

Please submit your responses by Monday, Sept. 15 at midnight in order for us to update our website, so Edmontonians can read where you stand on the issues most important to them.

The questions are as follows:

1. Council Sentiment. Recent polling conducted for the Edmonton Chamber indicates almost 60 percent of Edmontonians feel City Council is not on the right track. Do you agree? If so, what is the right track? And how would you, as Mayor, get us there?

Answer: I agree with the 60% of Edmontonians who feel City Council is off track.

Overspending, excessive tax hikes, and misplaced priorities have eroded public trust. As mayor, I'll chart the right course with decisive, no-nonsense leadership. My focus will be ensuring safety and security, rigorously reviewing departments for fiscal responsibility, and eliminating wasteful spending. I'll foster collaboration with councillors, leveraging my tireless work ethic to deliver results, not excuses. By securing more provincial and federal funding, we'll invest in infrastructure renewal over multibillion dollar new projects, affordability, and community vitality. My proven track record of tough, transparent leadership will rebuild trust and make Edmonton a safer, stronger, and more prosperous city for all its citizens.

2. Basic City Services. Snow clearing, garbage pickup and pothole repair are some of the core services Edmontonians rely on every day. What could the city do without to maintain or improve those services?

Answer: Edmontonians rely on snow clearing, garbage pickup, and pothole repairs—core services that must be reliable. To maintain and improve these, we can do without wasteful spending, like millions in bloated consultant contracts and non-essential administrative overhead. As mayor, I'll work for zero layoffs or cuts to core services by rigorously reviewing departments for efficiency, staying within our budget. Edmonton's \$5-billion debt eats 11% of our annual budget in interest alone. Prioritizing infrastructure renewal over multi-billion-dollar mega-projects will keep roads safe and passable. My tough, transparent leadership will streamline operations, secure provincial funding, and deliver results without excuses, ensuring core services are enhanced while making Edmonton safer, stronger, and more fiscally responsible.

3. Taxes. The number one issue in a recent Chamber survey was lowering taxes. During the last four-year term, City Councillors voted to increase property taxes by just over 17 percent. How do you propose to address the issue?

Answer: Edmontonians, you're fed up with the endless annual tax hikes which crushes their wallets. As your mayor, I'll keep taxes to a minimum by slashing frivolous vanity spending and bloated bureaucracy. Maximizing all departments for efficiency will keep your money where it belongs: in your pocket. The cities long-term \$5-billion debt, eating 11% of the budget just for interest, is a disaster. I'll push hard for provincial grants and smart debt repayment, not crazy 25% tax cuts that'd gut general services and lead to city worker

layoffs. My no-excuses leadership will protect core services like snow clearing while making Edmonton affordable. Vote for me to make your tax dollars work harder.

4. Jobs & Economic Development. Edmonton's unemployment rate remains among the highest in Canada, while our GDP growth has consistently lagged the national average for more than a decade. At the same time, commercial property taxes are nearly 50% higher than residential rates. To keep Edmonton a competitive city, what specific actions will you take to attract investment, create jobs, and ensure a fair and balanced tax burden?

Answer: Edmontonians, our far too high unemployment and decade of lagging GDP growth are hurting us, while commercial taxes 50% higher than residential chase businesses away. As mayor, I'll fix this with real action. First, prioritize Horse Hill Energy Park for value-added industries, creating thousands of jobs and competing with Nisku by streamlining permits—no mega-projects, just smart incentives funded by cutting waste. I'll partner provincially to diversify our economy, removing barriers and roadblocks supporting all businesses in Edmonton. For fair taxes, shift the burden: Phase in 25% business tax cuts over four years, balanced by new revenue from growth, protecting homeowners. My decisive leadership will deliver jobs and affordability—vote Tony Caterina to make Edmonton thrive.

5. Downtown Revitalization. Edmonton's downtown is still struggling with high commercial vacancy rates, and fewer people working in the core since the pandemic. At the same time, businesses are telling the Chamber they need a vibrant downtown to attract talent, investment, and customers. As mayor, what specific policies or investments would you prioritize to revitalize our downtown?

Answer: Edmonton's downtown is struggling—20% vacancy rates, fewer workers since the pandemic, and businesses needing vibrancy to attract talent. Safety and security are Edmontonians' top priority. As mayor, I'll boost safety and security by collaborating with the Edmonton Police Service, Transit Community Safety Teams, Corporate Security Peace Officers, and Alberta Community Peace Officers, maximizing efficiency within our budget. I'll partner with property owners to remove barriers, making it easier to convert empty offices into more affordable housing. Council must reverse anti-car policies, improving parking access and affordability for suburban visitors and workers. My proven leadership will deliver a thriving downtown with more homes, better accessibility, and business opportunities, restoring pride for Edmontonians.

6. Transit, Infrastructure & City Services. Construction is a major frustration for people trying to get around the city - whether it's bridge and road maintenance or LRT construction. Delays and cost overruns have also plagued some of those high-profile projects. Are you concerned with how we build and plan these projects, and if so, what would you change?

Yes, I'm deeply concerned about Edmonton's transit and infrastructure projects, plagued by delays and cost overruns, like the Valley Line LRT's cracked piers causing major delays on the west line and wasting taxpayer dollars. As mayor, I'll prioritize fiscal responsibility by

switching to Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) for future mass transit expansions—more flexible and cost-effective than multi-billion-dollar LRT mega-projects—saving billions in debt and avoiding endless construction disruptions. I'll rigorously review departments to eliminate wasteful spending, like bloated consultant contracts, ensuring core services like road maintenance and pothole repairs stay on budget and on time. Collaborating with provincial partners for funding, my no-nonsense leadership will deliver results without excuses, keeping Edmonton moving safely and taxes down.

7. Core Safety. Some Edmontonians say they're reluctant to visit the city's core. We've heard business owners and residents say, crime and disorder are so bad they're on the verge of leaving. Is downtown and the core safe? And what will you do to make people feel safe?

Safety and security are Edmontonians' top concerns, and downtown's core is not safe enough, with crime and disorder driving residents and businesses away. As mayor, I'll implement a zero-tolerance policy for open illegal drug use and criminal activity on transit and across Edmonton. I'll rebuild trust between City Council and the Edmonton Police Commission, forming a unified committee to integrate the Edmonton Police Service, Transit Community Safety Teams, Corporate Security Peace Officers, and Alberta Community Peace Officers for maximum efficiency without raising budgets or taxes. This collaborative approach will enhance public safety, making downtown a vibrant place where people want to live, open businesses, and visit. My no-nonsense leadership will deliver results, restoring confidence in our core.

8. In the last four years, Edmonton has seen an increase in homelessness and a change to how we deal with encampments. Tied into this is the fact that, according to the Chamber survey, one in four Edmontonians surveyed said "reducing poverty" in the city should be a priority. How has the City handled these related issues? What would you do differently?

Over fifteen years ago, Edmonton vowed to end homelessness in a decade, yet our homeless population has doubled despite spending hundreds of millions on grants, land, and social agency operations, housing over 20,000 people. Homelessness is a provincial and federal responsibility, but Edmontonians have helped pay the bills. As mayor, I'll reject another empty 10-year promise and will lead a rigorous review of failed policies, exploring public-private housing partnerships to build affordable homes and enhanced safety and security measures to reduce encampments. With federal and provincial deficits affecting future grants, we can't afford more of the same. My no-nonsense leadership will redirect funds from ineffective programs to proven strategies, reducing poverty and homelessness while respecting taxpayers' dollars.

9. Another contentious issue is infill. Successive city councils have stressed it's too expensive for Edmonton to keep expanding. They say we need to become denser. But people living in established neighbourhoods have balked at the city's plan to allow for larger, denser developments. How does your plan for infill balance these competing needs?

Bylaw 20001 is a critical issue for Edmontonians, disrupting neighbourhoods with its reckless, wild-west building rules. Councillor Cartmell, who backed and voted for 20001, now flip-flops to save votes, while Councillor Knack doubles down on infill. As the only mayoral candidate committed to repealing this flawed bylaw, I'll move to scrap 20001 and revert to Bylaw 12800, which balances density with sensible infill rules, including zero-clearance restrictions, better parking requirements, and the mature neighbourhood overlay. This protects homeowners while enabling controlled growth. I'll push for zoning changes to accelerate Blatchford's buildout and develop healthy neighbourhoods on the exhibition grounds. My no-nonsense leadership will deliver fair infill policies that respect taxpayers and preserve our neighbourhoods' character.

10. Bike lanes are one example of the Provincial Government taking a more active role in civic issues. The Municipal Affairs Minister, for example, has talked about forcing the City to remove bike lanes. How would you work with the provincial government - and what kind of provincial involvement in civic affairs would you consider acceptable?

I'm opposed to spending hundreds of millions on bike lane expansions that clog traffic and hinder goods and services by removing commuter roadways. Bill 20, the Traffic Safety Act, gives Alberta authority over highways—including Edmonton's streets—prompting Transportation Minister Devin Dreeshen's calls to remove underused bike lanes on key routes. As mayor, I'd collaborate with the province on funding and safety standards, ensuring removals include local input. Acceptable involvement means shared resources for efficient projects. I support cost-effective alternatives like multi-use lanes on 69 Avenue West End, 23 Avenue South Side, and 66 Street North End, replacing grass boulevards with wide asphalt paths. Diverting bikes from main roads boosts safety and security for all users, keeping Edmontonians and commerce moving effectively.

Thank you,

Tony Caterina

Vote Tony Caterina for Edmonton Mayor October 20, 2025.

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR EXPERIENCE

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