

Jacob McGregor Responses

Candidate for Calgary City Council Ward 1

Privatization

As a candidate for Ward 1 I'll be inheriting a pilot program for privatized garbage collection. I will have to evaluate the cost effectiveness and level of service before making an informed decision on bringing that back in house. In general terms I think P3s and privatization have a place but should be evaluated case by case to see what options provide the best service for the lowest cost, I'm very transparent and data driven.

COVID-19 Safety

First some context, I'm fully vaccinated as is my campaign team, and I believe everyone that is eligible SHOULD get vaccinated. I'm uncomfortable with part of my health records being public/semi public. At time of writing the provincial government has instituted a proof of vaccination program for businesses and as of last night Council passed a by law requiring Calgary businesses to opt in. While I believe everyone should get vaccinated this program was meant to be optional and the city shouldn't have taken away that choice.

Transit Affordability

I will continue to advocate for the low income transit pass and work with transit to see if more people could be eligible for reduced fares but I don't think fare elimination is feasible.

Funding

The cuts I would look at wouldn't be to frontline services as these are fundamental to my campaign. Cuts that would occur are likely within administration itself combined with some new funding sources on permits for greenfield development to avoid raising taxes.

Cities as Employers

City employees are some of the most important in terms of keeping things running as I've told our fire department friends I hope the city becomes more of a bargaining partner rather than the current "culture of arbitration"