

Calgary 2025 candidate survey

Response Summary

01

Your name

Joanne Birce (Ward 6)

02

Do you support citywide rezoning?

Yes

No

03

Based on your experience, rank these issues based on importance to your voters.

- 1 Citywide rezoning
- 2 Affordability
- 3 Property taxes
- 4 Public safety
- 5 Roads
- 6 Infrastructure
- 7 Housing
- 8 Parks and open spaces
- 9 Better public transit
- 10 City hall transparency

04

Do you support the use of property tax dollars for the downtown office-to-residential conversions? Why or why not?

Downtown revitalization is important if it increases affordable housing, but taxpayers shouldn't carry the risk of private development projects. The City should remove red tape, streamline approvals, and provide fair, predictable regulations. Tax dollars should be focused, time-limited, and tied directly to tangible benefits for all Calgarians, not just developers.

05

Do you believe the City of Calgary has a climate plan that will cost \$87 billion in city tax dollars to implement?

Yes

No

06

When was the last time you participated in a city council meeting in person?

Tuesday September 9 for delaying consideration of the Augusta Village development in Springbank Hill until January 2026 when Ward 6 has a Councillor.

Participant Information



Name

Joanne Birce (Ward 6)

Location

**United States of America
Washington**



Start Time **1st Oct 2025 6:14 PM**

Finish Time **1st Oct 2025 6:18 PM**

Type **Browser**

Platform **Mac OS X 10.15**

Agent **Safari 0.0**

Source **dvkrause.survey.fm/ca...**

07

What role should the City of Calgary play in dealing with mental health and addiction?

Mental health and addictions are serious issues that affect families, neighbourhoods, and public safety. However, they are primarily the responsibility of the province's Recovery Alberta, which has the expertise, mandate, and funding to provide treatment and medical care. I believe the City should focus on its core responsibilities and let appropriate levels of government take the lead in their areas of jurisdiction. The City's role in mental health should be focused and practical: •Public Safety and Support: We need to ensure our streets, transit, and public spaces remain safe for all Calgarians, while working alongside first responders and social agencies to connect vulnerable people with the right services. •Seek partnerships, not duplication: The City should partner with the province, nonprofits, and community organizations rather than duplicating services. For example, the City's role through FCSS. By investing in prevention programs, youth supports, and community services delivered by nonprofits, we can help people earlier, reduce strain on first responders, and get better value for taxpayers. FCSS is a great example of how the City can partner with the province and community, rather than duplicating expensive health services. •Core Municipal Mandate: The City needs to concentrate municipal resources on things only the City can do—like zoning, housing approvals, bylaws, and ensuring supportive housing developments are located appropriately.

08

When you are making promises at the doors, are you informing voters on where the money will come from or what you will cut to make it happen?

✓ Yes.

No.

09

Statement: The City of Calgary should continue building new communities on its outer fringe. Agree or disagree and why?

I support balanced growth. As a fiscal conservative, I believe growth must pay for itself. Every new community comes with long-term costs like roads, transit, fire halls, water, and sewer that the City must maintain forever. The City should prioritize maintaining and upgrading existing neighborhoods and infrastructure before committing scarce tax dollars to subsidize new fringe developments.

10

More, less or the same?

	MORE	LESS	SAME
Bike lanes		✓	
Transit frequency	✓		
Pothole fixes	✓		
Public engagement	✓		
Density			✓
Parks	✓		
Police officers	✓		
Trees	✓		
Fire service	✓		

11

Choose the option that best represents your position on property taxes.

Increase by population growth + inflation.

Property tax cut.

Increase by inflation only.

Fluctuate year to year based on needs.

No clue.

✓ **Other: I support a one-year tax freeze while new Councillors take a very detailed look at the budget and determine where we are trying to do too much and where we can do more with less (such as the previous SAVE initiative). Depending on what we identify, I would aim in subsequent years to increase by no more inflation, although possibly including an allowance for population growth if warranted. I believe property and business taxes in Calgary are too high for the value residents and businesses are getting. I'll work to rein in spending, cut waste, and ensure taxpayer dollars go to the essentials people rely on every day. Calgarians deserve good value for their money, and right now, we're not seeing that balance.**

12

What's the best alignment option for the downtown portion of Calgary's Green Line?

Elevated line.

Below ground.

Whatever way the province will fund.

✓ **No downtown Green Line**

13

What role should the City of Calgary play, if any, in ensuring there is adequate, affordable starter housing stock, or rentals available for young Calgarians?

Housing affordability is a serious issue for young Calgarians, but the City must not duplicate what the private sector and other levels of government are better equipped to deliver. The City's role should be to:

- Remove barriers: Streamline permitting, speed up approvals, and cut red tape so builders can bring starter homes and rental units to market faster and at lower cost.
- Enable supply, don't subsidize it: Ensure land-use policies allow a healthy mix of housing types, including starter homes, townhouses, and rental projects, without the City trying to play developer.
- Partner strategically: Work with the province, federal government, and nonprofit sector where subsidies are provided, so that City taxpayers aren't left footing the entire bill.
- Focus on infrastructure: Make sure core services (roads, transit, water, sewers) keep pace with growth, so new developments are viable without hidden costs to taxpayers.

14

On a scale from 1 to 5 (5 being of utmost importance), please rank the pursuit of these initiatives.

	1	2	3	4	5
Airport to DT rail				✓	
Green Line north				✓	
Olympics-like event		✓			
Net zero emissions by 2035		✓			
High speed rail to Edmonton		✓			
Prairie Economic Gateway			✓		
Foothills Multisport Fieldhouse				✓	
Calgary to Banff rail		✓			
West Village creosote remediation				✓	
Regional rail transit				✓	

15

What would you do to improve the City of Calgary's public engagement?

Public engagement builds trust and leads to better decisions when residents know their voices matter. The City should make the process simpler and more cost-effective by using plain-language surveys, online town halls, and targeted outreach to those most directly affected. Online engagement tools can expand participation, capture more data, and be more cost-effective. Finally, Council must show how community feedback influenced the outcome, so engagement is a meaningful tool for accountability and stronger communities.

