

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

2010 PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX BYLAW

The 2010 Property Tax Bylaw was considered by Council on April 12. The bylaw shows a combined property tax rate increase of 3.9% for residential and 5.5% for non-residential properties. The 2010 provincial property tax requisition on The City is \$602.1 million, an increase of \$24.2 million (4.2%) from 2009. That increase will further boost the Calgary share of provincial property tax to 34.0%, compared to 29.0% in 2000. Property tax is an essential source of The City's overall revenue, which is necessary to deliver local municipal services. The overall impact of the proposed property tax rate on the 2010 median assessed residential property of \$374,000 results in an annual increase of \$82 or approximately \$6.80 per month. Of this amount, 53.4% would remain in Calgary to meet municipal needs with 46.6% going to the Province.

RESIDENTIAL BLACK CART GARBAGE COLLECTION IS COMING

Starting this Fall, "Black Cart" residential garbage collection will begin. Much like the "Blue Cart" recycling program, "Black Carts" will allow for automated garbage collection. Residents will be provided with a 240 litre black, wheeled cart for their household garbage. The carts will hold up to 4 standard garbage bags and are the same size as the blue carts. They will be collected each week using trucks with mechanical arms. The primary advantages of black cart garbage collection are:

- Cleanliness, by keeping garbage contained and reducing litter in lanes and streets;
- Improved safety for collectors and citizens by reducing heaving lifting and exposure to sharp objects;
- Improved efficiency, as the automated collection trucks require only one operator.

More details are available on the Ward 3 website at www.ward3calgary.ca.

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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