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Verbatim Statement

The report below provides the verbatim comments for the Drought Resilience Plan engagement that ran from May 24- June 14, 2022.

Verbatim comments presented here include all feedback, suggestions, comments, and messages that were collected online and in-person through the engagement. All input has been reviewed and provided to Project Teams to be considered in decision making for the project.

Any personal identifying information has been removed from the verbatim comments presented here. Comments or portions of comments that contain profanity, or that are not in compliance with the [City's Respectful Workplace Policy](#) or [Online Tool Moderation Practice](#), have also been removed from participant submissions.



Wherever possible the remainder of the submissions remains. No other edits to the feedback have been made, and the verbatim comments are as received. As a result, some of the content in this verbatim record may still be considered offensive or distasteful to some readers.

Calgarians- portal and paper questionnaires

Question 1

To what extent have you personally experienced the impact of drought, whether living here in Calgary, in other regions or in a different country? (select one)

Sorting question. No verbatim comments.

Question 2

Were you asked to take action to reduce either your indoor or outdoor water use?

Multiple choice question. No verbatim comments.

Question 3

I, (or someone else in my household) is responsible for maintaining green space, a yard, or a garden?

Multiple choice question. No verbatim comments.

Question 4

Which description best fits how you would respond if Calgary experienced an extended hot and dry period, and The City asked/required you to reduce your outdoor watering? Select the description that applies to you most.

Multiple choice question. No verbatim comments.

Question 5a

What would motivate you to reduce your outdoor water use during times of drought? Select all that apply.

Multiple choice question. No verbatim comments.

Question 5b

Other: (open field, 400 words)

The City should promote xeriscaping and planting native grass/tree/plant species through an information campaign to incentivize people. Market it as being both drought resistant, and making our area more ecologically healthy/diverse.
Make sure that houses with shared accommodations (6-7 people under one roof) aren't penalized for having higher than neighbours water usage
When corporations are held to the same standard as citizens. Nice green golf courses while we can't adequately grow our own food gardens. Cucumbers don't do water rotations.. as with many vegetables.
The ability to legally not require a grass lawn. Allow legal more natural options that reflect the natural ecosystems in and around Calgary.
Fines for watering during restricted times, remove dump fees for sod to encourage homeowners to xeriscape.
City enforced reduction in animal agriculture to stop the main source of water waste
I already save my bath and shower water to water my garden
Higher property tax for a yard with a lawn
Understanding the impact of my water use and why I need to reduce. That my actions would actually help.
I do not need motivation other than helping my community and the world. We all need to be a part of fixing climate change and this is one piece we can easily do.
Encourage native plants and grasses and wildflowers including dandelions instead of immaculate green lawns. Provide incentives for having such landscapes, develop a program to change the culture behind lawns.
Educate me about water wise landscaping
I live in a condo complex with a mix of owners and renters, so community changes are harder to implement unless the numbers really "sell it" to the Boards. Since condo common green space costs are shared among several buildings, it is several Boards we need to convince "yes" to vote. Therefore the cost to implement a change (we have a very large green space) really needs to be offset by the savings otherwise nothing will happen. Please consider such rebates structure for condo complexes with common green space as part of your strategy. As we use lots of water vs a single house, but again it is harder to make changes when need consensus among several different boards...especially to shift the view of just increase rent, to focusing on controlling costs and betterment for all.
City to provide rain barrel like like compost and garbage bin
Campaigns that nudge society towards losing the ideal of a perfect green yard, which ultimately is arbitrary but not many people want that one dead yard if their neighbors have the nice yard..
Encouraging water wise designs of city green space and the boulevard grass areas.
A differentially high rate if people exceed a household limit; enforcement and fine for folks breaking roles (eg watering lawn, pressure washing driveway, washing cars in driveway)
I would want to hear about why the city was asking me to reduce my outdoor water; especially since groceries have gotten so expensive, we are growing more of our own food in our backyard, and we need to be able to water it (or provide grocery subsidies for families to purchase fruits and veggies!)

a severe water shortage would impact every Calgarian so although my condominium does not water the grass, my water bills would increase as the drought continued.
Just make it illegal. It is so stupid that water is being used to make grass look green!
Most of my cost for water is the fixed cost, I use about 3 cubic metres a month so the quantity is irrelevant.
An incentive or rebate to install an inground sprinkler system with timer. This would result in less water wastage by being able to water during early morning hours as well as directing water to areas that require it without overspray to sidewalk or running down the street.
This question is almost not applicable to our house. We already reduce our watering in dry spells and have multiples rain barrels for the garden/perennials.
If the city provided free rain barrels which allowed households better prepare for drought, I would feel more motivated to reduce using city water for my gardens.
One barrier is being the only one not watering your lawn on the block or culdesac. It looks bad if you are the only yellow/brown lawn. Need to change the overall public perception that its OK to not water lawns as much.
The city needs to change the building code and mandate grey water systems from showers and bath tubs. This water is what should be used to water our grass and gardens.
Incentives for timers or other irrigation products that allow for watering on a schedule (I.e. at night) or time of use charges
City supplied and /or rebates for rain capture and storage
I would suggest the city publish the amt of water the average home uses. New home builds need to have stricter criteria in water saving devices. The state of Washington just recently announced watering only between the hrs of 6 pm and 10 am. The City of Calgary needs to lead by example.
Being clearly asked to do so, that I can't miss - ads on buses, bus stops, etc. Also, being allowed/encouraged to have something smarter than grass on my lawn - for example currently planting clovers there might cause frowns from neighbours.
Would rather not have to limit water use and a higher rate to use what I want is ridiculous
Suggest the City helping households to replace lawn's with native plants or other if not using those spaces for gardening to produce fruits and vegetables and flowers or shrubs for protection and or privacy.
we save all used water from washing hands, cooking, dishwashing that we can in my family for the garden. In the winter we scoop snow and save it in the closed lid containers for the summer, When it rains we hold water in the buckets to water the trees later. Israel has excellent recycling water technology for all kinds of water and they provide these water back to their population at low or free cost. Israel recycle all dirty water running down from manufacturing factories in Palestine and use these water in Israel. Israel also uses the dripping water irrigation systems in farming and gardening, trees along their streets
I already have minimized my water use as much as possible so none of these are motivating.
Provide me water barrels to collect rain water for my vegetables and fruits.
Pay more, get rebates when use less than avg
Allowing households to freely replace their lawns with Indigenous plants and grasses. I was appalled when I was told I couldn't do this unless I made the plantings in a "garden bed"

I support restrictions, like those which would change the behaviours of my neighbour who waters a large yard (and the street) almost every day and cuts his grass super-short requiring more water. No financial incentive or penalty will work for wasteful people. Lots of education should be given to people of all socio-economic levels, kids, etc.
Seeing proof that corporations and the city of Calgary facilities etc were using less water before the onus is passed to the individual by increasing already out of control living costs.
Please provide incentives in replacing the grass with rocks or other similar materials in the front yard. This will solve homeowners from watering the grass on their front lawns, and at the same time prevent weeds.
stop interfering with peoples lives. You guys already try to fight in Quebec. Stop being a bunch of communist. We pay enough.
Better rain water management, grey water use and eaves troft and rain barrel management
Spent 2 years restricted to 200 litres of water per household per day. Strict monitoring by City and fines for non compliance.
I'm a geography honers in Bachelor of arts
Stop mandating sod be used when making new developments and have lawns of native grasses or xeriscaping
Financial rebate for staying within water use targets
If the city provided rainbarrels, and gave incentives to naturalize lawns into pollinator friendly zones.
I have already planted drought resistant plants but I do grow my own vegetables and I would expect a drought strategy to align with a food strategy.
Incentives for hardscapes/rock gardens and or clover instead of grass uses less water
Free rain barrel
Programs and cost effective products that aid the team n collecting rain water. Education on methods to conserve water.
Financial rebate or incentive for water wise landscaping as well as having rain barrels.
Clear information on capacity and usage vs needs
Grey water system to reduce drinking water use. Reducing lawn coverage on property.
Enforcement
n/a, as I only use a rain barrel to water my plants
Making drought resistant plants available.
Seeing City ops reduce water use - includes by not mowing dried out public lawns in August
An information/advertising campaign about the real consequence of water wastage and climate change. Because Calgary has two large rivers people think they can use water with impunity.
The items listed would not incentivize someone that is not already water aware. Programs to design homes to use the water they already have such as rain water and grey water would become a normalized part of a home and people wouldn't be required to buy into a program.
daily water consumption breakdown. Grey water reuse rebate
You should not be penalizing calgarians for how they choose to use the water they buy. Hence my suggestion would be provide a certain base amount of water that people need for regular living bathing drinking etc at relatively inexpensive rate. And any amount of water consumed beyond that amount gets charged at an extremely high rate
Free rain barrels

People won't self report that their neighbours' actions motivate them but behavioral science shows that it's strong.
Subsidized plants that are drought resistant. Neighborhood level competitions for best drought-resistant yards. It is critical that ALL new homes are required by the developers to only put in drought resistant grasses like fescue.
So financial incentive to help me remove my grass replace with useful plant like edible plants, bee friendly plants and drought tolerant landscaping.
Guidance on what to plant to make my garden more drought resistant.
Rain barrels. Education about drought resistant grass and trees.
I have been wanting to have a rain barrel so that I can store water but they are expensive. If I was provided a rain barrel, I would be able to use less water from the hose.
Limiting watering days or times. I feel so many yards are built for wet climates limiting watering dates even if they are unenforced could help remind people of the resource.
Water barrel incentive
Start outlawing the lawns with bluegrass. There are other groundcovers such as clover. Significant Incentives for use gray water for irrigation AND reduce sewage fees. Start planting and maintaining fruiting drought resistant trees. Along with food they will provide shade which helps with hot spells.
More funding and incentives to be able to afford more water conscious landscaping. I have looked into it many times and to implement a full strategy is cost prohibitive.
Given specific guidelines for outdoor water use and suggestions for best practices. Discounts on things like rain barrels and other devices/strategies to reduce water usage
City provides resources for better water use - I e. Rain barrels, water timers, or incentives for astroturf.
All you have to do is ask, but it needs to be in a time when it is obvious that there is a water shortage and not just a for political purposes.
Incentives for synthetic lawns or drought resistant lawns like clover
Yearly or seasonal updates about anticipated conditions, city concerns, and potential local impacts of such events
I would like to see large complexes ie Shopping venues cut back their water usage, have often seen irrigation system running after rainstorm or watering sidewalks. They should be required to do more landscaping that doesn't require as much watering or use drip systems.
Making water use tangible, e.g., similar to recycling pickup.
Knowing that industries that use high volumes of water (fresh) were asked to significantly decrease their water usage before the burden is placed on individual homes and private citizens
Fines for over watering, setting watering times
Just simple messaging, letting citizens know about reducing water use and my moral incentive to do so.
I am motivated to reduce my water consumption for the greater good. Just tell me the plan and I'll do it. This is way overdue in my opinion.
Rain barrel subsidy program
I would just do it if we needed it collectively. There doesn't need to be an incentive or disincentive, it would just be about the common good.
Our household looks for upgrades to our home to be more 'green'.

Landscaping grant to help me get rid of all the grass and move to a drought tolerant landscape/plant material.
I would love to see a targetted campaign for getting people to effectively use rain barrels
Fines if we watered when asked not to
My household water use is often only 4m3 per month. I don't think it could go lower. It is higher in summer but minimally so. It's already outrageously expensive on the waste water charges.
I'd like to re-landscape to remove my grass but there aren't a lot of good options and the nice ones are expensive
Various city departments provide things (seeds, compost, etc) to help Calgarians with their yards. What can these departments do to provide Calgarians with materials that are drought resistant?
When private residences, commercial space, businesses, city parks are fined for using their automatic water sprinklers during rain storms.
Comparing myself between neighbors and the rest of the city may end up just annoying me! A focus on the environment as a whole, such as ensuring we leave water in the rivers for the animals the depend on it is a big draw, and understanding the global water shortage that is coming. We have no business endlessly watering for green lawns when there are alternatives.
Financial rebate or incentive for reducing water use through efficient and smart irrigation technologies (controllers, sensors, etc.)
Financial incentives and programs for rainwater harvesting and drought tolerant yard redesign.
Educate people on how to do this and give them the tools to be successful.
Subsidized rain barrels to use at times like these
Mandatory watering restrictions
If the gov did more to capture water in the landscape through Permaculture design like FoodScape Cooperative
Subsidy for rain barrels - these should be more strongly encouraged - we get so much rain in the spring and if people saved it we may not run out as fast.
Low tech greywater solutions, easy to install large scale rainwater capture systems. I have 2 kids and a large edible food garden - these have priority for me.
City strongly encourages homeowners to now design and use plants so it is drought tolerant and stays healthier for longer, even during dry/ hot periods when I cannot water it
We live in a high and dry sw facing corner lot, that is mostly garden and very large city & fruit trees with a tiny bungalow. In our densified neighborhood, the green space and ecological benefits our yard provides is essential not just for our own food, but also shared food garden beds, provider of fresh air and habitat for many pollinators and birds as well. We would like to see yyc drastically reduce water treatment/waste water rates in summer as our yard retains all the city water used. Also happy to have support from city through free or discounted access to rainwater catchment, supporting construction of swales, and also to capture road runoff through gutter/sidewalk cutouts that allow runoff to charge groundwater for trees and food yards, and also change bylaws around use of grey water. It's ironic that the city wants residents to cut water usage when it allows so much natural and grey water to literally go down the drains and not be put to use.
Tax rebate/deductions for having a water wise lawn/garden
Having a specified limit of water usage

incentives for installing residential rain water harvesting equipment that can accommodate greater volumes (i.e., cubic yard); the typical barrel is too small for the large rain events we tend to get in late spring/early summer
This would have no impact on me at all. I live in a condominium or apartment, and I am not responsible for maintaining any outdoor space
The rich won't care if water costs more and will simply keep using it as always. The only way to motivate is to incentivise, but if you charge money for inspectors, that won't work...you have to get a rebate based on individual property consumption compared to the land footage. Then if people make some areas drought-tolerant, it'll show up as chosen less water use. People who irrigate their lawns or fill their swimming pools use more water and will pay more. But the rebate must be sizable so that it's worth it, even to the rich, who don't normally care if something costs more. That's the only FAIR way to do it.
Incentives for low spray irrigation systems, watering restriction schedules, bans on watering lawns, incentives for replacing lawns with gardens or drought resistant plants, washing vehicles etc. Review other city's water restriction bylaws & learn for what works elsewhere.
I feel strongly that "reinventing the wheel" is a waste of time and tax payer resources. I believe all cities should closely examine what was done by the City of Cape Town in South Africa for how to manage water resources at all levels.
The City providing free of charge, the tools (rain barrels) and assistance to preserve and reduce water use. The City leading by example, using rain barrels, watering by hand, using drought resistant plants in their own planters
The neighbor comparison would likely be motivating, but unfair once I thought about it. I don't care about the look of my old car and we have a household of 4. Some of my neighbors wash their cars regularly and have twice as many people in their home.
I only water when it is needed.
I use water from cleaning vegetables to water my garden.
Incentivize people to collect rainwater, as this helps both reduce consumption and storm discharge attenuation. At the least, make two rain barrels (or rectangular tanks) free per household
Nothing. City's spaces would continue watering their vast lawns (like the one at UoC facing Crowchild Trail), so why should I stop on their request? Lead by example then. It is like the current mayor asking to stop using cars while still using her own.
I use 3 rain barrels, NEVER EVER water my lawn, and do what I can to reduce my outdoor use of City water.
Already super conservative with water. You need to reduce the cost of delivery and sewer, and start charging for the water itself.
City not watering green spaces as part of city wide water use goal with status measured and transparently communicated
Water shortage is part of the world environment problem
Communicate how real this problem is here in Calgary. I don't believe we have the same extreme problems other cities have
I will do all I can to reduce my water consumption but I grow tomatoes and other plants on my balcony and plants in pots are reliant on a regular supply of water. I also have two plots in a community garden though we do catch rain water and use mulch to do what we can to conserve

water. In a time of food insecurity and rising food costs, it is essential to have enough water to keep plants alive and producing food.
Already pay high enough ought taxes
Better regulate the times and application of irrigating lawns. Create standards and inspections regarding proper installation of lawn irrigation systems. (IE no water on sidewalks, low flow tips)
We have a watering system called Smart Rain. It only waters when necessary and is controlled by a signal from a control tower.
golf courses stop watering
More publicity & education on xeriscaping.
Not, doing bias surveys designed to force an opinion. This is a joke, not well designed except go get the response the designers wanted. Fire entire climate change group spend money planting green things best use of the resources.
Being asked not to water
Clear ways to reduce water use, max target of water use, ability to choose which ways to use your target amt of water
Really don't need an incentive, if told to restrict water use, we just do because it is the right thing to do.
Anything I use is charged plus sewer fees are added to anything I water in my yard. Penalize Commercial who has sprinklers running during a rain storm. I will water my plants and trees whenever I see fit, that being said my yard is designed to not have tons of sod and waste water.
A city program that offers education on drought resistant plants that are native to the area. If the city offered a free yard plant that fit this criteria I guarantee a ton of gardeners from around the city would be interested. It would be a good campaign to bring awareness to the issue.
Rebate/credit for rain barrel or other gry water.
Incentive/subsidy for rain barrels
I do try to very much limit outdoor watering. A financial incentive would be great, but def not necessary for me
A financial incentive or rebate to convert grass lawns into xeriscapes, use grass alternatives like microclover or creeping thyme.
Regulation. Marketing in favor of brown lawns so it's portrayed as a positive neighborly thing to do instead of being a slacker. This was successfully done in Victoria
A transparent and scientifically explained plan to maintain city and households water usage in case of extreme droughts, promotions to store and use rain water for outside watering
We already pay 4 what we use now. I may consider paying more. Ques 4 isn't fair. i wud continue to maintain my plants & grass in other ways- doesn't mean using lots of water! Reuse grey water. Use umbrellas 2 protect plants from drying out. If a drought was predicted preseason I would not buy planters but have perennials i'd want to save. Disallow showering 3 x a day as many do! We use water sparingly in other ways. Limit water in restaurants! Most don't drink it.
Information about how to design garden/green space to reduce water
bylaw preventing watering grass
Incentives - positive reinforcement for reducing water use. You could do a comparative type thing
You can't charge people for water use unless you can target outdoor water use only. You would have to installa second water meter in every house. Even comparisons between winter and summer don't

work because of vacations, in the winter you run a humidifier, more indoor water use in the summer... Etc
Higher rates for higher outdoor water usage but structure the rates to escalate based on usage, e.g. 1 gallon = \$1/gallon; anything over 10 gallons = \$1.25/gallon; anything over 20 gallons = \$1.50/gallon, etc.
City wide, public space adoption of "water wise" landscaping options. Communication from the city teaching the average citizen why planting / landscaping for the local climate can save them money.
Introduction of grey water for residential homes, rain barrel reserves installed in community gardens, water storage ponds
Adjust the land use bylaw to permit the growth of native grasses and plants that exceed 15cm, not just within gardens.
A rebate to assist rainfall capture storage either through a cistern with a solar powered pump. On a smaller scale, discounted kits to capture rain in some sort of rain barrel. Education on how a 1mm rain event on a 100sqmetre roof could water a flower bed for a few weeks.
Alternate watering days. I am from a small town in Saskatchewan where watering is allowed for odd numbered houses one day/week and alternates to even numbered houses on the alternate day/week.
Seeing the City also implement water wise strategies as in keeping grass longer, not using herbicides (every plant counts and no rain means it doesn't get washed away) xeriscaping
Financial rebate or incentive for collecting rain water and using it in our garden
Support to start making water saving changes in my condo unit (like setting up water barrels or planting drought resistant in different parts of the unit
Supports to convert my yard into one which requires less water. I see the importance of using less water, and I'm willing to try, but I'd love to still have a beautiful space even if it requires more time/effort. Please provide resources to help me get my yard to this goal.
Calgarians are obsessed with perfectly manicured free lawns and will do anything to keep it that way. They do not care about increased costs. Fines are needed.
Reduction in bs wastewater charge that doesn't reflect actual usage at all. I barely water my lawn and it stays green mostly. But when there is long dry spells I water the trees.
We have a plan to xerispace our entire front yard but have only done have of it because it is expensive and time consuming. We would love an incentive to be able to complete the other half of our yard aside from just being good people.
Climate change in areas where heat and fire are annual events. Rockies snow pack has decreased as documented by my father's photos of the Columbia Ice Field reduction from the road behind Burster Bus station
I already minimize water use all the time, my household use is low.
Calgary Parks leading by example. Reduced turf watering, cover crops so soil for annual flowers isn't left vacant, right tree at right locations in parks, open discussion on what the city is doing. How many native/xeriscape plants planted and maintained vs annual and exotic water-intensive. Why cut down plants in the fall in city parks? Isn't that against the biodiversity strategy. Everyone needs to play a role. Ensure rain gardens are upkept not planted and forgotten.
Seeing enforcement on water restrictions

Install private holding tank filled by downspouts from property, use low voltage pump and solar to water lawn and gardens. More cost effective is no daytime watering, minimize evaporation
Restricting when outdoor watering can be done. exceptions should be made for people growing food.
Requirements for new builds and/or extensive renovations to take water resilience into account, ie fewer/ smaller paved surfaces per lot, green roofs, rain water storage, using swales
How about current drought conditions
a program to help with purchasing and installing rain barrels
Being told about the negative consequences of high water use.
Calgary water use comparison to other cities.
City incentives to save rain water (ie free rainwater capture systems and workshops)
Stricter Corporate and industry water reduction laws
Understanding how I can be a responsible user of our common, scarce resource
Consider subsidizing rain barrels? Make it economical for a homeowner to put in a barrel with spigot to use whatever rain we get
More splash parks open for children- we need a free splash park for everyone in the NW quadrant in the city.
[profanity removed] off Gondek, [profanity removed] ya!
I have already designed my yard to not require significant amounts of water and therefore would not appreciate other limitations to my use age.
Proper environmental practice, care for our water
Ensure all homes are metered and all are charged on a usage basis(no flat rates) 2) provide a rebate if your household usage drops yr vs yr
I would not need to be motives to reduce my water use in a time of drought. I would do what's necessary (this should be an option in this survey).
I have little to no trust that the city would not abuse any financial disincentives. Council has shown it wants to increase taxes wherever possible
I would suggest paying levels of rates for water. A base rate for the target and then a higher rate for water used after that. Corporate clients should also pay into this system using a pay more as you use more system.
my family already minimizes water use routinely. City water use by neighbourhood that gets communicated regularly would be good.
Give me a rebate or something. Some neighbour's go crazy watering and we only use what we need tonstay clean inside. Can you install a meter on our hoses instead? Higher water rates is ridiculous its a free resource and you charge enough for gas and electric....being greedy with money won't stop the usage...just like gas, we would freeze to death in the winter and you'll be on the hook for the dead and dehydrated population
Watering on even days if an 'even' address; on odd days if an 'odd' address; if water situation is very desparate, water by watering cans only
The only way to get people to conserve water is to reduce distribution costs and charge for the actual WATER usage!!! Those in condos are the least affected currently and the worst offenders!
Provide homeowners with water barrels and instructions on how to install plus how to make your lawn drought friendly. Carrots not sticks. Financial incentives are good but only if the process is simple, well known and reliable.

I doubt we could reduce it more, since we never water our lawn, but would happily make use of a rain barrel irrigation system to water the garden/etc.
I don't care about beauty areas, but I have no desire to lower watering my vegetables below the bare minimum required. .
I have a hardscaped yard with two raised vegetable garden beds. The beds are watered on a timer using drip irrigation so there is literally nothing that would motivate to reduce my water usage during times of drought.
I would be motivated to follow the lead of both public and private golf courses and other similar facilities. If they are allowed to continue watering so should I. If their water usage is curtailed, I would be fine with curtailing mine. I would also be fine curtailing my water usage if cleaning of sidewalks and driveways by residential and commercial is absolutely prohibited and failure to comply carries a significant penalty and fine.
Knowing that I am not the only one making these changes. It would bother me to see automatic sprinkles (commercial or private) watering while I am being resitricted.
I really like rain water barrels, but they are quite expensive! You can get one from the City, but they're the same price as good looking ones from garden stores! Free or significantly reduced in price would encourage me to get one from the city. That way I can use the rainwater to water my garden.
Restrict agricultural zoned land from growing crops that require exorbitant water usage.
Incentive for self sustainable water collection ie Rain Barrel s
Subsidies for equipment for rainwater harvesting and use
I have no faith in the civic government to take any input seriously, nor to act in the best interests of the environment or the citizens of Calgary. i believe this survey is just designed to give a veneer of consensus to a plan that will see more money wasted on ineffective initiatives.
Water restrictions with a fine if people are found to be watering when not allowed to
Drought resistant plants
Money talks but instead of higher fees, what about an annual contest. Which neighbourhood can change the most, with significant cash (rebate) prizes. Check out what India did. https://youtu.be/-8nqnOcoLqE
We wish we didn't have to water our grass because we feel it is a waste, but the cost to replace it with anything you can possibly imagine (artificial turn, graduated steps, rock beds or any form of landscaping) is so atrociously expensive that we would go broke. Last two quotes were almost 10,000\$. So we continue to water
Clear communication about problems city is having with meeting water demand; this is invisible to public but should be made known. We should all take responsibility for using water wisely. Also, distribute lower cost rain barrels.
Dwindling world water supply is all the motivation I need to reduce outdoor water usage
city-supplied rain barrel(s)
Encourage all home owners to have appropriate landscaping in their yards. Currently there are no guideline on this
An app through which I can monitor my water use in real time. Getting a reading once a month is an archaic way of managing water. Calgary can do better. I hear Okotoks already has this functionality. Also, I want to hear what The City is doing to curb water losses and non-revenue water. Why should I use less water if water losses or NRW is high?

If the City tried to force water use rules on citizens, and even worse - sets up snitch phone lines for neighbours to call, I would be inclined to disobey the rules out of principle. Not everything should be addressed with a hammer. A collaborative and informative approach is best, not policies and create division, particularly among neighbours.
Perhaps an awareness campaign is all we need. Why does the city need to intervene when they haven't just asked Calgarians to do the right thing.
A household level goal should be an annual so that it encourages year round conservation of the resource(almost on a percapita basis). It should not apply to simply seasonal use. If a household of users go over an annual quota then higher rates could kick in? As per question 4 I don't need my grass to be lush green all summer - i do need it to stay alive as the turf is worth \$1000s
Incentive programs/rebates for designing a water wise landscape
Drip irrigation installed, a sprinkler system that I can operate by myself without having to get a service to activate it every year.
I would be motivated to reduce water use due to sense of responsibility to my community
I already try to reduce my water usage. If asked, I would do it as it is the correct thing to do. These incentive drives would annoy me.
rain barrels from the city to collect rain water.
Encourage education and production of natural plant landscapes, not lawns, that thrive in the environment in and around Calgary. Less water would need to be used as they're adapted to the conditions of our local community. Remove or avoid by-laws regarding natural lawns.
better incentives to promote household use of rain barrels, reuse grey water, etc.
educational information is the key to get as many people as the City can onboard with reducing water usage. Lawns should be a thing of the past; make use of the space for vegetable gardens or use drought tolerate landscaping.
Free water barrels to capture rain water
Financial rebate or incentive for reducing water use - get the money from / tax the people who over water their lawns and waste water. Too many in my neighborhood.
We don't use much water outdoors so it is hard to say as we would likely be under most thresholds for outdoor use.
Tiered pricing during times of drought, to penalize excessive use while keeping essential use affordable.
permission to remove city trees on my property that need excessive watering
Free or discounted rain barrels
water reduction education on types of plants, especially food producing plants
Unable to water lawn and outdoor plants (garden
higher rates in summer only if offset by low rates in winter, utilities are expensive enough
Town house style condo
Explaining importance of water through documentary in schools, workplace, etc
Only water flowers, not yard or trees
we only use outdoor water end of june to september
wasting any resources, including water is considered a sin.

Question 6

To what extent do you support The City implementing an outdoor watering schedule as part of the Drought Resilience Plan?

Multiple choice question. No verbatim comments.

Question 7

Please share your thoughts about The City pursuing an outdoor watering schedule. For example: What do you like? What do you not like? Do you have any concerns The City should take into consideration when developing this idea?

Sounds complicated and expensive/ difficult to enforce
The City has to lead by example. E.g. Sprinklers recently installed in Riley Park are doing a great job of watering the asphalt pathways on a daily basis.
New grass lawns should not be encouraged through allowing them to be watered at any time of day. We could be a leader in promoting our own regional ecology over traditional laws, and it would make Calgary stand out to tourists.
I like the restrictions on watering mid day. I see too many homes watering during peak heat. I don't know if restricting days of the week is required.
I don't mind switching to a drought tolerant landscape which would use less water but can't afford it. The alternative everything goes brown or dead and would make everything ugly
In another city, the schedule was determined by address so we could either water on even or odd days. Your example of twice a week is not enough to maintain my garden.
i support an outdoor water scheduling... i think a big waste of water are those people who water their lawns / yard during the daytime / hottest parts of the day, where the majority of water is lost to evaporation. if we are serious about climate and water, ANY / ALL outdoor water should be occurring during early morning / evening hours.
?
I like the idea of giving people days they can use the water system. I think encouraging people to have rain barrels in addition to this would be ideal.
It will severely impact my ability to grow the food garden I'm dependent on.
Make sure the city enforces any schedule. Nothing annoys more than me being a good citizen and neighbours not complying with the restrictions.
No sprinklers from 9am-7pm seems to be a no brainer...why not make it 9am-9pm? How would this be enforced? Are you aware that Ive seen people drive down to the Bow river and fill 700l containers in the back of their pickup trucks?!?!? And the guy had the balls to say it was too expensive to turn on his sprinkler....
I have a lot of doubts about how many Calgarians would comply with these rules unless they were enforced somehow
Leave this to the homeowners. If people are travelling for work they should not be limited to what day they can water. I water the lawn on a morning it fits my schedule twice a week. Might be one day midweek plus a weekend day. plants and herbs I water daily, just not in the heat of the day. homeowners to be responsible without civic interference.

I think restricting it to when it makes the most sense in early morning or evening. I see people watering in the middle of the day which is such a waste. I don't know if there is a way to control amount but I also think people way over water. I often see water running down streets or mud running down paths etc. I don't know how to prevent this other than time limits maybe?
Encourage new subdivisions to be sod-free
I'd really prefer to see an even addresses water on even days, odd addresses water on odd days schedule instead of what is outlined here. Having four days between permitted watering days may actually encourage unnecessary watering because rain is unpredictable and I'll choose to water in case it doesn't rain in the next 4 days even if it isn't really needed now because it can't wait 4 days.
I think it's important for us to collectively come together to manage challenges like this. I imagine I will be annoyed with any neighbours who choose not to follow the schedule, and would like The City to help educate and enforce the schedule.
Encourage people to reuse the gray water. Bath water is great for gardens, pipe out washing machine gray water for gardens using a clean soap
Absolutely like - may make people aware that a lawn is not "green"
I am supportive of an outdoor watering schedule as long as it does not prohibit watering by hand and supports repurposing indoor water for outdoor use.
Would drip irrigation/sprinkler systems be better and have different rules than big pivot style? If someone is running a hose all day with a spray nozzle, how is that better than a sprinkler?
Buildout/dredge glenmore reservoir to restore previous capacity after 2013 floods. The whole thing is a sandbar.
Neighbours snitching on neighbours does not build a healthy community.
I like the time of day but picking specific days of the week is problematic because I work 12 hour shifts on the stated days. I would be happy to only do it twice a week if I could pick my days
I think this is a start, but I'll reiterate we need to get away from this culture of green lawns and embrace the native grasses, plants, and flowers that exist naturally, and grow naturally, no watering required beyond rain.
If the residents are required to follow it, businesses and the city should too. I think of times I have driven past sprinkler systems that are on during a downpour. I know they are scheduled, but if citizens abide by the schedule, EVERYONE should.
I don't think a schedule is the answer. All new developments need to adhere to future proof design, lots of endemic trees, (shade , better air, cooler, less AC use, less water., it's all linked) than restricting water use & provide incentives for current home owners to change their lawns out to things that do not require watering at all. A permanent solution & education is better.
I strongly support this initiative. There are many homeowners in our neighbourhood who have irrigation systems for their lawns, and their water use is extreme, with no controls whatsoever.
One missing thing would be potentially a seperate schedule for drip irrigation for garden beds
Sprinklers under kids trampoline is unnecessary, playground areas, schools grounds and other public spaces should be cut. It is not a necessity. People trying to grow their own garden for consumption is especially with high food prices.
Be great if we had to all follow the rules. Only thing I would like to be able to do is during summer months if got to be able to run the sprinkler for the kids. Not all day but for hours so. If the city does theirs then they need to be on it about watching people

Great idea
Most water usage is inside home tho
In the past the city has required watering on select days only
There is a lot of run off from the mountains. We have lots of water. Learn how to utilize it.
I would like to see some subsidized grass seeds that can keep up with droughts. Everyone plants Kentucky blue grass which is awful for this area.
If it is raining don't have the sprinklers on.
It is terrible to see how some people use the City's water to water sidewalks and roads, watering too long and mid-day. I support time limits and a schedule.
I support this plan for the City 100% but they need to help set us all up for success because the current landscape on most single home dwellings are sod, some trees/shrubs and flower beds. We need a program that helps these places a) better landscape their yard with drought tolerant species, b) install drip irrigation systems, c) get rain barrels or other equipment to store rainwater.
Its the right thing to do.
If it helps raise awareness about water conservation it is fine.
Too many people water sidewalks so this could help reduce it.
Watering grass with a sprinkler should be a privilege, not a right, during periods of drought and those of regular precipitation. I am in favour of bylaw enforcement when people do not follow a schedule such as the one proposed above. I would also welcome fines when sprinklers used when it's raining.
I can only water when I am home around my very busy schedule
There are always people who over water their lawns and you see the sidewalks are all soaked and the water running along the curb.
I think this is a great approach and well-utilized in other jurisdictions.
I think it makes sense but seems like it would cause trouble between neighbors ratting each other out.
Do not implement one of Calgary does not absolutely need one. Will support fully if there is proof that there is a true concern
The only concern I would have would be something we can't predict -- rainfall. Hopefully people would be smart enough NOT to water if we've had rain for several days. If people are still watering on their appointed days even after rain is this being efficient?
We are a condo complex with common green space with both odd and even numbers. Not sure how this would work.
Also some buildings hire contractors to do their watering. So if new City bylaw, need a large amount of notice and grace period to either allow contact changes such that their work days then align with their staff availability, or go back out to tender to reward the watering work.
I love the idea. Being an environmentally focused individual I'm appalled when I see people watering their lawns with sprinklers in the heat of the day.
The problem with relying on a schedule for automated sprinklers is that it may rain or the weather temp could be cooler where no watering is necessary. It makes watering a mindless, almost irresponsible task.
As long as I can water my garden (herbs plants and trees) I am ok to forgo the grass. I already use timers to water in cooler times of the day- this should also be considered and mandated
It makes sense to water lawn and garden in morning and evening, most efficient and water wise
How would it be enforced? How would people be informed and aware of changes?

Watering of grass lawns seems fairly unimportant when we are experiencing a drought. Sprinklers for the lawn seems pretty unnecessary to me. Consider localized rain collection incentives as an additional option.
Just do it. Humans are destroying the earth and impacting climate change. Green lawns are asinine and a product of corporations-should have natural gardens suited to region. My yard isn't a golf course-and why do they need to be green grass??
I think more education is needed about responsible water use and we need to communicate that water misuse is actually socially unacceptable and why
Calgary should implement a schedule to conserve water year round. Much is wasted regularly.
I don't mind the idea of a schedule for lawn watering, but the idea of the city telling me when I could use a hose/sprinkler to water my vegetable garden really doesn't sit well. I'm paying for the water. I need to feed my family. I pay 5K per year in property taxes. Leave me alone to tend to my own garden on my own property!!! Yes, climate crisis needs attention too, but ASK me, don't dictate!
It would depend on the circumstance. I already try to be water wise. I have 3 fish tanks in my house and I use the water change water to water my garden. I think providing people with water recycling ideas like that would be better offer free rain barrels now that kind of thing
I have no problem with it so long as bylaws are actually enforced. No point having. Laws that some people obey while others just ignore since there is limited if any enforcement.,
I'm surprised we don't already have one in place.
While I think it is a good start, I think there are ways to be even more proactive. Offering rebates on water tanks that collect rainwater, teaching residents how to use gray water in their gardens, offering rebates on water efficient appliances like toilets& dishwashers, educating citizens on being water wise. Offering reservoir capacity information publicly would also be good visibility for all
I have lived in this condominium for 3 years. The grass is only watered by natural rainfall. I would immediately declare no outside watering at all. If Calgarians want to water plants & flowers they could reuse bath water or used kitchen water.
Hold actual polluters and actual high water use businesses accountable first, before trying to spin this as an individual citizen problem.
I will not be affected much if at all by this change and think we should try to reduce watering where possible so am in support of a schedule that attempts to limit watering.
Makes sense, but how would you enforce compliance?
The problem could be easily fixed by charging according to the amount used, without the extra fixed cost. Heavy users would pay extra, in effect subsidising light users. Same for electricity and gas. I don't think you're listening, though.
I don't really like the idea. Our growing season is so short. We thoroughly enjoy and take pride in our yard. We find it frustrating that many people let their lawns go dry. It makes the neighbourhood look neglected. Incentives &/or education on xeriscaping, rainbarrels, & redirecting greywater from bath/showers/dishes would be better.
I already follow my own schedule of early morning watering, and I certainly do not want the city to to implement an outdoor watering schedule.
I think it is the right thing to do and signals to citizens that we have to be more mindful of water use.
Not having restrictions on hose-watering would likely counter any schedule with sprinklers. I'm sure people would just use soaker hoses or hose down at anytime.
No concerns, watering in the middle of the day is such a waste. And can burn your plants if you get water on the leaves during a sunny day.

I think watering grass is generally a waste of water - I would like to see incentives for installing better "lawns" - e.g. free rain barrels and free plants/shrubs to plant, native to this region, to replace grass
Higher taxes for those who used more
Strict schedules should be imposed on golf courses and corporate/industrial users of city water, and residents should be given rain barrels and resources/education re: smarter water usage. Placing restrictions on residents without holding industry accountable will only create more indignant anger among an already stressed population.
I like that it restricts the times for sprinkler usage as sometimes I think people set them up and forget about them. I also think people/companies using a sprinkler system should turn it off if a certain amount of rainfall fell close to or on their watering days.
I think that using a schedule would be great, I know that neighboring municipalities struggle to actually enforce schedules mostly because people arnt aware of them. There would need to be a massive communications push to raise awareness and that push would need to take place for several years in a row for people to actually be aware, let alone follow. No app for this, nobody will use it.
Make it happen for the City too. How many I ve seen automatic watering running while pouring rain...
I support restrictions on watering with large sprinklers that shoot high into the air during very hot days / afternoons. I like no restrictions on using a hand held hose sprayer though. I usually water my lawn this way when it is hot to avoid water being blown & evaporated away when its hot.
What happens if there is rain on my scheduled day, and I can't water when it's 30 degrees because it's not my day?
Fully support. The amount of water wasted by sprinklers is very frustrating. If scheduling can help residents be more conscious of where/when they water, great!
Two days a week might be tight, especially if you have new plants that need higher watering frequency when just planted
Absolutely unacceptable - we are entitled to water
My neighbours water their lawn daily using a hose spray nozzle. There maybe should be some regulations around that too. Gardens and flowers yes, anytime but grass daily?
I am trying to grow food because food costs are high and many of the grocery suppliers have proven to be seeking profit to the detriment of the people. I would be upset if I could not access some water to keep my garden alive. Rain barrels are extremely helpful but they are very expensive, i would be able to reduce my water usage more if barrels were more affordable.
It makes perfect sense even in wetter years. A green lawn is a mildly ridiculous aspiration.
I don't mind the program if I am able to use a water can or spray nozzle I can manage. But would not be happy to be cut of
Surprised we don't have something like this in place already. Totally should.
Some feedback - the example above is unclear about soaker hoses used in vegetable gardening.
I like the sample schedule above; we already hand-water instead of using sprinklers. I am a busy health worker and so would worry about missing "my" watering day because of work and then not being able to catch up for several days.
Honestly I'd prefer to water when my yard needs it than wait until the city tells me I can
Government has enough say in what we do. Enough! Simply make it beneficial to reduce water consumption but rewarding people not punishing them.
I absolutely hate that this is entirely about timing of lawn watering. Screw lawns - should be prohibited to water them at all.

i like this idea, most businesses could reduce their consumption by simply scheduling dedicated usage times. The city should consider the needs of specialized facilities, (vegetable farms, orchards, nurseries)
I believe a watering schedule is way to start.
Extend the schedule from Spring to Fall this year, we are in an extended pattern of drought, going on year three of the drought cycle.
I'm ok with the schedule because I always water my vegetables garden and my grass by hoses with spray nozzles, I think the use of water is less, plus I know that water is distributed evenly. (sometimes people turn the sprinklers on and go inside the house and forget about it. (run for to long unnecessary
we need a yearly plan to grow more trees at any place we can in and out the city, the trees are very important to keep the water for our city against drought. also use Israel recycled dripping water technology for saving water when watering trees. Every family has obligation together with our city to grow more trees every year and to protect trees and green area in their garden, in public area
I would be happy to participate and advocate for the program with my neighbours!
It would encourage me to water only on a schedule and reduce waste.
Long overdue
A schedule would be difficult to enforce across the entire city. Why not just charge increasing rates for higher water usage?
I think its a great plan but there needs to be incentives or options. Rain barrels at each home would be so fantastic and would really limit water use for gardens when needing limits. I also think having incentives for homes water usage would be great and help people decide about water usage.
I don't water when it's windy or extremely hot. The time of day for watering addresses the heat issue but not the wind issue (and we have lots of windy days in Calgary). I think people watering grass is stupid and a waste of water. I use the water for my vegetable garden and fruit bushes/shrubs.
I am from BC and remember water schedule as early as 90s. Shocked City doesn't have this. Neighbors water at wrong times, water their sidewalk, wash their car, all would be fines in BC (and I am from a small city there originally). Once concern is maintaining newly planted trees.
Outdoor watering would only bring me to the average household water use in the city. Not in support at all
I have lived with them before- easy for me to follow. But there needs to be enforcement for those who ignore the rules. Otherwise not fair to those who do.
Implement it already
Incentives for new projects to be low water use
I support this. People typically overwater with sprinklers. The City would have to ensure that enforcement for automatic sprinklers at night for example, was also enforces to the schedule, otherwise it will bean unfair approach
I think you should focus also on City parks and commercial/industry users.
Pro-active enforcement is critical.
As usual any schedule or restrictions only seem to apply to those willing to follow. This may not be the best approach but I guess it's something.
There are some significant changes that can be made for homeowners. Grass is the worst option, but getting fined for having front yard vegetable gardens, raised gardens, and container gardening is counter to drought planning. These options would significantly reduce run-off and wasted water use as well as support families in taking initiatives to reduce their summer food bills. We want options.

Please actually enforce what you put in. During Covid there has been almost no enforcement of any policy at any level of government so how will people take it seriously?
Free rain barrels, incentives for low flow hoses. Reduced rates on drought resistant plants to replace other plants.
It makes sense to have an outdoor watering schedule to help reduce water use. Many other communities and City's have already implemented water schedules.
It still allows people to water their lawns 3-4 times per week. That is more than what is actually required to keep a lawn alive. Also, this is a difficult strategy to ensure is adhered to.
Make the new houses to have mandatory gray water storage tanks.
I don't believe that people will follow these schedules. People who want to water their grass will always claim that it is new grass and our already over-worked bylaw officers will never respond to complaints from neighbours. What is the point?
When I lived in St Johns they did this and there was no impact to lawn greenery. It makes sense and I am surprised the city hasnt done this already. There should be some exemptions for new homes with new sod.
Irrigation systems may not be able to be programmed accordingly, need a way to report those that do not follow the schedule
I do support some sort of restriction, but only when necessary, and more than 2 days a week.
Several homes and commercial buildings have underground sprinklers and being in property management for 35+ years very little attention was paid to using water wisely. I have a neighbour that runs his sprinklers every day even when it is raining!
This seems like an easily workable way to handle drought conditions, though enforcement might be difficult. Any such program must also apply to commercial water use.
I don't over water. I rarely water. I don't Want / NEED you to tell me what to do. Get a life.
Based on schedule example: Consider having different rules for low density residential and multi-residential. Large multi-residential developments have irrigation installed to keep everything watered and are usually scheduled to come on during optimal hours. Low density residents can still hand water at all times but difficult to get multi-res to do the same if there is a need.
I think too many people water their plants/grass at times of the day that aren't actually helpful (midday for example). I think having a water schedule is important because it makes it easier for people to maintain their spaces more appropriately. It might also be easier to do it per community rather than house number.
This is a great idea and allowing hand watering means it's not too restrictive. Also watering should not be done at the hottest times of the day. This would help.
the schedule would work but there is should emphasis on wasting water while watering. People don't think that watering the sidewalk and roadway is a problem but is in fact paying for water with no benefit. There should be a reduction in the waste water charges in the summer to reflect that garden water is not entering the waste system.
City seems very cavalier about managing our water compared with Victoria, BC. I think water restrictions should exist during extreme heat events and plans will need to be made for when the Bow is slowed to a trickle - sooner than we think ! covered reservoirs? cisterns of some type; harvesting of snow to create further water savings and the introduction of grey water tanks.
Close the car washes first. Those who are growing vegetables need to water daily. Why has the province not built more catchment dams to feed the Cities.
I love that it would focus on watering lawns. I think it could be better if new lawns didnt get an exemption, it would be great to encourage use of other ground covers that are more environmentally friendly rather than lawns which are not native to the area.

Like that less water is used, but not everyone will listen and not everyone uses that much water, kids will play with sprinklers
Hopefully this will be on a rebate. Main thing a green lawn shouldn't be a mandatory law, if you are running low on water
Individual can use rain water and city can plan a rain water resources. Also we can reuse our drainage and waste water for outdoor activity..
I think it's a great idea. Some people are extremely wasteful of watering their yards or gardens.
It's important to communicate it well. I understand that city and commercial areas are subject to employee work schedule, but perhaps more can be done for those high use outdoor users to ensure water is not evaporating in the middle of the day!
We need to find ways to use recycled water for gardens
Difficult to police and somewhat suspect as industrial users of water could waste a considerable more amount than residential users
This should be implemented now
1) Give incentives to homeowners who replace their lawns with wildflowers, clover, or rockscapes. 2) Replace grass on city property with clover. It is drought resistant, never needs mowing or spraying, and it's self-seeding for years. 3) Begin a rain barrel programme.
I don't support it as laid out above. Sprinklers aren't just for lawns, and twice a week isn't enough if we go a month with little to no rain. We have a huge back yard with trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables.
I don't like that during a restriction people will still use sprinklers on the wrong day and only through inspections/complaints would that be managed. I don't like that people with rain barrels will still be criticized for watering because they don't pay attention to restriction limitations, or what drought resistant plants are.
This is a short term solution and down the road we need to switch from grass lawn to some other designs. City should start a plan while scheduling the water to have the houses switch to other designs for their outdoor.
I love the idea and think it's a crucial step we have to take to continue living well.
Nil
The city drains the Glenmore reservoir every spring. Where does that water go? Should that water not be saved and reallocated appropriately? I don't like that this seems a way for the city to increase taxes for less service/water!
We pay for the water so the city should figure out how to collect more water during rainy days, especially in July during the intense rains.
I don't like the idea of The City mandating anything on taxpayers. Let's not forget that "The City" exists to serve the taxpayers/residents and not the other way around! We seem to have evolved to where taxpayers exist to serve/support government. Seems to me we pay some of the highest rates for water and wastewater in Canada. What is being done by "The City" to focus on reducing these rates?
I like that it encourages people to save water and water when it's most effective. Concerns would be communicating and enforcement. Backyards especially.
I think there should be more emphasis on low water use yard design. I'm not at all informed on this but visiting palm springs or AZ show so many other ways to have yards that use far less water. I don't want to end up like South Africa a few years back being limited to x litres per day
If there is no drought there is no need to do this.
I think there are better ways to become more drought resistant. This plan only forces people to be frustrated and not follow rules when restrictions are in place. Instead start setting an example for your residents and offer clover seed, start seeding clover in the city vs grass, start collecting rain water, encourage hardscapes

It works in other communities, it can work here! I think if you provided rain barrels to Calgarians that would help them tend thwor gardens on their schedule regardless.
I would rather see encouraged use of rain barrels etc. people have unique schedules and don't want to be forced to timelines, especially if they are already trying to be reasonable in water usage. Also, family size needs to be considered!
The city should implement this sooner rather than later to encourage and normalize wise water use. I have experienced such a schedule whilst living in Australia. It's a fact of life.
My only concern is would the city help provide a rebate for residents to buy timers or necessary devices so that watering can be done during these days/times. Some residents may work 6 days a week or work two jobs during this economic down turn or rising cost of inflation and may not be available on the specified days for their address. Will their be an alternative date or alternative option?
Sprinklers and automatic irrigation systems should be restricted through the schedule program. This is because of hose systems waste a lot of water. Many people, myself included, grow a large vegetable garden to reduce my g overt costs. This takes a lot of effort. Hand watering with a spray nozzle should be allowed at any time. Most people hand watering in this method are water savvy gardeners.
How would this be enforced? Is there a fine? Would inspectors go around?
I think this is a great idea. Helps reduce the stress on water during peak times for unnecessary usage and gets people to me more conscious about this topic.
The schedule may be tough for those who are on shift work and don't have time during the regulated hours.
I came to Calgary from BC, where we have had watering restrictions in the summer since the 80s. I am shocked that this isn't implemented already given Calgary's water resources.
I have concerns about vegetable gardens- for example, would it be more efficient to encourage households to use a more automated system early in the morning like drip lines that keep the garden moist longer but use less water?
Easy if I can schedule my irrigation. Also the flexibility in hand watering anytime.
Golf courses should be held accountable for their elevated and unnecessary water use, they should be limited in their watering as well.
I support it for lawns but think people should be able to water flowers, vegetables, and shrubs as needed so they can survive
A suggestion of what time to water plants and lawns, and usage of proper watering techniques. This can be done through education first and then if goals are not reached a bylaw enforced solution should be considered. People should be made aware of water and financial saving they would make by proper watering of their outside spaces.
I totally support this as I've seen people wasting water by watering their yards during the hottest hours of the day. The City should also promote the removal of bath tubs, which are also a source of waste, some people use them every day, when they could take a shower and use less water
A lot of my neighbors are watering their yard during warm hours. I think people need to be educated and this measure would help.
My main concern would be that individuals would just water their lawn by hand versus with a sprinkler and it would not work. I am also concerned that my vegetables and food I grow would not get the water it needed if

further more strict watering schedules were enacted, which would be devastating if my garden (food) died. I am happy to never have a lawn at all and use native, droughttolerantplants.
I think you could add in a temperature to the matrix, if after 7pm and still +30 don't water
We have a vacation home in Blairmore and they've had a schedule for years. Works great! I've often thought Calgary could start that now and get everyone used to it. Give a 2 year grace period on enforcement even. People would complain but it's an easy and the right thing to do especially when we are close to the headwaters.
This makes complete sense and is well overdue. I lived in Melbourne, Victoria during and extensive drought in the 2000s and people make it work.
This is a fine way to encourage water conservation.
What about washing cars outdoors, windows, siding, driveways/sidewalks?
I think that we need to seriously reconsider our environmental priorities. Water is going to become a premium resource as climate change continues at this rate. We need to be doing everything we can to have a sustainable future.
I'm concerned the real schedule would be much more restrictive than the example. I'm also concerned that it works encourage a culture of informants.
1. Lead by example. There is City water overflow in my back alley (perhaps a leak) supported by blue hoses from fire hydrant, they say will continue at least 10 weeks, just pouring down the drain. Why? 2. One person may not do outdoor watering but takes a long shower every single day or flushes toilet with every pee etc. Indoor water use + outdoor water use = total water use. Measure that.
This sounds like a solid plan. I would also encourage the city to share with people better ground cover options than grass that are still plants but don't need as much watering.
I know for a fact that people water their lawn for hours on end, and let water run off into the street in the heat of the day. I really hate that and I wish there would be bylaw penalties for those who blatantly waste water.
Hoses should also be limited to a time use of 15 min or less if it's during the water restriction window 9AM-7PM. The time for watering in the afternoon could start after 6PM.
I often see sprinklers on lawns for hours with water running down the street. It's irresponsible! But I also see parks and the University watering during rain so what restraints would be placed on them??
I don't think it changes behaviours, we still waste water and many will water unnecessarily on days that are "allowed". I see it creating more arguments between neighbours for not following rules than creating positive change, we shouldn't encourage another means to police our neighbours. Humans respond to positive change not more rules and division.
With adequate provisioning for new grass, and automated garden irrigation systems, I believe that scheduled watering for lawns/shrubs/trees would work well. Encouragement to utilize sub-surface vegetable gardening should be part of this system.
More education on drought resilient plants. Brochures at garden centres and online.
New grass watering anytime does not encourage xeriscaping. Spray nozzle use anytime does not deter hosing down of walks & driveways, or vehicle washing.
I feel it's great initiative! A lot of American cities have been doing this and it's time for Calgary to start.
Calgary already received a water conservancy award. parks look horrible! U put irrigation in and now plan to rip them out! BUT they are still in use in the richer neighborhoods! It's wrong! We need MORE splash pads for kids on hot days. This is the boringest City in Canada!!! What's someone in NW to do ? Can't use sprinkler on hot day. Go to park sit on dry crunchy grass. Wait 4 wade pool 3 hours
I think the plan is clear. I have no concerns.

Hand watering is ok anytime
I'm glad to see some action being taken - there is so much water wasted on maintaining grass
Encourage/plant low water plants such as clover for lawn cover and for city green spaces.
Timing of imposed watering schedule not necessarily workable with work schedules
It seems like the biggest barrier to lower water usage is cultural. People are unreasonably obsessed with lawns. More examples of drought-tolerant and native landscaping around city-owned buildings would help to change this.
We need to implement these water saving measures before the reservoir or the bow and elbow rivers get so low that drinking water supply is impacted. Calgarians need to understand that this is a real issue not just in other places in the world.
By having rebates/incentives but also some minor consequences (eg. more costly water during peak hours) I think the general public will get on board with the initiative.
As for even/odd days, those who can afford automated sprinkler systems can simply program their systems and won't end up using less water overall. So, there's an equity issue. Disallowing sprinkler use during the day is a good idea though.
The city needs to stop controlling e.v.e.r.y.t.h.i.n.g!! Like our waste and recycling. It was touted as saving Calgarians money, yet we now pay more for less service. The water restrictions and/or rebates suggested, are just lip-service to get the city's agenda pushed forward. REGARDLESS of what I say, I already know the watering restrictions will be forced on us.
I would strongly oppose this. There are enough demands upon families' schedules without the city trying to tell me when I can water my vegetables
Could be more. This suggestion is pretty lame in actually taking action to reduce water consumption.
It is a very generous watering schedule and I can't imagine anyone not being able to adapt to it. I think every small thing an individual chooses to do can make a difference. 'Low hanging fruit' gets a change started. Every citizen in the city needs to recognize our actions impact the environment, our city and our neighbors.
We should aim to not limit watering to days but to amounts. If people exceed the amount per week based on the size of their yard, they pay fines.
Please keep this to grass only. People growing food should be allowed to keep their plants alive. Please make sure to allow hand and hose watering all the time.
We don't need bureaucrats now telling us when we can and can't water our lawns. That would be an utter waste of money. Just ask people to limit their outdoor water usage, indicate which times are best suited to limit use, and then simply let people do so. Why is the city looking to expand their scope once again?
We need to focus on fighting desertification by creating a ring of forest around Calgary, stop expanding and build better (residential buildings/ communities/small spaces). Sponsor an endangered trees/plant program (City nursery) as opposed to letting us plant invasive trees which increase drought. Alberta endangered species are hard to find. Let's build forests/ green corridors with plant diversity
I like it. Think it's a sensible approach.
I fully support the outdoor watering schedule as long as it does not restrict individuals to only one day per week,, reasoning being some people are not able to water on one designated day due to work, shift work, family responsibilities and in regards to encouraging individuals to try and grow some of their own vegetables this would help to accommodate this idea
I completely support any action the city puts into place to better manage our precious natural resources. I have a personal responsibility to the city and the earth and am happy to do my part.

It is only fair that property owners reduce their outdoor water use according to whatever scheme that the City decides is appropriate. Question #4 implied that condo owners and tenants do not make decisions re: outdoor water use. The condo owners make the decisions for PM implementation and we need to be considered a part of the solution.
Concerned with enforcement. Feels reactive, get rid of grass!
Because "water is life" - and because (as I understand it) grass lawns do not die but go dormant - I would support the City applying much more restrictive rules (even a ban) against watering grass lawns during a drought.
City needs budget to imply this rule. If people are responsible they should be using water wisely anyway
I think it is a great idea. I think that new grass should follow same schedule as people who are obsessed with a perfect lawn will just say it is new. I think it would need to be enforced. I believe also that it should apply to all addresses including large complexes and businesses and parks otherwise it wouldn't have enough impact.
I have no concerns. I think it would make people more conscious about their water consumption
I believe this should be an every year program, not just a drought year to ensure that habits are formed. I wonder if there could be an application for extra watering days made for those who are really desperate or have extenuating circumstances, water permit?
the time periods seem reasonable
Every bigger city does it and it finally time that Calgary does the same thing. Water is the resource that at one point we might not have and we should do whatever we can to protect it.
The schedule makes it difficult for those who work shift work.
A less rigorous schedule where you ask people to only water x times per week would be better.
While I am younger I will not be affected, but when I get older I may use sprinklers. The risk is when I come from a vacation and the garden needs watering and I cannot lug watering cans I could loose some plants, which will be very disappointing.
The pandemic has shown expecting citizens to follow a rule for the good of others even with risk of penalty does very, very little to actually meet goals.
Rewards and minimizing inconvenience will always be a more effective strategy.
Look at and target actions/strategies/education where outdoor watering is highest. For example businesses where water use is high, communities where water use is high
Ensure you have the capacity to enforce.
How will this be monitored?
Weekly schedule may not address specific days of the week that are particularly hot. Suggest establishing a quota per household or incentivizing water reductions and penalizing excessive water use. Strongly encourage Calgarians to water in early morning/late evening to minimize impacts of evaporation and promote more sustainable irrigation methods such as drip irrigation.
I would like to know more about the implementation (based on usage fee or fine for out-of-schedule watering with bylaw officers going around).
That kids water parks would still operate - to give kids fun....which in turn affects all of us.
Washing cars in the house/garage should also be included in the restrictions not only in spring and summer. I would also notice that people wash their cars and clean/wash garage using exorbitant amounts of water in neighborhood in the Saddle ridge in NE where I live. New communities and developments should support a rock garden that uses drought tolerant plants instead of having green lawns.

I like the schedule but disagree with the certain days of the week. I already use a timer on my lawn to only water at 4am every 3rd day. But many timers don't have the ability to set specific days of the week, only every 1, 2, 3, 4 etc days. This would make it challenging for someone to set a schedule for specifically Thursdays/Sundays for example.
I don't like having specific days and times because I have a medical condition that I can't control good days and bad days to do anything physical. I'd rather have a time limit. I'd MUCH rather see us replace our lawn with natural native plants so we don't have to waste water on lawn that does nothing for the environment or pollinators. (and uses many chemicals to maintain weed free status)
I like the idea, when there is a need to conserve water. When we are asked to conserve, there needs to be enforcement for those who don't comply.
We should not have giant lawns - they're an environmentally deprecating use of space. People with yards should not be encouraged to have green lawns and we should convert unused grass lawns to community gardens.
After illegal public health mandates were implemented by tyrannical government, I am opposed to giving any additional power to any government.
The watering schedule is great if it is actually enforced. For the majority of houses in my neighbourhood, it doesn't affect anyone though. Only a couple people use sprinklers. The bigger issue are things like automatic sprinklers that people have set for daily usage. It would make sense to have a ban on usage of outdoor water features (fountains, etc) during droughts. and private swimming pools.
I often see people watering their lawns with sprinklers throughout the day. More education on watering in the evening or at dawn as water just evaporates in the heat. I also use an automated watering system for my plants and shrubs to keep my water usage in check.
I think it's more than just creating a watering schedule. Lawns have become a status symbol of being a good community citizen and they're not functional. They use up lots of water and man hours to maintain. We should focus on education our communities of what native plants we can reintroduce to our yards that will help support the ecosystem around us. Nature's Best Hope is a great book about this.
Enforcement will become an issue
Very achievable, clear guidelines. Even if the impact is small, it is a minimal hassle (if any hassle at all). Education will be key for people who think the idea is futile/insignificant, and proper enforcement with penalties and/or rewards are incredibly important for its success
REDUCE WATER RATES
Watering between 9:00am and 7:00pm should not happen even with hand watering. Calgary city trucks are watering during those hours and that should not happen, it is not smart. Also please plant more big trees in Calgary, the new neighbourhoods do not have any visible trees, just flat surfaces of lawn that require lots of water and do not provide shadow nor retain moisture !
This seems like a reasonable approach to me.
Some areas of the city have large trees, lawns, etc. Fairness should come into play when enacting bylaw. Education in the schools, etc.
I come from Vancouver this is normal for me and I was surprised it was not happening here already.
An outdoor watering schedule works for me because it actually takes the guesswork, and honestly, the "keeping up with the Jones's" mentality—we'd all be required to follow and find ways to make our yards thrive within the restrictions.
I like that I would probably have a healthier lawn if I watered it on a schedule.

The City needs go discourage grass lawns, they are very wasteful and water intense. I have been trying to Xeriscape my yard with shrubs and mulch. Many people still think a perfect green lawn is the ideal.
My schedule can be erratic and I cannot always choose the days I wish to water the lawn
There would need to be lots of education and reminders leading up to it, as well as a grace period. Once people have had time to adjust, Bylaw enforcement would be crucial to ensuring people are actually abiding by this. Drought resilience only works if most people are on board to work together.
Likes: it will reduce water usage if EVERYONE is on board. Weariness: people in this city don't like to be told what to do -> ?backlash = wasting water on purpose? I feel telling people when they can or can't use water will further divide us. Strong education on why water is important to us is crucial. [identifying information removed] knows all about our water.
I generally follow the above example anyway. I never water my grass and hand water pots, seedlings and new plants in the mornings. I would want to be able to hand water seedlings and my pots daily as they dry out faster. I also have a dripper line in my vegetable beds, which category would that fall under? Also, if hand watering was prohibited, would hand watering with grey water be allowed?
I think the use of sprinklers is an appropriate thing to regulate. As somebody that grows their produce for the summer and fall months, I can easily hand water when needed and not be affected.
Could we add the watering schedule to the garbage day app? It already uses my address for schedules and reminders.
In 2013 we had our last flood in the city due to an over abundance of water. In 2002 we had our last drought due to a shortage. This is cyclical, and has always been. Please focus on more pressing issues such as homelessness. A watering schedule is not going to reduce water usage as most I know water once a week, and know not to water in the heat of the day.
The ability to still spray my garden with the hose.
I looked it! I'm surprised that this isn't already implemented. The city I grew up in, in Ontario has had a watering schedule since the 80s.
I do not like that the times and days are not conducive to my or many others' schedules. I also have a new lawn which requires more frequent watering than this schedule allows.
Needs to be enforced.
Personally I think it's a great idea, but that schedule is based on normal lives. I work 12 hrs a day 4 times a week; it's rotating so it's not fair to me as then I would miss my watering days. One of the reasons I moved from Okotoks. Education people how to use water wisely as it is precious. I do not support a schedule.
I grew up in a city that had a similar strategy so I'm surprised to learn Calgary doesn't already have one
This is a problem that is coming for us so ideas like this seem easy.
Dislike. Too controlled. The number one water resource drain is animal agriculture. If the city focused on plant based product purchasing instead of purchasing animals for city meetings, events, lunches and concession stands this would set a great example and make a drastic impact.
I'm okay with it. Most of my flower beds are set up with soaker hoses, how do soaker hoses fit into the possible watering schedule?
I think this should be a directive taken. We don't live in a lush climate, people should not expect to have a lush lawn. Maintaining vegetables/trees is important.
I have underground sprinklers that have low flow heads and multiple zones so I don't waste water - I also use low flow drip for veggie beds and flower beds - they need to be considered the same as hand watering especially as I

only water very early.use an app to manage water times - none are on a schedule I only water when needed. I already use mulch and have trees that keep my house cool vs ac.
This is way overdue, I fully support.
Should promote drought resistant lawn alternatives.
I think many people need to reconsider how they use their outdoor spaces and plant water wise gardens. Could the city could host free workshops for it in communities?
It's a good thing!
I think it's up to the city to develop a plan that can distribute water scheduling usage evenly to reduce peak loads.
Water restrictions should be in use any time. We need to be more aware overall of our water usage
My biggest concern isn't outdoor watering, its all the water that every household uses by doing their dishes in the dishwasher everyday and also showering more than 3 times a week.
Require consistent bylaw enforcement
I have an irrigation system but I run it very sparingly, at night, as little as possible. In my experience this is actually less water than when I use a hose and nozzle. I feel like all the options penalize irrigation systems. I'd rather info on how to use irrigation responsibly.
This is a proactive solution that I fully support.
The only thing I don't like is that it would encourage neighbours to complain about each others' watering if they are breaking the bylaw. - Unless there was something in a water meter that could flag use outside of the allowed watering schedule?
A transition period of four (4) years is needed to ensure the implementation goes smoothly and allows folks to make landscaping transitions without killing their budget. Perhaps off we free rain barrels again, I got one long ago and a couple of years ago put it on cement over the winter - it cracked at the base. So instructions too.
Would this be monitored, are there resources to monitor and or what accountability would there be for those not following?
I think City council should have adopted an outdoor watering schedule years ago.
Great idea. Be proactive and not wait until there is a water supply issue. People will adjust, just like they've done with garbage and recycling collection.
I like that the city is actually thinking about climate solutions and would be happy to participate.
based on the information provided I dont see an issue with watering schedule and think its needed to reduce usage. I seen a person today spraying down the driveway with hose and spray nozzle. That seems wasteful, use a power washer if washing the driveway is needed.
I have no objection to an outdoor watering schedule for the purposes of plants. My concern comes on those horrifically hoy days when you need to let kids run through the sprinkler or fill up the kiddie pool. I don't know how that would fit in.
The "watering" schedule should also be applicable to Spray Parks. No one would enforce it (like snow removal) so I don't really see the point but would still follow it myself.
I think something needs to be done ASAP and this seems like it might work
It's an easy plan to follow. It's an easy plan to track and offenders should be forced to pay ridiculous fines.
Need much more emphasis on NOT having a lawn. Promote low maintenance options. Promote renting yard space to garden growing enterprises.
I usually water with a hose and spray nozzel and hand water most things which means I would still be able to water anytime.

I think it could help reduce wasteful watering.
Several neighbours water their lawns to excess, it would be nice to have some restrictions for those who water with no restraint to reduce the overall useage.
No real problem with a schedule. Should use all 7 days of the week not just four. Educate first.
I believe in food security and plant a vegetable garden. If this is compromised, it impacts my rights as a human being. That said, we use rain barrels and water by hand as much as possible, we mulch and use a spray nozzle when we do use a hose. We also us soaker hoses to reduce evaporation and get water to the roots of the plant as much as possible.
I would support 100%; in addition there should be a project to identify leaks/ wastage and address them
We are trying to meadowscape our lawn with drought resistant plans to help lower our household water use. The plants are quite expensive. It would be nice to have the city support individuals make the change. I'm very impressed that you are choosing to make choices that are going to help us with this incredible need.
I have lived somewhere this was used and it created petty fights between neighbours. Also, why would the water system want to force usage extremely high 4 days a week?
how is this enforced? it is a bylaw so that means it reliance is on neighbours to say something/call in. this could be monitored through meter usage (?) In summer months watering should be before 7am or after 8 as it's still hot sometimes til 9pm.
question enforceability and ability for households to remember sprinkler watering schedule. Otherwise this seems to make sense
No concerns. Makes perfect sense!
Would be tough for me as gardener. Water waste management should apply on daily activities such as do not let water flowing all the time during brushing teeth or washing dishes. Those bad habit of wasting clean water must stop. Meanwhile if Calgarians do not take care of their yard/garden, I believe it impacts micro climate and local ecosystem. Green city = better mental health.
I think that enforcement is always an issue, perhaps neighborhood by neighbourhood might work more effectively
It's too much government control. If I use more water than someone else, I pay for it, and I should be allowed to use it more water than the next person. Why should I be punished by some by-law when I am paying for my water. And yes, If I'm paying for it, it is "my" water.
there should be support and education provided about why resilient lawns are better for water management. Perhaps also tying to key messages around food security as well (encourage people to grow food rather than water aesthetic green lawns).
I think you need to implement an aggressive campaign to encourage/reward people to naturalize their private yards/green spaces. Until people stop growing useless grass that's invasive, water-hungry and horrible for our climate, you won't see watering changes -- esp as we continue to have hotter, drier weather due to climate change.
Concerns about being away during a "watering day" and having to water on a day that is not part of the schedule and being ticketed by Bylaw.
I think this is completely reasonable. Would like to see more encouragement of rain barrels as this is a way that you can feel guilt free about your water use!
I never water my grass, but am in the process of trying to xeroscape my yard with native/ drought resistant plants.
should be secondary to drought tolerant landscaping/rain water collection
I am concerned about enforcement....some of my neighbours seem oblivious to environment.

Implement after you fine private residences, commercial space, business for using their automatic irrigation systems during rain storms... then I will consider my water use.
I like that hand watering is always available for smaller areas/targeted plants
They should pit into Consideration people that are in holidays before giving tickets on lawn that has sprinklers. Sometimes it goes out of sink if someone shut it off manually. Also new lawn of shrubs and flowers need more often water. You should not encourage neighbors to report neighbors!! That goes against every community development policy.
Time of use meters are the best way to change behaviour. Very few will change for societal good but many will change if it impacts their finances.
I like it. It will stop people from watering in the middle of a hot day when most of the water is wasted. It stops people from watering every single day. I think it needs to be city wide for business and city parks as well where more drought resistant plants are used and where possible areas are returned to natural grasslands.
With a large vegetable and flower garden, it would be difficult to maintain with limited sprinkler use which would then increase my family's costs for food in the summer and fall months
I think city should create incentives to renovate gardens Gardens so the use is lower. Educate through courses.
As long as I am able to water my vegetable garden and containers when needed.
should be implemented by education and engagement rather than "obligatory", "restrictions", "bylaws", etc..
If and when Calgary is experiencing a drought, request that all lawns not be watered. That includes all city/park areas using underground irrigation systems
i like it
Do not have an outright ban on outdoor watering!
Fair and equal through out the city.
I like that it allows some watering but has limits for everyone. I think it will be hard to enforce without neighbours reporting each other.
Will be clear when I can and can't water outdoors.
How would it be monitored?
I don't think people know that watering during bright daylight is ineffective for water absorption. Part of this is educating people about how and when plants prefer to get water.
Mandatory watering restrictions slowly allow attitudes to change over time... this includes the more natural tendency to become accustomed to grass turning brown during times of low rain and over a period of time it allows the community to be okay with this and in a sense, it becomes a 'badge of honour' because the community sees itself as being water responsible
I would like to see the city educate the public on how to use a water sprinkler, ie water the lawn, not the sidewalk and road. The city could ensure their sprinklers are targeting the correct areas and not wasting water on sidewalks, pathways.
Grass lawns are a big contributing issue to the lowering water table. Give land tax rebates to people who use Permaculture design in their yards and get rid of grass. No more turf grass in public spaces
To permit watering of landscaping only once a week in the early morning by house number.
Like that the city is thinking about drought situations. This is important as nature becomes more unpredictable.
This is essential. Nobody should be watering a lawn. Xeriscaping with drought tolerant plants should be the norm. Let the wildflowers (weeds?) grow as they please and allow them to feed the bees. Lawns are ridiculously resource heavy to maintain.

I do not want to pay extra Taxes are already high City should remove the law that 20% grass is a requirement according to your property
As long as the schedule is based on what is actually happening to the water levels at a given time I totally agree. If we are just aspiring to use as little water as possible whether we're in a drought situation or not I don't agree with that. To change a yard to a sort of xeriscape at this point would be expensive.
What type of water are they using? I use a rain barrel and is there something of this type the City can use on a larger scale? Given that we have three days of rain going on this week, that's a lot of water to be collected.
I think the City should explore further education on rainwater harvesting, such as using rain barrels. We need to find alternatives instead of just restricting. People will respond better to that.
We hand water anyhow, so this seems fine.
makes users accountable to stop over watering, wasting, or penalized for it but needs to be punitive.
Reducing the frequency that people water their lawns is important; too often I see sprinkler systems still going on while it's raining.
In times of drought, home owners and businesses should be discouraged from watering grass. When water is precious, a lush lawn is a sign of irresponsibility, and should be advertised as such. Encouraging use of water barrels with a subsidy or rebate upon purchase is another suggestion.
Simple rules, well communicated and easy to follow, would be an effective way to reduce water use. Instead of saying what we cannot do, emphasize what we can do. Make it a positive statement
Not everyone's schedules would be able to accomodate the sprinkler watering schedule (for example if you work shift work, etc., plus it doesn't take into consideration weather - you don't want people watering if it just rained 2 days ago, but if there is a forecast for dry weather people might water because of the schedule even though it doesn't make sense.
It's an easy schedule to remember, the plan allows for watering twice a week. Wonder how it will be enforced?
Treating tax payers like children! What if I am away on Sunday or Thursday? Or any other schedule days? I have my rain barrels (3 of them) and timers on each of my front and back yard watering systems. They are timed to active at 5 am for 15 minutes each day or however I want to schedule it. Maybe treat taxpayer's like adults and provide tools to work with instead of more petty bylaws.
The example of possible watering schedule looks reasonable. Regard to planning of future communities, small lawns for individual homes are unnecessary. These lawns also create runoff of chemicals which pollute water courses. The City should STOP developing real estate in river and stream valleys. It is irresponsible practice for drought/flood mgt., environment, biodiversity and insurance costs.
The idea is good but must be communicated to everyone.
I like that they are taking preventative measures rather than waiting until it is too late. I don't fully understand how much water schedules help but I am totally on board if they make an impact.
Stop allowing for more communities to be developed. It's disgusting
Stop spending our money on commissions , reports, bylaw officers etc.etc.
It's all a bureaucratic nightmare already. This city only works if you are employed by the city. The rest of us get 0
Clear communication about what actions are needed, why this is so, and updates on goals obtained through taking actions would be helpful.
For there to be residential buy-in to a water schedule the City should ensure that it, too, is being water-wise. Often, contractors will water city trees when it is raining or has recently rained. Consistency of policy is important.

<p>HATE date idea, terrible for folks working out-of-town shifts.</p> <p>If anything, NO ONE is to water between 9am and 7pm. Period, except by hand. It's ridiculous that some irrigate mid-day, so just say no to that and create a culture of people who smarten up that it's not even productive to water during the day.</p>
<p>This is easy for people with irrigation, but seems like a classist policy, as shift workers and those without fancy irrigation systems will need to reschedule their lives or not water.</p>
<p>We have a lot of elm trees and they steal water from my garden. If I reduce watering to 2x/week, my garden will die. Add to the 'hoses with nozzles', irrigation systems on timers with mist spray heads (I'm not sure if the exact terminology)</p>
<p>I completely support an outdoor watering schedule during dry periods. The watering schedule should also include the use of automated irrigation systems such as drip and spray irrigation that can be on timers for early morning or late evening watering and sprayers set to water for multiple short intervals (like 2-3 mins on and 5 mins off) for water to be absorbed into the ground and recent runoff.</p>
<p>I live in a condominium four-plex. Our condo board pays one of our owners to complete the landscaping. Two of us have odd addresses. Two of us have even addresses. How would the proposed possible water schedule work in this scenario? I'd encourage communication about how a proposed water schedule would work for other forms of housing too!</p>
<p>I like that it would create household habits that support water conservation while also allowing for sufficient watering to keep plants alive</p>
<p>This is too much micromanagement. If there is a drought, water rates would have to go up but people could decide for themselves when to water.</p>
<p>I think it should be before 10 AM and after 7 PM.</p>
<p>I would like if the plan is specific like the example shown above and if it is enforced. I think this is a great way to become more drought resilient rather than cutting off water or another harsh way to control the water use.</p>
<p>I have seen the City water sprinklers on during the heat of the day, and when it is raining. I have not seen the City lead by example in a water schedule that is appropriate use of water.</p>
<p>Would need to aggressively educate people before being in the position to fine households for non-compliance</p>
<p>As to question 6: I Completely support it.</p> <p>In Conjunction with this, I encourage reduced Mowing, and a ban on Gas-mowers.</p>
<p>I encourage the City of Calgary to pursue an outdoor watering schedule and I hope that the City considers: public education campaigns (to introduce citizens to water-saving practices), incentives for water-smart landscaping/irrigation, xeroscaping, low water-use yards, rainwater recovery systems and offer set-up as well (some people struggle to do this type of work).</p>
<p>I currently use a large part of my lot for urban farming - I would like any proposed plan to consider the use of water - e.g. more restrictive for lawns and or decorative plants and less restrictive for productive uses such as vegetable or fruit gardening</p>
<p>I don't know if the days of the week rules are needed, but the hours of watering rule makes lots of sense.</p>
<p>How would this be enforced if citizens refuse to follow a schedule? Would there be fines? Right now most water meters only monitor the water usage for an entire house and doesn't separate inside from outside usage. Many people do not use irrigation systems</p>
<p>Supply free or discounted rain barrels for catching water, instead if watering schedule</p> <p>Densification of existing neighborhoods, are reducing water capture with more concrete, less green space. These developments should pay for upgrades to water system/outdoor watering</p>

I think this is a reasonable first step during drought. I rarely water my lawn and would not expect much impact. It would still allow those who want to water the option to do so. I am against neighbours reporting on neighbours
I would support a watering schedule for the use of sprinklers only. I use a hose, and a watering can, to hand water all of my trees, shrubs, and flowers, and I would not want this to be restricted. I rarely water the grass.
I agree with this.
The city should also encourage xeriscaping, native flower gardens, and use of clover in lieu of monoculture lawn.
Sprinklers are more efficient than hoses, why limit those? Why only 2 times a week, not 3?
Rebates for native grass lawns. No schedule for watering. Citywide restrictions as necessary.
My family is from Victoria, BC, where outdoor watering restrictions have been in place for over 60 years. I agree that Calgary needs this. I see too many people watering the sidewalks, alleys, and roads. I'd like to see restrictions on sprinkler watering, especially during the daytime.
I have lived in cities where watering with sprinklers is limited to 2 days a week via address, it works well. Hand watering should always be allowed, new plantings need daily watering for their 1st week to get established. Do let us keep our birdbaths clean & full :). But I detest seeing people hose down their driveways - that is unacceptably wasteful! So perhaps some rules re washing driveways ;)
Focus on the indoor water use before you start trying to regulate the outdoor use. Set a reasonable flat rate for about 20 Cubic Meters (ie \$50 all in), then start charging more for every unit of water used beyond that. Everyone needs to pitch in.
I think this is a great idea. It does not create an excessive burden and can help ease pressure on our limited resources.
crazy stupid as a goal and aspiration. Only in times of need but as a 'just in case of drought' unnecessary and an overreach. Considering my monthly water bill (single user) I cannot but conclude, as with all current household utilities, the city council has an insatiable need to extract more fees from the rate/ tax payers.
Make sense. We water in the evening anyway. Needs to be communicated well so people actually follow it. We have a rain gauge so we monitor rain volume to determine if we need it water. Simple tool makes a great impact on water usage rain barrels are also great
Sounds like a great plan to begin to reduce water use
City sprinklers on during rain is bad
I like targeted watering of flowers and such
We already have developed a watering schedule (watering at night with a control timer), reduced the amount of grass and plants in our yard and use a rain barrel for our garden. We do not want to pay any additional fees for services and have any further restrictions placed on our household.
A schedule would be fine.
I'm on a flat rate and pay considerably more than an average household pays, therefore I feel that I should be allowed to water my yard whenever I want to.
Citizens should be able to use the water they'd like. They are charged for it. If you want people to not use water, give every household a rain bin like you did with garbage, recycling and compost.
Voluntary water usage was and is the way to go
It should adjust each week based on actual rainfall and temperatures
What the rainfall is in any given month. If we are meeting or exceeding rainfall in a month, the by-law should be lifted a period of time. It should be like the snowroute plan, used when needed but not all the time.

I believe most people should be able to plan around the above mentioned schedule but not everyone will. I only water by hand or hose with spray nozzle.
I would like to see a bylaw in place that completely restricts the use of power washers during a certain time frame or season. I see people washing their driveways and sidewalks. That seems a big waste of water.
I am fine with a watering schedule, It doesn't matter what The City does if they don't enforce it. I really doubt that The City will follow through on this, since The City rarely enforces any of its bylaws. This City policy will look good on paper and allow The City to pretend it is actually doing something. It will be easy for Peace Officers to see who is watering off schedule. Will they patrol?
I think it's a waste of water to water lawns unless they serve a purpose like sports fields but I also think the priority needs to be food production and drinking water. I would like to see City incentives for businesses that use a lot of water to reduce consumption
Pointless if the water isn't going onto the lawn. More action needs to be done to insure proper irrigation
I have a neighbour who Waters his driveway regularly instead of sweeping. Almost everyday I have water streaming past my house from this practice. I honestly don't know how he can afford to do it. I tried watering my lawn a bit extra last year and my water bill went up so much I could hardly afford to pay it.
We have been doing this for years so it would not be a change for us.
It seems like this program is based on *speculation* that Calgary *might* become prone to drought in the future. The City has two rivers that deliver ample water year round. I have a hard time believing that there is a real problem to be solved here.
I grew up in Ontario with an outdoor watering schedule (~ every second day I think, with several hour windows morning and night - designated days of the week). Something easy to remember... this was 30 yrs ago. It surprises me that there are no restrictions. ALSO - please institute a ban on spraying sidewalks! People have varying work schedules so as much flexibility as possible please.
I get really frustrated with the city having contradictory policies - on one hand you want to restrict watering while on the other hand all commercial developments are required to have irrigation to service their landscaping. This irrigation costs a lot of money to install and maintain. Make a solid overall plan which achieves the needs for water preservation
Clearly people in city hall are bored if they think water is a problem, we are surrounded by it
why would anyone water outside of those hours, aside from automated sprinklers that water when it is raining
Heavy education & publicity with a bylaw as last resort. Bylaw must be enforced if implemented.
I'd like to see some inclusion of low flow drip irrigation for garden. The use of a sprinkler to water a lawn is quite different than being allowed to use a low flow irrigation system 10 mins daily on a garden.
How do you implement schedules in highly transient neighborhoods?
Seems fair
This survey is designed to produce a pro schedule result, honesty would be appreciated. I would have support for a schedule if it was limited to, and attached, to something measurable such as reservoir level. Not ideology.
As long as I can water my lawn I am ok with it, even if it's one day a week. The example above wouldn't bother me too much. But if someone turns the sprinkler on for 8 hours only once a week, this no longer has a benefit. I personally water my lawn well before the sun comes up to not waste water with evaporation and find this to be a bit of government overreach.
This doesn't really reduce anything except for those who water every day which is not necessary anyway. The water bill is already a deterrent to every day watering.

Fire people required to support this policy and plant more green things.
Definitely like. We should do this now. Also encourage rain barrels. I would be so happy to not watch neighbours watering their driveways too. We need to educate more about how to set up sprinklers. Also encourage people to turn taps off while brushing teeth or doing things in the kitchen - at work I see people running the tap in the kitchen while moving around the kitchen area doing other things.
I see this but it is frustrating. The city is not using xeriscape themselves and could with construction (crow child bridge construction) and no incentives for xeriscape landscaping. I also am concerned with higher % lot coverage as water drains into river and not into water table. I believe that changing coverage should require an environmental impact assessment on impact on water table.
I think it would be a good idea. The city is getting bigger and climate change is impacting our water supply. We all need to contribute to manage the situation
I am very supportive of any measures the City puts into place to conserve water. Offer homeowners support to ensure dripping outdoor taps and leaky hoses are fixed. Reduce water tax for upgrading of taps, sprinklers and hoses. Provide access to automatic timers for hoses - to avoid sprinklers on for hours. No sidewalk or car washing - it happens all the time. Enforcement of rules and laws!
Each household should have a base water amount based on number of people. That water should be billed at a base rate. Any water consumption above that amount should be billed at a higher rate.
I think this is a great idea as long as its enforceable. We have experienced a sense of loss of community spirit since covid, so we need to work together if this is going to work
I think Calgary should do this. Lethbridge has been doing it for years, as have many other communities.
I would like to be able to hand water and water with a nozel any time, as I grow food
Water can still be overused as not all households would follow their watering schedule and can still overwater using the schedule and no consequences if you do over use water, don't follow your schedule
I have converted my lawn into a vegetable garden and use significantly less outdoor water in the summer. I would like the city to consider homes like mine who utilize the garden to supplement groceries for our family
This watering schedule will not discourage individuals from using large amounts of water. It will just encourage the use at certain times. I work a Mon to Fri 9 to 5, and the early watering on those days would be rendered useless to me, encouraging me to water outside of the schedule. This program could create further animosity amongst neighbours that do follows bylaw, versus those that don't.
Education about how & when to water would be a better idea. One of the worst offenders is the city. It's not unusual to see a city truck watering at 2pm on a hot sunny day. I lived in an area in BC where people were assigned days. It was not successful. People's schedules don't always align with their watering days. Teaching people how to water more efficiently is a much better solution.
I am going to water whenever I feel the plants and trees need it.
Sprinkler system strictly for lawn or does it include fruit trees and shrubs, and herbs gardens?
How would this ever be enforced? The city barely enforces their current laws & bilaws. You'll have good Samaritans of course but once people see they don't have to follow that they won't aside from the handful that respects the bilaws
No issues with this
I think it is a great idea to focus on sprinklers. I have often seen sprinklers on when it is raining or watering the sidewalk
Does not take into consideration recent rainfall. Our irrigation system adjusts based on recent rainfall, not just day of the week.

It's important that people in Calgary to understand we live in a dry region. Water rationing and education will help with this understanding
I feel like there isn't much thought on being helpful to Calgarians with this approach. It seems more regiment than solutions. What of the promotion of free rain barrels, or reimbursement of landscape changes to be more droughty tolerant. My front and side lawn are used by my "lovely" neighbors and their dogs, I don't have the money but I would love to just put rocks all around.
I don't like the complexity of the schedule that involves specific days, specific times for each address. It would be much easier if it only include days, e.g. these addresses can water Mondays & Wednesdays, other ones - Tuesday & Thursday, everyone can water on Saturday
The City had this plan years ago and it was implemented in the area I lived. It was easy to understand and follow
Regarding earlier question - This would have no impact on me at all. I live in a condominium or apartment, and I am not responsible for maintaining any outdoor space' This question is not worded well. Just because I live in a condo/apartment, doesn't mean that limiting water would have an impact on the landscaping of my property.
How are you going to implement it? I see people washing their cars in the driveway all the time. Where is the education and incentive?
I come from a city in Ontario that has had even/odd watering days (on even and odd days) in place for close to 20 years. This should definitely be in place here although the schedule proposed will be difficult to follow.
Alternate days
We must create a long-term strategy to preserve and protect our water sources.
I think it's a great idea. As a city we use too much water on our lawns, etc.
What I don't like is that neighbours would snitch on neighbours who do not follow the rules. Thus, charge more for water on the days when outdoor watering is "discouraged", but some neighbours do not follow bylaws!
Terrible idea. You want to make a difference? Ban animal factory farms and cattle for feed farms.
Could also put restrictions on hand watering?
Our concern is surrounding new grass as it takes a lot of water to get it going for the first few weeks. The proposed example schedule looks great to us.
The timing is good, but alternating by using house number will cause alot of confusion around the rules especially with enforcement, hoses with spray nozzles are excessive at wasting water just like sprinklers so they should also be limited within the hours, regardless of what private persons do, the golf courses are a gigantic waste of water that need to be redeveloped to more water efficient.
Would be best to cap water use as people aren't always home on certain dates.
you're already bad at enforcing existing bylaws. i can imagine this one will be difficult. but if your're committed, more boots on the ground should help solve multiple problems.
They never work I have lived other places that have tried them and people just water when they want to anyways. The only people who obey them are the people that already water wisely
this need to be enforceable/finable if it is implemented.
We had a schedule in Victoria. Not everyone followed it but we did except for new seedlings.
City can do it to for there outdoors watering as I frequently see water trucks watering roadside grass and spilling a lot of water on sidewalks
People won't like it. Need to be clear in messaging that we are not the only city pursuing these measures. I like it because it's the smarter/more efficient to use water before or after the midday heat. Could consider incentives to buy timer water valves (though this might have the opposite effect and people will water more regularly)

The sched above w/b fair. But ONLY if we are in a drought situ. Dont feel we should go crazy with restrictions. Our winter melt varies; we don't know what the situation will be. We shouldn't jump the gun here. We are not Nevada. Educ sure helps but it's not only o/d watering that is the problem. People shower& bathe WAY too much& order water in restos & don't drink it. Launder too often.
I THINK WE SHOULD IMPLEMENT THIS STRATEGY EVEN IF THERE IS NO DROUGHT.
I really think Calgary should. There's far too many thst water lawns at the hottest part of the day. Aka wasting all that water. Many other cities around Calgary have schedules and it would help reduce water usage over all.
We need trees for the environment and they need water. Gardens also need regular watering.
Happy to follow a watering schedule, but some education would be nice. Videos on what I can do in early spring to set my grass up for success while using less water into the summer. Also, based on yard size how long and often I need to water in order to keep grass green.
DO IT!!! I used to live in northern California (moved back to Calgary in 2013 when their 5 year drought was already 2 years in the making), and they implemented many water saving control measures. It wasn't a big deal.
Would only want to see it enacted in times of drought
Support the idea of a watering schedule but I'd like to know what they city is doing as well. Feels better making a "sacrifice" or part for society if I know the city is doing something as well
i think watering grass shouldnt be allowed, except from rain barrels
It seems reasonable - people can care for their property and water use is reduced.
Encouraging watering early morning or in the evening would be best. Thats the most efficient time to water plants. People will water anyways if they care but assume the cost.
I would like to ensure it's enforced, if it's implemented. I really like the idea and would like to see it have a tangible impact.
Is this all the time, or only during "droughts"? How is a drought period determined? How is that communicated to residents? How is this enforced? Are there penalties for non compliance?
Schedule doesn't really make sense because people who really want a perfect lawn usually schedule their water use based on the weather. Maybe the city could send out an alert for days where it would be optimal for people to water.
I don't think this goes far enough. Outdoor watering of grass should be banned. The City should change the land use bylaw to limit or ban grass for new homes built. Xeriscaping should be mandated. Under ground water collection should be required for outdoor use. Outdoor watering of grass should have significant penalties. When the glaciers are mostly melted what will Calgary do for water then?
I am not concerned at all about watering schedules for lawns, which I feel we should re greatly reducing. My only concern is if my kids want to play with the hose, or run through the sprinkler. Does them become a banned activity?
Why twice weekly lawn watering vs once/wk? Hose spray nozzle watering should be restricted to the same hours as sprinklers. Evaporation is still an issue. Will this be voluntary? Or enforced with fines? I would suggest fines given voluntary restrictions are like locks, only work with honest people. The fines should cover ALL costs of enforcement including a portion of 3-1-1. PERHAPS ONE warning?
Watering with sprinklers on alternate days according to house number, with hand watering allowed daily is a workable idea. Incentives for homeowners to switch all or part of lawn areas to hard landscaping (gravel, etc) or landscaping with rain catching landscaping and drought resistant plants.
You are overstepping your mandate.

Everyone has a different schedule and may be away some days or working, it would be difficult to follow for some.
In my opinion it would be better to rebate people who use less water and incentivise landscaping options that reduce water use in general. Watering schedules will be exceptionally expensive to police and monitor. If they are enforced incorrectly the average person will pay more for city services and not understand why.
I completely support this idea. I think it's perfectly reasonable to expect people to scale back. I would also like to see the city be more responsible in terms of not watering when it's raining, for example. Put those in ground sprinklers on some kind of a moisture sensor!
I would like to be able to water in the mornings.
We haven't had a drought since 2002. Why are we pursuing a watering schedule?
I think it makes absolute sense to protect our most valuable resource.
I support the regulation of humans who do not understand/care (or are not capable of understanding/caring) about their role and the effects of their actions within a community.
I am neutral. If the City determines that it is necessary I will abide by it.
How will we be able to track when people are not following the schedule and continuing to water whenever they want?
I like it. Calgary should have a demonstration yard showing water wise planting options.
Not possible to follow a schedule with work and travel. I already follow a schedule of my own. Irrigation systems are too expensive.
Don't need bureaucrats dictating my schedule.
I doubt people will follow the schedule unless there is a way to easily enforce it, but I would follow it
No concerns. We should conserve water even when we are not in drought.
I would love to see more focus on decreasing lawns and mowing and increasing local, drought resistant flora and fauna.
I think this is one of the best, low cost ways to limit water consumption especially to limit people who water during the day. I also think everyone must be on a meter as I was surprised to discover that not everyone is including my neighbour who leaves hose running 2/7
Would be in favour if there was evidence of drought conditions in Calgary. My quick internet research doesn't indicate there has been in decades.
We already water on a schedule twice a week, and hand water our veggies, flowers as needed. I fully support it. But, people who are dealing with brand new landscaping may find it harder. Guidelines for establishing new plantings would be helpful.
Perhaps odd numbered homes water on certain days and even number homes on a different days.
An outdoor watering schedule should be implemented in tandem with other initiatives including education on rain barrel use, xeriscaping methodologies, and raingardens. The City should lead by example in it's parks.
We all Must do our part, to conserve water. Also people generally overwater, so having that type of restriction still allows you to water twice a week.
Many wash their cars with a hose or do not adjust sprinklers that spray sidewalks - there's a lot of waste. I like the above plan but would also limit use of hose for non-essential use (washing car, driveways, etc) to prevent waste.
It would also make sense that the City ask everyone home owners to ensure they capture rainfall and use waste water to water plants. The City itself should be doing this. Perhaps restaurants could sell their waste water to the City?
Great, but hard to enforce. It would need general support.
Quit micromanaging everyone's lives.

Watering by watering can should not be limited. Watering between 12 and 5 should not happen
It really only affects sprinklers so it's not too bad, although, some people may not be able to turn their sprinklers on and off at those times due to work schedules.
I think it is a good idea as my neighbour waters his lawn twice in a day for temps over 25 degrees— completely unnecessary
It's clear, fair, and easy to follow.
completely support Let's get going now.
Like every other rule the city puts in place this will only work if you actually enforce it. Otherwise it'll be like most of the other bylaws - ignored for the most part.
If I invest in setting up roan water collection I would like to be able to place a decal on my garage door or front window so that neighbour know that I am watering using my collected water and not fresh water on non scheduled days. It would avoid the cost of bylaw having to respond when there is no infraction.
I would like to slow drip my trees, shrubs and perennials when it's hot.
I like that watering would be in the cooler parts of the day. Too many people water when it is hot in the middle of the day.
Not sure how this would be enforced.
This happened one year when I was a kid in Calgary (late 50s/early 60s). Even addresses could water certain days, odd addresses on other days. Kids just crossed the street to run through the sprinkler!
It's a great idea! No concerns at all.
I do think the city needs to hold citizens accountable because it's sad to watch people waste water down the drains. I support evidence backed limits such as watering early and late because of heat and evaporation, but the days of the week are concerning to me. Peoples work schedule or precipitation forecasts would often clash. I'd rather support bylaws about not over-saturating lawns.
Completely unenforceable unless you are giving people monetary incentive. I would follow it but I'm certain my neighbours would not, which would make me resentful of them and the city. Better to put money in advertising clover lawns, xeriscaping, and watering at the appropriate times. There are better ways to deal with drought than making rules people will ignore.
City will have to enforce the water bylaws. That's why I strongly support billing a higher amount to homes that have high water usage.
You must do something along the lines of above. Very important! I'm from QLD Australia. Grew up with water restrictions, only watering at night. You could get free shower timers too from places like supermarkets. They are two minute timers. You must educate people here about their water use. I constantly see people with sprinklers on during the heat of the day, essentially burning their grass.
I think limiting sprinkler use as outlined above is just about perfect. I wouldn't be opposed to greater restrictions regarding the watering of lawns, as I think the city should encourage people as much as possible to move after from monoculture water-dependent lawns.
Stop trying to be communist china gone [profanity removed]
Rebate for auto sprinkler system
I think the water schedule above is very reasonable able and should be in place all the time, not just during drought.
So long as it is backed up with penalties for non compliance

I have a garden and many trees which support local bird and insect communities. Given the number of trees and our south facing yard, watering twice a week would be very difficult to keep everything alive during the summer months. Reduce the use of water parks and people unnecessarily washing their vehicles.
Ridiculous to pick days. If there is a drought on or you look at weather reports. I would still water in the middle day of scheduled rains. Not on Sunday the day before it rains..
I don't think it will work. I just think that people will water more on the days that they are allowed to water.
It needs to be enforced. Otherwise many people will just ignore it.
Necessary. Moved from Vancouver Island where it was called 'The New Normal' Sprinklers not allowed. Could not water lawns. Watering twice a week for 2 hours morning or evening.
People don't follow..they cheat and water at night.there is not enough bylaw to monitor everyone to follow the schedules,and all they get is a slap on the wrist.
I really hate that my neighbors water via sprinkler in the middle of the day. It is completely irresponsible.
The city should set its own example by not watering on rainy days. Often I have been in parks when sprinkling is being done and there's been plenty of rain previous or it may even be raining.
Consider length of drought period versus lengthy period of wet soil.
consider allowing shorter hours, more days per week, residents may not be available on specified days.
The time concept (mornings/evenings) is fine, but the days of the week would be frustrating if life keeps you away from your home on your designated day. Time has solid logic behind it while the days concept is purely arbitrary.
I really don't know why the city has not implemented something like this sooner. Grew up with even/odd watering days. Need to target homes/businesses that have timed automatic water sprinklers running when it is raining. I.e U of C. Communication on how much watering lawns actually need would be good.
If you are really concerned about drought etc, stop growing the city and supporting open ended immigration. More people = more resource use.
I think the overall goal should be for people to move away from having lawn/grass that is not native to this area. However this is a good first step.
I already water early in the morning once every 10 days for lawn and use a spray nozzle on hose for garden and plants. am I suppose to phone bylaw if my neighbours water at noon or have a sprinkler running on hot days for their children. I won't do that.
We subscribe to a,weather based auto watering that waters only when needed
I know it will be a tough sell to some single-home dwellers that like traditional lawns. Not to silo one group. I think this is achievable. Again, what's the city doing? Expanding water capture on streets through use of green infrastructure? Planting but also maintaining rain gardens? Where's the report/update/upkeep? Is this being shared with industry. Developers/builders need to support.
Commercial businesses and giant users of where are not mentioned. Specific days for sprinkler use doesn't make sense for weather, travel, and personal schedule reasons. This survey is far too prescriptive
Leaving targeted hand and hose watering is excellent. I have been doing it for years. Many leave sprinklers on too long and don't bother adjusting them properly so watering driveway, road sidewalks.
It's just common sense. Do it
Minimizing days just means I'll increase the time on my sprinklers on days allowed
In many cities this is an annual occurrence. I'm from Victoria and every year there's some level of water conservation measures taken every summer. Watering grass on specific days by address is very normal there;

however, gardens/trees/shrubs/vegetables are allowed unlimited watering. What is most helpful is communicating how many days of water we have remaining in the reservoir for the city.
How is it going to be monitored and enforced?
I like the idea of alternate days of sprinklers but would hope the hand watering would also be alternate days.
Important to ensure that food gardens can be maintained (local food security will be increasingly important) and while lawns are unnecessary the tree canopy is critical
The city cant do anything right. Tax and spend is the only tool in the toolbox
Maybe one watering day per week for lawns. Food fardens and flower areas would not be limited to this.
I don't use a sprinkler anyway
It would be nice to have the city recommend a yard that is low water use ready in our climate zone
It would discipline habitual waterers. Just make sure it applies to all including golf courses
I am happy to follow guidelines from the city on this. It would be great to get some information on watering / irrigation methods that use less water
Watering schedule implies that using water for lawns is still a reasonable thing to do with such a precious resource...
I like a watering schedule as it will encourage more people to conserve this resource.
Lawn watering should be restricted all growing season to alternate days but hand watering of gardens especially food producing should be allowed everyday until the most severe drought
Separate rules for irrigation systems and regular sprinklers would be good. In North Cowichan, people with irrigation systems on a timer can water even when regular sprinklers are not allowed because they are more efficient and measured.
I think the city needs to worry about other things besides trying to enforce a watering schedule.
But...
How would you enforce?
What is Summer to early fall?
I am new here and I found this information throught my college, but I think is important spread this information by other channels, so more people can be aware this topic and help to follow this program
I feel as though the schedule is putting the cart before the horse. Reducing leaks, stopping water ending up on streets and sidewallks, and watering in the morning/evening are lower hanging fruit in my opinion. Fine people for wasting water like that, the way they do in Arizona/Nevada.
I don't like that business and the city water even when its raining outside. They MUST have rain sensors installed to stop sprinklers from coming on when its raining.
How would it be enforced? Would it make people water more on 'their' days to compensate for the forced break? Rather than focussing on how to limit use of city water, consider increasing use of another water source (rain) and encourage/incetivize rainwater collection. This will naturally decrease demand on city water. Everyone with a yard also has a roof, provide barrels and keep water on-site.
The schedule would need to be consistent for our neighbourhood or home. Not one week this day and time and next week is different. Identify times for outdoor watering vs laundry vs shower/bathing vs dishwasher time. Be clear regarding the typical water usage for each taks.
I like to water my grass 6 days a week but by hand to preserve water. Don't make more restrictions
I would like the ability to manually hand-water - totally agree about sprinklers for lawns
I think its very manageable and fair to ask residents to adhere to this.

Some flexibility would be nice. I love the proposed schedule but if I'm busy both of my days I still hope to be able to water that week if I feel like I need to (i.e. Calgary is experiencing high temps).
I think this would be a great system. My largest concern would be the amount of pushback some Calgarians will give to the City, but it is 2022 and resources should not be used irresponsibly.
I like this idea. I hope the city will also launch a campaign to remove grass and replace lawns with native plants that are more drought resistant, don't require chemical fertilizers, and benefit pollinators + the local ecosystem.
My concern with a schedule would be buy in from the community. What would enforcement look like?
No problem with watering schedule but Irrigation systems need to be maintained to work properly, if incentive for individuals maintain their system and use smart irrigation controllers
A little or maybe a lot late in implementing a water: potential drought management program We have many neighbours who water endlessly vs the "frisbee" level, and many who wash their multiple vehicles weekly, letting waste water into the water system. Hopefully, you have finally forced everyone to have a water meter by now.
Taxes and prices are so high. I don't want the government telling me when I can use public resources do what needs to be done
It's a great idea in theory but relies too much on the residents to follow. No enforcement
I like everything about the model above.
Completely ridiculous. We all should have the right to water our gardens and yards whichever days we need to. We all live busy lives and water is not an issue here.
We must do what is right to conserve. Working collaboratively with municipal and neighbours makes great sense. Education is key. Rain barrel sales with education on placement and best uses is appreciated.
I recognize that lawns won't die if they aren't watered. Our water is precious and we need to protect the resource. Water on days aligned with your address is easy to remember and consistent with other jurisdictions
I like that you still get to water your lawn/garden, just not as often. We already follow a schedule and don't water every day! I think it would help people to make smarter choices when designing/planning their landscaping. Love that it is in effect regardless of drought or not - water is a precious resource that we need to conserve.
This is simply responsible action for our future and the future of Calgary.
How do you deal with neighbours that disregard the watering schedule?
Bit more flexibility around the hours. Also how will this be monitored or enforced?
Incentivize planting drought resistant gardens and creating less lawns and more gardens.
I think the plan is great- would there be an i for able portion to this so that it is not only based on cooperation??
I used to live in Westbank, BC and I'm no stranger to having to deal with drought. I think it's high time the city of Calgary started issuing better/smarter water usage, especially when it comes to green spaces (golf courses, parks, front lawns, etc.) Water is a precious resource and we can't waste it.
I hate seeing people using sprinklers in full sun, and I hate seeing businesses or residences using automating sprinkling systems in the heat of the day.
Terrible idea. This is yet another virtue signaling, leftist, [profanity removed] agenda from [profanity removed] Gondek, who was elected by unions, and then sprung her "climate emergency" on everyone. Your time is limited Gondek. P.s. [hate speech removed]
I do not like this plan as it does not allow citizens the flexibility to water when and how they want, including around rainfall.

I think focus should be put towards encouraging planting water wise options, especially to encourage home owners to replace lawn with drought tolerant plants.
It's a good idea
The height of the water table should be considered and monitored throughout the year. It should be preserved through the spring to ensure we have enough for the hot days of summer. For some families with children, the outdoor sprinkler is a valuable method for helping kids to beat the heat.
It is already difficult to keep track of garbage pickup
I do not use sprinklers at all so I think it's a great idea!
I love this idea! I am very supportive.
Enforcement will be tuff. Make sure the fine is worth by-law's time.
Please enforce existing bylaws for water usage . We have two neighbours who wash their multiple household cars(n>3) each week!
I like the schedule idea for garden water use, however making it different from your neighbor may not be that successful.
I don't want to be told when I can and cannot water.
I would be happy to do this over completely ban on outdoor watering. Both area and time of day if that makes a difference. Definitely appreciate the idea that hand watering would always be okay. I would also support bans on using outdoor water for washing cars, houses, windows, driveways etc. for long periods as needed.
We need education at all levels, about how to save water, use less and conserve the ecosystem and regain balance in our planet, because many people don't care about it. If the rate is higher just who can pay never will contribute to the higher cause (sustainable resources without killing the planet); the rest of the people won't water the yard because they can not pay for it. And enforce it.
I still think there should be a cap on the amount of water that is being used per capita. This will do little to change habits if on the day you can water your garden you are using too much water than can be allotted for in times of drought.
It would be timely and proactive to implement an outdoor watering schedule as soon as possible, along with water conservation education. My suggestion would be to schedule the 'Anytime' watering methods on the days not already dedicated to sprinkler watering, to further spread the water demands out over the week. I'd also go a step further and request watering be limited to once a week.
I like that it is two days. I like that one day is a weekend day as it is easier for me to fit in my weekend. I like that the times are reasonable.
I like a clear schedule and that it provides watering opportunity at low evaporation times of day along with ideal times for plants to absorb the water. Also with a weekday and weekend option. I would suggest including not hosing off driveways during droughts.
For yards that have trees, not being able to water them is not sustainable— comparing to other homes not realistic if they do not have trees/mature plantings in a garden. Oh I see the neighborhood snitch line is an option—again another way to cause discord and disharmony within neighborhoods.
I DO NOT TRUST THE CITY AT ALL> This is nothing more then a future money grab. I use as least water as possible and re use my grey water. My garden are my mental heath therapy and feed my family and several other. Back OFF!!!
It is vital that the city does not take a "heavy hand" and force or financially penalize citizens for using a service that they pay (and pay dearly) for every month.

LIKE: eliminates watering during hottest time of the day when evaporation is highest
DO NOT LIKE: can still overwater lawn on the days/times you can use water outdoors
DO NOT LIKE: can still use water for things you shouldn't, like washing a car or a driveway
CONCERN: how would this be enforced? should people report a neighbour using water on the wrong day/time?
More than 2 days a week would be nice to be able to water in case you miss your day.
Not sure how this would be incentivized and enforced to ensure all are following the schedule. If there isn't a way to ensure the schedule is followed there will be unsatisfied citizens.
Live in a condo, but it's a townhouse with grass and we don't control water usage. Having this in place would reduce the usage to levels I would be more comfortable with. Grass is so resilient and I often see it watered daily for no real reason.
This makes sense. I appreciate the hours that this would be permitted, as water during the heat of the day is extremely wasteful.
Some sprinklers are better than others and I also use a deep root wand to water my trees and shrubs. It would be good to capture all options people might want to use, including in-ground watering systems or those like soaker hoses.
please maintain hand watering anytime for gardens, contributes to mental wellbeing, food security and ecological benefits for healthy soil/air/biodiversity
Make changes to the city lawn care bylaws as well. Letting your lawn grow long with lots of cover crops like clover and dandelions will retain the moisture in the soil. When homeowners cut their grass short - they will end up watering far more.
I don't like the city telling me what I can/can't do on my property, trying to regulate the water I pay for. Feels like the city is overstepping my rights as a landowner. The City should address supply, not demand and use, of water.
If one had to be implemented, it should be 3 days a week, not 2 as in the example above. Ultimately however, it is impossible to enforce consistently so why bother with ANOTHER bylaw that is pointless and basically impossible to enforce. Oh right, there's always political points to be won, or more likely lost... only 400 characters for this reply? COC is a joke.
Pet peeve is water run off from a property that forgot about their hose
Watering grass feels like an unnecessary thing. Grass makes sense to me in back yards and for kids to play on but add no value in the front
Given the lackluster enforcement of other bylaws I don't feel this one would be adequately enforced and would cause tension between neighbors.
Provide citizens with rain barrels
I like that the examples allow for use of nozzles hose anytime as I need to water my produce garden. I also appreciate that some can water new grass as it is a financial cost for people to get new grass and would want it to grow and establish properly. I do not mind water my lawn with a sprinkler on specific times/days.
How will this be enforced!? Some will follow and others won't. Do we all have the same outcome whether or not the schedule is followed?
3 days a week vs 2?
We should do this ASAP to support the environment.
I like that in the example only sprinklers are affected, not other forms of watering. Need to think about how sprinkler use would be allowed in a recreational context. Many families choose sprinklers for their kids rather than pools because they are safer.

I like the idea however I feel that there are still a majority of people that would ignore a watering schedule firstly. Perhaps a more effective way in the beginning would be to issue fines on top of implementing a schedule.
What if it rains on days when watering is allowed.
I've used an outdoor schedule every year as a resident in BC and it would seem normal and good to me
Do it. Now. It's not a bad thing to get us in the habit before it's needed.
The above possible watering schedule is good starting place - it is good to have a 'new grass' category. The hose with spray nozzle - should have a person attached to the hose/nozzle.
I think it's an excellent idea that's long overdue in our semi-arid climate.
This doesn't work for duplex's or town homes
Time to start charging people for the water they use whether it is indoor or outdoors!!!! Maximum distribution and sewer costs should be \$30 and then increase the price of the water itself!!! For shame that you have NEVER even considered this as a suggestion over the years!!!
I like having scheduled watering times! We need to educate people that watering at the hottest time of the day isn't the most resourceful way of utilizing our water!
We've spent money and time ensuring we don't need to heavily water grass. We grow flowers to support the bees and water them in the later evening. All in pots to ensure the least wasteful impact.
Should not be punitive though. If you have the odd stubborn or resistant person who waters off schedule - don't slap fines on them. Don't encourage neighbors to call each other out. That's wrong and divisive.
Enough authoritarian rules! Most of the city already does not take care of their yard. They save us more than enough water already. I would also appreciate a better percentage of water not billed in the summer as it does not enter the storm sewers if I water my plants with it. We need more plants in yards in our city, not less! I also grow my own fruits and vegetables which requires lots of water!
If you're putting in new grass or trying to revive dead grass, you need to water much more than twice a week so this schedule would hinder that.
My only thought is wondering whether there will be a time limit or other guideline to prevent overuse throughout the scheduled watering time, since people may forget overnight otherwise. I do not personally have concerns about watering my own lawn, and we hand-water our vegetable garden so the above schedule example suits my needs.
I'm concerned about homes and businesses using automated irrigation that turns on even when we are receiving rain. How can The City monitor this so that this kind of water waste doesn't happen?
The concept is smart but I can imagine a number of people who will ignore the schedule, making others who do question the benefit. People need an incentive to "follow rules"
We don't water our lawn, but seeing most of our neighbours killing off their lawn by watering every day in the middle of the afternoon, more education is certainly needed. Fewer, deeper watering in the evening/early morning would be better in every regard.
Your suggested fixed schedule based on odd addresses always having the same two days is not workable for everyone, if for example they are away from home every Sunday. Some form of odd/even dates averages out to work at least some of the time.
I think the city should greatly reduce its own water use by planting clover and wildflowers in many green spaces. Especially in medians and road sides. It would reduce water use, require less mowing, encourage bees and other bugs and whatnot. If residents are expected to make commitments, the city should too.

An issue is the inaccuracy of weather forecasting. If it says it's going to rain so I don't water and then it doesn't rain and I've missed my watering day, it would make me unhappy. I spend a lot of time and effort on my perennial garden and don't want it to die because of lack of moisture. I collect rain in 2 barrels when it rains.
With a hardscaped yard and a veggie garden which is water using drip irrigation, I don't like having a schedule to do that. Where does that fit in? It's not hand watering; it's not a sprinkler. For those with lawns-absolutely, have a schedule. Odd numbered homes water on odd days; even numbered homes water on even numbered days.
I think it's great. There should be some education as to why this is helpful. I think too many don't understand watering in the heat of the day is detrimental to their lawn as well as wasteful water use.
Some people overwater their lawns. A schedule would lessen the abuse. This schedule must also apply to public and private golf courses and similar facilities. If creating a schedule an outright ban on golf course watering should be implemented first, then other commercial before residential watering is impacted. Golf courses benefit relatively few citizens of Calgary.
need system that engenders individ accountability - even now, i see a few who water their lawns when it was raining esp promote culture change where residents expect drier looking grass or better, convert to resistant vegetable gardens e.g. gardening experts, gardening centres & big box stores relationship that lowers knowledge & cultural barriers to transition
I think it's great but am not sure about enforcement.
I do not want the City to determine my watering schedule. I desire the latitude to set this on my own.
Great idea. Add an option for Summer educators to do free inspection/advice of system accuracy regarding the sprinkler positioning. Its not useful to water concrete. Hopefully there are timers available to set days not just times
The hours are too restrictive for seniors. Perhaps before 11 am and after 6 pm would give people more of a chance.
I lived on Vancouver Island for 15 years so am comfortable and familiar with watering schedules and yellow summer grass
I think people should be allowed to water food plants but grass should never be watered and in fact should be replaced (with clover or food crops).
I feel it is important to understand the current state of Calgarian yard and water usage before any broad implementation. Offsetting water usage for avid gardeners with community members who do not do outdoor yard care is something to consider. Incentivising waterwise gardening and yard management is much more effective than punishment.
No concerns, fully support it
City should to encourage citizens to use water more wisely such is collecting rain water. But it should not put restrictions on water usage.
I'm fine with a schedule, but I would ideally like to see incentives and rebates for draught resistant, native plants.
I fully support watering schedules. I wonder if how long you are allowed to water could be specified, as some of the automated sprinkler systems in my neighborhood are in for hours.
I agree we should not have to water grass every day.
I like the idea about reducing water and using it efficiently. However, I have a few physical disabilities that make arranging sprinkler use at specific times and days very difficult. Am wondering if irrigation is possible in my yard. In addition, our neighbourhood still has people washing their cars at home. Perhaps education for diverse languages, cultures needed.
The example looks good.

I like that hand watering and hose with spray nozzle could still be permitted, as I would like to keep my flower and vegetable planters watered.
I think the schedule is great. Additional information on which types of sprinklers and what times of day waste less water would be helpful in encouraging others. I see a lot of people water mid-day in the hot sun and also a lot of people wasting water from in-ground sprinklers that spray the road/sidewalk/driveway.
What are the consequences for not following? How is it regulated? So I just fill my water barrel on my days?
Should be clarity on irrigation systems, and whether there is a difference between e.g. irrigating grass vs. irrigating a vegetable garden. Although I support this idea and would participate, I absolutely DO NOT want bylaw patrol enforcement of it, I would much rather see encouragement/enabling of voluntary participation.
If this is done as a public awareness initiatives WITHOUT punitive fines then i believe it is a good idea to encourage better water management. I do not trust the city is looking at anything other than increasing user fees and fine revenues though.
Important to discourage people from watering in the middle of the day when it's hot and large percentage of water is lost to evaporation
I like this. It would not impact my current watering schedule at all, as I do not water my lawn with a sprinkler, and I either hand-water or use drip irrigation to water my vegetables and flowers.
Must be paired with educating the public across the city on why this matters and alternatives to lawn, or it is not fair when you start enforcing it. Suggest adopting a behaviour change mindset campaign like the 'golden lawns' approach. And then eventually, please actually enforce it (ticket repeat offenders) or it is all in vain
I think that educating people about how lawns are actually not good for the environment (lots of water, mowers, the nasty weed killers people use, basically a desert to the declining insect population) and then if possible providing financial incentives for people who would couldn't otherwise afford to xeriscape as well as taking away bylaws that require people to mow their lawns. Do no mow May!
I come from Vancouver Island where there is WAY more rain throughout the year and always had a water restriction put in place by May 1st. I have always been flabbergasted there is no restrictions here.
Good concept, clear compromise
I think it is a fantastic idea and I have no clue why it isn't already in place. I would go further and say that sprinklers and hoses should both be on the same schedule.
Doesn't take into account location in the city/ exposure / pre-existing landscaping that makes our city beautiful and vibrant.If you pay me to change my landscaping, then I am okay with the schedule.
I like that it gets people watering at the best times of the day.
I don't think this solves the issue of over use. In fact, for automated sprinkler systems, how many wealthy people in the city do you think have them? Regulating those who turn their sprinklers on manually, which may be working class individuals who already run a tight ship, is applying pressure to a group of people who already juggle so much. Better off providing water capture vessels for free.
Love it. 10/10. Effective communication is key. Maybe warnings for first year, then fines starting 2nd year?
I would like to see evidence that this has worked in other jurisdictions.
In a way of long term, apart from outdoor watering schedule, i believe a free rain barrel supplied with a deposit based could help? Asking people to plant clover instead, free clover seeds supply? Educating all the children/ teenagers how important of saving water, such as control water flow when using.
An outdoor watering schedule is a neat idea, but maybe corporations/businesses/etc should be encouraged to reduce water usage before civilians are.

I think it would be tough to tell citizens when to water their gardens. People have crazy schedules. Maybe asking for a litre limit would work better?
We use soaker hoses instead of sprinklers on our garden beds. We use small sprinklers at the bases of trees or inside a bush. We avoid watering during the day. The city could encourage people to use timers so they turn on and off during off peak hours/ at night and they don't get forgotten on.
Different neighborhoods have different characteristics. I live in an area with lots of townhouses with small backyards. We have a few tomato plants, flower pots and that's all. In some neighborhoods people water huuuuge lawns. City should consider such differences. Promote self-sufficiency through small vegetable gardens and discourage grass & lawns.
Grass lawns should be lowest priority for watering. Gardens that grow food should be highest priority.
I don't think it's enough action; lawn watering should be minimal, and there should be other requirements.
Educating people about the benefit of scheduled watering to prevent water loss is crucial to the adoption of such a schedule. Perhaps financial incentive to assist residents to convert to an automatic watering method would be helpful.
It just makes sense to guide people to water on the coolest times of day. That should be the first and immediate step. Schedules should be reserved for periods of drier than normal, not for "normal" times.
The solution to everything is not more regulation and rules. The use of resources to implement and enforce these rules would be significant - the City's limited resources are better used elsewhere. This would also cause division within neighbourhoods. Better approach would be an information campaign to help people understand the need for this and seek their voluntary cooperation.
How about I water my lawn when it needs to be watered, not on some City schedule. The City should provide water to its taxpayers in all conditions.
The pre-emptive intervention is why some people are starting to feel like governments are getting too large. If and when we need to reduce water consumption ask the citizens to do so and trust that they care enough about our community to do the right thing.
As long as there is enforcement, without it it means nothing and is lip service
How would the schedule be enforced for those using in-ground/automatic sprinklers, where it's very hard to tell if/when they're on?
I think it will help those who do not think about such things
I pay my taxes and water bills Let me use it as i see fit.
The city should stop watering green space...grass will survive. If sprinklers are to be used. They should also stop watering sidewalks because of misaimed sprinkler heads
Fruit and vegetable gardening should be exempt.
I think this makes a lot of sense. Watering non-native grass species just so they stay green in a climate they aren't suited for makes absolutely no sense to me. I would rather our river systems remain healthy than green lawns. I think it helps that other municipalities have taken similar steps.
This would be more palatable to most calgarians. People invest significantly in their landscaping - having a schedule restrict water use is less likely to receive push back
Should put something into place immediately before drought becomes a problem.
I like the idea of the city implementating such a plan however I am concerned of how it may impact backyard gardens. Also waiting for a drought is too little too late I feel changing lawns from grass to more drought resistant plants like clover or encouraging water wise or water less landscaping would be a better preventative measure then to be reactive.

If growing vegetables you can't water only twice a week. Typically it's daily during hot weather. It's important for people to be able to grow their own food and supplement grocery bills right now. Watering lawns I agree 100% with limiting.
As a residential homeowner I would be happy to abide with an outdoor watering schedule. I have concerns about enforcement, as well as questions about how this would apply to businesses with landscaping.
I don't support the city imposing restrictions on my home. I would rather proactive programs like tree planting (larger canopies) xeriscaping initiatives. Stop urban sprawl development which increase heat through road building, less trees etc. and put tremendous pressure on the water supply. Targeting general household usage is not going to have meaningful change if the city keeps building.
2 days a week is not enough to maintain grass. If implemented as above, people will water lawns by hand (hose with spray nozzle), it is effectively no different than using a sprinkler. stop trying to come up with bylaws that don't make sense.
When it's hot out sometimes we let the kids run in the sprinklers for fun to cool off. It would be so sad to tell them we can't let them do that.
I think if a great idea to have a schedule based on address. We used to live in Texas and that's how it worked there too
It allows for those of us who care about, and for our property to still have the opportunity to water under a framework to guide usage.
I would like the city follow the examples set by other countries who had tremendous success in saving water, like Israel
This should already be in place. Even without drought, we don't need to water lawns every day. We
I love this idea. I grew up in the Okanagan and they've done this for over 30 years.
I like to water my plants when they indicate it is needed. I rarely use a sprinkler. The schedule may not correspond to plant needs.
This will be a challenge for folks that do not work a typical 9-5 job such as health care workers. My partner works shifts that are from 5pm to 8am so if he works that night while I'm out of town we lose a day of watering.
I fully support this; I think limitations on watering would be a really powerful incentive for residents to create drought resistant gardens, which would in turn, help reduce our overall water usage. My only hesitation with the plan presented in the graphic is to not put limits on hoses with nozzles. I worry with limitations on sprinklers, residents might just use sprinklers for longer, instead.
I doubt people will follow a schedule like this.
While living in Vancouver in a residential home, the watering schedule enforced a change in habits. Since moving to Calgary, I would like to see the same practice adopted here to encourage more conservative water usage throughout warmer months.
No concerns. Many cities have implemented odd/even watering schedules.
I pay for my water and I should be able to use it when I would like regardless of conditions, whether it be taking an extra shower, watering my plants, dishwashing etc...
The schedule is a good idea in theory, but I do not wholly believe in the practicality of it. I understand the importance of water conservation, but sometimes people's schedules just wouldn't allow them to maintain and care for their lawn. Poor lawn maintenance could kill plants, and add undue stress and costs to homeowners. The city should perhaps reduce lawn care in public parks instead.
What about golf courses?
Just make it clear that grass and sprinklers are unnecessary by vegetable gardens are ok.

Would it be up to the neighbours to 'rat' on our community? That will not work.
Unclear if a drip irrigation system for hanging plants on a timer would apply? In terms of water consumption, that's more like a spray nozzle, but it's unclear. I'm more in favour of a carbon-tax like model, that charges a levy but you can get a rebate back, as opposed to regulating and enforcing all the corner cases.
There should be 3-3 days for both odd & even addresses (before 9AM or after 7PM) So, plant ☹️ doesn't die if someone go for vacation/ forget.
Certain city or provincial parks should be provided exemptions for certain plants ie botanical garden. Reader rock gardens Devonian Lougheed house
Other municipality's have been doing this for years. What's taken Calgary so long?
How would condominiums fit into the schedule. My complex doesn't have a street address, individual units do. Where I lived in Ontario, the schedule was even numbered houses on even numbered dates, odd numbered houses on odd numbered dates. Being limited to only 2 days/week can sometimes be difficult to schedule in busy lives. They would still limit themselves to water once a week, to be practical.
Having lived in cities with watering schedules, I think this is a completely reasonable option
create incentives for water wise behavior. Like if someone's water usage decreases after doing an online course or something, give them a break on their bill. Same for builders. Give them a tax break if they install water wise shrubs or plants instead of sod. Incentivize homeowners to use rain barrels (ie: \$5 off water bill per rain barrel installed).
I think we absolutely should do this - there is too many cases where water is being wasted with daily watering of grass. Also strongly support sliding scale of water charge for high water usage in the hot season - keep the rate low for reasonable daily use for living, but much higher rates for high and very high water use.
Calgary should do something to prevent drought and an outdoor watering schedule seems feasible. however, how will this prevent waste? I see my neighbours using water without regard. They leave sprinklers on for extended periods creating pools and streams of water running into the storm system. These people should be monitored and fined somehow to prevent them from wasting water.
As a shift worker it's not always easy to be available at either times on the days scheduled so I'll end up missing our window often.
I think its great, and people who break this watering schedule should be fined.
New developments and developers need to be on side with water usage too and planning for drought friendly landscaping. ie no more large water features, less grass.
People will cheat so there must be an effective, timely plan to enforce the rules.
There is no consideration for the weather at that time. If we've had three days of very hot dry weather, I would risk losing my vegetable garden, that I grow to supplement food for my family to save money. Incentivize water wise gardens - rain barrels, mulch and information sessions (I've watched the ones you already did and would watch more how tos)
Shift workers cannot necessary follow these schedules.
I don't mind it at all, but just concerned if someone can't water on their set day(s) for whatever reason they would then not be able to catch up on watering another time.
Hard to enforce on those who don't want to follow. No ideal way to communicate neighbourhood specific info
Enforcing a watering schedule like this early on would prepare people for more severe rules and regulations in the future. Seems like a band-aid solution. We should decrease areas that need watering in the first place. Implement rainwater systems that can water landscapes instead of turning on the tap.
enforcement may be a problem

Water still available. How do you know the same water habits don't shift using outside taps?
Not all people would follow the schedule
No
only concerns is limiting too much so children should still be able to play in sprinkler
I like this but how would it be enforced? Would cost to enforce rules be worth it? What would the penalty be?
Would there be exceptions for people who grow food in their gardens?>
Will help save water
I would support a rotating schedule
require easy to understand and use instructions
sometimes when I walk and the sprinkler is on, even when it's raining
twice in a week
Creates an awareness of good times to use water and bad times
None - only water my plants if it is needed and if it's really hot weather
It's good but my neighbours don't follow it
educating people through different media will definitely help
not practical to enforce
This would reduce the overuse of water
Yes, pay more for more consumption
This is a great idea
As a person with odd hours on the weekend, the schedule would have to be fair for graveyard workers and weekends
I get how it would help, but seems difficult to manage
might help with water waste
I strongly agree to this method
Because it help the city and invironment, people should use it
do not have any concern
yes
Yes, just recycling and garbage pick up. Have a schedule with days/times for different communities
I like it as it balances out water usage and people can keep to their limits. I believe it is a fair strategy
clear instructions in a variety of languages w/multi ways, not just the internet forms of communication
schedule is a good idea
it will make citizens responsible to use water efficiently. Schedule should be flexible which will not unfair with citizens
I like how we have to follow schedules for outdoor water use. This strategy does not burden me as its not stopping outdoor water completely.
agree on outdoor water schedule
I agree, my neighbours water their lawns at noon time when the temperature is high
It is a good strategy but it might mean my garden will not get enough water
Good idea
Helps the environment but I don't like being restrained

Question 8a

*What support or resources could The City offer to make it easier to follow an outdoor watering schedule?
Select all that apply.*

Multiple choice question. No verbatim

Question 8b

Other:

All of these sound expensive and wasteful. Incentivize and encourage Calgarians to replace their lawns with water-wise alternatives. Restrict the sale of sod and non-indigenous grass seed (pesticides, too). Consult professionals with the International Water Association to develop a comprehensive, sustainable plan. See Iwa-network.org
Direct support for setting up rain barrel systems
You're failing in every other area. Our roads are [profanity removed]. No bylaws to enforce garbage or dogs on leashes.. now you're telling me these finite resources are being brainstormed to ticket people using water they pay for?
no bylaw officers or reporting on 311. it is garbage that you need to charge taxpayers for bylaw and reporting. People report anything on 311 and it becomes a drain on the system. People in our neighborhood called 311 to remove a dead squirrel from the road. Not everyone has social media or chooses to follow the city.
Email the schedule like the waste pickup rather than an app. Too many apps already!
Reuse water as other countries
Sounds like you've already made up your mind that you're doing a schedule.... Not to late to get a better solution than this.
Email me the way you do about waste collection
No apps Please! Not everyone has an I-phone. I don't and am not planning on purchasing one even though this seems to be the norm now.
Communication plan - 1. digital and mailed info brochures City is doing this. 2. Someone to contact for Condos to get a session on what/how they can make changes/ savings. Even if virtual or a recorded presentation (make is easy for them)
Resources on drought resistant plants and landscaping; info on seriousness of water conservation
Sounds like you want a watering schedule as yur solution and you're not at all interested in other ideas.
Support switch to clover lawns through incentives
Large scale Signs posted on connector roads reminding the community about the schedules that apply to them
Rebates to add a grey water sysyem on my main shower and bath.
Water reports based on household #, look at other cities in similar drought zones.
Neighborhood signage, local news coverage, reminders from community association
It would be crucial for us to have such schedule easily accessible online. Would also help to have it advertised somehow - for example similarly to green cart schedule changes
Not having a watering schedule. My yard my rules
How to replace lawns and landscape to allow less water use yet provide functional useable front and back yard spaces for those with detached homes.
we would like to have the connect with city recycled water system for trees and gardening

A schedule available on the city website - I am not on social media
Mandatory devices in each house's water main that limit flow during water shortage times.
How much water your grass needs, educating people so they don't just water for hours.
No watering restrictions are needed
Reduce grass and replace with rock landscaping
The garbage and recycling collection emails are helpful for our household. Something like that would be good - prefer email.
email reminder or emailed schedule
None
email as with the garbage schedule
Add it to the garbage calendar schedule
None
Motivates the people from mass media and news papers and phone messages and programmes to educate the people
This question causes great concern that an outdoor watering scheduling is a done deal.
This implies it's not really a consultation.
Notice of reminder sent with property tax notices
Please, no more apps. Phone space is getting used up by City apps (parking, recycling reminders etc) just text me a reminder.
This should be a suggestion and not enforced.
Rebates 4 rain barrels, more access 2 compost & mulch at landfills, timers 4 scheduled watering, soaker hoses,etc every 3 to 4 years. Prefer email 2 mobile app.
A webpage devoted to drought conditions.
Yardsmart gardening tools/ resources are great!
I would hate to see more mail outs wasting paper for this, consider the water used to print and kill trees. Electronic and road signs would be better but a real community engagement wouldn't focus on just water schedules.
programs on best practices and plants
There's nothing it's extremely disappointing. Give us rain barrels to collect water and I'll use that. But I won't wreck my one comfort (yard) while Mount Royal neighbourhood gets to use their irrigation.
Under no circumstances should an outdoor watering schedule be implemented
Provide DEEP discounts for water barrels (or FREE) for those who wish to use collected water for their needs.
Policing lawn watering is a waste of resources and time, potentially educational programs/information on drought tolerant plants, rain water collection etc. put the power of it with people.
Creating a City Initiatives app which would include garbage/recycling schedules, water use times etc would be an efficient and convenient way to communicate information through the year
Stop the insanity!
Tax rebates to pay for automated irrigation systems
Keep it simple. Whatever is done it shouldn't cause people to water more often. A reminder about watering might mean people who wouldn't normally water are reminded about watering!
Alerts when you have surpassed your allocated water amount.
Signage in the communities. Or "water signs" similar to parking signs

Suggesting that bylaw officers patrol communities for outdoor water usage is absurd. This would be divisive and insulting. It does not promote community values and represents another intrusion by over zealous elected officials. Money is better spent on mental health resources and youth programs.
Involve community associations by exploring a competition/reward system for community associations that can their residents & businesses to lower water use the most; outreach from Enmax to its account holders; SMS updates/directives sent to mobile devices and land lines.
Give out a water basin for sinks for extra water use with a schedule on it? The basin/bag could be used for when water is run straight from the tap for warming up or other quick use reasons then used to water plants and grass. Subsidized or free drought resistant grass seed, plants? Water retaining mulch or straw giveaways?
Reporting neighbors and increased bylaw seems like a huge waste of resources. Not to mention, increasing bylaw officers, is this going to have a negative impact on those in typically discriminated against groups, especially Black and Indigenous.
The same reminding tool that sends email for garbage pick up.
information on the effect on the individual of following or not following guidelines. Info on why drought resistant yards are better, what they can do to improve their systems, rebates and incentives.
Give resources for automatic timers that align with the schedule.
Please don't do mail, people just throw it out, it's not environmentally friendly. Most people have mobile devices so that would be the best option for communication.
Financial incentive/rebate for cooperation
Posting the schedule to the city's website like the waste collection schedule is now, where you put in your address and it tells you when pick up is.
Offer to pay for treatment for new lawns or give me money for complying with this schedule.
Reminders by text, similar to how garbage pickup is communicated
I do not support an out door watering schedule unless capacity is restricted due to increased demand during extraordinary hot periods.
I would love an 'irrigation for dummies' session. The system was installed by a previous owner and we would like to learn about updating components (drip irrigation versus spray heads etc...)
For notifying households, a similar feature for blue/black/green bins where you can add the calendar invite to your phone and set up notifications. I would support an email notification over mailing paper to our house.
Add this to waste removal schedule.
Information about lawn alternatives for families who still want to be able to use their yard for general running around/play
Mandatory rain sensor for installed irrigation systems.
This is just a bad idea, please don't do it
Nothing. These ideas are a waste of tax payer money. Fine private residences, commercial space, business for using their automatic irrigation systems during rain storms.
Offering a discounted garden hose timer (like good prices on rain barrels - is that still a thing?). We don't all have irrigation, but setting a timer on your garden hose would be great. I see some on amazon in the \$30-40 range, so it would be great if the city did some experimenting and then offered a good reputable product.
Rebates for renovating gardens
a tool for residents to ask questions and seek clarifications (instead of a tool to report neighbors!)
Subsidized rain barrels for residents

Note the info on the evening news. Post reminders in the community newsletters. Have the councillors remind people in their reports to their ward. Mailouts are expensive and waste paper.
Instead of policing people to follow the schedule reward the people who use Permaculture on their yards and DONT REQUIRE EXTRA WATER
RAIN BARREL education, programming, subsidies. We shouldn't be using treated water for things like watering lawns and gardens!
Give away of good watering cans or soaker hoses or something?
Learn how to replace your lawn with drought tolerant plants or xeriscaping
Old-fashioned TV, radio and newspaper ads. An older gardening generation might struggle with compliance, and social avenues wouldn't necessarily reach them
Communicating with community centers/schools to help send reminders.
Provide taxpayers with discounts for watering timers. Make timers available and affordable for ALL homeowners, not just the chosen few exists. We're not stupid, stop bylawing us to death. I've paid enough taxes, I should get something for my money
Coupling a restriction on behaviour with options for alternatives may assist compliance. For example, finding ways to transition the from turf species that are currently used for any green spaces (i.e., lawns, parks, school yards, etc...) to native species or grasses and forbs that are drought-tolerant. Demonstration projects throughout the city to help people visualize how amazing (!) they would look and educate on their ecological benefits.
Please do not promote a snitch line. You can remind folks on their water bill and tax bill. Emphasize overall water use rebates to those below a % threshold per property size and put this rebate on every bill or as a discount on the annual tax bill (latter may be easier).
every single one of these is a classiest solution.
Fines for not complying
Do not want any of these
Leading by example- using water only when needed- not during rain or in the heat of the day
I have a Concern re Bylaw officers: They need to have mental health training such as is received by The Clubhouse Society of Calgary (a.k.a. Potential Place)
Supply water barrels for catching rain.
The City should think about Safety of the citizens and crime reduction rather than taxing us for water use which we already pay for. A BIG NO to this plan, do what is important for the citizens!!!
No schedules.
Educate not regulate
While social media is a great tool, it is important for the city to remember that not everyone is on social media and additional communication tools (i.e., newspaper/radio announcements) still need to be made.
I think all that is needed at this point is consultation with City of Calgary Water Resources department as to whether there is an actual problem with the water supply, which I imagine is already being done.
Post the schedule on the City Website like garbage pickup. Quit trying to figure out more costly ways of delivering simple information instead of using platforms you already have.
Encouraging neighbour ls to report each other is an appalling approach.
None
If this about drought then why mail an annual schedule to my home?
Please don't spend too much money on education and start ticketing right away
Nothing

Marketing to change people's opinions of yellow lawns to be Neighbourly or something else positive. Maybe Golden Crown Lawns or some such?
Tie it to other city scheduled activities (I.e. garbage pickup)
Have the schedule posted on the website, same as with blue, green, black pickup schedules. ONE mail-out for any individuals not on the internet with an option for them to receive a mail-out. But ONLY if requested.
All of these options are wasteful uses of public resources and should be allocated to landscape / watering education.
Community-based initiatives for local areas within the city. Make it a competition to see who has the lowest water use. Communicate online and a local sign board at key community entrances.
Discourage excessive lawn cutting and monoculture green lawns
Low cost communication
News(Radio, tv; etc)
Access to free or affordable water timer devices. Text message (not email or app) reminders.
Text message service like the one you are currently eliminating for garbage (which is nuts by the way, why get rid of it!?)
I will never comply with any of this for any reason. It could be the apocalypse and I'd water my lawn with the last drop of water in the city just to spite you
Penalties
Not in support of any of these. No to scheduling.
Combine it with the app that reminds you to take out your blue/green/black bins.
Media include watering suggestions according to meteorological data presented on 'weather' station or 'weather' reports on the News broadcasts.
do not rely solely on electronic message, no snitch line
Information on how much water your lawn actually needs. List of drought resistant/water smart plants for flower beds.
The city has good apps and brutal apps. A useful app with pilot projects by the city to highlight potential I like. It would need work. Calgary Parks is brutal with social media (Arbor Day came and went... ooops). Guidance could work. 311 tattle-line is greasy but likely needed for the extremist lawn waterers. There is risk of creating fake lawns which are arguably the worst.
Texts
Stop selling our water to coca cola.
I like the email I get on when garage and recycling are to be picked up
Use Media such as local radio and news to inform
Think about how to reduce demand for city water rather than forcing rules on the population.
High fines if caught.
Information to school so that kids know about the importance of water conservation and what our city is doing and come home and tell their parents.
Rather than an app, a downloadable calendar invite with alerts
Incentives for irrigation systems
Education on the water treatment process, reasons to reduce water usage
Anything but bylaw. For the love of all that is good, we have enough stupid police involvement ie. Photo radar in this city.
Rebate on taxes from the city for those who instal program irrigation

More education on drought resistant landscaping people can follow
As stated previously, go [profanity removed] yourself Gondek. I [profanity removed] your guts.
Do not implement
None
Perhaps schedule reminders could be included on residents' water bills, along with an option to have the schedule mailed to homes if requested.
Texts similar to garbage day
With this question, looks like the rest are just to make home owners feel like they have input since all of these choices are related to having water restrictions and a schedule/rules to follow.
Back Off
online tool, similar to garbage collection schedule, that you can check from time to time when needed
There are not enough Bylaw officers now, so adding to their workload might not be the most effective approach.
DO NOT entirely rely on apps or digital communication - my household will not use
No resources. Stop wasting taxpayer money on ineffective initiatives.
All these options are pointless and a waste of tax dollars.
I water within specific times...maybe educate your population
Provide citizens with rain barrels
Giant tote from city to collect rain from roof to use all year
Reduce distribution and sewer costs and then charge for the water use itself-- EVERYONE needs to take responsibility to conserve water!!!
Use community newsletters
How about focusing on things that actually matter and will give our city a boost, not more restrictions!!! God our city council is a waste of money to be even consisting this
Email reminder like my garbage collection reminder emails
None, we don't water our lawn. Should be available on the Calgary website, just like the waste/recycling collection info.
Weekly emails like for garbage, green bin etc pickup
Similar to the blue, green and black bin pick-up calendar from the City that I can add as a calendar layer into Google calendar
Online (website) in addition to an annual mailer
Add the schedule to the garbage pickup app I don't like having numerous apps on my phone
Easy to use web site
update reports of how days remaining under normal season supply, or equivalent of projected days remaining in water supply; media interviews and other media (schools) describing longterm strategy to make city drought resistant
communication in several languages and culturally appropriate are needed.
Incentives for purchasing watering timers. DO NOT send people to my door, DO NOT INFRINGE on my privacy.
You could link it to something people already use (and remember) like their recycling pick up schedule. You can water on that day.
Offer a program or reasonably priced options for people to get rid of so much grass, especially in older communities where the lots are huge. It's difficult to maintain and unreasonable. We literally have no options
a general information campaign on social media, mailouts, and TV. NOTHING MORE. anything more would be a wildly irresponsible use of City (taxpayer) resources. in particular a snitch line is a terrible idea. If the City wants

even more political and social division, a snitch line is how that would be accomplished. To even suggest this as an option is shameful.
The City needs to come up with ways to provide water services and not throttle residents' use of water. I grow so tired of hearing about how this or that program is underfunded, yet the City continues to expand the scope of what it provides with nebulous benefits.
I do not support this idea. And creating programs for neighbours to spy on each other does not feel like a positive way to bring communities and neighbours together.
its fine, i get my water let me use it.
Email reminders same as recycling/compost/garbage schedule.
don't implement this. If someone doesn't want to water their lawn or if they want to water it each day, that is their choice and cost.
Email reminder on days you can water
Similar to apps around garbage pickup i have seen in Vancouver, a watering schedule app would be useful among tech savvy members of the community, otherwise I imagine a segment during the weatherman or weather woman's segment on the news would be useful aswell. Radio advertising, or even billboard/print. Potentially reaching out to the Business improvement associations to add it in their newsletters would be great endorsement as well.
Educate, not police
not interested in a schedule to water my property.
Just merge the app into the existing garbage and recycling app call it "Calgary Schedules" or something .Don't need a full new app that does the same thing.
Sending flyer to each residence once a year on how & when to use water for plantation & lawn.
Let's not make it costly to implement. Make the schedule simple with as much flexibility as possible, like I described. We can all remember garbage pickup day, I think we can remember the watering schedule. It should only be necessary to communicate that it is in effect and why, just because it's new. Let's not report on our neighbours for watering on the wrong day -- only if they consistently over water. Everyone is just doing their best.
Don't add another app - but perhaps augment the existing Garbage/BlueBin/Greenbin app to add watering schedule.
A flyer or mailer with a schedule would suffice.

Question 9

To what extent do you support The City developing a Water Reuse Strategy as part of the Drought Resilience Plan?

Multiple choice question. No verbatim.

Question 10

Please share your thoughts about The City pursuing water reuse. For example: What do you like about it? What do you not like? Do you have any concerns The City should take into consideration when developing this idea?

Consult with the International Water Association. See iwa-network.org .
City needs a water Reduction Plan & also a Reuse Plan. Parks/green spaces need to be planted with drought resistant perennials, appropriate trees & shrubs etc. Rainwater storage should be a priority. Incorporate it into building plans - both municipal buildings & residential
How will storm water be managed? Generally, after a storm, dust control and watering of public spaces is not needed. Where will it be stored?
I might support it but would like to see more information. Does this add extra cost to our taxes. Everything has gone up in price and this could be one more thing added to the public. You may not think it's much but since everything has gone up this would add one more thing that people will not be able to afford
There should be a tax benefit, for those properties which are capturing / re-using water, and overall, for those which are implementing low impact design / drought tolerant species at a property level. There are environmental benefits to do so, (but also costs) and the city should be incentivizing that move.
This needs to happen and needs to normalize not using potable water for everything (ie irrigation).
?
Totally support as long as water being reused is safe for biodiversity
I don't like the potential costs to treat waste water for these applications. Storm water should be much less costly to treat but collecting it would be expensive.
like the timings
It makes sense. Water resources sounds like it could lead to the next global conflict.
This would be part of a multi-pronged approach to being drought resilient
water reuse for commercial water-cooled air conditioning systems is ok. not for lawns as you still have kids that will drink from garden hoses or sprinklers
Water barrels and overflow ponds etc. Are great ways to water. Our plants don't need fresh water from a hose to survive. I think a rebate program for having water barrels or maybe even each house gets one provided by the city.
Reduce reuse recycle, love it
I'd love to be able to use my shower water to water my plants. Anything the city can do to make this more practical would be helpful.
Great ideas.. it's the "how" that's the big question.
I have two rain barrels to limit my use of potable water in my garden, but would love some more. I find I often run out of rain water. I'm not sure what The City's stance is on grey-water systems, but last I checked it was rather prohibitive. Could incentives be developed for new communities and retrofits?
Common sense to reuse bath water, all gray water systems which I already do. Sell at a affordable price water barrel systems
Any fountain or pond using untreated water is clearly labelled. Would it be safe for animals who drink it?
Perhaps the city could provide rain barrel kits to residents and instructions on how to go about water reuse
Not sure
If we don't start developing this now. We will be in urgent need in 10 years. Be ahead.
It's more efficient. Less wasteful.
I think rain water should be used to flush toilets and the city should collect its own water for landscaping and construction dampening
Great
It's a smart, commonsense idea, just do it

Smart and sensible
Everyone has a role play
Collecting rainwater is a good idea.
What about all the run off from the mountains??????
Anything i can do to capture water I would do. Maybe providing water barrels like you did with the recycling and compost containers.
It needs to be easy to implement so people will do it.
I am not sure how to do this but a grey water system for non-potable use would be great!
I'm familiar with and support strategies like watering park green spaces with storm water (where appropriate).
Please adopt a water reuse policy as soon as possible. We need to be proactive as a city.
I think this is fantastic! We live in a beautiful place and have taken the abundance for granted. High time we show some reciprocity and respect to our ecosystems.
implementation
Clear messaging should be posted where used, but reusing water should be a must
Any thing the city can do to reduce water waste is a good thing. Where does the water from a car wash go? There is a tremendous amount of water going down those drains. I'm not sure where water can be reused from but there must be many places I'm not aware of.
100% for condos as green grass is mainly a must for visual curb side selling/renting. So we need more help understanding how we can implement, quickly, and cost/benefit.
I love the idea
If we're looking at the total resource available (rivers + aquifers), how does storm water utilization (e.g., to water park lawns) affect the total resource for Calgary (but downstream as well). Seems like a good opportunity for a life-cycle analysis.
Would also be good to understand any potential contamination from the dissolved/undissolved contaminants from run-off into storm water ponds
Seems a mo brainer.
I have pets and an organic garden. Many of my trees and shrubs would not do well if I watered them with pesticides or harmful fertilizers that another homeowner might choose.
I do support this. Also I would encourage people to have rain barrels and cisterns like in Van Island
Why would we not reuse water? We should absolutely be taking as much advantage of reduce and reuse first and capturing run off and rain etc.
We need a grey water plan in Calgary. We should be able to capture and use grey water from the home, for the garden. We also need more decentralized rain water collection options — and incentives and education to help make the shift.
Do it. Give each house a rain barrel like the garbage bin program
People need resource and support to install rain barrels
Reuse wherever possible.
Good idea to reuse grey water and rainwater.
Like I said I already re use fish water. Provide things like rain barrels now
The concept is great, but I imagine the capital and operating costs would be significant. Not sure it's affordable fir taxpayers.
How are we not already doing this?

I think educating citizens on how to reuse their own gray water for things like watering the garden or washing the car is a great idea and fully support this type of water reuse
Staggered water use has been used in other communities and leads to confusion.
A complete water ban removes any doubt
Probably have to change the building codes to allow it.
Drinking water does not need to be used for many other purposes. Having alternate water sources for things like washing vehicles or irrigating seems appropriate to build resilience.
It would be great to have rain barrels provided to houses, or an incentive to buy one
Offer rebates for residential grey water systems.
So long as the water is reasonably safe for kids & pets to walk/splash in, etc. I would be OK with this.
This is exactly what the city needs to do, but on an individual level, every new build should have a grey water system.
Would like more information on how to setup a rain barrel system
I like it. Would be interested if there are at home versions of this solution and how we can get educated on it.
If implementing a water reuse program - there shouldn't be a charge to treat the water.
I think regular grass is a massive waste of 'new' water. Water reuse seems like the best options for areas that actually need some extra care. I would prefer all the plants in the city to be more drought resistant, native varieties and not gold course style green lawns
Makes perfect sense. As long as clean/potable water is where it needs to be...
I'd love to be able to do something like that. Just don't know how, without too much hassle, I have severe limitations on how much back and forth walking I can do
I like this idea a lot. I worry about reused water I'm using on my veggie patch having contaminants/runoff from fertilizers, roads, etc depending on the source but as long as the city can share how this is accounted for I feel great about it.
If the city provided a rain barrel to re use water I would support that completely
Only if it is cost effective. We don't need to build a bigger City Government foot print.
If you can do it without absurd energy use, why on earth not.
I like the idea of utilizing water-cooling systems instead of classical glycol based A/C for commercial properties, it is far more environmentally friendly and probably cheaper. Our power consumption as a whole would probably be reduced as well. I would gladly pay a fee for a city supplied rain barrel for personal properties similar to the fee paid for green/blue bins.
I like that this concept is being address and put to citizens as these means of recycling water have been known of for some time.
Yes this is a good idea, maybe the same way we get the recycle, garbage and compost containers from the city we can get water barrels to collect water from the rain at home and use it on the garden and lawn
More information about how to do this and for the infrastructure to be provided at a minimal cost.
we totally support the city's water recycling and reusing plan for growing more trees and parks in and around the city
I collect rainwater for hand watering pots and filling birdbaths - the water is free! I would absolutely get behind the City pursuing this strategy!
Reusing water for commercial property makes sense and would reduce pressure on households.
Provide all homes with a rain barrel

Support this and wastewater reuse.
Support program for in home reuse of grey water, as well as community or city wide system
I think reducing water use would be more effective and more straightforward, but reuse is also somewhat useful.
I love it! These are the types of things we should be looking at. Especially for grass and gardens. Water reuse would be a great option. Same as rain barrels.
The City should provide rain barrels to each home like they have the garbage/recycling/compost bins. There should also be a requirement that any new builds have a grey water system put in to reuse water. Older homes should have a way to retrofit a grey water system into the house.
Fully support seems cost effective. Clear signage in parks/high use areas with option to access drinking water.
City buildings could be adapted
Excellent idea! Like that not using good drinking water for things like lawns. Logistics may be difficult for individuals but on city level should be very doable.
Suggest subsidized rainbarrels for home use. Other cities do this.
This is common sense. I don't see any downfalls to water reuse.
Should be mandatory for home builders to install cisterns in basement for grey water storage and re-use.
It needs to extend I to home, Grey water toilet subsidies. Cheaper rain barrels (80-100) I not reacha le for many households.
Providing incentives for new buildings to follow a LEEDs program of recycling run-off and reuse of water can also provide significant change. Providing rain barrels at cost, with instructions for use. Info on yard layout and local plants that reduce need for watering, and how to landscape wisely will also contribute. reuse for vegetable production is a concern.
I would have LOVED the option of having grey water recycling capacity in our home when it was built. Shower water, laundry water, dish rinsing water - we waste so much water!! Give people ideas and make it easy, like biodegradable soaps. I use cold water that runs before hot in the shower to water the pots on my verandah. Don't run the water while brushing teeth. So many people have no idea!
Love it. Implement asap :)
Reusing water just makes sense and is the future.
concern of kids playing in or drinking, say, water from sprinklers or fountains that is not clean
This strategy saves available fresh water for the uses it's most important for. That makes it less wasteful of available water. However, there would be costs related to establishing the infrastructure.
Just like the blue, black and green bins, provide to each household some tanks so we could store up rain water.
Are you suggesting that citizens should be responsible for reusing water? I don't think that's right. But I do generally support the city looking at this initiative.
Would love to see a free rain barrel program brought in to support this
Concerned about cost
I'm not sure if there are additional downsides to consider for this, but reusing water where applicable is a great idea. Even for residential outdoor water use as well, it would be great if there are programs (or tax incentives) to supply rain barrels, grey water tanks (bath water especially) and plumbing modifications.
Depending on the additional cost to homeowners/businesses this may not get the support needed to make a difference.
I'm in favour of any means of water conservation.
What if i water your plants with my pee?

Incentives for new commercial developments to install underground holding tanks to collect storm water that could be reused for on-site irrigation.
I think reusing grey water is beneficial because it doesn't need to be treated before use and since it's not for consumption, why can't it be used for these things?
I have a rain barrel that I use for watering plants and also as a water back up in case water restrictions are announce. There should be financial incentives to use a rain barrel.
Calgary needs to wake up. Just visit Victoria Every summer. All lawns are brown. We make NO attempt to be responsible water users. Golf courses are another et peeve of mine. Clearly they pay the city sweet taxes for the privileged few to wander around an immaculate green space. Scotland had Golf links - they are for everyone ,even the sheep to enjoy!
Reusing water is the only way.
No concerns, sounds smart.
Chemicals
We can plan a sustainable development programmes . Also we can plane a join another river resources to current water resources. Reforestation in the mountains . Also we can plan to stop the wild fire spreading fast in the droughts. Waste water and rain water and snow can reuse it from proper managment
I would fully support a water reuse program
We have rain barrels in place. I dont see the same collection or reuse in large scale for commercial or city parks which would have a great impact.
We need to find ways to use recycled water for gardens
Sure
Need more details
Excellent idea! Store water in ponds surrounded with native plants to reduce harmful bacteria, and to provide homes to native birds, amphibians, fish and insects.
It sounds like a good way to recycle water and extend it as a resource.
Managing and aligning the strategy with redevelopment strategies in central communities. I love the idea of wastewater reuse.
This project takes lots of money and investment which will be charged back to tax payers. We should simply switch lawns to some other fraught resilient plants like clover. This is simple and without spending tax payers money.
This is a great idea, I love the idea of reusing water for the right job.
You listed Vancouver as a drought resilient city... the Canadian city with the most rain.Is this a joke.
Water reuse (grey water) is fine if the infrastructure is installed when a new community is developed (or redeveloped e.g., Altadore). Retrofitting the entire city to accommodate a grey water system will be costly and to what true gain? Once again the taxpayer will be on the hook for these 'improvements'; let's not forget who ultimately pays!
Excellent idea. Have to consider contaminants and pollutants.
All homes and businesses should be retrofitted with grey-water tanks. It has never made sense to me that we flush our toilets with clean water.
No concerns. I thought this kind of thing already existed to be honest. We should definitely employ some reuse strategies asap
This sounds expensive. Get a rain barrel if you want.
Yes this should be done on a large scale but so the in reason so that our taxes don't increase dramatically

I once had a cabin where we used grey water to water the lawn and plants. It was great! People who have only experienced potable treated water will need to be seriously educated, though.
This is a much "greener" and innovative idea than yet another tax or increased charge for something (2 months of gardening) that calgarians enjoy and helps keep mentally healthy.
A lot of cities use grey water for irrigation. Calgary should introduce systems that facilitate this. No concerns. Just need public education.
I absolutely support this plan 100%
Use it!
Great idea. Like the recycling, hopefully we can get more people on board.
Would be great if more cost effective products were made readily available to the public to implement these, like the recycle/garbage/compost bins.
This is smart. Nothing more to add.
This is a great idea, and should be implemented immediately
Yes! We should be reusing water as much as we can!
Love it. Again educating people to correctly identify sources of potable and non potable around their houses is important.
It makes perfect sense. I already own two rain barrels and I use that water for my plants. Also, treated wastewater should be used for parks and golf green and could be used for washing cars as well
Love the idea to reuse water whenever possible
Brilliant, lets fill in the fountains and take all measures to reuse. Individuals would be very interested and I believe likely to participate if there were more resources to understand how to, and set up, rainwater collection.
Every city is like this, but hard to believe we water our lawns with treated water, that may even contain floride. I wish there was a way to pipe treated and untreated into homes. Or even have a way to reuse gray water from washing hands to water lawns.
This is smart.
Pets & wildlife drink out of decorative ponds & fountains. Not sure this is a good idea.
I think that new homes should be designed to have water from showers and sinks treated and used for gardens. New homes should probably have some cisterns to collect roof water as well. Cheap rain barrels would help too.
It also doesn't fall all on the individual. I think pressure on industry is also required as the oil and gas sector uses the most amount of water.
Concern: is salination a concern? ie using storm sewage to water trees and parks looks great to me but does it add salt to soil? Thought: toilet seen in Japan: Little hand-washing sink above the tank lets user wash hands with the water that will fill the toilet tank. Other idea: can we ban auto-flush toilets (ones based on motion sensors)?
Need to look at what SW US and Australia are doing so we don't fall behind.
I think that everyone needs to be mindful of water use. I think there is a huge potential for grey water recycling in certain situations (public toilets, sprinklers in parks) that is not being utilized in Calgary.
Have it built in to new developments somehow. For retrofit, have rebate incentives. Also educational videos or info on various ways for a homeowner to implement water reuse on their property.
I'm sure untreated water is better for the parks and ponds. I fill watering cans and leave them to sit so the chlorine can dissipate before I use it.
Going forward water reuse is critically important and eventually should be incorporated into homes. Grey water systems to clean and reuse water as well as rain / snow water capture should become part of our building systems.

Grey water should be collected from higher density developments for irrigation purposes. City wide use of standard soap ingredients would also help to ensure that the water can be used on plants
Water is life, if not reused, it's wasted. Reuse shows respect / uses knowledge. "you don't know what you've got til it's gone"
I would like everyone interested in gardening to receive a rain barrel and educate on how to use rain water.
Yes! Water the parks with it! Bcuz parks with crunchy hard grass are not fun! create a park at Bowness like Red Deer Discovery Canyon so ppl have somewhere to swim in YYC when it's so hot! USE what we have. YYC could create safe beaches all over Bow river. Ppl will use less water for kids if they had a place to go! Look at Ottawa - But there's nothing so I'll use my sprinkler to cool kids.
I'm just thinking that if the quality of the the reused water isn't very clean (i.e. chemical residues from vehicles in stormwater) it could affect the environment, say, if it were to fill local park ponds or something like that. People still wash their cars with soap in their driveways, and my neighbour's vehicle leaks oil like crazy onto the street... so I know that runoff quality isn't good.
Go for it but I don't want to see the city bear huge infrastructure costs to develop a water reuse distribution Network
It is simple and understandable.
Would also like to participate in this option. City provides sink basins, rain barrels, etc.
Love it, I hope this happens, I would like to see an affordable option for households to look at personal water reuse.
There should be guidelines on residential grey water usage on private lands
Rain barrels are a fantastic source of reusable water for gardening etc. Green Calgary currently does a great job of educating and distributing rain barrels for a reasonable cost but if there was additional support, promotion, education or incentives provided from the City as part of a drought initiative, this could grow much further.
I tried to have a rain barrel but I didn't have a way to use the water on my lawn. Abandoned it when a squirrel drowned in it.
I appreciate the water reuse idea. It is smart, keeps our city, plants and eco system thriving and avoids unnecessarily wasting treated water.
Grey water toilet flushes should be included in the plan. I would be concerned about filling ponds and fountains, as there could be some contaminants that impact wildlife.
All homes should be subsidized for grey water capture systems under a municipal license. WE NEED GREY WATER REGULATION so the city can permit and gather revenue for grey water systems.
Reusing water is a great idea. Please encourage household to collect rain water by subsidising rain barrels and also help us update our plumbing to redirect grey water to our toilets.
I'm all in favor of the city developing a water use strategy but my concern is how far they will take it. Sorry but i don't have a high degree of trust with the way the city spends our tax dollars. There needs to be a fully transparent budget prepared for this work along with a quantitative cost benefit analysis.
I'm in favour of it.
reusing water has so many drawbacks such as chemical , salt content etc in water, more recent covid in water,, not appealing to any homeowner and heavily treated or soap filled grey water will potentially kill plants
Perhaps it would require lots of new piping, at great cost. But even implementation for some functions at some locations would be useful.
This should be built in. Concern about improper use of storm drains, eg, chemicals from personal oil changes, cat washing, etc

Could the City encourage rain barrel use at residences? I live in a townhouse condo and my condo bylaws state that rain barrels are not allowed, but I would like not to be penalized if I install one during a drought.
I like that we can save resources by using the water where it doesn't need to treat before using it.
Great idea, just ensure that what is re-used for it well enforced and monitored.
Do not know enough to comment fully about reuse. However, I am big promoter of how the City has reduced water consumption and reuses there water at their water treatment plants
I think more needs to be done about educating the public on what goes down the drain to the sewer (I still see driveway car washing). I am actually shocked the city is not doing this already! Could private companies or individuals receive access to this cheap resource to provide private watering services if a scheduled service is in place?
Great idea.
This would be great and makes sense.
This makes sense, but you most likely will raise our taxes again, which is quite undesirable! You need to choose wisely how you use the money you get. For example paying for mayor's and councillors security should not come from taxpayers, since they have reasonably high salaries.
Grey water use is a fantastic idea but extensive education would be needed as we are very used to all of our water being potable; kids in sprinklers, dogs in ponds, etc. Consideration for less publically accessible uses might be needed. grey water toilets? huge infrastructure challenge admittedly.
I think we should be pursuing all opportunities for reuse especially where outdoor water use is highest Make it a new normal 'thing' with education as well
Must be as easy to access reused water and potable water
Filling fountains like 17 ave SE and Quarry Park should not operate but kids water fountain parks should....alternatives should be found for dust control.
Reusing water for watering plants or flushing is a great idea and focusing resources on the safety of our drinking water is a huge benefit that will save tons of money. Extensive information on where to use reused water and probably hazards if any, is necessary for the public buy in.
Yes!
Rainwater and Stormwater - yes, wastewater.... doesn't feel as safe
Water should always be reused when possible. We waste tons of clean water through keeping lawns green and flushing toilets when we should have a reusable grey water system.
I don't believe the city management is competent enough to pull this off safely and within the same budget already in place.
Water reuse is great, though rainwater has its place in the ecosystem and capturing large amounts of stormwater will have its own effects downstream. Reuse of wastewater would be great. Preventing unnecessary water usage and reducing usage is still more important.
No need to use treated water for lawn/garden/bushes, plus lack of chlorine likely better anyways for them
Any way to reuse a resource is a great plan so long as it is safe. The only concern I would have is of the domestic animals that could potentially drink it.
Incentives should also be offered for grey water systems
My gut feeling is that this could be one of the most impactful interventions for reducing water use. I think it is consistent with messages we've received for decades about recycling other materials and therefore seems like a natural progression. It will be very important to emphasize to the public that drinking and bathing water will remain clean and safe

NO COMMENT
New buildings should be equipped with water recycling systems. It should be a requirement and not an option. Maybe an tax incentive for the old buildings to get them do that can help also !
Seems like a great idea that is relatively easy to implement.
I don't agree with a bylaw where neighbors complain about neighbors.
Hard to tell what is in the water and what impact it could have on plants and animals
We don't have a water re-use strategy already? I like that such a program may have many examples already demonstrated in other cities.
This is a phenomenal idea to implement. There is not need to have clean, treated drinking water used for every water-based task. I wish we could have a system where our toilets utilized reused water.
Love this idea. Our land filters water, it doesn't care if it's potable water.
I think rainwater collection is hugely undervalued here. The rain barrel program is ok, but the storage could be bigger and better designed for restrictions of space on narrow lot and high density homes. There is not enough space for a barrel on the side of my house. I would love to have a rain tank like the ones from https://www.thintanks.com.au/ they are very narrow but store a lot of water.
Using rain water in anyway possible is extremely beneficial and should be used in the city. However- these systems need to be prepared for our big storms/possible floods when flash hail/rain season begins.
Reusing water is a great idea as long as it does not encourage pest breeding sites with any stagnant collected water.
If it's a system that works else where I think the City needs to be innovative and get ahead of the problem of water access before it's too late.
Should not cost the users and residents any more money.
Rain barrels, I already have 2
Curious about what this would look like. I.e. how would reuse water get to my home for me to use on my lawn.
It seems really wasteful to use treated drinking water to water my lawn, if a grey-water source was available I would use that, but not sure about the infrastructure costs.
Excellent and obvious idea. Clear communication is a big and challenging one: I understand the principle but it's easy to imagine this being twisted by opponents. It could be tied to rates (reused water at a lower rate) for communication as a cost-savings measure to the city.
Would need more info to decide
How it could be delivered or collected at individual residences
We need to make the most use of or resources as possible target than use fresh water for things that do not require it.
I think rain barrels are an excellent example for homeowners and maybe the city could financially incentivize via discounted prices or rebate program
Makes complete sense to pursue this opportunity. Homes can re-use rain water. Parks can use storm water.
I wasn't aware that we didn't already have water reuse programs.
I appreciate keeping our city infrastructure and services using modern practices.
How to best integrate it into old/existing building stock. Supportive programs/rebates/education how to collect water to best do this at an individual level and to use inspiring (but achievable) case studies & show how The City is doing it too - to help motivate people to implement it themselves.
I pee and poop into potable water. Everyone in the city does. That is stupid. Grey water should be reusable. Not poop water.

Yes, there is so much grey water that can be re-used!
Signs as in the above photo remind citizens that water can be reused safely and will hopefully get them thinking on how they can be waterwise as well.
The city should be considering all options for climate solutions and water reuse.
I think its great when the systems work, filtration can be an issue and also being able to maintain these systems with proper winterization to avoid damage
No issues as long as the cost of collecting the water isn't substantial
Water capture needs significantly higher priority -- we got lots during the summer rains but only fractions are retained. Need ideas for community capture/rain barrels on a much larger scale. Grey water for lawns needs more investigation down to the home building/permitting level.
reusing water where we can makes perfect and is something that should already be happening - there are many things where treated water is not required.
I have no concerns with water reuse being implemented wherever possible for non-potable applications.
It's use in large green spaces, parks, new commercial parks maybe. Not residential, too expensive to retrofit.
My only concern would be the delivery method. As a home owner, how would I access reuse water?
Make aware of the need, options and the benefits. China, Kuwait and Qatar are the leaders in reusing the waste water and can learn a lot from their facilities.
Love it and would like to see it implemented ASAP.
Treatment/safety of reused water on vegetable/herb gardens; any odour?
We need to be creative in our approach. I have no concerns about pursuing a water reuse policy.
Should be using grey water in toilets too! We don't need clean drinking water in toilets.
This is too general to form an opinion on.
my only concern is what further cost there is to tax payers, I feel we waste money on things not needed - ie: fluoride, councils personal home security etc
extent is probably highly dependent on provincial regulations. Also need to be realistic about how far you can go with reuse given building code and provincial regulatory constraints.
Maybe like the supply of the recycle, compost and garbage bins the city could provide rain barrels.
I support water reuse program.
Re-using water makes sense. I'm surprised the city doesnt already do it.
Yes I think encouraging people to plant close to downspouts, ensuring good lot drainage to plant areas, implementation of low impact development, etc. are all good ideas (links to Alberta Low Impact Development Association, etc).
Use water with the least amount of energy needed possible. Reuse strategies are great - let's get serious about this.
we are completely support of reusing water for environmental reason. Why waste more water when we can reuse it (e.g., rain barrel)
Like this idea!
Water barrel program similar to waste bin program with proper set up
I like that there is more efficient use of existing resources.
.
Provide barrels or other to gather water for residents.
Rain barrels in our yards a reminder that water is important. Programs should include encouraging rain barrel use. Extra focus on new homes. Also focus on more elaborate rain barrel systems.

As long as it's not the drinking water I think its a great idea. There is so much wasted water. I'd for sure like more information on this topic and support it.
Fiscal responsibility into the research and development of the idea
I think that education will help
water reuse is practiced all around the world in arid and semi-arid regions, Calgary should invest more in water reuse for landscape irrigation to keep and maintain our parks, sportsfields, and open areas green, healthy, and welcoming. Usable green spaces within communities should be a priority as they can extremely well used to encourage healthy, active, and social living.
I think this approach is paramount in developing a resilient drought plan for the city.
Really like this. Using rain water seems to benefit everyone
We already do this with rain barrels!
Reuse water especially the early rains and thaw in a storage facility. Makes no sense to restrict water during summer when we are struggling to prevent floods in spring and early summer. More thought investment to better residential waste/rain water storage systems for the future.
It minimizes the strain on the environment by making use of an underused resource.
Use of rain barrels to store water for later use. Puts less pressure on water infrastructure.
What about allowing use of personal grey water for yards? This would have to include information/training on the benefits and how to do it
I think this is great. I just need to know how I can help.
It encourages responsible use of water and would / should be used by the city for all civic watering activities
Reusing rain water on our yards is already so effective, it would be great to have other water being reused. Could we consider supporting rain water irrigation systems, too?
gray water use has been done safely and easily in many parts of the world without the overly restrictive requirements we currently have. legalising gray water use more easily would be great.
Gray water options need to be available to home owners. Permaculture to capture water in the landscape will reduce both drought and flooding. Hire Indigenous led FoodScape Cooperative to advise the city on urban design
To reuse rain water for watering landscaping is good idea. City must have incentive to subsidize the purchase of rain barrel and connection to eave trough drain.
Each house should be built with a way to separate used water for reuse.
I do not know anything about it
Potable water for landscaping makes little sense and is like to see strategies for water reuse
It sounds like a completely sane idea but I have no idea how you will do it. Unless it is done by each household by way of capturing rain water or something like that.
I reuse water in my own yard and I rarely need to use the tap. It would be great to incentivize water reuse. Is there a way to support water irrigation systems as well?
Encourage, incent, educate more about rain barrels and rain water collection. Times like now I see hundreds of gallons of rain water spouting into my back alley. This could mitigate the need for using treated water for lawn and yard care if every household had at least 3-4 rain barrels.
Reusing rain water on our yards is already so effective, it would be great to have other water being reused. Could we consider supporting rain water irrigation systems, too?
we should conserve anyway we can. need to be accountable and considerate for all downstream users; flora, fauna, humans, agriculture
I would love to see the City support implementing grey water systems in private homes.

Makes sense. Why waste \$\$ (and chemicals) on using treated water, when it isn't necessary
YES! Please do this! Need to get creative, ideally low tech solutions, including grey water systems for homeowners and businesses. Cost effective solutions are key unless there are significant subsidies/grants. Need to find ways to deal with the salt runoff during winter freeze/thaw cycles to protect plants.
I support the idea but wonder about safety hazards.
Great. Does that mean the city is going to do upgrades to fix THEIR sewer line so it stops freezing in the winter, thus stopping sewer backing up into my basement? Highly doubt it. If you can do it without knocking on my door for more tax money, fill your boots. But I can't afford this city councilors out of touch with reality dreams.
It is not clear what would happen to treasured biodiversity in the City if Water Reuse Strategy is employed. For example some storm water ponds (which have oxygen content and a life supporting subsurface profile) and catchment areas are used by migratory birds, reptiles, mammals etc. Water is the basis for all ecosystem life beginning at the microscopic stage and moving up.
We see 1000's of gallons rush down alleys and into our storm drain every rainfall, and rivers during storms. Only makes sense to capture and use it
I like the reuse it serves as a local and effective strategy of conserving resources.
What is the cost and where is it coming from?
There are city owned green spaces that have sprinklers going EVEN when it rains, this is completely asinine.
It's about time you discuss gray-water re-use. Do it! People need to be educated as to what it is and more indication of potable water and not, like they have in Europe, on fountains, water-play areas etc.
Scheduling water use is a terrible idea, but limiting use to 2 days per week during certain hours in more than reasonable. Neighborhoods will self police and call bylaw as we know full well who is continually watering.
Absolutely should be done! See my comment re City of Cape Town. Also good to plan to introduce grey water reuse at point of production like homes (both new builds or retrofits where possible).
I think if having a rain barrel, etc was something all households were doing, it would create a culture of water consumption. The city should supply rain barrels and information on how to use them
We need more permeable pavements, local catch basins and permitting for individual homeowners to install gray water reuse if they choose.
I don't think I really thought of this before. I'm not sure how this strategy could be put into practice, but I'm interested to see.
A water reuse program is a great idea. The City needs to lead by example on this. Sprinkler systems that overshoot the vegetation and water the pavement (see picture above) does not show good leadership
I think the costs of any water reuse program should be reflected in the commodity cost of water NOT in fixed costs for each household. This way those using more water pay slightly more vs those that really try to conserve water use are slightly rewarded. With fixed costs being 60% or more of my bill, I am not very motivated to lower my actual water consumption.
Re question 9, I Completely support it.
I like the Thought put into this: the reference to "Many drought-resilient cities around the world ...".
I am in support of this.
Maybe if it is financially feasible the city could use water from wet ponds and rivers to water park spaces. Care would need to be taken with local wildlife. untreated water available for watering plants would be fine. How would the normal drinking water be protected? Would the city use underground springs? how would this be monitored to prevent communities from sinking as the water is removed?
Cost would be prohibitive!

If reused water was readily available, I would use it for watering the plants in my yard. Also, reused water should be available for use in toilets.
I think the city should work with the province to convert the Springbank dam into a seasonal water storage dam rather than solely a dry dam.
Please do not use sewer to water my lawn. Work on more important things like safety of the citizens and reducing the cost of living!!!
Rebates? Pilot projects?
I love the idea of reusing rain, storm and waste water. We need to be much more careful of our water resources. Only concerns -- the difficulty and cost of collecting and treating these 3 types of water.
Acid Rain used to be an issue - haven't heard much about it lately. But obviously we have to be sure that our rainwater is does not have harmful or excess pollutants in it for our feathered friends :)
Great idea to lead by example.
This is a great plan. I have no concern at all.
No opinion.
Do it
I support reusing water
We are already using rain water (6 barrels, 20 gallons each)
We would not fancy having to use waste water
What about contamination in the water
Sounds like an interesting idea.
Why can't I use my bath & shower water for my garden
Using the right water for the job is a good idea. This should be communicated to residents and businesses.
This will never work...Too much complications...Most people will not comply. The cost would be astronomical... The last thing we need are more taxes to cover this
what are the costs of implementing this 2nd system vs. the benefits. This will require a lot of infrastructure
I am curious why this hasn't been used already. If we know that there droughts, and residents are encouraged to use rain barrels, why has the city not collected rain in the past. Seems like a huge waste of a free resource.
I'm okay with that but my main use of water is for my plants which I and my family & friends will consume. The water needs to be pure enough to use for food propegation.
Incentives for using rain barrels or providing free rain barrels
This is a good plan and I am very much in favor of water reuse! We just need to make it very clear what to use this water for once it is available. I have to participate in the Water Freeze program every winter. That is a lot of unused water going down the drain. Is there any way to make this water part of the water reuse program? I would be interested in finding out.
Water reuse needs to include everyone homeowners and businesses. City needs to prioritize wetland conservation no wetland loss.
This one is a no-brainer. It would be like using the grey water from your washing machine. It makes perfect sense to use this water for the purposes you have mentioned.
I support this and have no concerns.
If there are low-cost simple measures people can take, like rain barrels, which actually save the City money than I would be fine with this. Perhaps the City can send out a pamphlet asking people to consider implementing some of these water saving practices into their lives.

Why is it that we can't use grey water in toilets? It's ridiculous to require fresh water for toilets... Also keep supporting rain barrels so more people have them! Can hook up multiples like we do.
Make it workable and consistent. Quit trying to cover off one aspect of the city with another (business vs Public; City of Calgary usage paid for by everyone else).
Setup some free pump stations people could use if they choose. I'd be fine with that
unbelievable that this is not already done routinely, I was shocked and dismayed to find out we could not put grey water recycling plumbing into our new build - the city did not allow it!
Incentives and education on catchment systems. Not sure how graywater could efficiently be captured.
This is sensible!
If sewage water is used in parks, how safe is it?
Sounds responsive to our environment.
I am an adult capable of responsible decisions, I do not need a 'plan' to direct me. The city might direct me to have a pond and then approve an edge to edge property development with no green space to properly and naturally absorb water.
The true cost and environmental benefit really need to be analyzed. Example, is the extra usage of chemical to treat the water and the power and gas used to operate the WTP negate the environmental benefit of this. A proper study should be done through an unbiased view
The problem is implementing this. The cost to create a double system now would be astronomical and we are not in a desert.
Save the money make more wet places.
Great idea. Support fully. I would also love to see ways individuals could funnel shower water into toilets or into the yard. The grey water system.
Would love incentive for grey water reuse
This sounds like a huge project - would it involve new water infrastructure? Would it be by household, providing a way to put, say, bath and shower water into a holding tank for outdoor use? The city could implement a subsidy program for households that install this kind of system, and the metered water usage would drop, also an incentive.
This could be done for parks and new development. Too expensive for retrofit with exception of encouraging owners (we have two giant rain barrels) and city needs to start capturing water to replace water table (require run off of high % land use to be put in gravel sinks to go to ground water vs storm sewers)
Proper education about where and when it will be used. I have kids who will drink anything from a tap (and I grew up here without being concerned about our water quality) if there will be a change in the drinkability of water from certain sources, then an educational communication strategy would be needed
Great idea!!
We should reuse the water in the storm sewer system where possible.
I think it's a fantastic idea. I actually thought the city was already doing this.
Areas with reclaimed water need to be well marked. It would also need to be safe for pets, so testing would need to be done occasionally (I have had dogs - they like to drink out of toilet bowls and puddles, so the test is not that high.) A vet could maybe provide advice?
Would like to see it in homes, commercial, for example, shower water used in toilet, it's done in many other places, can't find a contractor to do it here
Full use of all our water is good and only treatment of water for drinking/veggie gardens , cooking, bathing and pools as other areas of water use don't need treatment.

It's environmentally friendly
This is an excellent idea, provided the city determines a delivery program. With the increase cost in gas, pick up locations would deter individuals from utilizing this service, due to cost and inconvenience.
There are applications for water reuse but I have concerns about cross contamination with drinking water.
100% support this, no concerns, I would love a way to we collect household first pass water like shower water, sink water
If the water is clean and safe who cares. Waste water goes back into the bow anyway.
This is a great idea. My questions are: - Where would residents obtain non-potable water? - Will new pipes be laid underground and new piping retrofitted in buildings/homes?
Great idea
Great idea!
Water containing human waste should absolutely not be reused in this manner. The risk of propagation of disease is too great. We already know that there is covid in our wastewater, so we are going to spray that water everywhere and use it to fill fountains? Really?
I like an idea of water reuse for watering the plants
Using grey water is not a new idea. It was discussed and recommended in meetings and conferences decades ago. It's not easy to do and may reduce the flow rates of water downstream to towns and cities on the South Saskatchewan river basin. Nonetheless it should be considered in a drought mitigation as well regular water use strategy.
How will you educate and motivate people?
This should be highly used.
Water reuse it great. My suggestion would be less concrete swales in mew community allowing water to flow to green spaces
Safety and cleanliness
Do it!
What about grey water re-use within the house? E.g., for flushing toilets. I would like to see that encouraged as well.
You need to have a long-term goal that all new properties have rainwater harvesting built in at the time of construction, and also start experimenting on grey water usage and technology.
Stupid.
Be very careful with outdoor ponds/ irrigation use given recalcitrant contaminants in wastewater and potential to migrate to groundwater or impact aquatic life.
Good idea but by using untreated water we open ourselves up to all manner of bacterial threats if accidentally ingested, This is a particularly bad option in households with children.
I love the idea! As long as would be ok to use on my vegetable garden
No concerns. Should definitely be done.
If the city is going to reuse water, You MUST stop treating dandelions with herbicides!!!! Toxic herbicides get into the water and then we will be using contaminated water that is unhealthy for the earth and unhealthy for humans/pets/animals!!!! This is a huge issue. Plus the spraying of dandelions does not work because they're back every year and we just contaminate our poor land even more.

100% support a water reuse system. It's ridiculous in the 21st century to be dumping our treated water back into the bow.river.!
Seems like a no-brainer to re-use such a precious resource. In Japan they have toilets where the sink is over the tank so the grey water is used to flush the toilet. Why isn't that code?
I like that it reduces pressure on the water treatment plants. I am concerned that it will be cost prohibitive to install systems to reuse wastewater (for example). I think incentivizing rain barrels would be a good idea.
This is a good proactive thing that does not affect citizen's quality of life and enjoyment of gardening.
Love it, there are zero negatives with this.
I think the City should offer complimentary, or at the very least, INEXPENSIVE rain barrels & hoses to the public interested in collecting rainwater to use for watering their plants. I would certainly use one.
I would like to know that high use industries like bottling and golf are also doing their part
encourage people to install grey water systems in their home
This seems like a no brainer.
Non potable water is a great addition for watering greenery. Residents pay premium price for drinkable water but use it on their greenspaces. Another, viable option would be great but for residential use how would we be able to get non potable water to houses without running new pipes?
There should be clear and repeated instructions on which water sources are appropriate for which use.
I want to make sure that the upfront investment in equipment to use recycled water is reasonable and economical. Not being done just because, and at any price
I like this idea, especially for water intensive actions and locations that might not be able to/willing to cut back on water use such as in construction and on golf courses.
Seems like this could be a great idea.
How would this be managed? How will organizations using this water be charged? Special pipes????!! If trucked, will the costs be excessive?
The methods used must be cost effective and actually be proven at saving water! Spending taxpayer money efficiently and respectfully rather than chasing 'the flavour of the day' in water reuse is not going to help save water!
Grey water use is a good start - allowing for diversion back INTO the land for aquifer and water saturation by using grey water is excellent. The only issue would be making sure the water table stays relatively clean.
If we are in serious drought then implement water restrictions, like you always have.
This is a great idea, and low hanging fruit. Allow citizens easy access to water reuse options and perhaps blanket permitting for outdoor use. There is also regulated potential for Grey water reuse that is currently not permitted in Calgary. Please explore this further.
I like it. I would like to see the city make rain barrels available to all households that want them. The line up and first come first serve idea is not great. And not everyone has the capability of transporting a rain barrel home. Deliver them, just like the green\blue\black bins to all who request - say for a limited time.
People need help implementing these
I think this is long overdue. We need to find ways to capture more water. More storm water retention ponds that can also be used to fill up water trucks to water new trees and city green spaces and sports fields. I live in a green space on a city owned pathway and would also participate in capturing water to water the green space if asked by the city.

These systems, even rain barrels, need long term maintenance. Some people may need help but not have the financial ability to pay for help. Maybe create a "student employed" summer water conservation team? To help deploy rain capture systems or do local education on water smart solutions. Promote drought tolerant planting?
No concerns with this, either.
Yes, it makes sense.
Water capture and grey water usage make sense.
If we support rainwater tank installations, mosquito control of stagnant water will need to be integrated!
What happened to the Calgary rain barrel program? Would be great to set a specific goal to get homes on this type of water reuse program. Cost?
I can't believe this was not done 50 years ago! Put in high expectations don't spoon feed us bits.
Water reuse should be pursued. The City has been very resistant in the past to any type of reuse (eg storm water ponds for irrigation & car wash facility reuse). I fully support a complete 180 in City policy on water reuse. It is good to see these questions being asked and that staff are getting educated to catch up to private industry.
We currently have six rain barrels around our property, that collect rainwater. We use those to water our gardens. The hose is only used to maintain the front yard.
This is a fantastic idea.
I like the idea, not sure how it would work based on this information. How would each household participate?
My only concern is for my fruit and vegetable gardens- how does using this type of water impact my edible garden?
It makes sense to me.
completely support let's get started now.
It makes a lot of sense, assuming you can control the insect and animal populations that will take advantage of this new water source.
I would like to see a city funded program that assists homeowner with low cost rain barrels and information sessions regarding setting up rain water collection. To assist low income families who may supplement their groceries by growing their own gardens and it would help if through the fair entry program they could receive free or highly subsidized rain barrels and irrigation equipment.
Fully support this idea.
New build housing should have grey water systems as a legal requirement. Information & financial incentives to retrofit grey water systems would be great.
There is a lot of water waste. I saw a program on how Vegas reuses water. Very interesting and successful.
I like that treated drinking water is not being used for activities where it's not required.
I am completely in favour
Sounds great. I support developing the city's capacity to collect and reuse water sooner rather than later/when we need to because of water scarcity, even if it costs tax payers more in the short term.
I see no down side, great idea. If astronauts can do it so can we!
City could use treated wastewater for watering its parks
Absolutely you should be doing the above! Water is so precious.
In Australia you can buy certain washing powders that are safe to then use as grey water for the lawn. Growing up the washing machine watered our grass. We were also encouraged to keep buckets in shower and sink and use water on flowers.
We try to capture rainwater for use in watering our garden. I think water should be a highly protected resource, and believe that if water reuse ensures more of our drinking water doesn't go to waste on outdoor projects, it will be a huge benefit to everyone.

I think if you are filling fountains and decorative pools, the city needs to ensure that there is a source of treated water nearby for people to access so they don't drink from the fountains/pools. Particularly important for the unhoused population.
Great idea!!
Using waste water increases the spread of parasites and diseases.
Just don't try to add another bs fee.
My only concern it NY impact on the plants and wildlife...ie the birds
Reducing stormwater runoff by collection is a great idea. I would like collection systems to be subsidized
provide a subsidy for residents to install gray water tanks, rain barrels, and ponds.
way too expensive. do less watering and quit planting annuals.
Great for industrial grassed areas & golf courses. Not appropriate for parks & playgrounds.
Awesome idea!
We have the Bow and Elbow River, I'm not sure why water isn't used directly from there for non drinking water use.
This sounds like a win win to reuse water but also save the costs of treatment.
people put their hands into fountains and decorative ponds and let children splash in them so water should be treated and not wastewater or storm water.
Can we do this with a minimum of permitting fees?
Yes! This is much needed. How do other places do it and do it right? Do we have the infrastructure? Is there opportunity to learn from their mistakes/lessons learned or implement and trial new technologies/partner with post-secondaries. Leaf Ninjas are an amazing asset to the city with their work in natural areas. We need them to grow/more like them.
Grey water can be reused in commercial settings. Start with new construction
I fully support and do it myself
Should be only targeted, ie using park pond or lake to irrigate lawn and gardens within park
I love it! We're completely on board with grey water use. The key will be education so that people use the water in appropriate ways and don't kill their gardens.
Of course cost is important to consider.
Important to ensure that reused water for fountains that kids/animals may drink from be clean & that reused water is not contaminated with pollutants from roadways etc
Stop passing your problems to citizens. You sell millions of liters of water to coca cola that gets turned into high sugar unhealthy soda then expect me not to water my garden. Try showing your serious about the issue first.
I like the idea but would not want to pay more taxes to implement. Our taxes are high enough without any services or very few.
As long as it is safe if pets/babies eat the grass
I was at a resort once and I'm pretty sure the water they were using to water the lawn was reused.. it smelled of feces... That would not be good in a park
Implement only if minimal cost. Don't reuse just for the sake of reusing.
This seems like a no-brainer, if we have to infrastructure to make it happen. I also think these park signs could be used on public grass and shrub areas that are left unwatered - tell people why the city isn't watering certain areas
That grey water isn't allowed for toilet flushing is an archaic idea that needs to be eliminated.
I like the ideas as some people will be able to make better use of this important resource.

Especially for construction and other commercial water trucks. I have watched in disbelief at the number of trucks filling with clean drink water at local fire station just to be poured out . There has to be a better way!
Advocating for changes to the building code to allow things like having sinks drain into toilet tanks would be good.
REMOVE SNOW FROM THE STREETS IN WINTER, CONDITION THE WATER, STORE IT for use.
DO NOT CHARGE ME MORE TAXs or FEES FOR water resue. WE ALREADY PAY ENOUGH!
Anything that reduces and reuses a resource is good. Reduce first though, reuse second.
this is a GREAT idea!
Great idea!
Just don't force us to use or charge us for rainwater. I wouldn't be surprised if you tried to
I would like to see some kind of program to help homeowners set up rainbarrels in their properties as well as education regarding potential issues (e.g. mosquito larvae in standing water....)
Sustainability is the goal!
There is nothing to hate about this. Absolutely necessary.
I like it. I also like the approach that some cities have taken to cut out curbs and drain water into front yards, lowering trees and shrubs to focus water at their roots.
Really like this idea. Kind of surprised it's not already in place.
It simple but city needs to under a little bit more use reuse water for irrigation, it does not with larger landscape area, look at cross irons mills site has largest cistern system and it's dry most of the summer
Get moving in it!
The city should offer rebates or free rain collection barrels/spout connectors and should offer rebates on retrofitting renovations like recirculating showers
Cost should be taken into consideration. Nothing that costs money we don't have should be implemented
No problems at all
I like the idea, and also wish there was a way to divert household grey water (ie from shower) to use in the toilet.
I'm all for reusing water where possible. But I'm not going to restrict how often I water my plants
100%
No concerns - if we're not consuming it or using it for pools I don't see any problem with it. I like that we are able to reduce consumption through reuse. I would love to have this available in my home - having a separate line/supply with reused water vs treated water.
This is responsible use of an increasingly scarce resource. Our future will be impacted by drought, we can be certain. We need to collectively normalize water-wise behavior before drought becomes an emergency.
Use mats instead of H2O as dust control on construction sites and make construction businesses be more responsible for erosion on and around the site.
Water reuse is a great strategy, and is certainly effective.
Would the city be able to provide a rain barrel to everyone (or at least under 50\$) so that it could be affordable.
I think water reuse is a very smart idea. Save the treated drinking water for citizens who want to drink it. Quit wasting it towards watered lawns, golf courses, etc. Only recycled grey water should be used for that.
The sooner water conservation happens the better.
I like it but the city/province water treatment requirements are too high so too costly to the city/tax payers/home buyers. Need to find cheaper ways and not install gold standard pump stations that produce potable water.
[profanity removed] off Gondek! You piece of [profanity removed]!
I think this is a good idea at a high level, but would need to be consulted on specifics
No opinion without further information

This is a no-brainer! We should absolutely be reusing water.
I think this would be an excellent and ecological solution
I support this, especially for commercial purposes.
If water can be saved and reused which reducing consumption, saving costs and resources whilst helping the environment, I don't see why we shouldn't be doing it.
I love the idea! NO just for commercial use but household water use can be adopted for everybody. I already do that. I use the water from washing the fruits and veggies for watering yard or flowers. The city should take action especially when climate emergency was declared. We should plant trees too. And educate the population about it.
This is such an important step for long-term water conservation and drought resiliency, and we can learn best practice from other drought resilient cities around the world (there are so many ways to conserve treated water, like reusing our bath/shower water in toilets.)
Water consumption reduction is critical. When we can use the same water for multiple applications it makes sense! I think it's important to consider if this is for residential properties how a home owner would access it, clear instruction on application etc. If it is for city use then I think clear communication of how it is being used and any risk, concerns clearly identified and answered.
Try to reuse as much as possible
Back OFF you are looking for another money grab. I do not trust you.
I would need a LOT more information before I could support this initiative. I will be installing rain barrels this year (fully my cost) but the city could do more here to help citizens use rain barrels.
This is absolutely fantastic. Please please please use this. I think reiterating to the community that reuse does not effect the above items (drinking water, etc) is very important. Potentially including it with the years property taxes?
LIKE: reduced wastewater treatment for outdoor water uses that don't require treated water CONCERN: what is the cost of building the process to collect and reuse the rainwater, stormwater, wastewater? perhaps decorative fountains and ponds should simply be left dry
We should reuse water wherever possible and sanitary.
This is a good idea if the water saved by these methods isn't a add onto withdrawing from the river. These measures should be used to reduce withdrawals over all and not to be a cumulative increase in water used in water shortage periods.
Great idea! Only concern would be possible use of this water where kids/ dogs might play/drink in it... Like lawn sprinklers ... I guess I would want more info on how safe it is if they are exposed to it.
I like everything about this idea. The more efficient we can be with our water, the better and I support time and money spent making this process as sustainable as possible.
Need to ensure the water does not contain contaminants that could harm people, pets or plants.
please provide rain barrels as standard like garbage/recycle/compost bins with program for replacement or add additional every 5-10 years for homeowners (rain barrels wear out/leak eventually and affordable replacements are difficult to find)
Why are we not already doing this??
Great example of a strategy that respects the rights of landowners in Calgary. I will not pay extra fees or taxes for this service.
City parks should consider this. Businesses...not my tiny little lot

Current reuse options are too limited. Many jurisdictions around the world allow reused water for washing clothes or flushing toilets.
Focus on business not residential homes
I think water is a precious commodity and anytime we can be more intentional with our use of it and how to reuse in a safe way is great!
As long as it's relatively easy for people it seems smart
We aren't already doing this? Seems like a no brainer.
Love applying this best practice used elsewhere, here !
What's the cost for this infrastructure?
Love it.
Sounds like a great idea. I already collect water in my house to use on indoor plant and plan to purchase a system for collecting rain water outside
Good to encourage; depending on the water, could up with unpleasant odours.
N/a
Great idea.
Some concerns about using waste water, that's not clear on where it's ok. Do support uses in commercial buildings (TELUS has done a great job for instance)
Already reuse water. Does that mean you're going to discount my water usage from my meter? I highly doubt so
There's nothing not to like. As long as it's clear it's not for ingestion.
Absolutely love the idea of using "grey water" as long as any harmful contaminants aren't present.
Something that saves time, money, and energy is a no brainer. Cherry on top is it is a proven method in other cities.
I think the Calgary leadership are idiots for not having this in place years ago. But then, conservatives spend most of their time looking backwards, not forwards.
I can't imagine that it would be feasible to build the infrastructure to deliver reused water in existing neighbourhoods. Perhaps for new developments there are reasonable opportunities.
I think it's great, and very useful. Information and resources about water collection for residents would be handy.
Great to use water as efficiently as possible. Totally support water reuse, as I know UofC has done for years
Grey water absolutely needs to be used!
Again, with a hardscaped yard this one is tough to answer. Certainly for those with lawns it would be beneficial.
change bylaws to allow me to collect and reuse my grey water; water heat exchanger; open conversation about pilot projects where have non-potable water grid
I'd love to be able to use this water for my garden rather than 'new' drinkable water.
I do not see the value in this program and prefer the City focus it's resources on existing infrastructure eg roads etc.
Like not using potable water for lawns and plants. Not like the cost of doing this. Wondering if it be used in Commercial Car washes, Fire hydrants.
Only concern is that it be safe for children.
I am 100% supportive and have felt for years we should be making better use of our gray water. Education and awareness is an important first step
I like the ponds, more communities should have them!
This is a must!
Grey water is an important resource and should be utilized to the upmost.

City should educate people how to reuse water and what facilities/technologies are available to clean dirty water
I love the idea. I'm a little uneducated about it but I'm assuming that it would be reusing water as an outdoor source. The only concern I see is children potentially drinking the water at sprinklers and taps while they're playing. That being said, parents can educate the kids and it would save energy in treating water. I support it.
I would like to see this water used on current green spaces.
need more information. with water for irrigating lawns, is that public areas and not household use?
How can average property-owning Calgarians participate?
Reusing water is a great idea and should be applied wherever possible.
I like it.
I am not familiar enough with the impact of this strategy in other municipalities to have a strong opinion.
No need for all water to be tested for every use
I am strongly in favour of water reuse.
Make sure consider the downstream + ecosystem impacts from not returning that water right away (what disruptions could it have on the watershed as a whole to recycle water)
Do it!!!!
Calgary should be reusing as much water as possible
Excellent idea. I'm wondering if this can have a domestic application, or if it is solely for publicly maintained sites.
This is common sense and long overdue. Get on with allowing grey water to be site-treated and used too.
I believe this would be significant for areas that rely on large amounts of water, like a golf course and parks or other facilities like the zoo or heritage park
Free rain barrel is good , with a deposit based.
Long past time that we are allowed to set up grey water systems.
I think The City is being a coward for not using reused water for cooking/drinking/etc. It's completely possible to treat and sanitize water to the point where it is potable.
I would LOVE to water my garden with rain/storm water. It is difficult to access and use for some people, opening access would be glorious.
Encouraging people to collect water from their downspouts into rainbarrels and how to use them while preventing bug breeding. I wish the city would educate the public about how to retrofit their toilets to be on a gray water system. Encouraging people to not need to flush for pee only.
This is a great idea for decorative items
As much as possible, please educate the public on how we can help.
Like it. Presume the first users will be bigger users. For home use this will be fantastic, as it will get rid of the unfair approach where a percentage of my water use is allocated to my waste water bill. This unfairly inflates my bill in summer during times of irrigation.
Idea is good in concept, but the likelihood of it becoming a blackhole of taxpayer money is very high, and the likelihood of it become a socially and politically divisive policy is also very high.
City golf courses use this program in what seems a very successful way.
its a start.
Such a good idea!
Again, this makes a lot of sense! It doesn't make sense to use treated water in all circumstances.
We are in a dry enough part of the world that reuse should be built into new communities. I feel like we have been seeing dryer springs and summers the past few years; a trend I think we will continue to experience into the

future. The glaciers at our headwaters are shrinking to the point that in the next 50 yrs we will be beholden to the annual precipitation for all our needs
I think water reuse programs are absolutely a fantastic idea to assist in water usage reduction.
how do you hook up an existing irrigation system to reuse rain water? without running an external pump (gas or electric) you can't. My yard is fully sloped, I am unable to place a rain barrel at my downspouts, without significant money spent, there are many yards that cannot use rain barrels. quite coming up with bylaws that only work for new neighborhoods.
Water licensing for use of stormwater pond water is a nightmare. If AEP let's you do it then great!
Do the benefits outweigh the cost to build infrastructure to support this?
Implement it now
I already have a rainbarrel, but would like to expand my collection.
Provide guidelines about grey water application near storm water catch basins.
We should make use of available water as much as possible. If untreated water is not a requirement for something we should absolutely by re-using water. The financial benefits from treating less water is incentive enough to implement these changes.
would like information on what is in the water and the process to reuse it.
would like information on using grey water.
rain barrels
This is a better alternative to the lawn watering schedule, and if done effectively, could save costs on both the city and taxpayers in the process.
Can't believe we are not doing this already !
would like better affordable options for reusing grey water instead of putting fully treated drinking water on the lawn through our hoses.
Why wouldn't we reuse water where we can? This should be baked into all things that don't have a specific clean-water requirement by default.
every household should be mandated to have a rain barrel with education on draining in the winter to prevent cracking.
Rainwater barrels supplied free or at least at cost to Calgary households
I've investigated rainwater collection for irrigation for my yard. In theory, I should be able to collect 20m ³ / mo for July and August, enough to meet all home irrigation needs, but because we have large downfalls, we need lots of rain barrels and plumbing, which is expensive. Even for middle-class, this is a tough ask. I wish rainbarrels were cheaper. I would add 6 more to my home if I could.
City should reuse as much water as possible & send water for irrigation that is not drinkable. Also should build more lakes/ dams for storage & usage
City should not reinvent the wheel or go overboard \$& - draw on the many successes and good alternatives exist in places like California Arizona
Should have been done a long time ago.
This idea would just require more education if it impacts individual households.
Wonderful idea
Create more rain catchment gardens in public spaces like the one at Winston Heights community garden. Reduce grass in city parks and rec areas and replace with gardens and fountains.
A good reuse strategy would save \$ and H ₂ O in terms of processing costs for drinking water production vs. water for grass. I am unsure how this actually works given we only have 1 pipe delivering water to each house so at the

residential level it is hard to implement - I think higher rates for high water usage to deter high usage is likely the more effective approach between the two so far.
This is a great idea in theory but what are the costs involved? Would additional lines need to be created? How would the water be collected and where would it be 'treated'?
Great initiative if logic is used to implement keeping fiscal responsibility in mind as well. I would love to be able to reuse our homes grey water easier as well.
Love it, think its a great idea, but need to give us a rain barrel for free to do it. 90 bux for a rain barrel is too much for some people.
Hose water should always be drinkable. Water trucks are essential to the city and potable water should be the only water supply in these trucks!
I trust that you would take public safety as a top priority. Other than that, just make it happen!
Systems for re-use are necessary. It seems absurd that we expend resources to treat water to a high standard of purity only to dump it on the ground.
I would love to see an education campaign for water re-use, what water can be used for plants and what shouldn't be - water used to boil veggies, dishes water with biodegradable soap and little meat and dairy, etc. Incentives for putting grey water systems into houses.
I absolutely think grey water reuse should be implemented. I think it, along with climate management strategies & electrical grid updates, should be YYC's major financial investments in the next 5-10 years.
Aren't my 3 separate water bills already going towards this? The service fees I pay now are outrageous, where does this money currently go?
Completely agree. This needs to happen at a large scale. I would also say that the majority of calgary is concrete, so there is a huge amount of rainwater that we are not capturing and storing. What about indoor water reuse? I think grey water systems need to be implemented on a large scale as well.
this also reduces salting up the soils with river water
Would be nice to see the U of C engage in engineering challenges of how to run toilets with grey water instead of fresh
people need more water barrel support (delivered to home and assisted with set up)
highly support also encourage citizens to have personal rainbarrels
Best solution in order to get access to water but also reuse resource
What would startup infrastructure cost be for pipelines for distribution?
will wastewater after treatment be safe enough to use in ponds and fountains?
I would support this initiative - it's a good idea
rain barrels
I do this now
reuse is good
encourages the use of rain barrels. Maybe offer these for sale at a reduced rate like composting
save water while we can and while still available
Good if doable
above strategy will help this understand and implement
good idea if affordable but not practical during a drought
definitely
give free rain barrels to households
this is a great idea

wastewater would still need to be treated where kids play. Would city supply rain barrels for free?
this might be difficult for families to keep up, but good idea
this helps a lot to our mother nature
it help savings also the city
like the idea and already doing it
It if can be done in an affordable way, I'm all for it.
I like this strategy as it saves costs of using treated water for watering gardens. It would not burden me, it is fair.
if collection bins and hoses could be provided that could make this option less of a barrier
less watering products
would love to have a collection system in place. Have implemented this already but am using a water cooler
It will be the best option to refreash water in the time of drought. Treated water can be use in gardening
this strategy saves lots of water and does not waste treated drinking water. There are no concerns about it as it's an excellent strategy. This strategy does not burden me rather it helps me in stopping wastage of water.
This strategy can be practical
If we have a system in place to collect and store rainwater that would be awesome!
I like this. Reusing water is the best
good idea
Waste not, want not

Question 11a

What would you want to know more about to increase your level of comfort and overall support for water re-use. Select all that apply.

Multiple choice question. No verbatim.

Question 11b

Other:

Consult with the International Water Association. See iwa-network.org .
Is there a cost
Not only "when" I would be able to reuse water on my property but "how" do I do this?
For condos - best to have a consult from the City / free contractor link to come out to advise/estimate how, what , and timeline to get this going.
How would individual homes be supplied with reusable water (aside from their rain barrels)?
Would love to know how. We already have rainbarrels, but it just doesn't rain... Also need a bit of public campaign about it, the current attitude is that water is cheap and there are "who has the greener lawn" contests in the local community newsletter distributed to each house.
What will it cost me!
Share water re-use and 'fresh' water use statistics with all Calgarians and students as much as possible (e.g. communication campaigns) so people can 'see' progress or at least have greater knowledge of natural resource use.

City reuse is fine. I'll manage my own
How would the city provide access to this water?
stop wasting tax money. no such thing as climate change or its increasing with the city running its mouth.
House water leakages need to fix because people does not know inside leakages until mold spread .
We don't get enough rain in Calgary to only be able to use rain barrels for residential watering. I grow perennial flowers to help pollinators and vegetables, both of which require a fair bit of water. I also have older trees which need a good water supply.
No information needed. It's not a good idea!
Not really interested as the economics probably are not there.
I don't support
Seen on Sask farm: summer pipe from kitchen sink to yard, so all used kitchen water drains to yard. Can this be done and how?
It's a great idea but given the city's horrible track record of spending taxpayer dollars I'd want to understand how you're going to go about doing it in a cost-effective and responsible way
It should be clearly communicated that available evidence suggests that rain barrel water use on vegetables is safe. City information doesn't currently do this.
Mechanisms for incorporating rain barrels into automated watering systems.
see my answer above
Quantification of reduced water usage (e.g., pervemtage of water saved)
How a grey water program could be implemented
How I can reuse water on my property beyond using a rain barrel
How can you do a rain barrel type water capture system with a small yard? are there alternatives to rain barrels so that the grey water storage doesn't take up lots of yard footprint?
Cost to collect reuse water and who pays for it
I do not need more information. Not a good idea.
Not good use of tax payer money.
Cost of the research and development and continued cost as a tax payer
Studies on what other countries doing to combat this issues or preparing for it.
It's a very new area of interest to me. Education and guidelines would be key
If there are tax breaks for homes which have graywater tanks
potential use of household water (e.g., from rinsing dishes) outdoors
The rainwater garden guide the city has is fantastic. Something like this but for other strategeties! Grants/subsidies to reduce cost barriers. Working with building design to help make greywater systems easy to use and setup.
COST!!!! WHAT'S IT GOING TO COST???
See concerns listed for 10. Ecosystems, natural environment, support Biodiversity.
Permitting gray use water is possible but people need to understand the limitations and risks, including bacterial and contamination with detergents and other nutrients
Nothing...It's another stupid idea form our elected officials
I live in a condo which does not capture rainwater. what possible reuse of water could be done?
How much money would the City save by the public implementing these practices.
When will the city permit grey water systems?
Rain barrels etc are good. The city could supply those instead of a needless dual system.
need to focus this (and cost) on new developments

I would never feel comfortable with this.
dumb.
Report on water quality of the reused water including pharmaceuticals and emerging contaminants.
We have 2 rain barrels but it's a joke. They fill up in the first 30 seconds of a summer storm and they are quickly empty again. What would it look like to have a more useful rain catchment system?
is there another way besides a rain barrel?
What actually is reuse water? Where does it come from and what is in it potentially?
How would I do this? ie. How would I recycle bath water?
There is also no scenario where I use someone's grey water to do anything aside from down the council
I do not support this initiative. it will be way to costly
Reuse of water from a bath, for example, requires good health. These policies may negatively affect frail or disabled
I'm what ways can I use the grey water? Any health concerns? Does it need filtering or treating? Who's going to pay for the equipment or technology?
Can i water my lawn with coke or Gatorade? Theres a movie eerily similar to your stance called idiocracy.
I've selected both above, because I do think it's a great idea and I don't need more information to be on board, but I would still like that information so I am fully informed.
Reuse water for vegetables??? More information needed
Oh my [profanity removed], what a [profanity removed] survey!! All answers to choose from are in support of the stupid idea, and the only way to say [profanity removed] you gondek, is to write it out!! [profanity removed] GONDEK!
What specific ideas the city is considering
Implications for downstream users
How would the City's water reuse strategy be implemented?
Leave it alone.
the cost of building the overall process of collecting and reusing rainwater, stormwater and wastewater to continue to irrigate community parks
Give each house a safe bin...similar to compost
what will this cost
Would like to know all possible opportunities where reused water could be used
Availability of pumps for rainwater reuse would make it much easier - at the moment it's difficult to find an appropriate product for lawn/garden use rather than filling watering cans and buckets from a barrel.
Cost. In particular a transparent cost-benefit analysis, that is more specific than some generic "the sky is falling if we don't" justification.
The city should provide more information on these types of programs and methods more visually appealing than using a rain barrel to store water for reuse. Also Information on other methods of reuse such as toilets that you wash your hands to fill the toilet tank.
This is not applicable to my circumstances in apartment dwelling.
Cost. How does it impact our taxes. Get rid of flouride plan and I'm all for reuse. I dont beleive Calgarians were informed enough on the flouride vote and it was a poor decision to put it back into our drinking water. There is much research that disproves flouride in the water system as beneficial.

Question 12

To what extent do you support The City pursuing financial and rate-based strategies as part of the Drought Resilience Plan?

Multiple choice question. No verbatim.

Question 13

Please share your thoughts about The City pursuing financial and rate-based strategies. For example: What do you like about it? What do you not like? Do you have any concerns The City should take into consideration when developing this idea?

Consult with the International Water Association. See iwa-network.org .
City water & sewage charges are already high. Would prefer to see positive measures/incentives to convince people to reduce water usage rather than further increasing cost burdens
I would personally like to see water surcharges tied to property value or income of the property owner in some way, as those with enough money wouldn't be as disincentivized from using water needlessly as the average citizen.
This approach should be used for Enmax rates to support energy efficiency/ emissions reduction / utility and ratepayer cost savings.
The cost. once again everything has gone up and this would be one more thing that would affect the cost of living. It's hard enough as it is
This is the 'stick approach'. I would also encourage the 'carrot approach' see previous comments on taxation options.
this might not be palatable right now given the inflation, but i think it is important to pursue
?
I like the idea to show a direct financial cost to using more water. I don't like that many people will not care and will continue to use water and complain that they are being charged more. I think this would be at the bottom of the list simply to prevent people from being turned off of water conservation by the financial cost to them directly.
I'm already reducing food consumption, I'm cold all the time because I can't afford the increase in rates and taxes. Read the room.
I feel once we go down this road, it can only lead to a revenue stream for the city. Im sick of paying ridiculous fees already for natural gas (cmon service charge after service charge after service charge), ridiculous garbage/recycling fees when as a single person I only need once monthly pickup././
People will complain very much but unlike the recent increase in natural gas cost (thanks to fee increases , not rate increases), water costs could still be controlled by the user.
we are taxed and rate charged to a point of exhaustion. it is ridiculous you are even debating this. Most consumers do not understand or make sense of their water bill in the first place. This is one of the most foolish ideas yet. drop the gouging of the city's citizens
I like implementing higher rates when there is periods of drought. If people want to water then they can pay for it. This would obviously need to be clearly stated by the city on multiple channels so people are aware when rates increase.
Unless the rate based strategy is going to consider family size it seems highly inequitable.

Larger families will use more water so maybe the summer use rate needs to be based on winter use rather than overall volume.
Will the extra funds be directed back into other initiatives to support reducing/reusing water? I.e. subsidies for community gardens to install larger rainwater capture systems
Could work, but encouraging gray water usage first
I do not support this strategy as most of these types of strategies do not take into account water used for food production nor do they credit residents who repurpose indoor water for outdoor use. Outdoor watering schedules with heavy fines for violators is preferable.
I think this means wealthy people have beautiful green lush yards because they can afford the water, and low income households do not. I don't like a financial approach.
Taxes are already too high. The city needs to do more with less. In addition, it's highly likely these funds will be collected as general revenue and not end up in any material capacity funding water conservation technologies or development.
The issue with this type of program is it negatively impacts people that are not wealthy (lower income/middle class) and allows people with disposal income continue to use water outside. Wealthy neighborhood/neighbors will be able to have gardens, green grass and do water activities.
Enmax makes record profits as it is so if anything they can foot the bill for excess water use not the consumers
I think it is hard to get a baseline for what a 'basic amount of water for indoor use ' is. What about large families, or families with members with special needs who require more water to wash equipment and hands? Will they be charged more if they use more indoor water, even if they completely stop using outdoor water?
I like this idea, but it will likely not make any difference for people with lots of money.
My one concern (with all water metering) is that ideally there should be an alert if you are suddenly using more water. Just as the mobile phone companies have in place to prevent accidental large surprise bills. If you've developed a leak you could easily not know about it until the bill comes. An earlier alert will stop people from getting mad about the system, and save further water
Making water barrels accessible for home owners and a cheaper rate and incentives for planting clover instead of grass.
I don't water my lawn and my neighbour does so I shouldn't be paying. And again kids need to have fun so allowing to us water during day
I like it as a tool to make Calgary drought-resilient. I don't like it as a way to collect more tax revenues from hardworking families. Please make sure every dollar collected goes to making Calgary drought-resilient and lock that into law forever.
I'm a senior on a fixed income. All of your suggestions hit the pocket book. I think reducing indoor water use needs to be encouraged as well.
making it so lower income people can't take advantage of something that higher income people can is an awful idea. Its a terrible fall back plan and never works other than punishing people who can't afford it.
It helps people to understand the real value of our water. Will keep people from over watering.
People with money will keep using water. Makes me wonder how this will apply to the biggest water users (those with larger properties, golf courses etc). I would need to see some evidence that this will actually work and not just charge lower income people with lots of people in their family vs larger > \$1 million properties who want green grass.
There may be situations where usage reductions may not be possible or may be very difficult. (e.g. corporations like The City or other large businesses that rely on water to maintain or create their products and services.

Please just do not turn it into a strictly revenue generation opportunity.
North Americans have gotten used to using much more water for our day to day life, both inside and out, than most of the rest of the world. We need to pursue all of the strategies we can to reduce our water usage.
As a senior with low income I wouldn't like getting a higher bill on water use.
If someone has a leak they are not aware of they could end up paying a huge amount extra in a month
Strict financial blocks do not always work with family schedules, there should not be an additional cost added to families that are not able to meet this schedule. Gardening is low cost therapeutic release for many
I don't really understand the Rate Block example above, however you must consider seniors when pursuing financial strategies. There are many seniors who want to stay in their own homes but it must remain affordable for them to do so.
Condos complexes tend to be "last or excluded" and usually harder to sell changes years after the City initiative started....like the low flow toilet rebate, and solar panels because we are "too big" for online resources to self-serve. To help us, please at least make it simple link to then connect to someone at the City for our next step.
I support this but the city needs to offer incentives to people changing their landscapes to be more water wise. To just up rates without helping people would be unfair and malicious
this is great - nothing like pain in the wallet to incite change. Need to think about lower-income people (and/or renters) who might not have the financial means (or ability to) to reduce in-house water consumption (toilets, sinks, showers, etc).
Makes me wonder if there is a way to meter outside use?
Knowing that the rate of water a homeowner chooses to use will possibly escalate with more water usage gives the homeowner choices. i.e. Changing the types of plants, mulching around trees and shrubs, removing the lawn, use of water barrels etc.
this will not change behavior if people want to use water they will do regardless. Change needs to be effected another way
I do not support this if it increases water bills which I already find high. If there is a tiered level it should only kick in when someone reaches excessive consumption. If a household is being extremely wasteful then there could be a charge but for moderate water use including inside and outside of the home I would not like to see a tiered rate where marginally more use is more expensive.
Often times strategies like this make far too little of an impact and may only negatively effect people who may also be struggling with poverty and other systemic barriers. I prefer incentives vs. disincentives, but perhaps I'm not understanding completely what's being proposed here
This won't change behaviour for people who can afford the higher rates- folks who live on large parcels in Mount Royal aren't going to care and are going to keep watering their lawns as much as they want because they can afford it and the rest of us will pay for it. There need to be escalating penalties up to and including having water cut off
This seems like you are punishing people who are trying to make ends meet by growing their own food. I don't support this initiative at all. Pls do not implement it - life in Calgary is already too expensive for so many people who are struggling to make ends meet.
I would like most specific parameters before I chose to support or not support a strategy like this. Would need to be very specific around places like residential homes, versus condo buildings apartment buildings. I think it would be great to implement financial strategies on Corporations that use a lot of water
Continued rate plans would be sufficient if all Calgarians could not use clean water outdoors

Seems to punish families with bigger households or poorer families where as the rich will continue to use because they don't need to worry about money
I am generally in support of this approach but it would be great to understand how large, low income families could be opted out so water is still accessible to them.
Don't need to get complicated. Just do away with the fixed cost part of the monthly charge. Heavy users would automatically pay more and light users less. You're still not listening, are you?
We are taxed to the hilt now. Please do not make it more expensive to maintain my property. However penalties/fines for washing cars, driveways etc would be welcomed
I've have never liked that the City charges me twice for the single source of water that I use.
Paying for greater than average water use or when resources are like mites makes sense and speaks to sustainable management of our resources.
I would only support rate-based strategy as a rewarding system for households that use less than average water, through discounts and incentives. Calgarians already pay a lot for water management plus unreasonably high property taxes to be charged (punished) additionally.
This makes me uncomfortable without a deeper equity-based examination. Water is a human right. Some houses have larger numbers of people due to cultural factors, for example, multi-generational families. What about low-income mothers who may use more water for formula? Is there an income test for this proposed structure? This is a slippery slope that could widen economic disparities.
I like it and it certainly incentivizes wise water use. However, the rich will not care about the price increase and will still waste water. I see this plan mainly targeting the middle class. I like how it provides an abundant amount of drinking/indoor use water at an acceptable price. A watering schedule is a fairer approach in my eyes.
I think this is a great idea, but I wonder if there is a way of incorporating a per person use charge? I don't want this to disproportionately impact families
Love it. I already pay taxes for things in do not use it support. This should be implemented for other luxury ammentirs like bike lanes dog parks playgrounds. Ppl should pay for their pets and kid amenities.ir tax cuts those don't use it
Again, placing restrictions and financial punishments on residents without holding golf courses/industry accountable for their wasteful usage will only result in indignant, angry residents. This problem can't be solved without addressing industrial water usage first.
A concern would be the potential impact on lower income families or households where there is a greater number of occupants as they would necessarily require more water overall for indoor use.
You need to communicate very clearly why the rates structures are set up this way. You'll need to communicate a lot about the changes and offer tools for people to reduce their water use before implementing this and after.
I worry this may penalize large families or not take into account yard size. It would be like an extra property tax on homes with larger yards. I am also concerned on timing with inflation at all time highs, my property tax went up nearly \$60 a month already too. I don't think financial penalties are good right now. Try to change the culture/perception that you have to always have a green lawn 1st
I think the number of people living in a home should impact usage. Also until the city actually makes new building code to include grey water, nothing should change.
We are hearing about families having difficulty affording utilities right now, so it seems hard to justify. I think this would need to be a last resort strategies and would need to target outlier water consumption (very heavy users).
Rather than ask people to pay more, it would be better to show people how to reduce their water usage. I would love some help to dig up swales in my yard, set up a proper irrigation system and get rid of my lawn but I need

someone to consult with. Someone who can provide an eco friendly and cost effective plan and recommendations for services I can hire to do some of the heavy lifting
I prefer the surcharge over a certain amount option. This would only affect those not willing to change their water use habits.
Higher prices during drought periods seems more in line with the overall goal, rather than just higher prices all the time.
Good and fair option
There absolutely should be a basic minimum for most households, where larger or less efficient users should absolutely pay more as well
Great idea. Currently the attitude towards water waste is super lax, aka it's cheap as dirt, why bother saving it. But need a good public campaign so that the intent of it is not twisted in social media
I worry about rate-based strategies because access to water for cooking/cleaning/drinking is so critical; i wouldn't want any low-income Calgarians to go without or restrict consumption. I also worry that this would not be enough of a disincentive for high-income Calgarians.
Separating indoor va outdoor water is crazy and while I do what I can to be mindful for the city to make me pay more so my yard isn't a fire hazard is insane
Just another tax. We have been taxed to death already. Enough!!!
No different than carbon tax - great idea. Good luck getting it through.
If Calgarians need to pay more to water their gardens/lawns/trees. I believe the city will receive a lot of negative feedback. People will most likely stop caring for their properties. our city will probably start to look worse and worse, I have already noticed many people cutting down their trees entirely rather than pay to have them cut back to avoid bylaw infractions. Calgarians are stubborn.
I support this action as the system is set up via financial means. As long as the city provides a structure that reviews existing key indicators for property type and possible water.
I'm not sure about, not familiar
Adjust rate for different size households
Strong financial incentives are the only strategy that will change behaviour. Education and awareness are nice, but they will only ever make a tiny difference, and cause frustration for the honest people who heed the message and put in effort when the majority don't care.
The city charges enough in fees. The only thing that would be a positive is a possible water rebate each year but charging more is not a good idea at all. I think we can be much more creative then just paying more.
The problem with rate based strategies is that people who typically use far too many resources (in any sector and of any kind) typically have far too much money and it has no impact on what they do.
Incentive for people to change garden. Rec centres, community gardens should be different program.
Volume base pricing is all that's needed
A bit biased against houses with lots of people living in them. Density can be a good thing environmentally. 10m3 seems low as a cut off for basic water for a family. (Although we are very water wise and my family usually below that. So maybe it is a good goal. Perhaps time of day rates- but that may be hardtop monitor.
This will penalize people for having company or for those with large families
Needs to both disincentivize use and reward low water use
My problem with water usage rates is that the same use is replicated for sewage costs, even if the usage doesn't include a sewer. I need to know how reuse on properties for both actual use and billing will work. Does it also increase sewage costs?

Even though I'm a high rate user I would support the rate based strategy. It's fair. You use more you pay more.
tiered usage rates are good but do not take into context large families which get punished.
This rate penalizes larger families or mti famil dwellings as it's not based per person. People living in shared spaces should be rewarded for their s.aller living footprint not penalized because there are more people in one house. This also applies to earlier in the survey. This solution assumes every house hold has the same number of people.
Listen - studies show that any form of punitive measures will not promote your ability to move forward in saving on water consumption. Incentives do, as well as education, training, giving users options beyond the aesthetics of grass in all communities, and supporting their initiatives will go further.
Obviously make sure that low income families with a large number of kids (as an example) have the education but also relevant exemptions so that they can both participate where possible but not be punished if they are unable to for some reason.
We need to deal with this now before we become like California. I fully support any efforts.
User pay system makes sense. Use more, pay more.
Costs of living have already become completely out of control. Please regulate corporation and large scale orgs instead of charging individuals as a mechanism to reduce water use.
I think it would move people toward less wasteful use of water, myself included. I also think these strategies should be applied to businesses as well. The last time we had a water restriction, we couldn't water our lawns and gardens as much as usual, but I saw window washers cleaning windows on high-rises, and wasting water while doing it.
This is hard to monitor. How can you know if the household is using the water to water their plants or they are just using too much water (I.e. too many people living in the same household)?
WE ARE TAXED THROUGH OUR EYEBALLS AND NOW YOU WANT TO TAX US MORE FOR WATER???? The use of water cannot be automatically assumed to be for frivolous things like lawn maintenance. You are putting the health of people at risk if you add surcharges. STOP TAXING US MORE.
I think there should be consideration for large families in low income brackets. Maybe the rate can be set based on the number of people in the home. I wouldn't want to see lower income families avoiding showering, cooking, cleaning, or drinking water due to pricing.
It's a reasonable approach. But, it may be hard to implement fairly to consider different family sizes in a home, different sized houses, different sized yards, etc. Also, we want to encourage a more drought tolerant garden, but not a concrete/stone garden.
Due to rising utility costs and property taxes in the City of Calgary, there is already too much burden on the typical household. We are retired seniors living on a fixed income and are actually considering selling our house. City needs to get costs down NOT UP!
Stop gouging people. You are a bunch of unethical thief's. Hands off my wallet.
I like the surcharge during a drought. Not a increase during summer.
more surcharges will not reduce water waste
so that = user pays. and apartment dwellers or greenless offices don't pay either. Amenities belong to All citizens and All citizens enjoy those eg boulevard trees,parks etc - highly desirable. So that skews the notion of rate based water usage. I already can hardly afford the water bill plus waste water bill - IF MY waste water went into my garden then IT is saving the city.
Unless it's for big Corps and golf courses. The average person should not have to pay
To be effective, the rate blocks should incorporate the number of people residing in the household.

We are already paying a huge amount over and above our water usage in Drainage fees. During winter our usage drops dramatically. In summer I am growing vegetables. I do not water my lawn at all.
The guarantee of a basic rate for indoor water use is very important, we can't NOT use any water. I also like the drought only option.
It's a scam to collect money, should that be what the carbon tax is for as well what are you going to do with the money? Make more water? Rofl
This is most countries follows this rules but it is helpful too but I think like average people and poor people are affected by this low. Because there salary is not enough to live healthy life. Entertainment and large using water places need to identify and they need to use replace the different water resources
The only issue I see is how would this affect low income earners and if there is support for higher rates
Its OK. As long as the low rate allows for some outdoor landscape watering in the volumes (for an average yard with lawn and garden)
It is already getting too expensive to own a home and the price of everything is going up
I don't know how you scale this to be equitable for multi generational homes. If there is a house with 2 adults and heavy out door water usage and another house with 4 adults and light to no out door water usage is there actually a difference?
Makes me mad when I try to conserve water and my neighbour's sprinkler on and waters the road for an hour! There should be fines for blatant abuse, along with increasing rates.
Impose a surcharge on excess water used during a drought, AND incentivise water savings, so that homeowners are motivated to use water sparingly.
We bought a property with a lot of trees, shrubs, and perennial flower gardens. These are all beneficial to the environment and need to be watered. I don't think I should have to pay more to maintain this, when having this green space is benefitting the environment.
The problem with rate based strategies is the inequity it creates for users. Installing rain barrels and using takes some understanding which needs to be managed for some calgarians to support less affluent residents.
Simply don't like the idea
People should be made accountable
It's an excuse for the city increase costs/taxes.
You are saying paying more will solve the problems from a drought.
I don't like any program that will result in increased costs to the taxpayer. If block rates are being considered, the the consumption rate 'blocks' need to be in smaller increments of say 5.0 m3. 10.1 to 35.0 is too large a block if you are really trying to drive reductions in water usage.
I want to make sure those less well off aren't bearing the burden. Also some rich people will just use all the water because they can afford it.
Need to be careful. This could easily impact lower income households. Hasn't it been that lower income households traditionally had larger families too? I think most Canadians support equitable approaches to this, charge the wealthy more... maybe that's based on your property assessment? Or some combined effort with CRA on tracking income tax records annually? Just be careful with this
Money grab.
I would only support this if this was a reasonable level for a cap
Suggest consulting with people from the City of Phoenix, they do this!
Unnecessarily complicated, more red tape, doesn't consider family size and unique personal needs.

A surcharge for water over a certain volume during drought is a good idea. Indoor water needs must be accessible and affordable.
Only concern is those that have large families or are low income. Will the low number for indoor be taken from a winter humber in order to be accurate to meet basic necessary needs?
OK to put a tax on use of irrigation systems and excess water use but the untaxed base amount of water per household needs to be sufficient for gardening vegetables by hand. Surcharge taxes should only be used in drought circumstances.
What about low-income people trying to grow their own food, I don't think making it harder and more expensive is what we want.
This is a great idea and makes people conscious of this issue.
My question on this is wondering how the tiering would work for condos and multi-family (townhouses) as they are often (older ones especially) are on a single meter.
This punishes those that want to grow veggies in their garden. We should encourage people to grow their own food, which of course uses water. While those that are watering their lawns should be discouraged.
I think users should pay. Organized credits for large families or other approved users. (No approved businesses)
Cash grab. Increased costs would not deter. Our water costs are already too high and it's not a deterrent.
Golf courses and their wasteful use of water should be held to account. Very high water use should be charged at an extreme premium.
I am afraid high income citizens would still irrigate and just pay the premium, while lower income families would be deterred from growing vegetables etc because of cost
Not sure. If people can still afford to use water outside even with higher rates then it does not help water conservation.
Also, what would the additional funds collected go towards?
Over consuming should cost more
Water should not become a luxury, by charging a premium for water you risk a segment of the population unable to afford water.
I like the idea! To make sense to start with the drought restrictions/ charges. I am concerned about equity. We have a family of 5, 3 being teenagers that consume water, shower & wash clothes vs our neighbour who are retired family of 2. How would the "base" level of in-home consumption be based. Do we get a certain amount per household, or per person?
Could this dis-incent some of the lot-level gardening work to support local food production? I'm not sure if there is a standard 'okay' amount that could be set that allows enough water for veggie garden watering etc. Otherwise, completely support.
It's hard to understand the effect of the tiers without contextual information about how much an average person, household, and or business consumes.
It makes sense that, say, a car wash would pay a higher rate for very high water consumption. Would a distinction be made between essential and discretionary uses? I would be opposed to a financial burden carried by individual households.
Depends on the number of people who live in the residence. Also what if there is a home business located there re: hair salon, painter, etc. Also seniors who have home care use more water sterilizing equipment and cleaning up after procedures. Many cannot afford to pay more water.
I support block pricing of water. It's similar to a progressive income tax.

I think people should do their best, and be educated on it. In our neighbourhood it is the people who don't care [seniors and rich folks] who water their lawns because they are told to. Watering your lawn is a fool's errand in my opinion, whereas watering your garden for food is important.
This would just be used to get more money from residents. I don't think the residential amount would be realistic.
I really like this because it includes all water use, not just outdoor. One issue at least initially: some users would cry foul if they didn't "know" they were over...
I feel water rates are quite high already, even for those like my family who try to be water wise. People's budgets are already severely being stretched right now with the cost of living and they will balk at any more increases. There needs to be other strategies.
If there is a need for higher water use for some anomalous reason, people will still use it, only those with more money will absorb this tax, and those with little will just suffer, probably trying to save their plants that they can't afford to replace.
We already monitor our water use all year so it wouldn't have much of an impact on us but it might make others think before they turn the sprinkler on and go off for the day.
This will likely harm those unable to pay in the first place and not effect those that don't care what they pay. Large yards with lots of grass are going to continue as they are and leave the real work of water conservation to the rest of us. It's very much a class system and I do not support this.
I have concerns about what the baseline value would be - large families use significantly more water than single people, or even small families. This would effectively punish people with large families if the baseline was set too low. It would additionally possibly punish people who try to save money by home gardening.
new communities pay more, to offset the costs of pumping water further away from the river.
I think financial incentives favour the wealthy or can afford them. Educational programs would be better. Comparisons between neighbours or social programs to get everyone to help out.
I don't like that some will not maintain property, i.e. not water at all. Hence, fire hazard increases and weeds get stronger. OR will beg for assistance.
Hate it. Charge money for water YYC doesn't have. Where's the money going? Somewhere good? A beach ? A NW splash pad ? Your just fining ppl to get them to stop. Instead plan a city that's better! Outdoor water park. If U build it they will come! (Calypso Ottawa) guess where ppl R on hot days. Not filling pool in yard. Red deer discovery Canyon! Not home w/hose on!
It is getting so expensive to live in Calgary. All rates are going up. I don't want to see water rates go up too.
This is exactly how the city should regulate water use. Anything else involves the city getting into private matters and restricting individual choice that it has no business doing
I support it, but how can this be further tiered for households with numerous residents as their usage will be notably higher than a smaller household. It seems a bit unfair from that side.
Would not like to be penalized for water usage, but rather have a rebate for water reduction.
Its already to expensive, charging more money would seem a money grab rather than a water solution.
People pay attention to when they are being charged for excess outdoor water use. We can't continue with casual watering the wasteful lawns in the heat of the day when that water should be used for better purposes
This is simple to implement, equitable, fair, and doesn't need enforcement. A win all around!
Really?! Tax, tax, tax.....can we not enjoy a green lawn, beautiful plants, happy bees and birds for the 4 months a year that our weather allows us to??? This is NOT PHOENIX!!

Taxing water could prove counter productive by reducing funding available for water saving investments. Some families may have particular reasons that they need to use more water and any program that takes that into consideration would be unduly intrusive towards individual privacy.
I wonder if people would just not care and pay more to use what they wanted. Also with inflation many citizens are having a tough time financially and water is a life necessity.
Water usage must be quantified economically otherwise behaviour won't change.
Block rates don't take into account the number of people in the household. Block rates would penalize families. You need to also include 'per person usage'
again make it fully transparent regarding how the numbers are calculated.
It would have a bigger impact on the low income households. Would like to see the heavy users pay more - those that can afford it will just more regardless.
Savings in people wallet is always incentive
I see great wastage of water and power. Cost is the best motivator unless the person is very wealthy.
Can you devise a mechanism where wealthy Calgarians (perhaps with large manicured lawns and gardens) are not allowed to ignore financial penalties (because they can afford to ignore it)?
I am ok with the idea behind it but I feel that we are already paying really high rates for all of our utilities including water/waste water treatment etc. I am not convinced that this will not end up just being another way to get more money out of all of us.
anything that can help
I truly believe that very few people are conscious of the amount of water they are using. The numbers are pretty much gibberish most people don't realize what 1m3 is! I wonder if there is a better way to communicate water usage to the users? I would prefer incentives vs penalties. As penalties are after the fact versus when it is most needed, also where does that money go?
It's already trying times, unreal gas prices etc. Think about those who have multigeneration households. Those (especially women) who need to wash a lot of items because they engage in reusing vs disposable (diapers, pads, etc). Those who grow plants and vegetables in attempt to save. This would harm this that actually does good for the environment. Positive reinforcement would be better.
It is time to start paying more for raising unsuitable plants or running the washing machine too often.
Water costs are already prohibitive in low income areas. More restriction would add to challenges in food desert areas where growing supplemental food is essential. Large business water waste is infinitely more hazardous than household. No cost should be put on majority of Calgary citizens. Prevent the overuse, repurcussion systems dont work.
Start with education first and voluntary compliance to new strategies/rules then move to financial and rate based strategies.
Provide timeline and resources to fix leaks in system before implementing. Provide one page summary of historical water use
Need to take into consideration how many people are living in the household too.
Continued handing out of money is not sustainable.
Most effective way to incentivize water use reductions
low income families will still get other benefits to help subsidize their costs for basic water needs
I like the tiered block rate for the entire year. If we want to have water availability for the next generation water conservation is the only way to go not only in summer time.

People should be charged or taxed based on their income level and where they live and what kind of building they live in - for example, higher income people living in a large piece of land in the suburbs should be paying way more for water, especially when they're wasting it on a lawn.
Additional money does not produce rain. Government only ever uses force to continue to rob the people. Ultimately this will be abused like all other tax schemes.
The pricing curve should actually be pretty steep to catch those who "abuse" water resources. Those abuses would be things like daily lawn flooding, outdoor water features, or outdoor swimming pools. The low rate should be set low enough that very few households actually remain in this category. By seeing that you've been bumped into a higher rate category, it incentivizes people to minimize.
I'm already paying taxes, adding on another reason to increase those taxes don't usually go over positively with the people paying them.
I dislike that wealthy people will be largely unaffected while low income families will carry higher financial burdens. I think financial incentives would be more effective (e.g., fixed cost for water but a graded rebate based on usage each month/year)
Penalties and punishments are never efficient. Citizens who have money, won't be impacted, they are in general the ones with bigger backyards, lawns, swimming pools and jacuzzis... An increase in rates won't bother them ! If you would like to tackle a problem, you need action, not reaction.
I feel this is another cash grab by the city. Some homes could pay the extra but what about seniors who decide to stay in their homes but are on a fixed income?
Costs are already high this will not be the best solution if you provide a discount on rates or a subsidy if you use less water that would be more helpful for people to try and conserve
As the bill-payer in the household, I have had many years to observe that my family does not respond to utility rate-based strategies. They are willing to pay what it takes to upkeep levels of comfort—this may be a stressful for some.
I'm concerned about households already struggling with high utility bills
I think it depends on the situation. For example I have planted 80 drought resistant shrubs on my property but the first 2 years they need a bit extra water to establish. I don't think I should be punished for that.
Money talks.
Financial penalty works for some people. It would not be a positively motivating factor for me. It would be a negative motivator in that I already struggle to pay my bills. I am far more motivated to reduce water use for the benefits to the environment and to my time. I'd rather get a carrot than the stick. Positive reinforcement is better.
Encouragement to be more proficient with water conservation works better than punishment. This appears to be punitive.
I like that you still have a basic amount. If you go over you pay. Is the basic amount an average of dwelling type consumption?
It penalizes people with new houses and landscapes that require additional resources in their first year.
Tiered rate makes sense, but perhaps scaled to house size or property size?
This is common sense and a market based solution that should resonate with many Calgarians. There would need to be improved visibility to household water use for people to act on the signal.
So many utilities are rising due to increased cost and inflation, please do not raise the water rates to try to get people to use less.
I do not think grabbing money from people for services that we already pay for in our taxes is a good strategy like that people who choose to ignore the bylaws or usage suggestions are penalized.

My neighbors do not water their trees instead their roots get water from my plants- so I pay to keep their trees alive? Trees and grass keep the area cool unlike rock mulch or concrete. If you are going to charge more for water then charge extra for ac
My only concern would be tree health and potential tree death if folks don't water during a drought period. This would create additional hazards/ environmental effects
Not really fair for bigger families or suited homes
We need to reduce water when we are experiencing drought conditions. I don't believe too many people waste water during the fall/winter months, but the amount of watering outdoors needs to be reduced.
Please consider a cap at lowest rate for an exception 'due to unique situation' such as water break, faulty water meter etc...
Again, I think that people should stop using their dishwashers in order to conserve water and water their lawns once a week for half an hour.
I like this way better than a watering schedule
The equity of everyone to get basic water needs met IS critical. Also concerned w/ pay-for-use some ppl with high incomes still fill pools/fountains & some people would either not be able to afford or will have been water-responsible by letting local food/gardens perish in drought conditions. This may not solve the problem as more rate income doesn't equal more water in times of drought.
I am sick of neighbour's watering their grass, especially in the late afternoon when the sun is beating down on their property. Education is needed here.
I would like to see more information first before committing a definite answer.
It can be a good idea to have the highest users pay more but how do you judge the levels and how much consumption should a household be able to use? While im not a big supporter of keeping the grass at peak performance, keeping gardens, trees and shrubs healthy is important and provide their own benefits. Also many of the homes in my community are being renovated from 3 bed to 5 bed increasing h2o
How do you know what the water is being used for? Unfortunately, for pain management, our family tends to run the bath several times a day.
I'm supportive. Anyone overusing water should be held responsible instead of restricting everyone.
Make the water hogs pay exponentially more than an average user. The hogs' rates' don't go down until 3 consecutive years of average use and once you hit the water hog rate, your property tax also increases.
I feel like this would directly hurt growing families who have a bigger household and therefore use more water for basic necessity purposes.
I like that rate-based strategies would encourage citizens to think about their water usage more carefully.
The rate differentials would have to be significant. It would need to account for the number of units. I.e a condo bldg, that does not have individual meter units would easily exceed threshold, but might actually only be using a small per unit amount.
I'm not sure I understand this. It seems complicated. How would I determine when my usage goes up or down?
I strongly believe in this program. Low income groups need a special attention.
I like it, but would want to ensure that it's based on population not address/unit. There are federal programs encouraging multi-generational homes, which would be punished if every rate-payer was given the same amount of water, even though on a per-capita basis they would be below average as they'd all share a yard, etc...
No way to fairly and accurately measure and compare; size of households, special requirements, changing needs, emergency situations.
It is an important action to take.

Water and sewer bills are already high. Please avoid making them higher. Costs of everything are going up exponentially. Less spending money just delays ability to improve things around the house to become more efficient
I think the tiered approach would incentivize homeowners to stretch to reduce consumption rates for all water uses, beyond yard watering and change our culture of limited water. Like shifting to use electricity in off-peak times.
I do support this if it ensures lower costs to me... pay for what you use and more if you are significantly over the normal
means-tested rebates could be provided to help those in financial straits in reducing their consumption and increase equity. rebates could be taken directly from surplus revenues on high users.
To many uncertainties with any kind of rates with the inflation and people trying to financially recover from Covid - and I am not sure how these would work - would like more info.
Family with more family members will use more water. People who care about their garden will definitely use more water. How will you make it fair and justice?
I think it could work but should be applied to outdoor usages
I would support it as long as the fees/charges are reasonable.
Need to provide support and education to help people achieve success in meeting targets that would lower their lot cost. Have a help line or a link to resources that can help people.
I'd be interested to see where the extra costs go-- what are they funding? more public services? I'd support that. But any sort of "relief payments" back to Calgarians reduces the impact of our funds.
Seems fair that those who are using more should pay more
As long as there is a reasonable level of water use included for drinking, bathing etc. I think it's fair in drought situations to add a surcharge for amounts used over the 'limit'. Would like very clear communication about water rates as it is very difficult to understand the current bill I receive.
Can be prohibitive to those who are trying to maintain food gardens
I think financial mechanisms are great; need to ensure that this minimizes impact to vulnerable populations.
Develop a plan to reservoir/corral the flood waters every spring... then a drought resiliency plan is probably not required.
Economy is struggling. People are pulled every way with higher and higher rates right now. It is not the time to add or increase another thing. Water should be considered a right for living. After covid we are tired of being monitored. This is not a hood ifea nor os it to do block rates. We all mot use water the dame way or the same amount. Again do not bring neighbours against neighbours!!
Financial impacts pass on the true cost to users. It keeps rates low but offers opportunities for those with more money to pay more for convenience.
With the increased costs for everything these days this is tougher to consider. It should be set high enough to not impact regular indoor water use of a family, and needs to be considerate of the number of people in a home. For instance a 80 yr old senior who lives alone does not need the same cap as a family of 5 or 6. And I am more likely to support cost increases during times of drought.
This makes it difficult for low income and fixed rate household to do what they can to reduce food costs using strategies like gardening in the summer. I would like to know what the impact would be for these marginalized populations before I could support this.
Will create a very mark difference between have and have not. Also, it will only move usage to a different time,

System would need to be able to differentiate between water usage in home versus landscape, car washing etc.
The ability of citizens to pay must be a major consideration. It should be based on annual income and not on property value.
would the increased tier charges also get an additional sewer charge? if the water is used for outdoor watering, it doesn't contribute to the sewer network
I think it would be great to also offer financial incentives for those looking to adopt/retrofit a drought resistant approach in their green space.
this sounds good for wasted water
Need to have a better plan in place for options to be invested in so citizens have a choice to use rain or waste water to water outside. Rate increases to be used for a better supply of water not a slap on wallets when a violation is done during a restriction of use.
Some people are only motivated by money so hitting their pocketbook will be more effective than appealing to their conscience.
This seems to be a per household volume of water use, not per person. This system would only be fair if larger multi-generational households are not penalized. I thought the City wanted to see more multi-generational households as a way of increasing density.
I think that the financial penalty would need to be quite high in order for people to stop using water when there are other ways (rain barrels, storage ponds, etc.)
I feel it would be one more incentive. The more the better to help people be creative. Considerations should be made somehow, though, for individuals who lack the financial or physical capabilities to participate . . .
No concerns.
Families are all different and have different needs I would not support financial 'penalties' for any person when there are myriad of other water management options available
I do not support. This is another tax grab.
it is a good way to encourage people to better use their water. but I would like to see it used in conjunction with legalising other possible sources of water like graywater.
This should also apply to businesses like golf courses they're wasting tons of water on grass needlessly. More grass = more tax especially on big houses with only 2 people living there
I do not have any concerns The City pursuing financial and rated-based strategies.
We already pay enough. Encourage people to use less water and to reuse water instead.
Large families or shared accommodations may need exemptions
I like it, and rather than just having penalties there should be incentives for people who change their behaviour by reducing water use, or increasing rain or grey water harvesting, through rain barrels as an example.
Our water cost is going to go up anyhow in the future due to climate change. This is a good way to ease people into those higher rates.
As a family of 4 that waters trees, shrubs and vegetables we never exceed 15 cubic meters. I think the rate for consumption over 30 needs to be more punitive to deter as wealthy and corporations would continue to use
How is the City going to ensure that low-income, large families are not penalized for water use? Higher rates for those who abuse water use (e.g. washing cars frequently, daily using a sprinkler system)
Just don't think it's effective at achieving the goal. Gives a disproportionate advantage to those with significant financial means, for whom financial penalties may be nothing more than an inconvenience. Being able to pay just shouldn't be a factor. It screams of elitism

This is a great idea BUT should be based on the people in the home, type of yard, etc. For example people growing food should get rate exemptions, while those using it for growing things like only lawns should not. Our house has 6 people in it - so we are going to use a fair amount of water, especially as 2 are children (which are not water wise!), plus we have large food growing area.
I need more information on this plan from communities that do this.
Can't afford it. Go after big corporations who waste more water than any private homeowner ever could. What is going to be corporate Calgary's contribution? Another tax break off of my back?!
I will first have to spreadsheet expected costs for my property.
Follow Edmonton and reduce sewage charges for summer water use!
Charge homes with no trees or food gardens more, and reduce the rate charged for homes with trees and food gardens - increasing reduction for the # of trees and footage of food beds.
Our environment needs these things, and in neighborhoods not only parks.
There is enough extra fees related to services, additional fees are not needed at this time.
I support usage based rates wherever possible to punish high consumers.
If you use more you should pay for it.
You know you only want an excuse to generate more money
In suite housing arrangements with 2 - 3 families in renovated bungalows should not be counted as a single household for water use budgeting.
It's the only FAIR way to control water use. More difficult for condos, but if you measure the condo's greenspace and what is acceptable, then look at their usage, maybe that could be divided to the condo owners??? Single properties and townhomes are easier. Threshold amt, stay under = get rebate, over = no rebate. Make the rebate sizable to get buy-in. Change the culture of thought twds water.
This is completely classist and punishes low income folks for the excesses of the rich
I am more in favor of a surcharge for water over a certain volume used during droughts.
I think these strategies are helpful in times of drought, but given the City of Calgary's poor fiscal track record I am concerned that this is something the city would use to generate extra income to cover poor fiscal management in other areas, If there are not very clear boundaries set for extra charges.
Make this as plain-language as possible - it can be confusing (I think you're already doing a good job!). How would someone be given a heads up if they were trending towards the next rate block?
I am concerned about the effect on the city's financially vulnerable. For example, if someone has a toilet leak and cannot afford to have it fixed they can't afford a higher water bill. Our city's vulnerable already have so much to worry about. There must be a fund to support vulnerable people in making changes that will decrease their consumption.
Rate-based strategies are the best because they allow lower-income users, who may live in apartments or smaller houses, to pay less, while people who live in houses with large, lush lawns would pay higher rates. This is a fair way of billing.
My concern is for senior citizens with lovely gardens who couldn't afford another increase in household expense. Everything goes up but seniors income. :(
I would want more details. I think an encouraging approach rather than a punishment approach is preferable, though I think either would work.

The fees charged are not a proactive approach (fee is charged after water usage). Dried grass and vegetation is also a hazard (fire hazard). Financial assistance to maintain healthy yards and gardens is more beneficial than punitive fines and charges for water use
On question 12, I Completely support it. I like the mention of "equity lens".
I worry that it would be easier for the wealthy who are more likely to own their homes and have control over having timed appliances etc to accommodate (or they can afford to choose to ignore it), but may be particularly putative for those who cannot afford it.
Disproportionate impact on lower income families.
The current city water main and storm water programs already cost more than double the cost of used water. Increasing utility bills is unfair to those on low income and will force people to reconsider living in Calgary. Canceling the current meter system that took billions to create just a stupid waste
Just another money grab.
I like this option as it encourages people to conserve.
Pay for what you use, penalties are not why the city should be doing
I would support rebates for households that are using good water-management strategies.
I don't want to see a surcharge pit into general revenue and used for miscellaneous city programs. Id like to see heavy water consumers' high unit rates subsidize some of the fees for rhe consumers who don't use much water but still pay obscene fixed rates for utlitiy service.
Stop punishing people for living in Calgary!!! Work on more important things like safety, reducing crime and addictions!!! My neighbourhood has a lot of rented homes, those people never care about anything, why should I pay for their usage???
Factor in the number of people per household. Be quick, be equitable and communicate the benefits.
Consider age (caring for a baby -- more water than adult uses) and number of people in each residence for calculating the rate. Also, perhaps a rebate or lesser fee for low-income people.
It has merit. But how do you differentiate outdoor and indoor water use? Maybe this is a good way to go because I also know people who think they need to shower 2 or 3 times a day in the summer... every day - which also seems ridiculous:)
Your delivery and sewer costs are already too high! Lower them and charge more for the water itself. Reasonable flat fee for up to 20 Cubic Meters (\$50 all in), and then increase the cost of the water itself.
I completely agree with this idea. We live in an arid climate and putting a higher price on excess water use could help preserve our resources.
As a "0 -10 m3" monthly tiered user(max use is ~6m3/ month) it is apparent that I am subsidizing other users.
Sure
There's a fundamental equity issue when water use is restricted by cost. Water is a fundamental human right and thus should be free regardless of use. Other ways of encouraging responsible water use should be considered.
We need to see specifics, applicable for Calgary NW
Less surcharges, taxes, fees, lower rates r we oils be preferred
Those citizens who are already struggling with the ever increasing financial burdens and increased cost of living should not have to limit their use of water within their households to try to keep costs down and risk their health and care of themselves and possibly their dependants by limiting their use of water.

This is a horrible idea. Education and voluntary restrictions are the way to go. The City needs to stop taxing and spending as the solution to every problem. This includes fees.
Many people have vegetables gardens due to the extreme cost of vegetables at the supermarket. Extra fees for watering will cause some families/people to go hungry.
The general public doesn't understand how much water they are using. If you want people to use less water, provide rain barrels.
There are mucm more important things that need immediate attention in the city...Forget this
The City has spent FAR too much - we have outsized taxes already. Our costs have risen far more than other centers. Time to pay attention to costs INSIDE the City as well as focused on increasing costs to live in the city
The city already gets money for water usage, depending on the amount the homeowner uses. This penalizes those with larger families who naturally require more water for things like laundry and personal hygiene.
The people who most need to grow their own food are often the most poor. A financial penalty on water would negatively impact their options and would have little to no impact on those with strong financial assets. It means the poor would be penalized and the wealthy would likely not comply to recommended use guidelines.
The City needs to recognize that all citizens need a basic amount of water at an affordable fee. Anything above that should make people think about their outdoor water use.
I think it will be difficult for some to swallow so putting in a Grey water program at thr same time may help
Punishes lower income families who would not be using the water to irrigate anyways. Simply a tax on the poor
Maybe the city should think about when it turns on it sprinklers in public spaces. I've seen sprinklers going Full Tilt In the Heat of the afternoon or aimed into roads and sidewalks where they are benefiting nothing.
If people know that over watering will cost more, they will probably be more careful of water use.
At this point I would consider such financial strategies as a penalty imposed on people who do not conform to an ideology of conservation for conservation's sake only.
Water price is way too cheap. Need to make people think about it more. Also could do during peak times. Eg Smart Meter.
I'm sick of paying fees and taxes to the city with no accountability from any City department on expenditures. If you want to incentivize people, offer them aa credit on their taxes or ridiculous additional fees charged by the city. I'd certainly be more attentive if it meant money back in my pocket.
Where is this money going and how does it solve the problem in this survey. Every solution these days is tax, tax, tax... just a ridiculous mentality
condo's do not routinely measure use in them, it you want equity on this then condo units need water meters too
I would also like to see incentives to reduce use. I'd like to see a much greater spread between the consumption blocks and the highest rate to be much higher.
I'm concerned about paying a large price for water but I like the idea of encouraging people to not be wasteful with water.
We pay enough. Let's not make it harder on households already struggling financially.
Affordability is of concern.
The survey should include an option for limited support. I might have multiple months of below average water use and then extenuating circumstances requiring a month of higher use. Should an averaging be considered.
This can hurt those that already struggle, and won't bother someone who is well off. Stop segregating people into classes
With this the wealthy can do whatever they want as usual. Rules for thee not for me.
Don't hire people educate and make more green places and wet places

Totally agree. Even higher rates for the 35m2 would be good.
Prefer based on actual use so that conservation is encouraged
The basic rates should be based on the number of people in the household.
Incentives for xeriscape gardens, requirements for new developments to ensure water normally allowed to enter water table have something in place to match so not increasing water levels in river and going away.
I like that it guarantees a certain amount for everyone. Any support for those who are financially challenged would be a good idea too. I.e. Under a certain income level can have reduced rates or other supports
Great idea
There should be a year round tiered rate system brought in. Also we should put everyone on meters within the next 5 years.
I think people should be penalized for using outdoor water during drought
If this is implemented, the extra money collected from surcharges should further reduce the basic rate (eg you are charged for using more and rewarded for using less), or be used for grants for transitioning lawns to drought resistant landscaping.
Have to be careful as some homes have more people than others so need more water for indoors, etc
We closely follow our water usage and on an annual basis we are an average household. Relatively very little water use in winter months but yes, we irrigate in the summer. We would prefer a component of annual water usage built into the formula.
I would worry if it was adversely affect lower income household
This program will allow higher incomes homes to continue to maintain their yards, but will impact the lower income Calgarians the most, further dividing lower income households from their neighbours. This can create a visual divide, further driving wedges between neighbours. Tax schemes like this effectively only impact lower income households, making life harder for them.
This is the best idea. This way someone can make the choice to turn the sprinkler on for their kids on a hot summer day without having a bylaw officer show up at their door.
Any revenue from high rates needs to be directly put back into funding more water re-use initiatives
You are penalizing anyone that has a large family. The price should be the same regardless of consumption.
I do not have enough information to support or not support this idea.
People have enough financial strain right now, if you even suggest this you will face public backlash.
Support second option (surcharge for drought)
Would like to see rain barrels supported and rebates or given away by the city
As a family of 5, I'm certain we would use more than the "base rate" irrespective of our outdoor water use. This rate-based strategy would impact families and multi-generational households simply because they have more household members.
I'm so very tired of every government passing on surcharges, higher rates, taxes onto their people! We are starving out here and now more so, soon we won't be able to afford to drink water. Modern day slavery. I work for free now, between all levels of government they keep digging into our pockets. This will not help the homelessness problem, you will find more on the streets. Good job.
I think the rates should also take into consideration the number of people living in the residence.
Could impact those less fortunate or those with larger families more than those without such a high need
Increasing rates during a drought makes sense. The challenge is believing the source that makes the decision that we are in a drought. We don't trust city bureaucrats and certainly not the Mayor or Councillors to turn 'temporary

drought fees' into a new cash cow. We agree with increased rates in principle but don't trust that the increased rates won't just become the new status quo.
Make sure it is clear what an average house should use.
Things are tough now. Financial implications should really be considered.
I think it's a great idea. Do it!
For decades, I have soap-boxed that water is the most important liquid in Alberta's economy, not oil / gas. We need to pay more for what we use to drive down usage BEFORE future droughts significantly impact water sustainability.
Stupid!
Increase prices more and proportional to family income.
A tiered or block rate is the better choice, it chastises the largest wasters of water however if it's only a monetary cost it's bound to be abused by wealthier customers, there needs to be a limit with tracking and accountability.
Think it is a good idea
It needs to be on a monthly basis not annual or yearly as I have a large yard and only use a large amount of water in the summer for my garden the rest of the year our use is very low. I think the charge during summer months should take that into account as we aren't dumping the water down the sewer.
No. Do not want this!
Th most vulnerable should not be penalized. I like the drought-surcharge, although that's less likely to develop better habits overall. What about not washing vehicles and campers during drought?
That approach will again hurt poor and vulnerable citizens more and allowed rich don't care
I would prefer discounts for people who can reduce usage during droughts. Baseline usage for different family units can vary greatly (ex.multi-family units in a detached house vs single person in attached house). Would rather dis-incentivize non-baseline water usage (lawns, etc)
What constitutes a DROUGHT?
This might punish larger families or discourage, building rental suites in homes.
Residents with larger properties are penalized for maintaining their yard to community standards
Honestly just increase property taxes by .05% and put that toward this. No one wants to have additional water fees on top of the current fees we pay for electrical and gas
Considering the INSANE rate of inflation as of late, EVERYTHING has gone up for all of us. I don't like the idea of our water rates going up as well. I would implement ALL other water control measures for this year to see how the public responds, and if it doesn't make much of a difference, then implement the price increase in 2023 to see if that gets the public more motivated to conserve water.
Only want to be gouged for water use during a drought
I support a rate based level but should also pair with rebates on changing residential green spaces. Should give homeowners incentive to change to water friendly lawns/gardens or it'll just be punishment to try and keep old lawns green with no cheap alternatives
do it
This doesn't consider the number of people in the house or whether you are using water for your lawn or your garden (to reduce food insecurity). I'd be concerned large low income families would suffer
A lot of people do abuse water and waste by washing things or watering green spaces. As long as the tier is large enough to responsibly water green spaces and maintain home needs before spikes in pricing i think its fair

There should be clear communication about which habits (showering, washing dishes, watering the lawn, etc.) use X amount of water, so households can keep track without unpleasant surprises on their next bill.
The basic rate / low rate would have to be reasonable for most families. Otherwise they are being unfairly impacted
I like it in theory but wonder how easy/complicated it would be for people to keep track of
Maybe the city could provide options like indoor water storage tanks for lawns. People can fill them at when water is available and conserve when water levels are low.
The rate differentials must be quite high to make a material impact on water usage. The example's differential is not very high.
I think some time is needed to figure out a good system that ensures water access for necessities, and also a way to ensure the providers aren't just bolstering their own profits, which can happen in these kinds of systems.
Should this be only a summer program? Or year-round with higher charges in summer? I say yes to year-round program with higher charges in summer.
City should look beyond raising costs. This seems to be a very foreign concept to those in government.
Make it fair and cost effective for ratepayers.
Do not allow business to weasel out of paying the rates as well.
Economic ability to pay. Taxes based on grass coverage I would support
This is a good idea but prices should rise exponentially as usage goes up. Maintain low and affordable rates for normal home usage and greatly increase rates for very high usage (golf courses for example).
It's not always about money is it?
Citizens are already scraping by to pay bills and I do not want to see rates increased.
The pricing structure should be extremely aggressive at the top end, exponential, not linear. The average small property owner should not be affected by this policy, large homeowners who have chosen drought intolerant landscape options should be massively affected as they have the financial ability to change their landscape options quickly and require greater financial pressure to do so.
I think this will help people give more thought to their watering strategy. Communication and education are key elements to get people on board.
We haven't had a drought for 20 years. Let's address this when it becomes a tangible issue.
Agree with the price but do feel like it would unfairly hurt gardeners; which is a pass time we should encourage
Implausible, but, preferable...use of metering & bylaw enforcement with a steeply escalating (uncomfortable @the 2nd, and damaging @the 3rd offense) large % of assets/income/profit/revenue linked to fines for frequency/degree of overuse (no wealthy pay to play). Shut-off for failure to pay...the City would provide manual water collection points in neighborhoods and business areas for basic needs.
Regarding the tiered approach, I feel the City would need to keep the lower tiers within a certain price range in order to not affect low income Calgarians as adversely. On the other hand, excessive water usage should be discouraged through high surcharge pricing.
My only concern with this is that it used only as a tool to increase rates and may not reward other households for being more efficient with water use.
I wonder about "guarantee a basic amount of water for indoor water use at a fixed rate" and how this amount would be calculated, and particularly how this would affect outliers for example, multi-generational low-income families.
It's a good idea, but we can't rely on it as money will only go so far when we're talking about something that exists outside the concept of money entirely (climate change) and we have to really ensure that lower income Calgarians

aren't being left waterless while larger commercial entities can effectively "buy as much water as they want." Ensure the rates genuinely incentivize less water use
Most people aren't aware of their water use until their bill arrives. It would be a nasty shock to get an inflated bill. Is there a way to get a continuous info feed on water use in your home? Can water meters directly send info to owners? I think a "water speedometer" would help people choose and help modify behaviour.
More financial burden for families.
Regressive taxation is stupid.
Life is hard enough already with everything being so expensive. Now you want us to pay more for something our bodies literally need to survive? [profanity removed] no. Tax the wealthy.
Larger families will need more water and are also typically lower income since stretching money further and this would have a negative impact
I like the idea around increasing rates for more use, places the onus on high users
Makes sense to me.
How does one allocate water for each home? Is it based on square footage or people living there? Vegetable gardens should allow more water than flowers or lawns. I am concerned that those that cannot afford water to begin with will be and live in smaller places will be changed more than the wealthy in huge homes with only two people in them.
Using treated water to water lawns is ridiculous. Pay more for more makes sense.
It is very difficult to adjust rates to the situation of individual users. I would rather support an incentive based approach.
People who feel the need to overuse water above necessary should pay. I am all for user pay systems. This keeps basic water needs affordable and puts a surcharge on those who wish to use more. Also, meters must be installed in all residences.
I prefer rebates and financial rewards to financial penalties. The carrot is more effective than the stick.
What would the extra money be used for?
Please tax personal green lawns! Encourage sharing your space with gardeners.
I already have problems regarding city fees and water usage. We use no city water outside- collect our own and have for many years but still are billed for a peak amount every August. Have inquired multiple times/years and the best I get is a shrugged shoulder. I have a meter...
I support this although the City will need to be thoughtful about how implementation could affect lower income families.
Honestly, I feel like I pay enough for my water services in the city of Calgary. It's not the actual consumption of my water it's all the extra fees and service charges that we have to pay.
I support this, along with other measures but feel the Plan might undo pressure on some families. The ones wasting water on the "perfect" lawns and cleaning their driveways with a hose may not change their ways due to their economic situation.
This would have to be very carefully considered to ensure that lower income homes are not penalized. For instance, higher income families could go to swimming pools, where lower income homes may not be able to afford that and would fill the little plastic pools of water for the kids to play in. That would therefore increase their outdoor water use.
Don't you siphon enough money through water rates as is?
Beware of cash cow status we are taxed to the max already I am uncomfortable with the City charging more than it does for water

Is it possible to know what water is being used outside versus inside? I wouldn't like to see my cost of water go up just because we're drinking more water in the heat.
Might work. Not 100% sure if it would impact people's desire to use more water than necessary
I feel like it could be perceived as punitive and could anger calgarains
Completely support
Could start by getting rid of all remaining flat rate water users.
Consideration that some families have multi generations living in one household and so indoor use will be higher to start with. Not sure how you'd account for that. Our family has 5 children and 3 dogs. Our regular water use is high. Our next door neighbours live in a 7 bedroom home and are a couple (only 2 people) residing there.
I think we have enough city surcharges and taxes. No more are appropriate.
Take into consideration the individual household and size. A multigenerational home will require more than a single person.
I have concerns about this truly being applied with an equity lens, and worry that financial strategies can turn into permission for wealthy people to pay to break the rules.
I understand that lots of people won't do what's right unless it impacts their wallets, but I would much rather see a rebate or reward for households that save water than charging Calgarians more money. If this does come into effect, I would like transparency about where this money goes and would like to see it returned to water or other environmental areas ONLY.
During Covid many people's sanctuaries were their yards. It gave me my sanity. So if you start charging me more for letting my kids play in the sprinklers or watering my flowers, i'm going to get very sad very fast. Honestly this is a terrible idea.
Best way to manage it, no complicated rules that need enforcement to ensure it is followed
I like the idea of surcharge for when you use over a certain amount! People must become more accountable.
I believe strategies like this can work as people often need a financial incentive to change behaviour, and if they don't, we will at least be able to collect more money to put towards low-water landscaping rebates. As long as the extra money goes towards other initiatives that help the city reduce water consumption.
Everything you say is cancer. Leave it alone and go play golf you useless politicians and government employees
Size of the property should also be taken into consideration, to some extent.
Penalties for non-compliance
This just looks like a big rip off again. Another fee, that will say oh it's low, oh it won't effect most people, then it will skyrocket. What it should be is for any business or property owners who use more then the average 90% of Calgarians. No fee for regular households, fee for those that use more water then the 90%
This doesn't really take into account locations that have more people living in one location and could unintentionally penalize houses that have higher densities. Think about who those households are more likely to be and why they might be using more water, especially in the summer: water to cool down if they don't have air conditioning; large families; secondary suites, etc.
I would support more drastic fee schedules. Also shifting more fixed costs to variable. Right now, there is almost no financial incentive to conserve - example my variable cost is \$7, and my fixed costs are \$40.
leaks
Rate based only charges usage volume. A rebate for those following drought resilience program such as installing turf that doesn't require water is essential.City needs a positive program.

Terrible idea, households able and willing to pay can use as much as they want, water becomes a luxury for the affluent
The concept is good but practically flawed in that users can only know if they've exceeded after the fact. If I could get the water usage from my meter in real-time I would support this. If the city can read my meter electronically, can that data be made available to me as well in an app in real time?
Not sure which plan I like best. Would want to know how much my outdoor water use increases in the summer first. A good communication plan would be needed.
It's just another tax grab. This is not Las Vegas, we have fresh water sources and shouldn't be jumping the gun to tax residents when they're are supply side strategies we can use.
This is a great idea. I would support this year round plus a surcharge for over use during a drought. The only thing that would be tricky is having multi generational homes on the same scale as single person dwellings. Should be able to have a rolling scale for homes that house more people as we should be encouraging large families to live together.
this penalizes households where there are more people living in the house and water use has nothing to do with outdoor watering but daily needs. I know of multiple households where there are 5 to 8 people living and even one that had 17 living and water use was never for outdoors. it is a punitive and non factual based way to limit water use.
Again, lead by example city including Calgary Parks. Audit water use in city buildings. Just ensure that city buildings (new/OLD) are taking action. This is similar to what old homes will do as well so share the struggles. The big player is the builders that build crappy homes/yards. We can all try but they need to apply best practice from the get-go for a larger win. This needs more debate.
At most, a surcharge for use during drought makes sense. But the last thing many need is to bleed more money. I grow my garden to help feed myself and now fear I won't be able to water it. The wealthy can relandscape, I cant
Perhaps when inflation, covid aftermath, war ends it could be considered...not when people are having to skip meals
I think the administrative cost to set up Such a program is not good value.
I worry about lower income citizens being impacted. I wonder about financial strategies that take socioeconomic backgrounds into consideration?
We already have a bogus carbon tax. The last thing we need is a water tax. What's next? Taxing the air we breathe??
Do not make this a money grab. We pay high enough taxes already
Penalizing homes with blended families ie grandparents and children/parents living in same household (4+ people per home)
Families are struggling with increased costs in lots of other areas. Not a good time to bring in another cost.
No comment
Include adequate water to maintain vegetable gardens & fruit trees in the lowest rate
Sounds like youre penalizing larger families
We pay high taxes as it is. Not interested if it means a tax increase. We already pay for water through our water meters
Money will change the most behaviours. But so much of our bill is fees that I don't feel incentivized to lower water usage. Even today's rates would change behaviours if it was more usage based and not so fee heavy

This appears to be regressive.. the rich houses will water away ... Need to address equity here... We're all in this together or we're not
User pay should apply to water
If water is already being metered, then it should cost more to use more water. People should be more aware of what they're using
There are property owners that water mature city-owned trees in the boulevards next to their properties...these places should be identified. Street tree maintenance is a separate issue from household consumption
Financial and rate-based strategies will encourage more people to use water wisely.
I like the blocks as it may avoid the problem of people thinking they can use more because they pay for it.
Again, get expenses under control and this becomes a non issue. The fact you are charged for cubed meter of water is sick, and not only do you charge for the water, you charge for drainage and a bunch of other useless fees.
If the rates for water use increase, perhaps some people will prefer to reduce or eliminate the green areas of their garden
I would like to see some consideration for those with low incomes whose water use may be tied to inefficient fixtures/appliances, which they may not be able to afford. A means-tested, incentive program to help pay for upgrades is one idea. Pushing the province to ban the sale of water inefficient plumbing and appliances is another.
this may stop home owners and business from watering when its raining
Is this for households only? Or also for commercial use? I think it makes sense to penalize heavy water users when water is scarce. However, the rich population may not care about higher prices and might not change their water use habits.
Stop increasing rates. They should also be lower in the summer because we water out gardens and the water doesn't enter the storm sewer system
I need more information - how much does a typical family use for indoor water and how might a large family be affected by this tiered system. I would also like a more current reading of what my water consumption is, particularly if I am trying to stay in the lower tier of rates.
Its unfortunate but people who feel financial strain will watch their consumptions vs people who have money to spare.
I live in an owned duplex with my wife and infant. When it was just the two of us we were well under the 10m3 threshold, but with a newborn our laundry requirements pushed us into 11-14 m3 territory. We're already very water wise with our outdoor water use, so it would be too bad to be penalized because of our home life.
I am not sure that this would actually change behaviours for homes that waste a lot of water. Wealthy households with massive lawns probably won't notice and low income families will. I will also notice, as I garden extensively. I feed my family, neighbours, and friends for six months of the year and don't see my water use as wasteful or deserving a fine.
I'd worry this could negatively effect large/low income families
Water costs in Yyc are already very high, over double that of my in-laws in Ottawa. Please don't increase costs. Very dismayed last summer to see huge water pipes being installed to bring water from Bow River to all these new subdivisions , so far out. Stop expansion of Yyc !!
This will unfairly target families as children require an exceptional amount of water for cleaning of themselves and clothes
No more fees and taxes for an already stretched to the limit middle class

the present rate based systems seems to be a huge cash grab so any additional would indicate just getting more money. I have lived in Calgary for near on 40 years and watched rates get ridiculous while building atrium style palaces for water plant. hard to take any more gouging as being warranted. The City has its own reckless use of capital and rates for creating enough is enough,.
Larger properties are the ones that likely have more yard/grass to water, and they are already paying higher property taxes. I think that at most there should be a two-tiered rate block; eliminate the highest rate.
Stop raising rates. We already pay for how much water we use. We pay enough. Most of that doesn't even go back to the sewers in the summer yet we still get charged for it.
Would need to protect low income earners. They are already having a hard enough time with electricity
I think finances are a strong motivator for most people. Although water use goes up in the summer, I would also support a tiered cost structure year round. I actually think you could combine both of these initiatives - a tiered water rate AND a surcharge if you go over a certain amount during drought.
This is again an example of water-wise behavior that needs to be normalized by the public before we enter into long term drought as part of the climate emergency.
H2O is life/a human right don't charge for it.
Perhaps once absolutely everything else in our lives isn't exploding in cost this will be an option but now is really not the time. We are a couple and already feeling the strain with double income. Can't imagine having children or single income families!
I think we need to have a balance- the challenge as a Mom to two toddlers is that being outside with a sprinkler has been a lifesaver during the heat done before 11 am. As well- it's a challenge in the NW where there is not a free splash park for the children that everyone can use
I love the idea because it will force people to be more water wise. In some ways I don't like the idea but only because rich companies won't care either way, they'll just use more and more water, keep paying more for it and learn nothing.
Multi family households would pay more, while large single family mansions with irrigated lawns feel no financial repercussions.
I like that it's user pay. If you want three kids and a big family you pay for it. Financially motivating people seems the only way to get citizens to comply
The whole idea is dumb. Gondek is a [profanity removed]. Evan Spencer is a [profanity removed] under his desk.
Pay for how much you use is only fair, use more pay more
I think this should be in effect year round always, not just during a drought.
It's a bad idea. Many would be able to afford the rate hikes and would therefore not consider their water use. The same applies to large businesses that would continue to operate as usual. The only people who this would affect are the lower income thresholds. This idea seems to unfairly target them.
Some people will be raising vegetable gardens as a way to save money, penalizing them for watering with financial strategies will be detrimental. As well as to organizations that have community gardens.
The city should take into consideration the economic stratification of the population in Calgary. For example, in my first country you pay depending of your income. It is not fair that people who have a low income have to pay equal than the people with a high income after the basic rate block. I agreed with the rate block because compel to use less water regardless the income. Education is key.
I like the idea of a block rate. My concern is that some people who can afford higher water rates might not be as motivated to engage in water conservation as those who can't afford the higher rates. I don't know if there's a way to address this through an equity lens?

It is really hard to know how much I'm using until it is too late and already a month past. How would I measure the output easily? It is hard to budget water usage with such variable weather.
I would hope this would discourage water waste, along with excessive lawn/garden watering.
Incentivizing low water consumption, rather than penalizing citizens would have better buy in. Typically when it comes to environmental footprints individuals have minimal impact, but large businesses or corporations account for the largest use. Ideas should focus more on upstream solutions instead of downstream as a household is the end of the supply chain and not where long-term solution lie.
Again, if you have a yard that requires water (mature trees/plantings) you are at a disadvantage.
I like nothing about this future plan. This is nothing but a money grab. No surprise. Reduce you salary and zero pensions should help
I am certain that the city would set this up as another financial grab from taxpayers and in no way support this idea.
LIKE: If based on total consumption, might encourage some to use less water overall (both indoor and outdoor water) CONCERN: may have greater impact on poorer households; and many not encourage conservation by the richer households CONCERN: the rate difference (or penalty) needs to be substantial enough to curb wasteful use of water
The cost of water is already so high. I worry that this would just add to the cost of living.
This is a great strategy as long as it is used for all water users in Calgary. Residential is only one user this incentive should help in all sectors.
This will help some, but I feel like once you reach a certain income threshold people will just be willing to pay whatever and abuse their use of water.
I like the idea of this, if certain households needs large amounts of water during a drought period they should have to pay extra. My concern is that if cost is not an issue for some folks, water use may not decrease.
How is the minimum for indoor use going to be defined or evaluated? Will the charges associated with water use also increase, eg. stormwater charges? Then the cost will be substantially more than this chart shows.
makes access to water income dependent, privilege for the rich rather than essential - rich households use with little impact and they usually have larger yards, no incentive to reduce
Higher incomes households won't care about increased rates. Their consumption wouldn't change - just like some people don't care about parking tickets or other violations. This would only effect lower income households. Put a cap on water consumption per household - don't make this about money.
Hate this idea. We already pay too much for water usage. This is a strategy that would only hurt Calgarians - especially larger families, middle class families, and many families considered minorities.
You charge too much for water as it is, especially for wastewater and ESPECIALLY for stormwater.
Stop being so greedy, take from your raises and stop applying financial penalties to your people...I read about enmax surplus...smarten up
A per household water consumption allowance makes sense. Rates to up when you exceed a certain amount (based on avg. Four-person household)
Small residential properties are not the issue. Tax or regulate large commercial properties and businesses
I have no idea how much outdoor water I use or how to quantify it therefore feel VERY overwhelmed at the idea of being charged extra when I try to be water conscious already.

Not everyone is in the same financial boat. So people with lower incomes may have to use less while people with more money may not care.
Literally everything costs more right now. Adding fees, surcharges and increasing prices is breaking us. I feel investigating and trialing non-monetary strategies such as the watering schedule during drought or incentives such as water use rebates should be attempted first.
Love it.
People don't conserve out of the goodness of their hearts, there need to be incentives and consequences
It would be good to try other measures first and see if that brings desired results. there have been so many cost increases lately, the people that it impacts most are those with lower income - that is not fair.
N/a
Make a \$50 flat fee all in for water sewer, etc per household for 20 cubic meters. After that jack the rates for usage.
Concerned about the overall affordability in Canada so we need to also be mindful of that.
Just another way to price gouge our citizens. Why don't you do something useful for a change instead of thinking of ways to charge Calgarians more money for the same or less number of services. Like we already have a Liberal government who does just fine at making everything more expensive on their own. Stop increasing rates!!
Are we currently being charged for water? I would support charges for over usage
I'm not sure how wasteful people currently are, so I can't really say whether it's a great idea or not. I would just hope that people aren't penalized with a higher rate for using as little as they reasonably can, because in my opinion, financial hardship creates more waste in other areas.
I'm already on a water meter, have rain barrels and reuse as much household gray water as possible - so I believe I'm conserving and paying appropriately for my water. I'm concerned about commercial and public fountains, golf courses, etc. and their practices and rates.
Now is not the right time to be asking people to shell out more money for a basic need like water. I would have to pick between entertaining my kids by filling up a kiddie pool with water or saving money, growing up my parents didn't have to chose.
The conservative 'stick' approach is just an admission that the other approaches have failed. Yes, the highest users should pay the most, but then it just becomes a rich people entitlement.
I wouldn't change my behaviour based on rate based strategies. I currently responsibly use water and will continue to use approximately the same amount. Perhaps it would effect change on the population as a whole?
Water is already very expensive.
With all costs rising - financial incentives might be appealing to those who love to waste water on their lawn
Rate blocks per household aren't really fair for larger families and are overly generous for couples/solo households. How can we make this more equitable? We've also learned (the hard way) that our young adults find l.o.n.g. showers to be really beneficial to their mental well-being, so wondering how that fits into the equation.
Stop using money as a strategy. We're already overtaxed and overpay on utilities and gasoline. If I have to pay even more for water, I'll be more likely to leave Calgary entirely.
I m a big advocate for user pay and in both times of drought and non drought, the financial and rate base structure should be progressive and ever increasing or exponential rates should be implemented.
promote it as part of greater environmentally stewardship and city resilience strategy
I support this but only in times of actual drought. If the city starts charging more for water just Willy nilly it will feel like yet another cash grab with no benefit.

I do not like the idea of the City socially engineering how I consume water. I especially don't approve of artificially inflating rates in order to influence behaviour. If the cost to the City in delivering water has increased, then increase rates across all water usage. But don't increase rates for certain activities and not others; I don't need the City to tell me where I can/can't use water.
Industrial use is way more important and penalizing citizens doesn't make sense unless the situation is completely out of control
I do not know enough about all options available to assist with a decision. I know it must be affordable to all income levels. Property owners must be incentivized not punished. Perhaps a marketing strategy aimed at affordable, sustainable lawn replacement ideas that include a city rebate. I took advantage of the toilet rebate program years ago. Review and determine how successful it was.
I do not feel that this is an incentive most people will look at. They will just see rate increases and complain. Reducing the amount for those who do follow the plan is more of an incentive, similar to using the bottle depot for recycling.
I think it has the potential to encourage rain barrel installation and use for those people privileged enough to afford and install. I worry about families already struggling who may rely on their garden for part of their years food budget and question how well the equity lens will be applied.
Inflation is high right now. Don't charge people more. An unnoticed leaky toilet would cost a fortune then!
Some people respond only to financial incentives so this is a good idea; some people find things like this to be "tyranny" and those people will hate it. But once it's done, people also tend to get used to things!
Water is a public asset, City has no right to restrict an access to water because it creates inequality
Financially penalizing people while you're already considering implementing watering schedules backed by bylaws is ridiculous. I would rather see watering schedules along with rebates around native, draught resistant landscaping.
Would prefer the tiered rate that would be consistently charged for higher water use. It's more equal & encourages good practices.
I like the idea for middle and upper income neighbourhoods. Am concerned about consequences for home renters who are expected to maintain the yard and may have a garden. What about apartment complexes w/ gardens, incl community gardens?
Great way to motivate people to use water wisely. We are fortunate to have low water rates, but it currently doesn't discourage average Calgarians to be water wise
Anything we can do to use our water more efficiently is helpful. Unfortunately, many people will not be motivated to change unless there is a financial component.
When commercial development isn't held to similar standards. Why should the golf course across the street be allowed to use 100000 m3 annually while making a profit but I'm being charged more to water a garden? And yes while many pull on water from creeks/rivers this is supposed to be a drought resiliency plan. This includes grandfathered licences under the water Act.
User fees for a basic resource are a form of regressive taxation that disproportionately impact lower income people. I'd suggest the city focus on reducing urban sprawl and making neighbourhoods livable as opposed to this backdoor tax.
Baseline should be set based on household's regular consumption. Households with more people use more water indoors and this needs to be accounted for
If people want to use excessive amounts of water to keep a lawn green in this climate, then they should have to pay more.

This is the only way some people will change, so unfortunately we need it. Maybe makes more sense to only implement in drought times or perhaps a step before drought trigger, rather than year round. Also - make sure to consider multi-generational homes (large water demand) that may have to pay more just because they demand more (but aren't even watering outside)
Do it! Do whatever we need to do to save water.
Drop the consumption based rates when there is plenty of water available
This is a great way to balance needs with waste. However it seems to unfairly impact poor people. How can we encourage richer people to limit water use?
This is unfair for multi-family homes/rental suites who may use more water overall but share a dwelling b/c cost of living is so high Ex. a millionaire in Springbank may use less water b/c they live alone in a mansion but should be spared the higher rate because they "consume" less. Why do middle/low income ppl continue to be punished? If you do this base it on household income for crying out loud
Fully support!
The idea is decent, but funds gained from drought fees should be put *solely* towards relief efforts/preventative measures.
How do you discern my property, which houses five humans, from my neighbour, which houses one human, is it per property?
It would be nice to see a reduction in rate if we reduce our usage during peak hours. Positive reinforcement to the public when the reduction is needed the most. Encourage people to have their kids play in small kiddie pools/water tables instead of sprinklers etc. And then spread that water onto the garden once playtime is over.
Support as long as it is clearly explained and would be good to be able to check water usage regularly
I'm concerned about my water bill but feel that this is the only way will help encourage people who are not civic minded.
Unfortunately, I think some people will not be persuaded to reduce water use without financial penalty HOWEVER, I am greatly concerned that this will disproportionately affect lower income residents.
Household income levels should be taken into consideration
It takes water to have a green garden. Green gardens helps to keep cities cooler, and promote biodiversity and emotional well-being of citizens. If I have a garden and water it, I don't want to feel like I am penalised contributing to the aforementioned benefits. I therefore support only: "a surcharge for water over a certain volume used only during drought."
People are suffering from 2 years of Covid-related economic harm, the highest inflation in decades, and increasing carbon taxes for commodities for which we have no alternatives in our climate (yet), so the City should NOT be considering any approaches that either directly increase costs via increased rates, or massive programs that increase costs via property taxes.
Seems too complicated.
People that can afford to pay will. This will only hurt those people that can't afford it.
Its a start.
Pair this with smart notifications so that people know if they are getting close to the next rate tier.
I already pay enough in taxes and utility bills.
I like this idea, although am worried about the implications for poorer Calgarians. I think it's important that an equity lens be applied.
The rate based should be based on annual rather than monthly use. A reasonable annual benchmark per household for base rate. After that is exceeded the rate goes up. The city already taxes those who use outdoor

watering by charging for waste water/drainage on water that cycles through their plants roots. Calgarians are also still paying additional wastewater premiums since the 2013 flood
Rich people will have green grass. Everyone else will have brown.
I live in a condo complex and we don't have individual water meters so people waste water.
Unfortunately this doesn't encourage those households that have higher income to use less water.
I believe that the usage rates should take into consideration the type of landscaping being watered and consider deductions for those using water wisely such as maintaining a yard that doesn't need water as often or that waters the yard during optimal times ie not in the heat of the day.
I think increasing costs for those who use more water will discourage people from growing food gardens. As water is already paid for by amount use I don't see how this is fair.
It's not a terrible idea, I'm just less enthusiastic because of the potential financial impact on my family. I would say that you should provide tools and incentives through events such as community days, where residents could purchase tools like rain barrels at a reduced cost. Incentives for homeowners to redo eavestroughs to be able to capture rainwater for watering gardens would also be great.
Cost of living is at an all time high. Do not add to this when Calgarians are trying to take some enjoyment in our very short summers.
if you are going to charge a varying amount, then allow a water meter to be installed on an irrigation system so that I don't have to pay increased stormwater fees on water that is staying on my lawn.
There will be controversy but it will be very effective at reducing water usage. For organizations that require water for cleaning, they may need some sort of exemption or other tool so that they can maintain health standards.
Try the schedule first. Charging More should be last option to reduce usage
Sounds like another tax grab and certainly a slippery slope to increased costs for a basic service
These strategies should already be in place to reduce waste
The tie to sewer fees is irritating. Yard water users already pay a surcharge as they have increase waste water fees even though the water is not being added to the waste water system. Water is an essential. The rate may not reflect the needs of a family. People with money will just hire a water truck to deliver water to avoid the high fees.
If implemented this should be revenue neutral.
should be affordable, especially in light of rising utility rates and rising cost of living and inflation
This is a good measure to consider against businesses, however, against members of the public I find it challenging to penalize if they are not well made aware of the expectations.
people who can afford to pay more will be able to water all they want and enjoy a nice lawn/garden while people who cant afford it wont have either.
The tiered or block rate should be used only against a certain limit of water use in a period, for larger properties for example. The surcharge of water use during a drought is a great idea.
Charge me exactly for how much I use. Other use more they should pay more, but also they should escalate in drought or excessive waste conditions. If you waste 2x the water you should pay 4x the costs etc.
use more, pay more, makes sense! i would expect the rich with large lawns to push back, but it is not a good use of space and a waste of precious resource of water.
economic price-signalling is my preferred approach, but there should be rebates for consumers to purchase equipment to lower usage, like rain barrels.
Its great way to prevent excessive or unnecessary usage.
Consistent fair implementation such that property owners can work the system at the expense of those who follow it

Although I would like to see the populace consider reducing wasteful water use on their own accord, I know that many would need an incentive. I do wonder what the City will do with the overage fees.
There are different levels of financial need, different sized families, and we've all been impacted financially lately. There would be less resistance if it were implemented with education and the honour system. Most people care enough about the environment to comply without risk of penalty.
Don't make it cheaper for developers to install sod over trees and shrubs. Trees and shrubs need lots of water in the first two years and then they're established. Small increases in water usage lead to big reductions later. Same with reducing kentucky grass lawn cover. Small increases in budgets now, lead to savings later. See the bigger picture.
It's a must do. I also think the rate increase for over 35m3 in the example is a good start, but it should be an even larger gap - for example, 0-10m3 = \$2.18, 10-35m3 = \$2.50, 35+ = \$6.00 This assumes that the \$6 rate is only charged on the volume above 35m3 (of whatever the Calgary cutoff would be). It needs to be enough to actually deter high use vs. a little extra expensive green grass.
As long as it rate-bases strategies do NOT limit or block "regular" water usage and can allow extra for garden watering. How would the extra funds be used?
We all have times of fluctuation with our water use. Having to increase laundry due to illness shouldn't be punished with increased rates. Education and awareness can be effective tools. Penalty for watering lawns not on scheduled days is a more targeted approach
Love it, people like me who don't water their lawn will be rewarded, people who waste water and over water their lawn will be penalized. Which is good, no sense in wasting water.
Absolutely, corporate and residents only see their bottom line. Hike the rate and maybe all will pay attention!
I support this, but until The City changes the fixed fees, there is little impact to my overall bill. Not sure why there is resistance to modifying the current fixed fee elements of my water bill
Although it sounds nice to hope people will voluntarily curb usage, the reality is that cost seems to be the only true motivator for the majority of people. So a rate-based strategy is likely to be effective.
I grow a vegetable garden to save money on groceries for me family, this could penalize me and other families who are struggling. I don't know how to read my meter to watch what water I'm using, so how would I know if I am over and going to be charged for it?
My concerns living in an apartment condo is monitoring. I shouldn't be financially responsible for my neighbor's water use. How would multi-dwelling households be monitored? Renters in detached homes?
Punishing poor people is never the solution
What about outdoor water use for community gardens or water fountains? Or is it focused on residential? Grey water systems and efficient washers should be considered to decrease indoor water use.
hosing down a driveway instead of using a broom should not be the default
1) How to prevent a poverty tax 2) leaks? 3) animal care urban hen program
user pay is a good strategy
That doesn't make sense, how would you know/manage a water meter
only raise prices if discounts are given for lower water usage utilities are expensive enough
adding cost to an already high cost would give a bit of stress for households
how would you monitor/distinguish indoor/outdoor use and what would that cost?
Not fair to pay more
I don't think this would be helpful. I don't want to pay more for water usage.
rather financial incentives

try to use affordable water
would you have meters on outdoor taps otherwise how would you measure this? Meters could be costly
right now is not the best time to be increasing rates, specially that people are still getting back on their feet to look for jobs for survival. Although everything now is expensive
Do not support
this may put diferent - (-ve) impact on public mindset
there should be a financial motivation to encourage water conservation
courses on water consumption
don't see how this would be beneficial to the consumer
overwatering should not be tolerated. Offenders should be fined and receive higher bills
NO increase in any costs
Don't we pay what we use now? The way prices of things going up now is anything affordable?
I think it would help but ppl would hurt if
hard for low income
this way would motivate people save more water
it should be a personal choice
like it
how can you differentiate? Couldn't someoen just run a hose from inside their house? Charging more isn't the answer
I do not support it. We need to bring water rates down by all means
I would prefer not to be penalized
higher payment will be tough for low income families
unsure
this will impact directly on citizens
this strategy is amazing for people like me who do not use outdoor water
this strategy could be unfair and can burden as well
I'm not sure about this.
It might be hard to police when or if someone is using "outdoor" water
overwatering should pay more
people who partake in outdoor recreational activities that involve water will be impacted.

Question 14

To what extent do you support The City pursuing water-wise landscaping requirements in new developments as part of the Drought Resilience Plan?

Multiple choice question. No verbatim.

Question 15

Please share your thoughts about The City pursuing landscape requirements in new developments. For example: What do you like about it? What do you not like? Do you have any concerns The City should take into consideration when developing this idea?

Consult with the International Water Association. See iwa-network.org .	
Need to provide lawn alternatives that are environmentally appropriate for our climate. Also need to dissuade people from installing artificial turf as a replacement for grass as this is also very bad for biodiversity etc.	
I would love to see a very small amount of traditional grass allowed, and incentives for no grass at all. I'd like a strong public information campaign to include native species, ones that are particularly drought resistant (low water requirements, and any subsidies made available for the switch over to more biodiverse landscaping.	
I see no drawbacks to requiring new communities to develop drought resilient landscaping. This should be the standard.	
I'd be concerned with the use of native plants especially if they self seed and blow every where. There is a neighbor who has native plants and I get pestered with the seedlings it creates extra work pulling them out	
new developments should be REQUIRED to submit environmentally appropriate, drought-tolerant species in their design (as well as water re-use strategies). these should be certified by a certified landscape architect.	
i think we should all have the right to be free and calm down and love our own gardens, we put as much, up if not more effort in our lawns then you did building this website. since the city wants to make everything more natural and better for the environment, why are we letting them take over our lawns, gardens, and livelihood for a dumb new water plan and in my opinion a dumb mayor made this.	
100% should be supporting native plant gardening for drought resiliency and biodiversity!	
Get rid of front lawns all together. What an absolute waste of water....charge anyone who wants to have a lawn, big fee's...or how bout limit size of lawn based on size of house..	
This is overdue	
enough regulation. you want suburbs to look like rock jungles? this is up to homeowners	
Yes yes and yes. People need to have yards that are more natural to the climate. Plant and trees and even grass that grows here well and doesn't need much water to stay healthy. Plus this would help bring more beneficial insects, pollinators and animal species to the area.	
Follow up for compliance is required. Current residential footprints do not support tree planting as there is not enough room for root spread. Smaller residential footprints in developed areas would support more gardens, tree and shrub planting.	
Love this, should have been implemented a long time ago.	
Excellent idea, provide seeds like last year	
I am supportive of water wise landscape requirements as long as it allows for gardening for food production.	
I like the idea of rebates or incentives for drought tolerant plant:shrub/tree purchases. Submit greenhouse receipt for a tax credit for certain plants. But don't make it required. Should be a choice.	
Tax paying citizens in a free country and city should be as minimally impacted as absolutely required by governments.	

This is exactly what needs to be done, as a society we need to collectively get away from the ide of a perfect green lawn and embrace the natural world around us. Calgary was built on prairie that did not include any blue grass, we need to go back to the landscapes that have existed here.
We need new developments to be future proof... and also incentives for current home owners. This will create a business boom in the landscaping space as well!
I would suggest that you not limit this idea to new developments only, but that you require everyone to adopt water-wise landscaping requirements.
Low maintenance lawns using drought resistant grass seed
Make sure it safe
I would love to see this for existing homes as well. I really don't need all this grass.
New districts should have Native-species planted. These type of trees are better equipped to survive drought. Species (especially trees) not native to this area are water guzzlers and should be banned.
newer housing typically doesn't have big yards they cram em in there tight. So you would be limiting water consumption minimally and most likely increasing cost for new home owners. Its a terrible idea.
Love this idea! It is way easier to live with native species and have them do with little to no work. It increases awareness about native species.
YES! I hate grass! What a useless species of plant to spend water on. We don't eat it but we continue to dump drinking water on it for aesthetics. But Landscaping is SUPER expensive and residents will need help to convert our properties.
I know first hand how developers like to install high maintenance landscaping that requires irrigation, only to turn it over to The City to maintain, which we can't do to the same level.
Completely support this wise move.
Not everyone wants rocks! Green looks good...and that doesn't need to be grass but can be clover or thyme.... we need more trees as well
To me, this question is a no brainer. Please make developers responsible for water wise landscaping and xeriscaping.
I think all front yards should be done without grass. Planters only for flowers, but limited.
I love it. I would like to see additional requirements around heat island mitigation as well.
I think this is a wonderful idea. I don't think the while front yard should be gravel, that's just ugly but there are lovely landscape ideas using drought tolerant plans and native plants. I think the new community should have feed back to this before anything is put in place however.
go one step further - put in rainwater harvesting and/or permaculture principles into the design for new developments. Changes to building codes (e.g., rough in for radon mitigation now, but soon as a requirement) are examples of how once things become the norm, they just are. During design/build is always the cheapest way
Starting from the ground up is much easier and less expensive to the homeowner than converting established landscaping in older homes. People can choose to buy in those new communities or not.
Landscaping requirements in new development is a good idea
Yes if people desire to have a detached home and as such push the size of the city to be larger then there is a trade off for that 'perfect green lawn'. Lao if it is in development regulation it will become more normalized
100% and our property is already an example of this. I see lots in the neighborhood, too, that provide food/beauty and are regenerative. I would like to see more city land be used this way.

Regional gardens, native plants-save water and our pollinators!
Not just for new developments
Great idea for new developments - make new properties pollinator-friendly, with native plants that use less water. Smart design can save water for many years.
New communities especially should be encouraged to not put in grass as lawns that require the amount of water used to keep things green. A rebate incentive for established neighbourhoods to change to a water wise yard would also be nice.
We should absolutely be looking at ways to improve landscaping around the city. Our obsession with green lawns and grass damages our local ecology. We should be embracing not only water wise landscaping but landscaping tht supports our local and native ecosystems as well
I'd love an incentive to change me front lawn to something water wise. I'd love to get rid of my entire lawn.
Sounds appropriate considering climate change
Get rid of grass
I am in support of this tool to reduce water use as long as the guidelines allow for a wide enough range of landscaping options.
Seems a good idea.
I especially like that the biodiversity would be up and the proximity of that biodiversity to our agricultural community on the edges of development makes good sense for pollinators and crops.
The City should launch initiatives that proved free or discounted native plants for everyone, not just new developments. Use the tree map and assess the least naturalized areas to provide such incentives.
yes - in fact, it is aside, but new developments should be paused or stopped altogether. There is some double-speak here on wanting to better manage water supply but then allowing nearly unfettered urban development. New developments should require built-in grey water reuse systems if they continue being approved.
This is such a good solution. A green grass lawn is one of the biggest scams of owning a home (especially in the front yard).
I would love to see the city giving away sustainable plants and even rain barrels, I think this is an easy way to reduce lawn water needs and help pollinators
Na
As long as water permeable paving doesn't become the default - sustainable green should always be the first consideration.
Knowing that Calgary is becoming more drought stricken, I think it is imperative that new developments move towards a water-wise landscaping model.
And what about using something other than grass, such as micro clover, for the green areas?
I love this. We could show people benefits of using gravel or mulch and other low maintenance options using less water still look good. I would be a huge supporter in low maintenance plants that support our local bee population too.
I like grass, but planting wild flowers and bulbs would help
We have already started this in our own yard. We removed all grass from the front yard and have drought tolerant plants. In the back some of the grass has been replaced with sheep fescue. No perennials get watered. We grow our own veggies, so this required watering

Provide a cost effective consulting service to help with existing homes
Education and regulations are important. How would existing homes be managed. Maybe the city can offer subsidized plants that meet criteria
More natural/native plants and water wise plants (clover, dandelions) should be encouraged - especially in city areas, parks and boulevards
As long as there are green spaces/parks included in the new developments .
Native and drought resistant plants are the best idea.
No. More education might be needed to show residents the options, but also the benefits of using more suitable plant selections though
This would require a lot of education. I'd love to, but if I currently planted a bunch of native plants instead of grass they might be misconstrued as weeds, and don't have money to hire a landscape artist to make it all looking artistic. I have a disability so I'd like to be able to just seed these plants everywhere without having to worry that it looks "uncultured" and so frowned upon by neighbors
I would love to see the city consult with horticultural experts on this so that new developments can still be usable and home gardeners can have flexibility in choosing plants they love. I worry about this incentivizing a really 'built' landscape without a lot of natural/green space in new developments as a side effect.
I'd a community is known to be this on purchase then fine, but to change it because the city says so is a waste of time and energy
It makes sense as long as it is economically feasible.
Green space is valuable but needs to be consciously designed. If land developers are not planning on caring for their landscaping for the lifetime of their project communities, they should be emplacing landscaping that needs little to no upkeep. Drought resistant plants, natural waterways, most importantly native species that will last in our environment are a must.
Propose that the City also have new developments (e.g. the developers) build homes that have available water re-use capabilities (water collection) and household grey water recycle opportunities.
I just had 2/3 of my front lawn removed and a French drain installed between 2 new beds for drought-resistant perennials that will support pollinators. Wish I had done this earlier! And wish new builds in my neighborhood (Mount Pleasant) were required to do this instead of sod.
Is a good idea, but the landscape needs to be environmental friendly because too much small rocks make the planet hotter
More information, connect with local landscaping companies for partnership, maybe subsidies for certain landscaping choices.
we love trees and fresh air the trees give us. as the river is limit, we should limit the city population to balance with the nature
Green spaces are important
I think it's great idea, but it's sure to be unpopular because Albertans would see it as "government overreach".
The less water required the better. I also think a rebate or credit for houses that add water wise landscaping would be another great incentive.
New communities need to be planned well. Concern is people's willingness or ability to maintain.
Water requirements should be thought of well before any development approvals
Way easier to do from the start than retro-fit!

Many HOA's make it mandatory to have a green lawn. They need to be contacted too
Again, if the city can use Indigenous plants and grasses, the same should apply to homeowners and businesses. I'd like to replacement lawns with Indigenous species and am told I can only do so if it's in a garden bed. My lawn is too big to convert to beds and upkeep would be horrendous.
We should be doing this for all new developments.
Would be very difficult to enforce as there are those who would change it after to what they want....more grass.
This needs to be well thought out, wncourage native plants not gravel. We need our pollinators.
Again - every plant that does not feed a nation is a water hog. Trees providing shade help with heating bills and energy waste (also a consideration) but landscaping without allowing for front-yard food, raised beds, and containers is ignoring wise use of land and location. Follow the lead of other places.where wise use includes food sources.
Look at the picture holistically - it is not just landscaping but home design, blinds, energy consumption, (we have a next dr neighbour whose air con is on April to October), quantity of pavement on driveway, etc. that are all part of the solution. And don't delay - we need to do this yesterday!
Yes!
Replacing grass with native plants and shrubs is a great idea. it not only saves water it helps provide habitat for birds, bees and butterflies. Win-win.
Supportive but concerned about current homeowners having to change lawns, gardens, etc., which costs time and money
Xeroscaping has benefits for the homeowner besides reducing water use. It also usually requires less effort, giving the homeowner more time for family and recreation. It can be very attractive, and combine elements that allow people to use their green thumb adequately without overtaxing them.
Do you think maybe that "as the city grows" shouldn't be assume to mean urban sprawl??? The city created this problem by endlessly bending over to developers who wanted to make more money by adding infinite new communities to our outskirts, to the point where it is impossible to provide services to these areas. The city should foot this cost, not citizens!
Not a fan of rock gardens. I like plants with leaves and flowers, but I support the idea to have more plant varieties that reduce water usage.
Choosing natural plants and shrubs that thrive in the local environment is a no brainer. Ensure water management plans exist for new developments, including any common areas and exterior landscaping
Mind your own business you do your job and we will do ours.
how about protecting the existing tree canopies from being clear cut by developers. There are currently no controls on what a homeowner or developer can do to trees. The City protects the public trees but there is nothing to protect the private landscape.
lawns need NOT be grass. My lawns are 50% of what they were and are never watered as such. Clover, other creeping plants.0 cutting needed. LOOK at Nose Hill - relatively little actual grass. Only use fescue. prohibit the sale of kentucky blue grass !! people who want 100 % patio are welcome - Trees for shade and transpiring are desirable, drought tolerant plants promoted
How about native plants to our area as well.

If we dig up our front lawn and plant native plants, they are considered an eyesore. It's time for the City to change itself too.
Is it going to cost tax payers?
Rain water harvesting (like rain barrels) with big tanks, should be made mandatory in new building code or city code for all new house, condo, commercial building designs and development permits.
EI reports should qualify our sustainable developments.
Replacing native grasses with a monoculture is one of the dumbest wastes of water. Not to mention, it's terrible for biodiversity and the health of soils. Lawns should not exist as they are in our communities if we are concerned about preserving water
Good except some native plants are very invasive (do a little too well), and have undesirable seeds or fluff. Some can be dangerous for pets (spear grass, etc).
There should be a secondary option for utility right of ways for gravel/loose stone rather than grass. All "water wise" lawns in promo materials still have grass.
While I support this idea, I think it's success relies on recognizing why people want grass in their backyards (likely multiple reasons: its cheap landscaping. If they have small children they want play areas etc) and while encouraging landscaping and drought resistant plants is great having an alternative to grass that still delivers that experience (clover?) will likely be better received
Can't think of anything at this point
Don't just do this in new neighbourhoods, do it for ALL redevelopment in existing neighbourhoods. Also, incentivise replacing lawns with native wildflowers, rockscaping, and other drought tolerant plants.
The incorporation of water collection should be required for all new builds whether redevelopment or new communities.
City should give people all information and basic designs and incentives.
This idea is great for everyone
I think beautiful landscapes are important for everyone's wellbeing. Thoughtful landscapes and efficient irrigation systems could support a drought strategy.
Nowhere have you mentioned artificial turf. I changed my entire backyard to artificial turf a number of years ago to reduce the amount of water I use for lawn watering. Why is this not being considered as a viable option?
We should absolutely make developers think of all aspects of sustainability
Golf courses, the Zoo, the City boulevards, etc., should be part of this too.
Most of us hate all the bull permitting requirements when doing anything to ones' home but perhaps a similar requirement for a predetermined length of time or in certain neighbourhoods until everyone makes the necessary landscaping changes? I could easily see older/fancier houses avoiding this otherwise and then poof, increased prop values bc of their freedom/grass
Focus on city business not my personal landscaping habits.
We do need some greenery but I do support rock gardens and or clover
Work with the Calgary Horticultural society to offer tours of water wise gardens for the public so thwy can see that they can still be lush and beautiful while xeriscaped.
You need more choices between completely support and neutral. I like this idea, but we still need green, not rock everywhere.

I like this idea and think it should go further to implement grey water management in homes, solar energy within neighborhoods, etc.
Stop using Kentucky blue grass. Use fescue grass blends in all public spaces and educate the public to use fescue for their lawns. It's a lot less work to care for. Require a set percentage of the property to allow natural drainage of rain water so soil holds water longer. Stop hardscaping excessive areas of properties.
Gravel yards just create worse heat island effect, which again hurts the low-income neighbourhoods the most because they are least likely to have tree cover. I would far rather see encouragement from the city to plant more trees. I strongly dislike gravel desertscapes which absorb and release further heat, sprinkled with a few plants is not providing much habitat either.
I never understood why grass become the norm for lawns. It takes up so much resource. I live this idea. I already elongated my grass in the front for plants that are tolerant, minus the vegetables.
Should also consider offering incentives for older neighbourhoods to convert to water wise landscaping.
We should absolutely be getting people to have more drought tolerant and native species. We live in a cup du sac with grass in the middle. Why isn't this full of wildflowers that don't get mowed by the city? That way the city saves money on mowing it, and we can help the bees. Same with grass on the side of our highways like Deerfoot. Plant wildflowers or micro clover instead! Less grass is better
We should all have desert landscaping.
I like the idea.. Make new communities with less asphalt, more density.
We should be designing grading to capture rain water rather than have it run onto roads/ storm drains. Lower yard levels from street, no curbs, etc
Lawns are important part of the urban landscape, however, far too much of the urban landscape is taken up by lawns. So, water preserving diverse landscaping is a much better option, especially for front lawns.
This is a great initiative as it would implement the proper landscaping requirements from the beginning
This should be imperative. It seems as though it is complete lack of foresight to not have landscape (and other) requirements for new developments. I think that new developments that expand outwards of city limits or require larger land use (versus increasing current density) should be heavily taxed and discouraged for the health of current Calgarians
Could you also offer programs for established neighbourhoods? I recently put mulch down in half my front yard, would have been great to get a discount on mulch. I used 5 cubic yards, not feasible for me to go to the landfill and get the free mulch.
Yes, however, this could go too far in pushing people to artificial turf, rock scaping, or other features that also don't support city objectives.
100%, this should be the new normal.
Live in a community with only sidewalks on one side of the street. Limits some outdoor/physical activities. Front and backyards are so small cannot play badminton, pickle ball, etc. Need green spaces with grass to encourage play & exercise. Green spaces also supply the opportunity for downtime/stress relief.
Please have a webpage with drought resistant plants. Consider using them and propagating them in city road spaces and then selling them to the public.

Would like it to allow or mesh with veggie / fruit gardening opportunities. Growing our own food reduces fuel waste by reducing imports. Some "water wise" foods are flown a long way to reach us.
There are so many ways that water can be used more resourcefully. Trees use a lot of irrigation to be established. Certain plants that don't work well for our zone require lots of water. Xeriscaping can be incredibly pretty when it's done well. Our gardens don't have to look like Vancouver's but that seems to be the ideal even on the prairies.
New developments/new lawns should be required to use drought tolerant mix. Adding grass alternatives to approved lawn products, like wildflower mixes and clover species. A concern for grass alternatives is that it's considered a weed by neighbors, so the stigma around them needs to be changed to a positive view. If new developments use grass alternatives already, they will be normalized.
We also need to think about the over use of hard scaping in new neighbourhoods to reduce flash floods. I am already moving towards less grass and more trees and shrubs in our front yard.
I strongly believe we need to start this in our yards, large sections of solid non permeable and mono culture grass areas are harmful and should be limited. There are many other ways to have beautifully designed yards and patio and parking areas that are not solid concrete or a water drain.
Lower private grass lots will ensure that less potable water is used on lawns
Love this idea and I want to learn more. Not sure about where to find information.
YYC is going to become an ugly city. Let's just not water parks & landscape w/rocks & tall grass. Wow. some non-flowering trees & ugly drought resistant shrubs! This is why "lake communities" R prevalent. Bcuz YYC is forcing ppl to buy in these Xpensive areas if they want beauty & greenery bcuz they have something to offer. Too bad only the rich can afford to live in them.
I don't like gravel being used as a landscaping replacement for grass. It reflects a lot of heat in the summer, it looks desolate and weeds love to grow in it as the weed fabric deteriorates. It is hard to walk on and play on. We have neighbours that have landscaped their yard with gravel and a few plants, and they never go outside to enjoy their yard because it is a horrible place to hang out.
City can go ahead and implement water Wise landscaping on its own land and its own developments but should not be imposing this on citizens or private developments
The City does a terrible job currently of ensuring that communities are tending to shared greenspaces. Additionally, I live across from a field in Cranston. The city sent out contractors to prepare (& then blow out) the sprinklers, that were never used and LEAK throughout the year. Such a waste of money!
Believe that we should be able to make our own decisions of what plants to plant on our property.
It could be good, if it's based on green thinking no chemicals, insect encouraging water saving communities.
Great idea but not as a landscaping "requirement"
Our dependency on water and it's growing scarcity is only going to increase. Requiring a certain minimum standard of water-wise landscaping is a great way to literally build in ways of easing water demand on our limited resources.
People should be free to landscape the way they want, if they're willing to pay for the water. But, unless a new homebuyer specifically requests something else, it makes sense to set them up with a water-efficient solution on their first purchase.,

The city should lead by example. There are so many grassed areas that the city controls that would be better dedicated to drought tolerant plants that support native wildlife.
Should be incentive to use native plants in your yard.
Excellent idea. Recognize best use. Use native plants. Use Drought tolerant plants.
Drought plan is a good idea but should not supersede or take precedence over permaculture food forest and edible landscape designs. Both should be allowed. As long as you encourage growing edible lawns or drought tolerant lawns instead of grass it is a good idea.
It crosses the line and it makes the city step into authoritarian territory. Private property must feel like it. We can pursue other routes. Put a cap on suburbs large house development, stop expanding calgary, build up, no wide and build a forest around Calgary. Turn empty city land into diverse forest and look at what other countries are doing.
This is a sensible approach.
100% great idea,,, new developments need to have a better strategy for there communities, our city even needs to move away from grassed boulevards etc,, grass plays an important role in stabilizing the ground and ground water retention, everything has a purpose as well as trees and plants this would require consulting with Horticulturists etc.
It may seem unfair that new communities have these requirements whereas older neighborhoods do not. Perhaps infills and other new construction need to be subject to the same water-wise landscaping requirements. The water wise landscaping that I have seen is beautiful and it is nice to see native plants growing in yards as they are the more drought tolerant species.
This preventative measure is amazing. Love it. Charge a grass surcharge.
My only concern would be the esthetics of neighborhoods. ensuring enough plant life and hard-scaping while not living in a community with yards just full of gravel to be "drought resistant". Some yards are already ugly enough and not maintained and this could be a slippery slope to more homes like that in neighborhoods with "being water use friendly" as an excuse.
I think that requiring more drought resistant plants is great, I don't think reducing green areas and replacing with more cement is better for the environment. Replacing no native grass and trees with more plants that survive better in this climate naturally should be better for all resources and not just water.
this is key. We need to stop building places with only grass, larger swaths of pavement and lack of trees. What if you made new development buid green driveways?
I wonder if there are offset programs available for citizens to offset their landscape water impact, especially in new builds. I do worry about how this may affect lower-income individuals or increase housing costs. Could there be a low-income incentive for landscape improvements for water use?
Yes but this should be careful to specific deter grass use, not other plants. I don't want to live in a place where I go outside and it just smells of dirt and concrete. We love places like Vancouver because it smells good of trees and plants and life.
Check the landscaping of the common areas of Rockland. Even when it was installed it was riddled with weeds. You should not accept the landscaping but have a 3 to 5 years period to see its drawbacks and make landscaping companies fix their careless installations. Do not allow installation of rock as mulching or ground cover, because it bakes/kills the neighbouring plants as opposed to tree mulch.

Make city land a priority to develop into more resilient natural spaces. Be an example for the citizens. Why would someone feel responsible for diversifying their lawn when the city maintains swathes of barren grass along roads, decorative flower baskets, etc. that are not water conscious.
These suggested strategies/requirements should be the 'new normal.' Everyone and every business has a part to play in water conservation. We cannot continue to operate as if water is unlimited. Education goes hand in hand with this so people understand the 'why's' and feel compelled to help
Hoping this would also apply to commercial developments and also City of Calgary projects
There should be a consideration for using food producing plants in the landscape
Promote utilization of drought resistant plants in landscaping design.
I already do xeriscaping for most of my perennials....and I still get many compliments on my front yard.
The landscaping materials and plants can be made affordable.
Stop glorifying the 'lawn'! It's a huge waste of water - does nothing good for the environment or wildlife/pollinators and so many dump chemicals on it all summer long. Let's begin to re-wild and appreciate natural and native plants in our yards. Would be great if the City sponsored a 'replace the lawn' deal. Encourage more home owners to let go of the American lawn concept for one more natural
Our landscaping should consist of vegetation common to this area and as such it would already be drought and dry weather tolerant.
Front lawns are pretty useless. New developments should not require them and reduce setbacks while you're at it to promote low maintenance gardens etc.
I don't support excessive hardscaping or rock features - I support more usage of natural, local, drought-resistant vegetation. Hardscaping and rock does nothing for the climate, biodiversity, wildlife and actually makes natural water filtration worse.
I'd like more information on how I could transform my front yard to be water-wise landscaping.
I absolutely love this idea! If we normalize the imperfect look of native plants and do away with the perfectly kept lawns, not only will we be using less water but we will be diversifying our local ecosystems. It will have a larger impact that goes beyond our yards!
Sustainable, ecologically safe. Education will be important so people don't feel "restricted". Penalties for breaking this rule would likely be beneficial as well
Again, we need more big trees in Calgary that starts to look like a huge flat lawn with no shadows at all. Encourage neighbourhoods and builders to plant trees (with leaves) and not just trunks with no leaves as they are cheaper for them to buy.
If you create water - wise landscaping in New developments please consider more green spaces, trees and gazebos and shade areas for these areas. This would create some cooling in the area as with drought you get heat which in some areas of the US. creates discord among citizens.
I think it should not just be for new development but go after the old ones. Also provide more shade areas plant more trees in larger groups of areas like along the sides of Stoney trail NW
New developments don't already have landscape requirements?
This is a great idea moving forward. As someone with an established garden, I'd like to update it to be more drought tolerant. Perhaps creating and releasing a guide of drought tolerant and native plants would be a good idea to help people like myself.
Allow and encourage non-traditional lawns and native plant ground cover

I would also like to see encouragement/education around home projects utilizing water-wise landscaping.
LOVE IT. Lead by example. It would also be nice to have these in older communities as well. On an aside, can you please put on billboards to tell people to stop watering their driveways? One reason I heard: it cools concrete, so it cools their car down in a heatwave. I honestly wish you luck in changing this thinking.
I'd like to see this also encouraged for existing developed areas and city parks/green spaces, schools, churches etc. maybe a directed outreach through community associations to approach homeowners with turf lawns with suggestions and financial incentives to landscape differently.
I like that it's marketing the use of drought tolerant vegetation. I'd like to see developers have to incorporate climate and water wise design elements based on a city check list.
I think people should be able to design their yards however they like best. Also as a dog owner I prefer grass. I would be open to a program where the city pays or provides landscaping for these needs.
Penalties applied if not used by developers.
I voted "completely support" for basically all these options but this is one of the most important ones, if we can design water-wise gardens from the beginning, it goes so far into the future.
Lawns have their place (ie: open formal parks like Riley or Bowness) and are great for fun but more naturalized areas are beautiful and interesting to kids.
I fully support this and think it should be applied to evolving existing communities over time
This should be a standard rather than trying to make your lawn look like you live elsewhere. Landscaping should reflect the environment we live in
Rock mulch as shown in the photo is not a water wise mulch or beneficial to insects etc. More thought is needed like drought tolerant natural grasses or ground covers
I mostly support, it just sounds costly. Might be better to go the incentive route rather than making it a requirement.
I eliminated my front lawn and converted it to a vegetable garden. Much better use of water
I do not know who will be responsible for the planning of this system and I am nervous that I will have to measure certain areas of my lawn to stay in compliance. If people want to have grass and just not water it, I don't think their lawn composition matters. What matters is the amount of water they are using. There is no set "best water wise" garden, so flexibility is needed.
We have started getting rid of our lawn and are planting drought resistant plants
YES! more native plants and less ornamental lawns (of the non-native, Kentucky Bluegrass varieties) along with permeable pavement and even grey-water/storm-water storage integrated into landscaping (private and public) for new developments!
Developers can use this as a marketing strategy. The City seriously needs to stop the sprawl though. Easy q
Take in to consideration the wetlands that are already on land designated for new development as they are a critical piece of our water cycles. Too many have been obliterated to this point.
It is important to plan for water shortages and I think this should definitely be implemented, along with grants for inner city to convert to water-wise landscaping.
Support but only 80%, incentives are better then requirements

One of the amazing things about Calgary is it's green spaces - I would insist that all developments continue to have them (in a waterwise way)
I know little about it, but like what is written above.
to a degree I support this. But fake grass doesn't replace real grass, doesn't even look or feel the same. A lot of thought and conversations with Citizens would be required on this one.
Landscaping requirements would create more interesting and diverse yards while decreasing water requirements when compared to grass lawns.
Encouraging native species. Easy to maintain.
I have planted drought tolerant plants in my own garden so support this.
One of the best approaches. Community garden concepts should be promoted. Climate change awareness should be made to the residents
Meadowscaping is a viable choice. The city should actively advocate it.
More native and drought resistant plants, less "grass".
This is the obvious area the City and citizens can start making significant progress. Homeowner and builder education and incentives (tiered rates) vs yet more regulations preferred. New homebuilders could provide greater areas of drought resistant landscaping, rainwater collection systems, tree planting.
I like the idea but maintenance is not always great or kept up leaving it a mess... I also believe we need green areas and plants for our health. - are we planting more trees? educating people on proper maintenance, educating on tree maintenance? 10 city elm trees were removed from my area from lack of education of caring for them (trimming)..city tree city maintenance applies to landscaping ideas
makes sense for City-owned properties and as part of developer requirements in new builds. If onus is placed on homeowner this will likely be met with resistance. For homeowners, direct incentives to help them accomplish this probably make more sense but will still likely have lower uptake.
Please provide free landscaping course/trainings. To do landscaping can be expensive, not everyone has budget to do so. Also often we water the city trees, we help care the city properties and maintain the beauty, it's not fair if we get charged more for that.
There are too many lawns in this city- citizens should be encouraged to plant more native species that can weather drought and assist with flood mitigation.
I like having a green city. Green is a soothing colour and promotes good/positive mental health. We already have a brown and grey city for a long enough time throughout the year due to our climate. I'm not convinced that this is even an issue for the extremely short period of time that we water lawns and gardens.
Need to provide education and support for people so this can be successfully implemented.
Love it -- you'll face a lot of resistance to this, so you'll have to educate and enforce. Tell people it'll save them money, make it easy for them, and then carry a big stick.
Families with young children or pets may want grass in their yard as opposed to rocks and shrubs.
different landscaping requirements may be difficult to maintain in the long run.
I think this is a great way to reduce the water use in future as new homes are built. Perhaps allowing a certain rebate for current properties to update their yards to include water reducing elements, should be considered.
Consider grants and community events to spread best practices and tips and tricks

I love this. Would like city lands to be pollinator friendly as well (e.g., consider alignment with Suzuki Foundation Butterfly Way project (https://davidsuzuki.org/take-action/act-locally/butterflyway/))
These "water-wise landscaping plans" sound expensive, with costs being pushed to the end user (i.e the buyer).
As much as possible, plants should be native, not just drought tolerant. Alberta plants are ready for life in Alberta.
In new development but also encouraging greenery as it is part of the requirement of new neighborhood. We dont want to live in concrete. We have enough of the roads and bridges being huge and using space.
City needs to provide educational resources and perhaps even sponsor leaders in the community who can illustrate best practices.
I think this is a great idea. I think there are benefits in older neighborhoods as well such as integrating clover lawns which require less watering. We need to do away with the image of the white picket fence and the green lawns to be more environmentally and water friendly.
Support for this is dependent on the cost to owners. It's owners are required to spend more money to landscape, then it's creating even more barriers for young people and marginalized populations to enter the home owners market
residents should decide what they want in their yards. however I encourage the City to offer information packages, incentives on water-wise landscaping, as well as efficient irrigation systems and tools
Important
Will the property taxes in these areas alter based on the landscape ?
love it, watering lawns is a waste of water
You can keep out of my yard... unless you wish to pay for the new landscaping and plants.
Not enough information to have an opinion as to the practical impacts to a new homeowner but sounds like a good step forward.
I think it will be difficult to convince people who are used to a conventional yard and they will subtly change their yard, hoping to not get caught.
I think that this is a good idea, but should not be mandated, perhaps as an option for a new homeowner. I support some requirements though such as drainage ditches to collect and move water to a storage location.
Perhaps there could be rebate or other incentives for existing properties as well, although it might be onerous to initiate. EG: I'm trying to incorporate a few native plants/more drought resistant varieties each year in my inner city property. Could I submit receipts for ? 10% rebate on products?
I would like guidance on how to do this. I'm on the board of a condo complex with grass that I want to change into not-grass, and am having a hard time figuring out what to replace it with that won't cost us a fortune.
This just makes sense - grow region appropriate grasses etc
I love this because for the most part lawn is an outdated waste of resources and useless space.
Permaculture is an Indigenous approach to landscape. If people do waterwise, great. But if they do Permaculture they are midigating the risk of drought and flooding. They should get a tax break
Only water the athletic parks like soccer, softball diamonds and football field.

For families with children some grassy areas are needed but everyone else can let the wildflowers and native grasses take over.
Need to work with developers on this to ensure best practices are adopted
I think there are so many beautiful options to make landscapes beautiful and sustainable, besides useless lawns. Working with charities such as the Calgary Horticultural Society and Green Calgary might help determine the best approach.
This would be great so that if we move into a new area we don't have to add a water wise garden ourselves.
City won't be able to support existing boulevards, parks etc so need to be more proactive going forward as the City continues to expand vs densify like other Cities worldwide which are doing a better job.
This is a great idea; native plants will increase places for insects and create a more sustainable ecosystem. People could be encouraged to grow their produce like berries or vegetables.
New developments should also respond to new realities. We make adjustments for new building materials and code requirements, so why not for landscaping? But it needs to be realistic -- and developers need to be part of the discussion.
The city should make it mandatory to eliminate as much runoff as possible (ex 90-95%) through the use of rain gardens, bioswales, etc.... the goal is to not make giant gross rainwater ponds but to put the water to productive use as much as possible through creative designs (think Brad Lancaster type solutions). Should also look into ways to try and capture snow melt
More education might be required to show new home owners that water-wise yards can be attractive. The idea of lawns being the norm is pretty entrenched in our collective consciousness.
Great idea, but I'm not paying for it.
Firstly, the City should STOP issuing real estate development permits for river and stream valleys. This is an irresponsible practice for flood/drought management, insurance and risk exposure, wetland ecosystem destruction, extensive loss of species and chemical/garbage/pet waste contamination of the moving water courses . A risk to public health. Who in govt is responsible for this mismanagement?
Absolutely support, grass is useless and there are other plants that are friendlier to the environment and not as resource intensive.
Stop new developments!!! I know the city counsellors get money and free [profanity removed] from these developers but it's absolutely disgusting I'm totally looking at Shane Homes!!
The City can also revisit areas that require upgrading and consider drought-resistant features.
Water-wise development doesn't happen in isolation. It's part of a bigger system of creating natural environments that are more ecologically functional. Mandating this for new communities or other developments (i.e., schools, healthcare facilities, malls, etc...) will be precedent-setting and facilitate the expansion of green infrastructure in the city.
New developments need to include NOT developing community lakes, limitations on development of golf courses, development of natural parks versus areas requiring regular watering.
New communities should not be encouraged to use lawns at all. Insist on aggregate and mulch materials. Eventually people will accept it. The City should have a lot more control over the new-builds areas.
The city should ensure that all new landscaping is low water use

This is a great thing to pursue for new and existing landscapes
Frame in low garden boxes that can be used for growing vegetables if desired.
Calgary is not in a desert. As a keen gardener I support landscaping that support biodiversity and pollinators, but I believe we can do this in a water-wise manner without creating heat sinks due to unnecessary xeri-scaping with rock and pebbles, or limiting landscaping to native plants only. Relaxing restrictions on boulevards to allow raised beds and remove lawns is an easy step forward.
Great idea!
I like it because it is easier to set things up to conserve water from the beginning, whereas it is a shame to let existing plants and trees die due to reduced watering
I don't like the City micromanaging to this degree but some could be necessary.
I recently removed all the grass in my yard and am using perennial plants that use a lot less water once established. They also are lower maintenance - they don't have to be cut every week.
I like that this approach targets new homes and will promote pollinator-friendly areas. I think this is something that just makes sense
The enjoyment of a property owner- to use grass or vegetation or to hardscape their property, should not be dictated by City Hall. Hardscaping holds the heat, vegetation has a cooling effect and the plants produce healthy environments.
On question 14, I Completely support it. I like the mention of "requirements in new developments" and "new-home construction", but would like to see a way of Extending this to already-built communities and buildings. Whatever can be done to Eliminate mowing, I am in Support of.
New developments should be required to follow low water-use landscaping requirements.
Provide education materials developers can print off and give to citizens. Be careful with foreign biodiversity and consider the impact common weeds will have in these landscapes
Too much control of people can do.
I like the requirements to limit the amount of lawn, however, this needs to go beyond new subdivisions.
Initial requirements make sense but everyone will do what they want when the BP is approved. More union jobs?
It is important to encourage Calgary citizens, living in all communities and not just the newer communities, to embrace water-wise landscaping strategies.
It will be just another money grab for the City, stop punishing us for living in Calgary, work on reducing crime and addictions, create jobs not taxes!!! I have the landscaping, I have no money ("thank you" City for increasing taxes every year) to re-do it.
Permeable paving is a wonderful idea. Can it be used when resurfacing in older neighbourhoods? Will need education to teach people that grass isn't the best option.
I love native plantings and have been trying to move in that direction here and at our place in BC for the last 20 years!!!!
Drought tolerant plants for sure. NO to hardscaping or zero scaping! Germany is forcing property owners to rip up their hardscaping in their front yards, and put in plants. Hardscaping contributes to heat build up in the cities. Plants act as carbon capture, benefit pollinators and reduce exterior heat! Please do the research!

I like the idea. I think it is important for new developments to include landscaping features that are more conscious of our limited resources.
Great idea and one that I support
Good idea as would be rebates for people who update existing yards.
Water wise landscaping should be encouraged. New developments should be required to include this in order to gain an occupancy permit.
There are already enough unmaintained landscapes on private properties and city owned properties. We need more green there are enough un natural area in the city
how are you actually going to enforce these - education and treating people like adults will be more effective and far less costly
The city should not dictate how home owners choose to landscape their homes. Homeowners who use more water pay more costs, or use rain barrels. This idea gives the City more say in our personal lives than is reasonable.
Grass is attractive but high maintenance. If there are more drought resistant options (likely also less labor intensive) it is a great alternative. Creeping thyme is drought resistant, resilient enough to walk on, conserves moisture in the ground and chokes out weeds. It also only grows to about 4" and has flowers to help pollinators. Win, Win, Win!
Developers need to be more responsible for the costs their developments impose on the rest of us, especially people in older, established communities. They should be completely financially responsible for creating water-wise landscapes in new developments. It should not be an option, but a requirement of the development. The City lets developers get away with so much. It is time for this to stop!
Everyone needs to move to waterwise gardens
Change building codes to make new homes more drought resistant. The city has complete control over this
Again, the need for onerous water conservation policies in a city supplied with fresh water by two rivers seems unnecessary to me. I think such landscaping requirements to be an imposition of regulations for ideological reasons and a waste of City resources both in creating such bylaws and enforcing them.
Fully support
Make it a uniform policy that includes commercial development and The City itself. Walk the talk and have a look in the mirror! How many City facilities built to LEED Silver or Gold still have rainwater capture for irrigation still be used?
all communities not just new ones, we are hassled yearly by your bylaw officers because our lawn is not kentucky grass but drought resistant clover and local prairie natives that are not meant to be mowed, we have not watered our lawn for 5 years since it was established
I also think that redevelopment should have the same requirement. It is not acceptable that a developer can pay a fee to remove mature trees from a redevelopment property. Trees should not be removed except where it poses danger, is unhealthy or has significantly outgrown the property. All redevelopments in my neighbourhood involve complete tree removal and replacement with grass.
Existing grass / lawns should be discontinued, discouraged and replaced. City-owned property should similarly be considered
Has some benefit, but there needs to be balance in keeping the city beautiful

You know save the money and make a green belt around the city.
Also incentives for older neighbourhoods to add more drought resistant plants. Info about clover or other lawns.
Encouraging or incentivizing the use of native rather than turf grasses in landscaping or xeriscaping would be great.
xeriscape encourage and water management to support water table vs river.
The city should not be planting annual flowers in planter boxes, specifically next to a natural area such as Nose Hill Park (adjacent to Wintet Club parking lot).
I like this idea for my home in a an older neighborhood. The issue we face is that we would be out of place compared to our neighbors if we did all rocks. Something needs to target older neighborhoods too
Would love to have this in place for new properties. Support also for older established properties would be wonderful.
We should encourage more native plants and drought resistant plants in new areas.
It would be helpful for the city to provide information/education on how (& why) to redesign established yards and gardens for drought resistance.
The builders are always the last to shoe interest to change. New communities require an insane amount of infrastructure, schools, water etc. If the city must build then yes, make it water wise. Absolutely. Forget green lawns
Great idea. While you are at it, require solar panels on garages of high priced homes to get ready for the onslaught of electric vehicles.
Stop letting the city sprawl. Please.
Should also do a plan for current developments with time say over next x number of yrs and some financial aid to change over to water wise landscaping
Good idea but how about fewer new developments and better use/improvements to existing communities.
Builders should get a rebate or reduction in tax when they follow these programs. They should not be forced upon us. One size does not fit all. Property tax could also be lowered for property owners who implement this plan.
The way this has been described sounds good.
No more grass lawns!!!!
New community's houses are too close together you won't have to worry about front or back yards with those anyway.
Great idea. Educate that green lawn isn't necessary. Rain gardens and pollinator-friendly runways beautify and is more earth-friendly. City should consider converting existing walkways and road meridians to show residents how equally beautiful, if not, superior to those are to grass.
This is a great start! Plus if the newer builds have these requirements, people doing renovations may be more motivated to plant those types of plants to modernize their home
This is fantastic and I'm very supportive of this! Would like to see the seed give away again too for native plants and more native plants in city parks. Requirements should apply to business too.
Too much regulation. The city doesn't get to dictate landscaping on private property.
I don't know how this would work
More native and bee- and bird-friendly plants too!

Only concern with this would be how would this affect the cost of new buildings? Would this price be passed to consumers
Tree canopy impacts, green space for recreation/amenity.
Please reduce the use on concrete swales in new development.
Beauty
I like it! Do it!
Build in rainwater harvesting into all new communities. Individual homes can store their own rainwater, OR let their downspouts flow into stormwater storage sustems for (re)use.
Limit grass even more. Also use permeable surfaces (new types of asphalt, concrete) and drainage design to assist with groundwater recharge.
Needed to be started like 10 years ago but late is better than never.
Another great idea
Increasing biodiversity and supporting pollinators means getting rid of herbicide and pesticide use in Calgary. Must take this into account.
I think it should concentrate on the public spaces as that's where I see tons of water waste not on private property.
I like the use of native plants and biodiversity. However, it would need some education.
City needs to use more natural native plants and shrubs in landscapes not fancy ones that can't withstand Calgary climate
Less suburban sprawl! Incentivize specific types of landscaping and make it part of the house purchase
I think you should provide tax incentives or grants to established older communities where homeowners may be interested in decreasing the amount of grass they have.
Many yards with rocks for landscaping have weeds and become unsightly real quick.
Start building up, and stop building out. Urban sprawl is going to send us into a drought faster than anything.
DEFINITELY!!! I live in a 2002 infill in Mount Pleasant and am working on digging up my north facing front lawn to plant more native and drought-resistant / pollinator plants and decorative rocks. The goal is to not have any lawn left by 2024. (I can't afford to get it all dug up and planted in one shot.)
I support the idea of permeable paving for sidewalks and driveways.
Much easier to start with new developments. City could also commit to permeable paving when they replace old sidewalks
Large green lawns are an outdated ideal. Bring in more local grasses and plants to create more organic biodiversity that makes sense for the location
do it
We don't need lawns. There are so many better ways to use the land. I like this plan.
There should be rebates for converting green spaces into more water conscious viable options.
There should be multiple options for water wise development, not just adherence to gravel instead of front lawns, etc. Ensure developers are using a variety of approaches and educate the public on how to maintain them because a community's beauty is still important.
For new developments it's fine. You can set the rules so that people know what they are buying. These same rules can't be arbitrarily applied to existing communities however
Grass should be banned or limited in coverage for new developments including rebuilds in established areas. Requirements to collect and store rain water should be included.

Clover and drought tolerant lawn replacements should be used as often as possible
Education about value of mulching. Do NOT allow people to change front yards to all rocks. Must require a specific # of trees/bushes/perennials. Small property tax rebate for people using water-reduction landscaping techniques, water harvesting, etc. Developers FORCED to install appropriate trees/plants vs go cheap. Should be even more important for developers inside the city.
Any type of Landscaping requirements for any area, must be communicated to people who live and work in Calgary. Make it easy for those in older areas wanting to move to drought resilient landscaping - education and communication are key.
The developers will try to cheap out as much as possible, make it a requirement that the landscaping required meets a standard and enforce it.
Concern is you must over build by a significant amount of infrastructure to enable water runoff as you have less organics to absorb. Support for bees and similar insects and creatures that support food chain up.
It's a great idea. There are already bylaws disallowing certain species of invasive plants, add water hungry grasses to that list and prevent their addition to new communities.
Hardscapes cause more heating.
Rebates for proof of landscape changes to drought-tolerant options will be required for major change to be adopted. Though the cost will be front loaded, the program will incentivise immediate, provable change.
I think this pertains to both private and public parks. I'm very tired of seeing giant shrub beds with minimal plant material in them - the weed potential is enormous, and city crews can't keep up. I would like to see more accountability for designing a public space - incorporating all of the drought resiliency ideas brought forth for new private landscaping.
Limit inorganic ground cover, maximize native flora. If fire is a concern re plant height, then mandate appropriate resistant cladding for buildings.
We have so many native bushes that often get overlooked for planting that would feed birds or wildlife. I.e. Saskatoon, buffaloberry, etc. Lilacs are often planted which aren't native and serve no purpose.
This is a fantastic idea and should be at the forefront of this program. Offering subsidies to those who choose to redo their yards would be a great way to help incentivize this
Absolutely support this. We need to get away from our grass obsession. But help people create pretty and useable spaces with drought tolerant species!
Grass makes our city look beautiful. Don't cut down on it. Plant more trees.
Xeriscaping is something that actually works.
This is a much more intelligent, proactive, forward-looking solution than trying to make a basic human right more expensive at a time when the cost of living is already unsustainable.
The city should have a rebate or help educate people on how to do it as it is a big task but also large payoff... I've wanted to do it but don't have the knowledge or money so hint hint if there's a pilot program
We should be trying to get away from grass lawns.
Yes, the days of huge lawns with excessive water, pesticides and chemicals needs to stop.
We should get rid of lawns completely and encourage mixed grass meadows instead

If this is done in new communities, people buying into this are fully aware. This would create a new group of water wise citizens and create a new standard of thought of yards and water use.
I love water wise landscaping. It just makes sense for biodiversity and water use. However, I live beside a person who gravelled her lot, front to back, with a few bushes, ten years ago, and struggles to maintain it. It is an unsightly mess of weeds most of the growing season. Having a design ambassador in new developments might save future headache for homeowners and their neighbours.
It should be illegal to build a new single family home in AB. All landscaping should be shared and people should take care of the earth.
Apply best practices not Developers Dreams - leave the top soil and support natural drainage already in exestance. Lot size determines min. Number and types of trees to be planted. Development plan for the area pre-sales to include Landscape plan that functions for climate and water. Commercial buildings be required to collect the water landing on their roofs and parking lots.
The City's current requirements are outdated and force commercial sites for example to have irrigation. When developers want to implement xeriscaping practices it is currently not permitted. However, rather than being prescriptive the City should broaden what is permissible NOT just change one narrow list to another.
If we fix things before they're an issue, then there's less of an issue. By enforcing water wise landscaping in the development as they're being created I feel we would have less problems
Support for all Calgarians, businesses and city parks.
I completely support this. Lawns are a complete waste of space and should be banned. If you need a green space to play in for example, plant clover. It is better for the land, doesn't require as much care and is prettier.
I have kids and I wouldn't want to be restricted to how much grass I could have in my back yard, but otherwise it's not a bad idea. Perhaps a rebate for landscaping that way instead of a requirement. It also sounds like it could make housing even more expensive if it were a requirement.
This is great - it does start with the developers as many of us don't change out landscaping for at least the first while. If they built in some drought resistance, the likelihood is f continuing that practice would increase.
I like highlighting Alberta's natural beauty. I think lawns are overrated.
completely support lets get going
It should also apply to city owned property across the entire city. Some of the decisions you have made around tree placement in medians and on boulevards means that they need supplemental water to even survive the first few years - reducing the planting in these type of inhospitable places would reduce your water demands.
I 100% support This. New developments stress the current infrastructure system and so developers should have a obligation to minimize environmental impacts of urban spread.
This shouldn't just be for new builds. It should be city wide to reduce water usage and increase native biodiversity everywhere.
Things won't change if it isn't started somewhere. I think in San Diego citizens were offered a financial incentive to convert their yard to water-wise landscape.
It's building for the future.

I like it, but hope that it won't be implemented in the same cookie cutter way as grass and 2 trees right now. Doing the same landscaping through a whole new division because it's cheapest runs the risk of some other problem down the road
This is the best idea yet from this survey. Helping pollinators and our water? Sign me up! Completely agree. In fact, I would purchase seeds from the city for drought resistant, native, bee friendly seeds for my own garden.
Lawns are the biggest waste of resources in the front of the house. I fully support this as the only and best solution to drought. My only concern is to practice what you preach, the city has made a lot of bad gardening choices. Don't just restrict private residence.
Great idea to increase native plants
I believe all new landscaping should put conservation of water and creating a beneficial, natural home for pollinators and other valuable species at the highest priority. These areas can be significantly more aesthetically pleasing than lawns. We must do better as a city at protecting our water and promoting beneficial spaces for pollinators.
Ya let's make housing harder to build see what that does to affordability for the less fortunate. This is what you people never understand, you want affordable housing but put endless restrictions on building new homes. So no one builds or if they do it takes 5 years and is 30% over budget. Meanwhile the single mother cannot afford rent because 16 people will pay more for her place.
Needs to be mandatory and backed up with penalties
Stop blowing money on [profanity removed] that only lasts a month or two. Like flowers in memorial divider. Get ones that bloom yearly,
Maybe the City should also consider NO new development...
Noticed many newer trees planted in new communities dead. Plant more drought tolerant trees and protect from rabbits.
I support incentives to remove transitional lawns and replace with run off reducing options, and pollinator supporting mixes
would like to see this as a mandatory requirement for all developers, community associations that do community gardens (lakeview), schools, public spaces, parks, etc.
front lawns should be limited grass. backyard should not be part of this plan as people use their back yards differently.
Stone landscaping like Arizona is inappropriate for Calgary given the lengthy winter. Stone would migrate to the roads causing danger to cars & pedestrians.
encourage native grass mix and trees, those are suited to the area. Green spaces, including grass are necessary for kids and pets to play and contribute to healthy lifestyles.
I like this idea but would also like to see older areas targeted for this plan as well. No reason why areas that are undergoing redevelopment couldn't follow this practice.
I also think the city should support planting native grass and flowers alongside new road construction and less grass that is meant to be mowed. I would fully support front lawns being illegal in new developments.
the initial landscaping is very expensive to do and as a taxpayer I do not want to be subsidizing other people's landscaping with incentives.
You still have to water what is newly planted

Great. Other places use building debris as a soil surface medium as well. Calgary may have examples of this in certain landscapes but it's not done or highlighted in Calgary Parks. There's some use of native plants but mostly nativar and not always locally-sourced. Local sourced plants is a bigger circular economy win. Walk the walk and talk the talk. Don't feel bad in booting the resistant bosses
Do not support, neutral, or completely support do not provide adequate responses
It makes complete sense. We are removing our front lawn within the next year
Support this but developers need to be held accountable. They are already not meeting lot grading obligations so why would they do this
Community development and redevelopment should also include on-site community water catchment strategies, bioswales, drought tolerant vegetation densification (to decrease evaporation, improve water retention, and increase the cooling effect.
It should not be limited to new developments. If an owner in an older community wants to rip up their grass and plant drought tolerant plants this should be supported as well. I believe they do this in Okotoks.
Care must be taken re permeable paving which can create heat islands, potentially compounding other problems
You should have no authority over an individual's landscaping
If I could have a solution for my yard to get rid of grass I would be happy. However, I have a lot of grass, not by choice, and too expensive to do new landscaping
Developers should have to use drought resistant grass and trees. They also plant trees but then they don't get watered enough and die. The rules about developers planting trees needs to include smart water choices so the tree actually lives.
It would be nice to have the city recommend a yard that is low water use ready in our climate zone for existing communities as well. I've been to the garden stores and the info is not clear at all
Less lawns more natural terrain.
I would like this to take the city's overall climate plan into account. Balance the cooling value of trees vs. the water overuse. Our tree canopy shouldn't be limited only to certain neighbourhoods, but we should be planting tree and shrub species that take more limited water into account
This is a great idea. What about public space? (boulevards? bump outs on cycletracks?) What about retrofitting (overseeding) for institutional yards (schools, places of worship) - Let's get the Mosques, Synagogues, Temples, and Churches to replace their Kentucky Blue Grass. Let them lead by example to their flocks
Mandating water-wise landscaping in new developments/redevelopments is a good idea.
Would love to see grass use reduced and other alternatives become more the norm especially in residential yards
LID as well as water-wise should be considered to address flooding at the same time. Heat island effects should be considered as well. E.g., replacing lawns with stone mulch uses less water, but makes the yard warmer.
New builds should be a minimum of 50% xeriscaped, and keep to wild flowers and drought resistant plants from developers.
Perfect manicured lawns are not just a waste of water, but are also harmful to the environment.

I really like it! But City should to create incentives for the Calgarians that support this project
I love this. Education on native plants and where to buy them, where to plant them. How to landscape in a way that conserves water. Rain barrels and downspouts that water drought resistance landscaping.
this makes the developments and yards look nicer
Great idea, this should have been implemented years ago. Add to that rainwater collection.
This is a significant mindset change of removing grass areas. Encourage other types of ground covering that does not need as much watering but is enjoyable to families to play on.
Do not support the removal of grass for cheap rock gardens!!
Although I like this idea, I also recognize the value that green space provides, from providing a space for people to gather and kids to play to the mental benefits of not being surrounded by rocks or cement.
It'll be good to set the new standard of practice in new communities.
Love the idea.
This is a no-brainer
I would go so far as to say that new development should not have monoculture grass. The city could require new builds to use native, drought-resistant species that are also beneficial to pollinators, local birds and bees, the soil health, etc.
I like this idea. Reducing new communities and urban sprawl would help better though.
No, water wise has issues with zero scape design which was stone and causes urban island heating effect. That type of design needs to be discouraged.
Give me an incentive \$\$.
In Ottawa, 5k incentive to have driveway replaced with porous material.
Should require everyone to participate not just new development
Completely eliminate grass that has to be mowed, and replace with native grasses, flowers, rockscaping... - this will reduce water usage, increase territory for native critters to live, reduce maintenance, reduce carbon emissions from mowing, and naturalize and beautify open areas.
If you are buying into the community your place is new and the whole community will be the same. It's easier to implement in that type of situation
We recently had a landscape designer plan our yard for us & this was a big concern for us. Native plants that we dont need to water often, limited grass area (& water-friendly grass options - although there aren't many that survive well in Calgary's climate), and a bat & bee-friendly yard. I think this should be mandatory for new developments & there should be a retrofit plan for old neighbourhoods
Some people might find this restrictive but I'm on board with it! It makes sense and is the 'right' thing to do. Again, normalizing water-wise behavior.
Very supportive of less grass and more plants etc to support biodiversity.
I think the city can offer free kits to plant drought resilient plants for gardens across the whole city.
The idea of large swaths of turfgrass is sooooo 19th century England. Biggest waste of water and loss of opportunity for beautiful landscapes that benefit wildlife. There is more outreach and education needed to inform citizens of the costs (financial and environmental) of maintaining turfgrass and what the alternatives are
I have a few neighbours who have a front yard that is water wise and still beautiful! No lawn but plenty of local flora and fauna. When it rains that's all their front yard needs. I think all lawns should

go in the same direction. Look at Arizona! All of the yards have fake grass and local trees, rocks and plants and they look beautiful. Having an immaculate green lawn is overrated nowadays.
I wish I could afford to do it on my own property.
This is just common sense
[profanity removed] terrible. You will see an outflow of residents if you even try to implement this [profanity removed]
I think this idea should be considered, while still allowing for flexibility for individual landscaping desires
This is a fantastic idea, and would not only help with water use but could also promote some creased biodiversity. New communities should strive to integrate nature.
More xeriscaping and more indigenous flora suitable for our arid prairie landscape
New developments exist at the expense of all existing residents. No subsidies should be given to developers in any way and they must carry the full cost of this irresponsible over development.
I am concerned that we end up with great swathes of plastic turf or concrete instead which is not environmentally friendly even if it uses less water. Environmentally friendly landscaping should also be encouraged in existing neighbourhoods and on city properties. New developments, especially commercial, should have green space and water retention incorporated into design.
We should be planting species that are native to the area and climate.
Beginning to eliminate and greatly reduce water heavy things like grass is likely the best long term solution. I would say this especially for areas like medians, etc. a huge waste of money and resources for the city to maintain these.
Too many rocks use in landscapes can have a undesirable effect that is higher temperatures. So what about planting a lot of native and drought resistance plants and trees and use natural mulch. I am trying to reduce my grass to minimum in the front yard but that is a process that takes time. New developments must have a lot of trees. And not just new developments, what about golf courses
I would also love to see the City promote water-wise landscaping in established communities too by offering education and incentives for Calgarians to xeriscape their yards and plant more native, drought-resistant plants and trees. Perhaps engaging local garden centres and offering rebates for the purchase of native plants and mulch etc. would inspire and assist people with water-wise landscaping.
I like that these types of plants are easy to maintain and more people will feel comfortable having a nice yard as it is easier to make it look nice. It is easy to have a crappy looking lawn and still waste water on making it semi decent.
Our old method of concrete and grass leads to poor water absorption during heavy rain falls, and grass drying out quickly during droughts. Increased native plants will tolerate heavy rains and drought easier. Also native plants will help pollinators and native animals.
Xeriscaping is typically more expensive than putting down lawn seed. New developments have the homeowners compete landscaping, financial insentives or assistance to have drought tolerant would be required for buy in
In new developments this makes sense but it would be very intrusive to force existing properties to make changes.
LIKE: seems easy to implement; reduces water needs in new communities from the start LIKE: drought resistant landscaping becomes the norm in new communities and hopefully spreads to established communities

I think it's a good idea to have landscaping guidelines for new developments. It may be hard to put in place for older developments that have already been landscaped.
I like the reductions in less water drought tolerance plants and strategic plans for landscapes. Different development tools such as greater amount of topsoil in new development lands to help trap and absorb water instead of having it run off in rain events may be helpful. Increasing native plants and reducing other types of plants sounds like a good idea for healthy ecosystems to me.
Love this! I would rather see rebates or programs to help support this in new builds or transitioning older yards. More trees with broad canopies would be great to see in the city.
I am in complete support of this. Every yard and garden in the city should have plants suited to our climate, and in many cases even lawns are not practical in this city. I believe existing locations should also be considered for a revamp of their current vegetation to more sustainable vegetation where applicable.
But why is it okay to remove mature trees in existing neighbourhoods to put up large homes with no or very tiny trees? Trees are part of dealing with climate change too and help with sudden storms with heavy downpours. This policy does not address all the infills and rowhouses being built in established neighbourhoods so will have limited impact.
permeable paving everywhere (sidewalks, public walkways), install when older neighbourhoods need infrastructure replacement
People should still be able to choose if they would prefer a grass lawn.
Good way to drive people out of the city is to become basically a large scale Home Owners Association. Good luck with that.
I support planting drought resistant native to our area plants. You should also gift these to every house to plant and start strong. Even old developments coyls benefit as Old trees and shrubs are dying
Also think it should be applied to existing neoghborhoods. Yards should require a permit to be redone and a yard that is redone should meet water wise requirements.
Focus should be on improving public green spaces to use less water. Not on individual residents
I think this is a great idea. I think it is wise to use native plants and drought resistant plants. Also more appropriate ground cover beside grass
Good for the environment and biodiversity - be nice to have some prefab ideas for folks to reduce require research on drought resistant landscaping and the type of backyard they have (south facing vs north facing)
There are many reasons a person might landscape their property a certain way. Flexibility should be allowed. Provide guidance not rules.
New bylaw, no more grass!
Calgary is growing fast, now is the time to take measures to conserve water
I think that with the pandemic, most people are done with more rules. Encouraging people to do the right thing would be better.
Again, in my opinion this should already be a requirement. Lawns should be discouraged in favour of drought-tolerant landscaping and landscaping that encourages the use of native plant species.
N/a
Plants and trees are needed to absorb carbon and reduce heat-- drought resistant plants yes, but rocks and zero scaping ABSOLUTELY NOT!!!

We've started with our entire backyard and plan to do our front yard in 2023
New developments should have require sustainable elements for water, power and such.
I DO NOT SUPPORT MORE RULES RESTRICTING WATER USE IN CALGARY OR MAKING IT MORE EXPENSIVE. Figure your [profanity removed] out City Council, get businesses back, stop taxing us more for less!!
Makes sense
Perfect. I think relying on indigenous species and more adaptive landscaping will reduce water needs along with providing so many more benefits that it would offset virtually any cost.
I'm concerned that The City will continue to plant inappropriate trees and other plants in green spaces and not maintain them properly. There are many examples of dead and dying trees on city property. Also concerned about black knot, etc. The City should be looking after the health of these plants.
I appreciate the appeal but if it came to my own personal purchasing power I wouldn't go for a community or property like that. However there are others who welcome these designs.
Seriously? This isn't already a requirement? What is this, the 1950s?
I believe the intent is great, but will people's behaviour change? This enables people to be responsible, but they likely still need other "encouragement".
Love it. I hope the city will do a program about native plants, wildflowers, and water wise landscaping as well as help residents to obtain materials. I would love to be able to get a large quantity of wildflowers and native grasses for a decent price, but it's just not affordable at this time.
Makes sense to use plants that use minimal water and to develop rain gardens where possible. My garden was landscaped 20 years ago at huge cost and has hardscaping where one might now put a rain garden. I can't easily redo this, but in new developments it is possible
So much is wasted on grass in communities that never even use it.
How can we encourage homeowners in established neighbourhoods to consider these guidelines when upgrading their hardscaping or plantscaping.
Completely support drought resistant landscaping, but it seems you don't understand basic gardening. Doesn't matter how much you try to "design" a drought tolerant garden, many vegetables require more water in order to grow. It's just how it is! Telling me that I can't grow tomatoes or peppers because they need more water to grow is borderline dictatorship.
Well with smaller lots and zero lots already in place there isn't much for people to landscape anyways
I hate grass lawns, we waste water to grow it then fossil fuels to cut it. It's absurd, permaculture is much better in many ways
Have at it. Indigenous and non indigenous water resistant plants, use of stones, mulch etc should be encouraged and maybe even enforced.
coordinate this strategy with big box such that gardening centres and esp big box retailers are part of team that equips and educates about transitioning to this while also increasing barriers to lawn care product
Love it
new communities = families. Must be affordable, safe, soft nice place for play in the backyard. Grass fits the bill. Until there is an alternative there is no change possible. The picture shows small objects (gravel, rock) choking hazard. The border was put in by a professional. No DIY looks that good. Tiny front yards. Absolutely support. They are just for pretty, no food or fun takes place

Great idea for public spaces and to encourage individuals. Teach homeowners which plants, trees and lawn covers are better than the current grass we use. We still need green spaces to connect with nature to reduce individual stress. The effects of living in a concrete jungle are not beneficial to humans.
I LOVE IT.
If the city felt like redoing my neighborhood as drought resilient I would be on board. I hate grass (I also am failing miserably trying to maintain it)
I'd like to see the city offer some drought resistant fruit trees in their tree list too (I'd such a thing exists, I'm still learning how to garden in Calgary)
I don't want to be 'required' to only buy certain plants for me garden. But more information on drought resilient plants would be helpful and maybe a rebate for homeowners who use only drought resilience plants!
We must move away from grass and include more food crops and pollinators and native plants. It will be more beautiful too. And less maintenance. I also think we need to plant more trees for shade, which will help keep our city cooler in times of heat waves.
It's not only science-based but wise approach based on traditional knowledge and experience
I love this idea. Not even for new communities but I would like to see a surge in "re-wilding" in Calgary. We need more native species to encourage wildlife and growth without the additional use of water or chemicals
Let people decide for themselves. If they can't water frequently they would have to change their plants already.
this is about current design: my neighbourhood has a habit of removing grass & trees and making larger cement car pads. If this creates more demand on waste water treatment, it should be restricted.
How can we support pollinators more?
Love it. Not sure how it would be enforced though. Would this be applicable to infills in older communities?
This is very important as newer developments often don't have mature trees or plants that can help retain water in the soil. Encouraging water-efficient landscaping also normalizes them. I wish my older property had better considered water use as it has been expensive and labour-intensive to re-landscape to be more water-wise.
The strain and costs to taxpayers paying for new infrastructure in new developments is a big concern already.
I would have to see the specific proposal to have a strong opinion. This seems good conceptually but I am concerned the measures will be done in such a way to maximize developer profits and minimize public greenspaces.
Households should be incentivized to make these changes but not forced into them. Not everyone is a gardener!
I am strongly in favour of water-wise landscaping and am planning on replacing my entire front lawn with climate-appropriate perennial plants and shrubs next year.

This is a great idea - let's build better the first time! Permeable pavement specifically has not shown great value in our type of soils + winter climate from my understanding. Can we build a local economy from this (e.g. training landscapers for new developments, empowering greenhouses to have local drought tolerant plant species). Regulation is key part of this for new developments!
I think this is an excellent idea, and not just important for water conservation, but also the environment overall
Provide resources recommending plants and materials, encourage communities to include when building new or making changes
I have not researched enough to comment
Lawns are an unfortunate default. Making native plants the norm is fantastic on many levels. The city should start by converting all public green spaces to native wildflowers with cold hardy fruit trees and shrubs. Focus jointly on ugly areas that waste resources by requiring mowing, as well as local sites to demonstrate best practices like all the playgrounds and parks.
I think this is a fantastic idea and should be extended to municipal tax payers who have old lots with miles of grass and many trees on the property which consume so much water that our grass cannot grow, yet we don't want to waste water on the grass. And if we don't nourish the grass, the dandelions take over. What a dilemma!
Unsure what this looks like
Also consider: where possible, make older communities water-wise.
Informing the public about the importance of natural shade. Encourage tree planting or the use of shade cloth for people, houses or the gardens. New developments would benefit from low water landscaping
Provide info on how I can make my yard more efficient.
I love this idea and wish it could be implemented in existing neighborhoods. We eliminated grass in our front yard completely and are attempting to transition to micro clover on our back lawn over time. It requires less water and returns nitrogen to the soil. I don't know how we ever got sold as a society on maintaining grass lawns. It's ridiculous.
Would like to see tax incentives or other financial incentives for homeowners in older neighbourhoods to upgrade to water-wise landscaping.
I think such a program should be expanded to include older community and/or public land currently filled with grass
This should extend to older communities as well through HOA organizations
Makes completely sense. Maybe The City can provide subsidised plants for replacing current plants and gardens.
The City should stay out of private property matters as much as reasonably possible. Dictating the type of landscaping on properties where that landscaping is only active and being watered for a few months per year is wildly unreasonable.
The City should not be dictating to residents how their yards will be maintained. Way too out of scope for a municipal government.
I don't know enough about the program. However I do not support more red tape to get houses and development approved. If we look to our neighbours in California business and people are leaving the state in favour of states with less bureaucracy.
Get the local nurseries on board with a plants clearly marking water wise and native to alberta

It's a start
Agree, but do not promote non-permeable hardscaping instead or rock mulch, to reduce runoff and heat island.
This is a great idea. Put the burden back on developers, not individual homeowners and citizens since they are the ones benefitting from poor landscape design.
No this is the way things should be going forward. In developing the plan we should err on the side of drought tolerance because that is clearly the direction our region is heading in
I think this is the right plan! Water wise landscaping is a great preventative measure to water overuse!
Not just landscaping but structural features like installing eavestroughs or other rain capture system so that homeowners can use that water for their garden.
Stop new developments. If new developments are putting severe strain on the cities resources, that's clear we are at a limit and new developments should be halted. It is irresponsible to keep building beyond the capacity of what the city can serve.
These are a wonderful way of putting native plants in areas. Hopefully it would also help areas that are more exposed to the sun and burn the ground.
go drive around central California or Arizona. everything is grey and cement. there is no inviting landscaping anymore, just concrete. this is NOT how you build a vibrant city.
The thing with resilient or drought tolerant species is that they do need frequent watering in the first couple of years to get properly rooted in. If they are just planted and not cared for by the new homeowner because they think it's a low maintenance thing then you'll end up with dead plant materials everywhere. If you're going to require xeriscaping then require rainwater capture too.
More concrete and rock with less green will cause soil erosion, run-off issues, and increased heat. Then you'll blame climate change and tax us more. Grass provides cooling, less dust, better water absorption and supports a variety bugs needed for the ecosystem. All those "native" plants are just weeds and look terrible over time. IMO
Even drought tolerant plants require watering until they are established. There likely needs to be an incentive for supplies (garden centres) to carry and promote these plants. What is the plan as the landscape matures? As trees grow and cast shade the type of plants will need to change, many of the drought-tolerant plants prefer full sun.
There should be incentives for families to convert existing landscaping to drought resistant landscaping. My household has been looking into alternatives to grass in the backyard such as clover but there is limited information available on this from the City
Infill developments in inner city neighborhoods do not take water conservation and water use into consideration at all, this needs to be addressed by the City. Infill homes do not capture water whatsoever, as they are mostly concrete (structure, driveway, concrete), which means water runs off in the summer, as well as in winter (snow piled in the street) and straight into the sewer system.
Ensure there are plenty of city green spaces if homeowner green spaces are limited. Kids need to run in nature, not pavement.
don't make it a requirement but rather incentives to have homeowners think water-wise landscaping, rebates on gravel, native plants, install, etc.
Cost-effective, healthier for the environment. Will create plantlife bees can use, and reduce insect populations that habitat in long grasses (such as ticks). Also more natural beauty than just plain grass

lawns and paths. Besides these perks, it's a natural solution to the economic and environmental impact of using water in a drought.
Stop trying to pursue a green and grassy lawn
how about an incentive to retrofit existing neighbourhoods, incentivize tree planting and other water wise activities.
This should be default. Penalize designs that aren't water friendly.
should be law ASAP.
Already the park beside our home looks like it's been in a permanent drought. It seems very uneven how well the city waters and maintains fields. The suburbs are neglected. I am generally supportive of landscaping requirements, but I don't think should be an excuse to treat older communities preferentially to newer.
Each community should have at least on or more facilities to store natural water.
Fair consistent application so property owners can work the system
Draw on best practices from other area with drought. California Arizona don't reinvent
Please tell me that restricting the removal of mature trees (public AND private) is part of this plan!!!
It's easy for me to support it because I'm not a developer. How would they be impacted financially? That cost would be passed on.
I have struggled to find good lawn alternative seed mixes for the Calgary area.
Calgary should consider restricting the sale of non - drought tolerant lawn seed mixes in the city limits
Make the drought tolerant option the more financially attractive one. People should have to pay for that wasteful, bio-diversity desert of a green lawn. And make developers pay big time if they have to remove mature trees. Developers in my neighborhood made the roots unstable for a tree that was meant to be saved. They should plant 3x the trees elsewhere. Mitigate and then some.
I already have zero-scaped my front yard and have minimal grass in the back. City needs to get on developers to create better drought resistant plans, encourage homeowners to zero-scape, perhaps give online seminars for this and actually advertise it so many residents can join.
I would love more information about water wise plants for my own yard. Incentives and reduced costs for those types of plants would have me implement a water wise yard sooner.
Would love to do it if I had the money, maybe some financial rebates would help. Also, dont want to have to go to court like the people in Ottawa did.
Developers need to be responsible
New development is low hanging fruit and the rules apply to all properties in a neighbourhood, and there is no exiting landscape to renovate.
Please do this; it's a great idea. New neighborhoods seem to be exclusively sod and pavement/concrete.
Absolutely a great idea. I would like to do this at my older home as well, but need some help to understand what options are good for calgary and cost tiers for different ideas.
We need to get away from grass requiring so much water. Find native species that are drought tolerant (and better for pollinators).
I would only support such a mandate on city property. People should be allowed to have what ever plants they want on the space they pay for

Agree. We should try to move away from lawns and concrete yards. I would add that soil health should be a landscape requirement. In a blog post about California's situation, it says "Regenerative agriculture, which involves building soil health - nature's reservoir - and using practices that reduce irrigation demands, can help California farms and ranches be part of a drought mitigation strategy." https://www.nrdc.org/experts/arohi-sharma/how-regenerative-agriculture-can-mitigate-drought
promote native plants and try to find a source of native grasses
Would be nice to see a range of kits from ornamental to food production
this is a good strategy, but expensive for existing homewoners to make. City could provide a subsidy.
great idea, and information and encouragement for citizens to do so in backyards as well
affordability for homeowner
looking to the future and sustainability in our communities
Incentivize, don't just make restrictions. How to keep homewoners from doing their own landscaping after they buy the property?
Yes, good idea
Good idea
really good
would have to educate people
Good
This strategy will still support required greenspace
Homeowners who already pay high property taxes should not be restricted in any way. Homeowners should have freedom to choose the plants and landscaping they want
more plants is good
great idea, get rid of golf courses
great idea
yards are smaller nowadays. This would save money already
this will help reduce the use of water
it will help communities to be environment friendly
Canada needs more greenspace
Absolutely support this strategy
love this idea
less planting
would like to see implementation, although doesn't affect us as we live in a townhouse
it will be good strategy but landscaping restrictions can not be good idea
this is an amazing strategy as most plants require a lot of water. Planting drought resistant plants saves water and the community is still able to plant trees.
neutral
Yes!
IT doesn't seem fair to only have new communities do that
No
people should be able to decide what they plant

Question 16

To what extent do you support The City pursuing landscape and irrigation incentive programs?

Multiple choice question. No verbatim.

Question 17

To what extent would you be interested in participating in the following program concepts, should they be offered?

Multiple choice question. No verbatim.

Question 18

Please share your thoughts about The City pursuing landscape and irrigation incentive programs. For example: What do you like about it? What do you not like? Do you have any concerns The City should take into consideration when developing this idea?

This sounds like a dream come true! I have wanted to do this for years but it's overwhelming and expensive.
Like the retro-fit incentive idea but would also like to see it incorporated into building/development requirements
I like everything about the premise, but am VERY opposed to it only being offered to single family homeowners. It should not discriminate against condo/townhouse/duplex owners, or cooperative/non-profit housing complexes. Single family homeownership is bad for the environment, liveability and affordability and we have to stop giving them perks not afforded to everyone else.
This approach Re: a range of programs and rebates should be used for Enmax rates to support energy efficiency/emissions reduction / utility and ratepayer cost savings.
Incentives would have to be substantial especially for those that have very large yards. Incentives I've seen offered by governments in the past have hardly been worth the hassle and so minimal it would only be a very small contribution towards a very costly project to do a drought tolerant landscape. Many seniors and retirees who enjoy gardening would not be able to afford it on a fixed income
We just spent \$2000 +/- on converting 1/2 our front yard into this type of landscape... there should be some incentivization / rebates for others to do this.
no
Providing people with a whole kit is a great idea because people are often not comfortable with researching everything. Rebates are always a good incentive for encouraging people.
Get rid of front lawns period. Waste of water. Seeing as that wont happen anytime soon, I like the idea of subsidized water saving tools
most homeowners have drip hoses or a soaker hose. price of water plus all the fees is nuts. it will cost too much money for the handouts. can you not be smarter about how you are using our tax dollars?
Subsidies on plants and landscaping that is native to area I am all for. We are changing all our landscaping to be drought resistant but it is expensive so making it more affordable is great. I would even go as far as to add a premium when people buy things that aren't drought resilient.
We removed the sod in our backyard already and would like to do the same in our front yard.

Grass is not the enemy, It is the type of grass. Our lawn is very old, has a mix of grasses and clover with a root system about 5 inches deep. It is very drought resistant. We never water it.
Big fan of this, wish it was around when I pulled up 90% of the sod at our house. Would also be great to work with homebuilders. In our case we bought our house new from a small scale builder, who assumed new homeowners would want sod. Yet we put in a lot of effort to pull up the sod that was recently laid down by the builder. Seemed like a big waste of resources and time for all involved.
I think this would be beneficial, but also encourage people to plant food not just landscaping
Instead of giving rebates, perhaps considering adding property tax per square footage of lawn and provide information on how to replace their lawn. That could incentivise homeowners to make changes themselves.
I have always wanted to remove all the grass in our front yard but it is cost prohibitive. Removing the grass would reduce the amount of water I need to use to water the trees.
Consider how to reward people who already have taken these steps and have established drought tolerant yards.
Why would you cap the rebate for the amount of lawn removed? Wouldn't removing lawn to the absolute minimum be the whole point of this?
Excellent ideas
This to me seems like the main solution. It's great.
I like this idea a lot. It is time for homeowners in Calgary to accept that Calgary is a prairie city, and it never had the rainfall to support green grass all summer. Climate change and the resulting melting glaciers will only make this a more serious problem in the future. Time to wake up Calgarians!
Clover instead of grass
love it
All of the above are wonderful ideas, but even with rebates, for seniors, it might not be financially possible to pursue this.
This is a great way to actually get something done. Giving out kits and information on how people can re-imagine their lawns is a fantastic idea.
I wonder if it would be very costly to operate compared to benefit to city, such as the toilet rebate program. Sometimes these programs seem really great, and then actually offer you very little financial help when it comes down to it.
I love all of this and am in the process of doing this now to my property. But this is expensive and we are struggling to get the funds together to make this a reality.
Please sign me up!
I like these measures that still allow for attractive yards that use significantly less water. Grass/lawn is not the only option.
Many places in the U.K. have encouraged natural meadow grass and flowers for lawns as they are hardier and can withstand low watering....just might attract more pollinators and butterflies!
I always thought of removing more of my lawn but don't know where to start. We live in a zone where, once we move our home will be destroyed and infills will be built so for me, it's probably a waste of time. On the whole, I think this is a great idea but people probably need support once this is done so their new yards are kept healthy.
For condos - cost of maintenance of drought resistance. Simple and easy to hire someone to cut grass, but unclear time needed to hire someone to maintain/weeding if not grass? Also over time cost to replace/maintain if not grass - do you need to rebuy mulch every year or two, etc?
I do like the idea. But I also see a place for lawn space where a drought tolerant mix is being used. Grasses help build soil and have a place in the ecosystem.

If a grant or incentive was offered, I'd remove all my lawn today and replace it with native pollinator friendly species
again - there is the equity component here for lower-income and renters. Makes me wonder if there could be an analysis of demographics for participation in past programs, and whether certain portions of the overall funding envelop (or an increase in rebate) could do well for those that might not have the financial means?
I have 3 rain barrels, also have already removed a lot of our grass.
I am concerned with the tax burden. Homeowners should choose to act responsibly and not waste water because they feel they can - stewardship should be part of ownership.
I already do most of this already. I would also target the schools on this as well as have mobile community work shops and information
Good idea to plan ahead
I support programs that normalizes water wise landscaping and break down the entrenched but arbitrary belief of needing a perfect green yard. Sometimes though a yard is desirable for pets, so shared living space or kits that consider animal friendly plant species would be appreciated. Many water wise plants can be poisonous to dogs so I hope those would not be promoted
You're missing natural tools like building a swale to hold water and working with the natural landscape. Much of that is learned through exposure and education (regenerative gardeners, traditional wisdom holders, permaculture, etc.) — and might also help save water as well.
Please make sure this applies to duplexes too.
This is more like it - offer affordable ways for Calgarians to opt in and save money by doing the right thing for the environment, instead of taking a punitive approach.
Can we do this now please? We are actually already looking at this and it would allow us to Complete much sooner
Great ideas so long as there are still community standards to be retained. I can see problems with some yards becoming very unpleasant to look at, just neglected or just full of gravel with no esthetic appeal.
A million times yes.
I know these again towards residential homes, however there are some condo buildings that would be very interested in participating and things like this, please do not exclude them!
I've been wanting to take part in a program exactly like this.
This benefit is only for homeowners - this is of no benefit to others in Calgary
I would love all of these programs
Taxes are already too high. Any scheme would have to be justified based on cost saving somewhere else.
I am not certain incentive programs actually have the impact they should have for dollars spent and are not always equally participated in by all citizens.
This has equity-based implications (does your department use the Gov of Canada's Gender-based analysis+ for new programs?). A downside is that only more socio-economically advantaged demographics would benefit from these programs, furthering income disparities. E.g. lower-income groups still may not afford to make changes, then end up using more and paying more for water.
I love how this helps homeowners know what they can do to cut down in water use and provide rebates to help make changes Very interested.
I am really happy to hear the City is developing this strategy. I would like to see them consider consulting indigenous groups or chiefs near Calgary about sustainable agriculture and a community program there too

I love this idea ... just wish I hadn't already started doing this in my front yard!
Its a great idea, you need to be cautious that calgarians love their grass, so offer better drought tolerant grass or clover substitutes and use them in Calgary parks and green spaces so you can say. This would be like the texture of grass found in X Park, and then people might be willing to try it too
Rebates for things like smart in ground irrigation systems would be great. Could water early morning and exactly where water is needed. Autoskip rainy days.
I have done this a few years ago... Do I get money back?
Id like to see the addition of native fescue as an alternative for families. I think resistance may occur as families want their young children to be able to play on the grass, at least we did.
Please consider permaculture principles and adding an optional food forest into the design
Love this idea!!
Fully support this aspect of the program.
I would love to reduce my lawn with a more sustainable, drought tolerant landscape. I'm interested in using native grasses as well instead of a traditional lawn.
Can be a financial burden in a time when life has been difficult for many. Not opposed but conversion must be as people are able.
I already started this process this year. Would there be any rebates for people ahead of the trend?
You can lead a horse to water..... Education is great, but Id be wary of excessive subsidies for plants (beyond grass pull rebates) unless a severe water shortage was in the cards
Vancouver is BEAUTIFUL for their amazing gardens! Calgary is already dry and have severe winter. Are we truly considering limiting gardening freedom? That's terrible!
That's great. Will require a huge attitude shift from people who are proud of their lawns. We currently have the "greenest lawn" contest in community newsletter every year
I think it's extremely cool and I'd love to participate. Our lawn has already been replaced by fescue grass (installed by a previous homeowner) which is much more drought-hardy and I love it.
The city shouldn't be in the rebate business. My tax dollars are better spent elsewhere than monitoring now my water use and how my yard looks
Extremely hard to do retrofits economically.
Incentive programs are great but for those who cannot afford the upfront costs it can be impossible. I personally am paying off my deductible for my roof, the money for the resilient rebate was gone by the time the crew showed up. There needs to be adequate funding if people are going to take advantage of such a rebate program
I like all the above options as they give homeowners several options. Only concerns is for homeowners who rent their homes and ensuring that they encourage their tenants to take on those water saving measures. Other concern is for landlord homeowners to inflate rents unnecessarily due to possible increase in costs to save water.
Could it be retroactive ;-). Just spent ~\$8500 on exactly this type of landscaping (lawn removal, drought resistant plants, French drain). Be nice if I could get some of that back in an incentive program!
Any thing that the city do for my home, community and the environment is good and I support it
I think this would be a great initiative. Grass just often seems like an easier choice, more inexpensive, so keeps me less action based to pursue something different. A kit would make it a lot easier, especially with lower costs materials and tools.
The down size to all this if for renters who can't change their lawns but have to pay the water premiums fees
Give credit to people who have already done a waterside yard (even partial)
Incentive to maintain the yard also (ie not convert back after a few years)

I think this is a great plan!
Older yards require significant work due to clay or compaction. Some require manual work that is very physical. Want to reduce grass footprint it's difficult to maintain.
Focus on core services and reducing spending. Stay out of anything else
Include some non grass but green options too, not just flower gardens. eg clover (another bonus- no mowing.) Or options like creeping thyme. I saw a "green mix grass alternative" that was developed in BC mentioned on a neighbour hood app last year. Low water need and no mowing. I would love to go to that kind of option. (Flower beds require maintenance.) Of note, we do not water our grass now.
Allow weeds and natural plant yards over 3 ft tall
Moving beyond gardens and allowing the ability to naturalize a lawn, while still ensuring it is maintained at proper heights is the way to go. Why can't I replace my lawn with clover or low growing Yarrow or other native flowers/grasses?
Maybe consider subsidizing artificial grass/turf for grass. Turf is very expensive and most people don't want to replace their grass for a garden as they want the space for kids and dogs to run around etc. so subsidizing for expense turf would be better
Again - stop limiting use of raised beds and food gardens
There are benefits at many levels for many segments of the population so you have to make sure you identify the appropriate motivation for each segment. I often wonder if more people would have been more careful about covid if they understood that they were paying big taxes for each hospital day for each individual, etc. If they selfishly don't care about people they might care about their own \$\$
I love the idea of providing financial incentives to transform yards. Cost can be a barrier, so anything to lower that barrier is great!
the problem with subsidies is that those unaffected (eg. in apartments)/those who would not benefit still have to pay through tax dollars. Plus it puts pressure on people to change more quickly, especially if they are uneducated about what plants and tools are better. The garden kit is better as it is more empowering rather than pressuring
All of these are great initiatives!
Though I live in a villa style condominium, and our green space is maintained by the condominium board, water use and care of green space is one of our highest costs. As a unit owner, I can impact the decision to water less by actively engaging in discussions during an AGM, becoming an active member of the Board as well as educating my neighbours regarding possibilities.
The cost of actually installing these is always WELL above what the city offers as a rebate.
Love this idea! I struggle to learn more about water wise garden designs and implementation
I think we want to encourage more drought-tolerant plant varieties. However, I would not like to see incentives to reduce lawn areas unless they are overly large as I think integrating nature into Calgary is very important. I would hate to see all the yards start to turn into stones, bricks and concrete.
I have seen in our neighborhood trees planted in parks and main arteries that are not properly maintained after planted (according to our Alderman; there was no money to water the trees. At one point I counted 28 dead trees between Acadia Drive and Bonaventure Drive. Also trees planted along Canyon Meadows were planted, removed and then replanted. Parks and Rec need better planners or staff
stop using my money for foolish things like incentives. people want to do it fine. Don't force things. Might as well erect more [offensive language removed] sticks like on 16th (art project). Stop bankrupting people.
re #17 Been there, done some of it. Do Not smother my more fragile plants. If they die, they die. try not to over water. difficult this year already. already old woman.

Plants are pricey and do not always survive our winters. Personal preferences should be allowed in choosing plants for this project. The City should look at their parks that they irrigate. It's poured with rain and boom, on come the sprinklers to make it even more soggy.
I have some concerns about how much this could potentially cost/affect property taxes. If the rebate were implemented I would rip out my lawn immediately. It's something I have already thought about a lot but I might wait now since I don't want to be too early for a possible rebate. I don't usually water my lawn anyway.
Cost and time, plant more trees and that stuff around the rivers
Most of the Calgarians are immigrant and they are coming from different nature. So People does not know or familiar about the nature of here. We should need educated about planting and out door water management. I like city pursuing landscape and irrigation programs.
I think this is a good idea in general. However, it would be more powerful to mandate any new developments to implement water wise lawns in the first place. Our love affair with lawns needs to go
We already have pretty small grass area and water wise products for our yard. However, I think subsidies would help people make the change.
While I am interested in the rebates, I am concerned about equity. This would likely benefit those who have expendable income while those that do not have the money to spend will not be able to benefit, and would subsequently be unfairly impacted by the seasonal rate increase for water over Xm3
I gave 2 karge trees so the grass struggles to grow. Watering is a waste. I would gladly replace the grass with a water wise landscape, and believe thatbpeople who try to help in thisvway should be rewarded. Incentives for being part of the solution.
I replaced our entire lawns, both front yard and backyard, 8 years ago. Make it easy for people to do this, and they will do it.
I would love to replace my grass. I'm already planning to overseed with clover this year. You need public awareness campaigns for how pointless grass lawns are.
I already planned my yard to drought resistant and should be compensated now.
This is a great plan
How would gardeners that already implement many of these strategies be acknowledged and participate in the incentive programs?
Who is going to pay the rebate? The taxpayer! "The City" advocating for water-wise landscaping is fine but why does there have to be a financial incentive or subsidization if it is such a great idea? "The City" focus on programs that don't have 'costs' associated with them. You have already provided examples of concepts that will save money (by reducing consumption; isn't this good enough?
Dont know much about this but it makes sense. You need to employ both a carrot and the stick with this
Focus on snow removal, transit, running the city. Quit getting into everyone's personal business.
I can't remember (my yard has been fully xeriscaped for ages), does the city offer free mulch? If not, they should, just like the compost!
People should be able to buy their own landscaping plants. Also recognize that while these yards may be great for some people, those with children may require grass/ open areas to maintain a healthy active lifestyle!
This is a fantastic idea. Public education is needed. Some people think they have to maintain lawns because of bylaws. Fully support anything that helps people get rid of lawns at an affordable cost.
My only concerns surround erosion of land, especially during heavy rain periods. I think that low lands near the river, reservoir, etc. should not participate in these options.

<p>Not all turf uses water. Fescue lawns don't need watering. I wouldn't tear up mine. What about grandfathering in those of us who have done this already, at some cost too?</p> <p>Kits are not well installed and are a waste of city money.</p>
<p>Irrigation sets a schedule that is far more than you would otherwise water if doing it by hand. Which plants qualify as drought tolerant is fraught. Plants in the wrong place will die. A perennial grass may be drought tolerant, but pick a spot that's shady / Shade plants handle drought, but not in full sun. Program appeals to people who have money, street blvd and parks offer plenty scope instead.</p>
<p>I love all of these ideas. These are all on my to do list to be more environmentally conscious.</p>
<p>When considering changing out the grass, need to consider how long the artificial grass lasts. As it would not be good to have an environmental impact on a product that will end up in the landfill after a couple of years. All we would be doing is transferring the environmental impact from water saving.</p> <p>All this to say, the quality of the replacement products needs to be good and long lasting.</p>
<p>This is a great idea. I live in Oakridge with lots of older folks who are meticulous about their grass. We have planted microclover and native species of flowers that require almost no watering. But trying to convince my elderly neighbours has been painful. They just want to water their green grass all summer. This would be a great idea!!</p>
<p>Landscaping to preserve water, coupled with automated efficient watering systems are not only saving water but time and money as well (in the long run)</p> <p>Landscaping is still a personal choice, so custom options should be offered as well.</p>
<p>This is a good initiative, but I need the information and I'm sure many other Calgarians need to know what to plant instead of grass, so the kits and rebates are great ideas</p>
<p>If you are looking for volunteers to start these programs, I am interested!</p>
<p>I have a yard that I am currently trying to switch to indigenous and water wise plants (I want it to look like an extension of Nosehill, and live in Dalhousie). Although I am not digging up grass, I still need to make changes to the yard and a water wise landscape is the way we want to go and I feel that it is fair to also reimburse individuals who are not digging up grass.</p>
<p>Love this idea, posted as a comment in the previous question :)</p>
<p>Somewhat to very interested, I love this as a way to get more biodiverse yards with more native species growing across the city. Realistically, I'm skeptical that the uptake, and water savings would reward the effort. What is the anticipated per home water reduction benefit of going from turf to partial native/waterwise landscaping?</p>
<p>This is a super cool idea and would be well worth the investment.</p>
<p>As the city pushes for/approves/encourages high density housing more grassed/green spaces are required. Yards give kids a place to play/stay out of trouble and families/neighbour's get together. The tree canopy helps remove pollutants from the air and provide shade so we don't need to use more electricity for cooling products.</p>
<p>These are great ideas.</p>
<p>These are great ideas. I don't want a lawn. Give me rocks and garden beds and plants that can survive on rainfall.</p>
<p>Some of us can't dig - need helpers. Call before you dig should be a BIG piece of the instruction package. These "rock garden" spaces look lovely at first but weeds move in.... Neighbours should NOT be permitted to plant large trees (eg spruce) at the edge of their property - should be at LEAST two meters from adjacent property. Shade and junk from others' trees a real problem for us.</p>
<p>Very interested and want to do this but don't have expertise to do it right myself. Programs that offset the cost or offer free support to do this would be amazing.</p>

This is my favourite idea by far. I would love to see this and to see an opportunity for folks to volunteer to support neighbours with this, particularly disabled and/or elderly neighbours and families with kids and less time/energy resources.
Xeriscaping is a skill and needs to be taught. If it isn't maintained, the ground will just look like a dirt patch. Other cities such as Spokane WA have had this incentive but have had a lot of education along with it. I think mulch should be offered to Calgarians very cheaply, but using landscaping rock should be discouraged. We should be encouraging native plants for pollinators.
I have absolutely no money, but I would love to rehab my yard this way.
Love this idea. I am a homeowner who is interested in planting a water saving garden and changing lawn into alternative grass, so it would be extremely helpful to have get started kits and rebates.
I think it will be a hard sell to the dedicated lawn enthusiasts, but we already have some beautiful water wise gardens in our neighbourhood and I hope to create one over the next few years.
For those that don't know where to start is a good idea. I would like to see a community engagement plan with this, encourage people to celebrate their yards and use team work to help each other with small to large jobs. Create a connection with neighbours to share food / seeds and community gardens, convert green space to food forests to gather in and remove the large areas of grass.
I would like to see the city having a one stop shop to purchase native wildflowers/plants for the calgary area so i know what plant is best for my yard.
Love this idea. Am looking into irrigation systems myself and trying to learn more about drought resistant plants. I'd like to see more native plants in the green houses (or at least clearly signposted).
I am interested in rain barrel use
Y can't I go get free mulch ? Or more free soil than 100 L ? The free tree program was open and done within hours. I don't want to see neighbours yard with rocks.. full of grass sticking out after 1 year. It's going to look like trash.
Our yard is already somewhat landscaped and does not have a lot of grass, in my opinion. I can't imagine tearing up the rest of my grass so that there is no place to walk or sit except on stepping stones in sea of mulch or gravel.
The city feels that this is a direction at the majority of citizens wanted to go in then by all means subsidies are the way to go to change consumer behavior as opposed to regulation. Hence provided that this is indeed the direction of the citizens want to go in and not another harebrained scheme just coming out of City Hall I can get behind it completely
I LOVE this. Period. Get this initiative out there ASAP as I would LOVE to get rid of my lawn!!
Would also like to include this option for condos that have common green spaces.
It's something I've been considering but, as a senior, to switch is cost prohibitive. Also resale value plays a part in the decision
It's ridiculously hard to find cheap drip systems retail in Calgary. Lee Valley has good kits, but the big box hardware stores are missing essential pieces of a good drip system. Amazon is very terrible for buying drip in Canada.
I have removed all of my grass already and have extensive vegetable gardens in the front and back yards. Using wood chip mulch for moisture retention
This is a great idea! It takes the onus off homeowners to research, locate, purchase and plan a water-wise garden. Plus it's a great opportunity to promote the use and reintroduction of native plants, in addition to drought tolerant options.
Rebates and incentives should be geared towards education about how much money people can save on their water bill if they reduce their water usage. Without a high water price, rebates aren't very useful.

We only enjoy our yards for 4 (FOUR)!!! Months per year. Stop meddling and focus on other priorities that have a meaningful impact. The sky is not falling, we are not Phoenix, and how much did we pay (with my tax money), for these external consultants??
“Unfortunately” we’ve already eliminated all turf in our yard, so we wouldn’t qualify for these incentives. Bummer!
One size fits all kits may be counter productive. Gardens are all unique in terms of light, shape and soil qualities, so inappropriate plants could frustrate less experienced gardeners.
I’m not sure about this idea. I suspect the overall cost of changing away from grass would be so high that rebates and incentives would hardly make a difference. There is a lot of personal responsibility in conserving water and protecting the environment.
I have already changed my lawn to sheep fescue. I did this at my own cost and it is well worth it. I have not watered my lawn for 5 years. It works and we should do it. Competitions for the best drought resistant yard would help.
I think incentives to help home owners remove grass and put in plant drought tolerant plants or more useful edible or bee friendly plants is a great idea. If you just encourage people to remove grass and replace with useless ornamentals, it is kind of the same problem where we are still wasting water... albeit less water. Encourage people to grow food and/or grow plants that help bees.
Include access to endangered Alberta species of both trees and plants (impossible to find) and raise awareness of invasive species https://www.alberta.ca/plant-species-at-risk.aspx
Great ideas!
Everyone planting the same waterwise kit would not be a good idea, its the same as everyone living in a concrete boring jungle
I have answered the question #17 from the point of view of a condo corporation, of which I am a member. Don't forget about multi-family housing. We need to make the change to drought resilience too and there needs to be programs geared to condo corps and apartment building owners and developers.
How recognize those who have already invested into this?
I think that it will encourage people who have not already started. I think that rain barrels should be provided like the compost bins were. MANY people would use if they didn't have to buy one at a really unreasonable price.
This is the best idea. I struggle to build my water wise garden and these incentives would really help. I took up the City on toilet rebates and our water consumption much lower.
YES! I had suggested this earlier in the survey. How might we change what a 'good' front yard looks like in Calgary? How can we highlight exemplar yards that demonstrate this at any income level. Budget to fully relandscaped property. I would love suggestions on how do I have a yard without typical grass that kids can still play in?
add these options to Green Calgary.org
This could moreso benefit the wealthy because they're likely the ones who have larger square footage. The idea is great but maybe do something more equity-focused. Maybe a rebate if you remove a certain percentage of your grass would be more equitable. Or just making kits available, an educational campaign, work with home improvement stores to encourage these kits
Many people want to replace lawns with vegetable or herb gardens and produce food. This is an important food security measure and should be allowed as well! Most often the native plants are ugly and do not provide food. On the picture "Rebates to remove existing turf grass" you show replacing grass with stones. Stones accumulate too much heat in the summer and kill the surrounding plants.

Love it. Work with existing businesses and educators on ethically sourcing native plants. Consider also an incentive for better water filtration on rain barrels and roofing materials that are hazardous to use on edible plants. Many have heavy metals plants will either absorb or be coated in.
We need to make sure that our ground can still absorb water. We don't want to run into issues with flooding etc., There is a huge educational component here so people/communities/businesses know the why's and how's of what they are being asked to do/change. Creating water-wise communities (new and old) that are role models to other communities
The main barrier to removing grass is labour involved (or cost when hiring labour). Volunteers to help with the work would be great, but any tools/help to make the work easier to do would be appreciated.
...with knowledge comes options and trust that things will look just as great, and be less work.
I like this idea.
To rebate, you first have to steal the money from someone against their will. I am against theft.
I currently use no watering tools. If I were given a soaker hose, it would increase my water usage. Don't hand out free things that could potentially increase water usage. Giving out free kits also effectively punishes people who have put in effort themselves to be more water wise. Incentives may not be effective as people may still water their water-wise landscape anyways.
100% in on this idea!! The only thing to consider is including detailed instructions on how to be successful in planting these plants. Perhaps a trial run could be sent out to a select few homes in different sections of the city first to see how it goes!
Love the financial incentive. Love that it could brighten up gardens (makes people more interested). Seems like a big up front energy investment for many people so a large rebate would likely be required. Large scale awareness of the incentive would also be a good idea
Have already implemented a few of these ideas so we wouldn't use them.
I already use a drip hose in my garden beds I have a deep root feeder for my mature trees which I use to water my trees and presently installing a rain barrel. I plan on replacing part of my South facing yard with a rock garden. I would like to see infill builders not remove mature trees from the property.
I like these ideas the more you let people know about the way plants can help the better. But not everyone wants to take time to plant or do the work so offer a neighbour help neighbour program
I like this because my household divides responsibilities. Some take care of the plants, some take care of the lawn. Plants are easily managed with the water barrel; what "cool" tech can be used for the lawn? Are there apps that could manage watering the lawn?
I would like the city to supply a free rain barrel as well as a one time garden kit, that would also earn me rebates for converting my lawn. If I didn't have to carry the cost of it then I would gladly convert my entire lawn from turf grass to water wise landscaping. I just can't afford any up front conversion costs.
I would hope there could be credit for early adopters. I just removed 1700 sqft of grass from my lot and planted with drought resistant shrubs.
Ah, exactly what I was thinking about on the previous question
Phenomenal ideas! I am new to gardening, so I would very much appreciate the support both financially and in overall planning.
I've already started to get rid of my lawn and replace it with drought resistant plants, and trying to replace with indigenous plants (not easy to find in garden centres). I LOVE THIS.

I love this. Unfortunately it comes too late for me as I have already removed nearly half my turf grass in favor of mulched garden beds and intend to do some more this year. I would love to see more gardens in Calgary. Maybe promote it with shares of images of successful gardens on social media. Add in a workshop or Calgary Horticultural Society membership in the package.
We removed our sod last year and have designed a garden that fits this description. I am in full support of Calgary moving towards less lawns and more beautiful, tough tolerant gardens!
Why does the city want to spend tax payer money to landscape non city owned properties?
I am unlikely to remove my grass entirely as my dog likes it but i would take kits and resources to redesign the landscaping
I run a small gardening company, we push a lot of clients towards rain-wise gardens. It would be win-win-win if we can supply our clients with more rain-wise plants and get financial incentives too! I
My only concern is around the optics - if this is sold as a city cost reduction and beautification strategy I think it will be more successful. I've been considering something like this myself but it feels like a lot to pursue.
I dislike that we aren't addressing the real culprit of water usage which is animal agriculture.
Balance with overall consumption taking into consideration cost savings from delaying additional investment in water treatment infrastructure
Subsidized tools etc I do not think is the best route. Add a subsidy and prices for those items like will likely end up increasing from retailers.
Not interested as I have already done this
I'm in!! Where can I sign up??
I am in the process of designing my yard to be more water wise and it can be costly. And incentive programs would be appreciated.
Anything to help us reduce our water use age
I would love to learn more and have a difficult time visualizing lawn changes.
how can City boulevards/right of ways with non-native grass be managed/included with this?
The people who have the biggest lawns/use the most water should not be subsidized. If such a program is put in place an income test should apply.
If I could afford to landscape our yard into a water-wise vegetable/natural landscape garden I would. It costs exponentially way too much to convert due to invasive plant species and material to build and purchase plants
This will be very important to get people to move away from grass and two wards water-wise landscaping.
A City in Ontario was offering 1000\$ rebate to homeowners who installed a water garden. This is a great way to offset some cost of hiring a landscaper to professionally install this type of landscape. I like the idea of a water wise kit but the logistics of caring for and distributing plant material could be a nightmare
I need more information. Does waterwise mean landscaping like Arizona? I'm definitely not interested in that. Help me find a solution that allows me and my children to enjoy a feeling of nature (no just rocks/pavement)
This is a brilliant idea and I would definitely be motivated to rip up my grass if there were tools to help me!
The rebates would have to be reasonable vs the effort required for most people. Those fully bought in would be happy with anything.
I believe education rather incentivization is a more viable approach.
As a tax payers I do not need to subsidize other home owners. If the water is not available, people will do this.
Unfortunately, I just had my lawn replaced, but I did reduce the size and replace with drought tolerant plants and mulch. But I would have pursued it if it was an option. This form of landscaping is the most expensive however, as installing sod is very inexpensive.

Must be based on family income. Again some Scandinavian countries have already such programs and we can learn from them.
Sounds good.
I want to replace my backyard grass with plastic grass and my front yard grass with a mulched bed. It'll be years before I can afford to do this though with inflation, taxes and basic expenses rising.
I think this needs to be City educating and providing tools and direction to homeowners to make the right decision. I don't like the financial incentives to homeowners. Like energy incentives, they will be snapped up by the already converted who would do it anyway. Rebates/financial reward should come through savings on reduced water use, less maintenance costs, etc.
like if but again costs to tax payers? lack of maintenance
I like the idea of using water effectively and efficiently. Just please applied it rightly. Many other bad habits cause clean water waste. Gardening is not bad habit!
Again, I'm not convinced that this is even an issue considering the extremely short period of time throughout the year that we water lawns and gardens.
I like the idea of having incentives and tools to help this be implemented successfully. Perhaps tie in the Bee City and the resilience of our natural areas.
Are you working across The City to deliver this? Is Water talking with Parks about naturalization/restoration -- these new spaces could increase wildlife connectivity and biodiversity and provide further motivation for people to make this change.
This is a great concept for front yards, grass is still desirable in back yards for play and relaxation.
I think this is a great idea, and should be pursued.
I don't like the city should give rebates to those that install turf grass....they typically are already well off financially and are unlikely to change their behaviour for a rebate. Rather, they should be penalized somehow.
Who will be paying for these "incentives"? The tax payer?
I guess I should pause taking out my lawn for more rain gardens and prairie plantings so I can get rebated!
Tools that have financial benefit are the most effective. The City could sponsor best practice rain barrel set ups. Offer rebates on simple items like rain barrels and perhaps even install them for residents.
Yes! Yes! Yes!
We have the knowledge to do so much better now. Love ALL of these ideas.
It seems like a rebate program like this will benefit those who can afford to make these changes in their own. Someone who is barely making ends meet will not have extra money to spend on changing their landscaping.
There should also be better access and rebates for rain barrels and water totes. We already have most of our lawn removed, so there should be more incentives to further reduce our water usage for those of us already pursuing this idea.
I already have a mix of turf grass for my kids to use and for social gatherings/bday parties etc., and water wise landscapes in the front yard and the backyard
Would be great to also provide people with local resources for companies that can help with custom water wise yard designs and implementations.
If people can take advantage of free courses and tools to effectively pursue water wise yards
love it, we need more pollinator spaces rather than lawns
Rain barrels for residents would be so appreciated!
Followup and concrete stats on success or not. Including before and after readings/measures.

I would be happy to do this in the front yard but still want grass in the back for my grandchildren to play on. I don't know what to do to convert the front.
I have already replaced the grass in the front yard with plants that do not require me to water them. The benefit for me has not been water savings as much as time savings (not mowing, not putting out sprinklers etc) this benefit seems to be missing from the City's messaging.
Discounted rain barrel and/or help installing it.
Great ideas - could there be an option to replace SOME of the existing lawn as well as the entire lawn? As well, do more public education on INDOOR water savings as well..
This should apply to condo complexes as well. I live in a townhouse style complex of 24 units and we have 80+ trees and grass. We are very motivated to change from grass to not-grass with the examples you provided, but the cost of this is considerable. We'd love to be able to get a rebate for this.
Excellent common sense idea
If we could receive discounted rain barrels as part of the water tools selection, and even if we could get help installing a rain barrel, that would be a great help.
Hire FoodScape Cooperative to help with creating this program
To give home owners the incentive to have efficient automatic irrigation systems which to be designed and installed by certified professionals.
I think this is a great idea. Help with my xeriscaping would have been very useful. I had a landscaper do my yard in 2017. I would have done this ten years earlier if I had known how to.
I like this idea, but for some, not eliminating turf grass, but reducing it would be an option. Offering incentives or discounts for people wishing to get one or more rain barrels as part of the water tools selection would be great (with an install kit for the different types of eaves. one size does not fit all)
I love this idea - incensing through education. It may allow people who didn't think they could keep a nice yard to do so. Instead of an ugly lawn with weeds and overgrowth people can have an easy to maintain wildflower/perennial garden. Rain Barrels should be included in the water-wise garden kit and should be based on rooftop size to ensure maximum collection.
If we could receive discounted rain barrels as part of the water tools selection, and even if we could get help installing a rain barrel, that would be a great help. The garden kit seems fun, too, and maybe if there were some examples of it used at community gardens or something, we could learn more about how to use it.
should include decks, ground level patios etc which also cover yard sq footage.
I removed my substantial front lawn 14 years ago; I have a beautiful drought-tolerant garden full of native plants. Education is needed, people think a garden is more work than a lawn, but a properly designed garden is not.
Will the returns justify the effort? Are these changes sustainable once made? Would need to combine with education on how to take it from here, to ensure the new landscaping succeeds
The city needs to not forget about FOOD production! Also, its equally important that where safely possible rainwater is captured and stored on site if it won't cause basement/overland flooding, for example through raingardens/swale systems. My yard captures about 75% of my runoff including in large rain events through a swale system.... this is important to do so properly!
What about those of us, that already have taken these measures? We already have rain barrels, timers, drip irrigation systems, drought tolerant plants. There will be no incentive for us. The ones that will be interested have already taken "water wise" steps. The city is always late to the plan.
Good idea. However some grass turf should remain in the design process to feed certain bird species such as Robins which feed on worms, Northern Flicker which feed on ants and various other migratory bird species which

feed in the turf environment. Predatory birds (endangered !) may also feed on small mammals dependent on turf. Basically a biodiversity assessment should be made for turf area need.
missing 1 huge factor: incentivize people growing their own food. Do not incentivize rock & gravel as water wise, as these desertify the earth below and create environmental heat sinks.
This entire program misses whole picture around water use - what all will be individually & ecologically impacted by single consideration policies. Seems like a pet project that hasn't consulted all the experts
The all in one kit would be a great motivator for people. While there is information on the internet about what to plant, putting it all together is very difficult. Partnering with local gardening businesses would also help both the city and business.
I like this a lot I think educating people on why this is beneficially and how exactly it works will also make people more receptive.
Completely support helping households replace grass with better alternatives. Households can of course still have grass if they would like, but they should have to pay an additional cost that is enough of a deterrent from them consuming copious amounts of water.
Grass is boring! Encouraging and educating homeowners and new developments that we don't need grass to make the area look beautiful would be ideal.
A great idea! Supporting residents with information and materials will make it more accessible. Barriers to creating more sustainable residential gardens will be that people don't know where to start and that the costs are prohibitive. Also, the grounds of community centres would be excellent candidates for showcasing water-wise landscaping.
I like the kit idea but it sounds expensive. I would not like it if you do the plan like the home-owner rebates with inspectors that will cost a lot of money and you have to wait for months to get an appointment, Consider all the spin-offs for the decisions you make please.
I am already making some of these changes.
I love this idea! Please include attached and separated boulevards in these plans! Have a grandfathering rule in place to reward those who have already done this.
My biggest concern is that typically these sort of rebates do not cover a sufficient amount of the cost to motivate people to participate, unless they were already planning to do those things in the intermediate future.
This is far too much micromanagement.
I can't believe I just did this two years ago and will now miss out on the rebate. :(
I think doing this as a rebate is an amazing idea rather than it being a strict requirement
I am deeply concerned that City Hall is not leading by example. The water waste that is seen during the summer months, including sprinklers overshooting vegetation, watering in the heat of the day, sprinklers on when raining, and then implementing punitive techniques (a snitch line, by law officers ticketing people) is counter productive and overreaching
Regarding question 16: I Completely support it. Regarding question 17: I am Very Interested in all Three of them to maximize community buy-in. I am Especially concerned with The City and other levels/orders of government setting the Example.
I would consider this for a portion of my yard. We spent a great deal of \$ landscaping our front yard in 2016 so I would not want to change it at this time however we are quite conscious of our water use. I would be more open to changing the backyard.

Be careful not to encourage overland flooding resulting from lack of proper drainage knowledge materials. IE: people who paved over all their front lawns for an entire street. Mulch is hard to care for during periods of excessive rain as it grows mold and can be toxic to people with allergies.
Who is going to pay for this? Another waste of tax money.
I already have water wise landscaping in place. It's been helpful in conserving water for gardening.
I already have removed some of the turf in my front and back yards. I do not like the look of a yard that is completely devoid of grass; for aesthetic reasons, a balance of turf and water-wise landscaping looks the best - in my opinion.
I would only consider if the City pays for all the work and planning and native plants and tools. But better solve the more important issues first (safety, reduce crime, create jobs, reduce the cost of living).
I would do this with a landscaper.
I want to remove turf in my yard but cannot afford to pay anyone to do it, and it is a LOT of work for a single senior. Would the City help with this? Would the City hire summer students to help people with this job?
We've already been slowly re-landscaping our yards. And there's only so far my husband is willing to go.,
NO to our tax dollars going into this. Homeowners can afford to make these changes themselves.
What would you do for homeowners who have already removed their grass and spent thousands of dollars on waterwise plants and systems. I took the initiative to be more water wise so I would want to also receive the free mulch, etc.
Excellent idea, lawns are disgusting and terrible for the environment and local landscape. The city should pursue more options like this to encourage removing wasteful lawns and replacing them with sustainable options.
We need to see the details. In principle, we are willing to cooperate
We are not interested in these programs as we do not believe that our taxes should be subsidizing these types of programs
Great idea.
Plant based landscaping requires a great deal of maintenance. Some people would do the work to keep plants pruned and weeds controlled but based on what I see in various neighborhoods it's doubtful that many would not.
Offering kits is a great idea. If you want people behaviours to change, you need to provide the tools.
Stay out of this type of program. It will not improve the overall look of the city...Maintenance of this type of property will fall by the way side and will detract from the overall beauty of the city...Initial cost and up keep will be a underlying deterrent to it being kept up... This plan is doomed to failure
We have already made all these changes. I would be annoyed to see other people subsidized to do so. Make information available, educate and lets work together - don't make this more rules and laws.
First Calgary is not always in a drought, our typical precipitation over the last 50 years is 417.99mm. In the last 50 years, 24 have exceeded this amount. This is unnecessary
Could something like this be extended to condos? My condo board is reducing attractive plants to save on maintenance costs but they still have a lot of grass and a sprinkler system (though it waters in nighttime hours).
I am concerned about our diminishing water resources. I don't water my lawn at all, but I am open to doing something else instead of an entire yard of lawn. A City program would be a great way to learn more and to follow through on this.
I think it would be great to have a sustainable yard that looked nice. It would be a lot more work than just mowing a lawn so not everyone would be interested in it.
If there is an overall cost savings to the City in residents installing water-saving landscapes, then I would support some one-time subsidies to encourage people to make these changes.

Great idea. Grass is the norm so lots of education and incentives may be required. Help people understand there are low-maintenance options.
Subsidies are just another form of taxation. It's still coming from the same pocket. Start thinking about tax credits for those who are prepared to do this on their own dime - say, how about a reverse special assessment for those adopting this on their property, like the city charges home owners for sidewalk repairs, etc.? A credit on the tax bill would get my attention.
Bees are dying all over the planet and we want to take away potential food for the few that remain in Calgary and replace them with rocks to solve a non existing problem
Incentive programs need to be effective. Incentives need to be tied to on-going maintenance of the landscape otherwise its wasted and problem not solved. Possible rebates tied to annual water use reduction or maintenance of low volume use. Rebates applied to property tax bill annually.
City should pursue incentives that yield maximum benefit to water conservation while avoiding unnecessary subsidizing of single family homes
Would the city equally compensate those who have already taken these measures?
Affordability is only concern.
We are adults and may already be doing much of this. The problem is when bureaucrats believe they have some sort of moral authority to decide what is best for us.
I wouldn't remove my grass. I find the yards without it usually look dirty. A whole community of that would not appeal to me at all
When the grass lawns go brown people will adjust by themselves.
It's been done, already don't recreate the wheel, make a wet green belt around and within the city.
Wonderful. We are planning on doing this to our front lawn anyway so subsidies would be helpful.
Should be strongly encouraged both for single homes and landlords with larger properties (I rent, and would love to be able to replace the grass with something more earth friendly)
You are not supporting those already with this, nor have you walked the talk. We keep seeing grass planted when drought tolerant plants could be there instead. Less trees and grass (which is mostly weeds) use native (like blue bunch grass etc) plants/ grass that does not require mowing or watering (once established).
We have already done this. There should be some credit for homeowners who have done this.
Education to older neighborhoods to help these looks flow with other homes in the area
Great ideas
I would like more information about possible plant substitutions. I have a large south facing lawn. I am keeping it longer in the summer but last years hot summer was hard on it.
I have been trying to do this slowly on my own, however there is so much information on what to plant, how to design, it is very confusing. And costly. A ready made kit especially black mulch, not just the brown as it's ugly, would be fantastic.
Great to approach individual homes. Please also include condo associations - it is really just individual homes sharing some common areas. The boards are volunteers trying their best to manage within tight budgets
Ensure that paving and landscape fabric, fake lawn, etc., are not the go to's, they may save water but damage soil, environmentally unfriendly and contribute to heating of city
Offer help at reasonable cost and perhaps reduction of taxes for one year to help pay for conversion especially the heavy physical work for seniors, disabled,. Have people come and do a plan of what are the best water conservation plants, set up for your yard. Different yards in different areas of city may need different solutions
We no longer have a lawn

Providing Calgarians with positive rebates and initiatives will garner much better buy in, without further dividing neighbours. I fully support the initiative if it's encourages buy in by choice, and doesn't allow higher income households to pay a premium for their water use. Water is a natural resource of which we are all entitled. Paying a premium for it is ridiculous.
I think the city should start with a pilot area to test the program and learn what works and what doesn't. A lot of money could be wasted if it's not successful.
Great idea! We have in ground weeping hoses and sometime have a hard time finding materials all summer etc for repairs from local hardware stores. Supplies need to be available all summer for projects.
I already have a front yard that is water smart not because it is cheaper but because it looks better. I was in Home Depot with the light bulb grants from the province and people from bc are buying the bulbs not so great for us. Education is all that's needed. Push the builders to not include front sod when a house is bought. Put a tax on sod and seed.
The City should set an example first by converting all walkways and road meridians to rain gardens and pollinator-friendly corridors with native plants!
This is an amazing idea! My personal favourite out of all strategies suggested!!
Very interested in all this
It better be a significant help
Regarding the subsidized tools and plants, where would the money for this program come from. If taxes, how much would it increase by yearly
A water wise garden kit sounds like a good idea. We'd like to reduce the amount of grass in our yard. We don't know how to go about it effectively or successfully.
All of The City's rebate programs are always focused on single detached homes. What about people in apartment style condos or townhouses? Why we should we always fund rebates for those people?? Will these incentives be available for condo boards too?? We already miss out on green rebates.
Wish it was out now as we are installing this year. Are using clover instead of grass for the drought resistance.
SF homeowners do kpt need more tax breaks. I am a SF homeowner and times are tough but have more access to money than renters
Nice
I'm already doing these things. I'll take the extra money if it's offered to me, but I don't need it.
I've been rainwater harvesting using a home-made system for years, including replacing all gutters and downspouts to optimize rainwater capture and/or harvesting. I have dry wells where aesthetics prohibit tanks, and we drain our tanks using watering cans
Great idea! Love this.
Subsidizing is a great way to increase onboarding.
Love this idea!
These are just another way to waste taxpayer \$\$ the water fees are reason enough to cut back on watering. If you made the water fees 100% volume based it would have far more impact on the usage. Now since it's got so much administration and fixed fees you don't see a savings by cutting back!
No. Let people do what they want. Tired of being told and coerced into doing what bureaucrats scheme up. Leave us alone!
we are trying to convert our front and back yards to water wise landscape by removing all the lawn eventually. This costs a good amount of money and help in that area is greatly appreciated.

We explored removing an area of turf grass and replacing it with rock and it was prohibitively expensive, so a subsidy would really help!
Timers will get people watering before/after the sun is out but may backfire as people may set up a regular watering schedule and use more water overall. Lawns provide little value and exist due to historical reasons and because people don't like/can't afford to change. Would prefer to incentivize people to move to native plants, plants that attract pollinators, and other non-grass landscapes.
Guess I jumped the gun on the last page. This is good. I would consider less grass on my older single family home.
It would make yards and homes far more interesting! Though I rather we reduce the set back minimums as they are far larger then needed.
As a senior I can't imagine the labor needed to remove the grass in my corner lot nor the cost of having someone else to do it. Where could I put the sod when my green bin is already full every week? I have a patio and in ground irrigation is not feasible going under the hard landscaping. I have a neighbour who has dandelions and they would be seeding into my drought resistant yard.
YES YES YES YES !!!!!
A great incentive would be to pay for a company to rip up my old grass and take it away. Few people have a vehicle that can be loaded up with heavy sod. That hurdle alone would stop me from replacing my grass. It's back breaking work, and how do I get it to the dump? How much would that cost?
The city doesn't need to be paying people to reduce their lawns. People will do so if they want to, and if they want to pay less for water. Besides, who will verify this program for rebate? Bylaw officers checking people's gardening prowess? The alternatives put in could very well be worse
This program makes a lot of sense given that lush green lawns are not really compatible with the more arid climate here. The potential added benefit of native and drought tolerant plants to the local ecosystem make this all the more attractive and sustainable. Information on lawn replacement options at different price points with photo examples and pros and cons would be very helpful.
I would love this idea, I'd much rather have a drought resistant or practical front lawn
The City should encourage minimizing the use of treated water for outdoor watering.
I am already trying to do this with my property, and would take advantage of this opportunity
What about those of us who were ahead of the curve????!!!! Individuals now on the virtue-signalling climate change train get financial benefits vs those of us who truly put our money where our mouth is. Should be program for people to receive a rebate for work previously done.
Have a service from the city that can deliver mulch etc., from the program currently in place,once to get them cover for things xeriscaping or w/e.
Great idea. Just make sure information is readily available so people are actually aware of it.
Stop dictating to adults how to landscape ffs
Would like to see these ideas put to use on boulevards & parks where a lot of resources are used to mow & treat & water the grass. We can have more wild plants and flowers instead of grass and sustainable landscaping.
I love it! Private homes and public spaces, please!!
I don't want to pay more for any of these ideas.
There are additional ways to save water that may not be included here. Weeping tile in swales to sink water, food forests to incorporate fruiting trees and other edibles that create a canopy that will create shade on the ground to prevent evaporation, allowing grey water capture, some type of water capture in new home builds; barrels, cisterns, etc.

It is a big project for a homeowner to switch out a complete yard. Front yards with gas mains and city-required access areas may make people nervous when converting a yard. Good clear communication is important. Resources in communities - maybe a demonstration yard? Would be super helpful.
These methods work, but tax dollars shouldn't be wasted on it.
Another classist idea from out of touch leaders. Single family homes are unsustainable and not the norm in dense urban areas. Extend the rebate to all residential properties. If you're wealthy enough to afford a single family home you probably don't need to benefit from rebates. Help the people who need it.
This also makes good sense.
Education is key! Love this idea!
Money savings seem to motivate people I always question cost analysis on these types of programs I feel we really need to begin to change the "green grass" mind set of Calgarians and this can be done as more and more residences switch over
Is there any way to reward household that have already done this? And, will the city be doing similar in public spaces, like boulevards and parks, where I see plenty of non-native species? Perhaps the city can have a "show home" of what can be done with native plants...people need to see how nice it can look.
Bioswails should also be encouraged! City owned boulevards should be encouraged by the city to be cared for by land owners.
Educate the public in a real way.
I do not support subsidies for something that is a basic social responsibility.
I think it would be a great choice for homeowners, plenty of people change out their grass for a landscaped front yard. It would be great to understand and have access to the resources to do that.
Great idea!
Good ideas but for kids and dogs grass or ground cover is always preferred. Education and being able to access help for individual needs. Kits are helpful but may not be individual enough
This is much better than the requirements for new developments.
Give people the supplies and tools and they will feel empowered to build it themselves
I love this idea! I would love to get rid of our front lawn and install something like this. Our lawn is full of dandelions and creeping bell flower. I do hours of weeding and I don't want to use chemicals on our lawn. I would much rather have some beautiful landscaping
Why not just tell people to do it. Why does the city think it needs to spend taxpayer money to make lawns go away.
Our family has already made changes like this and so it would be important to honour those who were 'ahead' of their time to lessen their environmental impact. We have absolutely no lawn in front and reduced our grassy area to be only 10% of our lot size. That cost a lot of money to hardscape. We would be happy to provide photos for any promotional marketing the city needs.
I ripped it all out of the back yard and would love to get rid of it in our hot southwest facing frontyard. Only my husband and the cost is stopping me. Would love it if the city heavily subsidized the new artificial turf. You help with the cost and I'll convince the husband. :)
Fully support this idea because it helps native wildlife as well as reducing water usage. We need to get away from thinking that green lawns are a status symbol & encourage people to plant prairie grasses. This should be done along roadsides as well on city owned property and parks. By having native grasses, which need minimal mowing we would also be reducing our carbon footprint.

I'm interested but not sure it'll apply at my condo
Sounds great! Please make this available!
GREAT PLAN!!!
Should be a reward program for those who have already done water saving yardwork
I think at the moment focus should be education on the pros of the landscape vs lawn and also making new builds have native plants etc. but Sometimes I feel changing something can also have negative environment effect. Example - next car will be electric or hybrid. But won't change it tomorrow. As my current car still has a year or two left in it.
I think a lot of people want to do better for the environment, use less water, and enjoy outdoor spaces that are low maintenance. But it can be very expensive to do it yourself (we are in the process of doing it, slowly). This leave a lot of people no choice but to keep their lawn. If the city wants to encourage these transformations, incentives and rebates would be a huge, huge benefit.
So now your sending my tax money to also [profanity removed] this up? Does anyone at the city think?
A credit back on water for people who have already converted part of their yard/lawn would also be nice for those of us who have altar done so.
Great ideas!
you want to get rid of grass yards. that's bad. I hardly water my grass yard and it is fine all year. I water it 1/week only if extended dry spell of like 1-2weeks without rain. let it stay longer it stays greener. inform people of this. Who wants a mulch and cactus yard everywhere. With continuous drip means your landscaping plans actually increase water usage if everyone switchs. My yard=green
How has it taken this long?! This should be the first and only section on this survey.
Grass can go dead and dormant in dry summer. Will return next spring. Get homeowners to accept dry non green grass over summer. It worked on Vancouver Island. All our neighbors supported it after awhile.
create incentives, subsidy, as opposed to fines
only the wealthier neighborhood will look nice as they are the only ones that can afford it. most lose income neighborhoods do not have the time or energy to worry about this.
We installed turf at our home in Bayview to reduce water consumption. Yes, I would like a rebate.
grass is important for kids and animals, keep lawns encouraging grasses that are low water use
City should not be subsidizing lawn care. We have more important needs and taxes need to stop going up!
I would love the city to encourage removal of lawn. I don't know about providing kits though as not everyone will want the same thing. Could do something where the city bill buys soil compost and mulch that citizens could buy at discount. Or like a toilet rebate where you can submit for a credit.
why should I as a taxpayer be subsidizing other people to change their yards? the only strategy you have is one that will increase taxes or higher rates. get more creative and just limit outdoor water use. what ever happened to wanting the city to be affordable for people.
Too late we already have a system. Give away more of our tax dollars. Thank you
This needs a bit of discussion/debate. Definitely red-flag fake turf as NOT included and, in fact, discouraged. Try and support local source and even look at this as a new stream for city rubble that can be screened.
Again, showcase what the city has done. Pilot what hasn't and try to keep rebate general enough to avoid gimmicky-products.
BUILD MORE GREEN ROOFS and get this into law as required

Again, not interested, neutral, or very interested are not reasonable responses. Really need new survey design.
Many incentive programs cater to the wealthy
Which direction yard faces, existing trees and soil conditions as well as existing overall esthetic
Rebate programs are highly administrative.
Allow option for homeowners to pursue private source water options, ie private wells, or storage tanks etc
We're already implementing this idea on our urban property. Currently our front yard is approximately 25% grass with the remaining landscaped as garden beds with mulching. I think you'll get the most buy in if you prioritize drought-wise landscaping for south-facing (higher heat and sun intensity) areas with cooler partially shaded areas earmarked for grass. (Calgarians love their grass)
Very interested in this.
Yes please, especially if native plants are part of the package
I shouldn't have to pay for someone else's choice. This is just wealth redistribution
Not just removing grass but allowing for drought resistant lawn alternatives. There are alternate grass/lawn options. It's still cost prohibitive to re-do your entire lawn at once. Need some in between options
Incentives are great but we also need regulations... You can't keep using water wastefully no matter how rich you are
Just increase the cost of water use and people will do this on their own.
I like the idea, but I think the people who are most likely to transform their yards are people who have really bought into conservation to begin with, and are willing to pay for it. I think applying costs to water overuse would have more effect on people who aren't already bought in, though this is a harder sell
I am concerned by the increasing proliferation of AstroTurf on residential properties...yes, they're low-water, but these are counter-productive for urban heat island. Can we ban them, or make sure that 'turf removal' doesn't include replacing real turf with a plastic one. Also: not all real turfs are equal...
I totally support landscape and irrigation incentive programs as many people will take advantage of them to reduce their water use.
I would love to do this in our yard. I hate the water waste from grass but have need more information on the best way to do this. I am not a great gardener though so would need to be simple to do. I would take advantage of this type of program immediately (but you need to include solutions for boulevards too)
I'm concerned about replacing plants with rocks or other island materials that can contribute to heat islands. This is also an opportunity to plant food forests to address food security at the same time!
I already took my own personal measures, what do I get out of it.
I love it! Maybe the City can train people to volunteer and help to do it, I would love to participate
Grass varieties that use large amounts of water and are ill-adjusted to our climate should be banned. New developments are the easiest place to start making these changes before the same mistakes are made.
I live in a condo complex but if I still had a detached home I would be all in
Great idea, spend resources on these programs rather than the watering schedules.
when will this start - I am looking at doing this with a portion of my yard now. Would you consider providing a rebate or something for those who have already implemented the scheme?
Just don't force us
We have personally began replacing turf grass with artificial grass in our single detached home and it has been wonders not to have to water and maintain the lawn in the summer months. We are strong advocates of it and do

promote it within our neighbours to do the same. If there is a rebate/incentive for water-wise gardens we'd jump on that too!
My grass space is already limited and so I don't see myself doing this, but if there were subsidies and kits available I would definitely consider re-doing some garden areas on my property to make them more water efficient.
I would expect push back from people who have to have that perfectly green lawn. Education is needed so that people understand that added species like clover can give them that green lawn with lower water use.
What about folks who have already done their part and removed their grass and created a waterwise, local garden?
These ideas are fantastic. I like this positive approach more than the negative approach (rate hikes, fines, policing). The City's compost program was highly successful, I can imagine these ideas will be too!
The rebate for going with water wise yard sections should be extended to those who select water wise options when they build a house
Yes it could be a game changer
GREAT IDEA!!!! I love everything about it!
You actually want people to remove their grass?? What the hell! Calgary needs to be more green. Not the other way around
This sounds like a positive way to engage and educate homeowners.
I think this is great - encouraging people to start off right! And educating them - education is key! We have already started designing and landscaping our yard with these types of things in mind - would there be a retro-active rebate? How far back would it go?
I like the idea. I would not recommend restricting to specific vendors or specific products in terms of tools.
Please implement this asap! Such a good idea. We are wanting to completely remove the grass in our front south facing yard and zero scape. Any ideas, incentives and supports that encourage this would be a huge benefit to the city and all our communities.
This is a great idea. It's very encouraging for those who don't know where to start
Biggest hurdle for me to jump right now is the cost of replacing a full yard of grass. I would welcome the rebates and subsidies to move to a more drought resistant yard
I love the idea of incentivizing people who have a water conscious front and back lawn. They'll save money and being water wise will be smarter in the long run. Water is a precious resource and it shouldn't be wasted.
My neighbors and I have been wanting to do this for two years but are held back by financial constraints.
The city should not spend tax payer dollars in this manner. I personally chose to reduce my water requirements in my yard. Others can choose to do so without incentives
This would be amazing!
I think that it would take a lot of effort to create these programs - staff, money - I think some of the other ideas would be more effective and cheaper to implement.
I support this and already have the water saving tools or I would be very interested in that. It would be helpful to get garden centres & landscape companies on board to direct customers to the plants and materials that meet the water-wise criteria.
Anything to save water and the environment help.
I think there are much better things the city could and should be supporting like how low income people are supposed to survive with the increasing cost of living. There's so much more than can be done with this money.
I am concern that the water rate will be to high and we can't pay for it. But I am totally interested and agreed to work for saving water, changing my from yard and back yard to a better sustainable green space and I am willing to

invest some money if at the end we save and get results in this goal. And the city needs to involve all people living here without exceptions including wealthy people
I just commented on this in the last section and am very pleased to see that incentive programs are being considered to promote drought resistant landscapes. I would like to see these incentives extended to condominium complexes as well, so we all have equal opportunity to participate in building a drought resistant city. I live in a townhouse condo complex and want to make my backyard water-wise.
As long as it's easy for residents and has diversity in plants for sun, part sun, shade.
Do not want to pay more subsidies for things I don't want
I like the idea but would like to see what this will cost us. It should be "revenue neutral" in that it saves in water costs what it costs taxpayers.
Yes to subsidy to encourage purchase of water saving TOOLS NO to subsidizing drought resistant plants as they likely do not cost more than other plants NO to grass removal rebate - owners' responsibility - the rebate should be on the water-wise landscaping to replace the grass; owner can allow grass to go dormant NO to "kits" as there is no "one-size-fits-all" kit - too wasteful
I think it's a good idea. But it ignores all the people that did this sort of thing before there was a rebate.
Some consideration for use of yards. Front yards or other landscapes may utilize the rebate. Large areas where there can be other uses (kids play, dogs etc) may need other types of rebates to succeed (artificial turf, etc).
We have a condo (townhouse with grass and some trees) I would love to be able to use these insensitives, but it wouldn't be allowed in our specific situation. If your programs could also encourage codo boards to make the switch that would be amazing!
We have green ash trees along our street that would make these types of options just a place for the seeds to grow. Grass has been the easiest option to prevent a million little trees growing every year (we have several gravelled areas that can attest to this). Mulch does not work well on a slope either as the wood chips blow away. I also prefer to select my own native trees and plants.
children and pets don't play on rockgardens/pavement patches, lawn is important however native fescue grass mixes should be much encouraged to minimize water requirements. Healthy lawn fertilizer, non-chemical weed and pest control should be emphasized as well. I water the lawn very rarely and grass is fine, healthy lawns with native grass mix need less water.
Let people grow out their lawns with cover crops - not grass. Don't allow people to cut their grass short. Don't get rid of precious top soil for a crappy rock garden. So many animals depend on it.
These initiatives are a waste of taxpayer money.
Tax dollars should not be used to subsidize other taxpayers. Stop it NOW!
Incentives Like rebates assume I have the funds to do so in the first place...if you're aware your city is financially struggling
I love this idea! I think it is a great incentive. I would appreciate education on how to make an attractive water wise landscape. This is something I would be willing to do, especially with a rebate, and garden kit.
I think it is a great idea!
This is an amazing idea. I would love to swap my perennial plants for native plants & take out my lawn, but it's so expensive to go that. I would totally take advantage of this program!!
Sounds like a fantastic idea!
N/a

Charge people for water use!!! Not one cent of MY tax dollars should be going into subsidies for this!!! Enough with the overtaxation in this city-- charge people for the water they use whether it is indoors or outdoors!!!
Education and inspiration would help. What are some good examples? How much would it take to implement?
More money wasted to... reduce the green in our city?? What in the actual hell. You think we would want more plants and greenery in yards. We have the water to plant and grow them. But that makes too much sense for our city eh!
I support real grass and lots of tree planting, not fake grass and gravel in its place. Yes trees need lots of water, but they make the city worth staying in.
DO BETTER.
No concerns! Please try this!
I think the Yard Smart program is a great educational tool and hope to see more homeowners participate.
Rebate would be great but you can't guarantee that the next homeowner will not change back to grass and undo the water wise landscape. I feel option 3 would be the best and likely most favourable for the wider population
It's a start. We'd happily rip up our entire lawn.
I have seen Parks cooperating with the Calgary Hort Society in ventures in this area, and 4 years later the effort has been lost. It sounds good on paper, but I think the subsidies and management of such programs would be a big waste.
Great incentive to reduce water use and assist pollinators to thrive. I have a very small lawn but would be willing to remove it and redesign that space if assistance was available
We are always talking about removing our grass but currently financially can't afford to replant. An incentive program is very appealing
Why are we incentivizing those who chose grass to move to another alternative? What about those who thought ahead from the beginning? We planned our yard so it wouldn't require water except in the garden; what about an incentive for those like us?
I strongly encourage the city to not materially subsidized relandscaping yards. A token or marginal amount may be ok but avoid what the province did when they were giving away free thermostats and light bulbs. Let the economic laws of supply and demand work and up the cost of water. Residents will make a financial decision and migrate to water wise landscaping. A how to kit would be useful.
suggest targeting receptive neighbourhoods to serve as early adopter examples for more conservative Calgarians
I don't hate this idea at all, but I disagree a bit that veggie gardens and the like are discouraged in front yards. They do require water but are still better than grass lawns and provide vital sources of food and pollination centres. Imo if you encourage lawn removal you should allow for raised beds like veggie gardens
I do not support tax dollars being allocated towards landscaping of private homes.
Love the kit idea. Seniors and fixed income could get a slightly lower rate. City could vett some landscape companies and have a recommended list that Seniors and disabled could apply for installation labour assistance
Information is essential to get people to agree. People cannot afford professional landscapers to do this work. It is a major project for individuals and would take several summers to complete. Therefore encourage people to start soon and give them incentives and time to complete this. Remember that there are climate variations in the city so what may work in one area would not in another.
Yes yes yes to all of this. Excellent ideas here
I love the idea of more gardens and 'less grass'. Gardening is quite expensive to get started.

Yes! Please! This sounds like such a fun, satisfying project and I would love to do this in our yard. It would be so helpful to have the city give instructions because my knowledge is limited and I don't have much time to do research.
I already implement some of these, would love to get rebate
All of these are great ideas. I especially like the all-in-one gardening kit
These are fantastic proposals! Especially the lawn replacement kits
Because if environmental concerns I removed my lawn in 2014. Could rebates be retroactive?
I would consider this but cannot physically manage to change our yard. I would have to pay a landscaper to make the change and probably pay someone to maintain the plants every year as they grow. What are the supports for seniors and handicapped people to make the necessary changes?
Could this apply to townhouses/small condo complexes?
We have been converting our landscape slowly at our property since we moved in 3 years ago. It is an expensive process and requires a lot of planning and research that most people probably can't be bothered to do. I would be very interested in incentives for conversion of any kind.
Yes would consider all incentives
Pumps for rainwater re-use! I would love to have a garden irrigation system running off of reused water. Also, I will absolutely dig up the remaining grass on my property if there's a rebate for it.
A public awareness campaign combined with sensible development regulations would go a lot further than pork barrel politics.
Should include alternatives to grass that still have a "lawn" type feeling. Lawns are important for people with kids and dogs.
Absolutely! The up-front cost is one of the major barriers to replacing turf grass. While I am planning on replacing a large area of my yard next year, incentives would help convince more people to do the same. I like that there are multiple levels, if you want to replace a large area or just go to a better water management system.
How will the City monitor the benefits of these shifts? we need Calgary-climate based understanding of the water savings that could result from each of these landscape shifts. This will help with communicating the 'so what' to people, or they may not invest the time/money to change their green spaces.
I have already replaced all of my grass with mulch, trees, shrubs and perennials, so would not benefit from the removing turf incentive, but support this for others!
Excellent idea, if clearly communicated to residents
I think it is a great idea to supply native plant ideas considering Calgary's unique climate.
Brilliant! We don't like how much lawn we have, but we can't afford to transition it to water-wise landscape
I love the thought put into this. I ditched my grass 10 years ago and have talked to a lot of neighbours about it since. They like the idea but don't know where to start. Giving them clear step by step instructions. Having a small variety of choices for different micro-climates and personal tastes. Great. Also include ongoing maintenance instructions for fall/spring and replenishing mulch.
Great idea, because landscaping business charge so much that it is completely unreasonable for many (many) homeowners to make any sustainable changes. Please ensure that you source and contract out business owners who offer reasonable rates and are not in the business of getting wealthy off a single job so they can retire early while working-class folks slave until 75 to stay alive.
Love it. 10/10
Excellent idea
Cost would be one of the consideration reason.

Get rid of golf courses if you want a large amount of grass and turf gone. Look at how much land and water it takes up. Abolish golf.
Love the drip hoses and timer incentives. They work really well. We use them at our house. The public just needs education about winterizing them so they aren't just used one year.
Would be cool to see Calgarians who already have drought resilient landscaping get some credit for taking the initiative
I love in a condo, which is the only reason I'm not interested.
This is a FANTASTIC idea.
I would love to get rid of my lawn but it's so expensive. Rebates and other financial supports would make it possible.
The City has an expense issue, so any direct "subsidies" are a bad idea. At most, a modest tax rebate for installation of water-wise landscaping could be palatable. this must be approached by incentives where the city takes less money from taxpayers, not from giving away taxpayer money to other taxpayers.
Out of scope for a municipal government.
Already removed my turf. Would like affordable rain barrels that last!
all in
The rebates should be easy to access, which means that the department needs to be resourced properly (ie: staff time) to manage the program
Please stop trying to micromanage people and work on reducing expenses and taxes!!
I think this is a great idea. Grass is overrated. Once people start seeing waterside gardens they will want one too.
This plan would be awesome and I would fully take advantage of all of it.
I think there would have to be parameters on this that make it mandatory that some planting is done to avail of the rebate. If not, we risk having an aesthetic where grass is removed and replaced with only stone/concrete thus adding to increased heat in neighbourhoods and poor curb appeal.
there are so many other more important issues the city could be spending time and money on. this is shouldn't even be a consideration until overspending is dealt with.
I feel like these incentives can get expensive fast. If taxes have to go up because of the program then I'm not interested.
We have 9 months of grey and brown all around us. Don't take away the few months our souls renew with the green and colours of summer plants.... We need them for our mental health and they bring immense joy to our spirits.
Should be native plant incentives
In neighborhoods that have parking pads, the concrete removal could be included as this causes runoff.
My lawn is almost gone. Most plants are drought-tolerant. The drip irrigation and weeping hoses that we can get locally don't work well. Deer hooves slice through the drip hose. We need better products. I think the kits would be really helpful. Most of our native plants are prairie full sun. My yard is mostly shade. Spruce trees are water hogs and they are common in older neighbourhoods.
I would love to see bee friendly initiatives implemented as well
The City should give credit to homeowners who have already taken steps to have water wise yards. The City should also encourage home owners to grow native plants and plants that are edible. (like Victory gardens)
I really liked the idea (shared in the presentation) of providing drought resistant landscaping kits. I think people often choose water-needy plants because they don't necessarily know what are drought resistant species.

Providing kits will help to educate residents and give really strong incentive to plan more drought resistant landscapes.
I already don't have a turf lawn and have a water-wise garden. Something I would be interested in would also be reducing urban heat by not encouraging people to simply pave over their lawns.
This goes above and beyond what I have seen in Vancouver, and I really support the initiative to be proactive about improved water wise landscaping. As a 24 yr old considering the purchase of property in Calgary, programs like these align with the younger generation of home buyers.
great idea which will lead to much more engagement and support from citizens.
Love the idea; but I believe there will be resistance to this plan. Many Calgarians may prefer to reserve this idea of city property instead of private properties.
Would like more information on clover yards. Our home has looked into it a little bit, and appears to be more water-conscious, but need more information. We'd like to see an example of one. It's a big (and potentially expensive) commitment to tear up the relatively new turf and replace with clover, so need some confidence-building help.
Cost & benefits of it.
I already do this.
Although I live in a condominium complex with a lot of grass, trees, flowers, etc. I would support having our Board participate. The kit idea is great, making things simple for people. Financial incentives are better than financial penalties.
Brilliant idea, would definitely take part if available
education should be a factor, so many people are just plain dumb about plants. Make sure there's an element of choice involved or else every "I'm a proud, Trudeau-hating 'Bertan conservative" will get all triggered about the "nanny-state libruls" at City Hall. Appeal to their pocketbooks and sense of rabid individualism. Be positively obnoxious in explaining how it will save tax dollars long term
I am not a big fan of subsidizing costs as it sounds like its just lower prices at stores (hopefully) and won't drive awareness and good decisions. Rebates for removing grass is a good win. Garden kits made available for low or no cost would also be great.
Great idea
Possible connections to discounted labour for seniors or those who are not physically able to put these garden plans in place.
I'm not into gardening much so I don't want to spend money to alter my landscape.
I like the idea, but worry people will get the supplies from the city and fail to use them, resulting in more waste than if we had done nothing. This seemed to be the fate of the city's subsidized composter program that was offered before green carts came into existence. Everyone had one of those round black composters, nobody used them, they are all in the garbage now.
Absolutely. I actually WANT to do this at my home, but don't know how to get started. Most of the options I have searched costs a lot up front that I can't fit in my budget right now. For example, I would love to get a couple rain barrels, but even the ones offered in the green Calgary program are too expensive for me. I would LOVE affordable options for water wise gardening!!!!
City parks could take the lead as well as roadways, side of roads, etc.

1) Money talks and re-landscaping is very expensive. People need more control over city owned parts of their front yards in conjunction with such initiative 2) Increasing taxes to pay for this would defeat the purpose; 3) Guidance would be helpful for those who can't afford professionals
1) Removing existing grass needs clarification. Native grasses may exist in some areas.
Would this be a large scale approach or individual/residential approach?
What would be done with the removed lawn? I would recommend that people could make instant raised garden beds by flipping over their sod. 3) Maybe even implementing these tools for new home buyers so that new buildings are already retrofitted to be water wise. 2) I used to work at a garden centre, so I would say you could distribute the kits through experienced gardening communities in calgary.
education is key
5
All in one - might be expensive
rebates - I hate lawns All in one kits - sounds like work
remove grass - will make it more feasible for families to make change. Subsidized plants and tools - also provide info on what's available and how to use. All in one - great idea and info packages on how to maintain
rebates - would not cover costs to homewoner
missing strategies - my friend in Okotoks is getting a rebate on putting artificial turf on new home
all in one - receiving tools and resources and education are half the battle to getting residents on board in water saving needs
remove grass - shouldn't just remove, should nee to replace so we don't have dirt and mud everywhere. Subsidized water saving plants - solid idea. All in one - who could buy it? What are the savings? Missing strategies - Incentives for business and manufacturers to reduce water consumption in their processes.
rebates - maybe, not sure about this idea. Subsidized plants - good idea. All in one - I like this idea
All in one - cool
Rebates - helping calgarians is helpful. Subsidized plants - we can save water and get help. All in one - Very Helpful
rebates - this would allow people in older beighbourhoods to participate. Larger lots might feel penalized. Subsidized plants - makes it affordable. All in one - Educate and sell people on the idea
subsidized - it really depends on the priority/ likes of each individual. All in one - Good idea to educate people about these kits w/c lead them to save water
Rebates - really good. Subsidize - Love. All in one - Love
rebates - this may or ay not reduce greenspace. People tendency may opt for reduced maintenance which may impact mother nature. Subsidized - water saving will be supported
rebates - I believe in financial incentive - either positive or negative - is the only practival way to motivate homeowners to conserve water while protecting FREEDOM. Subsidize - not practical and will cost too much to administer. The market should determine the price of all plants and tools. All in one - Calgarians should be free to install whatever landscaping they want within the property lines they bought and pay taxes on.
all in one - would this come with directions?
subsidized - great idea
Rebates - not bad, perhaps an incentive to go to artificial turf, make artificial more affordable. Subsidized - good. All in one - Great idea

Rebates - I would love to have nice fake grass but not my ownership to make that decision. Subsidized - discounts never hurt. All in one - love this as I have trouble starting and prices are up for everything. It's fun for kids to do and helps if you have everything at once.
rebates - good. Subsidized - better. All in one - Excellent
Rebates, Subsidized, All in one - I agree
Rebates - we would to replace our grass with clover, this could motivate us. All in one - Sounds great
rebates, Subsidized, All in one - helpful for families
rebates - save time and money. Subsidized - saves time and money. All in one - will be easier to do yourself
rebates - saving, Subsidized - will save water and less pay, All in one - it will help others to start supporting
rebates - need things in nature, subsidized - like it, all in one - like it
Rebates - I support the idea of making water wise landscape choices. Subsidized - absolutely support this idea. All in one - Absolutely support this idea.
All in one - yes! This would make it more attainable
rebates - no removing grass, subsidized - landscaping choices for calgarians use less
Subsidized - we love our garden! But agree on landscaping All in one - Great idea, would love to see
Rebates - this will be great idea to remove existing grass and have dollar. Interesting idea. Subsidize - great idea. This will help calgarians to save water. All in one - this is the most interesting idea to get kit which will be helpful to save water
Rebates - removing grass can destroy entire lawns, but on the hand it encourages people to make better choices. Subsidized - this is an amazing strategy as people will buy discounted plants saving more water. I personally love a sale and buy lots of stuff from one. All in one - this is an amazing strategy. I like how it includes everything and this encourages people to plant more while saving water
Rebates, Subsidized, All in one - Completely support
Rebates - remove grass and replace with? Gravel? Cement? I might disagree, we want to support insects, wild life/animals by maintaining their source of food/shelter. Subsidized - Yes! What would be the requirement to qualify?
Rebates - I like grass! Subsidize - It encourages people to make better choices. All in one - Makes it easy to engage people on making better choices
Rebates - eco friendly turf
Rebates - people who want to take out their grass should. Subsidize - people will be more inclined to use/do subsidize programming. All in one - If it's free.

Question 19a

Now that you have learned about all the possible strategies and programs of the drought Resilience Plan, please tell us how you think The City should prioritize these strategies. Drag and drop the strategies with the highest priority at the top.

Prioritization question. No verbatim.

Question 19b

Why did you prioritize these items this way?

Sustainability. Carrot before the stick. Then the stick.
Prioritised based on ease of implementation & lowest hanging fruit - get it right in new communities, provide retro-fit options for legacy communities & then work on rainwater storage/water re-use.
I think all are important, but increasing biodiversity is first and foremost on my list, and with plants that require less water, they will naturally reduce water consumption anyway.
I think that penalizing people should be the lowest priority, we should promote people's desire for positive change by doing it themselves first.
Ease of implementation, impact to Calgary and (managing change) and effectiveness (water savings and cost savings on property taxes and water bills) should drive prioritization. And all of these must be assessed for a given time period... twenty year water mgmt and conservation plan; one to four year budget/ planning cycles.
Mainly concerned about extra costs put on Calgary citizens in a time when the cost of living is sky high and salaries not keeping pace
I feel that new developments are stretching city resources and it would be easier to make landscaping adaptations than in older neighborhoods. Incentives are also a good idea and could be supplemented by education with watering schedules and rate based strategies implemented if conditions are severe.
All are important... watering schedules is ranked lowest, because it should just be done. easy to do - just enforcement will be issue, but does not necessarily result in less water being used. landscape restrictions for new developments - at top, because the development approvals / DP work could easily implement this new requirement, and new development should pay / provide the right elements.
Actively having a program that helps home owners reduces the need to water lawns by changing the landscaping should be highest priority. If yards didn't have grass as the main plant, water usage would be down.
I think there is lots we can do with watering schedules and programming. They are easy and relatively low cost and haven't been offered in Calgary before, so I think it would be of interest to Calgarians. There are lots of things to do to change behavior before rate strategies are needed. After the easy strategies are done, then rates should come in as it would then be targeting the right group
i don't
I think providing people with the opportunity to make changes that provide them a rebate and ensuring new developments are aware of biodiversity and drought resistant landscaping should be top priority.
I do not support schedules or financial incentives
my perception of most result for least cost
Kinda hard to make a permanent ranking....
none of the above are priorities. water reuse commercially is the only one
Many people respond to money the most. If they get rebates or incentives to save these will be the most likely to work. Plus the landscape in yards and parks needs to change. So just incentivizing it in new communities isn't enough. Tough penalties that are enforced are needed is we do water schedules so I think this may be to hard to enforce. Make it so expensive that you can't afford not to!
Watering schedules and financial incentives will have the greatest impact because they affect all households equally. I think The City could do them all, though!
Educate encourage and follow up on current regulations first before financial penalties. Current landscaping requirements for new developments are not being monitored for compliance by the City. Developers can pay to cut down city trees. No guarantee that a tree will be replaced on the same street although the money collected is suppose to be used for more trees in the community.

Ordered based on what I view to have the biggest impact.
Get rid of lawns :)
I believe this ranking is the most cost effective and fair for gardeners.
Provides for more choice and feels more equitable.
Least intrusive to most intrusive. Government makes bad decisions 100% of the time and spends tax dollars poorly.
The best solution to excess water use, is to promote landscapes that include native plants that are naturally drought resistant and get away from the antiquated idea of perfect green lawns.
New development is the easiest thing to correct, no cost to Calgary and, creates a new culture for the future, permanent solution. Irrigation & landscape incentives gets the rest of the city done. First REDUCE. both 1&2 do this permanently forever. Next is reuse.. this is another great project, but will take a lot of tax payer money & time. Schedules are joke & not enforced, will abuse it.
Most people (although not most of the residents in my neighbourhood) will respond most to what affects their pocket book i.e. money. After that, having schedules in place, which are enforced by bylaw officers, who are moved to action by neighbours alerting them to a violation, will get their attention.
Homeowners waste so much water and should reuse water or collect rain water. Incentives would help homeowners to make changes. Lots of new developments need to take the limited supply of water into account when building
How it should be done
I can personally implement the top priority item on my list. The others I prioritized in what I thought might have the biggest impact.
I repeat that if you collect tax revenue for water use to discourage overconsumption, all monies collected should be allocated forever and irrevocably for making and keeping Calgary drought resilient, not funding anything else.
Senior's limited financial resources is the primary reason.
Anything that could affect low income or new home owners with financial based restrictions is a terrible idea. Any programs that inform and help are at the top.
I think I did what seems easiest for the city to implement and for residents to do. Low hanging fruit first.
New properties are the easiest way to start making changes, so we start there. Then move on to helping people who want to help to make changes. Reuse water wherever possible, then make people adhere to restrictions as needed then you can use fees to curb use. I worry we cannot separate water use for large families to water use for non-essential activities (i.e. watering grass)
They each have merits in being at the top of the list.
Just seems like a more practical and fair approach.
I just think we need more rain barrels, and to monitor people that over water grass... you only need a frisbee once a week so what we need is to educate people. And to stop letting water run on sidewalks.
I hope that scheduling sprinklers will encourage people to think before mechanically turning on a hose.
Do not like any restrictions
Calgary has a sprawl problem so I think it's critical to ensure new developments are designed in a resilient manner since it seems we aren't prepared to reduce or eliminate new developments. Watering schedules seem like a very common approach so I prioritized that next. I am motivated personally by climate change so financial incentives aren't overly important to me, which is why I put them last
could impact poor family's more with fee increases

Watering schedules would be the most manageable and fastest to be implemented ; water reuse will take time and money; new developments are always being built; I'm not sure how financial strategies would work, nor irrigation & rebates.
see all prior comments
I think you need to help people before you penalize them. Financial hardships are common, so last thing on the list should be charging people.
reduce water use at source (new development), make it more painful for those to use, include water reduction through adaptation of outdoor, reduce consumption, encourage reuse.
Note - this shouldn't just be done linearly - there should be an examination for areas of the city, mapped out with demographics and household economics. this would support equitable service delivery.
Taxes and Cost of water are already to high especially with all of the added fees. Watering schedules may be good if we are actually in a drought situation but in reality, what if it rains or temps are cooler? Better to design a sustainable landscape on new build and make changes to existing properties to use less water.
to me this have the largest impact on reducing water
Ease to implement and cost
I think reuse has the least personal affect to people so easiest to implement now, while working towards changing impressions. New developments will be next easiest to start with while beginning to offer incentives to people with existing yards. Next I think schedules is the next most collaborative step and financial consequence is my least favorite option because utilities are already expensive
Rebates and native gardening make more sense than more taxes, as does changing reqs for new developments now
I think the city needs to give calgarians notice and tools to reduce their water use before increasing costs
Important to lower water consumption, and reuse where needed.
Because it allows people to rescape what they already have
Benefits me the most/seems easy to implement to impacts me the least
Festival, our current way of landscaping and current obsession with green lawns is obsolete and damaging and needs to go. A very easy win would be to put restrictions on new developments, but I think getting everyone in the habit of using water wisely and understanding that reusing water can be very beneficial to a drought strategy, that every citizen can get involved with.
As stated previously, I believe a total outdoor water ban and water reuse of household used water would be enough to help with our drought. The landscape changes to New developments is a great idea. The current water rates should not be changed. and the incentives I do not agree with.
I placed financial strategies last because in general they only actually penalize lower income families. Wealthy families are less likely to change their behaviour based on these strategies (beyond complaining about them)
Trying to be practical—what ideas are most likely to result in intended benefits and not be punitive to people who can't afford higher rates
Easiest first, most expensive last.
already described
Because I'm looking what would be the cheapest and most cost-effective for the home-owner
Ease of implementation and logical steps as I see it.
This is a complex issue that requires action at all levels. We do our best to minimize water use. However, I do not feel making only home-owners/renters accountable for change is reasonable. I am reluctant to have rebates

higher up as that results in end-user cost and many actions can be taken that are more affordable. The rate-based strategies, as mentioned, make me uncomfortable.
As a homeowner I'm most interested in the ideas and rebates to help transform my lawn into a more water wise lawn. Rate based strats only target certain demographics, water schedules are a great idea.
We can't afford to switch our lawn, and we can't afford to pay higher rates. Having incentives to help us build a better yard for drought (and for the environment in general) is the best option by far. Especially as it means less water use for future years even when it's not drought conditions
I am tired of paying taxes for things I don' t use
Give residents a break first. Hold developers accountable. Reuse water. Restrictions and increased usage fees aimed at residents should be a last resort.
It's easier to start a new landscape plan in new development and redevelopment areas, and then the prioritization if the other measures are in order such that I think it would be easier to sway the nay-sayers.
Water reuse seems to be a smart way to start, like you did with the compost bin. Schedule is also smart, as it will reduce the anytime of the day usage regardless of weather.
City should lead by example before charging Calgarians more. I'm still angry I need to keep a super healthy and well watered lawn to help protect against the onslaught of dandylions from the city park across the street. Don't let the water programming be a another thing like this. Lead by example first to show it works before just taxing us with more fines and fees.
Cause I want to.
Water scheduling is an easy strategy to implement quickly. Landscaping incentives target properties with larger footprints (inner city 50' lots), landscaping restrictions create a path forward for the future. I'm not sure how water reuse would be implemented but can see the possibility. Financial and rate-based, although easy to implement, would want to see it target the heavy users only.
Show people what to do and how it saves them time and money before arbitrarily charging them more.
Provide services to help. Not everyone has the time or muscle to dig up their yard
The landscape incentives would be of the most use to me. I already don't water my lawn, use a rain barrel for flowers etc.
I think watering schedule would be the most frustrating and difficult to make happen. All the other ideas are simple and would be less of an uphill battle
The smaller, least painful things to start.
Ease of implementation and impact
Hard to arrange, they all are important. If the rate changes and other "punishments" come together and at the same time as the "incentive"-type things, might make transition easier.
Without knowing what the evidence is for each strategy's effectiveness, I chose the strategies that most appealed to me personally. I need more information to make an informed choice about my bottom two items (rate strategies and new development), and so prioritized them lower because I felt uncertain.
City shouldn't have so much control over my property
Costs involved. We don't need bigger government. Any new regulations automatically involves bigger government. Enough!!!!
I think that reuse is likely the easiest to implement quickly. Incentives are great but care must be taken to make sure everyone can access it. Schedules make sense to enforce reliable usage. Developers will have a bigger impact

on our water savings if they are more conscious about what they do. Financial and rate based would alienate those who cannot afford to do anything about their usage.
Water schedules and financial and rate based strategies can apply more immediately while retro-fitting for water re-use takes effect over more time.
I think the first 2 I selected would have the greatest long-term impact for the city. Ranked watering schedule last as I see it challenging to enforce.
Because it's good for my budget, educational, economics and the climate
I have always been interested and valued water reusing, less water use landscape composting etc., just hard to implement without additional support (information and financial). I have lived in communities of water schedules, worked well but the community needs to buy in and I'm uncertain if Calgary will.
They would work best for my community which is about 35 years old.
Financial rates is was and fast way to make big impact. New development areas have huge opportunity for long-term impacts Then help existing communities update landscaping Water schedule seems to have a lower impact Water reuse is important and great idea, but more of a long-term commitment
Financial strategies (eg increasing rates for higher water use) are by far the most effective and realistic to implement. Other strategies ranked in order of effectiveness.
Start with giving people options to lower usage with incentives and creativity. Get rain barrels and show how water can be reused. Start building new neighborhoods with water wise landscaping and last resort, watering schedule and fees.
There's only so much water and learning to reuse it is the first thing people need to figure out how to do effectively. I live in an older neighbourhood so the new development thing wouldn't impact me.
Schedules can be implemented now. Water reuse helps maintain what we have now. Rebate programs don't have big uptake due to effort.
There was no option to say leave well enough alone.
Was hard- I support all. Water reuse seem to have broad effects- clean treated drinking water for landscape unnecessary. Limiting new high water need landscapes makes good sense. Much harder to change later and not sure mandating removal of established gardens best approach. Put irrigation incentive last as better to aim to not need to irrigate. Do need to allow food garden watering.
Best case
Money is lowest common motivator; schedule is needed but has to be enforced and costs Money; cheaper to landscape once than have to redo it; reusing makes sense but should be learning to preserve to change mentality; was last choice
I think informing about decreased schedules, offering info/resources about alternative methods for outdoor water use will be the most successful overall. Simply increasing rates won't affect usage in the same way, UT will simply increase dissatisfaction and disapproval for the City.
Because if you want to make changes you need to make it right from the start which means make the changes at the development submission level. Much easier to do it first than try and change after the fact. Incentives are good and water reuse options and strategies are good. The schedules and rate increase are going to be the least favourable amongst Citizens. They should be last resorts.
low hanging fruit.

Top are things that will not penalize people with lower incomes or higher density homes(larger families or many people in one house). And restrictions (schedules) only work if people follow them we know from covid that is unlikely.
Because I believe that the financial rate-based strategies are your least effective source of change.
Water reuse is the easiest to impose, I think. Government needs to act and set an example because people are uninformed/lazy/lack common sense (hard truth). Developers need to be accountable for their influence and impact, too. Large scale action seems more effective than individual level action but there is a place for action at all levels.
New housing because it could go into effect at the same time as the other options. Same with water reuse and schedules, they apply to all. Incentives are up to people to opt into.
The first three strategies will lock in water savings for the long term. The last two are more temporary in nature.
Financial strategies only means that rich people will Continue to water their lawns and the poor people will continue not being able to cultivate a garden.
#1--It's less costly and less wasteful to design a landscape to save water in the first place, rather than having to remove prior materials and replace. As well, these new developments could be used as positive examples of how attractive xeriscaping can be. #2 Saves fresh water for most important uses and reduces over use of it.
I will remove the grass in my front yard and put in some rocks and shrubs that are drought resistant, and I will water those plants using the recycled water .
I had no choice. The only area that I actively support is water reuse.
It is more-or-less a ranking of least impact to residents, while achieving the goal.
All strategies and programs must not cost City taxpayer's pocketbooks. With the cost of water/sewer going up this should be incentive enough
i don't agree with any of them. you are bankrupting this nation. Stop it. If i could fire all of you i would. There is no climate emergency just another waste of my hard earned money. Get a real job. No extra costs no bail outs for anyone.
Large commercial and multi-family site have significant storm water management and require irrigation for landscaping. Water reuse solves both. Watering schedule is pretty typical in North American cities.
I think watering schedules can make the biggest impact right away.
Financial is discriminatory, as discussed earlier. grey water - I believe in. Even businesses could recycle from wash basins. City trees and parks ARE important. Gravel is not pleasant as it is hotter in summer.
easiest to hardest to implement. all of these strategies are great ideas.
It's better to reward than punish. Having to pay even more than we do at the moment for water is a gross punishment on vegetable gardeners. We need encouragement rather than more taxes.
Somewhat due to cost, or things that could potentially have the biggest impact in my opinion.
Less money used come on, just cause you guys make more money the rest of us don't have the time or money to do all the changes
Water reuse can save tons of water. Landscape restrictions in new development should include rain water harvesting as well. These two will help reduce the use of water a lot.
Water is essential need to all of us we should plan a sustainable development. We should find the super alternatives

The source of the problem is removing native plants which tend to be drought resistant and accustomed to our climate. Lawns are inherently wasteful. Putting people on a schedule restriction will send a message that we don't have unlimited water, and stop treating it as such
Looking for greatest impact, shortest time, least money. Its also very important to be flexible as you only realize you need to do this once you are into the drought.
Financially punitive strategies are hard to implement equitably, regardless if programs are in place to reduce the burden on households that cannot afford the party still has to take time out of their day to file/register for the rebate.
Watering schedules seem like the most common sense and equitable approach. water reuse seems like a wise use of resources. Landscape restrictions would drive adoption up front vs. incentivising later. Financial/rate and incentives/rebate cld be inequitable (larger families/multi-gen wld have higher indoor consumption, subsidizing ppl who could afford landscaping), & have high administrative costs
1 & 2 are easiest to implement now. Lets not wait until we are in trouble. 3 would affect me directly in the near term. 4 & 5 are longer term strategies.
For ease of implementation and relative efficiency.
Less impact on those impacted by financial means.
This is the shortest solution
Before restrictions, water should be reused appropriately. Overall indoor water wise awareness campaigns should be considered instead of just looking at outdoor water use.
I don't like any of these initiatives
I don't agree with all five of these strategies and feel some of them should not even be considered. I would consider only water schedules and financial and rate-based strategies to be viable. Incentive and rebate strategies are out of the question; why should I as an over-taxed taxpayer be subsidizing someone else to 'do the right thing'?
I think schedules are an equitable and fair way. Water reuse, landscape restrictions and incentives can also improve water efficiency. I think financial are the most controversial and can be unfair.
Easiest politically first. The financial strategies are risky without income testing or prop value testing. You cant stretch lower income folk anymore so make sure you're pulling that from the wealthy
This suggests it's not a consultation.
I think these are rated in better sustainability. Fining or charging people or watering schedules do not provide a solution, the first 2-3 do
These are the ones I feel are easiest to implement as a homeowner. Easier = greater adoption.
Because people should not have to be rich to enjoy a garden, people value freedom of what they do with their time, and reusing water makes sense while incentivizing could help educate people.
These are the things I think will make a biggest impact the fastest although I am sure water reuse systems are costly. Cost benefit analysis definitely needed. Would like to see the numbers behind the different options.
I always believe that we should try to reuse what we already have before we force others to do what we want. Lead by example. Then implement schedules since those are immediate and doesn't cost much to implement. The rest just takes more time.
Lowest hanging fruit first. Most effective next. Most cost to rate payers last
The most cost effective are near the beginning, the punishments are at the end.
I think reuse is one of the best methods and everyone can do it.

Getting rewards for doing a positive thing is a better method than punishing people by charging them more. This is more equitable.
Because it is what I believe is the best course of action. By monetarily impacting people right now with my #4, after we have just had massive inflation and a large tax bill increase it would be very hard for citizens to absorb. Making it restricted will offer an opportunity for buy in with impact on overall water savings. Maybe the city could share how much less water we used year over year.
The easiest to do, and slowly gets people used to the idea. Education on this issue is vital to encourage people to change their kind.
I see a lot of residential watering occurring during mid-day which does nothing for the garden and is a waste. Curving this use I imagine would really reduce water use residentially.
Reusing and reducing are primary. Once you do that, you can impose fees on heavy users. Schedules won't be enforced well enough.
We live in capitalism, thus financial incentives are most effective, outside of limiting developers'.
I believe the top priorities are the most sustainable and positive as well as equal for all Calgary and regardless of income level
Education and money saving incentives are a much better way of changing peoples minds and habits. Enforcment, increased rates, and fines are not.
We need to start reusing the water we already have, and then ensure that when we use water for irrigation, we're doing it at the best time of the day
Because it seems the be the right approach
New developments cause a great burden to the rest of the city that still awaits maintenance, irrigation and landscape incentives will be a long term solution, water reuse and education surrounding it will empower the individual (and their children) and water schedules are prioritized last as when I lived in Vancouver I watched it cause polarization amidst residents and it wasn't always followed.
Promote using less water and provide an incentive (carrot not a stick). However, introduce the water schedules / financial rates during drought periods.
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Water schedules are low cost, minimal effort, and builds understanding of water limits. 2. Financial - Demonstrated to push change, as many people are motivated by cost conscious. 3. Landscape restrictions - Practical, however only hits on the fringe of the problem, where yards are small 4. Incentives are time and cost intensive. Theoretically support, but tricky. 5. Not much rain to reuse
Because they are the easiest.
Ensuring new development is done the right way sets us up for success. Water reuse is something that can be implemented somewhat "invisibly", it's an easy win. Incentives are a good way to recruit those people who are interested in change, and has many nice secondary effects. Water schedules send the right message but would be difficult to enforce. Financial strategies should generally be avoided.
Rebates & incentives are encouragements not "punishments. Need education resources along with these. Schedules effect everyone equally, water reuse can be done by a majority of people, monetary options are the least favourite, but when also fails, it might be the only way. Note: reuse will cost all of use one way or another.
I think we should focus on reducing demand before increasing costs.

I think people won't adhere to the watering schedules, and anyone who can afford to pay a ticket will continue to do whatever they want.
Educating people and incentivizing a better structure of your yard is the best way to go.
The financial strategies are open to abuse by the council
1. Lead by example, fix your own use first. 2. Next three items are preventive and sustainable. 3. watering schedules are more reactionary, I see them as temporary measures.
Anything to help folks move away from grass to sustainable, native plants and better irrigation systems is a bonus. Anything that incentivizes people across all socio-economic statuses is a bonus.
Calgary needs to rethink gardening and plants for climate change from a commercial level down to a residential level. Water rates won't be a deterrent for most people but water restrictions and fines and bylaw enforcement will be. Calgary Council needs to set themselves as the example of being water wise ie low flow toilets in offices and showers in rec spaces.
I went from easiest to implement to bigger long-term projects
I think they are all good strategies, and would support all of them, except the financial ones. People need to understand and learn to love the environmental and aesthetic aspects of this change, that's the only way it will work. Giving us "the stick" will only create resentment and non-compliance.
Scheduling is the easiest and "free" to implement. 2) New developments and redevelopment comes next because they are starting from scratch, it's easier to make changes. 3) rate based strategies to build incentive for the next point. 4) Irrigation and landscape rebates because it will reduce overall water needs for lawns. 5) rates collected could be used for investing into water reuse.
Hopefully enough people will create a water wise landscape that watering schedules will not be needed. Ratting on your neighbours is never a good thing.
Our priority should be around keeping the water that comes to us, allowing water to run off into the street when we could irrigate our yards is low hanging fruit. Changing how we see beauty in our yards is more important than fee or policing based solutions that create more harm than good.
I believe this order would maximize water saving, and drought resiliency for the city. I also believe things like incentives and rebates take longer to action, and therefore need to begin sooner.
New developments should be held to a higher standard. It is much easier to build a new community to different standards then retrofitting an existing one. Grey water/ Stormwater reuse could have major water saving potential.
Education is key. If people understand that our water is a finite resource they might plan their gardens differently. I have purchased a rain barrel and would love to take advantage of other programs to reduce water use.
makes sense for residential zoning and commercial use - opportunity to prepare creatively for future, smart use.
I don't like any of the Cities ideas. They are narrow minded. With 1 goal, they do not look at the bigger picture at all. They do not look past one issue. Give ppl rain barrels. I would do that.
I think you need to educate people first. Go after the old guys that have nothing to do other than water their lawn every day. Financial "strategies" are just punishment for using water and will just make people feel bad for every drink, shower, bath and toilet flush that they take. It will not make people love living in Calgary, but they will resent Calgary more... another tax grab.
See my previous comments
because this is my priority.
A community water reuse program is the way to disrupt the city the least. Looking at rebates would be a great opportunity to motivate residents. Adding in rule and restriction will not be appreciated by many.

My understanding of the potential for impact
Financial incentives work. Giving people tools to use less water without major changes in habits is also a spectacular idea. Watering schedules seems like the most annoying proposal but if it works, I'm not against it.
While I think getting new developments on board with designing water-wise landscapes is important, I feel there is more immediate impact to be made with existing residents and homeowners in terms of providing water-wise gardening, incentives and water scheduling. These will make the biggest immediate and lasting impact as they both educate and begin water conservation upon implementation.
The simplest and most effective solution is a rate system
Focus on not increasing taxes, penalizing new developments and putting the wealthy on a pedestal to show they don't care if it costs more, they will continue to water their lawns. Reuse FIRST, then support people who WANT to change their irrigation. I certainly don't want my tax paying dollars to go towards this. We are not Phoenix and only have 4 months a YEAR to enjoy our yards. Please go away!
I think for most of us, change comes when it affects us financially or there's a rule for it. The incentives though will help those who want to change, but can't afford to take the next step.
Prefer incentives over rate increases
Getting rid of the problem (lawns and gardens that need lots of water to thrive) is a strong solution. Reusing water is an ok solution. Trying to get people to change their habits is a poor solution.
All solutions will likely be needed but that is why I ranked them in that order
I believe that these priorities will provide a balance, being effective without being overly intrusive
Personal choice and responsibility. Ease of adapting to a schedule. A small change that can have a big impact.
Developers need to bear the cost for the communities they build. Water re-use is also needed at a municipal level.
Items that would stand the best chance of adherence
New developments are an easy way to start immediately as many households are affected but one developer can create an extensive plan. Financial strategies and watering schedules can be implemented this summer if needed. Landscape incentives will take more time to get people on board. Water reuse will require a lot of money and time to change piping.
Ease of implementation and tracking. Seemingly highest possibility of community buy-in. Doesn't require extensive programs and infrastructure to implement.
I order of priority is based on what I believe as highest impact on actual volume of water saved and most likely to affect behaviour of the community.
We need to make sure OUR landscapes are water wise and retain the water we use. Let mother nature do its work.
I am surprised Water reuse is not being used to it's full extent; I think Schedules are incredibly common and an easy target; incentives drive change as long as those incentives are marketed and done with ease of access for all; Landscape restrictions are great I just don't know how much that can do unless it effects all developments; Financial rate-based is after the fact not really impactful.
we saw with Covid measures, not everyone wants to help the community, schedules are easier than hitting people in their wallet
it just makes sense
These are the low hanging fruit. Easiest to implement, create buy in without wasting as much tax dollars organizing it
Few people may reduce their water consumption because of higher prices, many will not, so I think the water reuse is be best suited to the goal (consider the huge evaporation from storm ponds though). I suspect the plants

and ground covers that you select will be faulty and ugly. You cannot control effectively the land developers and least there will be enough officers to fine perpetrators.
Again, repercussions, fines, fees, etc. disproportionately hurt those who cannot afford to make changes to begin with, and those who can afford it will just as easily accept a fine or fee. Meaning little will change in terms of water use. Education and Incentivizing- either monetarily or not- WILL help people start to change. Prevent overuse. Change the culture.
Start with simple strategies and with new developments and give people the opportunity to make changes to existing yards/landscapes etc. Financial and rate based strategies come at the end as these can be seen as punishments and perhaps turn people off or cause anger. Education comes along with change. People need to know the reasons why we need changes
Use the land more efficiently, serve the community with the crops produced from water-wise landscapes. Educate the people and give them incentive to change their small plots of land into something more sustainable.
Start with mitigation of watering through landscaping designs and plant selection which will naturally support water use reductions. Then work to incentivize water reductions.
Financial rebate will have the most impact and a small change in people's behavior could have a big impact.
We need to start immediately making better choices in the new areas, (quick wins) then work on improving current neighborhoods. If water schedules are not too accepted, or they may be slow to be known, then financial strategies can quickly help citizens to learn benefits and pay attention.
People usually respond if there is money involved because it will put a dent in their disposable income.
Because it seems the best if the entire city replaces their lawns with a healthier option! There is much more to be gained this way - we'll make a much bigger difference overall. The only piece missing is the labour help! Many of us would need to hire someone to take out and replace the lawn and that is pricey! If you could offer help with that - a way to afford it - more would participate.
Hoping that this prioritizing is supporting lower income and marginalized communities while punishing those with higher income who live in the suburbs and waste way more water.
Because you left me no option for government to do nothing except advise on water conditions, which should be the only thing necessary.
Restrictions on new and redevelopment are easy to implement - it puts the onus on the developer and the owner. Financial and rate-based incentivizes people to minimize. Water-reuse is good but its impact is limited. Watering schedules will mostly just defer water usage to different days. Landscape incentives/rebates are just money handouts that will have the most limited effect per \$ spent.
I think it would be most effective long-term to implement a strategy that encourages home owners to plant more water resistant and native plants. Then to include a watering schedule for the remaining lawn spaces during times of drought. Money can be a sensitive subject for many Calgarians, so empowering them with the tools to participate in a way not involving money might go over better at first.
Water reuse because of biggest impact and lowest consumer burden. Landscape restrictions #2 because of potential impact. Watering schedule #3 because of low consumer burden. Irrigation incentives #4 because I anticipate challenges with engagement. Rate based strategies #5 because I anticipate low impact and high consumer burden for low SES community members
Start with what is actionable very quickly to start the impact and have some results.
New areas use more water when planting sod
Do what you can before charging people more money
My top three are ones I would be willing to do immediately.

I think converting pre existing lawn's is going to save the most, and it's my favourite. I think next would be reducing coverage going forward. And I thing increasing cost should be the last thing we do.
Rate based allows for the wealthy to just pay
I prioritized these based on what I feel can be focused on now to help when we do experience a drought in the future.
These are all # 1.
Watering schedule is probably the easiest and cheapest to implement for the city. Landscape restrictions should be done as soon as possible to prevent more yards needing to be relandscaped Landscape incentives and water reuse could be put together somewhat. A rain collection package or greywater incentive could be an option. Financial penalty comes last as it's a negative reinforcer, it's no fun.
I put them based on what could be implemented now vs what we can work into implementing in the future.
Inflation is already so high and wage is not following increasing the cost is too much to bare
Water schedules is like low hanging fruit. It would be interesting to see the data after implementing just the schedule to see if water consumption decreases overall. Then after that start implementing the others.
Landscaping restrictions on new development is also an easy win. And easy to implement at a development permit stage.
I prefer incentivizing rather than punishing people as the costs are often borne by those who can't afford it.
Most to least complex concepts.
A schedule is rigid. Providing education and incentives would be better.
Creating yards that require less water is a better long-term solution than limiting water use for yards that were not designed for water-restrictions.
I tried to rank on my best guess of efficacy. Water reuse and rate schemes appear relatively easy to pilot and seem intuitive. Landscaping and schedules depend on attentive and caring neighbours which may be challenging. I put development/redevelopment last as I think developers will build loopholes that undermine the spirit when a market-based approach should incent similar behaviour.
I would welcome a rebate incentive, but NOT a higher rate for water use.
I picked things that would have the most impact on consumption and the least inconvenience, financially, on citizens
All are important, I chose the ones I need would have the biggest impact.
Seems logical, start with the quick low hanging fruit that everyone can do (and frankly we should have done decades ago) then work towards changing how we manage the water and design our yards
Makes the most sense to me as an overall impact
Tried to pick the options that are the easiest to implement and result in the immediate water saving results.
I would actually put 1 and 2 as equally important.
need to do both long-term planning and immediate actions and I feel the top three as I have selected (landscaping in new developments; water reuse; incentives/rebates) would do that.
Read my previous comments
The "City" sets the example, people see the cost/savings of buying into the watering schedules, get developers on board.
It's critical that we get yards moved to water-wise landscaping.

Incentives and rebates seem like an administration nightmare. Do restrictions for plants work in other municipalities?
The schedule gets people thinking about it, removing turf and adding native and drought tolerant species will reduce long term usage, We have already reduced now reuse then restrict
Cost/impact to everyday Calgarian vs long term value.
Watering schedules is an easy way for everyone to contribute
Water reuse seems like an excellent long term plan we should be doing anyway
1 looks the the future in a preventative way, 2 is behind the scenes and doesn't involve residents so likely easier to implement 3 is because I want it but you need money to be able to do those things, even if rebates are offered.
List organized by applicability across the entire city and doing things that are most effective at using/saving existing water.
Easiest and least costly to implement first. It is afterall my tax dollars you water with this.
I get nervous about rate-based strategies as we already pay enough taxes and service fees for W&R, etc. I think the reuse and irrigation are practical for everyone and can be implemented fairly quickly across the board.
I think they need to be combined. The most important thing, by far, is reducing usage over the long term, so water re-use and changing the landscaping must be done. We should encourage that, but at the same time penalize those who won't. Use the funds from rate-based strategies to fund the incentives.
Because that is our families approach. Be proactive.
We should first focus on the core issue, which is having lawns that require so much water. A watering schedule doesn't help solve the problem, it's just a band-aid solution. We need to tackle the core issue.
I think you have to give citizens the information and tools to change, then reward them to act in the public interest. If some choose not to, they pay.
this is my opinion on priorities and what will work
Lower barriers to effecting change and higher consequence to incentivize behaviour (assuming elasticity of demand during summer months exists). Lower down are lower impact or have high regulatory/change barriers
It may be easier to get by in from the community talking smaller steps at a time
I feel its the least impact on the individual homeowner.
I think we should implement tools going forward, have incentives for people to change what they have existing before making significant changes to rates. A foundation needs to be set for making these changes achievable and sustainable.
Because changing private land (both residential and commercial) will have the biggest impact on our water use.
Water reuse makes the most sense. Everyone appreciates financial incentives to conserve water. People don't really want to be told when they can water their lawn or have restrictions on how their yard looks.
start with the easiest.
I prioritizes based on the easiest strategies to implement first. I think adding watering schedule info into the 'garbage' app is a 'quick win' with minimal work to set up. Next, water re-use and updating building code for landscaping should be tackled as it will reduce 'new' water demand. Lastly, financial incentives, as these will catch those that need a financial motivation to help.
Prefer carrots over sticks. Key with some of these items is communications (schedules, etc) and access (incentives)
Because I feel getting native and drought resistant yards in place as well as resp water use is crucial
missed opportunity for residential grey water recycling
better to educate population than to throw money at it

Based on my current (limited knowledge), I tried to prioritize those ideas that are easiest to implement and rely less on large scale citizen behaviour change.
Less government intervention and tax payer subsidy, the better.
Because I like positive incentive as suppose to restrictions.
Providing financial incentives give is the best way to get mass change.
First we need to reduce the need for water altogether. Along with that, as it takes time, watering schedules. Water reuse will likely take some time to implement and financial strategies should be last. Again, citing the increase of all costs for everything these days such as groceries and gas. This could really be hard on large families who have large indoor water use and already struggle.
Trying to consider the impact to the marginalized populations who will be most impacted by these strategies.
Ease of implementation and long-term effect on usage
I think that getting citizens to buy into the idea of drought resilience through education and habit alteration rather than penalizing with higher rates is always more successful.
We're a family on a limited income. I would rather have time to save money to implement further changes before being hit with extra fees. Being able to have grey water recycling or a better rain catchment system in place would go a long way to reducing water usage. Also, at the rate that new subdivisions are being built in the city, it would make sense to have landscaping restrictions in place now
prioritized sustainability and education over restrictions and financial strategies (indirect taxes)
Based on greatest possible impact. Promote good behaviour vs penalizing poor behaviour (carrot vs stick). Grass culture is ingrained, it will take time to shift peoples thinking.
I don't think taking more Money from a struggling economy fixes anything. Teach them
Beautifying our spaces is more important than financial incentives.
Options first on what can help during restrictions, developments first for tried and true workables/solutions then penetalization as last result.
I did them in order of perceived ease of implementation and likelihood of a major impact on water use.
I'm not sure financial penalties for using too much water would be effective. people may just view it as a cost of having a nice lawn.
Because I feel that is the importance order and will get the most buy-in from residents
People respond to cost more than environmental concerns.
Negative financial or rate based strategies will have a negative impact on everyone... we have enough water... we just need to manage it properly and so far...we haven't even started to manage it
Insentives work better than punishment. The city will waste money trying to enforce a watering schedule. They will have way more success if they reward people who use Permaculture instead of punish people who are stuck on unsustainable grass lawns. Also more new grass lawns EVER AGAIN. Land Back to Indigenous peoples
I think they will have most effect like this.
They make the most sense for my situation.
I think that lower income people would be disproportionately penalized by rate-based strategies. I prioritized the rest based upon what I would think would make the most difference
People are more motivated by incentives than by bylaws or schedules. Offering kits and other ways to show people their options provides choice. We have to start with large scale operations. New developments use a lot of

resources. There is amazing landscaping you can do with local and drought resistant plants. Once people see that it can be beautiful and responsible, they will follow suit.
I don't like the idea of neighbours policing others, and those who don't care, just don't care. We need to incent and educate people on better alternatives so people don't think the city is trying to make their lawn turn yellow. It needs to be more holistic.
I based it on what I think most people would respond to - incentives and rebates would be encouraging and people often feel limited by time, money, or both, and this would eliminate the money issue.
Schedules and fees impact more Calgarians immediately which reduces water consumption. The last 3 take longer to implement. How soon can the City have water reuse up and running?
We need to be water wise now. Learning to use water sparingly (both inside and out) cannot wait. People respond to incentives better than restrictions or penalties.
Programs that reach the most people the quickest seem to make more sense. Get some early wins and successes, and then build from there. Make it easy for everyone to play a part, and to create new gardening habits
Watering schedules is the lowest since people can still waste a ton of water. Also NOTHING on this touched on saving water in your home (ex showers/sinks/laundry etc..). Water reuse is critical as this is such a huge opportunity! Again, lots of solutions are not included in this survey.... I hope the city broadens the scope.
Based on what I think would be easiest to implement.
As stated previously the CITY should STOP issuing real estate development permits in river and stream valleys. This is an irresponsible practice regarding drought/flood mgmt.---destruction of wetlands (the basis/incubator for the ecosystem)--chemical/ garbage/pet waste contamination of moving water--destruction of habitat for biodiversity/ migratory species/ endangered species-insurance risk/costs
Landscape incentives, rebates, and the new development restrictions I think would provide the best path for Calgary. Actually having people switch would make the most impact.
The crux of the problem is the amount of grass in our city. The more we can reduce this, the better. People who like grass should pay for their nice looking grass.
Start helping people accomplish things instead of always beating them over the head with all your rules and rate increases. Once you have lost those who will comply, you have lost the abttle.
Enable behaviour change first through incentives coupled with options for people to harvest and reuse water. Then people will be better prepared to comply with a watering schedule. Financial/rate-based approaches can be implemented once people have had the chance to adapt to using less water (this seems fair). Policies for new development are different and could be addressed simultaneously.
Money is not a personal issue, drought resistance is.
Easiest first for results, cultural change, ease into the others: set time of 9am-7pm no mass lawn watering for everyone, no MWF schedule. Next is rebates for less use because you have property size and access to usage bills (money talks). New-development laws landscaping takes longer but start now and then the SFH property changes comes after buy in. Culture chg = pos for gray water reuse ideas.
Because most of your solutions punish low income
Changing when we water and what water we use will make the most impact right away. Then changing what plants and materials are used in new developments and incentivizing redevelopment will help how much water we use as we continue to grow.
Calgary is not a desert and does not experience frequent, prolonged drought periods, although this may change in the future. I have prioritized the items to emphasize positive incentives for improved water use and preparations for dry periods over penalties for water consumption.

Placed incentive (carrots) before regulation-based (sticks).
I prefer options that are not costly to home owners. Also, I think people would be more willing to have watering schedules if they see that the city first worked on other ways to reduce water consumption.
try the easy/education approach first to change the mindset of residents
The less micromanagement the City does, the better. I support rate-based strategies because it is clear and applies to everyone: if you use a lot of water, you will pay extra. People can then make their own decisions based on clear and published rates.
I strongly believe that we need to get away from so much household grass in the city and leave it for the parks. Planting beautiful vegetable/flower gardens is much more beneficial for the environment and look better than grass.
Education over penalty
I put them in a way that I think would be easiest to implement and have action taken sooner rather than later. For example, watering schedules would be easier to design and implement than landscape restrictions. It would also be less limiting and could ease people into these strategies
Providing people with knowledge and tools to implement a system assists and teaches for the future. Financially penalizing for someone trying to beautify their space or restricting how they can landscape their property is divisive use of power
Easiest way to make a difference is through education and financial hit
It is like prioritizing Reuse and Repair over Recycling over Landfill. We need to Remove and dis-Incentivize the options that are counter-Productive, and Encourage and Enhance the options that help with these good Objectives: proper Drought-proofing goes along with proper Flood-mitigation and other proper Green objectives.
I think that water schedules is an easy one to prioritize and one that everyone should be able to get behind. I think that irrigation and landscape incentives (garden kits, etc) are an idea that would appeal to many people. The others are all equal in my mind but had to put them in order.
I think financial incentives are the most likely to impact peoples actions
Encouraging people to change habits is more acceptable than forcing people to pay more and get less
The Financial.rate based money grab don't go there. Water use - where and how? At what cost to the taxpayer versus return. Landscape restrictions - more control over peoples lives. Rebates - spending taxpayers money no way.
Because I think reusing water is very effective for conservation of water.
Thousands of litres of water are wasted every time it rains. If all homeowners used at least one water barrel, to collect and use rainwater on a regular basis, the amount of tap water that could be saved for other uses would be phenomenal. Water reuse would also be hugely beneficial in reducing the amount of tap water used.
I'd prioritize my City to work on some more important issues first (reduce crime, create jobs, reduce cost of living).
It's easier to design if something is new. Water reuse systems will save water first, and education matters. Incentives and rebates allow for choice. Limited financial strategies - folks are already under financial stress. No rotating schedules unless they are city wide; too much enforcement.
It is hard to pick anything that is more important than the other items. I tried my best to pick what was important to me.
Watering schedules: immediate, easy, cost the city & taxpayers nothing. Landscape restrictions: cost us nothing, moving forward put new subdivisions on right path. Water reuse: great idea & worthwhile; not sure how easy to do/ how much it will cost. Irrigation & landscape rebates: great if you can get enough buy in. Financial & rate-based strategies have the potential to penalize the wrong people

Water reuse makes sense. We need to focus our efforts at addressing water use INSIDE even more so than outside. We are already heavily taxed, and homeowners can afford to make the changes themselves, so NO rebates!
I think all strategies are good but I think the reuse of water, watering schedules, and financial strategies are likely to make the most impact in the short term. It is important to have people change their landscaping and have new developments start with water wise landscaping but the process is slower. If people need to limitp their watering and pay more to do so, there will be more interest.
Easiest to implicate and fast impacts while other strategies can be worked on
Longer-term solutions that target the culture of owning and maintaining a lawn that needs extensive and wasteful watering should be prioritized. Watering schedule is a good idea but a band-aid on a larger issue. Financial restrictions shouldn't be considered.
We are willing to cooperate, but don't like overly bureaucratic, fixed schemata
Education regarding watering schedules, personal water reuse and landscaping strategies are a more cost effective formula. Policing, pitting neighbours against each other (reporting lines) and increased fees or penalties undermine the sense of community we need. Encouraging people to choose to help others and conserve water as a part of the community is a healthier mindset.
A watering schedule is the fastest and cheapest first action.
I agree with conserving water in reasonable ways. I don't agree that there is sufficient evidence of future drought in Calgary severe enough to justify a lot of regulations and restrictions, particularly when options include incentive to report on neighbours. I think we have enough ways of dividing the population already.
Watering schedules are very restrictive. This should only be considered once the city has provided residents and businesses the tools to lower their water consumption. Once it's been reevaluated see how it compares to the goals. New developments should be subject to water wise landscaping. Putting sod and no trees on lawns is unacceptable.
Because the city should stay out of subsidizing land scaping
More equitable
Snow and rain are free and the fact that we do not have ways as a city to collect this water for reuse is poor management. It should be done right away. Water Schedules can be put in place as needed, it is not permanent. Financial and rate based strategies penalize large families who are already under finacial pressure. The remaining two give the city too much say in our personal lives.
Long term gains on a mostly voluntary basis that does not favor the rich and penalize those with less financial resources. I would also like to see the city incentivize lower income areas to produce food in water wise ways - promote education and subsidization of community gardens.
Landscape restrictions are quick and inexpensive way for The City to start. The cost is (should be) on the developer, without exceptions. Watering schedules are a also quick and inexpensive and get people thinking about the water they are using. This may also prime them to accept the next steps - a change in rates, water reuse, and looking at making landscaped changes through incentives, rebates.
These two seem easier to implement and will get people use to the City's changes.
Watering schedules and financial and rate-based strategies are immediate solutions that affect the home owner. Irrigation and landscape incentives and rebate are longer term incentives for the homeowner. Water reuse and landscape restrictions in New Development and redevelopment are the city's responsibility.
I am all for efficiency. Water reuse and changes to landscape would be more water-efficient, and should be encouraged if there is clear savings to the City. However, any non-voluntary strategies such as water schedules,

landscape restrictions in new developments and financial strategies, I consider an imposition of ideology at this point because I don't see them as absolutely necessary.
They are all critical so I didn't know how to prioritize actually.
Smart planning doesn't cost anything if done prior to a new development. Reward those who are taking the initiative to improve existing infrastructure/landscaping. Quit trying to charge everyone for the City's lack of vision and previous irresponsible planning. Show some leadership
Terrible choices that do nothing but create problems
Watering scheduling can be implemented most quickly and low cost. The rest take more planning and engagement.
I'm guessing that these items in this order would be most effective / highest conservation yield
It's what I think is most important from my point of view.
Water rationing works
As previously mentioned, a rate system with an averaging so as to accommodate extenuating circumstances would be better at focusing on those that have excessive and wasteful habits. And a watering schedule would make sense if tied to something measurable such as reservoir levels. The other become good suggestions but any attempt to enforce them would be an intrusion.
Nature does t care about money.
The rest are a waste of focus, spend the money on making wet green spaces.
Because schedules are an easy way to start, followed by financial incentives to use less water (more expensive to water outside of one's schedule and to water too much), city can act on large scale water reuse relatively quickly and effectively so that comes pretty quickly after the first two items, then new developments because that won't cost most calgarians and finally the program that costs us
Because I think people, citizens and developers, need to get in the habit of using water responsibly and water reuse goes beyond lawns, builders need to take ecological responsibility for their work.
The easiest thing to do is the watering schedule. Next is new development, then changing existing areas. Maybe the water reuse should be higher on the list -definitely will save water, but it's harder to implement. And we are all metered anyway, so there is a financial strategy already.
The third point should be a given. But % wise the new areas don't have a big enough reach on their own. the other two encourage existing areas to get involved. And the water table issue seems to be being ignored. It makes one wonder if some of the recent changes for densification are actually valid under environmental law for the impact to water, river and ground water.
These would be easy to implement. New communities barley have any land so changing their landscaping isn't a big impact
Collective community involvement is necessary. #1 is easy and involves everyone. #2: Money talks - if people are not complying, they will if they have to pay.
Classical economics says that you reduce demand by raising the price. That is the fairest approach. Items 4 and 5 I see as equal.
Sadly so many people after covid are angry and resistant to change. Forcing new communities to change first doesn't affect someone already living there. Then incentives to make locals change, and for those who won't then financial and rate based strategies.
Go by what gives the most impact with the least fuss and lowest cost to residents.
The easiest way to quickly make changes and I think with the biggest bang
Because increased weight on forward looking options.

I believe we should shift lawns into more functional green spaces
Positives like rebates are the only thing the city should be considering. Higher rates and watering schedules will further divide Calgarians, and will cause tensions between law-abiding neighbours, and those that don't. We don't have funding to police this, and it's not my responsibility to monitor my neighbours and their adherence of the law.
Watering schedules are the most intrusive and most difficult to enforce. Letting people decide what their own water consumption should be and charging them accordingly is the best solution. I grow vegetables and want to decide when they need to be watered.
Financial incentives rarely actually work, and prove to not benefit the environment. Encouraging Calgarians to be proactive is more progressive, stop the water hemorrhage, money is not a fix
Change the fact sod is .30 a sq.ft and builders can use it to be cheap and fast. Make sprinkler systems a common rough in on new houses. (I.e. backflow and wire rough in). Start using wild flowers and other water smart plants in new developments, re development and parks. Why do schools and community centres have giant sprinkler systems that water if you are telling people to not water
Prevent new developments from having to switch to new rules right from the get-go. Then work on water reuse so the demand of using potable water is reduced while policies and measures are being ironed out.
People need support & encouragement (positive reinforcement) for change. Not punishments such as higher costs & tickets. Look at the economical situation facing most Calgarians at the moment. If you want public support help the people help you.
Since Calgary is expanding need to incorporate into new developments. I am already working on some water wise plants and interested in rebates and financial incentives.
I don't support any of these items. This is just additional regulation and bureaucracy which will cost Calgary taxpayers with little benefit.
Starting at the source is important, so reducing water use and the need for watering (drought resistant yards) plus education on why it needs to be done. Financial deterrents will only really affect those with lower income, so it's not an equal solution. Rebates are nice but again, one has to have the money to do the project to get the rebate, so it excludes those in lower income brackets
You need to first allow Calgarians the opportunity to contribute to the solution, communicate it clearly and exhaustively, then you would resort to financial pinch if you so desire to punish.
The financial and rate-based strategies and watering schedules can be implemented quickly. Water reuse is a fantastic idea but will take time. Rebates are only going to work for people who have the cash to spend on landscaping up front. And frankly we don't need any new developments, and redevelopment should focus on higher-density housing anyway.
It makes sense for me to focus on water reuse rather than introduce different restrictions
Lower impact to lower income individuals and house holds.
Easiest to do first. Toughest to do last.
If all Calgarians in condo or not can't use these incentives then I don't think we should be subsidizing people that can afford homes in the suburbs over others.
Lead by example instead of punishing the people first. Incentives take time and cost alot. The grey water would start things off right.
Better development need to be the 1st step and developer's have the money to do this.
Order of importance
I tried to rank them in the order that I think they would have the most impact on water use.

"if I can measure it, I can manage it", and if I can save money too, bring it on. Then offer incentives to retrofit, but ensure all new developments are drought-resistant without wasting perfect drinking water.
I wish this question had estimates of how much water savings it would bring. I would rank the one that saves the most water when implemented the highest. I'm
The land development is urgent so 1 to curb future issues, the water schedule necessary next, financial strategy to apply pressure, incentives to push on-boarding numbers and water reuse as a good strategy but needs work before implementation
Start with replacing turf grass and replacing with drought tolerant native plants, helps naturally reduce the water being wasted.
easy/cheap ---> hard/expensive
The main issue is grass lawns and the amount of water they require to keep green. We should promote doing away with full grass yards via incentives to do so.
I don't have the subject matter expertise to prioritize these.
Make sense
If existing homeowners remove grass for drought-resistant landscape, it likely stays that way and reduces water use for decades (unlikely to revert to grass). Water reuse is fairly affordable (rain barrels). And for new communities we need to get out of the "you need to have a front and backyard lawn" mindset. Lawns provide little utility. Let's quit making them the default.
I think watering schedules is a bit extreme right now. Water use and new build restrictions easy to do. Financial and rate based and good step after the other things have been tried.
Watering schedules are the quickest and easiest way to get started. The other will require more education and investment for people.
It is a gentler way of starting the process without strong arming everyone or having the neighbors becoming police.
Reuse is smart, educating is smart, charging people more money without first trying to educate and reuse is criminal.
We have 14 new communities being built. Putting in landscape restrictions and guidelines now will put the onus on the developers instead of the eventual homeowners. I think the city subsidizes urban sprawl and the capital investments to service these new communities too much. I think the develops should absorb these costs.
Give people the carrot before giving them the stick. They're happier when it's their idea to change rather than making it seem like the government is forcing them to
In order of easiest to implement with the least bureaucracy directly impacting your life
The city shouldn't be in the rebate and/ or subsidy business. Take those off the table.
The city needs to have common sense polices in terms of practical water usage across the city
I find it hard to prioritize, as I believe the strategies would work best together
People are only going to do it if they have a financial incentive.
Taxpayers should not subsidize the efficient use of water. That cost should be on the land owner or developer. Restrictions in land use bylaws, water reuse and usage schedules will be more effective than rate differentials because the politicians will be too weak to impose sufficiently discouraging rate differentials.
Circularity is essential to our success and water re-use is a good circular strategy.

Any new developments MUST be reducing their reliance on lawn and drought intolerant landscaping, and should be a part of permitting, with an emphasis on native plants,
Reduce, reuse, recycle. Watering schedules REDUCE use and hits all landowners immediately. Fees encourage others when they get their bill - lol. Developers need to get it right from the start vs forcing new owners to fix problem caused by cheap developers. People motivated by \$ so incentives/rebates, like past LED/shower head program. Reuse last - how can be done in a cost effective manner.
The priority I chose seemed to be able to produce the higher water savings with the least amount of financial input and the shortest timeframe to realize water savings. (Without knowing the facts around actual costs and timeframes)
Rebates & incentives will get people participating in active ways. Landscape restrictions will convince people that it's a valid request when business is required to do so at their own cost. Financial & rate based strategies are in the middle since they are important, not as much as the first 2 and the last 2 are much more passive for average homeowners & would require less effort to implement.
Love in old neighbourhood easier to install from start of a community build.ease of implimenting a schedule. Financial incentive
The best way to save water is to reduce our 'overhead' so to speak. Removing the option of new communities to put in non-native high water requirement grasses and convincing existing homes to replace their lawns is the way to do that.
I didn't there was "none of the above".
it makes the most sense to me. Watering schedules is the easiest to implement. New developments must be held accountable going forward to provide water resilient landscapes. Water reuse is also easy to implement. Financial incentives and rate-based strategies will take some planning, so makes sense to put it last. By the time the first 3 are going, you'll have had time to figure it out!
These are all wastes of money.
Giving resources to people is better
Immediacy, practicality, complexity.
While I personally would not be affected by many of the proposed changes, I have family and friends that would have issue with surcharges or a water schedule. As such, I feel as though the order I have selected would be the most likely to be accepted by Calgarians, as it rewards people wishing to be proactive, while also targetting developers and those who have more resources
I prioritized these items this way to actually reduce water consumption. I would always choose a way to incentivize people to change instead of just adding a surcharge. Proactive people would also engage more in this type of program. After a certain amount of time to have people enrol in the program, you could surcharge the remaining households for excess usage.
Because I believe these choices to reflect actual decrease in water use, rather than just theoretical decrease
Creating new landscaping trends will spill over to older communities. Financial penalties for water use will just make people mad. Lots of people already recognize that water is limited.
Least financial stress to families. More green spaces to enjoy.
Only one works
Some of these things are relatively fast, easy, and cheap to do - take care of that low hanging fruit first.
They seem like they would be easier to accomplish.

Stop the continuation of old ideas of landscaping first. Teach water reusable as second step Water schedules for everyone
Actions at the citizen level create a new normal, it generates the foundation for the future
I support incentives, rather than punishments, i.e. rate based strategies. I also feel that developers are given too much leeway to do whatever they want. We should have strict guidelines for new developments
Without complete knowledge, I think the easiest and most cost effective would be to implement water schedule. I would like to know more about efficacy of these programs and the rate of reduced water usage. New community rules should be a priority and cost effective.
The carrot is more effective than the stick.
Watering schedules are the easiest to implement. Design and incentives help address the root cause of outdoor water needs. Water reuse needs more information for the general public to get on board with. I am skeptical that financial and rate-based strategies will make any difference unless the money collected somehow goes back to support the other strategies in the plan.
I don't believe that the City should give out rebates or any financial incentives.
Rate increases and city subsidies must be off the table. Taxes are extremely high for what we are getting back as tax payers.
Some of these are really easy to do and should of already started some might take time but should start now.
We should be taught to reuse our water all the time, not just in times of drought. Watering schedules again, are relatively easy to implement and easy to follow. Next came financial-based, everyone is motivated by money. Then came landscaping choices this is great for new homes only doesn't necessarily help existing homes
1 and 2 will have most immediate impact.
If you implement the first two, the last two are less likely to be needed. And we should keep Water reuse because it is good for the environment and just a good habit to have now and in the future.
Because it makes sense
I think the order I chose would be the easiest and fastest way to begin change and also puts less financial burden on Calgarians.
My focus is on my existing landscape and how to improve my drought resistance
These are things I would be most excited about. I would like something new for our front lawn, and a watering schedule would be easy for me to follow. I am not moving to a new community so the restrictions for new development wouldn't apply to me.
We need to get going and change the way we do yards. All of them need to be done the rate changes can fund some of these programs.
Financial consequences won't curb usage as much in higher income neighbourhoods and we run the risk of the affluent neighbourhood looking green and lush while the low income neighbourhoods dry up, parched and brown.
Incentives 1st because I want to replace that darn brown grass that I refuse to water. Easy to implement schedules. Restrictions on new construction is good but developers need time to implement. Water reuse is 4th because I have no idea how you would implement besides water barrels. Last is charging because please just give us a break. You already increased my taxes this year.
Plan for the present and the future. Throwing money at someone doesn't mean they will conform. Helping the Earth will.

Watering schedule doesn't seem like it goes far enough, and overall I prefer initiatives that support and help people overcome barriers over ones that penalize.
I think supporting Calgarians to do the right thing with supports (landscaping kits, rebates, rewards, education and resrouces) is far better than charging Calgarians for water use. Our new communities SHOULD be build better and smarter, yes, but I think changing existing communities may have a larger impact. I also strongly support adding drought resistant plants and plants that help pollinators.
Private residence's aren't really the problem, commercial use of water is. Also let's put the onus on the people who can afford it- housing builders, instead of the average citizen.
Best way to encourage change is through rebates going to those who make the environmentally friendly decision, and taxing/charging those who do not
I think they should all be of equal priority as they all have different benefits, but I believe that actions that encourage people to take more significant action sooner will have a bigger long term impact. The less lawns and water-dependent landscaping there is, the less there is a need for other restrictions. But all should be a priority.
None of them are acceptable
Really penalties for non compliance should be #1
I disagree with all of them except reuse. This survey is skewed to get the results you want. None of the other options is a 2 or three. Reuse is a 1. The rest are all 5's with 5 being Terrible!
People who own houses take pride in their homes and their land, but reducing water and energy consumption are cost prohibitive. Mandating energy and water reduction and providing rebates for those people who do is the best way to incentivize individuals to make necessary changes.
Most effective way to get compliance of supporting drought measures.
Biggest impact quickly with the least amount of resources
"Get the biggest bang for the buck" reduce lakes & still water which attract bugs & rodents. Rebate for my turf.
positive programs work better, financial and rate-based strategies have expenses to administer and unintended negative consequences
Least invasive to most invasive
Implementing water schedules would be the best bang for the buck. Easy and relatively low cost. Water reuse seems relatively easy as well and as long as the safety aspect is communicated well it should go over well. The incentives I am interested in so that is why it is third. #4 would only affect me if I move/rebuild. #5 no one wants more money coming out of their pocket.
Least interference and least financial impact.
This was very hard. All of these should me implemented. Given the current inflation crisis, adding more \$\$ to bills would likely not be well received. So put water schedules first. Also new developments should be addressed immediately so as not to increase future issues.
I am tired of my taxes going up every year municipal, provincial and federal. as a household we only have x amount of money that does not increase the way taxes do. it becomes punitive and not individually affordable
Re-use isn't happening yet (or atleast not openly discussed... maybe golf courses are). Rebates are valuable as are setting the rules for what the rates will be during an emergency but how we can still allow some watering of vegetables/trees but not grass (it can go dormant - use xeric grass mixes). I tried to order where the process will order but all have value.
Starting in new developments is easier
Start simple and common sense

Water reuse is common sense to me! I prioritized financial based strategies lower because that will cost tax payers money.
Water schedules minimal cost to implement, Minimal pressure on tax base
Buy in will be greatest when people feel they're not being punished for doing things as they have always done. I believe that incentives that improve home value and reduce current costs will be better received and followed through on. Watering schedules are good during times of drought. Tiered fee structures are tricky especially when it comes to equity.
I think people should be encouraged to remove grass. It's a waste in front gardens. Reuse water that we throw away.
No more comment
We need to change how we think about landscaping but watering schedules are low cost & quick to implement. I struggle with financial penalties for water, access to which should be a human right.
Its the default setting
If the city gave a substantial rebate to redo yards to be arid landscaping I would sign on to that plan. Watering schedules are also not a hardship.
Catch the new builds before lawn goes in. Then get the city's own watering act together. Then watering schedules raises awareness and gets people to think about change. Then the carrot, then the stick.
I'm looking for equity. Also if the new homes have new yards, it may reset what people look for in a yard and change of style will take place
Ease of implementation, less city employee interaction and lowest cost.
Schedules and water reuse are probably the easiest to implement, and I think that rate based strategies are the best way to influence people who haven't already bought into the urgency of this
We all need to rip out our wasteful lawns AND stop building communities with grass as a default. My priority list reflects the need to undo the mistakes of the past, stop perpetuating the same mistakes, changing behaviour Watering Schedules is last because it still frames watering as an option that we need to accommodate.
Mandates in new areas may be the easiest to implement. Rate-based programs and incentives may have the highest behaviour change incentive value. Watering schedules are good but compliance may be spotty as will be water reuse.
Watering schedules and financial incentives will address existing yards. Irrigation and water re-use require changes to existing gardens or building codes and will take longer. New developments can be tackled right away to avoid making the same mistakes.
Easiest to implement to the harder more expensive options.
Landscape restrictions is the best long term solution. Rate (anything dealing with money) is a frustration given inflation and already high taxes and user/usage fees.
I put them in the order I consider from the easiest to the most difficult to implement, but they all seem important
Go for the low-hanging fruit. My top choices are things the city already has control over. Carrots are better than the stick. People will not react well to watering schedules unless the need is obvious and very clearly communicated. I predict many people will ignore it completely. You would need to show you're prepared to vigorously enforce it, especially for egregious breaches.
just made sense to me, no particular reason
Use natural ways to reduce demand for city water first (these approaches also reduce stormwater issues!), give the people the means to 'be better', then apply rules to restrict city water use.

Landscaping can be an effective change with quick results.
No more restrictions!!
1) watering schedules can be implemented easily by everyone & have minimal impact on city's budget/people's activities 2) the incentives & water reuse seem to go hand-in-hand by helping deal with the problem at the source 3) financial penalties for using more water won't affect those people with lots of money, the stick won't hurt them as much as others who have higher water bills for other reasons
Making private outdoor areas drought resistant is the most important step IMO, with scaling back current water use as 2nd most important. Although I do believe that increasing costs for higher use will incentivize people change their behaviour, I think the cost at each threshold needs to be very high. Since water is a basic right with no substitute I don't think this strategy should be considered.
Watering schedules with education and enforcement can immediately decrease use. Financial incentives/rebates may only benefit those who can afford the changes and can harm those who are in a vulnerable financial position.
Landscaping restrictions sound moderately easy to implement and should already be happening. Watering schedules is a great way to get people to think about how much water they are using and slow the amount going out the hose. Water reuse is a great option for Calgary and should be piloted where fit, hopefully eventually implemented fully. The final two are more tough with financial stuff.
I like the incentive program best. The watering reuse and watering schedules are both good ideas, too. The remaining two, landscape development and financial strategies are both interesting but may have negative consequences (new homeowners replacing and wasting landscaping, vulnerable Calgarians and urban gardeners negatively impacted by rate hikes).
Water reuse seems like it would have high effectiveness with minimal impact to Calgarians day-to-day life. If new communities are forced to show new developments with different landscapes it will make it trendy for all neighbourhoods.
Water is a non renewable resource and , unfortunately , so is my \$ flow.
our opinion
I would put the top 4 in the number one position. However, new areas should all be landscaped with drought tolerance in mind, and everything going forward should follow that model so that it becomes the norm.
No more restrictions. Provide incentives if you want but don't force people to do anything.
Pro-active and positive; not punitive.
The first two are easier to implement. Incentives would motivate me in an established community. Water reuse should be a given. there are challenges with financial and rate based strategies.
Water schedules and reuse would immediately reduce Calgary's water consumption. They are something the city controls, which is very powerful. Although I think financial incentives are very powerful, changing tactics at the source is where we really need to start and to build from. This is why I rated Landscape restrictions in development/redevelopment higher.
Priority to the measure/strategy that will produce the greatest return (watering schedule restrictions. When you hit people's pocket books, that's when people take notice. Water re-use is used around the world, is a proven strategy, and has benefits to stormwater returns and therefore river water quality.
All the strategies are good and I think they should all be implemented. But starting with the strategies that involve the people who are most interested in making changes (ie incentives & new dev) is the best way to start. If you just hike rates up for water use it only penalizes low/fixed income citizens. Wealthy people will just pay whatever to have their perfectly manicured lawns no matter what

H2O is life and can not be charged for.
I think before putting pressure on people by adding the financial burden, the city should try other options that are more encouraging
I think we can still give everyone as much choice as possible while rewarding those who choose some drought resistant options
I think they are all important in different ways. I picked 1-5 because it will be the easiest way to ease everyone in all of these new water rules. It's a new thing for Calgary to do and there will be naysayers. I really hope this water action plan goes through. It will save the city in the long run.
Irrigating lawns seems very wasteful, watering schedules would partially solve that, new developments usually use sod which requires inordinate amounts of water, and use financial repercussions as a final resort.
None. All terrible ideas. You're [profanity removed]!
Start with water reuse and see the results. The city should not increase regulations or redistribute tax payer dollars for this program.
I think a lot of water could be reused, I don't know the cost of being able to do so but it seems a good idea. I have seen some beautiful water wise landscape but I think if we offer examples of more of these people will be interested in doing them themselves. Incentives might also encourage people to change their yards.
Reuse should be expected from everyone. Promoting healthier water wise yards is also appropriate. We need to change how we think about yards (not just green grass)
Not sure people will follow the watering schedules so put it last. I do believe that clearly showing the extra cost of wasting water will effect change in behaviour and so put it first. Looking for ways to reduce water use will follow.
Ease of implementation at a reduced cost
Because I believe this order to be most efficient and fair
Because if I have some incentives and rebates I will do it at once. But many people do not follow rules, so it is important to restrain use of water for yards, for example. Builders must contribute too. And water reuse should have same priority than incentives; and financial strategies must be studied with all diligence before to apply them.
It was difficult to rank these because they're all important strategies, so I started with a strategy that could be implemented city-wide and be impactful fairly quickly, followed by a proactive strategy so new yards would be drought resistant. I think the best way to promote water conservation is to give people the necessary education, tools and financial incentives.
What is easiest to track in a weekly basis and feel like I'm helping. It a monthly timeline to see how I'm doing. Makes sense
Better to reward effort than punish lack of it
Positive insentives first, penalizing last
I Do not want to prioritize any of the above
the restrictive "top down" regulatory approaches are the least attractive and I bet the least effective. I would NOT put Financial and rate-based strategies on this list at all. It should not be used until we are in severe long term drought with critically low water in the Bow and Elbow. This is a basic city service and if council can't provide it they should resign.
Urban sprawl is a problem in our city. If we continue to grow we should require developers to landscape and redevelop in a sustainable way. Incentives will help curve home owner behaviour
Landscape restriction in new developments are easy to implement, and have immediate benefit.
Water reuse is already done in many places, so it should be explored.

Watering schedules and consumption rate strategies may have some impact, but need enforcement. I support subsidizing water saving tools, but do not support the other components of the landscape incentives strategy so rate it last.
I ranked higher options that can be implemented that have less impact or cost to homeowners.
Greatest opportunities to affect communities before they establish with new development. Much easier to implement new implementation with a blank slate than retrofit. Water re-use may help to reduce instream withdrawal demands if done right. Rebates and financial strategies do not cover all uses equally with less incentive for some stakeholders to implement based on this strategy.
I think re-using water should be our number one priority, because this is a way to get the most out of the water we have. Second to that, I think mandatory schedules will be the most effective way to reduce water use where cost is no issue and people decline rebates. Landscape restrictions will be a great way to improve sustainability in the long term, but will not be effective immediately.
Incentives with education are better ways to implement change. Your policies need to address the sudden downpours and storms too and ensure landscapes can handle them too. There is no mention of this or how homeowners can store rain water or use it more effectively. Seems very narrow in focus and not thought out enough.
optimizes existing policy and resources reaching the most residents, always better than bringing in new which may not work as expected.
When it comes to rebates or rate-based strategies, you are targeting lower income families and their consumption. Higher income households won't care about the higher costs - they just pay it.
This is the only idea I would support.
I don't support any of these so I did not rate any.
Rate based strategy just penalizes your already struggling population...that doesn't help anyone but enmax and their surplus profits...horrible idea
Should focus on elimination of unnecessary watering, not just a reduction.
Structural systems will be more effective than ones that rely on individual good behaviour.
Rate based is my least favourite option. I would love to benefit from the irrigation and landscape incentives and rebate. I think the other three options are great ideas and are tied for second for me!
Support for wise landscaping is probably the most tangible - we can see the results and enjoy that we are doing something good for the environment. Then new developments because they can be planned in advance vs having to get people to rip up their yards and spend money. Then water reuse because it has no implication really to people. Then schedules because they may be hard for people to follow.
I think those approaches would make the biggest difference
Reuse is a no brainer, love to see initiatives to replace grass with more drought tolerant plants. The watering schedule plus a fine attached is a start
I think the first will be most impactful and the last, the least
Water schedules seems easiest. Ranked 1.
Landscape restrictions for new devs need to be implemented sooner rather than later. Ranked 2.
Water reuse. Seems logical. 3.
Financial and rate based strategies seem easier to implement than rebates so #4 and then #5.

I think watering schedules are easy to implement and follow and they make a lot of sense. Financial and rate based strategies should be a last resort and implemented only if other restrictions are not being followed.
I've ranked these in order of personal preference, without considering which would be easiest to implement or most effective. I'm most interested in a program that would allow for replacing grass with drought resistant plants, as I've considered doing this any way.
N/a
Lower distribution and sewer costs, etc and start charging people for water use whether it is inside or outside!!!
Water schedules are important! Use water efficiently!
Makes the most logical sense to me. Encourages implementation. Provides ways for people to avoid financial penalty.
Lack of options
It just seems to me that the simplest strategies will do the most good the quickest. Others could be phased in later.
The first three are based more on changing behaviours and the last two based on \$\$
In today's world where everything is being reused and recycled, why wouldn't we try to solve things by following that mindset
Because I can do math, and these prioritise the fastest, least expensive, and most impactful solutions.
New communities have real potential to design water saving into the plan, watering schedules have merit, but the last two could have very high costs for marginal gain.
Construction is a great place to start to make sure all future yards are sustainable. Water re use is a cheap and easy step that can anyone can do. Watering schedules is a good way to ensure people are doing their part. And if they're not then they pay for their extra use. lastly an incentive program will encourage residents to landscape better.
Prioritization based on easiest/least likely to result in resistance
People need to understand that maintaining lawns/grass are a waste of resources and financial incentives might open their eyes. I doubt that my lawn obsessed neighbors would adhere to a watering schedule.
See previous answers.
I don't want to rip out the landscaping I've already done on my property, the city will never be able to refund me the amount I've already put in
Easiest to implement and biggest and quickest payback and less involvement of city resources.
sustainability, natural accountability/relies less on individual goodwill/penalties, equity
I put anything that charges folks at the bottom. Encouraging people to change habits and having the city do stuff first.
I do not support any of these, but I have listed them in order of "least disliked".
Cost to get program set up. Important to me. Important to my city. Not enough information. Good idea not sure how it would be set up
The first three items are very similar and depend on the individual to implement. These can be easily applied by most people. Water can be collected in a bucket before a shower and then water the plants. Landscape restrictions in New Development is preferred providing there is still green space available. Rate-based strategies are more punitive and do not help us to develop a community attitude.
What I am selfishly the most interested in. With the exception of gray water which I've always felt we should be doing because that makes sense to me
Positivity over negativity. Do things to help rather than charge when people do bad.

<p>The first two seem to me to be big, fast wins—water reuse and regulating new builds will have a big impact. I put the individual yard projects third because it's a more "one at a time" approach, therefore slower, but I also think it will help get people excited about saving water. The last two feel more punitive, and so I think they'll be less popular.</p>
<p>The top ranked selections have direct education and participation of residents to best understand civic water resource management.</p>
<p>Because they are science and traditional knowledge based</p>
<p>I like all the ideas except "financial and rate based strategies".</p>
<p>I think the additional 4 should absolutely be implemented though. Starting with rebates for people to start converting their yard to native, drought-resistant plants. The remaining 3 ideas should all be put into place once yards get away from grass and move to native plants</p>
<p>Lowest impact on low income individuals</p>
<p>Helping people change their beliefs regarding what constitutes a beautiful yard, may help achieve water reduction and provide aid to pollinators more quickly than using financial incentives. People want their yard to look as nice as their neighbours so as people see more beautiful xeriscaped yards around them they may be more inclined to "join the club"</p>
<p>It seems the most practical.</p>
<p>it's what I can manage physically AND I think it's more equitable for Calgarians with a range of incomes.</p>
<p>If we can get rid of some lawns, create more habitat for pollinators, and set up a watering schedule, that would go far in helping homeowners do what we can sooner rather than later.</p>
<p>I believe that people will be more motivated to conserve water and reconsider their traditional grass lawns if it saves them money in the long run.</p>
<p>Calgary is already a very large city with lots of developed areas. Educating and encouraging more water-wise practices is important. I have witnessed that a lot of people who have lots of money and large properties don't seem to care how much they use so financial incentives won't always help there. People on tighter budgets will be more willing to change.</p>
<p>Because the city and every other government and corporate entity already are making life expensive enough</p>
<p>In general, I prefer programs that encourage positive action rather than punishing negative action or inaction.</p>
<p>they could be completed in an effective and fiscally sensible manner.</p>
<p>New developments already pay disproportionately low taxes, there should be increased investment in various items that will benefit the health of our city.</p>
<p>I would prefer to see more incentives for people to replace turf grass with water-wise plans. I also want to see changes that impact older neighbourhoods like mine (where the lots and thus yards are larger) rather than just newer neighbourhoods.</p>
<p>regulation takes the longest, so start right away. water schedules are low hanging fruit so start next. financial strategies will also take long to implement so start researching now.</p>
<p>It is important to start with new development as that is where it is easiest to shape, followed by city wide water reuse Incentives and rebates are more attractive to homeowners than financial penalties and restrictions</p>
<p>It had long bothered me to see so many Calgarians watering their lawn in the high sun during the summer - the worst time to do so. I have tried to explain this to some of my neighbours but most don't change their habits. I think educating people on the benefits of early/late watering is very important</p>

People went nuts during the pandemic on renos including yard projects. They love getting deals. Starting with rewards and education and finishing with restrictions keeps it fun and moves people to the right mindset so they won't resent the responsibilities.
I really think the city needs to work progressively toward sustainable ideas that don't just punish average people for living and not following a schedule or a black and white guide to "appropriate" use because the reality is, every single person's life and homelife is diverse and should not be subjected to one-size fits all legislation, especially not those rules which favor the wealthy.
Reduce, reuse, recycle.
All of them are high priority. I suspect the all will be more popular than increasing water rates (although I suspect water rates will be most effective)
Reduce>reuse>Make money>golf
The public needs to learn how to water the gardens they currently have so they don't see the restrictions as a detriment. Water schedules work and aren't too inconvenient for the majority of the public to implement. I wish more residential homes had graywater systems or a way to retrofit so they could be implemented after construction.
Reduce, reuse, recycle! In that order. Prioritize reduction of lawns in new developments, change over lawns to native drought resistant plants, then reuse what water you can
We waste so much clean drinking water for things that don't need clean water. Therefore I think we should start with reusing water. I also believe most people will be on board with that idea.
Concerned about my water bill being too high, think the other strategies are more effective for reducing use without the public freaking out.
Water reuse has the potential to have the biggest impact/water savings. I think watering schedules might be a tough sell but could also have a big impact as they are city-wide
Landscape restrictions in new developments will hopefully have significant and immediate impact.
I believe conversion of current landscape to be more waterwise and pollinators-friendly is most important. As for financial and rate-based strategies, I don't believe it would significantly impact the water usage that most household is currently using
Easy to more difficult to implement.
All other options are unacceptable
People should pay the cost of the water they use. This would ensure that an incentive exists to reduce water use or to pay for if you are willing to. To me this is the only solution. I ranked the others because I had to.
I do not support government interference before an education and awareness campaign. We have to start building community and a sense of citizen responsibility before governments preemptively intervene. Calgarians deserve to be trusted to do the right thing and do not need the social engineering that is taking place with this city council.
Watering schedules are easy to use-like our garbage pickup days and quick to implement.
People should have a chance to be educated and voluntarily change their habits before being financially penalized.
you start with the newest and work backwards, its more cost effective
Incentives first.
1 Get new development heading in the right direction immediately (including all aspects of drought resilience) 2 sensible use/reuse of the water we have 3 reward people trying to do the right thing 4 Steer late adopters in the right direction 5 If we succeed in the previous efforts we may find imposing schedules unnecessary
None of the above!

I think it would have the most impact while encouraging equity.
I feel that the best approach is to reduce water usage and help people to move away from high usage landscapes is a better strategy as it encourages those who haven't considered making such a change as well as assisting those who can't make the change due to the high cost of implementation.
I think incentives, restrictions in new builds and water reuse are realistic options that have fewer negative impacts on citizens. Increased fees and water schedules take away freedom of options and flexibility for citizens.
According to what I think my own household needs and could follow, and what makes sense to me (I.e. in terms of landscape restrictions in new developments). I love the water reuse idea, and frankly I think financial incentives will work better than watering schedules because people only think of their own wallet, and we may as well use any extra \$ toward supporting drought tolerant infrastructure.
You catch more bees with honey. Stop penalizing and start encouraging smarter ways to operate.
Hitting people with fines or higher rates doesn't help with yard maintenance. Helping with redesigning the yard, or schedules would be much better.
i've left it blank. none of these are good ideas.
Watering schedules are pretty obvious if you don't follow it.
I don't really like any forced restrictions but would personally adjust my use age. I chose based on incentives, rather than "punishments"
Likelihood for compliance
I feel new developments need to lead the way, and developers can not only make landscaping choices that assist in this but they can also install water capturing strategies in the new homes.
Use what we have; densify instead of expand to new communities; ease of implementation; not motivated by incentives, Loath financial penalization against those who have no choice.
New development is cost effective because we are not removing existing lawns but instead landscaping the right way from the start. This is followed by encouraging existing home owners to convert to be more efficient. Basically giving homeowners the tools successfully reduce water intake instead of implementing penalties.
education is very important and should be done first rather than enforcement.
I figured that watering schedules, water reuse, and landscape incentives would reach the most people in Calgary. I think restrictions in new developments is also a really great idea, but with so many established neighborhoods, already, it doesn't reach as many people.
Systemic solutions are more effective than hoping people will follow nearly unenforceable rules out of the goodness of their hearts
Water schedules may reduce peak demand on certain days but may not reduce overall water use. I really only need to water my grass once per week to keep it relatively green. Water re-use is a high priority since a lot of water goes into the storm system with just one use or from rainfall run-off on hard surfaces.
I believe there are natural ways to combat droughts and the costs associated with them. These will help improve the local environment as well.
Some of the other plans only produce costs on the taxpayer that will only anger citizens. The idea of a 311 Report line for neighbours not following a schedule will also cause neighbour conflict and I think it's strictly a horrible factor in that plan.
because i believe they would have the most impact from top to bottom.
The free-market economic approach is likely the least costly to administer and most efficient, and allows freedom. The extra revenue should go into rain barrel and irrigation and lanscape rebates.

Water reuse & scheduling time is most important things for most efficient use of the water
Quick implementation and broad impact across all property types
Fair & consistent
Our city's founders planted slow growing evergreen trees in the communities knowing their value in the future. The future is now and thoughtless developers are cutting them down in the prime of their value. AND the city is letting them. These drought combating entities are already here, no purchase necessary! So landscaping is the at top of the list, keep what we already have!
The easiest and least costly method should be implemented first. Hitting people financially should be last. I'm not really sure where water reuse fits. It might be better at #2 but I don't know what all is involved.
'Bertans gonna get triggered if you tell them to water on a schedule (muh freedumb to waste water on muh lawn). The other ones can beat JuStiNfLaTiOn so sell it that way, even if it's a green initiative that my left leaning self whole heartedly supports. And make developers pay for their environmental footprints...and stop letting them destroy native grasslands.
Schedules are easy to draft up and can be enforced with existing bylaw officers - easiest win and can be done with little infrastructure change. 2nd is \$ bases - again, easy to implement and when it costs us more as consumers then we use less (eventually even if not at first). New developments is last because it's important but does nothign to address the current issues and landscape challenges.
We should think towards the future and not continue a water-using strategy as we have that's why development and redevelopment is first. Incentives and rebates would get the most band for the buck I believe, followed by rate-based strategies etc. Spending large amounts of tax payers dollars to fund this program seems frivolous and we should try less costly means first.
Working now to put plans in place for the future can mitigate the need for severity of the financial penalties plans
Because I had no choice, I think theynshould all be top priority.
Watering schedules is about education. Developers should already be educated and responsible! Water reuse again is educational but also common sense!
People are so resistant to change we can't expect them to do anything for the right reasons, so you need to push the change through rates and water use control. Incentives sound great but uptake could be low and won't get the volume reductions you need.
I think financial disincentives to excessive use would be likely to have the largest impact on water consumption.
The reason I garden, is to save money, so penalize me for this by charging for extra watering is wrong. Help me make water wise decisions at my older home and I will happily do it. I think a lot of folks are like me, I WANT to do this, but can't afford all the up front costs or don't know how. Work with us, instead of demanding more money - that doesn't help anyone.
I think if the city starts making tangible changes it becomes part of public consciousness that change needs to occur (& is coming at private levels). Gives time to work out monitoring in condos/multi-dwellings. Less likely to make people mad from "another tax" by implementing charges as a final option.
Changing the way we approach landscaping makes the most sense if the goal is to reduce long term water needs. If we have less to water overall, then the rest of the measures become less necessary.
It's time for the city to start doing things that make sense.

Question 20a

To what extent do you support The City prioritizing programs that support vulnerable Calgarians as we advance our Drought Resilience Plan?

Multiple choice question. No verbatim.

Question 20b

To what extent do you support The City prioritizing programs that support vulnerable Calgarians as we advance our Drought Resilience Plan?

Allowing low income people to pay less than everyone else, but we all know that the wealthiest single family detached home owners disproportionately emit carbon, use water etc. Equity should mean taxing them proportionately (like the concept used in Finland, where speeding tickets have been over \$100,000 if the driver is super wealthy).
It's fine to support low income but there are many who are slightly above low income who wouldn't qualify and again senior citizens who are only just managing to afford daily living but can't afford much more
This is where incentivized programs like rebates or kits for people would be better than intentional limits
How about you stop taxing us to the point of poverty
You can't please all the people all the time, but you can please some of the people some of the time...Enact these measures asap. stop talking about it. ignore the whiners, because there will be enough of the NIMBY crowd...Don't get stuck in the paralysis by analysis mode..."Strike First, Strike Hard - Kobra Kai"
if you want to support vulnerable citizens of Calgary, don't touch any more of the bills and rates
Yes assisting low income areas is a must. Plus programs to teach our kids so future generations know more!
Areas with less income need more support as these households may not have income to make improvements. Community plant sharing programs? Landscaping workshops? Vouchers for local suppliers? Bring the mulch and compost to the community and show residents how to use them. Encourage a food gardens and food forests.
Programs like this do not take into account that many middle class families/people cannot afford higher water rates either and can't afford to do landscaping.
Rate based use doesn't matter to the rich.. who use the most water for lavish lawns & such. Those will go without water who need it in a serious situation like Cape Town. Look to Cape Town for solutions, they don't have a single bath tub with a plug in the city... not even the 4 seasons.
Lower income families are less likely to use as much water as they are metered, it is the larger homes that need to make changes as they have a lot of landscape and more people per house. Making these people make changes would be more beneficial
Na
Make Calgary drought resilient, ignore the usual haters who hate anything government does to help, especially when it comes to addressing the coming climate crisis
What you seem to be suggesting is that those that can afford it can use as much water as they want because they can pay for it. Lower income people will face the tougher restrictions. Start with all City parks and green spaces if you are serious about this. Don't want to see private companies watering endlessly...in the rain, while the trees in my yard are dying of thirsty.
It's a big concern when our water does eventually dry up so maybe a large capital project with the federal or provincial government to create more reservoirs would be a good idea.

Low income already have supports, the city can change on their own their Calgary housing yards as they see fit.
We have a serious class divide in this City. I worry about wealthier households who will just pay to use water for pools/hot tubs/grass and not curb behaviour and families who are just cooking/bathing/cleaning but have larger families are also getting fined. These larger families often are lower income and we need to be sure we aren't putting them under additional stress.
I suspect that the vast majority of Calgarians who will be most negatively impacted by the implementation of drought resilience strategies, are those that have the financial capacity and the desire to use water as they see fit.
I mean we are all struggling with inflation right now.
I wonder water access for our unhoused neighbours during heat waves like we saw last summer.
I think the sooner the Drought Plan gets established the better it is for climate change and establishing a city that can handle climate change without loss of our water supply.
As a homeowner in Calgary, I find the costs to live hear are escalating. My choice to maintain and make responsible choices go beyond the existing costs. I think it is wrong to punish those who care to make a difference by taking even more. If you cannot afford maintenance of homeownership there are apts and condos where it's done for you. The business of equity is unfair and quite frankly biased.
Again we all need to contribute and there is something we can all do- I am not a fan of continue subsidy
But who decides what a "vulnerable" Calgarian is?!
I would need to know how low income would be impacted more than high income.
Drought would affect all?
As I said for the rating, not everyone has the flexibility to spend more for water wise options. Someone who needs a garden for food, for instance, should not end up paying more because they need to water their garden to eat. Those who can should pay more but there are equity issues to consider
Rich people shouldn't have to pay less per cubic metre just because they use more, as at present.
Sounds to me you are looking to increase our rates and then subsidize low income Calgarians.
This should all begin with the the City itself to serve as a role model for Calgarians. Many city owned trees and natural areas are neglected and dying. It is unfair and unrealistic to expect any change to occur on an individual level when the City is not walking the talk.
I have mentioned throughout my responses. Hopefully you use GBA+ or something similar in your program development. There are serious implications here about water use and truthfully, I find it unlikely lower-income Calgarians are using the bulk of the outdoor water vs higher SE areas. Have you assessed water use by neighborhood and income range to determine how to best target interventions?
Only for vets, seniors AMD ppl.living with disabilities with low income
People living in poverty should be granted every opportunity to establish food stability via gardening.
Extra rates only harm the lower and middle classes already struggling. We should focus on the perception and culture around lawns first.
They can get jobs installing irrigation systems!
Irrigation and landscape incentives and rebate should be #1 priority and pay for use lowest priory
Tax the rich and whiny.
Everyone should have a basic right to clean water, and the poorest among us shouldn't be left out.
The basic allowed amount that is cheaper than one uses water in excess of that sounds good. Would be great if it came with simple articles including videos on how to save and/or reuse water on city of calgary website, and people know where to look for these

I'd love to see a drought strategy also be considered in context of the ways that low-income neighbourhoods often lack green space and in consultation with these communities. I also worry about heat mitigation in this context, as low-water-use environments made of rock or concrete can also increase risk from hot weather which also affects these communities.
Being low income shouldn't mean they get things for free! It's everybody or nobody
Everyone should be able to do their part to save natural resources
Agreed. We must consider those who already have poor access to water for their daily needs due to inequity. I hope that the City has programs and efforts to ensure those citizens are not affected by cost to access water. As their access may be less, there is little sense to regulate something which is required for life (needs --> water, food, shelter)
No just wanted to be educated and implement it the right way for everyone benefit
Vulnerable populations are generally most impacted by change and challenges/ shortages
Equity can be relatively easily addressed with rebates/tax refunds. Also, most low income Calgarians don't have yards and lawns to water.
Public facilities are important for everyone and should be accessible. Parks should be priority.
Everyone is responsible for managing their own budget. Including water management
Equity is important
IMO It's the wealthy people overusing water
The more we can revert to natural and Indigenous plant matter, the better we will be able to build resilience for periods of drought. Education is key.
More incentives for those in the lower economic bracket. Although aren't they low water users anyways?
It is for this reason that I believe the financial rate-based solutions can be harmful. Consider the folks who are barely making by as it is.
Lower income people aren't often home owners but perhaps this is a greater issue for older adults still in their homes. Measures need to create responsible behaviour on an ongoing basis but not punish vulnerable Calgarians.
Proud that Calgary is taking action now.
no.
The above question is vague. How would they be supported? To what extent? How would this impact other calgarians, homeowners, apartment owners, etc.
This is the most Important factor
No
I do not support any sort of wealth redistribution scheme. Everyone should be treated fairly and equally.
Found very few programs launched by government to be efficient and effective
[profanity removed].
Providing more equitable access to drought-tolerant landscaping for the lower income areas would help beautify these areas and make them more desirable. Education on how to maintain is needed as well.
financial burden needs to be evenly distributed among ALL those who can afford to pay. Rarest commodity of all - USE Common Sense?!
The only thing that comes to mind is ensuring that people have the ability to grow their own food as much as possible.
Where is the money coming from

I think we need to think more reforestation. And environment pollution to reduce in the city. I just wandering about Xmas trees which make more droughts in my home place in tropical country. They absorbs more ground water but I do not know about in this country because it is tundra climate.
There needs to be plans in place to ensure that more affluent areas/people aren't reaping all the investment and benefits of the drought management tools while leaving lower income people/areas penalized or unable to take advantage of incentives.
No
Implement a "no more lawns" goal, both on city and private property. Do it now!
Vulnérables do not have lawns that much, middle class mostly afford lawns. I guess equity doesn't play an important role in this case!
Low income housing that is owned by the city should ensure all their properties are maintained ie: no dripping faucets/toilets. Subsidize utilities in low income housing.
A sliding scale of increased cost for increased water usage (use more - you pay more) should be considered. I don't support customer assistance programs. The City should be always looking for ways to reduce costs to taxpayers/ratepayers regardless of their social status.
Rich people can buy more water if there are financial impacts.
This is wasted effort.
If you're going to provide materials and education for drought resilience, include food security materials. Also remember that fines and financial disincentives dosproportionately affect the most vulnerable.
Do not implement financial strategies and this won't be an issue.
Can fully appreciate that landscaping initiatives would be cost prohibitive for many
I think that the fairy entry program can easily be used to support this program. The funds just need to be made available.
Whose definition of equity is used?
I don't like the thought of bylaw officers ticketing low-income neighbourhoods when they turn on their sprinklers on hot sunny days for their kids. They have fewer trees and on average warmer neighbourhoods with less access (fewer private cars) to cooling stations or air conditioning.
I would need to understand this more to be able to support. What would disproportionate impact or burden entail or look like?
If they can afford a house and a mortgage, don't see why I should be subsidizing these people.
We cannot limit access to drinking water/cleaning water for unhoused and vulnerable populations
If you're talking about low income, they are not the ones wasting water on grass, it is the rich people that have larger yards with more exotic plants and using more water
A family may not qualify for subsidy but doesn't mean they aren't just getting by. Inflation is hard on many families and the sliding scale should be adjusted accordingly not just at poverty levels. Could it be based on house and lots size, people residing in the property?
If indoor water use is maintained as a critical service, then shouldn't vulnerable people actually be better protected by drought resilience planning? Any rate fees should be set so that basic use indoor water rates wouldn't change.
Access to clean water is a human right. It's good to see the city taking steps to protect water for everyone.
Situations need to be reevaluated frequently and other professionals (medical staff, # of residents-new owners/births/deaths, etc), need to be part of the equation.
I think block pricing of water takes care of equity.

We are in a bad place with the earth. We need to be doing better.
Some low-income friends of mine don't work because they prefer to play. They used federal climate rebate to buy gasoline. Low income doesn't equal "good water steward". Everyone has to learn to reduce their impact, regardless of income. Any program (eg rate based) designed to impact USE should be fully applied to all users. Give more aid to landscape etc incentives based on income.
Again, extra support for elderly and disabled community members, as well as for families, particularly with young children.
Vancouver Island now has severe water restrictions and severe penalties for violations. I don't want Calgary to get to that point but I feel that it's a possibility if we don't act now to prevent that.
It's extremely important, because people who cannot afford to xeriscape etc. will be stuck with higher maintenance costs, and will "bring down" their neighborhoods.
Everyone needs to get onboard. Neighbours can help neighbours that need assistance.
It is critically important for success to support people with drought plans, I would hope we coordinate this with food sovereignty in assisting people to grow food in their yards as well.
Financial incentives penalize those with less income first.
everyone can reuse rain water
low income ppl live better than middle income. They get all the breaks. Middle income ppl don't get rebates- pay 4 everything & have no extra \$ 4 anything. Income based evaluating is unfair. Middle income both ppl work & pay for kids to do sports, all money in goes out. Blue collar middle class is who gets screwed. No breaks on anything ever. Can't afford to be rich and working too hard to be poor
Equality is great but equity is a discriminatory bunch of hogwash
We should remove any barriers to involvement for people of all SES's. It's important for everyone to have water access in addition to learning about it's limits as a resource and how we can all make an impact.
Accidental leakage is a serious problem. Two family members received bills for a thousand dollars due to leaky toilets. I received a bill for a thousand dollars due to a leaky irrigation. These bills were eventually forgiven, but they caused serious stress in the meantime. The city should move to water meters that provide real-time warnings, otherwise vulnerable people will suffer.
If you are poor or rich, wasting a bunch of water on your lawn is still wasteful and unnecessary. The truly vulnerable who are homeless have bigger problems than a fancy lawn... this question is lacks logic
Everyone should become aware of our actions and choices and how it impacts our environment.
I have so many neighbours that pride themselves on green grass. They are obsessed with fertilizer, mowing and watering grass all day long. What can you do to change this mindset. Can you help to educate them and encourage them to grow food, bee plants and not grass?
In order for this program to work, everyone has to benefit.
Vulnerable Calgarians is another city created problem. Medical facilities with doctors, MRI's, long term rehab centers treatments are expensive but the only way to help. A lot of Social resources are a disguise because they are cheaper. Food bank, coaching, resume building, shelter should be part of a much better medical treatment to resolve homelessness.
Glad the city is thinking of this
strategy cannot segregate or cause a neighbor reporting system that creates bad relations with neighbors etc.
The gap between the rich and poor continues to widen. The City can't affect many of the underlying causes of this but can mitigate some of the affects.

Is there any way to pair the drought resistant plantings with food growing programs to encourage families to grow food? Good for all income levels but especially for those who might be struggling with food insecurity
I don't believe that low income citizens actually care more about the environment and will behave the same as high income when it comes to environmental initiatives. I am lower income and I don't think that it is fair that I would not be encouraged to save water based on all strategies involved.
I would hate to have a program limiting water use that prevents users from growing their own food, or preventing them from having a garden. I wonder if there are financial repercussions for overwatering if the funding could go to low-income gardening/yard programs. I know how beautifying a yard also provides community benefit beyond just looking nice, I hope that it wouldn't stop people.
not everyone can play an active part
Everyone should save water!
I appreciate it is being considered. Keep considering it.
I fail to see how drought effects vulnerable Calgarians more than any other Calgarian.
Make it edible crop related, too.
I would like to know how this will impact ranch/farm owners as they are heavy users and will be impacted.
Why is there no comment about what you are going to do for us, but only what you plan to limit or penalize us? IE are you planning on increasing reservoir size? Processing capability? Or what about personal use water collection systems for exterior use that do not require processing or energy inputs to use? All your methods are simply to produce more government, and we have far too much already.
The equity piece doesn't quite make sense because the largest culprits for water usage are richer people - the people with big lawns, pools, large bath tubs, etc. Poorer people are likely to have smaller residences that inherently use less water. Set pricing strategies so that a small townhouse or apartment are more likely to fall into low usage rates.
Rate based methods are not equitable for lower income community members
Try to make a plan to get people to work together as not all want to work on projects around there home
I have no idea what programs that support vulnerable Calgarians in terms of water entail.
I'm tired of not qualifying for things because I'm a middle income household. Lower income households have more burn money because of the rebates and subsidies they qualify for. Where as middle income households pay full price for most things and qualify for none of those. Average income households are in just as much financial distress and need help too.
We are all in this together. Our water = life. We are a water poor province, and this is our greatest asset. I can't even imagine the cost if we would have to import water from elsewhere.
Fines, fees and penalties often just make things ok for rich people to do but are crippling for the poor. There should be a reasonable amount of water available to all for the same price, and people using an obscene amount should pay much more.
I hope that the city is also consulting local indigenous people about water use and drought.
I think there should be priority for new home owners and lower income individuals.
Golf courses shouldn't be prioritized in droughts.
I was once told that all natural disasters bring communities together - except drought. This is a very tricky political calculation, especially since at a surface level high water use should be tied to size of property. For that reason the connection between inequity and water use needs to be articulated really well.
Not sure how it would actually work

I'm not sure if certain areas of the city are more prone to drought, so this seems most applicable if it is spread out amount people with different salaries. I think there should be larger incentives for people with a lower household income.
The City knows of the equity issues in Calgary and can continue the existing programs in place.
Supporting vulnerable Calgarians always need to be addressed every household should be able to wash up and clean cloths when needed with out worrying about paying the bill but should we support someone who cant afford the bill if they are watering the lawn 1-2 times a week, that is where I might have an issue
I would like more information on what factors are taken into consideration for equity. Is it solely income, or is there a way to take into account that some people need to use more water in ways that have nothing to do with outdoor watering? We need it for pain management.
I don't think this is needed unless you implement a rate hike. Drought is likely not even on the vulnerable populations' minds.
Has to ensure the property is owned by an individual, NOT a corporation or business or landlord.
Equity is a nice word. It never happens. Single person households always pay more then their share for all city services, including water. The one size fits all approach is always unfair.
I think the subsidy or rebates for irrigation, etc. should be incentive enough that they would apply to low income as well. Even though I'm not low income, coming up with an added home owner's expense is not easy so the incentives should be substantial enough for all. A few dollars is not enough to incentivise someone who was not planning to upgrade anyway.
Impact on wildlife/ fish/ livestock, soil quality and dust proliferation should be assessed.
Equity comes into play in multi-family developments; also, personal circumstances could make regular maintenance of certain water-related fixtures very difficult and these people should not be penalized.
No
Equity always needs to be considered in ANY plan the city makes.
Everyone is being effected by this. Make solutions that help everyone.
My guess is the vulnerable will largely not be the target for the Drought Resilience Plan.
should be equal across the board, I don't want to pay higher costs as a result of this program which will happen
Equity support programs need a sustainable funding source and suggest we'd need to re-examine existing financial revenue/rate structures to be successful. Otherwise, increases to general tax base will just cause more anguish.
I don't completely understand what this section means or is referring to, and I feel that it is just included to fulfill some imaginary "inclusive/social/liberal" checkbox. The 2nd sentence in the description above is very poorly worded and hard to understand.
Would like to understand a bit more of what this means - providing more support or relaxation to low income developments or to single family lots that have a low income? Would like this to be very clearly understood before deciding if it is the best way forward.
In the scenario the City is using I'm not sure how equity is an issue for watering a lawn
Very happy the city is looking at this!
Where will the monies come from to fund these programs? The tax payer?
You just have to have a program that is just and well administered. Low income usually do not have houses. Medium income is also struggling these days. What would be the program for them?
The money should be deployed where its gets the best water savings for the lowest price.
As I had commented above I would worry about large low-income families feeling this the most. We need to ensure that the people that can pay do and we don't punish the vulnerable.

There needs to be consideration for those who don't qualify for low income programs but who are still barely able to manage their day to day living expenses given the definition of low income.
No
Presue with longterm vesiable plans.
I think that without support the most vulnerable will become scapegoats if the plans don't go well.
Could some resources be utilized to help this population - summer students? a larger rebate? help in setting up some of the initiatives (help plant, assemble water barrels/drip sytems etc) I can see set up of even the most basic systems being a barrier to seniors, physically challenged individuals, etc
If people can't meet their subsistence costs, they're not going to care about these issues.
Water cannot be about money when we haven't taken responsible steps to manage it.
Calgary and do not need to have another 'cost' to their cash-strapped day-to-day living ... They don't need to disclose income (or lack thereof) to pay less for water which is a requirement for life
Let's manage our current water in a responsible manner. We will all be surprised at how attitudes change over time.
Prioritize Indigenous peoples, Black people, people with disabilities first
If we all do our part, then we will have the resources to better support the vulnerable.
Gearing subsidies and education toward vulnerable populations to help them live more sustainably is excellent. Give people a rain barrel and yard care kit along with education on how to simply grow their own food. This addresses so many needs!
I hope this program is engaging indigenous groups, too, as I imagine they'll have a really different opinion.
Needs to be addressed before it's too late. Fees or fines need to be punitive for individuals to stop. Recommend free compose/mulch drops in communities so citizens can protect existing trees shrubs especially in lower income areas of the City. More community awareness in area?
Do people understand the difference between equity and equality? Always seems to be a lot of finger pointing that "they" are getting things "we" are not
This is a city for the rich. There is no equity for ppl, so as much as it looks good on paper. The paper is worth nothing because ppl who need help never get it or it's only available to a very small portion. My personal favorite is when the requirements are set to a point that noone is able to take advantage of any program. Something our city officials learned from our provincial leader.
Some homeowners have very large yards which they have invested a lot of time, labour and money in. Some homeowners also maintain large City lands between the sidewalk and road curb. This is generally appreciated by the public as a whole. Perhaps bill/invoice limits should be given to homeowners with large very yards who have worked hard to make Calgary attractive for everyone.
I feel that drought is an issue that does not affect low income earners as much.
If you can afford to water your grass I think you are financially ok!
This is the only way to get complete buy-in from the community. It is more inclusive.
1. Please remember that low-income is not just the income amount on the income tax report. Some people have to pay a lot for children (ie. therapies not covered) or elderly (transport) or injured friends which cannot be claimed. 2. Always remember that every political decision has reproussions - can these be supported in peak and long-term situations. Simple simple simple.

I would guess that higher income households use more water on landscapes & their businesses than low income residents do. Targeting these households could have the most impact.
Support development of backyard gardens with 'how-to' education and subsidized seeds, especially for low income.
The most vulnerable Calgarians lack access to water in the most fundamental ways, including but not limited to drinking water, safe hygienic toilet, bathing and laundry facilities). The city needs an immediate, concrete, achievable plan to address these needs (improved affordable housing, daytime shelter, public washrooms, mental health and addiction support and treatment, ...).
I do support rate rebates for very low income Calgarians but that is the limit, there should be no more than this.
Help seniors who have the time to look after their lovely gardens but can't take another rate increase.
No
If the purpose is for all Calgarians who are responsible for the land around them to be changing their mindset, then all should be treated equally. Financial assistance should be for basic needs. Outdoor watering does not qualify as a basic need.
Education education education
For question 20.a, I Completely support it.
I like how well-thought-out this is, as well as the Rest of this survey that I've Seen so far.
Keep utilities as low as possible. It doesn't matter if you rent or own. Landscaping is not always an option if you rent.
Need more info about the cost and benefits to me the taxpayer and city. What I have read here does not impress me.
increased costs while still allowing unlimited watering is not equitable as people with more resources will be able to install underground sprinklers and will not be as concerned about costs
I doubt it will be fair.
What exactly does this look like?
Strongly agree this is necessary especially if any financial strategies are used to try and motivate people
EVERYONE needs to work toward water conservation. This is not about income level.
Equity!! confused about usage of 'vulnerable' here- your dei manager is hard at work. Aren't we all vulnerable in times of drought!
Do not increase our taxes. Already pay too much to city hall . Figure out how to do it without charging us more.
Will city hall be changing out public areas to be more water wise
Rationing water will inevitably put further pressure on vulnerable Calgarians and any decisions around it should be carefully scrutinized to make sure that the most vulnerable are being heard and taken into consideration.
We are all in favour of equity, but we already pay substantial rates, tailored to the size of our property
Support income based programs, not based on other conditions
There are many other factors besides household income to be considered
We should help those who need it.
This is way too nebulous. What exactly does this entail?
Not familiar with low income programs.
Abandon this plan
this is going to target home owners. And if you do the proposed costing it will penalize wealthier Calgarians with larger homes. So don't virtue signal that this is disproportionate impact on low income - unless you have actual data.

The city should leave the financial based options as a last resort. Work with the more flexible plans first.
If tenants pay for utilities, those who have lawns should not be forced to pay for watering them by the landlord. Rental properties should have water-wise landscaping.
I think having free outdoor water fountains in areas where vulnerable populations live is a way to achieve equity. I think this is an easier sell to people on restricted incomes so maybe put effort into making those places beautiful with native plants etc
Paying someone to do a rebate is a waste of taxpayer money. Simply pick a better option
This sounds like the seeds of another government bureaucracy that will cost more to administer than the good it will do. How does one calculate with any accuracy the financial compensation deserved by one city dweller versus another due to drought. If people are in need of financial assistance generally leave it to the existing assistance programs to support them.
How is it determined? At what point does personal choice and accountability enter the discussion? If someone is living beyond their financial means (and there are a lot in this city) come into the qualification of vulnerable?
Absurd
I don't understand the equity issue here, those who can afford to live in houses are not the lowest income people
There should not be a significant cost to compliance; only to those not in compliance. Vulnerable citizens likely don't care much about gardening and landscaping. Low income citizens, if they own property are likely already practicing water conservation to reduce costs.
This is very important!
Maybe don't implement a program that hurts certain families
Unless you do things to hurt the vulnerable you need not save them from your actions.
Sounds good, I like that the city thinks about less fortunate citizens.
People should have a base amount of water for personal use at a lower rate. Beyond that everyone should pay more.
Yes help those vulnerable change usage first through extra discounts on removing lawn, planting drought tolerant, helping install smart water devices like taps, so that when financial penalties come in they can better manage this.
If we implement rebate plans instead of taxes for water use, there will be no need to protect vulnerable Calgarians.
This seems like a program that will hire staff and take resources away from even helping anyone.
It is a catch-22 situation. The financially-able will be strained further with rebates and opportunities given to those who may require financial assistance. Earth is our shared space and everyone is equal.
Yeah, I can see this be a very low threshold that is set.
If the principle is to maintain a reasonable fee for essentially personal indoor water use allotment, but charge more for high water consumption then additional subsidies shouldn't be necessary. Low income or high income users have to decide how to allocate their allotment of water. Use more than the allotment then pay more. You decide.
Look at equity for non-single detached homes when considering rebates and incentives. People who can't afford yards still have to pay rent/condo fees that could be reduced through these programs.
I'm in favour of incorporating equity in policy making.
Old people like me living in pre-1990's homes will scream bloody murder when their water costs increase as they need to, but instead of rebates, place a lien on our inflated home values to save water for tomorrow's users - Boomers & Gen X'ers have wasted more than our fair share!

Equity is a two way street, we need to be able to support the vulnerable but the only way is to limit the above thier means.
N/a
stupidest thing i've heard in a while. you want me to pay more taxes so that someone else can get a break landscaping and watering their lawn?
I do think it's a big issue in this case as most low income people do t live in a single family home with a large yard or large,water needs
Just remember that equal opportunity doesn't equal equal outcome
Mentioned before. Baseline usage is dissimilar between multi-family unit and single person, both living in detached houses
Abit confused about this. We all have to do our part so whoever we are we'd need to be cutting back. Poor or no, shower less, reuse water, don't overwater. If you are at a certain income level, there should be some relief from life necessity increases.
Water is a human right, zero exceptions - I actually can't believe this question is on here...
Not enough information on what exactly this means
I'm glad this is being considered.
The last thing we need is the city charging everyone more for water, then turning around and offering a rebate to "vulnerable" people. How about don't charge extra as it is?
If people are financially struggling, should they really be spending money on lawn and garden supplies? If there are financial incentives, they should be available equally among all residents.
Excessive water use in summer should not be 'rewarded' because someone is low income. Same rules should apply. For incentive programs to change out lawns, then yes.
Without a list of facts around programs and costs vs results, it is impossible to guess with the information provided.
Exponential penalty curves. Subsidize the lowest income bracket with the highest bracket.
It's only right.
"need" requires clear definition, and should relate to community responsibility. Also, financial benefit to the City should not relate to "need".
Ensuring people who may be growing their own food and are in a vulnerable position should be taken into consideration. If they growing their own food to assist in their financial status, there should be resources available for free to help them with watering.
If you implement a rated system, make sure you really, really increase the rates with increased water use to the point of it being ridiculous to pay for for even the most wealthy. The point, first and foremost, is water use reduction. It won't make an impact if the wealthy can still effectively get away with whatever they want
No communist [profanity removed]
The city should be intelligent and work to identify and implement ideas that do not place additional financial burdens on its vulnerable.
Equity has to be a factor in this.
Townhouses and condos need to be responsible for their usage as well.
Unfortunately equity is not a value that Calgarians support. We are not a modern, evolved city. We are a backwards country town.

If basic amount of usage is charged equal to all. How would this be calculated? Varying base amounts depending on type of residence? Size of residence? Square footage of property? Square footage of land? As taxes are already figured into this equation...
Nope, I have said enough.
I find that my own family often doesn't qualify for low income support but any event like a drought can make life a lot financially harder for us. It's important to support the programs but choosing to make water more expensive will just hurt many families.
No
I am willing to bet the lowest income people are not the largest water consumers. Put together plans that target the 80% case first and then deal with the remaining 20% later
More public green spaces are an enormous part of equity, because not everybody has a huge backyard. Also, these should be participatory--like people should feel ownership and be able to touch and use things in them. I hope that's not lost as we work towards drought resistance.
Very important. Please don't underestimate how much it will help to make these things affordable and easy for lower income communities. Growing up in Falconridge and working in Marlborough Park, families under financial strain don't have the luxury of time or money to redo their gardens. Landlords need easy, affordable ways to help with these water goals also.
I don't really know what this would look like or what this means in the context of water.
This is the best way to prevent a political issue with positive change
Equity aka white people bad, men bad, straight people bad. Go fly a rainbow
Once again you will set certain requirements that screw most of us over. Tax the [profanity removed] out of the 10% of people who use tons of water on their huge yards, and companies with the decorative yards and excessive water use. Don't punish us average users who don't even have 1/5 of the water use of others
Like utility rates, many users do not conserve but expect financial assistance. Calgary is shockingly low on conservation of natural resources. Lack of educational programs to encourage compliance and conservation is noticeable to me coming from BC with BC Hydro efforts and regional water utilities where we had been doing this for some years.
public events in giving away drought-tolerant plants and trees, education on designing drought-tolerant gardens, etc.
No water restrictions in winter months.
definition of vulnerable is too narrow, households just above the low income cut-off are entirely excluded from most programs. Home owners are, by definition, largely not lowest income.
This is ridiculous, we have enough social programs in this country.
Water rates based on use could disproportionately impact homes holding large families (although the individual use could be low). The number of ppl in a home also needs to be part of the equation.
how do you determine need? if they are low income how are they burdened more as they are not watering lawns etc. put in watering schedules and the majority will follow it. did that when I lived in Edmonton during an extremely hot spell. it worked. quit looking at punitive ways too get things done.
I don't support cheap builders cutting corners. We have already experienced this with damaged roofs/walls in the hail storm.
Equity is very important so supporting access to community gardens vs individual home subsidies is of greater

need in my opinion but I am welcoming of supports they don't pass the burden from cheap/poor performing builders. So we need to inspect/flag what gets build wrong.
Fair entry considers common-law after 1yr. Household income in other government areas us 3yrs. Use 3yrs to help more low income couples.
Very important! Access to water (and green space) should not be for the rich
Have no idea what this actual question actually relates to
People try to grow a garden to save money especially with rising prices. They shouldn't be penalized for that
The rich can't waste water just because they can afford it... We're all in this together
Cultural considerations should be addressed. Talk to different communities about why they have the yards they do, and barriers to other options, e.g., expense of tree maintenance.
Do you think the vulnerable own property? If truely vulnerable they are probably renting and or on some form of assisted living.
The improvements benefit the environment and therefore also the population, so it is important to give support to those who need it because it is a team effort
I 100% think these measures need to take equity into account. Those who can pay, should.
Water isn't that expensive here
Thank you for recognizing that this could be an issue
I believe very strongly in this concept.
The rate hike concept could have negative consequences on vulnerable Calgarians. It likely will not change the behaviours of the most wasteful Calgarians.
So many in this province have no idea how to budget, how to prioritize needs over wants, nor do without! Stop subsidizing dummies!!
This is very important - we need to do everything we can to ensure equity, otherwise the program won't work! Individual efforts make a big difference, but the greatest impact will be if we do this as a team. If everyone is going to be on board we need the support those who need it
Calgarians experiencing homelessness may be using park watering systems to drink/bathe. Where there is a high concentration of marginalized people, it may be wise to continue using potable water, rather than reusing stormwater.
Can we please get a splash park in the upper NW quadrant of the city please
Everyone, rich and poor, deserves to have access to clean drinking water. Having a drought plan implemented now will ensure that the city can and will provide all of it's citizens with this precious resource for decades to come.
No
I'm fairly certain that it's the Calgary residents who have more (bigger houses and yards) who use more water and to whom you should target these strategies
Something has to give. As I give more and more for equity I'm getting squeezed out of the middle class. Penalties should also apply if equity funding is used and abused by the recipient.
More community gardens with water-wise design. Garden angel program like snow angels?
No
Equity is very important because fairness means balance in the access to resources we need to live. If we can get it, everything will be better in the city. Neighborhoods in Calgary and any other city with low income families don't have green spaces with trees and plants. The city should begin there with a program to recover those spaces involving the community in the work.

I support customer assistance programs to help people meet their needs and participate in our city's water conservation efforts, as we need to educate and engage all citizens in these efforts.
Equity and accessibility. But I think targeting areas with high water use is also important. These areas seem to be wealthier areas.
Many of these policies will decrease community green space and increase concrete jungle/heat capture problems which then lead to higher temps in micro areas and more drought problems.
EQUITY: If you can design an assistance program that only provides support to those who truly need it, then I would be in support of that. Unfortunately, most government programs waste too much of the funding on administration and/or giving money to those who should not qualify for assistance. The support MUST go to truly vulnerable households ONLY.
Everybody should have enough water for basic household needs. However, we should not be subsidizing watering the yards of low income households.
Perhaps low income households could use more assistance in converting their existing landscapes to be more drought tolerant.
Low income cut-off is too low, it helps some but not all who require, households barely over the cut-off get no support and with additional costs are worse off. Gardening should NOT be a privilege of the low income (subsidized) and highest income (who can pay)?
I think the real solution is to not develop programs that further disadvantage vulnerable Calgarians. Better to spend taxpayer funds on helping those people first.
There's no drought. The river is flowing fine and always will.
Yes! 1. Stop planting such water needy plants in your pretty boxes at city Halle 2. Stop planting water needy plants in community boxes and parks 3 TEND TO YOUR INDIGENOUS AGREEMENTS AND BRING THEM CLEAN WATWR BEFORE CHARGING ME ANY MORE FEES 3. our water usage is minimal and based on need, we don't have a lawn that needs water but I fear our laundry usage would [profanity removed] us right over.
Do not financially burden those with lower incomes.
Life is harder for low income families, guarding their rights is important but not when it comes to pretty landscaping
N/a
Lower income families need to reduce consumption like everyone else!!! A fair flat rate for 20 cubic meters would be sufficient to take care of everyone's basic needs, and then charge those who choose to use more!
That's a pretty broad and open ended question. Support how?
It's not an issue here. Stop trying to think of ways to charge Calgarians more for the constantly reducing number of services you offer. You're killing our economy and making people move away.
Bringing back water fountains in the city parks would be great. Not everyone has a place they can go to get fresh water all the time.
It's fine to support vulnerable populations (sounds \$\$ driven) but I think changing habits and behaviours is a more overarching approach. I'm a senior citizen on a fixed income, but not low income - I still have to keep an eye on my spending but likely won't get any customer assistance (\$\$), which I don't think is fair either. But I can and have changed my habits.

Negative income tax based programs are staggeringly easy to apply and feed into equity-based solutions.
The bigger challenge is going to be convincing the tens of thousands of landlords holding noticeable numbers of homes across Calgary. This is going to require legislation, otherwise they'll do nothing.
Everybody is entitled to sufficient water to live on. Beyond that, it is a luxury so liberal rob from the rich and give to the poor need not apply.
Help low income people grow their own food!
Low income is often associated with low levels of education and probably also with poor use of resources because of ignorance. I watched a woman wash dishes in a Lake Louise campsite during a drought year - she had the water running constantly from the tap while washing the items under it, instead of partially filling a bowl and using much smaller amounts of water. I don't want to subsidize ignorance
more information about geological/watersheds context to enable citizens to be fully informed of their urban prism's exposure bias
I do not support the City's "Robin Hood" approach. While food, water and shelter are basic human needs, lawns are not. Tax dollars should not be reallocated based on income for the purpose of landscaping. Find other priorities.
It should not be a financial hardship on anyone, however I feel that everyone is able to do their share regardless of income.
Green spaces and food sources are needed downtown anyway and would help our homeless population as well as every other calgarian. Green spaces are what we most need for revitalization and we could start with parks made up of native special and perennial food crops (like rhubarb, Saskatoon, honeyberry, apple trees, etc)
This is crucial as many marginalized community members also strive for connections to the land and land stewardship, and food sovereignty.
I am against positive discrimination
Equity is important. I feel as though some middle class families miss out as the rich can afford landscaping and the lower income families, although concerned with environmental issues, may not have the expendable income to go through a full yard landscape. Equity incentives or not.
Equity is by far the most important consideration especially as the wealth gap increases.
More affluent communities often seem to use more water and don't seem to care about following restrictions. I have witnessed this my entire life. To many it is more important to them for their grass to look nice than consider the impact droughts have on everyone. Financial incentives will not stop some people from using excess water because they can afford it.
this is a joke, right? Your climate plan should be based on measurable efficacy not showboating.
this is extremely important and I am glad this is being considered. low income calgarians may also lack time to fill out surveys like this so make sure to engage in their communities and talk to them, perhaps sometimes with the use of translators if needed.
No
High five for thinking about this. Be creative with ways this can solve multiple issues. Get rid of grassy areas near low income dwellings and replace them with edible water-wise landscaping to increase food security at the same time.
I believe my sociological standpoint with respect to the wealthy always getting the financial breaks made my opinion on equity quite clear. Reduce administration fees on water bills. We all know it's a huge money grab for the wealthy to line their pockets and it's an absolute shame. Greedy.

I will reiterate this point: commercial use and golf should be cut down before actual people need to reduce their water use. I should not have to suffer because some rich person decided that tropical plants would look super neat in the front lobby of this random building no one enters.
The focus on tree planting in all neighbourhoods allow for more shade preventing overheating on the building reducing the need for AC use and the draw on the grid.
I will always support the City prioritizing supporting our most vulnerable citizens.
Golf courses and people in neighborhoods with extensive properties with grass lawns, what is the plan for them for drought mitigation?
the City should focus on solutions that do not create a burden for ALL citizens, not just protected groups.
Water users should pay for the water they use, full stop.
I don't even know what this means. Please provide details and how we would pay for such programs.
to be fair, those who cant afford their yards are not watering any way
Equity needs to be baked into this strategy from the very beginning (not as a lens applied to the strategy after it has been developed). I recommend the City do focus groups with vulnerable populations whenever possible.
More wokeism. Can't believe the City is spending our tax dollars on this stuff!!
It's not the vulnerable ones using all the water with the sprinklers systems. Educate the people with in grown sprinkles and give incentives and free plants to vulnerable
I am inclined to support, but can't say I "completely support " until I understand the details of what is being proposed
Yes, we need to help those who can't pay, but how do you identify those for whom the burden isn't obvious.
If we are going to spend money supporting vulnerable Calgarians it should be spent offering social services instead of landscaping their yards. Absolutely make sure they're not disproportionately impacted by any increases in rates.
Many Calgarians are vulnerable to rising inflation, rising cost of living, and rising cost of utilities, far beyond the typical vulnerable community, especially in the last 2.5 years
Likely, residents with more yard to landscape have higher income and all the incentives and rebates that are available shouldn't disproportionately benefit these individuals. I'm not sure if this would connect to creating a sliding scale on rebates, but maybe something to consider so that more vulnerable populations aren't penalized in any kind of fine or rebate system.
In BC a huge number of people died of heat exhaustion during the heat dome last summer. We need to look at urban heat islands, the overuse of pavement, the lack of shade, and the lack of places poor people can go that have AC
N/A
The problem is not that you charge too much for water, the problem is that folks that are wealthy waste water at such a higher rate and aren't penalized. Increase the usage costs so people don't waste.
Using Cloud Seeding Technology to bring more rain & prevent hail.
slippery slope with financial implications more and more Calgarians are vulnerable
Fair and consistent implementation without property owners working loopholes in system or grey definitions
This is why I don't support a new program that costs people money. I'm all for subsidies but why implement one program that requires you to implement yet another program? Vulnerable people have to apply for so many different programs, it's exhausting and frustrating. I'm sure we all know someone who would be impacted that way.

help them set up kitchen gardens with climate wise perennials (ie: rhubarb, crabapples) and veggie boxes (raised beds to be watered with rain barrel water maybe?) so they can reduce lawn + grow food for their family.
I would have to know more details to comment further.
Our vulnerable populations always take the brunt of the impacts. They need support as they cannot physically or economically participate. As many are likely renters, there needs to be a program targeting landlords and financial buffers for vulnerable Calgarians to not be financially impacted.
I hesitate to support subsidies, because everyone needs to be encouraged to change their habits to help conserve.
Charging more for water penalizes Calgarians who grow their own vegetables to same money and feed their families! The value used to consider 'vulnerable or low income' Calgarians needs to be higher than most of the programs are today. It's already so expensive to live here with raising rents and gas prices.
We need to get AHEAD of the game and stop playing catch-up if we want Calgary to be sustainable as climate changes. We need to get on this NOW and be leaders.
People need to have more control over their yards. I have been thinking about xeroscaping my front yard for years but I cannot remove a city tree that requires excessive water. Is there a process for people to apply for removal of city owned trees under this initiative?
Low income communities probably don't have a choice about water use. Focusing workshops or pop-up booths in those areas may be impactful. Offering free tools or conducting surveys in those areas may help.
Maybe something can be done with snow and the water that results from the thaw

Question 21

Are there any strategies or ideas you think are missing that would help build Calgary's resilience to drought, reduce outdoor watering demand, and protect our water supply?

Consult with the International Water Association. See iwa-network.org .
As mentioned earlier the city needs to lead by example. The parks & green spaces that the city manages/owns do not yet incorporate the best practices for drought resistant/reduced water demand. You need to help show people how to do it (and that it can look beautiful when done properly) & then provide incentives for them to do the same.
Prioritize densification that includes families. This means 3 and 4 bedroom condos, row houses, etc. No more sprawl. Plots of land need to be smaller, with more people living on them. Get developers making more mixed use development. Walkability means less carbon (minimizing climate change), fewer cars (streets can be narrowed - asphalt doesn't absorb water)
education
Show people the financial cost of not enacting these changes. Show what other cities are doing...ie the American ones that no longer have front lawns etc.
Incentives or rebates for people who already have done this. Like I said we already did this to our yard and we should get rewarded for that if these incentives come in down the road. Maybe have someone come by and check out what you have in your yard and home already and qualify you for existing rebates. Or let you know what needs to still be done so you qualify etc.
Some sort of gray water system for irrigation would seem worthwhile to me -- this would allow water used for showering to be reused for plants. I assume that this would reduce demand on both the supply side and

treatment side since we wouldn't be treating water to drinking water standards for plants and we wouldn't be treating the water as much before it goes on plants.
Plant drought resistant trees unless the lot is close to a natural water supply. Birch and willows need a lot of water. Rail barrel subsidy Subsidy on solar operated irrigation system supplied from a rain barrel or water collection cistern Commercial, community and residential landscaping that allows rain water collection, absorption and reuse especially in established areas.
City to support and encourage grey water systems. Requirement of room / setups for rain barrel systems in new homes with lawns?
Reuse water
I feel any plan should include information on repurposing water in our homes. I repurpose kitchen water. The amount of water I collect and store in the winter months allows me to water my greenhouse for an entire month in the spring.
Keep Calgary beautiful. We still need biodiversity.
What about kids being able to play in a sprinkler, or backyard pools?
Build more storage to weather ups and downs of natural climate cycles. At this point failure to do so is negligence
The importance of planting trees. Trees bring down temperatures.
Clean air.. should also be considered,.. using plants as natural AC on buildings, better design in buildings .. it's all linked, a hot downtown concrete jungle causes more water use, Dubai has building entirely covered in plants meaning they don't need AC. Temperature control directly impacts water use, plants bring water & create moisture & humidity.
I think there is an important role for education here about what it means to live in a prairie city, and what it means to live in a time when the glaciers that feed the Bow (and to a lesser extent the Elbow) are retreating drastically. Some people (not all) will be persuaded and enlightened by this effort.
All of the above. Rain barrels is a must
Providing rain barrels at no cost to every household that wants one, perhaps through an application process.
No
As mentioned above, start with The City's use of water in parks and green spaces. Universities, colleges and schools also a good place to start. Also there are different zones in Calgary. Any water strategy would have to account for that as well.
Our sprinkler system used less water than putting out a hand sprinkler and forgetting about it.
I would like to see more information on who uses the most water this survey seems to be targeted at residents. Does industry need to be looked at in any capacity? I would imagine that there might be an opportunity there instead of just focusing on residents. Lots of parking lots with automatic sprinklers running when its raining out. :)
Golf courses are always lovely and green all year round and I can't help but think this isn't ok. Why are these areas ok to be green but they City will start restricting residential use? I hate to see these areas get special treatment when the rest of us have to time how long we shower for.
I just think we need more rain barrels, and to monitor people that iver wayer grass... you only need a frisbee once a week so what we need is to educate people. And to stop letting water run on sidewalks.
Encourage rain barrel use, especially series rain barrels.
Stop draining the reservoir in the spring so much. We have lots of water and we pay a pretty penny for it
Definitely protect our water supply from high use industry...like coal mines!

Educate and possibly supply water catching tools for homes
I'm sure there are but at the moment I can't think of any.
Installing rain gardens, water catchment areas in all communities; old and new.
Implementing food forests in all communities that are native AB species.
Advocating for drought tolerant mixed species lawns, with Forbes and drought tolerant grasses.
Offer education to common folk and involve local Universities in the planning of the cities watershed.
Home ownership comes with responsibility of good stewardship. Replace the lawns with woodchips supplied through the city as they maintain the trees in Calgary. We are already paying the city to maintain the trees. If the homeowner can afford it, they can add other features like trees, shrubs and plants to beautify.
Love that you are looking at this.
More education about other ways that we use water and can reduce use. Stories about how The City is conserving water in its operations. There need to be solutions for condos and apartments too - most of these residents don't pay their water bill so don't feel any immediate accountability but will also need to reduce use and push their condo boards and engage property owners/managers to do so.
How about limiting population growth in ecologically sensitive areas? Looking for ways to reuse our water, instead of depending exclusively on rapidly shrinking glaciers?
Start now
The river is extremely low. I am not worried about whether people can water their lawns. We need drinking water - to me that should be the highest priority
Strategy should protect health of trees and ensure they get enough water
Yes, but you're still not listening.
Connect with community centres for an aggressive awareness raising events and campaigns that would include not only the aforementioned projects but also educational materials to help everyone adapt gradually. And start with that today.
As mentioned, limiting further outskirts development altogether. There was no mention of rain barrels or rain harvesting, such as programs to provide a barrel to each house with support to set up. I would prefer that over a rebate program for new garden beds as I think this would benefit ALL Calgarians, not just the higher socio-economic population. There should be income test for water rates.
Hand out rain barrels.
Phase out grass lawns entirely and ban overhead sprinklers.
Make mulch more affordable or part of the plan (like offering rebates regarding your needs etc). It really keeps moist and prevent from watering.
I tried watering my lawn a lot less last year during the drought. I was paid back with a hundred dandelions courtesy of the city park across the street. So I now need to pull these, spray chemicals on the lawn, and focus on tons of water, fertilizer, and overseeding to get a very healthy lawn to avoid this again. City needs to do its part too.
Grey water system in every home
Being able to call somewhere to report neighbours who are using too much water is needed. In my community I see far too many people running sprinklers daily for hours at a time.
Community food gardens that are not cost prohibitive. Partnering with a group like grow Calgary to create food gardens for all communities to share

No. I found this comprehensive
Need somehow to shift the attitude that everyone has to have green great neat looking grass in front of the house, and to somehow stop it from being such a prestige symbol
I'd love to see a re-wilding of green areas - ie instead of turning grass into rock/gravel gardens, allowing more naturally drought-resistant plants in lawns and public green spaces. In a heat wave, sitting in a grassy or shaded space can be really helpful, and I want to know how these interconnected climate needs can be balanced.
No, I don't think this is a strategy that should be pursued any further
Maybe I am naive but I believe in the common sense of Calgarians to conduct their lives. We don't need government to tell us how to live our lives.
Lawn shaming, education about what a useless desert they are. Prohibit mass grass planting around new municipal transportation infrastructure.
Rain barrels are expensive, help people get them and we could be saving every drop that rains on our homes. That would be the fastest way to reduce unnecessary waste of water for gardening.
I believe the city in this survey has addressed the many items. My wish and hope is for this survey and its project to carry through and be implemented. :-)
Not
Make native plant landscaping "cool" by displaying attractive and well-designed examples (with signs and labels) in public spaces.
Rain barrels to all houses. Looking at rock pricing and giving more options to calgarinas to find cheaper sources to make those changes to yards that require less watering.
When the city replaces trees that have died for whatever reason, replace the tree with a native tree that is more drought resistant. Get rid of the city acres of useless lawn grass and plant more native grasses/shrubs.
Protect riparian system, including those not seen (underground).
Back off
Provide cheaper rain barrels. Like currents ads for low water garden info. I support no lawn watering during a drought
Build water harvesting landscapes to replenish water tables as they have done in China and India.
Stop blocking people from returning their properties to more natural states where the proper use of Indigenous plants and grasses can make beautiful and low or maintenance-free personal and public spaces.
I think a breakdown of all the water users would be helpful. This survey is focusing on residential conservation but I'd like to see what commercial and industrial and municipal usage is like in comparison find out ways on how those users are reducing their usage as well. You need to sell the idea that this is a universal approach by all users to conservation and not just a residential issue
Pools and hot tubs need to be addressed, as well as large lots.
Less grass on city land more natural/native plants.
More localized park-based community garden support. Landscape and environmentally wise yard and building use and dumping the punitive fines for homeowners trying to raise food gardens in their front yards. New building codes in the city to reduce urban water waste for all new builds (not just yards, but wise building use) More characters to write more ideas in these fields.

North Americans are incredibly wasteful of their water and energy. We need the capacity to store water better upstream so we don't need to do things like empty Glenmore reservoir in the spring. And build a tunnel from the wet coast to Calgary :). Get kids forming good habits when they are young so they can help their parents change and be ready for a more uncertain future.
And store rain barrels
The supply of native plants (at garden centers and big box stores) is very low. We need to look at increasing the supply of growers and retailers offering native plants. They also tend to be more costly so price is a barrier. If the market is going to transform it needs to be profitable for the large retailers, so they need to part of the solution.
Shake and Fold (when washing hands - like the City recommends for employees) Rainbarrel DIY tutorials or recommended rainbarrels More information on free mulch or places to get mulch
No
Penalize bottlers/ manufacturers that use our water inefficiently. Companies like Coca-Cola require just over 2L of water to make 1L of soda.
Incentives, requirements or building code to integrate water reuse. We don't need potable water for toilets, garage, garden, pond, etc. Rainwater or tubs of bathwater are totally reusable.
Encourage low flow toilets (explain savings in dollars), underground sprinkler management does not cost a penny, use of watering cans/hoses for plants and shrubs.
Fake news.
protect health existing wildlife landscapes from "clear cut" developments
City surfaces need to be rethought. Huge parking lots waste what little rain water there is. Parkades take up less space. What about metal grids with the weeds growing through with some kind of mesh so we don't lose our keys. Change the bylaws about how many spaces are needed per business ?! make sidewalks absorbent somehow. ALL Roofs to have collection sites.
Stop supporting grass
start installing flow meters to monitor outside water consumption on new builds and on current houses as the current flowmeters get lifecycled.
Fix your park sprinklers system first. You send so much water down the gutters as it is.
Add more plants and shades around the river, do like the Japanese, and make sink water go to toilets, filter more water we flush and use
City must provide rain barrels either totally FREE or at a Discounted price (like \$20). City can buy cheap with bulk order of thousands of barrels for it. I feel retail \$100 rain barrel is bit costly. I would like to install 3 rain barrels in my house. So a discounted (or free) rain barrel will motivate many to buy and install them.
Wet lane should identify the ground water resources for small quantity usages.
It will be a major shift in our culture as a city to get citizens to reduce water usage. Expect some resistance and clinging to the thought of unlimited resources that are currently inexpensive
I really think homeowners need to see it being implemented across the board, including commercial and City use, then they will be more likely to be compliant. Have people tell on each other is a terrible idea- this has already led to breakdown of neighbourhoods and just encourages people to be selfish and self concerned.
Aggressive water rights management, sue any up stream industrial users
likely a nightmare to administer but: Lottery type draw over the summer months where if you have reduced your water use by X amount or keep water use under X amount you're entered into a monthly draw with the winner

receiving a \$1000 credit on their bill or cash. Program where The Utility will front you money to do drought resistant plants/remove grass and add to your property tax over x year
Not sure
Stop growing, mowing and spraying grass on city property! Seed with white clover. It's drought resistant, self-seeding for several years, and it provides nutrients to both the soil AND native insects like bees and butterflies. In other words, put your money where your mouth is.
Incorporating water resiliency into planning strategies.
City could Incentivize using electronic taps or other taps designed to use less water in households.
Having alerts if the city notices an unusual spike in a household use or sustained high use in case there is an unidentified leak.
Yes - encourage the use of artificial turf for both residential back lawns and for city sports fields (including sports fields in residential communities - not just City Athletic Parks).
Grey water tanks for all buildings along with new ways of water harvesting for when it rains/snows. Not just water barrels set ups.
If there really is drought, then go to a temporary watering schedule. Otherwise, bud out.
Plant more trees AND WATER WELL UNTIL ESTABLISHED (I had to water the city trees behind my last house while they were gwtting established or they would have died!) It's an up-front water investment that will pay dividends in conserved moisture in the long run.
Regulating new builds and new communities. Prioritize projects and changes that can be done at a city level.
Grey water structures in new builds in order to reduce the amount of fresh water being used. Basic water treatment can be installed in new buikd houses so the grey water can be used for toilets or outdoor watering. This grey water can come from the sink, shower, or washing machine.
Stop big institutions in the city wasting water with irrigation systems to have vast areas of green surrounding them. Especially when it's raining!! Get them to put in fescue grass and stop mowing. Mowing is a waste of money and pollutes. City should stop mowing green spaces along main trails and roads. Also plant native flowers instead, for the pollinators.
We are known as a City of having some of the largest irrigation infrastructure in NA. Stop including irrigation on new parks, lead by example on your own projects. Why aren't we encouraging more green roofs? Toronto has had building permit bylaws related to green roofs for over a decade. Tree planting could further reduce our summer peak temps and the need to irrigate. green absorbs water.
Imposing water restrictions ASAP will be a very good start.
More education on the topic. Also, start by example. Show projects that are successful.
Ban/reduce access to car washes. This city has the cleanest cars I've ever seen it's absurd
Turn golf courses into useful space.
Supply rain barrels to every house, Remove curbs and grade so rain water can get to people's yards
You talk about drought but only discussed yard water use, what about indoor water usage? Some people waste drinking water in garburators pushing food down the drain instead of sending it to the green cart, also some people use bath tubs regularly, wasting hundreds of litres of water to clean themselves, some people run the washing machine almost empty, etc. There are many other areas of concern.
Outreach to seniors
As climate change is at the root of our future water issues it is imperative that Calgary lead in the transition to a sustainable future.

Revisit campaigns, Japanese sink/toilet combo, hot & cold taps -more efficient, use less water pressure, wash Vegas in sink instead not running water, hand wash dishes with little water use rinsing water 2 fill, keep small bowl of diluted dish soap to wash 1/2 items not full sink ie, India, new washing machines don't clean well-rewashing 2x 2clean, shorter dishwasher cycles-light/short opt.
No
Not off the top of my head, but I'll bring it to my councillor.
Go back to a no air-cond culture so we can dress for the weather, enjoy and appreciate the outdoors, drive less, not pave our parking lots and stop cooking the planet with our stupid lifestyle choices. I do think the above is relevant to water use. Make the City safe for pedestrians, which it is not. When they see nature they may grow fond of it and want to protect it. Education is helpful.
As mentioned before, recreational spaces (swimming pools) and municipal offices need to be an example of being water smart with their facility designs, ie retrofitting toilets and shower facilities as water smart. City parks need to show examples of xeriscaping and native plants as attractive solutions, and to not have "golf course lawns" as the exemplar.
YouTube educational ads. Special in class workshops? Educate the kids and young ones so they are aware that our actions today have impact for their futures.
The City needs to also look at their water use. Stop watering and mowing boulevards along busy roads, return them to their natural state and increase wild flowers and native shrubs.
We should be looking to our building systems in terms of grey water recycling and black water, alternatives, toilets using freshwater should be addressed, it huge waste to poop into water we will desperately need in years to come. Rain water should be directed into yards with weeping tile / swales to store in soil and water should be managed more locally rather than fed into sewer systems.
Native plants, limiting watering of grass. Industrial use of storm water or grey water. Using grey water to replace potable water wherever possible.
Partnering with garden centres to clearly signpost drought resilient or native species.
YYC can collect rain water on large scale & use it. YYC can build fun water activities 4 ppl to use on hot drought days instead of their own hoses. YYC can provide rain barrels for residential use. YYC can stop washing streets & have ppl sweep everything instead. Give water bill incentive to water early in AM & in evening instead of mid day.
Please review your own water lines and fix water line leaks. All of them. I know of a couple places that have been leaking water for years... perpetual mud pits at all times of the year. I don't know if these are storm water lines or clean water lines, but telling people to reduce their water use & check their toilets for leaks without the City fixing their leaks sends a bad message to the public.
Take measures to improve our water supply such that the city does not have to be take measures to avoid drought impact
This is a very broad initiative. I'm happy that the City is thinking about it and asking residents for feedback. I hope it doesn't take years to start seeing results!
Resident water reuse opportunity: provide rain barrel, sink basin, watering can
Be inclusive of condo owners that have common green spaces.
Real time metering. Integration with home automation systems to provide a real-time graph of water use and water costs. Also, the fixed fees on the bill should be reduced, in exchange for a higher variable fee.
This isna waste of money. Start reusing water and supporting homeowners who also want to do this. Taxing and restrictions = revolt.

Fines For overuse
Education on native plant species
Grey water permits & licenses for home owners
Mostly a mindset of people who have been told green lush grass is the way. You need to convince them that green grass lawns is no longer cool. Every household should have a rain barrel. Very few on my block. Also every city buidling should be collecting rain water.
No
Book appointments with an advisor who can survey garden and make recommendations to make it more drought resistant.
Education that can reach a large population rather than community based only,,, specific targets such as grass/lawn /plant education as the average person does not know what to do, what to grow , where to begin
Provide rain barrel and installation at low cost
Again, a free rain barrel per household would be a huge water saver. Nothing fancy just functional. Water protection rules applied in a standard fashion across all users not just individual households but all consumers including business and city.
More ways to celebrate what we are already doing. Encourage less payment. Find ways to water wise our infrastrucuture
As a former farmer, it bothers me how much urban residents take water for granted. I wish there was a long-term strategy for limiting water use and not just during a drought. Can we look to irrigation districts that have innovative practices already in place?
education is the only way, give us carrots instead of using a stick with fees
we probably can learn from California and their initiatives if we havent done it yet
The city better make sure they are "walking the talk" with these
Paying homeowner for establishing drought tolerant fruiting trees and shrubs, replacing lawns with drought tolerant food producing plants (as opposed to prickly native plants). Subsidize effective gray water systems for irrigation and toilet use.
Better public access to bodies of water in the summer. Calgary is pretty dry and there are few pools and lakes. People naturally seek out water- Not sure if more pools is a good idea but maybe. Less of those water sprinkler features in wealthy neighborhoods. Doubt that uses water effeciently. Consider monitoring business water usage more. Ive been in plenty that abuse the convienience.
Education! Make change easy, not more hoops to jump through. Have a short and long term plan that Starts with small strategies and includes education and work to bigger things/strategies.
It often floods when it rains, is there is a way to capture this overflow?
The City should continue to socialize that water reduction is important for all to ensure a sustainable for future for our city and mitigate impacts of drought. Promoting mitigation methods that Calgarigans can easily implement. If there is an incentive associated that is even better.
For example: watering garden/lawn during the middle of the day should be penalized
Promotion/rebate on timer-based appliances and systems (irrigation, washing machine) worked in Yokohama, where people run their washing machines at 5am, with a timer.
City Parks showcasing Xeriscaping gardens and how easy they are.

Fixtures inside the house such as low flow shower heads, functional toilet (solid vs. liquid waste), a timed faucet for hand washing, water efficient washer, and dishwasher are also tools to help conserve water. New housing developments should also include these as part of the standard package.
Encouraging the DE-glorification of the 'lawn' will be HUGE.
Stop corporations and dismantle capitalism so that corporations aren't destroying the water supply and our environment, causing drought and extreme climate conditions.
Don't look for new things to grab more power and cash, instead look for ways to reduce your power and cash requirements.
Minimize lawns in new developments is a great idea. Return more of our "manicured" public lawn areas to natural vegetation (eg. large portions of parks or areas beside roadways that are currently mowed). Go after golf courses as well!! They can be brownish for part of the year. Implement annual usage fees for private outdoor swimming pools - anyone wanting to use one should have the money to pay.
Educate people about the larger impact this has. Show how changing our lawn spaces would benefit the world around them.
More Low impact development practices or kits to help people see what they look like and how they function
Offer free rain barrels and donate all of the unused landscaping trees and shrub's from growers, the city's tree farms, and landscaping companies to households for shade and water reduced landscaping. Also do the same with rocks and stones, and any landscaping bricks. Kind of like the Habitat re-store, but for landscaping.
it does seem unfair any water used for landscaping is charged like sewage. The water is going back to the environment when used for watering. At the same time it should not be put towards watering sod.
Climate change means that snow pack will be less and we will end up relying more on rain. Maybe another reservoir? Shade from tree canopy can help reduce heat evaporation, but tree selections would also need to be drought tolerant Rainwater collection and greywater use is going to be very important. I've used shade cloth to reduce evaporation/heat stress and ollas/oayas for underground watering.
Projects that encourage are genuinely embraced, whereas projects that are punitive in nature such as "reporting your neighbors with 311" and usage penalties only dissuade. Educate the public of the benefits of responsible planting, watering and maintaining. Encourage through recognition. Use more drought tolerant plantings on city owned land. Lead by example.
Education and enforcement are key!
Giving away monetary incentives for participating in programs. Pay me and I'll do it.
Educate people how much water is actually needed for watering. Maybe leaving the sprinkler on for hours is not needed. Timers would benefit alot. Rebates for your rain barrels, low flow toilets and low or energy efficient faucets would be better. We need to conserve water but policing our usage is not the way. Putting in tiers would be better.
I run a small gardening company - we encourage water-wise use for all our clients, but any incentives for businesses to encourage water-wise practices would be appreciated. We are poised to educated a lot of Calgarians about their water use and it would be great to tie in with other industry partners. How can local gardening business help with water use more?
I have considered added grey water reuse (for toilets and irrigation) through a renovation. More info and resources would be helpful.

We must move to eating more plant based in order to reduce our water use. The city could be a leader in this regard and implement something that will actually make a difference
Residential Grey water capture in new developments
Partner with greenhouses to have better advertisement for drought tolerant plants.
Does it sound strange to be able to request a special public park irrigation 'time' so that kids can play in the spray for a special occasion? Not every community has access to a water park/ pool.
Restaurant dishwashing is an issue. Preset tables with glasses and cutlery and plates create unnecessary washing and water waste. Only place these on tables once customers sit down. Prevent cleaning unused items.
Use of grey water.
Offering options for home owners to access native plants from community gardens that are well established and require thinning
Engage landscape companies, local greenhouses to suggest and offer native plants/trees that are drought resistant. Engage teachers/schoolchildren as well.
What ever is decided education and enforcement is critical in making changes. It would be interesting to hear from near by City's if they had a drop in water consumption after putting in schedules and if they are still experiencing water reduction that the same level or if people just get complacent and go back to there old ways
It's a good list -- would like to see something, anything on large-scale water capture in use within the City.
Also wonder if there are ways to install solar panels over top shallow/narrow waterways/ponds to reduce evaporation.
Switch as many users as possible to raw water or treated effluent water.
No mention of collection and storage of rainwater.
Reduction in agri production should also be addressed.
No additional ones.
How urgent is this? There are a lot of other urgent problems right now that should be focused on first. Changing rules for new developments seems straight forward but other things can probably wait till later
Keep program focussed on the matter at hand, reducing water consumption and creating climate resilient communities.
I believe paying for your usage and more if you exceed a certain limit along with schedules will incentivize people to cut back - start with this and monitor then work forward where needed
lot size restrictions in new developments
More trees and shrubs and stop people and communities from unnecessarily cutting trees down and removing shrubs - it's proven that having them helps the environment
A better explanation and/or proof/data that justifies that we even need this entire strategy or way of thinking. And simply using the words "Climate Change" is NOT proof.
Continued comment from 20b: Examples should have been provided as to how low income people would experience disproportionate impact or burden from drought and and drought strategies. I'm NOT convinced of this statement.
The City needs to lead by example, so changing the landscaping on City owned lots (i.e. naturalization, reduced watering schedules, etc) should be piloted on City lots to demonstrate that these can be aesthetic and resilient.
Educate people on outdoor water use. Too often, you will see neighbours watering their lawns during the hottest time of the day, or their sprinklers are watering more of the sidewalk than their lawn.

More use of apps to communicate important items. More communication around the 'why' to ensure that we get everyone in the community bought in. Alerts on your app when you reach a certain water use metric. Anything that gives awareness to water use, or metrics that can be published will help increase adoption of new policies. We have to work together!
recycle residential grey water
Greater education through social media
As mentioned, work on a plan to reservoir the large amount of rain water the city receives in the spring, then these incentives, programs, etc won't be required.
The rain barrel program is such a simple, visible and effective tool to help people understand that harvesting rainwater is important. Let's make rain barrels cool!
Fines for people who relentlessly ignore restrictions. Inner city golf courses should also be involved and could maybe have a bit less green on the fairways.
City to consider a water reuse infrastructure on community level to each residence yards?
No
implement mandatory rainbarrels and provide assistance in installing them
Need to invest in two types of watering systems for the future: fresh and waste water uses. Or two philosophies: conserve fresh and reserve waste water.
Not at this time.
More focus on rain barrels and water collection/reuse.
The City should lead the initiatives and not water some of its open public areas, create rain gardens with drought-resilient plants, etc. Lead by example!!
Can we use a snow dump to collect water for reuse?
No
Calgary's urban design needs improvement alongside homeowners. I strongly advise the city to hire FoodScape Cooperative and Indigenous designer Heather Morigeau to help the city develop better urban planning strategies
Removing our addiction to lawns will mean a cultural shift. This will take a long time to achieve. there should be public information campaign to show people how nice a drought tolerant yard full of shrubs, native grasses and wild flowers can be. And so much less work - why does anyone want to spend their weekend watering and mowing grass? Everyone wins with xeriscaping.
Businesses and recreational facilities should all have lower flow toilets. Could learn from Japan where you wash hands and water reused by flowing into toilet tank
Discounted rain barrels and help installing rain barrels along with education to communities about the importance of reducing our use of treated water. (yes, I'm repeating myself ;))
Grey water re-use could be added to our building codes to make grey water toilets and so forth added to reduce indoor water use. Fines for businesses misusing their irrigation systems might be helpful, too.
Provide online information to design plans, species that are hardy, how to layer species etc. City also needs to address boulevards and parks as dormant grass doesn't withstand use leads to erosion. More trees?
I suggest that the City develop a water-wise garden that people can visit and see what native plants grow well and how easy it is to maintain. Partner with the horticulture society to teach courses. Offer incentives for pollinator-friendly, drought-tolerant gardens. Install more bee highways like the UofC did on Canyon Meadows.
Yes. How about addressing driveway and patio construction? So water doesn't just run off properties, but helps return moisture to the ground. So we better use what Mother Nature deposits? Can we get away from expanses of concrete and pavement that turn into rivers when it rains and do our trees, gardens and ground no good at all?

Yes! Rainwater capture/gardens in a variety of sizes INCLUDING runoff from city streets, sidewalks, driveways, etc. Addressing home useage where possible, including greywater systems. Building rain holding storage in soil and strategies to reduce evaporation such as mulching, adding carbon, etc. Larger rain tank systems. Food gardens still get water in droughts! Snowmelt capture (mindful of salt)
Accountability? COST!!!
STOP issuing real estate development permits in the river and stream valleys so nature can effectively absorb water in floods (rather than dumping construction fill in valleys and wetlands to build houses). STOP building houses on floodplains so nature can naturally filter water and release water from sediments during droughts. STOP building so there is some natural habitat left for biodiversity.
Look into providing/subsidizing rain barrels or other forms of individual water collection/reuse
Start with your own landscape, people may follow your example. But they won't until the city shows true leadership - which is totally lacking in today's Calgary - very disappointing city we live in
Education on implemented strategies could be promoted by many community groups, including naturalist groups, community associations and faith communities.
Primarily education and public buy-in. Many blue bins have dirty items and garbage because people don't care or are not being educated enough. You MUST convince people that this is a good idea so that they get behind it. Money rebates work for some, less for those for which money is no concern. Convince the people it's a good idea and align your policies to this in a rational and fair way.
Stop greenlighting new suburbs! Continue densification in existing neighborhoods.
Reduce mowing where possible
Communicating that Calgary is in a water-short area. Helping residents understand the broader "why" (and maybe you did this in in the FAQ's/backgrounders...but I think its critical to get buy-in).
The City needs to walk the talk. It should ensure all of its policies and actions are in line with these priorities before it asks homeowners to participate, otherwise it will be accused of hipocracy.
Partner with the province to build more infrastructure and manage river flows, increase the number of local catch basins in the City and upstream. Investigate replacing infrastructure as needed with permeable pavements.
No
The City needs to lead by example - reducing water usage in an appropriate way. Inform the citizens of what is being done, and what the results of these changes have been. Give specific locations where the City has planted drought resistance landscaping, so they can see what it looks like. Give a breakdown in the reduced usage of water in the green spaces.
Yes: businesses promoting gardening and landscaping need to be Involved and on-Board in all of this, as well as all Schools and Community Associations, and Religious groups and such. Removing the implementation of Fluoridation programs would Also be helpful in addressing the Water safety to vulnerable Populations, whether Human or Otherwise.
None at this time. Thank you for opening this up to Calgarians for their input.
I would encourage the City to create more urban forests, by placing some of the turf in city parks with trees and shrubs.
City wide, clear and practical regulations coupled with real incentives. I will completely redo my lawn if the City will offer a basic package.
Educate, educate, educate. Many people are not aware, nor believe, that our water supply is not unlimited.
Not that I can think of

Lower your exorbitant delivery and sewer costs and increase the price of the water itself. People won't conserve unless there is incentive. Even a reasonable (\$50) flat fee for first 20 Cubic Meters and increase the unit price from there to recoup current income and encourage conservation.
Yes - is the science demonstrable regarding your predictions of city of calgary water shortages???
Provide rain gauges and rain barrels to home owners at a discount so they can monitor moisture volumes and reuse the rainwater for watering yards
1) Increase building density in new neighbourhoods. 2) Go for those who already live in (multiple) oversized properties.
Too many to mention here. Unfortunately this does not feel like a drought management strategy as much as another cash grab, fee increase excuse
Nope.
Provide rain barrels, new rules for developers regarding landscaping requirements.
No this is doomed to be a costly failure on its own
Figure out a way to capture not only our rainwater for reuse but also the snow pack. Every year we spend a considerable amount of money clearing snow, why is that precipitation not be used to water city parks? Why are we literally letting it go down the drain?
Perhaps public buildings should install water capture protocols and add roof gardens to grow organic food that can be provided to lower income areas/families at low or subsidized cost?
Get citizens to understand how valuable water is to us and to get them to buy into protecting our water.
Wetlands are missing. The City needs to conserve wetlands. Also the City needs to evaluate all businesses applying for a water license to ensure they are watersmart in their use of this resource. No bottled water companies.
Low flow household options. Stricter fines and penalties for wasting water. Prioritizing rainwater collection. Public outreach
Calgary is essentially a desert so drought is always going to be a problem. This is nothing new.
Someone needs to make sure that watering devices are aimed properly to not water sidewalks or roads that don't need it.
Implement voting system reform in municipal elections, such as ranked-choice voting, in order to introduce more competition in elections, and ultimately to bring smarter people to City council.
Reduce people spraying sidewalks to remove leaves, etc. Also I've seen downtown office towers spraying tons of water on sidewalks. What's wrong with sweeping if it really needs to be done?
Here's a question for you - when does redevelopment and densification come into the conversation? How about the average size of a new home? I need someone to explain to me how a 30 story condo development uses less water than what was previously single family homes of low rise office. Quit trying to do a bait and switch. The conversation has to be much broader.
There is no drought, stop wasting time and money on dumb things
charge the golf courses twice because they are only ones continuing to utilize way too much water for our climate
LOTS of publicity.
Approve grey water systems
Common sense, looking at southern compare locations and using their expertise and lack of focus on make a result for the city.
Let's look at the splash parks too. I heard that the one at south glenmore is the only one that reuses the water. The others just drain away. Maybe they could at least be fitted with a start and stop feature. It seems crazy we run

them when one one is at the splash park. For the record I love the splash parks but it is difficult to watch all that water being wasted.
WATER TABLE vs River. New development is potentially magnifying problem as all our water is dumped into the river and not into ground water table.
You have covered the topic very well.
We should minimize leakage in the water distribution system. We should build more storm ponds where possible. I like the idea of storm ponds doubling as sports fields.
No
Great job.
Careful monitoring of each strategy to see how effective they are, and drop those not very effective, constant looking at any new strategies that are created making use of the most effective,
Yes - make the programs voluntary, and encourage buy in, instead of taxation. Reintroduce the rain barrel for free, and teach Calgarians how to prevent water wastage from leaking hose bibs and hoses.
Work with community associations to educate residents. Introduction new watering strategies gradually to allow people time to adjust.
Make builder and developers be smart, a keeping up with the Jones will happen and it will spread. I will water whenever I want but I also don't think having sod in a whole yard is smart. The city has to lead by example in parks, roadways, city property, enmax locations and go to wild flowers or plants that need less water.
The City should set an example by converting grass walkways and road meridians from grass to native plants and pollinator-friendly corridors.
City of Calgary property should also be required to incorporate water wise landscaping and plant more native plants.
What is the city going to do? The sprinkler systems are often going in the day or when it rains. What adjustment is the city making to reduce water use. And how will it enforce better practices in private property? At Genesis Centre a few weeks ago the sprinklers came on mid day.
Oh if you gave me a week I'm sure I could come up with a number of ideas. 1 What of those people who are not purchasing items that contain water such as laundry detergent, reducing pressures on water consumption 2. Rain barrels should be everywhere preferably made out of recycled materials 3. Seed give aways to replace water hungry grasses 4. Rewarding those help the situation 5 in home management
Don't forget to focus on indoor water usage. The incentives a few years ago for installing low-flow toilets and fixtures were a fantastic idea.
Apartment-style condo specific rebates and incentive programs. Balancing funding based on community equity - NE has lower income, so they should get a bigger piece of the pie. People with \$1million homes can pay their own way.
Maybe supply rain barels or have an option for one with the current blue/green bin systems.
Get rid of the kms of concrete swale in new communities
Grey water re-use within the home. E.g., for flushing toilets.
Perfecting greywater usage instead of me draining my water-efficient bathtub with a bucket and watering my trees & shrubs! Charge a city tax on all sales of water-inefficient flora to reinforce the ultimate cost to our city and all our downstream neighbours.
1. Approximately 20-30% of water is lost in distribution systems. Also calculate how much water could be saved if this were improved, for comparison and consideration as an additional mitigation

2. Consider groundwater in your calculations and water balance. Including the groundwater quality impacts of fertilizer, and linkages to surface water and aquatic ecosystems.
Stronger measures may come in the future, it's best to remove infrastructure that is purposefully wasteful in water usage such as limiting the building of decorative gardens and golf courses, golf courses actually in themselves are an excessive waste of water, the city should rezone a few of the less popular into biodiversity parks and dry ponds, two birds one stone.
No
Get rid of toxic chemicals that you spray around Calgary!!!! Especially if you are going to be reusing water you must stop the herbicide use. The chemicals you spray around Calgary harm pollinators. You must be taking this into account as well. The issues cannot be separated.
Water reuse is the only long term solution to this problem!
Water use schedule or restrictions should include washing cars and campers.
Regulating city services not households
Must be better ways to manage golf course water usage. Reuse?
Yes! Back to showering. I can't believe how often people shower!! Only do laundry as needed. Full dishwasher loads. More incentives for buying appliances that use less water. Only order water in restos as needed. Give us all rain barrels or make them cost. Reuse our grey water in the garden. What about golf courses??? And i respect the proactive nature but let's not panic.
Education is better than bylaws or enforcement.
Nothing I can think of
As done in California when I lived there, restaurants don't need to automatically provide water to their customers.... only if they specifically ask for a glass or pitcher of water.
Another idea is that when you start running hot water in the sinks and tub, collect the cold water that first comes out for a bit before it turns hot which can then be used to water house & outdoor plants.
I would like the city to invest in programs to educate people about permaculture and rain water harvesting. Also remove restrictions that require people to maintain lawns and replace this with native species or fruits and veg.
Specific plant varieties, rebates for those plants for Calgarians, free suggestions for my yard specifically. Cost and ease of implementation will bring people to this. Like composting - give me a bin, come and pick it up and I'll do it!
More information for people. Create more green wild spaces within Calgary that require less tending and creates more biodiversity.
is there a way to transport snow collected in the winter upstream... to canmore maybe. that way when it melts its added water entering our system. instead of letting it melt where it is, which adds the water downstream from us.
I think if we could address food security at the same time that would be great. So growing food would be a preferred use of yards instead of grass.
Why not simply ask Calgarians to reduce water consumption? Provide tips on how to do so? Why is the first step always a large, buerocratic program?
City should lead by example! City councillors should be seen with converted front and back yards. Photo/video proof. Proper management of their watering schedules. STOP using chemicals on ALL green spaces. Dandelions are not evil. Start converting city green spaces (e.g. approaches, ditches) with native grasses and stop mowing! Use combo of aeration equipment and seeds to reseed.
Safe grey water reuse education. Allow grey water reuse.
Let us use our lawn space for flowers

We haven't had a drought for 20 years.
An economic system that prioritizes community/provincial/national sustainability, mitigates wealth disparity, and reduces the harms of (aggressive/non-cooperative) self-interest (individual or group). Now get to it.
Allow people to capture grey water. Education on capturing, storing water with the use of cisterns, or water barrels. Once education is complete, an available resource where they could source an applicable water storage unit for their home. This could be a water consultant to build a plan for their home and then have a city vetted company to do the install.
Boulevard planting? Native plants for pollinators & drought tolerant? Plantings and drought tolerant areas at schools? City led supply of native drought tolerant plants? Garden store?
Plant more trees
Build bigger reservoirs to capture spring melt.
Weather reports on TV should include the water situation index
Yes. Every single family home should have a meter. How many homes in calgary do not? I would like to know this.
Are individual apartments and condos on a meter? I do not think so???
Stop mowing next to roads. Let natural plants grow. Only park space should be grass.
I encourage the City to lead by example. Currently many parks in this City have been neglected, un-mowed and overrun by weeds. Rather than pay homeowners incentives let's spend the money on making our public spaces drought resistant, residents will follow your lead. In the meantime provide developers with more flexibility and they will help make Calgary to becoming a leading in water conservation.
Na
Education and promotion.
More cloud seeding we love chemicals
Corporate usage also needs to be addressed and knowing corporations are doing their part or sharing what they have done can be a good example for the rest of us
Teach people that clover and other drought resistant ground covers are not weeds
I think we need to shift peoples opinions on what their lawns have to look like. We've been conditioned into picturing white picket fence houses with big lush lawns. I think we need to be exposed to more examples of drought resistant landscapes.
Leadership, we need to get on with it we have known for a while and it takes time to change landscaping.
Get greenhouses and nurseries to stop selling high water consumption plants or, at least, make sure they properly identify how much water a certain plant needs to survive in our climate - like is done for electrical consumption ratings on fridges or TV.
Thinking very long term, but providing educations you young Calgarians may help. Field trips (to water facilities) offered to grade 8 students (and other grades) would fit into the curriculum and provide you a chance to impact water attitudes at a pivotal time.
None, however I sincerely hope the city pursues the proposed ideas as quickly and as fully as possible. If we act too softly or too slowly on protecting our water supply, it will be too late. I was born and raised in Calgary, I love living here, and these initiatives would make me a very, very proud Calgarian.
Leaving it alone because this is political suicide when it will enevitably fail. Also do escooters float? Asking for a friend

I would like to see more education around people who are still washing off sidewalks and cars when the runoff is returned untreated to the river.
Deal with businesses that waste water ie. car washes, splash parks etc. before coming after residents.
How is your mulch and cactus yards gonna effect the trees, the insects, the birds. I don't see robins getting worms on those yards, I don't see kids playing on them. How many ladybugs will grow and prosper on those yards? Few to none. My green leafy yards has 1000's every year.
Promote yellow dry lawns. Educate. Label it, 'the new normal'. Be proactive. Charge surcharges above basic consumption. Send out warnings by mail to residents not following the restrictions. Follow up with fines.
Not enough education or awareness, target community awareness by having open houses in quadrants, or at public libraries, using display boards, on line media, someone to do Q&A,
Restrictions only during planting season.
Education providing neighbourhood and city average by residence type (townhouse, apartment, duplex/4-plex, single family) for water use and targets, not address specific as we already get that on Enmax monthly bills.
Real-time availability of home water usage via an app connected to meter. Let me know what I'm using while I'm using it. Allow me to set alerts when reaching thresholds.
Why has taken the city so long to jump on this bandwagon!
More water storage
I really want to get rid of my front yard but don't know where to start. How to videos (more specifics on removing the grass effectively) would be useful.
our water comes from the mountains based on snowfall and rainfall. it varies each year so you can't "protect" it. once it passes through Calgary it is gone
Support local food supply and expansion of city lawn to build/support community gardens.
City needs to show up and market what they are doing/CHANGING. Planting more annual plants/importing nursery plants from a distance? Why?
Building more green roofs/piloting living walls? Why not? Maintaining rain gardens and building more? Why not?
We can do this together and limit the burden. Good luck!
More reservoir capacity
This is very residential focused. What are high water business being asked to do? Eg:are car washes really necessary?
In the future it would be great if we could reuse water in certain parts of our homes, such as toilet tanks.
Look to using public buildings as a means of collecting water for irrigation use
Can we get people to stop power washing Everything? If not yet implemented, then car washes businesses should have requirements in conserving water. Education and stewardship programs through the schools. Rain gardens, community gardens, community orchards, and community level water catchment programs for neighbourhood watering (e.g. using a water truck with captured rain for watering).
Focus on maintaining the urban forest & avoiding heat islands. This may require more restrictions on trees developers can remove as density increases
Stop selling our water to corporations such as coke for a profit then asking the citizens to make up your shortfall. If you cant govern properly then resign

More advertising of rain barrels. More advertising of drought resistant options and native plants. How can a homeowner reuse more of their own grey water? I don't like sending so much back down the drain
More regulations... Incentives are good but we need limits on water use regardless of whether you can pay or not
Be careful about banning leaf blowers. People will use the hose instead.
Re-evaluate the need for public golf courses. Golf is not a growing hobby anywhere, and there's no need for the city to subsidize golf, with the outsize impact on public space, labour, and water usage. Most golfers can either afford private courses, or are subsidized by their employers.
De-paving areas to support groundwater re-charging.
Food forests and flooding considerations
What will fluoride do our water for outdoor use? And STOP wasting tax payer dollars.
Informing citizens about how long and how much water their garden requires, as well as the days it needs to be watered can help them use the right amount of water. As well as launch alerts when it is necessary to save water to limit consumption
Education is the big key. I think a big public relations push to make people understand just how severe a problem this is is the number one key to success.
What about city-owned properties with high water requirements? Don't golf courses and spring road cleaning use a lot of water? Are smaller front lawns a consideration in the Guide for local Area Planning? Front lawns are such a waste of space and water. Educating the public will be so important.
Yes, design concepts like curb cutting, see https://youtu.be/mUSm5ng2Hdk
Stop city expansion .
change any bylaws that limit having a natural yard and give neighbours complaint ability
Education is vital; showing the reason WHY has so much more impact than simply imposing/enforcing what may be perceived as arbitrary rules. Educate on every step of the City's water supply process, and on making changes as this plan proposes makes massive differences. Be specific, give statistics, and make it all sound positive.
Build more water infrastructure so you don't have to force more rules on people. We have more than enough water to go around and plenty of ways to reservoir more of it if needed.
Would you ever consider providing rain barrels for every household, like under-sink compost bins are provided? Obviously larger and with more cost, but I would certainly be interested. Even 1 per household (with instructions on instillation) would make a massive difference! I would take 1 from the city and buy another 1 or 2 myself.
support additional water management structures upstream so that when we experience a drought, we can hold back some of the water for slow release during society's highest demand season. Question: Would our water use change during a 'heat dome' such as that experienced in BC?
Offering information/workshops about what to do and how to make your outdoor spaces more water wise/drought tolerant would be wonderful. Even if it was a series of online how to videos people could watch. Or in person registered events.
Water barrels are excellent and maybe there could be a program for those so more people use them.
No development in flood plains. No more damns. No more clear cutting. Plant more native vegetation near rivers. Establish and rejuvenate any wetland area.
Subsidizing rain barrels for water collection
Can we please get a splash park in the upper Nw of Calgary for the children!!!!
I think the points the city is trying to make are excellent! I have nothing more to add.
No

No
Education is key. We should teach to our kids how important the water is. But I see the opposite. It can be use all media to do it. And educate the new generations to do this. Programs and courses to save water, use less natural resources, responsible gardening and how all can help to return the planet to a balance and healthy state should be priority.
I would like to see all facilities and institutions included in our city's water conservation plan, including schools, sport centres etc., phasing in technology like low-flow sensor toilets, taps and showers, and requiring that all new builds use water-wise technology, much like the new community landscape requirements.
Education. We love in a country where we have a large amount of fresh water but we still need to conserve and be smart in how we use water
More education water reuse. Recycling grey water. Replacing city lawns on green spaces beside roads with native wildflower meadows; Less money spent on cutting and water, and is better for our polinators. City should lead by example, would love to see more wild flower meadows growing instead of grass where lawn is not necessary
Where are the business restrictions/guidelines?
Plant Sale Restrictions - prohibit sale of non-water-wise plants/trees by gardening retailers, landscapers. Outdoor Water Use Restrictions - prohibit washing cars in driveways/streets; prohibit washing sidewalks, driveways, patios, etc.; prohibit water running on the street Indoor Water Use Reduction Education programs for Overall Water Conservation Measures; Drought Tolerant Landscaping
I don't know what proportion of residence are like this in the city so maybe it's not worth while, but we are part of a condo (townhouse style), but have shared green space. It would be nice to see insentives for condo boards to be more water conscious. Reduce water use, cut the grass less often/not so short, allow for more tree/plant coverage. No idea how you encourage that though 🤔.
YES THE HEAVY DOWNPOURS, LOSS OF TREE CANOPIES AND ADDRESSING ALL THE CONCRETE BEING USED WHERE THERE WAS GREEN SPACES TO ABSORB HEAT THAT ALSO REDUCES WATER NEEDS.
expand/restart healthy yards program, there was great information provided in that 1 day workshop. More backyard compost bins (for household gardens) and rain barrels.
Stop cutting grass short. Plant more cover crops other than grass. Let people grow out their lawns long. The more lush an area is, the more likely it will hold the moisture in the soil.
The best solution - look at ways to improve the water flow and ecosystem around the rivers.
See above. #1 & #2. I see the city trucks dumping water constantly and I water my tiny little lettuce garden. Use the enmax surplus and city budget surplus to gift each household some sustainable tools like quality water barrels or penalize yourselves for all the flowers you water in the summer months.
Rain barrels!
How does recreational water factor into these plans (pools, sprinklers, etc). Many people (particularly lower income houses) use these to combat heat rather than having AC
City wide education program in schools, kids are great at educating and guilting ;) their parents into doing the right thing
N/a
Either a \$50 flat rate all in (distribution, sewer, etc) for 20 cubic meters per household per month, or \$20 distribution, sewer, etc total and increase the price of the water itself. The only way to reduce consumption is by charging for the water-- with such high distribution costs, it is way too cheap to waste the water itself!

Providing water barrels to residents for free or \$50. With food supply and inflation issues, gardening will likely increase so a focus on how to plan garden irrigation best is ideal. This should be supported also - it's good for people to garden. Focus on heavy hitter corporations. Not just carbon offset style but encouraging specific water saving measures.
How about you expand our water infrastructure and provide free trees for neighborhoods. You don't even seem to think parks are important anymore. Total lack of parks and trees in new neighborhoods. Shows the city is more concerned with restrictions than quality of life in our city more.
Keep educating and engaging residents
Get feedback from the public on what they are doing, do a spotlight on ideas and share them. Many people are looking for ways to help the environment, they just don't know the best method and don't realise how many others think alike
a) Stop the asinine enforcement of grass length bylaws - No Mow May proves this is just conservative 'stick' idiocy. b) Eliminate any bylaws that limit growing of food gardens on private property. c) Educate the public that watering their gardens in the middle of the afternoon every day is the height of stupidity and is costing them thousands of dollars a year.
Be open and honest about how Calgary is tracking water usage, without dumbing it down as is often done with missives out of the city. People will dig in and help get to a common goal.
Get clover and wildflowers everywhere! Help people grow food, build vertical gardens and rooftop gardens and reuse water, and care for the trees on their property.
A way of reporting water misuse which would result in consequences to those using water inefficiently - like watering in the middle of a hot day.
More emphasis on No Mow May. Maybe lawn signs for those people in support of water smart yards?
Cut off golf courses, limit car washing and impose stiff penalties for people who clean driveways, sidewalks and houses with a hose.
people think Canada has the most water in the world, and Canadians have very cheap water. Must have public education in the retail and community centre environments that attack these misconceptions.
I believe this initiative should be cancelled.
Industrial will be more important than residential
1.Look at Australia's water-saving strategies, Europe and other places. 2.We are tired to hear about all the harm we are doing to the environment. The City needs to approach this on a positive note and not make us feel continually guilty or stressed. Everyone needs to hear good news and see that we are making an impact. 3.What is the impact on man-made lakes and private swimming pools?
Permaculture food forests require little water (because they use plant species that grow easily and use mulch), are beautiful and welcoming spaces, and are cheaper/easier to maintain than grass. The climate crisis will lead to drought, floods, fire, etc—and will impact food supply. We need food forests, community gardens and community orchards, not grass. to address drought and many other issues.
Indigenous water management education.
No
A wider and more accessible program to promote the use of native plants. Permaculture and community garden training courses. Encouraging our city to prioritize building up instead of out
consider the need for physically demanding gardening work that many Calgarians (e.g. seniors, handicapped) cannot manage

Encourage other types of lawns, for ex. over seeding existing lawns with clover seeds since it is more drought resilient and will still offer the "green lawn" benefits that are desirable to most people, plus it's good for pollinators!
Encouraging use of water-wise sprinklers that don't waste as much water to evaporation and educating people on when to water most effectively will be very helpful. Encouraging use of mulch, compost and other soil health enhancements can also help retain water better so you don't have to water as much. Most people don't seem to have any knowledge on water-wise practices.
Encourage small-scale, local solutions over big technocratic projects by reducing the bureaucracy the city demands. Encourage urban gardening initiatives, plant fruit bearing bushes and trees that are adapted for the climate. Replace road median grass with native species.
Calgary should become a leader in naturalized xeriscape for public spaces, including readily available information (E.g. placards, websites), to be a model for others to emulate.
smart water meters (put the water data in the hands of users), make sure that ICI are getting unique programming catered to their specific water uses (and add incentive structures and custom audits alongside)
No
Shading strategies! Grow large trees beside rivers to minimize evaporation. Please check out Brad Lancaster's books and work implementing urban, community-wide water-wise strategies in even harsher conditions. Curb-cuts with mulch basins and pollutant-tolerant plants/trees to capture road run-off.
Annual contest to see which neighbourhoods (1 per corner) can adopt the most (prize full rebate)
Solar panels over channels of flowing water or water beds to reduce evaporation on hot days. Provide rain barrels households who request them (its probably the same amount of materials used to make a city a garbage can.
Abolish golf
Rain barrel education!!
The implementation of shade cloth on the outside of windows to prevent overheating. If the temperature is comfortable inside the building the occupants won't feel the need to cool off in the water during the heat. Encourage more graywater toilets in all buildings. Commercial and residential. Encourage the use of less water per flush in residential tanks, without swapping to lowflow toilets.
Education.
I hope part of this plan will be to partner with the province on reducing water used by businesses in our province. While taking action on a municipal level is great, the biggest users of water are large businesses (manufacturing, oil and gas) and they should be made accountable for their usage and be held accountable to reduce it.
Access to subsidized rain barrels and courses on how to install and use through community centers.
Water reuse should be expanded to building of new community ie: greywater capture system to reuse otherwise wasted water
What are The City's NRW and Water Losses and what are you doing to bring it down? Real-time water readings for both citizens and The City. Stop expanding if you know we are going to run into water problems in future until you are sure water consumption (including allowed irrigation and continued and fair affordability) would allow additional people and or businesses.
public information campaign and updates on total city water use. Nothing further until it can be determined if that approach is sufficient.
so far so good

I think this strategy is necessary to get ahead of a trend that is going put strain on a finite resource. Just look at the water situation in Okotoks for example
STOP URBAN SPRAWL DEVELOPMENT.
Education on resuing water.
Lead by example - communicate ways the city and commercial spaces (golf courses etc) are adopting water wise strategies.
Stop building towers with such large windows, they need less cleaning then. Stop blasting water at trees in boulevards, as it destroys the grass. Proper cleanout of crud and pebbles from the sides of roads, and weeding in public areas.
More attention is needed in rainwater capture. I have two rainbarrels and I need much more. I've been wanting to upgrade to a larger system but I have no idea where to start and am worried about various diseases. I think a program helping homeowners develop these systems in a healthy way should be considered. I can only Google so much. I'm not a plumber or a health inspector.
Offer water collection barrels to homeowners who want them?
Start educating people on wise water consumption
Provide rain barrels to all Calgarian homes
Providing free water barrels for residents would be appreciated and including water capture systems in new landscaping plans if providing cost rebates.
French drains, swales, rain gardens, trapping water in the ground instead of letting it go into the storm drain. Winter downspout drip collection, shovel snow on yard not street, don't use salt on ice.
Encourage density instead of constantly building out sprawl.
The City's plan to put fluoride back into the municipal water supply should not go forward, it is an enormous waste of money and completely unnecessary - fluoride in the municipal water supply rather than targeting vulnerable children is not the way to go. Fluoride is an industrial pollutant and a human neurotoxin, and also harmful to the environment
more shade in places, even just the sidewalk so people can get from place to place without burning up; banning people from washing their cars/garages/driveways; California uses shade balls in their reservoirs; abolishing single family zoning since building with huge lawns are just continuing the problem
N/A
Road right-of-ways have long been too wide and over-built with non-permeable surfaces. Remove pavement and add rain gardens, stormwater designs wherever you can.
glad that this is being looked into!
There should be either building codes or incentives that make rainwater harvesting from downspouts easier on new homes. The downspouts should be designed in such a way that central rainbarrels are easier to add later. As we've discovered on our house as we added 4 x 55 gal barrels, this is very difficult to add/change after the house is built.
Cloud seeding ☁ Technology to bring Rain
Fair & consistent implementation without the ability of property owners to work the system or gain 'exemptions'. Which leads to unfair application
There is disturbing little in the strategies presented in this survey regarding mature tree retention and the benefits that these trees offer. Having attempted to engage our Ward Councillor on this issue I was only given a document

that in it said in part 'The City of Calgary has an urban tree canopy target of 14-20 per cent by 2058'. Yes, 2058 that's 36 years from now. Move faster please!
cash for grass? It worked in LA. And for the love of all things good in this world, stop letting developers cut down mature trees and rip up native grasslands. Any taking must be mitigated 3 fold because honestly, me and my patch of grass are contributing far less to the problem than the developers that run this city. Calgary's nature spaces are amazing, lets highlight, improve and expand them.
More immediate communication/information about drought and ways to reduce water use such as billboards, flyers, commercials, seminars.
Just remember the enforcement piece.
Promote installation of grey water systems and rainwater capture via building codes and grants/incentives.
I would LOVE to see a program where rain barrels are offered for free or minimal charge (\$20-\$30). Offer education and subsidies to help everyone become water wise in their gardens. I don't think one size fits all for this solution.
Perhaps incentivizing growing native flowers and shrubs could be linked to this rebate program program , because I would love to do that.
If you are not aware of Day Zero, here's an article: https://time.com/cape-town-south-africa-water-crisis . The article says "The Cape Town crisis stems from a combination of poor planning, three years of drought and spectacularly bad crisis management. The city's outdated water infrastructure has long struggled to keep up with the burgeoning population. As dam levels began to decline amid the first two years of drought, the default response by city leadership was a series of vague exhortations to be "water aware." As much of water use is on an individual basis, there cannot only be individual change. The water system and calgary's urban landscape is what is important to rework for the future.
Perhaps encourage people to use pot plants in their gardens as they use less water than a bed of flowers
reduce watering parks and overusing sprinkler systems
Finding more source of water and implementing performance strategies would help build calgary's resistance to drought.

Calgarians- In-person event boards

ban grass lawns, require native plants on lawns, increase cost of water for offenders
totally open to it!
I am a kayaker and have noticed water levels going way down, so this really important
water schedule is a good idea, but useless unless enforced. Also no point in watering on days when it is raining
I am from Okotoks and the schedule there made sence and way easy to follow. I never heard anyone complain
I think this is a brilliant idea
It's easy (if you give me a time)
Community centre education classes!
Rain water catchment at home is an easy way to get people involved and excited!
We have an irrigation system already so it would be easy for us to comply with a schedule
much less water use on vast and personal property

In Australia, people adapted to it when they understood it. It went better when it went hand in hand with other water reuse strategies (cisterns etc). People were not happy when they have brown lawns and the golf courses are green
Some irrigation systems may not be programmable for every 2nd day. That may be a challenge
Also consider the city water use and the processes used in residential parks. We water our lawn a couple times a week at most early morning
I grow vegetables so when it's hot and dry we want to be able to water them
A few days a week seems perfectly reasonable, as long as my lawn doesn't die
have to focus on commercial properties who have irrigation systems and water when it's raining outside. That is the biggest use of water
As long as there is a weekend option for people who work during the week
I water when I'm home. I don't want to have to plan my life around it. Just ask people, without enforcement
I hate fines and people telling me what to do
would love a rebate option to remove lawn and implement water wise landscaping instead
Leave things as they are. Too much administration
Why don't you just stop building new communities or build a new plant. You already charge me to use water, then take it away. The City has it all wrong.
There will be people who are unhappy but it is the right thing to do
Governmentt should do whatever it takes to save water (from India)
Science student from India- he sees people watering all the time and knows that grass doesn't need that much water. Watering scheule is a good idea
Likes the hours, happy about the idea. Park engagement at Praire Winds a good idea for education. With Action Dignity
In Chandigarh, India, they have a schedule and really like it.
From Ethiopia- doesn't like people wasting water through sprinklers. Government should do something to stop it.
More public education and awareness needed. Include churches and religious places
Watering schedules are important but need to focus on electricity use as well.
Loves the idea of early moring watering. Set higher water price after 9 am until 7 pm. Incentivize good watering practice by making water cheaper before 9 am and after 7 pm. It is better to water before 9 am. Too much heat is not good for the plant when you water during hot and sunny period.
Man from Middle East- shocked that drought is an issue in Calgary. Really liked the schedule. More education and awareness. Increase the cost of water bill
Woman form Jalandhar, India- likes it, follows scheudle already. No perception of government interference.
Suggestion for public education - radio ads to remind people about drought forecast, schools. Noticed that in some public parks auto sprinklers still turn on when it raining. Has habit of watering lawn in the morning. Thinks it make sence to do it this way.
Man from Afghanistan- knows for a fact that there could never be a drought in Canada, but does like the strategy just to save water
Expect Parks to water early in the morning when people aren't there yet using the park. Condo dweller- would expect their building to follow same schedule
likes the watering schedule. Wants to see tree planting programs- citizen based planting
wants city to do more research. IS drought a risk? Will this help? Need to focus on education

Dad of 2 kids- they don't put the sprinkler on to water the lawn but for the kids to play. That would happen during the day outside of allowed times
more effective if barrels were cheap and free. Encourage more reuse rather than scheduling. More education
not impressed with scheduled watering as my schedule with work and travel would not do well. I would want to water when I get home regardless of the day.
would like freedom to water whenever based on my schedule. Would love to have fruit trees in public parks.
I don't like being told what to do
We should abolish lawns
It just makes sense
Currently use pre-set timers. Would be very easy for them to adjust
You can't tell me what to do
Need sprinklers that are smart enough to water based on weather
Every city should have a place like this. Good Job!
Move to Naturalized gardens that do NOT need watering
less government encroachment on our lives not more!
neutral mere(sp?)
Are you kidding me? Is this communist china? Only allowed when the government says!??
Water is not an issue here. Stop making more restrictions where they are not needed. We should be encouraging watering it makes our city green!
I don't like schedules, there are better ways to address the problem. Maybe rebates.
no more restrictions. We have enough water
Be smart you have to do things by yourself
It makes sense except natural reality should happen
Canada isn't communist
Don't waste water in cemeteries. Let the grass grow longer and use less water
I have enough pee for at least 2 yards [removed identifying information]
okay
it could use more water not less. People would break the rule cause it would not fit their schedule
I already water responsibly
I am careful re when it is dry! Then I choose to water
I have an efficient home and do not use a lot of water as it is, so I do not see the value/reason.
I do not like being told what to do
Early "AM" watering and late "PM" watering. Don't bother with specific day restrictions
Don't like being told what to do
Poopy idea, so yeah poopy
Makes sense only for programmed sprinklers
That you did not include flood management sites and also safe water store sites for future uses.
Regarding your financial and rate based water use, something that is a basic human need
like the recommendation would rather it stay a recommendation and the city take no steps to enforce this advice
educate on water conservation instead of having regulation/bylaw
I have 4 kids and I wouldn't be able to coordinate a specific day

Calgarians- Action Dignity

Question 1

To what extent have you personally experienced the impact of drought, whether living here in Calgary, in other regions, or in a different country?

Multiple choice. No verbatim.

Question 2

Capture a few stories of lived experience of drought. Where did you experience drought? What was it like? What actions were you required to take to reduce your water use?

In Ghana during the seasons of Nov through February the weather became dry and there is no water in the north part of Ghana. You need to go far to get water.
I lived in a hot area in Africa - Nigeria before coming to Canada. I drilled a borehole in my compound to ensure constant flow of water for my family use.
Took "Navy showers" wet, stop water, lather up, step back in and rinse. Only flush toilets (private and public) after a bowel movement. Penalties for overuse of water. Used bath water to do laundry, use laundry water garden or dishes.
When it takes time to experience the rainy season
The difficulty of coming out and back
No experience
Jamaican farmers used water irrigation system - do it yourself
There was drought in Afghanistan in 2021. This created internal displacement of populations. Citizens lived in extreme poor conditions. There were migrations outside of their farmlands. Citizens resorted to fetching water from stagnant pools. Some fetched water from distant wells. Not a pleasant experience.
Outside of Canada (Nigeria) drought led to low crop output, death of animals, family members went to stream to fetch water with buckets to irrigate farms and feed animals
Drought impact the green area. Jamaica maximized irrigation resources by selecting drought resistant varieties and used water retention methods
They ask us to water the yard less and give tips on how to use less water
Drought affect farmers and the people way of life style. When we have drought, its reduce the amount of crop produce that's increase the price in the marketplace.
drought negatively impacted water supply in the northern region of Nigeria. This resulted in residents resorting to fetching water from the local streams and gathering rain water by utilizing pails
for gardens in India, go to ponds to draw water and manually water gardens
had to travel extensive distances to get water for basic needs, water for landscaping was prohibited
reduced water usage in the house
not having water for more than a week and then we had to buy the buckets of water and it was expensive
in Ethiopia where my family is from I have seen how drought can impact rural areas
In my home country, water interruption happened frequently. It taught us to store water to anticipate these water interruption schedules

In Nigeria, well was dug in a particular spot but no water was found, we were made to dig another spot which produced water. Some 10+ years after, borehole drilling was done in order to get more water to cater for a growing community. At a point was sold to the community in order to reduce wastage of water. It is beleive that an individual will take proper care of whatever thing they bought with personal money
Not pleasant, dug multiple wells in Nigeria
the big serious issues is the future need work together for planting trees and encouraging people don't wasting water if not water coming very expensive
water are very expensive than bill to triple. There are very serious issues will impact the populations because of drought there will be desert, to get water will be difficult, expensive
my sister is currently residing in San Jose, California and she has made many conversastions and shared concern about the water drought from time to time. My sister and family value water resources and have schedule water times for their lawn and outside usage
water usage was limited to 2-3 hours a day, drinking water was scheduled for 1 hour a day
I had job in India in state where it was hot and dry and was impacted by drought type of situation. Timed water supply, 2 hours in morning, 2 hours in evening. Crops planted received less water, education and awareness at school level
I have not experieced drought personally. But to reduce use of water inappropriately, one should consider the following. Scheduling watering the plants before 9am and after 7pm is useful because at that time impact of the heat is less. Plant bushes, trees, flowers that require less water. While brushing your teeth or washing utensils do not let the water run unnecessarily, car washing when required only. Educate students the value of water on our planet. procure rain water in storage drums and use when needed. While watering your yard or grass on teh front it is often seen water flowing onto the road or pathway due to carelessness.
Travelling is primarily the reason where you realize about water usage. I have travlled to Pushkau and desert nature of Rajastan, India where people have to walk 10-15 miles to get a small bucket of water. Be it small or big families, each of them have to share that bucket of water. It is of extreme importance to highlight the ways of limiting water. Originally from India, where the municipality hinders the water wastage by limiting the usage hours. for instance, the water cannot be used in teh morning hours to wash cars or plants. Only limited to showering or drinking purposes.
During travelling I realize the water is very limited primarily to drinking and cleaning only.
Back home in India, take water levels used to around 50ft which is now over 150ft. Submersible motor is required to get clean water and it is getting deeper and deeper
Back home in India, though I haven't experienced drought but little water restrictions have faced in the summer. Specialty in summer, timing were fixed for water supply from 5am to 9am and from 5pm to 9pm. City municipal corp will impose fine if someone is watering their lawns was washing cars in the morning hours. One should be aware or sensitive toward water wastage. Special care shoudl eb taking while brushing, bathing and cleaning utensils.
I lived in Bikaner, Ryasthan for almost 2 months. This area is predominantly a desert area. It is good to see another side of nature. But residing and surviving in such area is very challenging. Days are shiny bright and dry and nights are extremely cold. the people living there seem accustom but for a person from hilly area like me was quite uncomfortable. Water was gold for these people. They were going to far places to collect water and have seen some where where water was restored Most of the plants there were cactus or prickly pear. In aggregate, I felt pity for the children living there who were unaware of nicer childhood experiences of parks, flora, fauna and lakes.

We use to have a bucket full of water to take a bath, thereby saving time and water in between soap and cleaning. while brushing a lort of water is wasted. Keep a mug beside you to do teeth. Try to save water in bucket while waiting for water to come at a required warm/hot level. dishwasher be used instead of direct cleaning to save water. open flow water to be minimal flow at all times. Storage of rainwater
I was in high school when our province (Sarargi) experienced drought. There was crop failure in many areas. But farness opted to plant drought resilient plants instead of rice (mung beans etc). I am not aware that there is drought in Calgary. I have a small yard and I don't want my lawn in regular summer months.
In the Phillipines, scheduling of irrigation of water supply to farmers
before we immigrated to Canada, we lived in the Phillipines. During dry season between march and April, we had to resort fo using water from the river to water our plants and do laundry. The price of drinking water was expensive esp. during drought. We re-use water from rinsing laundry to water our garden beds. some plants do not need watering every day so it is good to have knowledge about drought tolerant plants to save water. We used to big barrels to harvestrain water w/c we use for bathing, laundry and watering plants.
I experienced water shortages due to lack of rain, particularly one year it didn't rain. The water supply was cut off and limited to only one day a week. I couldn't water my plants and died.
I experienced water restrictions due to a lack of rain, river showed lower flood level. The provision of clean water was in risk. We couldn't water our green areas.
I experienced severe drought that affected the energy production. It did not rain for several months and the river level decreased that affected the energy production consequently lack of drinking water. Water was rationed
When heavily rained the pipes got clogged with dirt or garbage causing occassionally water restrictions.
I'm from Cuba. I don't have exact quotes, crop lossess or decline. Restriction of water supply for household to few hours per day affecting human activities like hygiene, cooking etc
When my city did pipes maintenance the water was cut off or limited. WE had water supply for basic things like cooking and hygiene
I experienced water supply shortages due to mudslide and flash flood caused by torrential rains occuring high ni the mountains and carnivals where people usually play with water, splashing others
I experience sometimes water supply shortage and I had to adapt by using the water supply for the basics
Had restricted hours of running water a day, used water for only essential things at home: kitchen, bathroom. It was very inconvenient, tiring.
Living back home (Lima, Peru), we would have simetimes water shortages. Lack of water due to lack of raining or the opposite (too much rain) and that would cause mudslides and trouble the water treatment plants that distribute water throughout the city. Otehr factor was the large population in the city. Some actions that the City implemented were: Reduction in hours of drinkable water supply (we could only have water from tap for a few hours). Recommendations about reducing water on gardens. At home we will reuse water from the laundry. Water used to rinse clothes were collected in buckets and then used to flush toilets. reduced the time taken to shower or just washcloth.
Drought is a serious natural disaster that is bringing us starvation, lack of water/ clean water access. It was more of an incident experience which I heard about the struggles in agricultural field and the rise of cost of living especially food, and worries about global warming and its impact.
you water less or water during non peek time. I always try to water at night when its cooler
While spending time in Australia, water use was controlled. Showers were limited in time and managing to wash ones hair and body in that time period was an art form one had to master. Livng in Papua New Guinea as a child,

my father (who is a pilot) flew bags of rice into remote villages who were facing food shortages due to drought in 1997
I have not experienced drought back home, Afghanistan but in Pakistan I experienced drought, farmers suffered, shortage of clean water everywhere in the city of Rawal experienced by all communities
back home we had drought - Hilmand river disappeared and the fish died. We had to travel 2 and half hours to bring water on the back of animals. We had lots of restrictions in usage of water. As kids and teens we were deprived from swimming, fishing from the river. Our household economy dropped for many years after the drought. As a result we not had access to what we wanted and needed.
I only remember one time when Dave Bronconnier was mayor. He asked us to not let the faucet run when we were brushing our teeth and not wash our vehicles
in the Philippines, prices of agriproducts increased because of short supply. Lack of water supply, actions, save water, water rationing
My family in Afghanistan were farmers of rice. Water is a very essential part of rice plantation. Some years were not very rainy and we had to be very careful with water usage. Once, I remember one year we had drought in north of Afghanistan where we lived. we were bringing in water from remote areas and had lots of restrictions in water usage. We lost all our rice harvest. We had to leave the country as Taliban arrived in Afghanistan. We left everything behind, they killed my husband and father in law. On the way to Pakistan were without water and food for long time, this was an experience as having drought.
In South Africa, I had experienced drought and we were out of our routines. In Pakistan, also we had shortage of water, remote areas in Pakistan always suffer from shortage of water as the city water pipes would not reach there. People were poor and could not have access to water and were using dirty water and they tried to purify it on their own. Rich people have access to everything and suffer less. In Dubai, I remember I was standing on a line of 100-200 people to get clean water. On work day was gone to get water. Life is not a life without water.
countries across the globe experience of the drought if they don't have established irrigation structures or rivers etc. For example, African countries have been experiencing of drought unable to produce enough food and resulted in malnutrition in kids. Similarly, in Alberta drought affects the growth and blossoms of flowering plants which results in reduction of honey bee population. Significant reduction of honey bees further affects the pollination of flowers low production of food.
When growing up in Africa, faced several instances of drought. Depended on rain water. Set up a process to gather rain water in a tank
I had experience of drought when I was living in Ethiopia did was used a rationing model and educate people not to water their yard and save water as much as they can.
The fires and smokes are difficult to manage, my father has sinuses and we don't leave the home when the smoke is bad outside
I have experience water shortages in my home country and Yemen
I've never faced drought before
In our places of origin, drought was a rare phenomenon earlier. However, gradually it became as recurrent problem. Terracing on deep slopes, water utilization awareness creation incentives
We always had to work our schedules around water supply. We didn't have unlimited supply of water 24/7.
We received the water, we will fill up the buckets to use it later.
If we ran out of water completely, we would have to buy and pay for those water tanker suppliers to fill up our underground water tanks which was very costly
We were not allowed by our elders to use than one bucket of water while bathing.

I experienced drought in my hometown of Callao, Peru. This was probably 2003, I was a teenager. I remember the city would send big water tank cars to delivery water to each house. We will have buckets and containers ready for receiving water. This happened once a day for a full month
I was just slightly impacted
I was not impacted
I was not impacted
I was not impacted
When it did not rain much, the water supply was limited and rationed. I was not able to water the plants
During the 2007-08 drought the crops of our families had dismally failed thereby forcing our community into food crisis. In many villages, peasants were even compelled to eat the seed which was saved to be planted.
The government was communication with the international community had then availed both grains for food and later on seed for next farming season
We have experienced repeated drought occurrences in Ethiopia for the past 3 decades. For example the adverse weather situation of 2007 was brought about by El Nino and had lead to two consecutive rainy seasons failing of rain and harvests owing to little water resources.
Food shortages put millions at risk of malnutrition.
Our families in rural areas lost most of their herds and were put at the mercy of the government and international aid. Poor access to water led to poor hygiene and sanitation thereby threatening public health
back home in Ethiopia, we farmers have to travel across village to get water
There was an El Nino drought in the Phillipines that lasted for almost 2 years (1997-98). There was crop failure, our livestock lacked food and were malnourished. Accompanying drought was severe, rat and locust infestation on Mindarios Island. My family suffered to the brink of bankruptcy.
I noticed that in the past 2 years some acreages and farmers did not plant crops. It must be due to the lack of water and extreme heat in the summer months. I also noticed that in the mountains there is less ice (glacier) compared to when I came to Canada 10 years ago. I feel sad and concerned about it.

Question 3

*How impacted would you be if The City required you to reduce your outdoor watering during the summer?
Have participants put a check mark beside the face that applies to shows how they would feel.*

Multiple choice. No verbatim.

Question 4

Please describe how you would be impacted?

A lot of people will die
Ok, I was neutral on this but looking at my lawn and how much water it needs, reducing my outdoor watering would worsen the situation losing my healthy lawn.
The lawn may not get enough water, therefore will not look healthy and green.
Not sure
The way that reducing outdoor watering would greatly impact me and family would be very negatively as the temperature rises during the summer and using water helps reduce the risk of heat exhaustion

Not much
This will impact my garden and green space
The plants and flowers in my garden will die. The lawn might not do well.
my lawn will not be looking greener anymore
I have new plants in my yard and garden which requires extensive watering
property lawns may deteriorate, additional cost to replace grass with alternative landscaping product
I would be upset and sad
lawn care
Not impacted as I don't have a yard
my flowers and lawn would be subjected to not enough water possibly
I would not be able to water my garden
I wouldn't be as I don't have that much to water
Neutral, I live in Calgary and don't have a huge lawn
fun activity would be reduced, bonding time with family would also be affected
Neutral, it would not impact me greatly. I have small garden which can be effectively watered with minimum water use
Paying higher rates
people will get in trouble to afford to pay because of budget
it is very expensive for our budget
Most communities will be impact by economies or overtime
not impacted
if needed impacted or not it should be something that city of calgary should take notice.
love the gardening and will miss watering plants
As long as the plants are not suffering, I will be good too. It is a privilege not a right and we must be mindful of it
No yard
not so much as we don't over water
We rely on rain mainly to water, so not much of impact unless no rain
I will not be free to water my lawn at any time, I will be watering only during the prescribed time
Having a large green yard in a community that lacks greenery and trees, we would like to keep the amount of water allotted to my yard
with such restrictions only my independence will be impacted
I don't regularly water my lawn. I don't think I need to maintain my grass other than mowing
don't have much outdoor plants, have few trees that we don't water often
we are not impacted by this reduction because we don't really water our lawn everyday. We only maintain some perennials
We need more natural green areas. Winter is too long and we need to maintain them in the summer. They contribute and purify the oxygen
my plants and grass will die without proper watering. And I wouldn't be able to grow new plants
My lawn does need to much water to survive. I water then occasionally.
I live in a condo, the condo has an irrigation system with sprinklers that are being set up to water at certain days and times. The green areas maintenance fee is a flat fee and is included in the condo fees. I won't be affected directly, but I don't want the grass dry and die.

We don't have much green areas like Vancouver. It is important to preserve our landscape because they have the purpose to give us shade and keep us cool
My vegetable garden would be impacted, some fruit trees will be impacted
I won't be impacted. I don't water my lawn every day
My plants and grass will die without proper watering
One of my hobbies is gardening, my plants will not have enough water
I won't be able to water my grass, trees and flowers and they could die.
I do not own a house, so I do not have a garden
at the end of the day global warming we all have to make changes you don't need the greenest lawn
I live in an apartment and do not have an outdoor garden
minimal impact
my small yard would not be as enjoyable because of the inability to water it
It will put restriction on all kinds of usage not only watering
reduced access to water
I wouldn't be able to water my garden
we do not have a garden to water plants
my plants will suffer
this will impact the whole life system, plants and trees will gradually die
live in a townhouse so would not be impacted
I think my utility bill would skyrocket
Our lawn will look dry, same with veggies and trees we planted
the home vegetables, flowers and yard would be affected
my utility bills will skyrocket
drought will cause water shortage and will increase water bills; will limit purposes of water use
small gardens which can be effectively watered with minimum use
All would be somewhat impacted
Sometimes we are at work or travelling which could impact us if there is scheduling in place
My outdoor plants, including edible fruits and berries will lack adequate water to survive.
This does not make any sense, we water our grass only July and August. It will cost more if we lose grass and later had to replant them
I have trees and green areas to water, they require water to maintain the landscape of the neighbourhood
My garden will dry
I value most the human life than green areas
I've a small garden in which the policy implementation may not affect me
I have a larger garden
depends on usage requirement
I have a small lawn, if there is drought then I will not water the lawn. So I am not impacted or bothered

Question 5

What would motivate you to reduce your outdoor water use? Count number of people who raise their hand for each one. Vote for as many as they want.

Multiple Choice. No verbatim.

Question 6

What you think about outdoor watering schedules?

Like saving water, I like everything about saving water
People should always check the weather before watering. I saw a few neighbours watering on the day that it rained heavily. So imagine watering in the morning and it rains in the evening in the same day. What a waste!
It can be done at my convenient set schedule. I do not like that my lawn may not get enough water in the period of high heat/sun.
I like that it will reduce usage, I don't like that everyone won't follow it.
Yes
I like this idea, I dislike wasted water
It's a great idea
Don't have a lawn
Wouldn't use it, people should be able to water anytime
help reduce water waste
Water schedule is effective
Could be helpful but plants and lawn may not get enough water
No, give incentives to people to reduce the amount of water they use. I don't like telling people how to use water.
It is irregular, like the hours of watering, not the schedule
good idea
it will conserve water use
reduce water use
Unsure
efficient, saving but not convenient
This could be helpful to reduce water waste
that everyone would be on the same page, don't like being restricted
like set times, inconvenient
would lead to less water usage, the schedule may conflict with my ability and would there be fines for going away from the schedule?
I can prepare ahead if schedule is well shared, but don't like not having access to water when I need it
It will increase awareness and make people to be committed. But it will affect people's schedules
It is recommended. I like that it controls my temptation to use water. The very restrictive approach itself denies me a choice. It might at times affect our choices and we may miss our own times if we are busy.
like the structural plan, don't like the stress
do not waste the water, tap has to be off
turn water off
that amount can either be applied during a simple water
should not be an issue, scheduling watering to avoid waste of clean water
I like that not all methods of watering were limited. The schedule for sprinklers might not suit everyone. It does not capture the various hours people work

great idea will help save water
The timings are good, but could be inconvenient if you have to work
I am a truck driver, it will be hard to stick to a schedule
good thinking to limit to prior to 9am and after 7pm
NA
anytimeland watering and new grass watering, fixed days may not work
schedule are dependant on family situation
It is a helpful strategy
could limit the usage
might not fit some work schedules, a larger population may use water all at once cause more pressure on the infrastructure
could be a burden for me with my job schedule
I like this, esp the evening watering schedule. Can do it after work it's not too hot anymore
watering early morning or evening time
early morning schedule works best
I will get used to is as I lived in Prince George and they have a watering schedule
One can adapt to it. I don't water my plants every day. There are a lot of rain in June and keep the lawn wet, except some hot summer days.
I agree, I always water my lawn at night. It is cooler and fresh and the water doesn't evaporate rapidly.
I like the idea, I agree in having monthly limited cubic meters for outdoor watering like the monthly cellular data.
Neutral, we won't be affected because we use hoses with spray nozzles. And when it rains, we don't water for 2 weeks.
The strategy gives choices
I like it. Okotoks is already doing it
My condo uses an automatic irrigation system with sprinklers. The cost of landscape maintenance is included in my condos fee.
I will follow the strategy. It is a good strategy
Everyone should use water wisely
it will impact positively on reducing water waste
it's too restricted. How are we going to schedule the outdoor watering? The weather in Calgary can be extreme to another extreme. Sometimes whole week can be so dry and hot that people may want to water their yard every day. Some concern about fairness, how about commercial areas?
they are helpful, sometime I may not be able to conform to schedule
This is a great idea. I don't understand why other would be oppose to this. there should be fines for violations.
neutral
I think it gives good that can help people know how to handle their water better. It doesn't give individuals the freedom to choose how want to use their own resources. It may be better to water more often, but use smaller amounts of water
It is good but do you think all people will follow it? It is difficult to supervise everyone
it will help all community and overall all the city
Not opposed, maybe it would help save water
I think water schedules is a good idea
It is good to have turn vs no turn. Life is based on water. It is good to have access to water, even if it is a schedule

I like twice a week, some of my plants will die, it is fair and can be a burden if people don't follow it
saves water
should be ok as I don't have water outdoor too much
I like it
sounds arduous
education on dates and time we should use or not
I like it
I like it
Not recommended
scarcity triggers paranoids
I don't like it
It will be a burden not fair, it denies personal conveniences
There would be some discipline
people who work at odd hours or travelling may be available to water their gardens at a set time.
it would be unfair to those who work full time and can put added burden
I like this strategy as it will help reduce the waste of water
I will be limited impact. It is hard to enforce
You are punishing households. Look at the bigger consumers of water. Trying to transform a beautiful city into a dandelion paradise is a bad idea.
As long as I'm able to water my lawn maintaining the same rate or less, I'm good. This may make it more expensive that actually it is to maintain the landscape
I agree because I have an automatic irrigation system which the watering schedule has been set up to certain times and days
I agree, because I always water my plants and lawn at night since it is the best time to do it
We endorse as a strategy, some people could be affected with schedule conflicts with work. Restriction itself is a concern it may not be that unfair but could pose inconveniences that may be perceived as burden by inhabitants.
WE endorse this partially.
WE like it as water saving strategy during summer
the fact that people may miss their chances during busy work schedules. It can't be synchronized with everybody work schedule. It could be unfair when people could not make use of the watering schedule overlaps with work schedules
It can work if it doesn't affect personal family income
don't like limitation or loss of business
evening waterin schedule is good for plants
the schedule should also consider frequency per week (not everyday watering)

Question 7

What you think about The City pursuing water reuse?

It is a good idea that the city is pursuing water
We'd be good as long as the water is clean

A great strategy, the ability to save water as much as we can
I like that it conserves water, I do not like not implementing this.
This is a great idea
Yes
this is useful for construction site dust control, but it could be a health risk for some people
Not a good idea, it's unfair
Think it would be too much and reuseable water would have to go through filtering process
I like that nothing is going to waste and all water being used is being reused
good idea as long as the water is clean/repurposed
water reuse would also be effective for gardens, lawns and toilets. This could be a burden because reused water might not be 100% refined for household useage
Good idea of only for lawns and gardens as it may not be purified
Good idea - do not like telling people how to use water
it is necessary to support energy conservation
Not sure, maybe burden
positive environment and financial impact
it will save water
unsure
great, efficient, saving money
I thinkit's good to reuse what we can as long as it is safe
I'd like to know more to understand this process. This could possibly cause extra bacteria if not done right contaminating water supply
like recycling
I'd need to be educated a bit more, but it's environmentally friendly
Savings to the City
nothing. Water source, any little mistake in water recycling process will create bigger problem like sickness/water bourne diseases
It is good. Water is reused through technological and expertise. The very perception that dirty water is put into use makes me skeptical that it will be applicable everywhere.
sounds scary
working together to create innovation
we work on innovation and purification of waste water in order to renew it's cycle
using shower, faucet, vegetable/cooking water captured, treated and used for non drinking purposes
great idea and good for the future
like the concept of reusing water where possible
water reuse is a good strategy
good strategy
great idea for outdoors and gardens
it is a very fantastic idea
seems like a good idea
great option for plants and garden
reuse for watering plants is great
it is a good strategy and must be implemented

Yes
I like that water would be reused
I like it if it no cost to me
continues water supply, unsure of water quality
good idea because we are already doing it ourselves
if the city gives us free rain barrels to collect water rain and reuse it, yes, I will use them, but I will not pay for them
Good idea, but it only rains one month a year, not enough rain through the year to incur extra expenses like buying barrels
I already use buckets to collect the rain
I agree with this initiative because I have done it in the past. Pros: I used to reuse the laundry water, I had a type of washer that I was able to take the used water in buckets and carry them to the bathroom. We saved money. The City said the water consumption was for only 1 person in the house, we were a house of 4. Cons: moving/carrying the water in buckets caused floor damage and the new washer I bought won't allow me to reuse the water.
It's a good idea as long as the City gives us free barrels
Totally agree
It is a very good idea
I like the idea, as long as there is enough rain to collect it
I like this strategy. The problem is that the containers are very expensive, it should be free. Is the City of Calgary giving this for free?
Less water consumption
that we can maximize the use of water in a smartly way
as long as the water is not carrying any illness, viruses, human hurting bacteria that sounds right.
its better for environment
great idea!
yes
it is a practical way of making good use of our resources.
we need rebate in purchasing storage for rain water
in Islam, we are not allowed to waste anything as we are here for a short period of time. We need to be careful as our responsibility towards God and other human beings.
I would need to know more
I do not have idea about water reuse
Yes, rainwater is to be used but also difficult to store water.
It is important, for a plantation you can use it. Water barrels are very expensive and I cannot afford it. I would like them and the installation to be subsidized.
it's a great strategy to utilize the water resourcefully
this would be good idea, less water wasting
I don't like it
more money in my pocket
yes, what area of the city would this used water be used
I don't like it
I don't like it
Good
It keeps ground water level higher

can't be recommended for drinking water
burdens infrastructure budgets
Recycling no good idea
implementation may not be practical
in Korea and other asian countries, they use sink water to flush the toilets.
Reuse is always a good ideabut practical implementation could take a long time
I definitely like and support this idea. I like that we'll be saving and reducing lots of water
I like it because it will save drinking water with little to no impact to people
I have seen water going from vanities going into the toilet tank. I think this is a good idea.
It is a good idea. If the City give me a free rainwater collector, I would use it
I like the idea
I like the idea. I already have a container to collect rain water
Water reuse is a common phenomenon in modern cities. But this may not be convenient for many people. Some people may regard reliance on water reuse as a mean approach given the current not so difficult water resources
We strongly recommend
We like it from the saving water use perspective
it's cost may not be used for all purposes due to hygiene issues. Not all people have shared positive attitude. Those would not be favorable would not honour this strategy.
I really like it
if it is reserved only for outdoor and not indoor
Great idea
alsoencourage use of water barrels

Question 8

What you think about The City pursuing financial rate-based approach?

I think it will help people be careful about wasting water
Neutral
It would help gain attention faster. I do not like that if homeowners do not use it, their approach to water will not change
good idea, but concern about impact on low income families
Yes
Energizing citizens, but could add to utility bills
Not a good idea, people is going to unfair pay more
Not a good idea.
this is a financial burden on Calgarians
This could be another financial burden added
not sure, but it could be more of a burden and extra spending
yes, good idea for rebate
I do not like it, no additional financial burden should be placed on residents
not a good idea surcharge on the bill

intentional and seems a fair way to implement
will encourage people to use less water
concerned if this would lead to increase
not sure how this works
more people would be willing to do this if there was a monetary reward
I'd need to know more about the strategy
like pay per use, don't like additional living cost
I like that there is a financial incentive, but could be seen as restrictive
unfair
I like it because it relies on consumer rational behaviour. Financial exaction pains us a lot, I doubt about the extent of it's fairness.
may be expensive
pursuing city financial rate base approach, but nothing about population budget
the city provide persuasive financial rate based on people's needs. Sometimes bills are very expensive
the city could provide financial rate based sometime everything went really light
as necessary
do not like that it burdens the public with added costs which might cause people to avoid green space. Calgary already lacks/falls behind on having greenspace - this might further impact the greenspace in Calgary communities
people can save money with less usage
people will use water carefully
not ideal since we pay taxes already
very reasonable
reasonable
not so great approach during current recession and inflation. With decreased income and raising a child, not so ideal to have another bill hike
already people are going through inflation burdens, another one will stress
a surcharge added to utility helps if customer uses more than allotted water amount. It should be applied during droughts only.
Yes
unnecessary burden on people who are already hurting in the current economy
no financial rate be imposed, only restrictions will help
no after rate cost is no good
affordability of water for indoor use, not like higher rate of water for outdoor use
it is imposing more cost to people, especially those with low income
I won't forget to leave the garden hose open or faucets on. But it will increase the water rate
I don't like it
I don't like it
I like this initiative
I disagree with this strategy
Not sure yet
I don't like it, it'll increase the rates unfair
No, this strategy is targering the wrong people. It should be applicable to people with luxury items like swimming pools and jacuzzies.

I don't like it. I don't know how this strategy would work.
People will take care of the water they consume
I think everything that is related to money, it will have a huge impact on decision people make
as far as there will be a reasonable standards I would appreciate anything.
it must be fair
yes!
educational approach better
it affects people who may be conscious and careful with their water use. It may disproportionately affect those with less disposable income.
Yes, many people will control wastage of water, but for some multigenerational families it will be unfair
I don't like rate based
charging more for outdoor water use
I have not much idea about this strategy
It is good but not for big family or multi-generational families
if the support is provided, it is good
agree some extent
I like this as less water wastings
I like it.
possible shortage of housing or unattractive homes
I don't know about it
I like it
motivates people to reduce or corporate with water usage
I like it
Helps Saving
Discourages irresponsible use
It might not be affordable for low income families
I believe this is necessary
Punitive financial cost will reduce quality of life
I don't like it. People will stop watering their lawns to avoid paying more taxes
We already pay a high water rate and a high and sewage rate
None
I do not agree, it should be a campaign to raise awareness of the importance of water, but definitely no pay more for it use outdoor. Golf courts and simming pool owners maybe should pay more, but not working-class people
We support as a strategy. It is the most effective tool to create restraints. It will not be universally accepted and the very restraint through financial bills may be resented by some compatriots.
We strongly recommend
It disciplines all people to an economical use of water
in terms of burden it may aggravate the hidden face of poverty by adding new bills to lower income people who own houses.
Not sure yet
Not sure yet
grey water public green spaces, golf courses

Question 9

What you think about The City pursuing restrictions in new developments?

Yes, it will make people think
Great to try in new developments
Neutral
This is not a good idea, it would make new communities not look interesting. Grasses should be maintained rather than removed.
Excellent - ned to reeducate - get families together in parks rather than all in our backyard individually
Yes
Not sure, there are too many builds in green areas
great idea
Not interested
not a good idea
new development is needed as the city population grows with or without lawns may depend on the buyers choice
could be a great relief
not good idea
I believe new developments should design with green incentives and financial empowerment
Great, stressless from every angle
neutral
unsure
yes, good water efficiency, energy efficiency in new designs
no comment
I don't really care because its not affecting me but is sounds pretty unfair. Not really a good idea
forces developers to employ efficient methods
Nothing, this impacts young families/immigrants who are most likely to purchase homes in these new developments. How long would these restrictions last?
it can help a developer plan better, doesn't affect my community
nothing, restrictions limits peoples independence and freedom
like freedom and flexibility
developed the city pursuing restrictions
I like the city restrictions on pursuing development of the city is effected the population
developped restrictions in new ways, not only for own by populations
this approach should have good results for the environment
don't know enough on this topic to comment
other decorative things rather than putting grass could reduce use of water. Itmight reduce the soothing environment around.
they should be implemented gradually
very appreciated
nice option
limiting the type of landscapes
til the time it does not bother citizens, restricitons will be ok

water wise landscaping is a great idea. It will promote native and drought tolerant plant species
in could be a measure to save water
city needs to be more strict when it comes to development of new areas because developers/builders may not take the responsibility
it is doable and cost effective, easier to follow
more plants requiring less water
good idea to reduce consumption and I am not impacted at all
I don't see it as necessary
I don't like it
This strategy is a bad idea. The new generations need green areas. Trees and plants help to regulate the high temperature in the summer. Also they are the oxygen of the city.
As I lived in a city without green areas, I will get used to easily.
I disagree with this
totally agree
Some people might like the idea
I don't like it. I like to watch the landscape in the city and that people have freedom to have what they want in their homes.
Getting more efficient landscapes
I am not sure
I would like to see more of renovations with less costs in older/aging homes rather than too much of expansion of the city at the same time.
the city is expanding so wildly. Might be an addition of cost due to needs new infrastructure
landscaping should reflect what works for the climate in Calgary to minimize impact and mimic natural water usage
more education is needed
it sets up communities for sustainability. It demands more creativity to make neighbourhoods beautiful.
it should be a choice and not compulsory and subsidies should be provided
I would say it will be unfair if we put restrictions on new houses but we can construct them in a way that they are resilient with water efficient usage systems. Owners should have the choice
it's a good idea
restrict big business use of water, especially golf courses
it saves a lot of water but artificial plants are not natural and god made. They smell bad and damage your health
the new developments must have artificial trees and plants landscaping. But I do not like artificial plants, not good for the environment and they don't produce oxygen
without knowing full details of city's finance, maintenance capacity and need if new developments its difficult to answer this
I think should be fair as new development tend to use more water
I like it.
which city area of residential? Why are most beaches built in the south and everybody in the city has to be treated the same when it comes to conserving?
I like it.
every new development should have a great landscape
I like it
Recommended

It will control unnecessary water spending
not really as done systematically
challenges of land ownership
It is a good idea
We really like this idea as it would help people use water saving landscape.
City should ask builders to include it while constructing new home
I believe this is fair
limited impact, with potential for creative and innovative approaches to creating a nice environment in a draught resistant way
nothing
I have seen places with artificial grass. Millenials might like it
It has pros and cons
I don't like it
We have mixed feelings and dilemmas on restrictions.
We like the drive to organize and moderize infrastructure. It can probably lead to house shortages and prices. We are concerned on the freedom and affordability of housing for new budgets.
We support it
That it can focus on consolidation of existing infrastructure
It denies opportunities for people to develop at affordable prices.
fair, some landscape businesses abuse it
affecting companies that don't waste water
Restriction is still needed especially in high risk areas (flood plains) eg. Lower Springbank

Question 10

What you think about The City pursuing these incentive programs?

It is helping the environment
like the All in one garden kit
Ability to save water
It would help progress the program faster, but existing grasses should be maintained.
I like these programs are going to be available but I don't like they are all financially based. Need to educate people about water use.
Yes
Easy to use but do not like the financial attachment
I like getting money back
Not sure
I like it the way it is now
I like All in one garden kit
I like the subsidy
These incentive programs could be effective
Depends on family income, could be burdensome

Good idea
I think it is useful
great idea
rebates to update landscaping
financial support to contribute to good
unsure
Good idea
if you are requiring some homes to reduce grass that is already there, you should help cover the expense. Landscaping can be expensive
the second and third points would be effective
like subsidy for doing something residents would not have done if it weren't for the programs, don't like that it's more work for residents
I think this is a great initiative as it is expensive to remove grass/relandscape your property
can be good incentives
It would be for the greater good of the city
I don't know much about these
helping each others to up the population, don't like raising bill up not think about budget of population
it's very good to follow these programs will help people but the pursuing the water, it is very expensive
nice to program will help people with incentive
it would benefit the new generation
removes or alleviates some financial burden from home owners, incentivizes removal of greenspace
rebates are relief to consumers
These are all good
like waterwise gardening kit
plant which use less water in the garden
Good idea
removing grass rebate is good, but new plants can cost a lot to citizens
city should go ahead with these good programs
subsidize water saving plants and tools
I like the water saving, removing greenery from communities that are already facing a lack of natural beauty will only do harm
incentives are great these can lessen water use. Lawn maintenance is not only costly but laborous
if there is a plan to replace lawn grass with plants
subsidized water saving plants and tools
I like watering schedule, I don't like water reuse, financial rate changes and landscape restrictions
water schedule, don't like anything else
Maybe the water schedule is good. I agree to any strategy that doesn't increase water bills or be forced to invest in tools like barrels.
These initiatives should be carefully study and measure the impact in our economy
maybe water reuse if the barrels are free
Totally agree

Water schedule
water use and water schedule
Not sure
saving water and having plants
Waterwise landscaping and irrigation program seems to be a smart program since it will avoid wasting water. The city should promote this program and let free and fair competition among suppliers. Prices may get too expensive, equipment may not last or break down easily.
I am a person who is fond of greenaries so I would like to learn more about how the city is looking forward to design the city for removing existing grass.
keep
Yes, good ideas. But aducation should also be an important factor to incorporate.
ok
I like the subsidized water saving plants
water rates and subsidies should be applied, we need to keep the grass but we need to control indoor water use
subsidized water saving plants and tools and the water wise garden kit
I like the rebate for removing existing grass
I think this will work. Subsidies are good incentives to motivate people
I believe it will help our communities in saving resources
provide subsidy programs to those who deserve
Yes, I support except removing the grass. Greening is necessary to combat the climate change. City should reconsider the program to remove excess grass in the given circumstances of climate change
I like it.
less greenery
I support it
rebates as long as it isn't costly
I like it
Good recommended
It will increase precision
Issue of affordability
These are all good strategies
I believe this is necessary
Administration of new initiatives may cost too much, without clear evidence that it will materially impact water use when compared with incentivizing large industrial users to reduce their use
I do not agree. Rebates to put in concrete? Remove grass to replace with plants is more expensive. We will spend more money dealing with weeds. Not watering properly the lawn will lead to more weeds, consequently expending more money in herbicides and damaging the phreatic surface.
I don't like it. I want to keep my freedom to water my lawn at any time because it is only 2 months a year
None. I would not agree on nothing synthetic like grass
schedule and water reuse
new initiatives have the potential to impose resitrctions. It could be mind boggling that (unknown) in the emotional wellbeing of residents.

WE appreciate these initiatives. We like the very innovativeness of these reforms.
We think these are good approaches
Reorganizes Calgary's landscaping and water budgeting
These approaches could work to different sites and contexts differently. Top down approach seems to be presented.
sounds promising, have to wait and see how it unfolds
have to wait and see
Somehow reward is good, but not necessary, it is important to use common sense

Question 11

Are there any strategies or ideas you think are missing that would help build Calgary's resilience to drought, reduce outdoor watering demand, and protect our water supply?

I think we all need use rain water
Not at the moment
Schedule water supplies for lawn and gardening
Education programs, learning how to recycle water in the house, recognize gardens that use recycled water.
There should be more clarity on the part City is going and open up town hall conversations for this.
Not at the moment
No grass lawns
People should monitor how much water they use
using water meters staying below a 50% reduction, to educate others highlighting city efforts to conserve water, composting, fertilizing plants in the yard
Public enlightenment should be practiced by the municipality. Reuse water during rainy periods (resevoirs/tanks)
yes, collection of rain water in advance or less grass planting
create a smaller green space for homes
encourage more people to use rain drums to collect rain water for their lawn
water gathering plan, flood mitigation plan
give homeowners options to choose what they can sustain - rebates or subsidy
public education
effective public awareness campaign, rain barrels
golf courses, focussing on businesses as well as residents, corporations can afford to spend more money on water
no
don't like removal of existing grass. It's a burden to the environment
rebates and subsidy options
I would incentive to sustain rainfall such as the use of a tank/store rainwater
No
only planting the trees and people economised the water
only the reality, I don't know that but take it easy for the population
the city potential strategies for water conservation in clude outdoor water landscaping incentive program, diversifying water supply and paying premium if extra fresh drinking water is wasted

rainwater collection methods
supply outdoor storage tanks to public
these are all good strategies. People need to be educated
if we focus on indoor consumption as well, that would be great
raising awareness amongst residents, to respect the natural resources cause it is a privilege
rain water harvesting
having the community associations run the water to the front of the houses to control water flow
removing existing grass affects public and environment too. Not a great option
encourage the Calgarians to store rain water. Give incentive to those who take initiative and impose fine who don't follow the guidelines
education at primary levels building a moral character at an early age. How much water should be used by kids in shower, how to save resources
rainwater collection needs to be a requirement in all new and existing homes
city may supply storm(rain) water storage to each home
condo complexes w/auto sprinklers should have to follow the water schedule
I will only agree with watering restriction
I think recycling water could be a strategy, if the water was treated
We are at the door of food shortage and we have lost our self reliance and grow our own food. The City should promote the use of parks to build a community vegetable garden. The City should collect snow and reuse it.
Use water like mobile data
The city should collect and reuse the snow that is placed and wasted in parking lots. They should collect the snow in containers or an efficient system to reuse it
The city should start implementing all these strategies on their own properties.
Water reuse seems to be a good idea, but education is needed
no
no
great plans and options
No
lack of education on how to use water wisely
community engagement
We need to be educated on how much water is being used and how much is available? How do we reduce water usage? Why is water important?
plant drought resistant plants
information distribution, awareness raising around water use and drought
indoor water use should also be controlled
teach people how to use water. Some complain about their bills but they don't know the ways how to reduce their water usage and how to become more efficient. If we don't raise awareness no strategy can fully help the situation
rebates for lower flowing shower heads
rain collecting and storage in public and household infrastructure
I don't have anything to say
encourage the growing vegetables in the garden so that people can consume organic food from garden help them financially beside health
I think what are giving above is sufficient

long term green investment
teaching and irrigation when the water level is high
all I think of is water conservation
I think people have to be educated how to conserve water
More investment should be made on raising public awareness and water use education
City should do a lot of work in creating awareness about drought, reducing outdoor watering
rain barrels or building underground resevoirs could also save us water
WE could have schedules for watering gardens and maybe reduce the use of ourdoor swimming pools in the back yard
work with large industrial users to reduce their water use through more efficient operating processes, by not only offering financial incentives/tax breaks, but also helping with consulting and impact awareness
The city should focus on reducing the spend on things that are not related to Calgary
The city should reuse rainwater and snow
We believe the city needs to conduct serious water awareness raising education and media coverage for a reasonable period of time.
Yes, environmental education that it responsive to drought resilience.
I think outdoor businesses or personal should have a water meter to keep track of water useage, have a limit that everyone can agree to or come in terms with. Anyone that goes over the limit should be charged fees.
Plan B - more drastic measures if water supply is too low

Question 12

How should The City prioritize the strategies described above?

Water savings - yards is best idea, household level goals is worst idea because people will not do it
All in one water wise garden kit - could be effective way of better control
focus on water reuse
Phased approach starting with the financial rate-based approach as it's the best to start with. The least effective is the landscape restrictions on new homes as it removes the beauty and acceptability of homes.
water restrictions, financial penalties, waterwise education, incentives for new developments
Rebates for removing existing grass
Rebates for removing existing grass is the least effective to encourage people
Subsidy is the best idea, the rebate is the least effective as it will mess with the beauty of the front yard
most effective is the subsidy, the least effective is the rebate
None
by implementing all three
use the rebate, you may pay less but the rebate gives some benefit
all in one waterwise garden kit is the best and the rebates to remove existing grass will be the least effective
subsidize water usage as older home owners may be agitated to remove their cute looking lawns and gardens
incentive program, don't resctrictions in new developments telling people how to live their life is a no for me
water gathering system
like rebate, rebate for removing grass will be immediate more effective

outdoor water schedule more effective, landscaping and irrigation program least effective
outdoor water schedule best, landscaping program least
all in one garden kit
Rebate
outdoor water schedule, least effective is removal of grass
like the rebates, don't like the all in one because of cost
receptive to removal of existing grass, don't like the water schedule
outdoor water schedule is best, least is landscape restrictions
water schedule, least effective would be water recycling
outdoor schedule is best, landscape rebate is worst
work together with city for everything
the strategies for the city look to make expensive for me ideas is not fair because people will be poor because of budget
just find strategies that can be easy for everyone
schedule water usage should be most effective.
water reuse, don't incentivize removal of greenspace
rebates
subsidies are better than rebates
provide waterwise kits first
timely decisions, let natural plants and grass grow
all in one waterwise kit is great, the rebate for removing grass is not
limiting watering the plants, do not financially burden the public at this time
water schedule is foremost
all in one kit is best, rebates are least effective
infrastructure changes
waterwise landscaping or irrigation program because it gives homeowners choice
outdoor watering schedule
water wise landscaping and subsidies, avoid imposing costs on low income
water schedule
Water schedule, the rest are not necessary
Water schedule and reuse
Water schedule only
Water wise landscaping, Water reuse, water wise in new communities, water schedule
Water schedule
water reuse and water schedule
watering schedule
water schedule
water schedule and financial rate based approach
all in one waterwise kit is great
rebates
education and water schedule
yes

awareness raising (all strategies should follow this)
subsidized water saving plants and tools
all of the strategies
the rebates most effective, the garden kits the least
information through social media more public consultation/info sessions
old places or houses are there, but let's do something for new developments to make them drought resilient
subsidized way is good
water saving methods
the incentive program
waterwise landscaping and water reuse
education. We are already paying a high rate
Incentive program
Not sure
the incentive program
1. Rebates 2 subsidized
3. All in one
none of this guarantees behaviour change
rebates for removing grass is not effective
waterwise landscaping is best
Outdoor watering schedule
reuse non drinking water wherever possible
None, it is not a good idea. We water our plants only 2 months of the year.
None. Calgarians already paid a high water rate. This strategy will make less affordable to maintain the landscape, consequently causing a landscape damage
Water reuse
Water reuse
It should take contexts into account and depends on which part of the city.
the application of one or another package should take the localities into account
Rebates, subsidized water saving and all in one
these involve huge expense for reinstalling the city's subsidized water saving plants, tools and new infrastructure to sustain it
rebates for removing grass
least effective is the All in one kit because everyone will want to use the same kit

Question 13

What support or resources would you want from The City so you can learn about these strategies and be able to participate in them?

Online Seminar
send us a brochure/written note about these strategies so people have more chances of contributing
Training

provide garden ideas, gardening courses, incentives to purchase native and drought tolerant plants, city staff to visit homes upon request. The city people need to be master gardeners or certified horticulturalists, not summer students.
set up town hall meetings with councillors
Information on this be sent to each home
Training community members
community training
Online Seminar
more detailed information on the methods to conserve water in the household and/or outdoors. Implementing more rules or regulations in communities for them to participate in water conservation
more enlightenment via leaflets, TV, radio, social media
More bulletins/training
we could have great support through training and awareness
more educating resources and creating awareness
education on subject by experts, visual literature
training
regular updates
periodic information
public education and awareness
app
plain language, shorter brochures
language appropriate information sessions
community info sessions
Education
examples of how some of these strategies have been deployed in other cities
friend group in consultative settings w/ stakeholders
more information, educate people in the city about the advantages
whatever is available
because everything is very expensive, but money we get from work. Our respective household income to cope up with change in bills
the support or resources I can ask to return back to normal, as was before
teach everyone to support and create sources to not waste water
it may be helpful if there can be newsletters delivered by courier or by mail as reminders to use less water
info sessions that reach all communities
waterwise plant supply
group meetings organized by leaders in the community
information in different languages
use less paper, cut less trees
educational content via social media and other platforms
pamphlets or booklets containing information should be sent to every home. Workshops should be held in every community, print media to bring awareness among people
city must hire a team for landscaping (chargeable) who should be responsible for watering outdoor landscaping
potentially more radio ads and local advertising on transit

information dissemination posted on social media site, local TV
information drive as lots of residents are unaware of these programs
infomercials (TV) for all Calgarians to see and learn
I will only agree to water schedule
Water reuse
Water wise landscaping and irrigation programs
topost all these in social media, TV and radio news. Small seminars
Info bulletins in grocery stores
educational workshops, handouts, demo for anything that can be shown as a demo
mediations
website, social media campaign, webinars,workshops
education, teaching communities
youtube ads, promotions and guest speakers in schools for kids. Indepth information in accessible and understandable forms (infographics etC).
more awareness, publicity, education needed
more educational workshops, sessions to be offered, we want more alert and informed community members they will do well and they will lead others by telling us and by setting examples with their own deeds
sending letters out or social media campaigns
like back home, all households should dig a well
educate people. The city should invest in educating how to save not only water, but all sorts of energy ex solar power
help the community to establish their own garden beds. Provide them with seeds rather than money. It directly/indirectly helps water reduction health and wellness
regular update regarding these strategies
Infographics
I would like to know which area of city is used higher level of water consumption
workshops or educational seminars on water conservation
Financial rebate/support
I think the city should give an update to offer so that people can learn about the strategies going forward
Bylaws and bills by environmental experts and professionals
It will be better to maintain water use education in the school curriculum
They should send flyers in different languages by mail, advertisements, posters on transite to create awareness
maybe website or zoom meetings we gather more information about this project
The city should focus on dealing with the delinquency that is going up.
we endorse funds for media, schools and communities for educating the youth and women as they are the best making water utilization strategies a great success.
funds to consultants and communities to promote community water utilization, awareness and creation and education to change bad habits of wasting water
Online, street marketing
City should do more public information campaign about this, social media & FB

Question 14

Lived experience of drought is very valuable. How can The City work with you and your community to learn from you and encourage you to be a leader in your community when it comes to drought?

by email [identifying info removed]@hotmail.com
Organic workshops in different communities in the city
community programs on the topic of drought would help
I have a large drought tolerant garden that is an example. I share my plants and garden knowledge with neighbours
talk to community leaders from drought impacted countries of origin ie. Sudan, Kenya, East Africa
I have not live experience of drought
Online seminars and workshops
community conversation circle group
being mindful of the amount of water that is being used each day can be a powerful way to prevent drought and if the city implements the ideas introduced this can be very beneficial to communities and the city as a whole.
create awareness in my community, organize public enlightenment
Communication, Ads, community meetings, town hall meetings
to lead a community presentation on this drought management through community conversation circle and town hall meetings
educate more people to use rain drum to collect water during summer time
consultation
developing peer support groups that will meet monthly and pull ideas together
organize open houses/ workshops on drought
not much experience in this area
provide information/resources regarding some
community conversations
a better explained process. It is quite difficult to understand the terms, processes and explanation
pay people to do fair work. Free labour is not effective
collaborate with community associations
set up townhalls to discuss
provide incentive, information seminars will help
communicate with me, get other people with similar experiences to share information
communicate better
expensive, our budget not even went up. Our salary do not show any proportionate increase to cope with skyrocketing grocery prices and related services
everyone has not wastage the water, but economize as it is
provide people has good experiences of drought to teacher every community member
positive remarks can be posted on social media to encourage each other
surveys, advocacy, awareness
awareness meetings and supply of recognized tools
people who have been hired through this experience can contribute a lot by sharing this experience with others
God forbid if there will be such situation certainly I will come forward to help people. I will use every bit of reach to help people for bringing awareness and meeting the challenge.

I have shared my experience living in a desert, for me, I could help if asked to
these surveys definitely help to get an outlook on these issues
I will just spread the work on DM to my neighbours and friends to encourage them
share info on FB
more frequent educational sessions planned by the city with multiple language translation/interpretation available
information, knowledge
I lived in a sub tropical coastal city growing up, water wasn't an issue.
I feel it will be very difficult to face drought
I work with many newcomers who have experienced drought in their home countries. They are aware of the impacts of drought and measure that have been effective.
everyone should become a leader - we need to create more awareness so that people become aware, educated on this issue and that makes them more committed. One or two people cannot bring the change, if needed I can guide people.
I am an elder and have seen many ups and downs in my life. I can share my knowledge if needed
making people aware of the dangers a drought could pose. Having bulletins or signs in the community
I cannot be a leader as I am not communicate well in English. Also I am not literate from back home. I am guide my children but definitely need to learn things first.
city should encourage the reasonable people to participate in debate of discussions o the program thoroughly. Further encourage to provide innovative ideas in this regard
I had lived experience of drought in Ethiopia and the best method implemented or used was conservation
social media campaigns
how important it is to conserve
I never lived in drought area
help provide better insurance coverage for such events, mobilize and do more prework by way of surveys like this one
I never lived in drought area
Support my community to nominate people as environmental ambassadors
fostering community based environmental activities
city provides resources and funds to my community so as to promote public water use awareness
City can engage key community leaders from different communities to educate others about this.
City staff should be present at different events/festivals with their staff/booth to talk about it
we would love to have an expert come into our community and organize a gathering for all neighbours to listen and find out how we can act on this.
We are family heads. We can do all of our influences in our respective households and communities to make the new water budgeting a success.
We strongly expect the implementation of safe and economical water utilization by attracting religions and community leaders and important professionals to impart basic drought resilience education.
Have a platform so everyone can give feedbacks

Youth- portal and in-person events

Question 1

What do you appreciate the most about the rivers and the water they supply?

Visual based voting question. No verbatim.

Question 2

What do you think should be in a plan to protect our city and Calgarians from the impacts of drought?

Have a higher water bill so that people feel less motivated to use lots of water.
Use water that is already there to cool down instead of new water. Go in the river instead of using other water.
Conserve water by not taking a 30 minute shower and only taking a bath once or twice a week .
Having a limited shower time.
have a backup water supply so if we ever face a drought we can use it for drinking until the drought passes
Advertise ways that help save water like reducing your shower time, not leaving the tap on while your brushing your teeth.
Limit the water or time people can water their yards. Charge them more if they go beyond the limit.
Create safe beaches on Bow river for families. Create better water features like a waterpark for ppl to use on hot days. Instead of hoses
Take down oand/or build less water parks. Even maybe at least use less water in them
not water grass so much
Reduce the amount o water used for water parks. Or even the water used for lawns
They should probably reduce water usage
Get more filters to make for filtered water
don't use that much water and don't waste it
limit the amount of the hose water you could use each week
no wasting a cup of water
they could put sprinklers and water plants or stuff time to time.
don't leave the water running
something- restrict outdoor water usage
water schedule- have a time to water plants, measure how much water a plant needs
try to not water your plants all the time so we have water for other things
more mindful plant choices
we should learn how to use the water more wsiely, not just using it for our own wants
use less water for fires
I think they should add less fire or else the plants can die
don't use water, get filtered watre
restricions in water- most water being used in summer
use less water for animals and pet
you could drink less water and not waste it

more lakes/ivers all over Calgary, don't leave taps on.
Don't waste water
Do low flow toilets know if you stop mid-poop to use less water?
Plant more trees
for all the animals and the ocean
put up sacks around the rivers
because water is the source of life for all beings
mini wetland
find water in new places
use less water
dought or drought? Love each other
aqua is life
have shorter showers
Better water filtration
water re-use
better sprinkler use
solar panels to power pumps
another water resevoir
access ground water
only use water when we need it
stop putting sprinklers on every day
use extra water in your plants
less pools to save more water
turn off the tap while brushing your teeth
turn tap off when washing your hair in the shower
stop having long showers
put water in stormponds and use to water parks
let the rain water your plants

Business, agencies and organizations

Due to a lower volume of feedback, all verbatim comments have been included in the full report.