



Candidate Name:	_____ Sandy Jenkins _____
Ward:	_____
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Contact name/number:	_____ 444-1196 _____

1. What are the top three issues facing the city?

Transportation, especially public transportation

Homelessness, brought about by a lack of affordable housing

Quality of Life in this city, lack of recreational facilities and libraries

**2. Urban Sprawl and Housing**

- a. Do you support the concept of extending Transit-Oriented Development throughout the city, including in established neighbourhoods generally and in your ward? What is your stance on the proposed development at Dalhousie Station (in Varsity)?

I support the concept of TOD throughout the city. The proposal looks good, I like the idea of integration of pathways at the beginning of a development. Unfortunately the city has an abysmal record of implementing TOD.

- b. Are we facing a housing crisis in Calgary? If so, what should be done about it? If you are an incumbent, what have you specifically done about this?

We are facing a housing crisis. Working people are living at the homeless shelters. I think we need to start by offering a two year amnesty to landlords currently operating illegal suites. We also need more mixed style developments which include affordable housing.

- c. Do you support legalization of secondary suites in all existing neighbourhoods, subject only to reasonable safety concerns? Why or why not?

Yes, we need affordable housing and what could be more affordable than a basement suite.

- d. Do you believe that urban sprawl is a problem for the city? If you believe it is a problem, what will you do to address it? (If you are an incumbent, what have you already specifically done?) If you don't see it as a problem, please explain why.

Yes, we need to stop urban sprawl. We can start by making developers and lot buyers in far out subdivisions pay for the infrastructure. It is very unfair for inner city dwellers to pay this bill and this leads to more urban sprawl (a vicious circle). We need to support high-density development near transit.

### **3. Transportation**

- a. Has the City been doing a good job of addressing transportation

needs? What, if anything, would you do differently?

The city has built a bunch of roads. Their focus should be on Public transit which will get cars off the road. It will also reduce pollution and increase the quality of life. We also have a lot of stupid, unsafe interchanges. These should be upgraded.

b. How often do you use public transit? Bus, C-train, or both?

In the winter twice per week C-train, twice per month Bus.

In the Summer I usually ride my bike. Once per week C-train, once per month Bus.

c. Does our current transit system meet the needs of the city? If not, how specifically would you improve it?

The short answer is no. If you are going downtown at rush hour the Bus service is ok. I would add buses and routes to places other than downtown. The C-train is jammed on the south line. I would put it underground downtown which will enable longer trains. I would add parkades at the popular stations.

- d. Are you in favour of the current strategic plan for transit? Why or why not? If not, what changes would you make?

NO. It mentions a downtown subway but it does not appear on a chart that ends in 2025. The feasibility study on the 8<sup>th</sup> Ave subway was done in 1970. How can we call it a rapid transit when it waits at red lights? And it will get worse when 4 car trains have to interact with traffic. The rush hour congestion problem will get worse when we extend the north line. We should accelerate the larger stations (4 or 5 car) and put the underground part downtown now.

- e. The City's current plan does not envision direct C-Train service to either the airport or Mount Royal College. Would you favour amending the plan to reach these two destinations (both within close distance of planned lines)? Why or why not?

Yes. The Mount Royal College area has a bunch of undeveloped land which could accommodate high density residential and commercial. The College will be a university some day and will provide counter flow for the west line.

The airport is an obvious destination for the C-train.

- f. Are there other areas of the city that are underserved by transit? How would you address this?

All outlying areas are poorly served by transit except for rush hour going downtown. We need more buses and more routes. I would also like to see the province build a commuter train from Lake Louise, Banff, Canmore, Cochrane, Calgary Tower, Strathmore. An Airdrie to downtown to Okotoks train would also be good.

#### 4. Vibrant and sustainable communities

- a. What will you do to address homelessness and urban poverty in the city? (If you are an incumbent, what have you already specifically done?) If you don't see this as a problem, please explain why.

I will fight to have secondary suites legalized in all parts of the city. This will have a domino effect. Working poor who currently live in shelters will find basement suites they can afford. Homeless people currently living on the street could move into the shelter and get the help they need.

We need more social programs, which could keep people in their homes if their needs were addressed before they were forced out on to the street. What is needed is a greater initiative toward preventative social work whether it is drug-treatment centres, mental health workers, or assistance and support for battered women.

- b. What is your stance on arts funding? Do you support the recent recommendations of the Calgary Arts Development Authority?

We need more arts funding. The comparison to other major cities in Canada is not flattering to Calgary. I do support the recommendations; with rental

space so tight we need art space incubators.

- c. What is your stance on the city's curbside recycling plan? Would you extend the plan to include recycling of organics and plastics? Why or why not?

The plan is wrong. We should pick up organics and plastics. If we do it right we might even make money making fertilizer.

- d. What other environmental initiatives, if any, would you favour?

A higher capacity C-train would lead to less pollution. We should be building more bicycle infrastructure and educating motorists on how to share the road. A limit on garbage might help people to recycle.

- e. What will you do to address crime and safety issues in Calgary? (If you are an incumbent, what have you already specifically done?) If you don't see this as a problem, please explain why.

The overall crime rate is falling. However the population is increasing. This adds up to more crimes. We need more police. By putting the C-train underground we could do away with the honour system of paying fares. There would be fewer hooligans riding the train if they had to go through a turnstile with a valid ticket.

## **5. Taxes and Revenues**

- a. Does the current system of funding municipal government largely

through property taxes work well? If not, what changes would you recommend?

As I said in my answer to 2 d, the tax system is not working well. I would like to see (someday) a user pay system for Calgary roads (Toronto Star Aug 13). Right now we get nothing (or very little) from people who drive into the city every day at rush hour.

- b. Is there enough money in the system currently to fund your priorities? If now, how will you fund them?

I think there is enough money. But if there is not I would not hesitate to borrow. We have a very high credit rating and our tax base is growing every year. Paying off capital projects over 30 years will allow us to improve the quality of life in this city.

## 6. Political reform.

- a. Does the current system of campaign financing work well? If not, what changes would you favour?

The system is not working for me. We need contribution limits and spending limits and more disclosure.

- b. In the absence of rules around disbursement of campaign surpluses, what will you do with any leftover funds?

Ha ha. In the unlikely event of a surplus, I would donate it to charity.

- c. Are there any other structural reforms you would favour?

We could offer people a tax credit in exchange for voting. This might give an

unfair advantage to incumbents. I wish I knew of a way to force people to take an interest....

7. **FOR INCUMBENTS ONLY:** What are your three major accomplishments this term? Of what are you most proud?