

Ward 8 Report

Councillor Shanon Zachidniak



CITY OF REGINA

Councillor - Ward 8

SPRING / SUMMER 2024

Dear Ward 8 Residents:

As we approach the end of this Council term, I want to express my appreciation for this opportunity to serve as the Ward 8 City Councillor. It's been an honour and privilege to represent you.

The next municipal election will be on November 13, 2024. The ward boundaries will be changing prior to this election. If you are receiving this newsletter, you will likely be in Ward 8; however, the Canada Post delivery routes don't perfectly align with municipal ward boundaries so it's important that you verify your ward and voting information prior to the election. More information on how to do so can be found in this newsletter.

It's been a busy Council term. I've hosted multiple community meetings: at least 5 in-person at various locations throughout the ward and 2 virtual. Hundreds of you have reached out over the past few years with questions and concerns and, by working together, I'm grateful that we've been able to resolve many of those concerns.

I was also surprised and touched to receive the honour of:

- The Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal thanks to a nomination by Regina Rosemont MLA Trent Wotherspoon.
- Recognition as a 2024 YWCA Woman of Distinction Finalist thanks to a nomination by Ward 8 resident Maureen Huot. Award recipients will be announced on May 25, 2024.



Thanks to everyone who is engaged and working to improve our community.

Shanon

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Highlights from this Council Term

- As Co-Chair of the Community Advisory Group for the city’s Energy & Sustainability Framework, I helped spearhead the community engagement on the framework. Our advisory group had representation from a diverse range of stakeholders, including youth, crown corporations, environmental groups, and industry. The framework was unanimously approved by City Council. It will both drastically reduce our community’s emissions and ensure the strength of our energy-based economy as we transition to a greener future. To read more about the framework, visit: [Regina.ca/renewable](https://regina.ca/renewable)
- I have raised over \$300,000 for various community initiatives, including Lulu’s Lodge (a home for Gender and Sexually Diverse youth facing houselessness), Special Olympics and Walker Elementary School.
- Through my involvement with the Environment Committee of the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association and the national boards of the Canadian Urban Transit Association and the Green Municipal Fund, I advocate for funding opportunities and policy changes related to transit and environmental sustainability at the local, provincial and national levels.

Please read on for important updates related to the municipal election, the city compost site, transit improvements, lead water service connections, and preventing flooding and sewer backups.

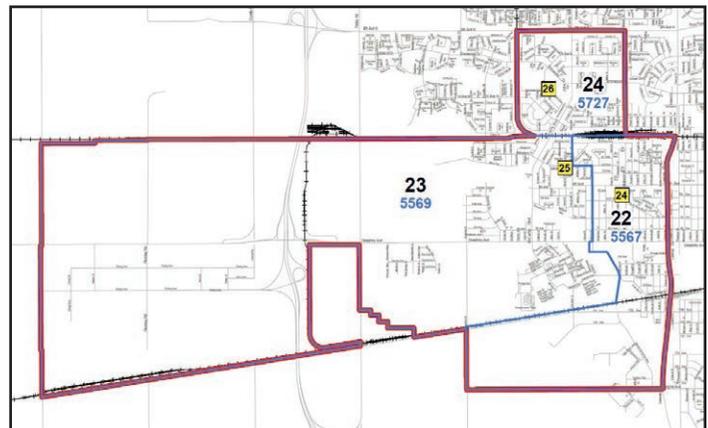


New Ward Boundaries for Municipal and School Board Election

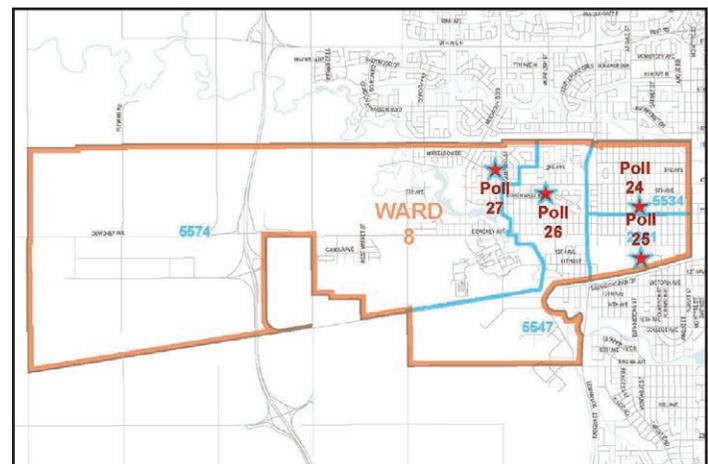
Regina residents will head to the polls on Wednesday, November 13 to elect a Mayor, Councillor and School Board Trustee. Information on when, where and how to vote can be found at [Regina.ca/elections](https://regina.ca/elections).

Did you know? Free transit will be provided to voters heading to the polls on November 13!

The city’s population is distributed evenly amongst each of Regina’s 10 city wards. That way every resident’s vote has the same value as the next person to allow fair and equal representation from ward councillors. The map shows how boundaries have changed. Search “wards” on [Regina.ca](https://regina.ca) and scroll down to see updated ward boundaries and find out if you are in a different ward. If you are, you may have to go to a different voting station in the fall.



Current Ward 8 Map.



New Ward 8 Map effective as of the 2024 Election.

Southwest Sewer System Upgrade

- Continuation of a multi-year, multi-million-dollar initiative to increase the overall sewer system capacity in response to concerns raised by the Water Security Agency and help us support continued population growth.
- Consists of a 4.5 km long, large diameter sewer line running from the McCarthy Boulevard Sewage Pumping Station to Regina Ave.
- Construction begins in 2024 in A.E. Wilson Park.



Map of Phase 1 of the project, located in A.E. Wilson Park

Temporary Compost Site at Landfill to be used until Permanent Site Located

In 2023, negotiations stalled for a new permanent food and yard waste processing facility. The City's Food & Yard Waste Processing Site Team quickly lined up an alternative solution by using an existing temporary composting site owned by the city. This allowed the green cart program to roll out as planned in September. This site has already received over 6,000 tonnes of materials through the green cart program which have been or are being composted. Each spring, compost is given away for residents to use in their yards. A permanent composting facility site will be selected before the end of 2024.

New Transit Fare System

Transit customers will have a new way to pay for rides this fall. Already implemented in other major cities, the new fare system is flexible, easy to use and includes using a mobile payment app, reloadable smart card or cash. A second phase will allow credit and debit cards. The new and old systems will run side by side for at least one month to allow everyone to adjust.

New Transit Fares

I'm proud to have successfully advocated for fare-free transit for those 13 and under. Additionally, the City is lowering youth monthly passes to align with other Canadian transit systems. The City is also introducing a fare capping system that will save transit riders money. The new system will only charge customers for what they use. If customers don't ride enough in a month to make up the cost of a full pass, they will only be charged for what they use. Alternatively, frequent riders will get free rides once they use the bus more than three times a day or over 31 times in a month. The new fare system will also be used on Paratransit. Part of the Regina Transit Master Plan recommendations were to update the current fare system to include fare capping and reduce fare options for customers who purchase non-cash fares.

Sign up on Regina.ca to Receive my E-newsletter!

Stay informed about Ward 8 issues by signing up for my e-newsletter. **Go to Regina.ca, search my name and click on the 'Sign up for the Ward 8 E-Newsletter' button.** Then look for an email from me in your inbox to find out what's happening in Ward 8! It's a quick way to get updates and my comments on various issues that affect you.

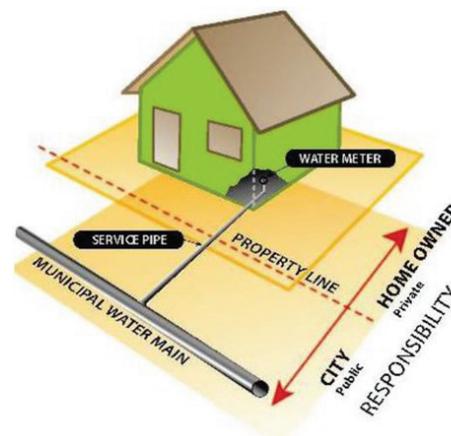
Lead Water Service Connections

Crews are working to identify and remove lead water service connections. The City is committed to providing residents with support to reduce the potential for lead in tap water until all lead connections can be replaced. Any resident with a lead service connection or who has higher lead levels than Health Canada's maximum acceptable concentration, can qualify for:

- A free water filter annually, or an annual rebate of up to \$100 off the water bill if they purchase a certified lead removal filter or bulk water on their own
- Free water testing
- Replacement of the City-owned lead service connection if the private side is no longer lead
- Residents who have a lead service connection on the private side may request to get the City-owned lead service connection replaced at the same time as their privately-owned side.

Visit Regina.ca/leadservice, call Service Regina at 306-777-7000 or email waterworks@regina.ca to request a free water filter to be delivered to your home, apply for a rebate, request testing or get more information about replacing your lead service connection.

A map is available on Regina.ca/leadservice to identify where lead service connections exist in the city and the percentage known City-owned connections in each specific neighbourhood.



Protect your Home from Flooding:

- Ensure your eavestroughs are directed away from your home's foundation and either to the front or back of your property.
- Inspect your sump pump and backwater valve to ensure it is working properly.
- Clear debris off your nearest storm drain before and after every storm event.



Protect your Home from Sewer Backups:

- Flush only the 3 Ps (pee, poop and toilet paper).
- Put FOG (fats, oils and grease) into your green cart not down your kitchen sink.

