



Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Merle Terleski \_\_\_\_\_

Ward: 7 \_\_\_\_\_

Website, if any: www.merlelistens.com  
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Contact name/number: 245-0242 \_\_\_\_\_

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

Crime, taxes and accountability

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

same

### 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)?

b. Yes on the 1<sup>st</sup> question and yes on Dalhousie

c. 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?

There is certainly a need for more low income housing for the homeless and working poor. However we need to find ways to fund this needed housing w/o raising taxes. Working with local and provincial government as well as private investors is a good way to approach it.

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

Yes to ease the rental crunch.

- e. 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.

I don't think there is much we can do other than ending development all together, and that is something I do not support.

#### **4. Transportation**

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

Allow for a longer stretch of free zone to the Zoo and Stampede Park. I also support making transit and essential service.

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

When needed as my work place is not very accessible to transit in the SE, that is indeed a problem for students etc working at Barlow and 106 ave SE

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

Place more transit underground and have longer C-trains and more frequent bus routes

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

Not aware of it sorry

- 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 I would as it would enable more people to use transit.

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

More accessibility.

## 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.

Homelessness is not something that can be solved quickly, many on the streets have serious drug and drinking problems that need to be addressed before they can be housed in their own place. We need more coordination between the Mustard seed and the Calgary Drop-in Centre. I support the plan to have a fingerprint and ID system at the Drop-in Centre making it safer for patrons and staff. Before any more people lose limbs from frost bite we need a real and immediate solution for homeless people during the cold days and nights

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

No position as of yet.

- 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 do not support increasing property taxes for a City run curb side recycling plan. The response I have heard while door knocking in Ward 7 supports my position. We need more volunteer depot locations across Calgary, but to put local business out of business for the City to run a program makes no sense.

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

Personally I have used recycled material to make my signs.

- 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 allowing more duties that Police currently oversee to be passed over to By-law officers and thus freeing up uniforms for crime prevention and combating drug sales and use. If elected one of my first meetings will be with the new Police Chief of Calgary and provincial Attorney General. Local media reported an arrest in the beltline of someone with 160 drug related charges? This has to stop. We need continued Police support around the Drop-in Centre and area. I also support a City wide ban on aggressive pan handling.

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

there is enough money but we need to look at the City doing less and possible outsourcing, as the City of Winnipeg has done.

## **7. Political reform.**

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

Stop Alderman from accepting donations from City Crown corporations. A motion that Druh Farrell voted no to and Enmax was later on her donation list. Its unethical.

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

c. Are there any other structural reforms you would favour? Change the nomination process day from one day in the morning to a morning and evening.

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