



Candidate Name:	___James M. ( Jim ) Murray_____
Ward:	_____11_____
Website, if any:	_____www.jimmurray.ca_____
Contact name/number:	_____Jim 880 7935_____

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

Transportation

Density Issues

Liveable Communities

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

1. A roadmap (vision) for the vibrant Calgary we want for us, and our future.

2. Homeless: The homeless need more than a temporary cot: they deserve a private bath, kitchen and bedroom at minimum
3. Legacies for the future: Public Art gallery; Indoor Bike Park

### **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? YES
- b. What is your stance on the proposed development at Dalhousie Station (in Varsity)?
- c. Are we facing a housing crisis in Calgary? YES: Accessible, diverse and inclusive communities need to exist for our homeless; for working poor; for students.
- d. If you are an incumbent, what have you specifically done about this?





- d. Are you in favour of the current strategic plan for transit? Why or why not? If not, what changes would you make? I support the current efforts of senior administration to extend the LRT system.
- 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? I would need more information on the potential rider ship for those destinations. I also know that taxi drivers shuttle drivers and brokers under Contract to the Airport Authority provide excellent service for the most part at the level of service that the travelling public requires. Further consultation with industry and senior administration would be required
- f. Are there other areas of the city that are underserved by transit? How would you address this?

## **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. Every individual needs more than a cot. They need the dignity and respect that a kitchen, bathroom, and a bedroom provide. A vibrant, caring community of villages, needs to support this, as homelessness in our city is unacceptable.

- b. What is your stance on arts funding? Do you support the recent recommendations of the Calgary Arts Development Authority? Yes subject to further examination of the cost implications. I do believe that developing transportation infrastructure is sensible if there is someplace worthwhile to go including art galleries and other major cultural attractions that the City could foster in order to make Calgary not only booming but vibrant. City Council in setting the priorities for the next four years will have an important role to play in engaging the residents to determine what sort of a City we are building for our future and that of our children.
- c. What is your stance on the city's curb side recycling plan? Would you extend the plan to include recycling of organics and plastics? Why or why not? I have said that the program should be accelerated if possible. I do recognize that trucks and bins are an important component of the program and that they must be ordered tested and delivered to ensure success. Further examination of the economics and efficacy of recycling organics and plastics would be required. In my own life I recycle organics and yard waste creating topsoil for my yard and garden beds. I prefer individual solutions where Citizens are engaged and committed to a process using incentives rather than penalties.
- d. What other environmental initiatives, if any, would you favour? I have responded that a pesticide and herbicide free Calgary

bylaw would be preferable to exposing pets and children for example to dangerous chemicals for purely cosmetic reasons.

- 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 support proper funding for police and emergency responders. I do see gang related crime as having deeper social issues at its origin including English as a second language, education and counselling.

## **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? Remembering that there is only one taxpayer is important to the residents of Ward 11. My understanding is that the proposal for six new taxes has been dropped given that the funding issues have been resolved with the Province. I would give consideration to alternative funding proposals that would introduce greater fairness in shifting the burden of funding social services from property to income for example where the ability to pay would be more prominent.
- b. Is there enough money in the system currently to fund your priorities? If not, how will you fund them?



8. **FOR INCUMBENTS ONLY:** What are your three major accomplishments this term? Of what are you most proud? As Chair of the Electric Utility Regulation Committee we ordered a reduction in ENMAX's bill to residential customers of \$14 Million dollars. I believe that more needs to be done to ensure that the City's utilities are efficient and serving the best interests of our residents. I have the experience and the will to ensure that the appropriate steps are considered by Council. As Chair of the Taxi Commission we issued 100 accessible plates to be affixed to accessible vehicles to ensure that disabled Calgarians could get a ride when they want it. These are real experiences with solutions to real problems. The work of the City is arduous and alderman need the experience that I have gained including familiarity with the issues to be successful.