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Ward:	Mayor of Calgary
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1. What are the top three issues facing the city?

1. Crime

2. Maximizing the return to Calgarians for the tax dollars they pay, the user fees they are charged and the hidden fees they incur.

3. Infrastructure and Transportation tie with Homelessness and Affordable housing

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 am in favour of expanding public transit services throughout the city. But before we add any more LRT extensions or new lines we best deal

with capacity issues along 7th avenue. It does us absolutely no good to expand and build new lines without the capacity to deal with the added traffic that will result downtown.

- 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?

First we must offer every conceivable option to our housing crisis. By that I mean we seriously need to revisit and debate the issue of secondary suites. I am not just talking about new communities, but also established communities.

I will be launching my 'Shelter Seekers' Initiative. For those Calgarians who have an extra room available or unused rumpus room or basement, I will encourage them to open up their homes to assist those looking for accommodations. This is something that can be done in the short term and is immediate. Many homes have rooms being unused because children may be away at school or out living on their own. Why not utilize that space.

I will encourage developers to include affordable housing units in the complexes or neighbourhoods they build. In fact I will work towards making that a requirement before Council approves the developments.

I will work with Council to undertake a study of whether it is cost effective for the City to buy no longer needed schools and convert them to affordable housing. I'm talking about doing this without demolishing the structure but upgrading it and leaving the current green space attached to it intact.

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

I answered that above and am in favour of it everywhere in the city. I believe in treating all Calgarians the same. I would not favour one neighbourhood over another. Treat them all the same would be my preference. I would work towards its implementation after discussion with my Council colleagues and community groups. This is a city wide issue and we must find a city wide solution.

- 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.

3. We have a city that takes up a huge area. We need to do more development upwards vs. outwards. We need to encourage more multi level structures close to existing transit and transportation infrastructure. But to think Calgarians don't also enjoy the benefits of suburbs with bigger yards and more open space would be a disservice. We need to do both.

4. Transportation

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

To their credit the City is making positive strides in regards to transportation, but we can do better under my leadership. I believe you accomplish more when working together with other levels of government as opposed to fighting against them. There is only one tax payer and we shall never forget that. Give them the government they have already paid for. When it comes to public transit, let us work with the federal government on cost sharing, continue looking at using more environmentally friendly electricity etc.. But to think we have all the answers is false. We are in an enviable position, our city is not

constrained by bodies of water or other large adjoining municipalities. We have the opportunity to do it right. Many experts have said they'd love to work on the Calgary problem. We need to tap into their expertise and ideas. We need to learn from other urban areas. Under my leadership we will.

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

I have on occasion used the bus, but I have many stops throughout the City to make very day. When I can I try to include the C Train. I use it to attend events at Stampeded Park. When I am early for an event, and do not have to take many items with me downtown I park at the Bridgeland LRT station and take the train from there, but it only allows 2 hour parking. Every day I travel from the deep south in Lake Chaparral to the Brentwood Nursing Home in the NW, the Fanning Centre in the NE, plus many other locations in both SE and SW Calgary. Exclusively using public transportation wouldn't allow me enough time to go everywhere I need to. I use public transit when it is convenient. But I am a realist Calgarians love their vehicles and need them to get children to soccer games, hockey games, driving them sometimes to multiple schools etc. Not everyone travels from point A to point B and home. They often make multiple stops in many different locations.

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

Calgary is still bursting at the seams. We are a city of over a million, but infrastructure for much less. We need to continue adding more. But to that effect I am a proponent of not doing 100% by government funding. I believe we need to find new innovative funding arrangements and we need to include the private sector. Having the government do all of it is unsustainable.

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

Calgary needs new thinking. We seem to concentrate much of our transit planning from the suburbs to the downtown core. We need to encourage and zone the other ends of our LRT lines for Office buildings (and more than those 3 or 4 level ones) In that manner we will utilize both ends of our lines. We are a city of over a million and better start acting like a city headed towards 2 million.

LRT expansion is needed in other areas of Calgary. The west and southeast legs are just two examples. But much has changed since the first plans were drawn up. We need to update those plans. Who would have envisioned 20 years ago that we would no longer have a thriving, active military base. With much of those lands now available for other uses why wouldn't we look at Mount Royal College being along a western expansion of the line? I could not envision a major transportation line not going near a major educational institution.

- 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 am in favour of pursuing routes to both of these locations. Any major metropolitan area would or should, why aren't we?

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

On transit I have personal experience with many friends, acquaintances and my own father who rely on the Handi Bus service. Why do people wait on line so long on the phone to book rides? We need an on line booking option. It is such a problem that long term care residences have asked family to book the trips because it takes their employees too long and is an inefficient use of their employee's time. I encourage folks to try to operate in a wheelchair patients chair and try to book a ride. It would be eye opening to say the least.

We need better service to industrial parks at early hours of the morning. The time some Calgarians have to leave the house to get to their job using public transit is ridiculous.

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 say lead by example. I volunteer with Inn from the Cold and did so the morning of nomination day at my church for breakfast and cleanup. I have recently visited the Drop in Centre and the Mustard Seed during this election campaign. I learned a great deal about what services they offer. Do you know over the last couple of weeks the Drop In Centre has had to turn clients away? Where is this being reported or covered? Can you imagine what will happen when it really gets cold.

I have a special announcement to the Citizens of Calgary, I encourage them to really learn what the Drop In Centre, Mustard Seed, Inn From the Cold, Cups and other agencies are really doing for residence challenged. Only by leading by exam-ple will we make an impact with this issue.

One quick way to accomplish that would be to challenge my Council Colleagues and other politicians to join us by staying at those locations when space allows. I can guarantee you after living under that environment for 3 days we get to serious work on making that problem better.

How society treats its most disadvantaged is reflective of how good that society is. Calgarians are very generous with their time and resources, but we can do better. But we must lead by example and give of our time. I do and shall continue to. What the city gives to the Drop in Centre and Mustard Seed is shemful, we must do better.

Building an emergency shelter out in industrial parks makes little sense to me. It must be where people can catch transit, get a job, have a shower, get a meal, utilize other agencies and get the hand up they need.

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

Arts a vital component of a city, but I believe patrons and business should fund them. We have many generous Calgarians who give of their time and money to these organizations. I encourage people to give more, but we lead by example. I am against the government being the end all.

- 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?

6. I am opposed to government doing what private industry has shown they can do better. First the plan was proposed at \$21 per month then lowered to \$8. What guarantee is there that it won't go up after this election. Encourage people to recycle, don't legislate it, or force it on them. How do you treat those living in condos, apartments or commercial areas? Recycling is crucial to many in this city, we need a plan that is cost effective and meets the needs of Calgarians.

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

I believe one leads by example. I would make sure more recycling drop off locations are easily accessible. In my neighbourhood we are closer to the BFI landfill than a recycling area. Why are Calgarians packing up their vehicles and driving so far to recycle. Burning all that fossil fuel in a gas tank to help the environment doesn't make sense. Make recycling convenient, and then I believe Calgarians will do more. You don't force it upon them, you encourage it and lead by example.

- b. 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 believe we need to give our police force the necessary resources to fight crime. Right now they are facing a recruiting problem, we need to make sure they retain the members they have and are paid what they are worth.

When 911 happened it was New York's emergency services that came to the rescue. We should never forget that. It is our lifeline and we need to treat them like it is. That includes how we negotiate with them, how we fund them and how we work with them.

They are extremely valuable to our city and we need to treat them as such.

I am in favour of continuing to fund positions for security to make LRT use safer, all transit safer.

7. 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?

- b. Is there enough money in the system currently to fund your priorities? If not, how will you fund them?

I am a strong proponent of treating what we spend, like it really is the taxpayer's money. There is only one taxpayer and let us never forget that. We have to live within our means. Calgarians are already over taxed by all 3 levels of government.

8. Political reform.

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

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

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

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