

A MESSAGE FROM WARD 3 ALDERMAN JIM STEVENSON – www.ward3calgary.ca

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WARD BOUNDARY CHANGES TO TAKE EFFECT ON ELECTION DAY 2010

The new Ward Boundary Bylaw, adopted by Council on 2009 October 5, will have an impact on the communities represented by the Northern Hills Community Association (NHCA). All communities in the NHCA will remain in Ward 3, with the exception of Country Hills, which will become part of Ward 4 effective Election Day, 2010. The drawing of Ward boundaries has been a hot issue in Council for over a year now. I do not believe individual Aldermen should have any say in deciding the matter. It should be an independent body with simply an approval motion by Council. That is obviously not the way it works so I have been in a long battle to keep the communities of the Northern Hills Community Association together. In fact, Ward 4 Alderman Bob Hawkesworth and I tried a last minute amendment on October 5th to keep Country Hills in Ward 3, but we failed. While this is not an ideal situation, there are similar circumstances for other communities and community associations throughout Calgary and I am confident that together the Ward 3 and Ward 4 Offices will combine to be a strong voice on Council to represent all the Northern Hills residents and their concerns.

PLAN IT CALGARY UPDATE

At the 2009 September 28th meeting, Council adopted, as amended, the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and the Calgary Transportation Plan (CTP). There is a link to these documents, along with all the amendments made by Council on the Ward 3 website at www.ward3calgary.ca. Initially Administration had removed the Airport Trail tunnel from the Transportation Plan, but Council supported my amendment to have it reinstated. As well, I was supported by Council to retain Airport Trail and Metis Trail as skeletal roads (previously called “expressways”). The proposal by Administration was to have both of these roadways downgraded to arterial roads (previously called “majors”).

The North Central LRT line alignment was approved as well. I noted inconsistencies to the alignment presented by Administration in the CTP and adjustments have been made. When a map showing the correct alignment is available, I will post it to the Ward 3 website.

CALGARY TRANSIT SAFETY SURVEY

Calgary Transit has completed a safety, security and cleanliness survey of 500 regular Transit users (customers who use Transit more than once per week). The survey, by independent research group HarCorp Management Consultants, shows improvement in all areas compared to the same survey completed in 2008. Survey statistics show that crime on Calgary Transit property has decreased significantly in all areas including property crime, vehicle theft and vandalism. Proactive patrols by peace officers have reduced demand on the Calgary Police Service by 20%. Safety initiatives such as the Mountain Bike Peace Officer Team and enhancements to Calgary Transit’s surveillance camera system have been implemented and are proving very effective.

2009 LEAF & PUMPKIN COMPOSTING PROGRAM - DROP-OFF DEPOTS

I encourage you to take advantage of the City’s drop-off depots for bagged leaves and pumpkins again this Fall. There are 34 locations throughout the City, including the landfills, where you can drop off your bagged leaves and pumpkins at no charge from October 3 through November 8. You can get information on drop-off depot locations by calling 3-1-1 or by visiting the Ward 3 website at www.ward3calgary.ca. Waste & Recycling Services asks that whenever possible, you use paper yard waste bags as these bags can go directly into the compost pile, increasing the efficiency of this composting program. Remember, this composting program is for leaves and pumpkins only and does not include other yard waste such as branches or pruning materials.

As always, I welcome your calls and emails so if you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact my office.

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