

ADDITIONAL ITEMS
PUBLIC AGENDA
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENT, UTILITIES
AND CORPORATE SERVICES

Monday, February 10, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Council Chamber, City Hall

Committee Members:

Councillor S. Gersher, Chair, Councillor H. Gough, Vice-Chair, Councillor T. Davies,
Councillor D. Hill, Councillor M. Loewen, His Worship, Mayor C. Clark (Ex-Officio)

Pages

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

2 - 9

Recommendation

1. That the following letters be added to Item 7.1.1:
 1. Speak and present a PowerPoint - Mike Velonas, Manager of Planning and Conservation, Meewasin Valley Authority, dated February 5, 2020
 2. Comments - Julia Adamson, Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc., dated February 7, 2020;
 3. Comments - Joanne Blythe, February 9, 2020;
 4. Comments - Branimir Gjetvaj, dated February 10, 2020;
2. That the items with speakers be heard immediately following Unfinished Business:
 1. 7.1.1 - Mike Velonas; and
3. That the agenda be approved as amended.

4110-38

From: Mike Velonas <mvelonas@meewasin.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2020 10:46 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council
Attachments: mva_goalsobjectives_2024.pdf



Submitted on Wednesday, February 5, 2020 - 10:45

Submitted by anonymous user: 142.165.131.160

Submitted values are:

Date Wednesday, February 05, 2020

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Mike

Last Name Velonas

Email mvelonas@meewasin.com

Address 402 3rd Ave S

City Saskatoon

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code S7K 3G5

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable) Meewasin Valley Authority

Subject Green Infrastructure Strategy

Meeting (if known) EUCS

Comments

Request by Meewasin to speak to EUCS at its February 10th meeting regarding the Green Infrastructure Strategy. City admin has asked Meewasin speak to this agenda item regarding our collaboration with the City on this project and potential funding opportunities. We have attached a handout and have a slide deck for the presentation. Please let me know how to provide you the power point. Thanks!

Attachments

[mva_goalsobjectives_2024.pdf](#)

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/367549>

Meewasin Valley Authority

Goals & Objectives 2019-2024

Created in 1979 under an act of provincial legislation, the Meewasin Valley Authority serves to maintain and upgrade the health of the river valley system and reinforce the river and its valley as a natural feature and a focus for community activity. Population surrounding the Meewasin corridor has grown by nearly 100,000 people since that time, with use, interest and pride in the river evolving commensurately. To reflect this growth and to continue to steward the health of the river valley corridor, Meewasin commits to three key themes:

Healthy & Vibrant

Inform, lead and add value to land management decisions affecting the natural and cultural interests of the river valley corridor.

- By 2024, propose and secure appropriate amendments to Meewasin's jurisdictional boundary to reflect urban growth and meet regional demand.

Maintain and upgrade the health of the river valley corridor to benefit our growing population and sustain biodiversity for future generations.

- Research and design a standardized valley-wide monitoring framework by 2020 to quantify health of the conservation zone. (This would be the annual "State of the Valley" report)
- Annually enhance and/or restore no less than 25% of property in the defined Meewasin corridor.
- Annually feature and introduce a stewardship strategy for at least one new priority site under Meewasin's jurisdiction.
- Establish a native seed bank and increase internal capacity to propagate native plant species by 3X by 2024.

Sense of Community

Coordinate and endorse a broad range of seasonal opportunities for citizens and visitors to connect with the river valley, learn about its history and significance and enhance its use.

- Develop Trail Design Guidelines by the end of calendar 2020 and improve trail linkages and capacity for three key areas by 2024:
 - o Circle Drive North to Crocus Prairie "North East";
 - o Spadina link to Holiday Park & Gordie Howe "Southwest"; and
 - o Upgrades from Shakespeare to River Landing "Downtown"
- In partnership with key agencies and organizations, revise, update and expand strategic programming to increase Meewasin's capacity to deliver K-12 curriculum, land management and tourism outreach by 2024.
- By Spring 2020, develop strategy to deliver year-round education and tourism programming, with implementation to begin no later than Fall 2020.
- Implement robust engagement & trail ambassador plan by 2021 to recruit volunteer capacity equivalent to 70 full-time employees annually in support of Meewasin's strategy

Protect the Legacy

Furthering the relationships, innovation, expertise, advocacy and reconciliation necessary to steward the river valley corridor.

- Engage perimeter communities, the RM of Corman Park, First Nations and Métis in Meewasin's work at least 2X annually to develop relationships and interest in future partnership.
- By Spring 2020, renew agreements with all Meewasin funding partners to ensure alignment of interests for the long-term stewardship of the river valley corridor.
- Pursue 10 new research relationships by 2024 with interested post-secondary institutions to further study of river valley ecosystem and develop local expertise.
- Successfully showcase Meewasin mission and strategy to complete a capital campaign in 2020/21.
- By 2021, finalize changes to governance and internal frameworks to support a model workplace and growth for the future.
- Annually partner with no fewer than 25 external organizations whose mandates align with Meewasin and support stated goals and objectives.
- Grow the value of charitable gifts and sponsorships and number of prospects by 15% year over year.

From: Julia Adamson <friendsafforestation@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 4:47 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council
Attachments: letter_of_support_yxe_green_strategy.docx



Submitted on Friday, February 7, 2020 - 16:46

Submitted by anonymous user: 71.17.42.9

Submitted values are:

Date Friday, February 07, 2020

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Julia

Last Name Adamson

Email friendsafforestation@gmail.com

Address [REDACTED]

City Saskatoon

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code [REDACTED]

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable) Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc.

Subject SPC on EUC committee meeting item 7.1 The Green Infrastructure Strategy: Towards an Interconnected Green Network

Meeting (if known) SPC on EUC Monday January 10 at 9 a.m.

Comments

The Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc. would like to submit the attached letter of support in regards to the The Green Infrastructure Strategy: Towards an Interconnected Green Network being presented at SPC on EUC Monday January 10 at 9 a.m.

Thank you kindly

Julia Adamson

on behalf of the board of directors

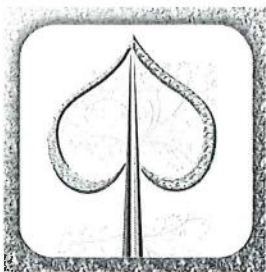
for the Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc.

Attachments

letter_of_support_yxe_green_strategy.docx

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/368548>



Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc.

<https://stbarbebaker.wordpress.com/>

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222 3rd Ave North
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Saskatoon, SK

306

friendsafforestation@gmail.com



Councillor Councillor S. Gersher, chair and members of the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services

It is our pleasure to write to the *Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services* to express our support for your attention to sustainability and the interconnected green network for both current and future generations. The new 2020 report being presented by Angela Gardiner, General Manager, Utilities & Environment, entitled; *The Green Infrastructure Strategy: Towards an Interconnected Green Network* is a milestone accomplishment for the city's well-being and quality of life.

The Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc. is a non-profit incorporation formed with a mission to conserve the public afforestation areas which we love. The creation of safe green spaces enables place-based learning experiences which are so necessary in this digital age, especially for youth. It will enhance the quality of life for all citizens when they can connect with the rich natural, cultural and geological history of these naturalized, semi-wilderness spaces. Their aesthetic, scientific, and spiritual heritage enhances our civic cultural experience and can expand tourism.

The work that YXE Green Infrastructure Strategy and the City of Saskatoon Department of Sustainability is doing is well-intentioned, well-researched, and articulates the positive effect it will have for the City of Saskatoon in providing this vision of "a sustainable habitat for both people and nature."

The *Green Infrastructure Strategy: Towards an Interconnected Green Network* was created through engagement, collaboration, and understanding the needs of a wide cross-section of community members. The City of Saskatoon, by approving this report, is indeed, showing commitment to its strategic goal of environmental leadership. By promoting this vision, our city is better prepared for wetter, wilder and warmer weather anticipated with climate change. This report, by acknowledging the value and benefits of natural assets, is a catalyst to improve our way of life, our economy and our environment. Environmental initiatives do, indeed provide a great many tangible and intangible benefits, and do have a strong positive impact for a city with long-range plans towards metropolis status.

In Saskatoon, the interconnected green network is of tremendous importance if we want to create a city in which all people can thrive. Implementing this report helps our vision of becoming a city with engaged citizens who have a strong sense of community and place.

We, the Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc, look forward to working with the City of Saskatoon in identifying further specific actions and policies to promote this green vision.

Kind Regards

Julia Adamson

on behalf of the board of directors

for the Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc.

From: Joanne Blythe <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, February 9, 2020 11:42 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council
Attachments: letter_standing_policy_committee_green_infrastructure_strategy.pdf

Submitted on Sunday, February 9, 2020 - 23:42

Submitted by anonymous user: 142.165.171.251

Submitted values are:

Date Sunday, February 09, 2020
To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name Joanne
Last Name Blythe
Email jblythe@sasktel.net
Address [REDACTED] South
City Saskatoon
Province Saskatchewan
Postal Code [REDACTED]
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable)
Subject Green Infrastructure Strategy
Meeting (if known) Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services
Comments I am submitting a letter. I am not requesting to speak.
Attachments
letter_standing_policy_committee_green_infrastructure_strategy.pdf



The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/368934>

██████████ Ave.
Saskatoon, SK
██████████

February 9, 2020



Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services
City Hall,
Saskatoon, SK

To: Councillor S. Gersher, chair and members of the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services

RE: Agenda Item 7.1.1 of the Meeting of February 10, 2020

I would like to extend my thanks and congratulations to the City of Saskatoon for initiating the Green Infrastructure Strategy and to the Green Strategy's Project Team and Steering Committee, for taking the steps in developing and producing this comprehensive and thorough report.

As a citizen of Saskatoon, I am pleased to see that this report provides the framework and the actions needed to protect and enhance the natural areas in our city and to develop a truly green network consisting of connected natural and naturalized areas, parks, recreational areas, urban forest, urban agriculture sites and city neighbourhoods. The recommended goals and actions are more than pretty window dressing that make our city a nice place to live; they are in fact necessary for our continued well-being and survival in this place. Implementing the Green Infrastructure Strategy will help to mitigate the effects of climate change, by providing natural carbon sinks, reducing the heat island effect of cities and by helping to provide resilience in the wake of climate extremes such as drought and overland flooding.

Most importantly, following its guidelines will help conserve and support biodiversity, that is the life of the many living plants and creatures with whom we humans share this place, whose numbers are falling at alarming rates and whose existence is threatened by many of our current practices. The wetlands, grasslands, riparian areas, trees, animals, birds, insects – all need our protection and support.

It is my hope that the City will see the wisdom of implementing the Green Infrastructure Strategy and will wholeheartedly support it, and not allow its objectives to be watered down. I look forward to the City's continued engagement with the community in identifying and implementing specific actions and projects.

Sincerely,

Joanne Blythe

4110-38
RECEIVED

FEB 10 2020

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
SASKATOON**

From: Branimir Gjetvaj <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 8:02 AM
To: Web E-mail - City Clerks
Subject: Meeting of the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services

Dear Ms. Sackmann

I would like to express my support for the City of Saskatoon in developing and implementing the Green Infrastructure Strategy. The Strategy is a forward-looking document that will assist city planners in land-use planning to deliver multiple benefits to its citizens; increased mental and physical health, quality of life, increase citizen's connection with to green and natural spaces, protect biodiversity and inter-connectedness of natural areas, and help us in our quest to mitigate and adapt to challenges brought by the changing climate. I would like to stress the importance that the Green Strategy is implemented and referred to in any future city land use planning and development.

Sincerely,

Branimir Gjetvaj
Saskatoon

Dr. Branimir Gjetvaj
E-mail: [REDACTED]
Phone: (306) [REDACTED]
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