

Explainer: What Brenda Locke promises Surrey

The former city councillor vows to stop the Surrey Police Service transition and increase government transparency, among other things

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Former city councillor Brenda Locke was [elected mayor](#) of Surrey on Oct. 15 by a margin of less than a thousand votes over Doug McCallum. Locke promises to bring change to city hall and reverse some of McCallum's projects.

Locke's party, Surrey Connect, will also be represented in four of the eight city councillor positions, giving the party majority voting power.

Her [main campaign promise](#) was to halt the transition of the Surrey Police Service (SPS) from the RCMP, a project McCallum had pushed for, which is an action that will save residents of Surrey \$520 million over the next four years. The money from this cut will be [used](#) to fund public services like police and fire departments, as well as community facilities.

SPS officers already hired and trained will have access to a program to help move them into other positions, she told [Vancouver Sun](#).

Locke's Surrey Connect party also ran on improving the ethics of city hall. ******They will [instate a new Surrey Ethics Commissioner](#), as [the position was not extended](#) after the term of the most recent Commissioner, Reece Harding, ended in July.

Locke [does not plan](#) to go through with McCallum's promise to build a 60,000 person stadium in Surrey, which would have been the [largest stadium in Canada](#). Locke said [taxpayers had not been consulted](#) about this decision and the budget could better be used to fund community projects.

Locke will also [increase programs to check crime](#), including resources for youth, which will improve community safety.

Her [platform](#) included increasing transit in the form of buses to accommodate Surrey's rapid population growth. This would include creating additional rapid bus routes, adding to the [four buses](#) that were opened at the beginning of 2020 under McCallum.

To address the housing crisis in Surrey, Locke [plans](#) to implement a "red-tape reduction program" to increase the building permit approval process. She will also improve relations with the provincial and federal governments to access funding for developments in the city to better meet demand. Her goal is to decrease the backlog of requests and reduce permit wait times.

Transparency in government is another focus on Locke's platform, and her [campaign promises](#) included making budgets for future projects and developments open for the public to see.

Locke's successful election may mean students will notice changes in developments in the growing city of Surrey, as the population [is predicted](#) to pass 600,000 people by the end of 2022.

Info for youth crime services - [Surrey election: Where mayor-elect Brenda Locke stands on 6 key issues | Vancouver Sun](#) (Public safety section) - reworded

Info for transparency and transparent budgets - [Locke, Brenda | City of Surrey](#) and also [Surrey election: Where mayor-elect Brenda Locke stands on 6 key issues | Vancouver Sun](#) (taxes section) – reworded

Info for Surrey Connect stating the significance of diversity (and knowledgeability) on their team - [Vision - Surrey Connect](#) (near the top of the page) – removed

Info for intent to re-instate an ethics commissioner - [Vision - Surrey Connect](#) – info on how the last one was never replaced - [After just 2½ years, the future of Surrey's groundbreaking ethics office is uncertain | CBC News](#) - reworded

[Surrey election 2022: Brenda Locke defeats Doug McCallum | CTV News](#)

[Surrey election: Where mayor-elect Brenda Locke stands on 6 key issues | Vancouver Sun](#)

[Policy - Surrey Connect](#)

[Vision - Surrey Connect](#)

[Locke, Brenda | City of Surrey](#)

[A 60,000 seat stadium? Get real. - Surrey Connect](#)

[Wraparound \(surreyschools.ca\)](#)

[Time for an Upgrade: Fiscal Accountability in Canada's Cities, 2020 | C.D. Howe Institute | Canada Economy News | Canadian Government Policy \(cdhowe.org\)](#)

[City of Surrey Secures over \\$110,000 in Grant Funding to Launch Two New Youth Crime Prevention Programs | City of Surrey](#)

[Busy Surrey Travel Corridor Gets Faster and More Frequent Service with RapidBus | City of Surrey](#)

[After just 2½ years, the future of Surrey's groundbreaking ethics office is uncertain | CBC News](#)

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/brenda-locke-wins-surrey-1.6610558>