**Catch up on our Home & Small Business webinar series**While webinars take a break for the summer, watch our previously recorded sessions or let us know what topics you want to learn more about by sharing your feedback [here](https://forms.calgary.ca/content/forms/af/public/public/home---small-business-webinars-feedback-survey.html). New webinar topics will be launching in September, stay in the know by visiting [calgary.ca/webinar](https://www.calgary.ca/property-owners/maintenance-webinars.html?redirect=/webinar).

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**Provide input on The City of Calgary’s Housing Strategy**

Housing is a basic need for everyone. Calgary has grown significantly over the past few years and right now, there are more Calgarians struggling to afford or find a home that meets their needs.

The City of Calgary’s Housing Strategy is being updated to foster a more equitable, inclusive, and affordable housing market in Calgary. It will support all aspects of the housing continuum, ensuring individuals have access to safe, affordable housing.

The strategy includes a detailed implementation plan outlining actions we can take as a City to address the housing crisis and remove barriers to housing affordability and economic prosperity. The plan incorporates six recommendations and 33 actions from the Housing and Affordability Task Force which were presented to Council in June.

The refreshed strategy and implementation plan will be reviewed at the Community Development Committee Meeting on Sept. 14. Calgarians will have the opportunity to have their voices heard at that meeting.

Learn more and sign up to participate at calgary.ca/housingstrategy.

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**Excitement builds for Green Line and the Airport Transit Connector**

City Council has approved RouteAhead, the 30-year strategic plan for Calgary Transit. The feedback received from Council, Administration, and the public combine to guide the long-term plan for Calgary Transit. RouteAhead lists 16 Council-approved projects to grow the Primary Transit Network, including Green Line and the Airport Transit Connector.

RouteAhead ranks Green Line as having the highest benefits score (99/100) on the list of 16 future transit projects. Benefits were analyzed using five weighted categories: ridership, customer experience, economic, social and environmental benefits.

The criteria weighting focuses on maximizing benefits for the most customers, and highlights associated positive outcomes from projects. Green Line Stage 1 benefits include job creation, improved connections, reduced emissions, enhanced green spaces along the alignment and community revitalization.

In 2020, Council approved Stage 1 of the Green Line, from Shepard to 16 Avenue North, and following provincial and federal reviews, it was approved by all funding partners in 2021.

RouteAhead also outlines plans for a future Airport Transit Connector, linking the Blue Line and Green Line to the airport. A connection to the Calgary International Airport from Green Line in the west at 96 Ave NE to Blue Line in the east at 88 Ave NE, will bring travelers and employees to and from the Calgary International Airport, with key stops in the surrounding industrial areas.

Phase 1 of the Green Line will provide Calgarians with fast, frequent, and reliable transit service to communities, activity centres, main streets, tourist destinations and essential services.

For details, see the RouteAhead report at [calgary.ca/RouteAhead](https://engage.calgary.ca/routeahead).

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**Essential Tips for Preparing Children for Emergencies**

With kids returning to school, now is the perfect time to review your home emergency preparedness plan so your family is ready for anything.

Emergencies and disasters affect children and adults, but the impact of emergencies can carry more weight for children because they may have to deal with situations they don’t have the skills to handle. As adults, we know Calgary is no stranger to emergencies and disasters, so how do we prepare our little ones? Whether it’s heavy rain, hail, power outages or extreme cold, disasters can happen at any time of year, sometimes with little to no warning.

There are four key steps we can all take to help prepare for an emergency:

1. Talk to your kids about disaster risks in Calgary
2. Include them in your household’s emergency planning
3. Look for opportunities to learn more about emergency preparedness
4. As a family, walk through how to prepare your home for an emergency

The Ready Squad e-course was designed to teach your kids about Calgary’s disaster and emergency risks, how they can prepare, what they can do to stay safe during an emergency, and what they can expect after. Children can also download the Junior Weather Forecaster’s Challenge – a fun and creative way for the whole family to learn more about the weather and its effects in Calgary.

Visit [calgary.ca/ReadySquad](https://www.calgary.ca/emergencies/preparedness/ready-squad-kids-course.html?redirect=/readysquad) to find out more.

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**Come celebrate the opening of Haskayne Legacy Park** – **Calgary’s newest regional park**

The City of Calgary and partners are pleased to invite you to the opening celebration of Haskayne Legacy Park, our newest 126-hectare regional park. At Haskayne, traditional western ranchlands come alive with spectacular mountain and river views.

**Details:**

**When:** Saturday Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. to noon.

**Where:** 9000 149 Street N.W.

You can drive or take a free shuttle to the park. Alternately, there is a walk or cycle route into Haskayne via the regional pathway from Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park. Visit our [website](https://www.calgary.ca/planning/parks-rec/haskayne-legacy-park.html?redirect=/hlp) for more information about directions, parking, or the shuttle service.

**Who can attend?** Everyone is invited.  
**Why attend?** This free, all-ages, outdoor event to announce the opening of the park will be packed with things to do and displays to enjoy. We will start off with a short ceremony with Dick and Lois Haskayne, Mayor Jyoti Gondek, The City of Calgary, and Glenbow Ranch Park Foundation, followed by a variety of activities for all to enjoy. Bring the kids for wagon rides or golf cart tours of the park or hangout with friends during a walking adventure to see tipis. After, enjoy a free pancake breakfast while listening to live music in a beautiful landscape.

Want to continue the fun? You can hop on our free shuttle service and head over to the Tuscany Harvest Festival at Tuscany Park. Visit [calgary.ca/hlp](https://www.calgary.ca/planning/parks-rec/haskayne-legacy-park.html?redirect=/hlp) for more information and updates on the event.

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**Help plan Calgary’s future for older adults!**

If you have first-hand insight on living as an older adult or as caregiver for an older adult, consider volunteering for the Older Adult Advisory Table and share your ideas. Your expertise will be used to inform strategies and actions for the Age-Friendly Calgary Steering Committee, projects and City of Calgary services. Deadline for online applications is September 13. Visit Calgary.ca/OAAT for details.

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**Be Safe. Watch Out. Park Smart.**

With the excitement of return to school comes many distractions – distractions that can be dangerous for both drivers and children.

This September, The City wants to remind and encourage anyone who is driving kids to school to operate their vehicles safely and responsibly. We ask parents and guardians not to park where it’s prohibited during drop off and pick up times, such as blocking crosswalks, laneways and private driveways.

We know pick up and drop off times can get quite busy. We ask you to give yourself extra time to navigate safely around schools, whether you are walking, wheeling, or driving.

For those who drive, you can help alleviate congestion by parking a block or two away and walking in, wherever possible. And please talk to your kids about safe practices like using crosswalks with patrols, and not jaywalking across the roadways as a shortcut.

Learn more by visiting [calgary.ca/BeSafe](file:///\\Coc\roads\Communications\Traffic%20Mobility%20Operations\Traffic%20Safety\Back%20to%20School\calgary.ca\besafe) and let’s all have a safe school year!

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**Join the Movement Towards a Low Carbon Future: You're invited to a free webinar on Embodied Carbon during the Calgary Climate Symposium**

Embodied carbon refers to the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the production, transportation, installation, maintenance, and disposal of building materials throughout their lifecycle. Join us for [The New Metric – Embodied Carbon](https://www.calgary.ca/environment/climate/climate-change-webinar-series.html) webinar on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.  
The free webinar is in partnership with [Light House](https://www.light-house.org/) and covers:

* The influence of building materials on CO2 emissions
* How embodied carbon shapes building design and frameworks
* The innovations of low-carbon building materials in response to embodied carbon

This is the third webinar in the Going Circular in the Built Environment series and will be hosted as part of the Calgary Climate Symposium. Don't miss this exciting event and learn more about how you can participate and take climate action at [calgary.ca/climatesymposium](https://www.calgary.ca/environment/climate/symposium.html?redirect=/climatesymposium).

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**Celebrate Calgary Culture Days**

Calgary Culture Days takes place September 1 – 30, 2023 and is an opportunity for all Calgarians to discover, experience and celebrate arts and culture in their community, downtown and across the city.

Calgary Culture Days coincides with Alberta Culture Days through the month of September and with National Culture Days, which is celebrated September 22 – October 15, 2023.

Find out more information on Calgary Culture Day events on [calgary.ca/culturedays](https://www.calgary.ca/events/culture-days.html?redirect=/culturedays).

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**Join the conversation around building a greener & healthier city for all at the Calgary Climate Symposium!**

With the increasing frequency of severe weather events, it's clear we need to position ourselves for a low carbon future and strengthen our homes and communities to be resilient to climate impacts.

The Climate Symposium is October 23 – 27, 2023 and open to the public with both virtual and in-person sessions. You’ll hear from researchers, local climate champions, our very own City of Calgary climate & environment professionals, and other passionate Calgarians who want to share knowledge and work towards a cleaner and lower energy future.

The Symposium offers learning opportunities for everyone on a range of topics, including:

* Innovative solutions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions
* Strategies for adapting to the impacts of climate change
* The role of businesses and individuals in driving sustainable change
* Opportunities for collaboration between government, industry, and citizens

By learning from climate experts and inspiring speakers, we can work together to build a greener and healthier city for everyone. The symposium will highlight local initiatives and success stories, demonstrating that positive change is not only possible but already happening in our communities. Registration opens early October. Don't miss this exciting event and learn more about how you can participate and take climate action at [calgary.ca/climatesymposium](https://www.calgary.ca/environment/climate/symposium.html?redirect=/climatesymposium).

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**New changes to the Residential Parking Permit Program (RPP)**

Starting December 4, 2023, a user fee will be implemented to obtain a parking permit and eligibility will depend on your building type.

If you live on a street with parking restrictions and want to park on-street, find out what these changes mean for you, including how to remove parking restrictions at [calgary.ca/rpp](https://www.calgary.ca/roads/residential-parking-zones.html?redirect=/rpp).

Also, residents of small multi-residential buildings and large multi-residential buildings built before 1945 will be eligible for one Select Permit that can be used for either a personal vehicle or a visitor’s vehicle.

**About the Program:**

The Residential Parking Permit Program is a service Calgarians can request in busy residential areas where parking is in high demand due to parking generator such as a hospital, post-secondary facility or LRT station.

On-street space is public property. Without the RPP Program, parking on-street would be available to anyone and residents would not have unique parking privileges. Residential parking restrictions are implemented by resident request if 80 per cent of a block supports the restriction.

**Why is The City moving to a user fee for parking permits?**

The program is in place to manage on-street parking, not to generate revenue. Charging a user fee for parking permits will help recover the cost of administering the program and be aligned with the User Fee and Subsidy Policy.

Residents may also decide that parking restrictions are not needed on their block. Requests to remove a restricted parking zone can be made by calling 311 or by filling out a [311 online request](https://calgary-cwiprod.motorolasolutions.com/cwi/tile).

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