

## Jennifer Wyness, Ward 2 Councillor

## 2022 Budget Adjustments

Council concluded its three-day budget deliberations in November 2021 and approved the 2022 Adjustments to the One Calgary Service Plans and Budgets. These adjustments strike a balance between strategic savings and critical investments, resulting in a municipal tax rate increase of 3.87%.

While my priority was to keep the increase as minimal as possible to taxpayers, it's important to note that the current inflation rate rose to 4.7%, and Calgary's population grew at a rate of 2.2%. My rationale focused on supporting key frontline services for Calgarians, including the Police and the Fire Department, which I believe will result in insurance rate cost savings for citizens. Calgarians will also see a direct positive impact with the addition of frontline service jobs. I also voted in support of the areas where Council can leverage provincial and federal funding for large projects. I voted against developer payouts and increases to the number of City executives. I also voted against spending requests that lacked a business plan and held no value propositions.

Going into budget deliberations, I was mindful of the need to support Calgarians through the economic climate with a key focus of finding the best value for citizens. As we continue on our path to economic recovery, I am supportive of the efforts made to deliver better City services to Calgarians.

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