



NEWS RELEASE

Burrows Announces Calgary Green Transportation Plan

Burrows Energy Plan to Save City of Calgary \$136 Million while Improving Air Quality

(September 8, 2010): Craig Burrows announced his eight point Green Transportation Plan today and promised to put his own energy and political capital into converting Calgary Transit's bus fleet to natural gas.

"This move makes both economic and environmental sense," stated Mayoral Candidate Craig Burrows. "Natural gas is the cleanest burning fossil fuel, which will contribute to a cleaner air quality for Calgarians and those in our region. At the same time, it is a resource that Alberta has a long-term supply of, providing a benefit to both consumers and gas producers based here in Alberta."

"This is a way for Calgary to be a leader – on energy, the environment and in creating a green fleet," added Burrows. "The economic payoff is only four years, and each bus will save more than \$10,000 per year in fuel costs. When you spread that out over the current 850-bus fleet, that's a savings of \$136 million – and a much better air quality for Calgarians and those in the region."

Natural gas heavy duty engines are a proven technology in service across North America and they are compatible with Calgary's existing fleet. Changing to natural gas will happen over several years as older buses are replaced. The incremental conversion costs can be covered under existing Provincial and Federal programs with a payback in fuel cost saving in a fraction of the life of a bus. In addition, the environmental benefits are even more impressive with a 99 per cent reduction in sulphur dioxide and 25 tonne reduction in carbon reduction per year, per transit bus. That's 21,250 tonne of less emissions for the fleet per year.

In addition to his plan to convert the City's transit fleet to natural gas, Burrows also unveiled a Green Transportation Plan that includes:

- **Upgrading our traffic systems** to better “signalize” lights and improving traffic flow, making our roads more efficient and reducing the need for costly interchanges. It's quite simple – helping traffic flow.
- Ensuring that the proper amount of funding is available for **plowing and winter maintenance** – so that Calgarians can move around safely. It's time to focus on core services and get back to basics!
- The most important transit expansion needs to **take the northeast LRT right out to the airport by 2015**. A world class city needs an important transit connection to a growing travel and business hub. We also need to move forward with 24-hour LRT service on Friday and Saturdays.
- We need to look at reducing the cost of City services by using technology. This includes helping workers who can work from home through an **expanded Teletrip program**. It also means **using Smart Card technology to eliminate duplication of services** and let consumers buy City services through a new City of Calgary Smart Card.
- Improving the function of communities by designing **multi-modal streets**. Many communities design streets so that people can truly live, work and play in their neighbourhoods and we need to build these kinds of networks – the Calgary way!
- **An expansion of our pathway system** to better serve commuters, walkers and our quality of life. Calgarians have a strong connection to the outdoors and we need to make our pathway system safer, reduce user conflict and provide more routes and options for people
- Tapping into an under-utilized resource – taxi operators – by **establishing more taxi stands** in the downtown and high needs areas so consumers have more options. More taxi stands helps improve public safety, provides reliable service to Calgarians and provides people with more options – closer to where they are.

To view the full plan with all its details, please go to www.craigburrows.ca.

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