Definite win. A pet licenses, that is a families choice and should be covered by the family. If it benefits the city, we all pay. If it benefits a family or business they should pay a higher fee.
There needs to be a balance between tax funded and user fees. If user fees increase too much then the facilities will return to tax funded because nobody will use the over-priced service . Permits for business related activities (consruction, hoarding, excavation, fire inspection, permits, special events and other revenue generating activities should be the burden of the business/organizer.
There should not be an increase in user fees or property tax. The city needs to CUT THEIR INTERNAL EXPENSES.
they should be paying period should never come out of taxes unless its transit and only fir low income
Things would cost more when i use them but there must be a breaking point where things are too expensive and use (income) drops. Where is that sweet spot?
Think this is fine to a certain extent, but need a balance or people will also be less likely to use services that do help in the grand scheme. For example, we want more people to use transit and other programs and user fees would push people away. Okay with property taxes as is. If anything, the province could introduce a 2%PST though I know that's unpopular opinion (and out of your hands)
This depends on the service. Cat license fees ...okay by me. Bus passes ...too hard for lower income families that don't qualify for low-income passes.
this idea deserves further detailed very well advertised study. overall a good plan
This is better!! I use one of these and pay for all?! It's ridiculous. No one is helping pay for my car or home, yet I help pay for transit that I do not use or rec centres I've never been too? If you are single with no kids you pay even more to help fund those with kids. It's unreasonable.
This is fine, but transparency that this is a neutral offset will be key for buy in
This question is on the wrong track. Reframe to, "How can the City reduce costs of operations for services while maintaining an acceptable level of such service?" The majority of Calgarians and Calgary businesses have had to find a way to do more with less, the City should join this effort. Such a move would show true support to tax payer circumstances.
This seems like a very logical approach to me. Users should expect a marginal increase annually, but somewhat unfair for those that don't use the services to pay for them. Every household should contribute

but maybe the property taxes decrease slightly and user fees increase the same amount. This would have a positive impact on me and my family
This seems like an appropriate plan. That way only those who actually utilize those facilities are charged. I would not like to be charged a lot in property tax for services I'm not inclined to use.
This sounds reasonable.
This sounds regressive... Some would not notice while others would not make it to end of month ... Not cool
This will be great, as we pay more if we use this kind of services more.
This will cause an enforcement issue. We don't have pets but if it costs too much for people to get pet licenses then they won't do it causing community issues. Participation in recreation should be very affordable. Ok to charge more for facility rental, street closures etc. Don't charge more for anything safety related (e.g. fire inspection).
This would be a nail in the coffin for transit.
This would be beneficial as I would not be paying taxes for things I do not use or require and therefore would be saving money every year.
This would be beneficial to my family. "Pay to play" is the way to go. Why do all other non/infrequent users pay to subsidize the users? Start by cutting the 50% subsidy to Calgary Transit and increase fares to reflect the actual cost of service!
This would be good for me. I pay far more in taxes than I gain from these services. I would like to find a better balance where I still subsidize low-income users of these programs, but not subsidize medium-high income users of these services. User fees for low-income users should be maintained/lowered, and for non-low-income users should be raised.
This would be great. I would like to see user fees implemented for on-street parking and driving wherever possible. I'm not the one crossing the Bow River on Crowchild Trail at peak hour, triggering a costly widening. Allow people the option to put a black box in the vehicle and pay by use.
This would depend on variety of factors. How much is the increase going to be? Will it be unilaterally applied or will there be exemptions made for vulnerable sections of community? What is the impact of not increasing the costs altogether? An open-ended question like this doesn't really help me much in deciding what position I would want to be taking.
This would have a positive impact for my family but a excessive negative impact to all Calgarians. We should see a reduction in user fees so as not to rely on our poorest Calgarians to disproportionately fund public services in Calgary.
This would not affect me or my family but my preference is to pay taxes so that people who can't afford some of these things on their own have the support from tax dollars.
This would not impact my family greatly. However it is often low income families who utilize city services (transit, recreation centres, etc) and due to that I think increasing user fees is a bad idea.
Those who can afford property are better suited to support an increase than those reliant on public transit to get to school, medical appointments etc.
To be blunt, it's a cop out to say taxes are staying pat but fees go up at a higher rate than if they had just rolled into the tax program. Manage the budget better, stop building in a sprawl and focus on revitalization of existing neighbourhoods and this becomes a moot point.
Transit and rec programs and arts should be covered by property taxes - not increase user fee's.
Transit fares are already far too high especially for the low quality of the service provided (infrequent buses even in dangerous winter temperatures). Raising transit fares places an undue burden on people

who can't drive (age or medical reasons), can't afford to drive, are just being nice and doing their part to reduce air pollution and road congestion, etc. I would be worse off.
Transit fees go up every year and disproportionately affect lower income families. Without the federal tax credit, this should be the last fee to be increased. Most of the rest are optional expenses; travel is not.
Transit fees should be lower already.
Transit is a lifeline and any low income families do not qualify for subsidies. Please maintain current fare structure
Transit is already expensive. An increase in user fees hurts those who are most vulnerable. It is the people who struggle the most who take transit. It is not fair to make those who take transit pay even more - transit may be their only method of transportation. Cut money going to anything on the list except transit, because the rest are "fun" whereas transit is essential to many.
Transit is already so expensive for a subpar service compared to other major cities; increasing it would have a negative effect in my opinion.
Transit price increase will impact
Transit should NOT be increased. And even be free..."
Transit, recreation, arts, fire, and parks are societal benefits. Fees should be maintained at current levels for these. It is reasonable to increase fees for pets because having a pet is purely a personal choice. Fees for street closures should be significantly increased to encourage their use only when absolutely necessary. It's too easy and cheap to privately occupy public space at present.
TRANSIT: I think transit user fees should remain the same for a while. \$3.50 for a single adult fare really adds up RECREATION: I think there's a lot of unpack here since there are a lot of different fees. Pool admissions should be left alone for now. I think some of the programs offered prices could be higher. Athletic Park costs are reasonable considering usually an hour is split by two TEAMS.
Typical Calgary. Not much but I am a low rate user. Disappointed this is the option.
User fees are more fair as you are paying for what you use and not paying for what you don't.
User fees are often just taxes on people who have no other options.
User fees are punitive to some social groups.
user fees attack the poor and lower middle class, so this would be bad for as a single parent.
User fees seem like a good idea, but we can end up costing ourselves out of the market. I'd be concerned about accessibility when it comes to transit especially and rec programs. Site booking fees and permits are not core to daily life, so that seems fair.
User fees should be increased, people who benefit from these services and use these services should be the ones to fund these services
user fees should cover the cost of the service.
User fees should definitely be increased rather than paying through taxes. I cannot believe that my tax dollars have been going towards things such as other people's site booking fees for city parks and permits for street closures and excavation! This is a great idea. This is an easy win and way better than the terrible idea of reducing essential services like the Fire Department and Police.
User fees would have to be increased by a large amount for it to make a meaning full change to property taxes.
User pay system is best, why should I pay for services that others use more. The City needs to find a balance between Needs and Wants
User pays. No more freeloading!
users should definitely pay more

We can barely afford the current fees at recreation centres and certainly can not afford the YMCA but know we need to keep active for our health. However these facilities desperately need up keep and it's very sad to see how run down they are getting . I would like to see increase fees for non health/safety related services.
We cannot afford higher user fees. Personally I work in health care and have not had a raise in 5 years but things keep increasing in cost. Now with the pandemic I will likely not get a raise for another several years. I already have to buy bus passes for myself and my son to get to high school. I can not afford more user fees for city services.
We rarely use any of these outside of licensing our pets! These fees should be a user based cost and looked at to save money as most are considered non essential(art)
We use transit and pet licenses. Transit affordability is a big decision factor in whether to drive or take transit, but paying for transit is a cost that seems necessary. I don't like having to purchase pet licenses for my cats, as they are indoor only and I have never used any city services related to my cats.
We use very few of these services. We do not mind supporting them so that others can use them. The cost of the services cannot increase to the point where it is a detriment to those that want to use it.
We would be okay but I know it would be a barrier to some low income wherever a sliding scale is possible I would recommend.
We would likely be paying less because we don't use many of these services. Some fees i agree should be user only but some can continue to be combined.
We would prefer this option, As I expect that we should pay for services that we specifically use.
We would save money.
We would spend less each year if this plan took place.
We would stop using the services that would need to be paid for.
Well, we would still be paying for it one way or another because we use city services, but I guess the difference is that lower income people would not be able to access these services as well. So basically the dystopian nightmare that conservatives in this province seem to be pushing for.
While not ideal, our family would be able to afford slightly higher user fees if it meant a reduction in property taxes. But then I wonder about other families and feel happy to pay slightly more in taxes if it means others (including ourselves) pay less in user fees.
Why does the City only look at tax increases or user fee increases. They should start with an across the board 5%-20% pay reduction for all city employers similar to what the private sector did. On a \$4B annual budget the City should aim to cut \$200M and then use this room to reallocate the tax base accordingly with no increase in taxes or user fees.
Won't effect our family at this point
Would affect us personally very little.
Would be ok. Maybe consider charging based on average income for community or activity. For example, swimming pools in low income areas could charge less than swimming pools in higher income areas
Would impact me as the city would not only increase user fees but would also find a way to increase taxes as well for that same service. They always do.
Would likely change the amount that I pay, slightly, but the burden on the user is higher. I would not notice this change in my day-to-day spending, so would not recommend this approach. Finally, consider the people who are under-represented.
Would not use the services if I had to pay more.
y

Yeap actual user should pay more, there is many people who never used them
Yes pay more in fees and follow up on collections
Yes users pay more and property taxes decreased. If I use I pay.
Yes, increase fees. This cost should be directly related to the fee and NOT be drawn from main tax base.
Yes.

Participant comments impact of decrease

How would a decrease in user fees, where individual customers pay less but more is paid through property tax increases, impact you and your family?

"Higher costs Thru property tax, where I have no say/ vote
"I think their are options for the city to look at - like paying for extra garbage other than what is in your bins.
"I would use the services more if the cost went down.
"ok for transit, arts and roads repairs to be tax funded.
"The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020.
"Transit needs to be more affordable. Right now, I live a block from a train station, but I often jump in the car instead because taking the train is more expensive with my kids (especially when parking is often free).
A continuous increase on my property tax bill will greatly impact me. If you are going to increase property taxes then you might as well get rid of the user fees.
A decrease in individual citizen user fees should be decreased.
A decrease in user fees and trying to decrease tax increases is counter-intuitive. You can't do both. Lower taxes and increase user fees.
A decrease in user fees may not affect me much as I/my family or others who dont utilize many city services other than transit. But an increase in taxes would affect nearly everyone but only benefit some. I would not like to see this happen
a small increase in tax in combination with user fees for those who use the services would be the mot fair
Absolutely would benefit us. The increase in property tax is likely not noticeable to many, but having an increase in transit would be a monthly, or even daily increase for many users.
Adding to property tax is not fair and you should rather up the fees for those who use them
Again not sure it would impact my family. If we are talking about a few dollars a month would it be worth while cutting all of these programs?
Again, I don't think you should be able to increase property taxes, because it's nice to have fees were you are able to pay once on, not all the time.
Again, see number 1
Again, this question is on the wrong track. Reframe to, "How can the City reduce costs of operations for services while maintaining an acceptable level of such service?" The majority of Calgarians and Calgary businesses have had to find a way to do more with less, the City should join this effort. Such a move would show true support to tax payer circumstances.
Alot. I do not like this idea. We pay way too much property tax in this city. Reduce costs before user fees and taxes. Why are there so many community centers? Amalgamate. Why are we running transit way late at night for so few users?

An decrease in user fees would negatively impact my family. Reduce the property tax and apply that to those who use the facilities or services.
An increase in my property taxes (so long as it wasn't thousands of dollars a year), would mean nothing to me. If this money is being used in the public good, in the best, most effective way possible, then I support higher taxes. Calgary pays such little property tax and expects so much. Time to balance that out.
As a renter who uses transit I would be better off.
As a single person I pay already more for everything so any increase to taxes would have bigger impact on me than families.
As above
As I don't use these things taking on more of the burden, specifically for permits, site bookings, and pet licencing doesn't seem right as these benefit and individual or private interests. Transit, fire inspection and recreation are more acceptable as they benefit the general public.
As mentioned above, any form of increase in the already expensive city will affect the bottom financial line of my family and others. Contributing for retirement and savings will become more difficult.
At least through property tax you can space out and budget the increase over the year which is more tolerable.
Bad idea!!!! Taxes simply cannot continue to keep going up beyond inflation. That day has come to an end. The more we get taxed the less we can spend to support the economy. The City doesn't drive the economy.
Badly
Balancing these two items is a delicate process. That is why we are elect politicians and pay city staff. That's your job.
Believe it's a necessary evil. As above, with some minor changes; nothing too extreme.
Big fan. People have to understand if we want a world class city (we are not) we have to have nice things and they cost.
Challenging. Depends on prices
City can,t be all things to all citizens"
City should be run like a business. A company doesn't ask staff to pay for improvements. Generate revenue. Boost the economy instead of spending unnecessarily.
Cost us more
could lead to my landlord increasing my rent, if they have higher expenses related to my space
Current user fees for most services are very reasonable. If a small increase in property tax means more activities for low income kids I'd support that.
Decrease fees for public transit
Decrease transit user fees, increase those fees in property taxes. Pedestrians, cyclists and transit users all subsidize driver, which is crazy.
Decreasing user fees would negativity impact my family, as we would be paying more for services we don't use.
Definitely a bad idea, no homeowners in calgary would like to see that happen.
Depending on how much and what level of services are available, I would rather only pay for services I use however when more people pay then it costs less for each individual. I would probably look at how to increase my usage of services that are covered in my taxes to ensure that I'm getting something from it.

Depends on the increase, Transit and pet licenses should not be increased. Why do Transit Peace Officers drive vehicles that look like Police vehicles as they don't have the same driving rights like Police. Remove the gas guzzling vehicles and give them regular hybrid vehicles as they don't need Pursuit Vehicles as they are not allowed to get into pursuits. Cost saving right there.
Did like it. Pay for use is better, then those using services pay for them. City should be providing basics out of property taxes
Disagree with the approach completely. More services should be moved to user fee funding and reducing property taxes (or the risk of increasing property taxes)
Do NOT impose higher taxes onto people to cover services they do not use.
Do not put a services onto people that don't use it.
Doesn't affect me
Don't like it we do not need to pay more tax. If you use a service then you should pay to use it
don't do it. see answer 1 above.
Everything except transit is not used much by us and property tax increase for those services will impact us negatively.
Fees & property tax should stay the same.
Fees are a deterrent for some people to use existing facilities. If I can contribute through my taxes a small amount to make these services more accessible to those that can't afford the fee hike, even if I don't use the facility, I'm all for it.
For me it would not impact my choice in use
Greater impact and I'm not supportive of this.
Higher property taxes for something we do not use is a waste of money. I am infinitely willing to help those who cannot help themselves, and unwilling to help those who will not help themselves. These days every person is very entitled without thinking they have to work for anything.
Homeowners would bear the burden, so it would impact me more than someone who is just renting.
I am a renter so hard to tell the impact since property tax included in rent
I am happier to pay slightly more in taxes to have well-funded city services.
I am not for this. Property taxes increase every year, additional increase is not appropriate. Would also be well received to stop communicating in tax rate and average amount of tax paid per family. The former might be neutral or close but the latter increased a lot
I am not interested in paying for things (via taxes) that I do not use or have no positive impact to me. Flat rate the taxes for maintaining City owned facilities and then have users pay for the use. And if a facility cannot support itself on this model, it closes (just as private enterprise would have it do).
I am okay with model as is. Would prefer to see little to no change.
I am paying for things I will never use. Charge those that use, not those who don't.
I believe in paying for what you get. I feel it is unfair to have to pay for something we don't use or access. However, if it is for a better life or the environment I'm willing to contribute. Like paying for garbage recycling, since the recycled program was implemented it's better because more people do it.
I believe this is the preferred approach as the increase spread over all home owners would be less of a hardship then if the city increased user fees for the individual.
I could financially handle an increase in property tax, but would prefer an increase in the user fees.
I do not support this.
I do not want my taxes to go up. They have gone up 25% in 3 years. My income has not.

I don't agree with the idea, as I shouldn't have to pay more for services I never, or rarely use. Ie. I don't use transit as it wouldn't work for where I'm going, why should I have to pay more in taxes for it? That should be passed to the users.
I don't see how this helps anyone. I think the city is spending too much if property taxes are already increasing every single year by large amounts.
I don't use transit but probably a drop in transit prices will have more savings then a tax break would do.
I don't use transit often, or recreation facilities. I don't have a pet. Not involved in art programs. Booking fees sure, I don't use.
I don't like it. I don't want to pay more taxes for someone else to use this services.
I don't like this, I will end up paying more in taxes for services that I don't use and don't want to use. Raise user fees on non-low-income users so that I don't have to subsidize services that I don't want/need.
I don't like this. Pay per use is better.
I don't use a lot of city provided options that have fees. I can't afford to pay for someone else's usage
I pay enough property tax as is
I rent, this could lead to a rent hike from landlords, as they would look to cover this through my rent, could cause me to be forced into a less desirable area.
I think that since most of these Services are choice activities they should be focused on fees instead of dominantly taxes. There is a balance but I am not keen on increase to my taxes to support a ton of services I don't use to decrease fees for the people that do use them
I would also indirectly benefit from other people using transit, being active and engaged, and following rules."
I would be happy. I support increasing property taxes.
I would be ok with this approach as well.
I would end up paying more for other people to utilize services with less responsibility on the facility to be cost effective.
I would gladly pay more through taxes to support expanded fair entry and transit, park and rec centre maintenance, arts programs, and fire inspections.
I would like to see a move toward ultra affordable or free bus fees.
I would pay more property tax and less user fees.
I would pay more. Unless of course we took some money from the giant giveaway to the Uber rich owners of, say, a hockey team and instead used it to make the city a better place.
I would prefer to pay less but don't mind paying
I would rather pay more for the individual services. Not everyone uses all of these services.
I would rather user fees be increased. I don't use them.
I wouldn't want property fees to go up dramatically, but overall yes, I think taxing people with property is a better idea than charging more to people who are taking transit.
I'd be seriously angry. I am on the cusp of losing everything and now I need to pay more for others? I'd actually consider leaving the city if it continues in this manner. Pay for what you use period.
I'm fine to pay a small amount more I help reduce cost for people who use these services
If Calgary was to make transit fare-free, we would be incentivizing a more climate-friendly mode of transportation, reduce road congestion, and make Calgary more equitable."

If I don't use a service paying for it does not make a lot of sense to me. The user fees however need to be reasonable and accessible for everyone. If the admin cost is too high don't try and control it. Let it go and focus on more important issues within the city.
If the user fees reflected the actual City costs, then an increase or decrease would not impact my family.
If transit was cheaper I would consider taking it more often and saving on gas. I hate driving my car but it's cheaper for me to get around the city by car then by taking a return trip on transit.
Impact my family? I suspect I'd pay a bit more tax each year. But my frustration with that would depend on the service. For example, Pet Licenses should be wholly paid by the owner (and cats should be licensed, esp. roamers). When I had a pet, I paid for his license and he was my responsibility. I'm OK with 100% of that cost. But I don't want to pay a portion of my neighbors license for his dog.
Increase in taxes should never be your 1st option.
Increase property tax for infrastructure services (recreation facilities, transit, parks, etc.), as these will benefit all citizens over time.
Increasing Ptax negatively impacts all homeowners. Decreasing user fees does not positively impact all Calgarians. I do not support decreasing user fees on services that do not have broad positive outcomes for the city - ie, street closures; pet licenses; park site bookings; arts programs.
It could make more programs available to me.
IT IS NOT A TRADE OFF, COSTS MUST COME DOWN. Lower salary and benefits in line with the private sector. We pay way too much for too little.
It seems like property taxes are always increasing and this really needs to be mitigated in order to maintain housing affordability.
It would add to my taxes
It would be difficult, taxes are too high as it is and yet our income has been drastically reduced due to COVID. Half our family income was lost this year! We won't be paying user fees, as we'll avoid that as we are struggling to pay all bills & taxes as it is.
It would be nice to quantify the increase, and if it would be one time or a regular yearly increase. However, over time this could make property taxes very expensive and unmanageable for my family.
It would be to my detriment if this were to happen, as I don't use many of the services in question, so I'd end up paying more in taxes for things I don't benefit from.
It would benefit me and my family.
It would cost me more. Do not do this or I move to a bedroom community.
It would frustrate me to no end. If the city is actually considering putting us at risk by cutting something like the fire department, but still want to use my money to fund a service my family does not use...that is frustrating and infuriating. When times are good, sure, I don't mind having my tax dollars go towards those things, but right now I sure want it to go towards essential services
It would greatly negatively impact my family where I'm paying for services that I'm not using. It's not fair to punish people especially seniors who don't use these services by making them pay for these services.
It would have a higher and more significant impact on my household compared to others.
It would have a noticeable improvement in making services much more accessible.
It would have minimal impact to my family. I would fully support this. I can afford to pay more in taxes and would much prefer to pay more in taxes so that these services are available to all Calgarians regardless of their income.
It would impact me by paying for services I rarely use and as a senior on a fixed income, I disagree with that.
It would impact me negatively.

It would impact us in a negative way, as I mentioned on my initial response, my family and I do not sure any of the services listed, I know many people in our position.
It would make me proud to promote inclusion over simple minded, ideologically driven cost cutting
It would not
It would not
It would not. A small increase to benefit the masses is fine.
It would not. I'm a poor person who does not own property and pay property tax, so I would like to see this.
It wouldn't.
it wouldn't
It wouldn't as the only things I use as a customer are the recreation facilities, so paying less for this isn't a big deal as I already feel the prices are very reasonable.
I've never been so ashamed to be from this city"
Keep it the same
Less transparency and less direct feedback (tragedy of the commons)
little personal impact
Little to no effect.
Lots of people are within \$200 of not being able to feed their family, let alone pay money to book extra curricular activities. The extra cost should be on the people using these services
Lower my property taxes by finding efficiencies. During Covid the City of Calgary is the only employer who didn't trim their workforce causing unacceptable increases to my taxes.
Makes more sense for pay per use instead of jacking property tax as they are rising at an unsustainable rate.
Manage your budget with the money you have and stop punishing citizens for your greed and poor decisions - an arena, greenfield communities, etc. You can't even get a councillor who basically "stole" money from the City in expenses to publicly apologize?
Middle class families are not the ones using your facilities.
Money is tight right now and user fees should be increased, not decreased! I do not want to pay for someone else's use of services through my taxes.
Mostly negatively.
My property taxes are high enough thank you - do better with the money you are already collecting. Which may mean being creative in how services are supplied to the citizens of Calgary
N/A
Negative - we cannot continue to subsidize all of these services (a number of which my family uses) to fund. Always better for user to pay.
Negative these should be paid more on user basis and just subsidized by taxes.
Negative, see above
Negatively
Negatively
Negatively. Common services should be paid through taxes...recreational activities should be done through user fees
Negatively. This is unjust.

Negatively. Everything but transit and fire inspection is not a necessity to life in this city and I would not be willing to pay more so others can pay less to use non essential services.
Negatively. It would encourage us to move out of the municipal boundaries if we were required to further subsidize other discretionary services that are for the sole enjoyment of others.
Neutral
neutral
Neutral impact to my family, we do not struggle to pay property taxes. It would have a huge impact for those unable to pay user fees and have no alternative, based on socioeconomic barriers, but to utilize public services.
NO - if you use a service you should pay more -/Pets/Site booking Fees
NO di not use tax money for this purpose
No effect.
No I won't like to have property taxes increase.
No impact.
No increases are welcome.
NO MORE HIDDEN FEES. No more hidden fees to support City of Calgary's out of control spending habits. I want to know what I pay for.
no more increases on property taxes!!
No one likes to see property taxes go up, especially Calgarians, but a slight increase would not ruin us. It's a bit entitled to think we can go on forever without increase and I don't like when politicians run on that platform, and the most vocal opponents are generally not low income and can fully afford the fees. The roads need maintaining and the money has to come from somewhere.
NO tax increase for any reason.
No, and I think for the most part it's all reasonably priced for the services received.
No, I can't afford paying expensive property tax.
None of these should have any taxpayer subsidy...these should be 100% user pays
Noooo i don't want property tax increases
Not acceptable as I am already at the poverty line.
not at all
Not at all.
not good
Not in favour of this. I realize not everybody can afford the same, but having donations or low-fee programs for those few would be good.
Not much.
Not much. Again mostly just let licences. I do not have a licence so I would rely on transit for commuting if my employment changed where I could no longer work from home. Increase in user fees would greatly impact my monthly budget.
Obviously our Taxes would rise and so we would be impacted.
Obviously, the opposite of the previous answer...
Our cost of living would go up but that's life. We all need to pitch in.
Our taxes may be low in this province / city. We need a sales tax for sure provincially and I don't mind paying property tax. It's my duty to help make a decent city to live in...

Paying for other peoples activities through property tax is extreme and shouldn't happen.
Paying more in property taxes is acceptable to continue getting the same or better services. However paying more and getting less is NOT acceptable.
People need to be encouraged to take public transit / to charge for parking there would be a decrease in ridership at an already low time.
Perhaps a decrease in user fees and a small increase in property tax would benefit society as a whole - balance for those who may be budgeting with a much lower income than others.
Perhaps a halt on salary increases for city councillors also. Everyone else is having to deal with this - they should be no exception."
Perhaps fees for safety and health related services could be based on a person's income, age and employment status. If one person in the household is a senior, why can we not pay senior "household" rates? Income should also be looked at, not just poverty level but various levels of incomes.
Preferred. Share the pain evenly rather than hammering one person.
Property tax increases have already heavily strained our household. Any more increases would make it very hard.
Property tax is already too high. We need to cut unnecessary programs such as public arts and downtown bicycle lanes. And only use the money where it is needed, such as Access Calgary, roads, parks and other essential services.
Property tax is easily our biggest bills of the year. If it goes up I'm going to have to think about leaving the city.
Property tax is expensive enough. Single people can't afford to own their own homes without 3 or more roommates.
Property taxes are high enough now.
Property taxes are already fairly high - that's could have a negative impact on our budget for services we don't use.
Rather than raising taxes, cut what the City spends money on. So many people are already unemployed or underemployed. Focus on police, fire, sanitation, snow removal, parks and libraries - only departments that benefit huge numbers of people. Get serious about the basics and forget the rest for now.
Reduce the city hall salaries and perks. No to increased property taxes
RIP OFF!!!!!! Paying more in tax for stuff you never use or participate in. How about canceling wasteful spending instead of hiking the tax burden. The City needs to get back to basics. Power, water, sewage/garbage, transit and safe roads. [removed]
Same as above.
Same as above-[removed]!!!!
Same look at what is booked or used a ton and pay fees a bit look at what I am not using much and lower fees. Also stop building heavy duty transit to low income areas they don't work downtown they never will increase options to higher income areas they will use it way more if they weren't packed into overcrowded buses etc and they'd pay more often
See above
Services should be paid for by user
Simply depends on which user fee. Some I am more than willing to pay more if it is related specifically to my family. But, if the city benefits less user fees makes sense. Just depends on what fees would change.
Since the cost is then evenly distributed among all residents whether they use the service or not, this is the most equitable way to deal with these fees to access what should be publicly accessible.
Sounds like an increase to property taxes

Stop raising my taxes. You keep increasing taxes but the services stay the same or more often, they suffer and decrease at an abysmal rate. I have seen ZERO proof of my tax increases actually being used for more than padding the pockets of the political parties that "RULE" this stupid city. Swear to god I'd leave this city if all of Alberta wasn't a financial cesspool.
Stop raising taxes. Why is the super arena being built though many citizens of Calgary thinks it's a waste of money and resources that can be better spent elsewhere.
Strongly do not agree with this. Homeowners already bear the brunt of paying for expenses they don't even benefit from. Aside from transit, these fees are not necessities.
Stupid idea. User pays. Someone wants to reserve a gazebo they can pay for it.
Stupid. Do not decrease user fees. We are already going to face an enormous increase in property tax over the next several years to try and minimize the annual deficit.
taxes are already to high, id rather see cuts than tax increases
The city needs to operate more efficiently rather than impose more fees and taxes on people. Our streets are an absolute joke. Half of the crews on leaning on shovels or standing around when passing by a construction site.
The City would have no clue about decreasing user fees as they are not aware as that is a possibility.
The examples provided are not good examples of where the municipality needs to intervene to ensure balanced and equal social access - thus, these should not be partially paid from the general pool of taxes, rather, they should be paid by users (other social programs are in place to help those that truly need it).
the rest should rely more on fees."
The taxes I pay are already very high. Continued increases will be very challenging.
The users should pay ... should not go to the taxpayer
There should not be an increase in user fees or property tax. The city needs to CUT THEIR INTERNAL EXPENSES.
There would be a negative impact on my family, but I am realistic and expect that taxes will see some increases over time due to inflation and the cost of more services due to urban sprawl. You get what you pay for.
This depends on the impacted services. I'll continue with my previous two examples. TRANSIT: I think overall this could help. Right now the cost is on the line of "is it cheaper to drive or take transit every day?". RECREATION: I don't know what % is tax, but some of the pricing seems it could change. Some program \$ seem low for what they offer. Pool admissions should not really increase. AP could
This is a better option equality-wise, but I believe it is a tougher "sell" to the community.
This is also a ridiculous idea, just keep it the same. Cut costs, move to contract staffing for rec centers, and cut the arts and other non essential programs. When the economy is back, you can have your special interest programs again, until then no.
This is like asking me - would you prefer to be shot or stabbed? What I think you need to focus on is how YOU operate the City's facilities and infrastructure. Maybe its time to drop the pensions - you definitely will not struggle to "attract" employees with the dismal future in energy here.
This is not my preferred option. I support user paid structure.
This is the ideal situation. I am more than happy to contribute more than my share to reduce the wealth gap in this city.
This makes day to day living for people already struggling through the COVID-19 financial crisis even more unnerved. I do not want to pay more on property tax for services that I'm not using.

This makes no sense whatsoever. However, if raising taxes to ensure essential life safety services such as emergency response stays properly funded... Then do that!
This makes sense for services like transit which benefit even non-users by helping keep traffic down. Many rely on transit and it is likely the best or only choice for residents meaning they may not have a choice of being a customer.
This method doesn't seem fair to those that aren't users of any of the services or programs.
this option here is how you increase public transit usage!
This will better enable us to participate in recreational and art opportunities.
This would also be fine for our family not that we're excessively wealthy, but an increase of up to \$500 a year in property taxes, when spread over a year, isn't too much of a burden... for us. It would impact how much we can save or how quickly we can pay off our mortgage, but worth it for the health of our city.
This would be an inconvenience but personally would be able to tolerate it for the greater good.
This would be appropriate given the massive overtaxation we pay.
This would be beneficial during a time when people just don't have the means to pay more
This would be better, but properties over 750K should pay at an increased rate.
This would be negative in my opinion as I rarely access city services with user fees, again with the exception of transit. I feel like transit is a different category.
This would cause us to spend more on services we don't use
This would depend on variety of factors. How much is the increase going to be? Will it be unilaterally applied or will there be exemptions made for vulnerable sections of community? What is the impact of not increasing the costs altogether? An open-ended question like this doesn't really help me much in deciding what position I would want to be taking.
This would greatly impact our family, as we are currently a single income family on a tight budget. My children would potentially have to give up their extra curricular activities.
This would have a negative impact as I can barely afford property taxes as it is.
This would impact many calgarians as a lot of this type of money expenditure isn't a part of their daily life.
This would impact my family in a negative way because I would be paying more in taxes every year for services I may not need which is money basically being thrown in the garbage.
This would impact my family. We would pay more in property tax for services we don't use.
This would increase our costs. If this was for recreation, social services, culture, parks, and things with positive externalities, I'd be okay with it.
This would make things more accessible for all.
This would negatively affect my family; we don't use a lot of city services that should be user based
This would not impact me or my family significantly.
This would not impact my family. I believe paying taxes are my contribution to a better society and I am in a position to be able to afford user fees when necessary.
This would take away from my fixed amount of income. I do not expect a raise for at least 5 years and costs have gone up.
Transit, recreation, arts, fire, and parks are societal benefits. Fees should be maintained at current levels for these. It is reasonable to increase fees for pets because having a pet is purely a personal choice. Fees for street closures should be significantly increased to encourage their use only when absolutely necessary. It's too easy and cheap to privately occupy public space at present.
Unfair. Not an equitable distribution. Burden needs to be on the user in those cases.

User fees should be on par. Those of us not using these services shouldn't be funding the majority of them.
User pay will show support or lack of support
User pays!!!!
User use, user pay. User fees fine. Use prop taxes for subsidizing those that truly need help, not just spreading the help to all.
We already pay so much in property taxes, and see very little in way of return. Taxpayers in the outer suburbs need to start paying their ACTUAL fair share- not based on the value of their houses, but based on the cost of the services provided to their communities (new rec centers aren't cheap).
We might be more tempted to sign up for a rec or art program
We use a lot of city services already. It feels nice to pay less at time of usage compared to having it feel expensive for what it is even if taxes are higher.
We would be negatively affected by an increase in property taxes. This would result in less money to feed our family and maintain our home.
We would be okay.
We would be paying for services that we don't use.
We would be paying more for services we don't use
When you spread the costs out among all the families and individuals in Alberta, it helps those who are most vulnerable. This is fair.
Why should i as a tax payer pay for services i never use, i dont have an endless supply of money living on a fixed income
Why should pay for things I do t use. User fees are the way to go. Yes I do use some of the services but not all. I only want to pay for what I use, not for everyone else.
Why should seniors pay higher property tax for things they don't use. It should be a user pay system.
Would affect us personally very little.
Would have higher taxes and lower pet registration fees as we rarely use the other services
Would not help
Wouldn't be able to use the services as there is very little left in the budget to pay for these services.
Wouldn't change anything
y
Yes property tax is already too high.
Yes. Property taxes are already too high.
Yes. Users should pay. Also - sick of ppl not paying for transit tickets

Participant comments impact of parking fees

If parking fees were charged for unreserved stalls, this could pay for increased security and lot maintenance including lighting and snow clearing. How would this parking fee impact you and your family?

"Calgary has an under performing transit system.
"Dramatically. I am assuming you are talking about transit lot as you already charge at other city lots
"I don't understand what this question is asking. What does ""increased service with those spaces"" mean?

"I think this is a good idea if price is reasonable to encourage more transit use. encourage persons on bus routes to use the bus to train and those driving from poor bus access to park and avoid downtown parking cost.
"It would encourage some people to find alternate ways to get to LRT stations, but would also encourage some people to park in nearby communities.
"maintenance is very poor anyhow, doubt quality would increase. there are unsufficient stalls, which is a significant deterrent to using transit!!
"The city even considering breed specific legislation is the most disgusting thing about 2020.
"We should be encouraging transit ridership, if the lots are paid, then will we just people more people on deerfoot/crowchild?
"You did this once already and it failed UTTERLY.
\$2-3 a day would be ok, but any higher and it would cost me less to drive where I need to go, then I wouldn't take transit.
1st come 1st serve no security - take the bus to ctrain if you don't like it.
A general fee shouldn't be a thing. A license plate tracker so the same people don't hoard the lot daily would be better. First day of the week free. Second visit in a week 5. Third becomes a weekly pass at 20.
A reservation fees for all parking spot is the way to go. Although I understand that parking for free can be attractive, but we need to pay for good services.
adding fees would absolutely impact our family, we would deive more and pay parking in town rather than at Transit lots."
Again, you'll lose even more riders which you can't afford. Transit fees are already too high for all the nonsense you deal with on the train - lack of mask-wearing, drugs, drunks. It's ridiculous. Only see the transit police when they want to check your pass.
All locations should still have free parking. Parking is too expensive in this city. A small fee on a portion of the lot is the only logical way.
All lots should have fees, and all areas around transit parking should be zoned parking for community or pay parking spots. It would not impact me at all as I don't use them and only walk/bike to work.
Although this doesn't affect me, charging fees for parking at transit stations is a bad idea. Counter intuitive if you want people to take transit.
As a senior, on a limited budget it would have a negative impact on my finances.
As a transit using family, this would be detrimental to our family's bottom line. A better plan would be to encourage more transit use by setting up toll roads during certain times going in and out of downtown. This would generate more revenue for the transit system and parking could remain free or lower-costed, allowing for security, lighting, and snow clearing to be paid for.
Better transit to encourage less private car use."
Calgarians were totally scammed with the parking fees at LRT station. A campaign promise to eliminate the fees to park at LRT stations and the machines were taken out to pay on a daily basis. Monthly parking was implemented, which costs more & there is not an option to pay on a daily basis. We have been deceived. It is absolute nightmare trying to get parking at an LRT. Paying monthly
Charge for all the stalls but do not spend the new revenue on anything extra. Put it towards that giant deficit. Honestly why would you think of spending it?! Isn't the point of this exercise to come up with some ideas to generate revenue and save on expenditures. Why spend any extra money on more security features.

Charge more for parking and fund fare-free transit. We need to change transportation behaviours, and we know that economic incentives work.
Charging for unreserved stalls is a terrible idea. Transit itself is already expensive. Leave the unreserved stalls alone - having them free on a first-come, first-served basis is essential to many. For many, it is not practical to take transit all the way from your house to the transit station. Parking is many peoples' only option, and charging for the free spots would be unfair.
Currently we do not use this service, and I believe this may impact a lot of ridership that require transit each day. Perhaps it is best to keep with the current system or make it an extremely low fee of .25 a day. or \$7.00 or \$8.00 a month.
Depending on the cost it may deter ridership. Reasonable cost and I'd say yes.
Depends on the price. We typically pay for a reserved stall anyways, it's the only way to guarantee a spot at the end of the line. But a non-peak hour pass for half price or something like that might work. Or a 4-hour maximum on free spots.
Depends on the steepness of fees I suppose I think we would be okay although I can't imagine it would be a popular move. I would also hope that those who can access reduced bus passes could access reduced fee parking as well.
Didn't you try this already?
Do not add more fees for parking. look at reducing city workers instead.
Do not increase parking fees at transit unless you drop the cost of a transit ticket.
do not use transit stations.
Do we need increased security and snow removal? That would be a better question.
Don't know what extra you could do - change burned out light bulbs and pick up garbage perhaps.
don't charge for parking. just don't clear the lot. If you charge for parking at Transit lots, Transit usage will be decreased and parking in neighbouring areas of c-train stations will increase.
Don't do this. If transit parking will become paid more people will just park at work. Savings on commute is a trade-off for inconvenience, no savings=more cars in downtown. We are not saving on gas by using C-train, we are saving on parking costs.
Don't use the lots that often. However, when I do, it's already impossible to find a spot as the reserved spots take up so much space. Need to reevaluate their usage. A small fee of a buck or two per day would be more than reasonable though.
don't use transit
Fee for service. Transit passes and ride fees pay for the transportation service. I would pay extra if I were to drive to a transit station and park. I used to pay for reserved parking - no issues.
Fee for use is reasonable, most parking lots charge
Go ahead and charge for parking. If parking fees go up, then people turn to transit as in other cities, and it's a win win.
Go for it, our parking is a joke as it is
Great idea
Great idea. I have heard often not safe to park
Honestly, it would entice me to park on a nearby city street where 3 bus routes all join up at one stop and then beeline about a dozen blocks for the Transit station. I'd probably park there skipping the lot completely 90% of the time and transfer. (In a post-COVID world. Right now, I haven't touched transit since March.)

How to all of these measures support achieving the goals of the Municipal Development Plan? That's what we should be basing this discussion on."
I agree with this approach, those spaces should not be free.
I agree with this. I want more security and lights at these locations.
I believe this is a good idea. Perhaps the parking fee could be incorporated into a special monthly transit pass cost to save on administration. Also why do we not have a pass like the Oyster Card in the UK that you load up as required?
I can't afford a car. It would not impact me at all.
I do not own a car.
I do not support this. The small amount of free unreserved stalls should remain free. Transit is already too costly and encourages driving and paying for parking downtown
I do not think this is fair, as it is charging us double for parking then as well as buying the monthly transit pass or day tickets. This will discourage people from wanting to take transit if that happened.
I do not use the public parking lots. When I was a student, the free parking was invaluable to me.
I don't use them so does not affect me
I don't use transit and am not officially affected by this but I think you would see a decrease in ridership if you we're to start charging for parking on top of a ticket fee... then The users might decide to pay to park wherever it is they are going instead and further congest that area. (This is mainly for downtown workers) I feel there is another group that use transit that have no vehicles
I don't use.
I don't drive but I do believe that our tax dollars could be used if council actually understood needs vs wants
I don't regularly use transit myself (work from home prior to pandemic) but I do benefit from it being there for others. Less pollution, greater ability for families and individuals to live in the city without needing 1 or 2 personal vehicles, easier for tourists and visitors, more equitable for lower income people. Charging fees would likely make more people drive and that makes the city worse.
I don't think it's a good idea to charge for parking spots when people already have to pay for transit."
I don't use parking at Transit stations. Depending on the difference in price (between reserved and unreserved) stalls, I would probably only pay for reserved stalls.
I don't use transit
I don't use transit.
I have paid the reserved parking fee for years. I would be supportive of charging for all stalls BUT at a lower rate. Be careful not to increase the total cost of transit, otherwise many will spend slightly more to drive downtown which conflicts with bigger city objectives.
I hope it would decrease our household taxes.
I like the idea but am concerned about the impact to the surrounding communities."
I live in the Beltline and do not use transit, this would not impact me. I think charging for parking at transit is reasonable - TTC in Toronto does and it doesn't deter riders from using the service.
I no longer work downtown so I don't park too often. When I do though, I wouldn't mind if it were a bit more expensive. Though, don't we already have some of the highest parking fees in North America?
I often only ride transit during off-peak hours and rely on free parking spaces. Paid parking + transit fee would make me less likely to take transit compared to driving into downtown or taking a cab.
I think a small monthly or yearly fee should be paid to register a license plate that would be parked there regularly. If you aren't a regular user you should be able to pay by the hour/day

I think having some free spots is fair as taking transit is already expensive so now having no free option would increase costs to get to work or school. almost every time I take transit over half of the reserved spots that are paid for are empty anyways so why have more of those?
I think it a good idea, because not only are they not going to park, they also need to be maintained as well.
I think it is ridiculous that people drive to the transit station. They should absolutely pay for parking. It's part of owning a vehicle! If you don't want to pay for parking.... TAKE TRANSIT
I think it would make using transit too expensive
I think people forget transit parking is on prime land that could be better served as low income housing. There are plenty of other options like a bus, walk, cycle or get dropped off at the station
I think the fees should reflect who is using the transit system. If you hold a transit pass, then perhaps your fees would be lower but if you are a one time user to take the train, then your parking fees would be higher.
I use transit because I trust the parking at stations. Paying for parking before I have to pay transit would be an inconvenience and on the days I'm running late, it would be even more inconvenient. I've found that lighting and snow clearing haven't been a big issue as the lots get used very frequently and the snow isn't much of a bother on big snow days.
I will reduce my transit use even more drastically. There's no point paying the jumped up transit fees and parking fees for routes that don't get me where I need to be in the first place.
I will wind up driving and not using transit. At least I will have comfort on my journey. How are you going to do snow clearing if cars are there. And uauually the snow is piled up blocking more of the parking stalls
I won't take transit if you are going to charge for parking and charge for riding. Will just drive.
I would consider this, if I saw the benefit. Transit already costs almost 1/2 of the cost of parking downtown, and I need to take my car to the transit station, meaning I'm also still paying partially for the car. Either improve the overall service so I can go on transit only, or show me the value of me paying for the parking.
I would just drive to my destination instead of taking transit. It is already a fine balance between the cost of transit and the cost of paid parking. If I have to pay for transit parking, the balance tips to the car.
I would never use transit. Calgary transit is already an embarrassment for the city. The service is a joke and the cost is unreasonably high
I would not use transit as much if I had to pay to park my vehicle and again to ride the transit.
I would stop using Calgary Transit.
I would support a parking fee during busy times, as it would improve the ability to get a stall (since free ones fill up so quickly). I don't think the money should be used to add services, rather to offset costs that already exist.
I wouldn't take transit anymore. I would drive my car. There is no issue with security in the lots I park in. Just another money grab. Pretty sure City of Calgary will just go ahead and implement increased fees anyways regardless of feedback. Just watch your already depleted ridership revenues sink even further.
I wouldn't use transit if you incorporated a fee for parking. Areas around stations would fill up and constant complaints from business owners would start. Use your brains, if folks had to pay to park, then take transit, might as well drive and park downtown. Cut non essential services like this communications dept and art.
If all parking costs a fee, it would make transit less accessible to the low income working population that depends on it. A small increase in the number of reservable stalls could create additional income without making the lots inaccessible to the majority of users.

If it was reasonable, I'd support it. But it has to be less than the cost of operating a car and driving downtown. Transit needs support those who can't afford the high cost of car ownership.
If it were reasonable. Not downtown rates. Our parking is already too expensive
If lots are full then a incremental charge for parking makes sense as there is more demand than capacity. Perhaps soften the blow by allowing pre-purchase of x days credits. Perhaps create some kind of city wide parking pass that enables you to park at all city locations.
If you do this you will have the same issues as the reserved stalls now - users keep them for years and sublet them and it becomes impossible for others to ever get a stall. It also doesn't make sense when half of the lot is empty when the reserved parkers don't use it. If you start to charge for unreserved stalls the cost may not be justified and more cars will be on the road.
If you need to get downtown during rush hour and your bus/train is actually on time it is not bad. To use it to go anywhere else is an embarrassment. A city that wants to be world class should have an efficient way of moving people. Adding a fee for parking has been tried and failed. Revamp the entire route system and more people will use it."
I'm fully in support of charging for ctrain parking, especially because a lot of people who use the park and ride are living outside the city.
Implementing a parking fee would be reasonable, although transit busses are not a reliable means of transportation at this time (infrequent, late, lack of coverage).
In the broader scheme, it effects me because either my transit ticket or my taxes go to cleaning those parking lots, but also that increases ridership. I agree a fee for parking in Park and ride lots should be considered.
Increase security and maintenance are more important than charging a nominal fee for parking. In every other major city in north america you pay for parking
Increase the number of reserved stalls but leave a smaller number available on a first come, first serve basis.
Isn't the idea to encourage more people to take transit? If I have to pay to park in the lot, I would probably just drive to my destination and pay to park there. Way more convenient.
It does not affect us. But if the trade off is less crime, less accidents, improved capacity in the winter and better access I don't see how this is bad. It would depend on how much.
It hasn't worked in the past and I would no longer be able to afford transit so I would probably look into carpooling and parking options downtown. There is no way to get to the train from my community early enough to get to work on time.
It pushes parking to residential streets nearby.
It should be a mix of reserved stalls and "pay by the hour" stalls, to cover these costs and to allow some occasional users to park without waiting until after 10am. This would help when a person has early morning appts and to share the costs between all users of the parking stalls.
It would very much depend upon the fee that the city is considering; would this fee be based on time of day parking is used, or 24 hours a day, 365 days a year? A nominal fee would be appropriate, perhaps as an option when purchasing a transit pass
It would affect a lot.
It would be good if non CofC unionized workers filled those jobs as CofC employees make up over 60% of the budget which is ROBBERY!!!!
It would depend on the charges that city plans to levy. If it's nominal such as \$15 a month, I guess that's fine. If it's going to be \$40 or more, I would think hard, specially considering that there are many parking lots in & around downtown that charge \$150 a month for parking. A proper balance needs to be struck otherwise, city might potentially be losing a lot of customers.

It would deter me from utilizing transit.
It would encourage me to take transit more because there may actually be available stalls when I'd be travelling.
It would impact us in a positive way. Better security, lighting, and snow clearing would help me greatly at transit stations. If you are going to park and still take transit I believe you should pay, regardless of the stall.
It would increase the cost for us to commute to work and other places throughout the city. It would make us less likely to use public transit or force us to park on public roads causing congestion.
It would make it less likely for me to use it. I could find parking downtown for almost the same price as parking and transit tickets.
It would make me less likely to use our already underutilized transit system.
It would make me not take transit. Already very expensive.
It would make public transit unaffordable
It would make us avoid using transit as it would be cheaper and more convenient to drive to the destination even if we would have to pay for parking there as well.
It would mean that I would be more likely to just drive where I need to go and pay to park there. Why would I pay to park far away from my ultimate destination?
It would not impact me as I walk to transit. Those using transit may be less likely to use it if they need to pay for the ticket and parking.
It would not impact our family, however, it might result in lower transit ridership.
It would not pay for anything because most people wouldn't use it. The current reserved spaces are mostly empty. This would either decrease ridership since people would just drive downtown / other destination or increase parking in residential areas.
It would not, but it would make transit less attractive to low income users. Cost of bus pass + parking is close to \$200. Why would I choose that if I can drive downtown and park for \$150-\$200 just outside the core?
It would not. Calgary Transit provides a terrible service. There are too many drunks and idiots using the trains to make it an option for my family. Once you've been puked on by a drunk you will NEVER take transit again.
It would not. Transit is not in the business of parking. This makes total sense as then you could provide as good a service as the CPA provides.
It would not. One of us has transitioned to work from home and the other does not work in a place the train goes.
It would not. Parking fees should be higher and a source of city revenue to offset fully funded public transit + multi use pathway creation + maintenance.
It would radicalize me. Transit fares should be free, but you should seriously go on parking lot charges. If I have to pay for a bus pass and parking to get to the bus, I will explode.
It wouldn't
It wouldn't affect us as we can afford things, but I again encourage council to consider people on the margins. They deserve to be able to access city amenities and have the same quality of life.
It wouldn't impact me at all. I don't object to this plan - this can help move people to buses or other modes and hopefully reduce the reliance on single occupant autos.
It wouldn't impact me.
It wouldn't piling sucks try not to mess it up more

It wouldn't.
It wouldn't.
It wouldn't. I want safety first
It wouldn't. Do it.
It wouldnt
it wouldn't
It wouldn't affect me anymore but I think you need to charge non residents parking. Snow clearing and extra security might be nice but unnecessary.
It wouldn't because we don't use public transit very often. We could pay for parking when we do.
I've never been so ashamed to be from this city"
Keep parking free. Never had an issue with services needed
Less vehicle-break ins would be welcome as they are a major inconvenience.
Lets not go down this rabbit hole again. The costs of enforcement and implementing special needs considerations will offset any income we can achieve. If we got that route then transit should simply be privatized.
Little to no impact for my family at this point. Charge more for reserved stalls and or designate a small increase in amount of reserved stalls.
Little. I would be fair. But need to be careful to offer transit and active transportation option so people can access business areas by other means than cars.
long term parking or monthly parking should be an option, a small daily free spot and daily-paid parking
looking for parking at transit stations always a problem, normally after 7am, the free parking stalls will be full, most people do not expect to get free one anyway. So no impact to me and my family. In fact the parking fees should be charged entirely on transit users.
Manage your budget with the money you have and stop punishing citizens for your greed and poor decisions - an arena, greenfield communities, etc. You can't even get a councillor who basically "stole" money from the City in expenses to publicly apologize?
Might encourage people to use active transport which would benefit our feeling of community and reduce pollution
More people parking in the community by my house, which would require increased expense to control and would negatively impact when guests came to stay.
My closest lot is too small, there are numerous unused reserved spots already. Paying twice to ride public transit does not make sense. I would consider alternate forms of transportation, where does that leave transit revenue now? Again you are suggesting that the cost would go towards admin and increase costs to operate. This makes no sense and is of little benefit.
My husband is still laid off after 6 months, due to covid-19. We can barely afford to pay our bills and mortgage and there is no way I can afford to pay for parking downtown. I rely on transit to get to work, and having to pay yet another fee during these times is going to break us. City council needs to stop spending on other unnecessary projects and budget better if transit needs more funding!
N/A
N/a
no effect
No effect. Great idea. Also, stop building parking lots in the most valuable land adjacent to a transit station.
no impact

No impact
No impact
No impact - but a good idea. You did this year's ago and it worked.
No impact on me as I walk to a station. Based on my neighbours comments. They would use transit less as it would be cheaper to drive and park. The city needs to start thinking more about incentives & nudges to get people using transit. not to discourage transit use
No impact to my family as we do not use these lots. I am in support provided the fee was nominal, for example \$5 per day.
No impact, but it makes sense.
No impact, I do not use this service.
No impact. However, this was tried before and failed. Why would it be different this time?
No impact. Work from home and don't use transit
No increases are welcome.
NO MORE FEES. Reduce costs. If you want people to use public transit it must be affordable. Make it affordable and stop increasing fees.
No substantial impact however not supportive due to impact on people who may require this as an only option and can't afford higher fees.
NO would lower usage
NO! this would make transit as expensive as parking dt. I assume it would be higher than the \$3 of old, but even that brings transit costs close to \$200/month. you will lose money through people just parking dt. [personal information removed]
No, Won't impact me. I only use transit maybe once a year if that.
No. Do not do this. This will not encourage people to use transit instead of just driving to where they need to go. This is a bad idea.
No. Just no. My husband already has to park across the street from Fish Creek Lacombe and walk. On top of gas, car maintenance and a transit pass, you want him to pay even more to access a service that should be accessible to every person regardless of their income.
Nobody who drives would have any reason to use transit. If we were gonna pay for parking downtown and at the station might as well just park downtown and save the transit trip.
nobody would use transit if they have to pay to park
Non Calgary residents should be charged for using the parking lots, free for residents. Do not know how to enforce but needed.
None
None
None
None of these should have any taxpayer subsidy...these should be 100% user pays
Not applicable
Not applicable.
Not at all
Not at all - we don't use transit frequently.
Not at all and fully in support of bringing the fees back.
Not at all as I do not use public transit

Not at all I don't use. I think a nominal fee is reasonable
Not at all.
Not at all.
Not at all.
not at all. I don't use those parking stalls.
Not at all. We love Centrally and access transit by walking.
Not much. If it helped keep a few spots available for short term, 8d be more likely to take the LRT
Not sure if I understand the questions here... parking fees for unreserved stalls - where?
Paid parking works, do it now.
Park and ride is a fiscally irresponsible market distortion. Sell those sites now to a private operator and get that land on the tax rolls and ready for redevelopment (which will be better for ridership). People can take the bus or walk or bike to the LRT. https://humantransit.org/2014/10/basics-the-math-of-park-and-ride.html
Parking already sock in calgary, don't make it harder,
Parking comes at a huge cost to construct and maintain, despite only having very limited utility for a small subset of transit users. All LRT parking should be pay parking.
Parking fee at transit facilities needs to be cost effective in the sense that if I need to pay for parking and transit, why wouldn't I just drive and park downtown..? IF you want ridership you need to make it appealing.
Parking fees for Calgary Transit are incredibly high. Charging for unreserved stalls will deter even more people from taking transit and opting to drive instead. We need to make environment-friendly options more, not less accessible.
Parking fees would be fine, if someone is against it they have an option to take the bus from their home and not need to pay for parking.
Parking lot fees would have been completely fine when you first tried if you had made it a reasonable price to begin with.
People parking in front of my home to avoid parking costs
People who use these services are the ones who benefit from the service so they should be the ones that pay for the service.
Perfect example of what I explained above. Do it.
Perhaps a small increase in expenditure, however does this decrease any taxes or is it just an increase for the city's budget overall?
Rather have more security then worry about paying for parking
Reduce the city hall salaries and perks. No to increased parking fees
Reduce unnecessary over heads e.g. remove Police packaged vehicles from Transit and By-law if they don't chase criminals. Get Transit Peace Officers friendly looking uniforms and not wanabe Cops uniform as they act aggressively when checking tickets. Why use then and not ticket checkers,our Police is enough militarized why make everyone else look like aggressive cops.
Seems logical
Shame on you."
Should charge the parking by 1\$ or 2\$ Per vehicle would help for maintenance and keep the transit cheap. Every city in Canada charge the parking for transit. Sometimes peoples park and don't even used the transit

Some people using the free stalls already pay for a bus pass to finish their transit trip and a double cost doesn't seem fair.
Sounds like another tax grab. How about not building a stadium for billionaires and then redirect some of that money to transit?
Taking transit would be less appealing.
Taking transit wouldn't become my first option if all transit parking was paid parking. With increased work flexibility, paying for parking monthly becomes way too expensive if you are not using transit 20 days/month. Paid parking downtown becomes more affordable as parking lots are starting to reduce day rates. I currently pay for transit parking and will be canceling at the end of the year.
That was tried years ago and was a failure, killing ridership. Security and lot maintenance are part of the cost of doing business. The same as private industry.
That would be OK, but I would want it to pay for more/improved transit service, NOT for more parking lot amenities.
The city use to charge for parking and eliminating those charges was a very stupid and short sighted mistake. Those funds should be used for maintenance of the lots. If you can afford to drive to the station, you can pay for parking. Why should our tax dollars pay for individuals choosing to drive to a station?
The cost of transit is already a burden. The City approved sprawling residential space but has not provided efficient public transportation. It isn't a comparison of parking downtown vs transit costs as Calgary's downtown is ridiculously expensive but so many people pay it because transit options are inefficient. Vicious cycle and you want to add more cost to the people who use transit
The disruptive change of COVID-19 will almost certainly change what we take as normal. Transit ridership is down and likely to take long to recover, if it does fully recover. Any additional costs will discourage ridership. Focus on reducing costs while maintaining or improving service like Calgary businesses have had to for some time now, otherwise we're less likely to ride transit.
The increase in services would be welcome and should be paid for by property taxes. I do not use these lots, but know that charging people to use them will cause people to avoid parking there or using transit. Causing more traffic, congestion, and pollution.
The odd time we use transit, the cost would be more but I'd be ok with it. I used the CTrain for a decade daily and more security would be good.
The parking fee at the LRT station should stay the same, if not, they should be free. The goal should be encouraging people to take transit, increasing ridership by providing free parking. Charging parking fees at the LRT only does the opposite. I am strongly against parking fees at the LRT parking lots. Also, let's face it, the security will never be increased even if you charge all parking lots.
The previous parking fee (\$3/day) at least meant that you could find a spot after 7 am ... I used to work downtown, but didn't start work until 9:30 and once the fee came off, I couldn't find parking at Anderson. Luckily, my children were old enough that I didn't need to deliver them to daycare before leaving for work, and I could take the bus to the station. Many would struggle to do so.
The true cost of parking isn't free. While it is important to encourage transit use, there should be fees for parking at transit stations (maybe free/discounted for monthly pass holders to incentivize transit use for commuters?). The revenues from this should be directed to improve transit access in communities so that fewer people need to drive to a transit station.
There should be a charge to park at these sites, 2.00 to 5.00 a day is one less fancy coffee per day and a lot cheaper than the 3 to 500.00 a month to park downtown
There should be a parking charge. The increased service should be in increased transit service hours, not in enhanced parking lot maintenance.

There should not be an increase in user fees or property tax. The city needs to CUT THEIR INTERNAL EXPENSES.
these days sadly we do need more security and people have to pay for that
This doesn't impact us as we don't park at a ctrain station.
This is A hard no! Parking in the core and in high traffic areas where so many of our low income workers need to get to is already a premium. With the cost of transit passes going up every single year, you make it more and more difficult for people to be both environmentally responsible and financially responsible. This is what transit fares should cover. Re-asses the administration costs.
this is a ridiculous option - if you have to pay to take the train or bus - then you could probably just drive to where you are going - isn't the point of transit to cut down on traffic on our roads and cut emissions?
This is a terrible idea. We use the unreserved stalls for parking already and commute downtown. This will make things more expensive. In many of the park and ride the unreserved stalls are already quite low, and now, charging for it will increase our transportation costs. This is a very bad idea. It will only make people's living situation more difficult than they are already.
This is a terrible idea. You can't promote and encourage people to use transit if you keep adding to the cost of utilizing it. Transit is almost at the point now where it would be cheaper for me to drive than take the train.
This is more challenging because it makes transit more expensive, and in order to increase ridership, we should make it less expensive. It's cheaper to build a transit line than to create a solid road infrastructure. I would support free transit service for all, creating a more equitable approach and a cleaner environment.
This is ridiculous. We already pay for transit, now we have to get to the lot at 5am to get a spot? Why not increase the number of spots and then consider charging. Otherwise only those that can afford it can park...that's unfair!
This is ridiculous. This assumes everyone would continue to use transit and pay for parking. Do you presently have reserved stalls available? what does that tell you about peoples willingness to pay for parking. You'll lose customers, have to hike transit fees, and lose even more people. Take it from [personal information removed]
This is stupid, it was tried once and it failed. Less people will use transit and just drive downtown. The cost of a monthly pass is already ridiculous for the value, if you add the cost of parking to take transit as well you may as well just pay to park downtown.
This may discourage transit use for those who can afford not to use the service. Users who are lower income who use transit as their best or only choice will be forced to pay more to be able to use transit. The burden should not be on those who can afford it less.
This needs to be done on an individual lot basis. When it was tried earlier at the Sandstone bus loop there was no end of grief with "free" community parking.
This will become a barrier to transit use. Not a good idea
This would be a minimal impact to us.
This would completely defeat the purpose of why many people use AFFORDABLE TRANSPORTATION like Calgary Transit. You need to evaluate how many people would start driving when factoring in the cost of a pass and parking compared to parking downtown. You will lose money through lost users, rather than gain through gouging Calgarians for parking. Get the money from the public art budget.
This would discourage me from taking transit. I would be much more tempted to drive downtown and pay for parking than having to pay for parking at the transit station and then paying for the train as well. As a

municipality, you want to encourage as many people as possible to take transit to reduce road congestion and pollution. By adding yet another fee onto transit, you will discourage it's use.
This would discourage transit use. You want to reward ppl for taking transit - not punish them!
This would have no impact on me
This would have no impact on me
This would not affect me at all. I would caution keeping the fee VERY small if this was implemented as I know people this would greatly affect their budget/access to employment.
This would not affect my family at all. I think we should increase user fees such as this rather than pay so much through taxes. I don't even use transit parking lots so I don't want to pay a lot for them through taxes.
This would take away any reason to use public transit. The dumbest idea I've ever heard. I would just drive downtown and pay for parking there at a cheap lot or I would be forced to take the bus to the station. This would defeat the purpose of the train.
This wouldn't impact me or my family.
Transit is already not great in Calgary. If there are no free stalls that means people have to pay for both transit passes and parking.
Transit should not be considered a service to raise funds from - it is essential. More lower income families rely on it than middle class or high income earners. Those driving to train stations usually do so to save time. Forcing a few on people could mean having to add buses with the increased ridership, which wouldn't save money, and would limit the time people can work or spend with family.
Unacceptable. Low income already. Have to already go very early to walk or sometimes drive to get a free spot. Don't care about security maintenance and lighting. Want to see needless city budgets cut first
Wasn't this attempted about 8-10 years ago? Bad idea.
We already pay for a reserved spot.
We currently can walk to our local station so this is not an issue. If we did have to drive, paying daily parking fees could be a concern.
We currently do not use park and go lots
We do not typically use transit, so it would have no effect.
We do not use, however I would say that I would support a user fee to augment the security of these spaces.
We don't park on the street.
We don't use parking at Transit
We don't use the parking lot very much. I think you need to be careful on this one. We need to encourage people to use transit. If it cost too much some will just drive. Consider a minimal cost for an all day stay and free for 3 hours or less.
We live close to an LRT parking lot. Implementing parking fees could lead to more on street parking by people avoiding the pay lot. So, NO to parking fees.
We live in West Calgary and we have people that use transit and park on our street. This must have something to do with the paid parking. Our comments are similar to the last question. It's a delicate balance and the politicians and staff are paid to do that.
We should charge for parking at transit.
We would no longer use Transit as it becomes cost prohibitive."
What are the other transit organizations charging for parking? Transit will never have enough stalls and I don't see why the city shouldn't charge reasonable parking fees for weekday. Weeknights give a break

after 18:00 hrs and maybe free on weekends and stat holidays. Let the Calgary Parking Authority manage transit lots (ParkPlus) ?
What does increased security mean? If you want to encourage people to take transit, then charge for parking. The impact clearly ripples to the surrounding communities where people will look for free parking. Have transit and CPA do collaborate and figure this out, that is their job.
When the parking fees come into play it is cheaper for me to drive and park downtown then it is to take transit. 7\$ for transit tickets and 3+ for parking gets pretty close to 12\$ for parking downtown. Makes me far less likely to take transit, especially during the current pandemic, transit is a stretch at the moment so making it less accessible is a bad idea
Why are we wasting space on giant parking lots?
Why even ask this at this time? How many people are even taking transit? Have you seen the parking lots at the LRT stations recently. Don't waste time/money on this idea right now.
Why werent those things factored in when planning Transit. If the provate markwy can bear it then obvioisly more spots should be made available. Planning for the future seems to be lacking throughout the city.
Would absolutely be a deterrent to taking transit.
Would impact me as the City would implement this fee but the money would not be used for increased security and lot maintenance.
Would make my travel time an extra hour longer because I cannot afford to pay any extra. There doesn't seem to be any issues with the current situation including maintenance
Would not
Would not be worth taking transit
Would not bother to use transit at all. If I have to pay for parking downtown I'd rather drive than pay for parking at transit. Would not go downtown for services instead would seek them out closer to home.
would not impact me at all.
Would not impact my household as we do not usr transit.
Would not impact, do not use
Would use transit a lot less, too many fees for transportation used by the less privileged in society.
Wouldn't hurt us.
Wouldn't ride transit and just drive.
Wouldn't (no impact) right now but a great idea. Too many people have had to drive and park downtown because the lots have always been full before the pandemic hit. Security needed more with so may acts of violence and break ins rising under black cloud of unemployment giving few signs of dropping anytime soon.
y
You can't double charge. The passes and fares are enough as it is. To add parking fees will make it more costly for my family and would not save me any money to take transit.
You want us to pay for parking and then pay for transit?!? Are you joking?????????



Financial Conversations: Engagement on The City's finances and services – Verbatim comments