

30 Day Challenge Ideas for 2018 - City Council Direction Required

IDEA	OBJECTIVE
<p>Paid parking at SaskTel Center for cars with fewer than 3 passengers during events. Specifically, I suggest: Cars with 3+ people: free Cars with 1 or 2 people: \$10-20</p>	<p>Increased revenue Decreased event traffic volumes Decreased traffic management costs for police Decreased emissions from traffic jams More efficient people movement in and out of events Actual incentive to try taking the bus</p>
<p>My idea is moving the collection calendar direction to completely digital platform. Encouraging all citizens use our online collection calendar which we have been maintaining and setup for them. It should be saving the city for all the printing, mailing and 3rd party contract cost. The only thing the city may want to keep is online advertisement cost such as Facebook and social media. This change or implementation could be probably saving the city approximately around \$85,000 less or more. It is a nice video message. Thanks again.</p>	<p>The digital platform and application have been created. We have been monitoring and maintaining the data set closely. The only important thing is seeking city councillor approval to agree for communicating citizens that the electronic and digital is the future direction. We know this may cause partially citizens inconvenience if they are not familiar with computer and digital especially for the elders. Our platform and application is ready to provide printing option if they really need the hand out hard copy. Therefore, they can ask their friends, family, co-workers or neighbors around to help them printing out the copies especially we have a strong lovely community in Saskatoon.</p>
<p>As a citizen who composts, recycles really do not require garbage pickup once a week in the summer. I suggest we pickup the garbage once every two weeks year round.</p>	<p>Reduce cost of garbage pickup.</p>
<p>No longer provide meals, light snack, or beverages at City Council or committee meetings. Councillors can bring their own lunch. The document Council Members Benefits and Entitlements does not say they receive meals for Committee Meetings - and if some other document does - that ship has sailed and that benefit should come to an end.</p>	<p>Employees aren't provided meals, snack, beverages when meetings are held over the lunch hour - this idea promotes cost saving measures and food is no longer wasted.</p>
<p>More billboards on City owned land</p>	<p>Additional revenue opportunity for the City</p>
<p>Not sure if this would apply to all neighborhoods but I think black bin collection could be reduced. I find the black bin is not used nearly as much with all the recycling.</p>	<p>Cost savings in fuel and maintenance</p>
<p>Increase impound lot check in fee from \$50-75/vehicle, daily storage rate from \$25-30/day. Approx 2800 vehicles per year are processed at the impound lot. Collect outstanding fines from the towns of Martensville & Warman (in excess of \$100,000). Legislation has given us jurisdiction to do that. More seizure blitzes on Saturday's (in summer) to seize vehicles downtown. Outstanding unpaid ticket fines are in excess of 2M.</p>	<p>Impact on outstanding parking fines and generate more revenue towards the mill rate.</p>
<p>Reduced residential garbage pickup to every 2 weeks during entire year. With recycle and grass bins, personal garbage is significantly less. Those that have more garbage should pay for a larger garbage bin.</p>	<p>Cost savings associated to weekly garbage pickup.</p>
<p>You could do an online public auction for a prime parking spots around the City. Give the winner an annual pass, and a dedicated spot. Identify some prime real estate, then let people bid for the spots. Chuck the proceeds back into the City's operational budget. You could ask local businesses to "sponsor" a spot, so they could essentially pay to have their logo put on the parking spot sign (this spot sponsored by Atco Gas).</p>	<p>It's fun. Everybody wants a great parking spot. Gives the business community a chance to get out there and increase their brand awareness. Gives the City some new revenue.</p>
<p>Eliminate councillor communications budgets</p>	<p>Savings, and remove the unfair advantage during an election year</p>
<p>Eliminate Christmas lights downtown, at least in the short term.</p>	<p>Cost and environmental savings.</p>
<p>Garbage pick-up bi-weekly, except weekly for July – August because of hot weather.</p>	<p>Reduce costs.</p>

IDEA	OBJECTIVE
Unfortunately continue to freeze wage increases for 2018...0%. To make up for it give staff more time off?	Will help to limit spending. Could cause labor unrest and possible labor action.
Less grass in parks and less watering of the grass. More xeriscaping, edible plants, fruit bushes. It's important to have green space to play on but perhaps there could be less of it and still enough room for recreation activities.	Save \$ on water and maintenance.
We may want to consider how many recreation facility are open during stat holidays. If we either reduced the amount of facilities that are either open during these holidays or reduced the amount of hours were are open, there would be savings in staffing costs.	We have several work groups at our facilities that are scheduled during these holidays and receive OT for working during this time. This would reduce that staff costs. If we did reduce the number of sites that were open during these days, it would streamline when patrons go to and we would be more efficient with our resources. We also have Fleets and Facilities staff that are working the entire day of a stat holiday (i.e. 8am-5pm) and the site does not open until 12pm. We could reduce costs by only scheduling staff during these hours of operation.
User pay for garbage is an item that has been discussed and I agree it should be implemented. The pick up schedule could be adjusted to every two or three weeks as it will encourage recycling.	Landfill cost
Remove the bike lanes downtown. I see more bikers on the sidewalks and other streets than I do in the lanes.	It will save Hundreds of thousands each year in maintenance for the very few who use it each day.
Remove the construction of any future signs from the City Highway Entrance Sign Program and send the funds in the current capital project back to the original source (RCE funding).	This will send \$380,000 back to source and reduce future operating expenses from being added.
Extended paid parking. Extending paid parking from 7:00 am till midnight downtown and allowing longer timeframes in one spot after peak hours. Downtown is packed most nights, especially later in the week and people have to pay for parking at private sites like impark already. Parking rates could even be a reduced rate at nights and still gain revenues.	It would generate significant additional revenues for the City. Parking fines would also be up which would increase general revenues at the end of each year. I think there is a great opportunity to realize additional revenues through this venue.
Advertising on City garbage trucks. Much like Saskatoon Transit's agreement with Rawlco Transit advertising, we could consider advertising opportunities on City garbage trucks. This would open up a new revenue stream and could be managed externally by Rawlco Transit with the City receiving a percentage of the sales.	Opportunity to bring in advertising revenue.
Reduce garbage pickup to bi-weekly or less frequently.	Reduced operating costs.
Turn the parking lots at (1) Kinsmen Park Rides and (2) down by the Prairie Lily launch/near the Mendel, into paid parking lots. These could be hourly lots during the summer and monthly permit parking lots in the winter.	New source of revenue.
Discontinue free parking for MLA's, dignitaries, other levels of government and other government agencies. There is no reason they can't pay for on street parking just like everyone else.	More revenue, fair and equal treatment for everybody.
Revisit the hours of paid parking (maybe extend to after 6pm, maybe require payment on Sunday's and holidays - maybe not hourly but perhaps \$5 for the entire day).	More revenue

IDEA	OBJECTIVE
<p>Stop catering for ALL Committee and Council meetings (unless the meeting will continue after 6pm like Budget). I have been in several in camera Committee meetings in the afternoon where there is still catering being provided. In almost all cases, the vast majority of the food (80% at least) is not eaten and what is eaten is only taken because it's there. I also noticed that the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting being held in Committee Room E after the SMT meetings is still being catered.</p>	<p>Cost savings.</p>
<p>Have the users of the parking app pay the user fee, not the city.</p>	<p>Reduce costs</p>
<p>MLA's and any other government entity pay for parking passes.</p>	<p>It will ensure a revenue stream for a service but ensure that there is a fair treatment for all.</p>
<p>Parking enforcement is contracted out to commissionaires. When was the last time an RFT was done for this?</p>	<p>There may be cost savings to be had or at the very least, a commitment by the commissionaires for better service</p>
<p>City Manager and General Managers should take a big pay cut, they still would live better than most people</p>	<p>The city will save money</p>
<p>Rent out the parking lot on the corner of 3rd and 23rd at the bus mall. This lot sits empty on most days.</p>	<p>Income</p>
<p>Eliminate extra garbage collection at Christmas</p>	<p>Eliminate OT</p>
<p>Switch to Garbage collection every 2 weeks year round</p>	<p>Cost Savings</p>
<p>Consider to reduce the budget for sidewalks preservation when we are short \$11 million.</p>	<p>You will save your budget.</p>
<p>We should reconsider whether TCU Place and SaskTel Centre require subsidies when they are making money each year.</p>	<p>We could save money by not giving it to companies that already make a large profit.</p>
<p>Remove protection from bike lanes downtown.</p>	<p>Protected bike lanes mean you need to have separate snow removal through contracts or through extra city workers wages. Keep the bike lanes, but remove protection barricades so that the plow can remove the snow.</p>
<p>Go to a alternating watering schedule</p>	<p>Reduce the costs associated with drinking water production in the summer months. There's no reason we shouldn't do this every summer to conserve water, enforce stiff fines, particularly to business who water when it isn't their scheduled day or when it's raining.</p>
<p>Eliminate the RCE as a funding source in 2018, or drastically lower the amount to be transferred from the 2018 operating budget.</p>	<p>There will be savings to the budget. while eliminating a budget item that took 2 hours and 2 minutes to get through. In comparison the Utilities budget took about 24 minutes.</p>
<p>Reduce the transfer to RCE - Council will need to make that call, but Administration could put forward the recommendation as it's one ability that Council truly could have in regards finding "savings" for the mill-rate. Currently RCE funding goes towards "nice-to-have" capital projects. We're in a situation where we need to support core services, and some of the nice-to-haves will need to wait or not occur (or there's other funding opportunities to satisfy many of these projects thru potential federal grant funding).</p>	<p>Between \$500,000 and \$750,000 in annual savings wouldn't be unreasonable.</p>

IDEA	OBJECTIVE
<p>Create a program much like computer or exercise equipment purchase for the city golf course memberships.</p>	<p>By allowing employees to pay the cost of a city golf course membership over the course of 6 mos. to 1 year there would be increased revenue as many employees would opt in for the \$2000+ cost rather than it being a large one time fee. This increases employee well-being and satisfaction as well as brings in greater revenue to the city. Having a program to buy equipment is wonderful but the equipment is an occasional purchase, the green fees are required to then use the equipment. An extension of this covering league fees for various rec leagues or fitness classes would also be very helpful.</p>
<p>Reduce funding on public events Get rid of the bike lanes downtown</p>	<p>Should help reduce taxes Get rid of the bike lanes downtown</p>
<p>Suggest to close Indoor Leisure Centers on Sunday through the summer season. Libraries already are doing this. Or if closing indoor facilities isn't an option maybe closing all but 1 would be acceptable</p>	<p>Potential cost savings with not having to staff on these days, and less maintenance supply would be used. Eg: soap, paper towels, etc</p>
<p>Implement and enforce watering restrictions similar to many other communities-- house numbers ending in even numbers can water only on even days, odd numbers on odd days. Implement a 3-stage system.</p>	<p>Environmental awareness, conservation of what people think is an endless supply of water, help conserve energy use, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and help ease the burden on the City's water and wastewater treatment plants and distribution systems. Oh, and revenue generation when people are fined for watering when on restriction.</p>
<p>Job security is important to all employees no matter the position. We have heard of considerable dollar amounts of overtime, particularly in Police/Fire. While I recognize that these are sometimes the result of emergency situations and situations beyond control, not all can be explained away under that umbrella. OT needs to be held accountable. Secondly, we hear of levels of government taking pay cuts in light of budget pressures. We need our unions to buy into this as well for the benefit of all employees continued job security. A 3.5% wage cut on \$50K a year is only \$1,750. Not a lot to give up for job security. Offer incentives for retirement at certain levels so as to allow for re-allocation of the work force.</p>	<p>Reduced costs while maintaining job security and service levels.</p>
<p>The disabled parking program needs to be overhauled. Right now people with a disabled parking permit can pay \$20 a YEAR and park all day long on the street downtown without paying for parking. I believe the intent was that if disabled people had appointments or shopping downtown they wouldn't have to pay. It is being abused - people who live downtown are getting these passes and using the street as their residential parking space. People who work downtown are using the street as their free all day parking stall. Because really, \$20 a year is as close to free as you can get.</p>	<p>More parking revenue, fairness and equity for everyone who parks downtown regardless of ability/disability, stop the abuse, more turnover in parking spots so other people have a chance of finding an open spot for their appointments, shopping, etc.</p>

IDEA	OBJECTIVE
<p>Get rid of protected bike lanes Convert to front street garbage/recycle pickup up everywhere that it is physically possible Have garbage pickup up every 2 weeks year round Promote and keep momentum going on the 30 day challenge beyond the thirty days</p>	<p>All of these have probably been proposed already numerous times. . . anyway I am sure a lot of money is spent maintaining, painting, cleaning, replacing posts etc on the bike lanes which are used by less than 1% of the City's population (no I don't have empirical data for that percentage lol) As for back lane pickup, I am sure that money could be saved on back lane maintenance if there weren't big trucks constantly pounding down there. Never mind the tree trimming and fence repairs. Many of the surrounding communities don't have weekly pickup in summer. Why can't we do that too? There must be a cost savings to doing that. Lastly, though there are many cynics out there, I think having people think about ways to save money and reducing waste etc is important. Keep it on people's mind all the time instead of becoming complacent about the way things are done. Encourage people to question and make suggestions. Keep up the momentum! Every little bit helps despite the huge shortfall. Maybe all the little things can save one person's job if you get my drift.</p>
<p>Anyone with a valid permit from the abilities council can come to city hall and purchase a holographic sticker for \$20 (currently) This sticker allows those who purchased to park in a pay parking zone and not pay at the stations. They currently get 36 hr parking (bylaw changes are coming regarding this) They also get unlimited parking in the RPP's. There is no background check done with the abilities council to ensure that the permit does in fact belong to the person that purchased a sticker. The abuse is disheartening. The sales of this hologram are large. I propose that the price of the sticker be raised to \$100 or more per year and that the time be capped at 3 - 4 hrs per day. I also would propose that city hall require and application form be filled out, ID be shown and the permit be sold ONLY after the information has been deemed correct.</p>	<p>This will cut down on abuse, it will ensure more people are actually having to pay for their parking and abide by the bylaw. The abilities council will also be happier as currently this has created an issue for them as well with permit abuse/fraud</p>
<p>Edmonton has a 2-tiered rate for downtown parking. During weekly business hours it is a higher rate than Saturday and Sunday. Consider lowering rate for non-peak times, extend cut-off times from 6pm to 9pm all days, and add in Sunday metering all at the at the lower non-peak rate</p>	<p>Additional general revenue.</p>
<p>Reduce the \$5 Million operating grant paid to the Remai Modern gallery and challenge them to be more fiscally responsible. I.E. - Why have their operating costs/staffing levels been so high when there's been no building to operate? Can they operate using the other sponsorship/donation funds they've received from various governments/individuals/corporations?</p>	<p>Reduce City expenditures with no impact on service levels.</p>
<p>The Terry Fox Track should not be open during the summer season. Patron numbers are low and the city pays for a Cashier to be on site when it is open. The admission fees likely do not pay for the hourly wage. The Saskatoon Field House has their track open throughout the summer.</p>	<p>Save on staffing wages.</p>
<p>Revisit or delay \$3 million funding to University of Saskatchewan for Merlis Belcher Rink</p>	<p>Cost savings/postponement</p>
<p>Revisit or delay the 0.55% for increased snow clearing</p>	<p>Cost savings</p>
<p>Place money from photo radar and red light cameras in general revenue and lobby Province for more power to implement photo radar</p>	<p>Cost savings/increase revenue</p>

IDEA	OBJECTIVE
Additional taxation program for secondary suites – both legal and illegal suites	Increased revenue
Hotel/entertainment tax	
Expand the use of the Traffic Safety Reserve for things traffic related like, Traffic Noise Attenuation, Traffic signals etc. and then reduce the contributions to those reserves to capitalize on the significant amount of funds being generated from automated enforcement.	Reduction in transfers to reserves
We keep asking the province for more taxing powers and yet we have one that we don't use... the Amusement tax. Add an amount to each ticket sold at TCU Place, SaskTel Centre, sporting events, movie theatres, live theatre, outdoor concerts, etc.	Increased revenues.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biweekly garbage pick up with the option of triweekly - Stop or greatly ramp down any City-owned land development; refocus all effort on selling current assets - Emphasize and greatly focus on infill and raising property values (increase tax review) - Get out of the business of waste management: close city own landfill and contract out all services - Pursue and enter in more wastewater treatment partnerships with local communities (increase utility revenue) - Invest in more power generation opportunities to decrease reliance on Saskpower - Reduce the amount of bus routes in far out neighbourhoods - Sell large transit buses and replace them with smaller, more appropriately sized ones - cut back on OT - Invest in electric vehicles for certain business groups - Discontinue and/or reduce the role of V&E - Reduce overall energy consumption - implement a street clearing levy (or another utility charge) that corresponds to type of home and area (i.e. the larger the home, the more you pay; the more complicated the street is to clear, the more you pay; if you live in a condo or multi-res, you don't pay) - Sell naming rights to leisure centres - Recycle street sweepings - Implement charge at snow dumps - take advantage of more external funding opportunities (have a dedicated person to administer and coordinate internal groups to align with available funding opportunities, FCM for example) - consolidate staff to fewer buildings; sell or lease vacated assets 	Reduce expenses, or increase tax or utility revenues.
Consider a salary review/freeze/claw back of a set percentage (e.g. 5%) for employees earning in excess of a set amount (e.g. \$150,000)	Savings and leads by example re: fiscal responsibility/financial prudence
Charge households for volume of garbage instead of a flat rate	Savings (user pays)
Stop private sewer connection cleaning - Saskatoon is the only city that cleans sewer connections at no cost to the homeowner. This is normally done by private plumbing companies. The corporation should either discontinue this practice or charge homeowners a nominal fee.	There are significant savings to either eliminating the service or reallocating resources - or potential revenue earned by charging homeowners.