

## Survey for IccCalgary.ca

**We believe the City must increase its options for solutions to the housing squeeze.**

**Question: What policy changes, or practical action such as leveraging existing funding can you initiate for Council to address this issue in the long term and the short term?**

**Answer from Joe Ceci:** We most definitely are experiencing a housing crisis in Calgary. There is a distinct lack of affordable housing in all areas of the city. A collaborative approach between all three levels of government, private business and concerned citizens is needed to develop effective solutions to both reduce homelessness and help establish more affordable housing units that are not exclusive to one area of the city. In the short term, City council needs to take the action it can to address the root causes of homelessness and not wait for other levels of government to make the first move. In Ward 9, I have helped established affordable housing projects in the communities of Manchester, Millican-Ogden, Inglewood and Dover.

**We believe the City must balance its plan for growth in all quadrants of the city. Additional employment centres and localized community services will help mobility systems become more efficient and effective.**

**Are you willing to take a leadership role and implement the Calgary Transportation Plan (GoPlan) and its principles of balance growth strategy?**

**Answer from Joe Ceci:** The current transit system does not meet Calgary's needs, but I think the city's explosive growth has been a major contributor in accelerating the urgency of this problem. I think the city is working within the circumstances it faces in relation to infrastructure concerns and worker shortages to address these concerns, but it will take time. Throughout this process special attention needs to be paid to ensure that fast routes are available in all communities and that they are accessible to all Calgarians. Transit service also needs to be run in a timely way to meet the needs of all

communities. I have been supportive of transit-oriented designs in my ward and throughout the city that are strategically located in such a way as to take advantage of the transit infrastructure. I have been part of council's decisions to zone residential areas of Calgary's east side so that their homes are closer to where people work.

Having said that, I think Calgary's transit plan should constantly be re-assessed in light of the changing needs of communities that it intends to serve. The city won't remain exactly the same as it is now, by the time these changes are all implemented and therefore flexibility will be required to amend where necessary.

**We believe the current system is unfair to a wide range of Calgarians and has negative planning implications for the City as a whole.**

**What policy initiatives would you implement to mitigate the imbalances of Market Value Assessment and ensure taxation fairness?**

**Answer from Joe Ceci:** I think the current tax system would work better if 100% of property taxes collected stayed within municipalities. If we could keep those funds, we could likely reduce taxes for Calgarians. If property taxes remained entirely within municipalities, there would be enough money to support priorities.

**We believe that better planning tools such as land use and building regulations, and new engineering standards are required for an ecologically sustainable future.**

**As a Municipal Leader, what types of policy have you or would you initiate to reduce our environmental impact and maintain our quality of life?**

**Answer from Joe Ceci:** I have advocated for regular bylaw sweeps in Ward 9, participated in annual cleanups in most communities, supported the Mayor's clean to the core initiative, started my own weekly clean team in the communities around the Drop-In Centre and supported the Sustainable Environmental & Ethical Procurement Policy (SEEPP) to ensure the city is purchasing products and services that reduce our environmental footprint. I have supported the CO2 reduction program called -50 which

has already reduced greenhouse gas levels in City of Calgary corporate entities by more than 50 percent of 1990 emission levels.

I also support environmental initiatives like landfill methane recover systems, low-flush toilet installation programming, water metering installation by 2012 and the renewal of the urban forest. I also remain committed to investigating new environmental initiatives as they come forward.

**We believe that the financing of election campaigns at the municipal level should be subject to the same financial scrutiny as those of federal and provincial elections.**

**What election financing policies would you champion to provide limits, checks and balances against actual or perceived preferential treatment?**

**Answer from Joe Ceci:** Since first being elected, I have maintained a donation limit of \$2000 per company/person and I have only one fundraiser per three year term. I'm in favour of spending and donation limits both for the costs of a campaign and for those who support them. I also would donate any campaign surpluses to non-profit organizations within Ward 9.