

Making Choices That Matter Phase 3 Community Conversation Cafes May 2012 Community Service and Protective Services

Total Number of Participants: 203

Note: Not all respondents answered ALL of the questions.

COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES					
ANIMAL AND BYLAW	Increases: 10	Decreases: 10	Leave as Is: -	Eliminate: 2	N/A: 2
COMMENTS RELATED TO INCREASES:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can see the difference this department has made and would like to see more education for a pro-active approach. • The non-smoking signs outside public buildings are not adhered to. The general public needs to be informed to be more vocal and "report" smokers ignoring the signs. Seniors need to be helped to encourage them to stay in their own homes and neighbourhoods as long as possible. • It is clear by the time issues, which arise when a complaint is made to one of these Divisions that they don't have enough staff or are understaffed. • It is important to my family that the Animal Shelters/Humane Society adopts a "No-Kill" Policy (except for extreme cases). Please increase the budget by a sufficient amount to make "No-Kill" feasible. • As a Ramsay resident and a resident who lives dangerously close to Lilydale Chicken slaughterhouse, I have witnessed multiple ammonia leaks from Lilydale into the Ramsay community. These disasters have never been handled appropriately. The community isn't informed when a disaster strikes at Lilydale. The City doesn't enforce By-laws with regard to Lilydale (e.g. noise, traffic, garbage, parking, waste, etc.) Lilydale refuses to produce an emergency response plan (ERP) that includes the residents. The City needs to enforce the city by-laws and provide options for non-conforming un-neighbourly industrial neighbours to either shape-up or ship-out. Industry adjacent to residents doesn't work. Fix it! • To respond to citizen complaints in a more timely manor. • The management of dogs in parks is not sufficient. Too many dogs run free and create accidents. • Animal bylaw: Re-think graffiti as public art rather than vandalism with the right program in place. Considered public art/recreation (move to recreation) • Train bylaw to offer alternatives or programs to assist them. • Increase - Particularly education piece of citizen responsibility & proactive enforcement of general public safety, bylaw, i.e.: snow clearing, encroachment of sidewalks by trees and business? Citizens should not be required to 					

"snitch" on their neighbours to have bylaw standard maintained.

COMMENTS RELATED TO DECREASES:

- Of all the required services, I believe free animal clinics are the least warranted. If I don't have a pet because I can't afford one, why would I pay for others through my tax dollars?
- Decrease - Too many dogs & cats. We should have a smaller limit per household, charge more for license. Exotic pets should not be allowed. Charge for dog park use.
- They will not be affected at all if the excessive costs of running the city are bringing the costs to acceptable levels.
- With Animal Services, if a pet owner loses their pet they are charged a fee. What is the yearly licensing fee used for then?
- While I believe the departments budget overall should be increased, I believe Animal and By-law Services should be decreased by 10%. I considered my own personal experiences with this department and felt it was very much a make work project that adds little value.
- Too many dogs & cats per household. As the city grows with larger population at the rate of increase of dogs & cats especially (dogs) we could be over run by animals & budget.
- Spayed & neutered pets (if you can afford to feed an animal, then you should pay the fees)
- Graffiti removal: businesses can pay more for the removal services. What happened for the free service (GRIT) that was actually dealing with offenders

COMMENTS RELATED TO ELIMINATION

- People in this city do not have accommodation and do not have enough food. Better to have tax dollars than animals.
- Animal and By-law Services Animal X-ray, EKG, Dental work
- Subsidized pet care - spaying, neutering etc. User Pay Person choice and responsibility. Pay for your pet.
- Bylaw Services - Graffiti removal program - stop spending money to remove graffiti - spend money to support talented graffiti artists so that they can contribute to beautiful public art spaces (Melbourne, Oz as a great example).

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

- 1 - Implement noise bylaws right away 2 - Don't delay like smoking bylaw 3 - Get car & bike tested for noise when you get your license
- Animal and bylaw services - should be more self-sustaining through fees and fines.
- Bylaw - enforcement of bylaw is insufficient - for example water wastage is enforceable but they don't come.
- Especially dog/cat spaying for low income. Spay/Neuter - fee for service. Feed a pet costs money and time. Animal services - dogs & cats roaming community. I don't think homeowners who do not have pets or who are responsible pet owners should have to put up with dogs and cats digging and messing in their flowerbeds or on their lawns. I feel when the owners of these animals are identified they should be dealt with by receiving heavier fines.

CALGARY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY	Increases: 2	Decreases: 2	Leave as Is: -	Eliminate: -	N/A: 4
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GENERAL COMMENTS:

- They will not be affected at all if the excessive costs of running the city are bringing the costs to acceptable levels.
- We should only need a skeleton of an operation that aids Fire, CPS, volunteers, etc.
- 911 & non-emergency line

	Increases:	Decreases:	Leave as Is:	Eliminate:	N/A:
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CALGARY FIRE DEPARTMENT	9	6	2	-	4
COMMENTS RELATED TO INCREASES:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By-Law Services the non-smoking sign outside public buildings are not adhered to. The general public needs to be informed to be more vocal and "report" smokers ignoring the signs. Seniors need to be helped to encourage them to stay in their own homes and neighbourhoods as long as possible. • We need safe complete communities with amenities (e.g. recreation centre, swimming pools, library, police, fire stations, etc.) • The budget for the Fire Department should definitely not be decreased, however, each individual community should pay accordingly for its own respective fire station, new or otherwise, through property taxes. • Staff new fire stations where they are needed in new communities. Add resources to 911 to answer increased volume of 911 calls. • Fire - essential service increase by 1.1 					
COMMENTS RELATED TO DECREASES:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reorganize the Calgary Fire Department to achieve an organizational structure that is less top heavy. Why are there so many Deputy Chiefs? Why are there so many Battalia Chiefs? It seems to me that the Battalia Chiefs are more important than the Deputy Chiefs. Either way, Calgary Fire Department is top heavy. • Build fewer new fire halls. Adopt realistic standards. Calgary's response time is arbitrary. • Fire Dept. has way too many Deputy Chiefs (17 of them). These upper-management salaries need to be *reallocated* to help put the money where it counts for firefighters on the front lines! • Too much funding is going to lavish fire department buildings. • Have them charge for items that are not emergency e.g.: cat in tree, pump out houses, clean up after accidents, etc. • Supply & demand - high supply of fire fighter even in voluntary dept. across province - focus on training & equipment. 					
COMMENTS RELATED TO STATUS QUO:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are essential services that should not reduce budget • Calgary Fire Department - Do no decrease. 					
GENERAL COMMENTS:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charge for cats up a tree. Charge for accident clean up. Cost recovery on business accidents. 					
COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES	Increases: 47	Decreases: 4	Leave as Is: 1	Eliminate: 3	N/A: 5
COMMENTS RELATED TO INCREASES:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can't imagine what difference it would make to reduce funding to any of these BU's by only 5%. Small investments (5%) would also be difficult to allocate. Best "bang for the buck" would come from doubling the dollars invested in Civic Partners. Reducing services in other BU's increases obligations of civic society to pick up the slack - but citizens need help. Therefore, more dollars to external agencies to assist with service delivery. • General • By-Law Services the non-smoking signs outside public buildings are not adhered to. The general public needs to be informed to be more vocal and "report" smokers ignoring the signs. Seniors need to be helped to encourage them to stay in their own homes and neighbourhoods as long as possible. • There is no infrastructure or programs for youth (e.g. before/after school programs, youth program, etc.) • Civic partners are often inaccessible to many as they are unaffordable to many. Increase subsidies for these programs so that average families can enjoy. Calgary Housing is often horrendous. Increase dollars for maintenance. 					

- Build a poverty reduction plan and then work to implement it. Increase children's programs. Expand Calgary having affordable housing. Maintain low-income transit passes. Implement fair Calgary.
- Increase to Neighbourhood Services for community-based services but cut support services to community associations that are not financially accountable or who are not providing services to their communities. Organize CEMA to start delivering services, as they are totally unorganized at present.
- It is clear by the time issues, which arise when a complaint is made to one of these Divisions, that they don't have enough staff or are understaffed.
- Increase seniors card fee by \$1.00. We won't miss it. Even if a family membership was increased by \$2.00 maximum, the service return is worth it. The provincial government must be involved in extra funding for the new library comes 2012. Suggest it be taken from the Lotteries Fund. As important as the Stampede! Programs and activities offered by the CPL in every quadrant of the city are absolutely excellent and should be recognized by City Council in some official big splashy way at council meeting! Soon! Take Wayne Stewart's idea of twinning yearly passes to the Zoo, Heritage Park, Fort Calgary, Science Centre for a yearly pass (x) X 4 = \$7.00 and allow for low income subsidies. This measure would greatly add to the quality of life in Calgary.
- Our community services, recreation and neighbourhood programs are essential to the social health of our city. Any increased investment in recreation before and after school programs, and community social services will pay off in spades. This is how families become contributing members of their communities, how children grow up healthy and educated and become good citizens and how the partnership with a vast array of community agencies leverages the value of our tax dollars. We need to increase our contribution to FCSS. I know from all the volunteer hours that I put into our wonderful community agencies that the funds that go toward supporting those organizations are multiplied many times by not only the provincial dollars that support FCSS, but also the United Way, Calgary Found, service club and private donation monies these groups survive on. It's mind blowing the services that are provided and the impact they have. But the needs far exceed the funds available and addressing these needs would reduce the need for expensive services such as emergency services and community policing. I am specifically anxious to see a new downtown library. It should be a state of the art building designed as a vibrant community centre. The current library already offers a wide variety of programs, but that could be expanded and the ability to host more community gatherings, meetings, events could be possible with a larger, flexible central library. Make it a building for the needs of the city, 50-60 years out, when we'll be 2 million. Don't cut corners!
- Greater investment in social infrastructure/services/capital leads to happier, healthier communities that reduce need for emergency response/police services.
- Specifically, I would like to see an increase in community and neighbourhood services. Building and strengthening communities and support services within communities will help to address the root causes of poverty, violence, racism, sexism, heterosexism, homophobia, classism, etc. Change needs to come structurally and communities and community programs are a huge part of the answer.
- FCSS has not kept up with inflation in the past 10 years, which has created a challenge for profits/clarities. Not being able to maintain competitive salaries for social workers has caused a decrease in quality service and a high risk to clients. By the city matching the Province by 30%, as opposed to the approved 25%, it will provide the resources to hire and maintain qualified staff and increase support to the vulnerable sector. The budget could be increased by community services or realigned to better support FCSS.
- The economic crisis and ever-increasing cost in Calgary are the contributing factors of poverty issues. We work with immigrant seniors who depend on their family to support them. When their children cannot even support themselves, seniors need support to meet their basic needs such as housing, food, and transportation. The funding by FCSS has no increase for so many years and this leads to huge waiting list for services. The staff in the agencies are underpaid with ever-increasing workload. They cannot stay in their jobs to make a living. The situation is very serious in maintaining quality services to meet the needs of a vulnerable population such as seniors and immigrants.
- CNS is a service working directly in the day-to-day lives of Calgarians. These business areas are more often than any other business area the stewards of the relationship between the corporation & its citizens; they need to be better supported in this endeavor.

- Building stronger communities is related to building strong civic engagement and a strong civil society sector. Money spent here will benefit what? As? Society is an effective partner (the?? is private sector) Engage the community groups in meaningful & relevant ways before providing more funding. Spend money to reach out to barriered folks who do not use services because they do not know they exist!
- CNS increased to support community associations that in turn provide great benefit for community residents.
- \$I do not have enough info to comment\$ Increase Community & Neighbourhood services Increase Parks Decrease Recreation I believe the social services, affordable programming & benefits of partnership development CNS is engaged in is more sustainable and (potentially) impactful than the services provided by recreation. While I greatly value recreation's intended purpose, I see a majority of facility based programs and services more as a financially minded revenue stream albeit for cost recovery, program support or fundraising. I would like to see CSPA receive more overall funding for CNS & Parks, and would also decrease the Recreation budget to increase budget for these other departments.
- Youth homelessness. Employment opportunities. Increases for social services agencies.
- City has grown considerably & the human & quality of life needs of citizens is growing while resources have remained at the same levels with little or no growth - Facilities are aging, homelessness & visible poverty is on the increase & police budget are growing. More prevention dollars needed in FCSS to promote services to Calgarians not increase policing.
- These units are currently significantly underfunded. They touch the lives for the better all Calgarians. These are universal needs.
- It is vitally important to enhance and grow community supports. Increased funding for FCSS benefits the families in the Calgary communities. Capacity to support non-profit groups that work with risk groups must expand or risk increases and negative impact to @ risk families will occur.
- By increasing the municipal share to FCSS it will also increase the other contributors i.e.: the province & the non-profit \$ leveraged. Also Family Community Service has programs preventing problems that will save money later on.
- I feel all areas in community & protective services are important, and will require increases to maintain, or respond to increased demand. So, of all areas, I feel animal & bylaw services would best be able to take a decrease in order to maintain or increase all other areas.
- 1 - # in population continues to increase. 2 - Slow or incorrect responses continue. 3 - Lack of services available still not known. 4 - The demand for service exceeds our agencies budget always.
- More venues (soccer domes, arenas) can offset partly with increased user fees. More info @ Fee Assistance Program.
- Make communities livable. Supporting seniors so they can live independently. Keep seniors engaged in a community.
- Increase municipal contribution to 40 cents. This would increase the provincial contribution. This would restore sector to current cost & that have not been net for over 10 years.
- Specifically for FCSS matching \$. By increasing the municipal contribution to FCSS it will increase the provincial; non-profit \$ leveraged. This in turn quite likely would decrease need for police services.
- Significant increase should occur in community neighbourhood services. Social services can provide a "preventative" approach to social issues rather than being "reactive".
- FCSS is underfunded. Community support of programs is necessary.
- \$60M - We need a sharper focus on the people in the city as using services and less on the services as services. Planning & development needs to include the growing demographic of older citizens and immigrants over the next 20 - 30 years. Each business unit could use a social planner to help interpret the unique service needs for each segment of the population for the services of each business unit - to compliment the input of the Business Planners.
- I would like to see an increase in budget for recreational fee assistance, as many lower middle-income families cannot afford to participate in recreation. Community and neighbourhood services have had a budget that is not increasing with the size and scope of needs in Calgary. With a larger city comes new challenges and preventative services need to be sustainable and proactive.

- We need to invest more into neighbourhood recreation complexes & social service agencies. By doing so we are impacting families & society at a base level. With healthy families & healthy communities, we will not need as much funding for police & protection. Plus if we CEASE urban sprawl & have a denser population with schools, shops, recs, libraries & agencies all easily accessible we will become a more community oriented city. More combined use complexes i.e. recreation & library & agencies.
- FCSS, a division of community & neighbourhood services focuses on prevention. For every dollar invested \$7 - \$13 is saved on more expensive services including policing justice & others.
- Strengthening of community is essential for a safe, healthy Calgary. Continue to address the barriers to full participation - economically and socially. Facilitate the integration of newcomers and immigrants into Calgary community. In the coming years, Calgary net-growth will be 100% dependent on newcomers. TO continue to be a vibrant community we must be pro-active facilitating newcomer integration.
- \$13.2M to reduce over time for community & neighbourhood services \$1.6 for CEMA. Social programs are stretched and unable to meet need. Increased \$\$ would increase orgs capacity reduce recidivism. The budget for CEMA is alarmingly low should look at increasing over time, after initial \$1.6M boost.
- Someone might not stay on the phone for necessary services. Give the public a chance to have their services done properly.
- To increase and provide services to the family, seniors

COMMENTS RELATED TO DECREASES:

- They will not be affected at all if the excessive costs of running the city are bringing the costs to acceptable levels.
- No funding of special interest groups
- Comm & Neigh - these are social services that apply to other orders of gov't decrease by 2.2
- Community Association leases can be increased from the current \$1 a year. Realistically, if an organization cannot afford \$10, \$50 or even \$100 a year, should they hold the lease? There are many other groups in a community that could.

COMMENTS RELATED TO STATUS QUO:

- These communities support the less advantaged people in this city. There are more and more poor people in Calgary. It is getting out of control and they need supports from all levels of government.
- Calgary Art Development - continue to support & grow.

COMMENTS RELATED TO ELIMINATE:

- The city does not need this department. It can be reduced to a shell with only a shell group of staff needed as liaison. There is nothing the city does through CNS that isn't already being done by the non-profit sector. It is in fact, a duplication of what already exists out there. Channel those budgetary dollars through FCSS to support already existing, already highly functioning community agencies out there who are already effectively doing this work and much more efficiently too! We don't need a bunch of RSA's simply facilitating seniors groups!
- Youth Probation Services The city should focus on prevention and not be part of delivering a provincial enforcement program. I considered who really owns this service (the province) The need for prevention (youth crime, children and youth activities) The true cost of delivering youth probation services, which exceeds the total funding received by the city from the province. I also considered youth probation services refusal to hire qualified individuals who are not registered social workers. As well, I considered their history-based arguments for continuing to provide this service (which is no longer relevant).
- Employment prep services & youth employment centre - not in city. This should be an independent or other order of gov't service.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

- Community and Neighbourhood services - Invest in people.

- CNS - afterschool - keeps the kids in a safe place. Where are these kids going - someone should be looking after them. Locations for afterschool programs - where do these take place?
- Community Centres - Charge them \$100/ month. Run after school core out of community centres - it will increase revenues.
- FCSS represent 132 agencies that support thousands of Calgarians in all aspects of social need. Neutral well being. This is currently being done on 1986 dollars. It is time for FSCC to be allocated 5 - 10M more a year in order to catch up to the demand Calgary's social safety net. How many departments at the city would have survived on 1986 dollars? FCSS is an investment in Calgary's future financial
- Animal & Bylaw services - 11.5 Community & Neighbourhood services 26.8 Calgary Fire Department 179.9 Parks 78.6 Public Safety Communications 19.4 (911) Calgary Emergency Management Agency 3.4 Recreation 42.4 CNS knows the community best
- Stronger neighbourhoods equal stronger cities.
- A "landmark" public library is not necessary; currently program, computer & materials space has been taken over for offices. Many of the people and collections currently housed in the central library could be moved off-site to less expensive real estate. (Offices, admin, HR, local history, magazine back-issues, storage of supplies, technical services & processing of books, etc.) The library could relocate these non essential, non-public services and focus on a library space that provides some space for materials, programs & public gathering spaces (flexible-not "fixed" walls), computer or wireless access, and parking to encourage after-hours use and maybe to create a self-supporting revenue stream. It could also be a "shared" facility like the suburban library & rec complexes. We could even have multiple library locations in the core to serve different needs.

PARKS	Increases: 18	Decreases: 5	Leave as Is: 2	Eliminate: 0	N/A: 4
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COMMENTS RELATED TO INCREASES:

- I can't imagine what difference it would make to reduce funding to any of these BU's by only 5%. Small investments (5%) would also be difficult to allocate. Best "bang for the buck" would come from doubling the dollars invested in Civic Partners. Reducing services in other BU's increases obligations of civic society to pick up the slack - but citizens need help. Therefore, more dollars to external agencies to assist with service delivery.
- The "middle" neighbourhoods are being forgotten, (middle i.e. not obviously be rejuvenated, not new) not well planned at the time. These areas in Calgary do little to encourage residents to enjoy where they live.
- I have noted a marked decrease in the condition and maintenance of our parks, green spaces and centres. Nature is very important to me and I support the urban forest project. More and more, we in the inner-city are losing on beautiful mature trees to developers making lots to put up "wall to wall" buildings. Not pretty!
- I believe this "unit" has the greatest impact on Calgarians on a daily basis (next to transit). Maintain park dollars. Do not increase user fees as it affects family recreation activities and pet ownership \$102.00 for 2 dogs is enough. Our green pathway system and parks - Glenmore, Bowness, Stanley Park are the best thing about Calgary. Cuts can always be found in administration.
- Please allocate additional funds into increasing and maintaining dog parks.
- Increase 1 Million for Nose Hill Park Pathways
- More green space. Money for revitalization projects like the Bow to Bluff Parkway.
- Restructure Calgary Parking Authority. Provide more funds for parks and more green space generally
- Parks provide critical service/resources to communities. Allow Calgarians to experience a variety of outdoor activities. Allow citizens to connect w/ nature. Work on behalf of city to protect natural areas in new communities.
- Parks - health & wellness of city & citizens increase by 1.4
- Increase much more - More flowers & shrubs! More baskets. More & better street trees they are best investment. More parks-in squares (small parks). Transfer from parking lots to parks. Less hand surface, more shale. More beauty. 80 yrs ago Calgary had more flowers i.e. CPR gardens! (Postcards).
- Prioritize 1 - Inglewood Pool upgrade. 2 - Waterway cleanliness, toilet, garbage access

- Although I can't say or give an amount or percentage by which the park's budget should be increase, it is essential to keep a healthy amount (more than the 78.6M currently used) to see it that hard working people and lovers of the outdoors have clean and safe parks where they can diffuse, bring their children and find refuge.

COMMENTS RELATED TO DECREASES:

- Parks - Less mowing, etc. is fine. They are parks, not manicured lawns.
- Mowing Boulevards - Reduce mowing Plant tougher grasses Plant xeriscaping landscape Trees - Don't plant sensitive trees Plant native trees Plant more coniferous trees which don't require pruning Watering - Reduce watering
- Government should let private sectors "look after" areas like Golf Courses. Contract out more Parks and Recreation Services.

COMMENTS RELATED TO STATUS QUO

- Money spent on hanging baskets on the mall is well spent. What a lift when you walk down the mall. Same for barrel pots in front of City Hall and Olympic Park. Is 17 Avenue in Forest Lawn decorated? Redirect "fish money" to planters. Maybe someday expanding the idea to other main streets in the city if not already decorated with baskets. I assume 17 Avenue and Marda Loop and Kensington and 45 Street SW are already decorated. Is Olympic Park lit up at Christmas like Civic Square in Edmonton?
- They are essential services that should not reduce budget.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

- Charge more for items e.g.: Ice time user pays not all city tax payers e.g.: minor hockey
- Please don't let Council get stupid and ban spraying. We all know Council is dominated by tree-huggers who know nothing about science and have no scientific literacy. All pesticides are not harmful - do your homework! If we allow a mess to develop due to proliferation of weeds, that will affect economic activity and attraction of new residents and new businesses.
- Increase Parks resources to match increase in land given to the city as new communities develop.
- Parks - Clean them up. They look untidy especially over by zoo. Better visibility near pathways. More garbage cans.
- Devonian Gardens should have \$3.00 user fee. Amalgamate Parks & Rec.
- Parks: turn city parks into permaculture and places for growing local food. Considered: long-term financial sustainability (permaculture landscapes will cost less over time); environment sustainability (no pesticides are required); social gains (building community and local food security).
- Parks - creating spaces keeping in mind our aging population.
- Parks -User-fees for Devonian Gardens
- Need education about who does what maintenance within parks. Bike lanes - if it's utilized well - put \$ into those it's not being used in certain seasons, this is not a good use of money. Put money where there is need - cleaning parks year round is not NEEDED. It's nice, but not needed.
- Parks - Volunteers are good for maintenance. If I have to look for areas that need maintenance. I want a road - n so much parks. It's leisure. Could have user fees for parks.

	Increases:	Decreases:	Leave as Is:	Eliminate:	N/A:
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS	7	2	-	-	-

COMMENTS RELATED TO INCREASES:

- General
- 911 & non emergency line
- Increase recreational facilities in Calgary's new neighbourhoods. Build playfields for soccer.

COMMENTS RELATED TO DECREASES:

- Stop all the overtime - paying way too much for this.
- They will not be affected at all if the excessive costs of running the city is bringing the costs to acceptable levels.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

- Part of increase decrease (reallocations) emergency management decrease fun .3 savings recreation increase by 10.5 all of quality of life is here all the additional fundraising by private sector is ludicrous, city investment in cuts/capital way below most of Canadian cities. Must be increased.

RECREATION	Increases: 17	Decreases: 1	Leave as Is: -	Eliminate: -	N/A: 20
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COMMENTS RELATED TO INCREASES:

- The SE Community (e.g. McKenzie Lake, Cronston, Auburich Bay, New Brighton), etc. has no recreational facility (swimming pools, etc.) There are ones in NW, NE, SW, but not SE.
- We need better communication with our schools. They have gyms and rooms that could be utilized to deliver more programming.
- Increase and have a reduced no cost for children in low incomes.
- Increase dollars to Recreation. Expand fee assistance program.
- Calgary is so behind other communities in Canada. We require recreation and a field house in Calgary so people can be active. If people are active then they are part of a healthier community. Access for all!
- The value of recreation in any city is imperative for establishing a repetitive, better-recognized city. Promoting culture, fitness and overall health and wellness of the city provides greater migration and tourism in the city. Examples: Montreal - culture, Las Vegas - gambling/entertainment, New York - business oriented. Perhaps develop Calgary to be an athletic outdoors city, more than it is currently.
- Increase number of library services/opening hours, increase literacy in the city, and increase education of population. Promote active lifestyle. Build new/renovate old recreational facilities to attract more citizens to use public recreation facilities. New attractions in Calgary to bring tourists and engage residents. Zoo, Heritage Park, Fort Calgary are all aging. Dump the civic art - it's a waste of money - fund artists and galleries instead.
- More green space. Money for revitalization projects like the Bow to Bluff Parkway
- Increase funding to arts & culture & ensure year round programming in Olympic Plaza. Formally sponsor Doors Open Calgary. Provide funding for proper stewardship of the Municipal Art Collection.
- The importance of exercise can never be overstated. \$42.4M is simply not enough. It significantly handicaps the city in becoming a centre of Art & Culture. Our city needs to be more vibrant. More money will be needed if there is to be a match between the economic development and the cultural life.
- More money to increase accessibility in terms of affordability & cultivate/religious accessibility.
- We need far greater than a 5% increase, however private enterprise can assist by providing for profit services as they do in other cities in Canada, e.g.: Rinks in Burnaby cater to the beer league hockey adult set, easing demand on public subsidized spaces for kids - 18 yrs. old and younger.
- Staff should be helping sports groups get fields, repair buildings, etc., instead of imposing roadblocks and red tape. Volunteer groups need to be treated with more respect. Some CRC's are good, some not so good and should be removed. How much dollar is spent on the salaries of useless CRC's? Fire - we need more departments but fewer chiefs. By-law is great! Great people working there, well run group.
- Library, zoo, pools, sports centre. Think to eliminate the library card fee. Exempt the entrance fee for seniors to use the recreation facilities example - zoo, library, and pools, sports centre. If the city doesn't have recreation centres in certain districts example - inner city/China town, think about to subsidize the pass fee for low-income people to use the private recreation centre. (Example YMCA)
- Allocate resources to the proposed new downtown library.
- Library, Zoo, Pools, Sports Centre Library cards should be free Zoo pass should be more affordable for people on a fixed income. Subsidy for use of private facilities such as pools (YMCA), gyms within the inner city (China town)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in arts, culture & libraries. • Increase some.
<p>COMMENTS RELATED TO ELIMINATION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation - Fee Assistance Program (and all other reduced fees "programs" for people living on low-income) should NOT be separate forms/processes. Consolidate to save time, money & protect people's dignity.
<p>ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$7M • Recreation - should be user fees. Why is Calgary Zoo funded when the entrance fees keep going up? Not accessible to low income users. • Funding for recreation is to provide AFFORDABLE accessible recreation facilities that welcome newcomers to Canada and immigrant communities. • Community Services & protective Services Maintenance of community soccer fields Community is putting money into own maintenance and then see city not maintaining at their end and their contribution has gone to waste - happened for last 2 years - community seeded but city did not water. • More recreational groups should be given leases to city owned land if they are willing to pay for the maintenance and up keep. Possibly with a bond to secure the facility.
<p>GENERAL COMMENTS (COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of these services are important for developing a sense of community. We are especially behind in recreation and need to improve athletically and have more complete recreation centres. • This increase includes reference to three service areas - Animal and Bylaw Services, Parks, and Recreation • Healthy communities impact happiness of people. • Citizens experiencing the stress resulting from ecumenical downturn - program cuts are going - the community social agencies for advice support counseling and help! FCSS funding support for these agencies has NOT increased substantially over the past 5 years. Studies show that \$1 going to prevention programs results in \$10 - 13 in saving to emergent & interceptive programs - Justice, Police, Health - therefore a \$20 M increase could result in a savings of \$200 - \$250 5 - 10 years from now. Put less emphasis on what to do about this problem & more emphasis on how we could have prevented it from happening. • The southeast quadrant of the city requires a recreation facility. • Increase dollars to units that really impact people's lives. • Community - Owners need to be fiscally responsible for their own buildings (i.e.: community centres, city leases etc.)