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Protect your household water lines and meter from freezing

Every winter, some Calgarians will experience frozen water pipes, service lines and water meters, resulting in a water outage. The City's Frozen Pipes Prevention Program works proactively with homes considered at higher risk due to factors such as location, depth and configuration of water pipes and a history of freezing.

Recently we have noticed an increase in frozen pipes in homes that are typically at a lower risk, where taking some of the steps below could have prevented household pipes from freezing. Ways to avoid freezing include:

- Keep your thermostat at a minimum of 15°C, even if you're away from home.
- Eliminate any cold drafts in unheated areas where water supply lines are located. This can include basements, crawl spaces, attics, garages and under bathroom and kitchen cabinets.
- Repair broken windows, check doors and insulate areas that allow cold exterior air to enter.
- Insulate your hot and cold-water pipes located in cold areas.
- Open interior doors and cabinets in cold areas to allow heat from the house to warm unprotected pipes.
- Turn off, disconnect, and drain the water line to outside faucets, garden hoses, pools or decorative water features.
- If your hot water tank is in a maintenance room outside of your home, make sure the area is adequately heated.
- Regularly run water in your pipes through everyday use.

Visit calgary.ca/frozenpipes to learn more, including actions you can take if you suspect you have frozen pipes.

Convert your unregistered basement suite by Dec. 31 and save

When The City of Calgary started its Secondary Suite Registry in 2015, just 430 homes dotted the map.

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11 years later, more than 26,000 suites are registered. It's a success story made possible by Calgarians who stepped up to provide renters with a suite that is legal and safe.

For homeowners who have yet to register their suite, time is running out on a program that allows them to convert their suite and save money.

The City of Calgary's Secondary Suite Amnesty Program ends Dec. 31, 2026. Homeowners who take advantage of the Amnesty before that date will avoid development permit charges and registration fees.

Owners of a suite constructed prior to Mar. 2018 must ensure their existing suites meet the minimum life safety requirements. This includes providing a safe exit from all bedrooms, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, a safe exit from the basement to outside, and drywall barriers between suites and in the mechanical room.

Details about registering an existing suite and the Amnesty Program can be found on calgary.ca/suites.

Renters searching for a safe, legal suite can look for The City's official Registered Secondary Suite sticker in the window and visit the online map that lists all registered suites.

Winter parking choices matter around schools

As days get shorter and winter conditions arrive, visibility around schools becomes even more important. Snowbanks, early darkness, and icy roads can make it harder to see children crossing streets.

Parking rules help reduce these risks by keeping corners, crosswalks and sidewalks clear. Parking too close to intersections or in prohibited areas can further limit sightlines when visibility is already reduced.

Choosing safe, legal parking options and allowing extra time during winter conditions helps protect students and families during the busiest parts of the school day. Learn more: calgaryparking.com/safeschools.

Moving forward—Surface route selected for Downtown Green Line LRT

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In September, the Executive Committee of Council approved a surface alignment that will connect the Event Centre/Grand Central Station to an at-grade station on 10 Avenue S, between 1 Street and 2 Street SW.

Leveraging the design and capabilities of the new low-floor vehicle fleet, the Committee endorsed the surface alignment because it meets key project objectives for connecting the Green Line into downtown while remaining within the project's \$6.248 billion funding envelope. With this decision, work on design, planning, procurement, and engagement with property and business owners along 10 Avenue S will begin immediately.

The Committee also directed Administration to advance planning, design and budget development for both the south extension from Shepard to Seton and the north corridor.

As part of advancing the north corridor, the Committee also requested capital cost estimates and an implementation plan for a MAX Green Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line connecting Keystone Hills to Downtown, including integration of a BRT loop and station within the Downtown alignment.

The decision enables construction of the Downtown Segment to proceed concurrently with the SE Segment, where construction began in June of 2025. Together, these projects mark a significant milestone for Phase 1 of the Green Line LRT, connecting Shepard to Downtown and advancing Calgary's largest public infrastructure investment.

For more information about the Downtown Segment, visit calgary.ca/green-line/downtown-segment.

Can you see? Winter Conditions can make school areas harder to navigate

When visibility is reduced, small parking choices can make a big difference near schools.

Shorter days, snow, ice and changing weather can make it harder for children and drivers to see each other. School areas remain busy during drop-off and pick-up times, with children and families walking, wheeling, cycling, taking the bus and driving.

When vehicles stop or park in the wrong place, they can block sightlines at crosswalks, corners, sidewalks, driveways, bus zones and school entrances. Even a quick stop can make it harder for children, families and drivers to see one another clearly.

The Calgary Parking School Patrol Program helps support safer school journeys throughout the school year. Parking Safety & Compliance Officers visit school areas where there are recurring parking or stopping concerns. They focus on education,

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reminders and visibility. Enforcement may be used when unsafe parking continues or creates a safety or access issue.

Drivers can help by slowing down, leaving extra travel time and choosing a safe, legal place to stop or park. Sometimes the safest choice is parking a little farther away and walking the remaining distance. Keeping crossings, corners and travel lanes clear helps everyone move more safely.

Before stopping near a school, ask yourself a simple question: **Can children and drivers see each other clearly?**

Students can help make school journeys safer by entering the Travel Safe Student Video **Contest** Parking category. Students are encouraged to submit creative video ideas that show how safe parking choices help everyone travel to and from school.

Learn more about school-area safety and the Travel Safe Student Video Contest at CalgaryParking.com/SafeSchools.

Have your say on Calgary's 2027-2030 Budget

The proposed 2027-2030 Budget will be released on Nov. 10.

Starting Nov. 10, you can review the proposed budget, submit written comments or register to speak at Council during Public Submissions, which begin Nov. 23.

Input from Calgarians is an important part of the budget process and helps inform Council's decisions.

Learn more at calgary.ca/budget.

Fireworks safety

A message from Calgary Fire Department:

Fireworks safety is a year-round issue in Calgary. Whether you're celebrating a holiday, festival, or special occasion, it's important to understand the rules and choose safe ways to celebrate.

Personal fireworks are not permitted because they can quickly ignite fires, damage property and put people at risk. Consumer fireworks, display fireworks and firecrackers are all prohibited, even if purchased outside Calgary. Only novelty devices with limited effects, such as sparklers and party poppers, are allowed.

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Any fireworks, pyrotechnics or movie special effects must be installed, ignited or fired by a trained and certified professional operating under a valid fireworks permit. Permits are required for all fireworks and pyrotechnic displays.

The Calgary Fire Department responds to many fireworks-related incidents every year. In 2025, personal fireworks caused four major fires – two vehicle fires and two residential building fires – and generated more than 200 complaints in Calgary. Fires can spread rapidly from balconies, yards, vehicles and nearby vegetation, putting neighbours and their property at risk.

There are so many ways to celebrate without fireworks! Enjoy local events, connect with family and friends, explore cultural traditions, or brighten the occasion with festive lights and displays.

To report illegal fireworks, contact 311 and include the location. Call 911 if fireworks have caused an out-of-control fire or emergency.

Learn more at calgary.ca/fireworks.

Planning & Development Services are gathering community feedback

The City of Calgary is conducting a Planning & Development Public Service Satisfaction Survey to better understand the experience of Community Associations and how information from The City related to local planning and development is used. Feedback will be reviewed to improve City service offerings. Comments and suggestions aim to help improve:

- The clarity and accessibility of planning information available to the public
- The types of information related to planning and development provided by The City
- How we communicate opportunities for public participation
- Overall experience of interacting with our services

Complete the survey at calgary.questionpro.ca/CalgaryPlanningSurvey until December 31, 2026. The survey is available online only and can be completed anytime. It will take approximately 5 to 20 minutes to complete depending on your responses, and your participation is entirely voluntary. Answers and comments will remain confidential, and you will not be personally identified.



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For more information about our survey and to register for the [Partners in Planning \(PIP\)](#) free certificate program that helps you understand how planning and development works in your community, go to calgary.ca/planning/planning-liaison-program.