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Candidate Name:	<u>DAVE MATTHEWS</u>
Ward:	<u>11</u>
Website, if any:	<u>Being prepared</u>
Contact name/number:	<u>Dave Matthews-249-5483, Sheila Paulson (Campaign Manager-248-5596...e-mail: dave-matthews@shaw.ca</u>

1. What are the top three issues facing your Ward?

TRANSPORTATION

RE-ZONING

TAXES

2. What are the top three issues facing the city as a whole, if different from above?

TRANSPORTATION

INCREASING DENSITY/SPRAWL CONTROL

ENCOURAGING ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION AND DEVELOPING AN ATTRACTIVE CITY TO ENSURE CALGARY'S FUTURE.

3. 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)?

In favour of Transit-Oriented Development ('TOD') in principle throughout the city. Subject to understanding the concerns of the nearby communities am in favour of TOD at Dalhousie Station.

- 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?

Housing will always be tight during a boom....perhaps more homeowners could be encouraged to rent a room to students/newcomers etc. (I lived for my first 2 years in Calgary with a room and half-board).

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

No. Residents in an R1 neighbourhood understood that R1 meant 'Single Family'. I am not in favour of changing the rules without clear support from the immediate neighbours of a proposed secondary 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. The present Market Value Assessment ('MVA') system is partly to blame and encourages Sprawl. Lot levies reflecting the realistic costs of supplying all infrastructure to new developments must be implemented....this may require amendments of the Provincial rules.

4. Transportation

- a. Has the City been doing a good job of addressing transportation needs? What, if anything, would you do differently?

Passing grade only so far. I would move as quickly as possible toward a much greater investment in public transport with a freeze on regular fare increases, changing the 'fare-box' contribution from 55% to perhaps 45% or even lower eventually.

While we need a good system of major roads and collectors my emphasis would be on supplying frequent, reliable, clean public transport at low cost...and encourage the provision of private van/mini-bus services for commuters, more HOV lanes etc.

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

Regularly...and when I worked downtown took the 'Lakeview Express' (#63) virtually every day.

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

See (a) above

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

The split needs to be at least 50/50 between roads and

transit....if not a greater emphasis on transit investment. We must reach a situation where a family would not say 'Why would we take transit for our trip'.....but 'Why Not'. Transit needs to be comfortable,fast, efficient, clean and inexpensive if it is to compete with the comfort, convenience and perceived 'low cost' of using a private vehicle.

- 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?

Definitely for the Airport....I don't know of any major city that does not have a fast,efficient train service to its Airport....and perhaps for Mt.Royal College. The present 'West Leg' alignment was proposed many years ago and should be re-visited before any major decisions are made. Not only MRC but the Lincoln Park Business district and proposed Currie development would be on this revised routing.

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

The 'SE leg' is clearly desirable and may have a higher priority compared to the existing 'West Leg' alignment in view of a large employment base in the area east of Deerfoot Trail and proposed developments further south. Four Mile etc.

5. 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 would firstly want to know much more about the homeless and urban poor e.g. place of origin, time in Calgary, skills training etc. I would also encourage those considering a move to Calgary to have marketable skills, some savings for the transition period, hopefully a job offer and perhaps arrangements for accommodation before they arrive.

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

The arts must be encouraged much more enthusiastically at the municipal and provincial levels if Calgary is to become a truly 'Great City'.....that few will want to leave. ~~Am not familiar with the recent recommendations of the Calgary Arts Development Authority.~~ Copy of their reports & recommendations now received. Yes I would be an

enthusiastic supporter of their proposals.....have met Terry Rock (at Lunch series) and was impressed by his vision.

- 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?

I am all in favour of maximum 're-cycling' having grown up in a 'Recycling/Reuse' culture.....but would have preferred it if Council had firstly tried a '2-Bag Limit' to encourage much greater re-cycling and the use of compost bins etc.

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

Clean air, clean water and a sharp reduction in the use of herbicides, pesticides etc. in both the public and private realm would be my priorities.

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.

I would encourage the Police Service to deploy its available resources primarily on reducing criminal activity and particularly the growing problems in the Downtown and cease allocating well-trained, well-paid 'sworn' officers to the task of setting up 'fishing-holes' to catch minor traffic infractions which increase police revenues.

6. 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? No. The Market Value Assessment ('MVA') property tax system needs to be scrapped...at a saving to Calgary taxpayers of approx. \$20 million/year...and replaced with a blend of flat fee and an extension of the Provincial Income Tax
- b. Is there enough money in the system currently to fund your priorities? If now, how will you fund them?

I would be reluctant to seek further tax revenues until I fully understand the allocation of present income.

7. Political reform.

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

The present system is a disgrace and needs significant reform. Individuals providing financial support should enjoy the same tax receipts/tax credits as are applicable for donations to Provincial and Federal candidates.

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

They should be required to be donated to an approved charity following each campaign.

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

There are probably several but I haven't had time to think this through. Certainly there should be term limits (max. 3 terms of 3 years)...with no return for at least 3 terms. All candidates should have a career before & after politics.

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

Greater transparency... fewer secret meetings. Proper record of debates & Council meetings.

Thank you for filling out this survey. Please send your results **before 6 PM on Thursday, September 27** email (preferred) to info@bettercalgary.ca. If you would prefer to fax your responses, or if you have other questions, please contact Chima Nkemdirim on 390-9994 and he will be pleased to help you.