Subject:

Email - Communication - Donna Leszko - Proposed Location of School in City's Core - School Closures in Core Neighbourhoods - CK 610-11

From: Web NoReply < web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 11:13 AM **To:** City Council < City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>

Subject: Email - Communication - Donna Leszko - Proposed Location of School in City's Core - School Closures in Core

Neighbourhoods - CK 610-11

--- Replies to this email will go to

Submitted on Monday, February 15, 2021 - 11:12

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Date Monday, February 15, 2021

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Donna

Last Name Leszko

Phone Number (306)

Email

Address Ave J south

City Saskatoon

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code

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

Subject Proposed Location of School in city core.

Meeting (if known)

Comments

I live near Optimist Park, and on my frequent walks there I see a great diversity of neighbours enjoying that small, but important park year-round. Riversdale already has a lack of green space. I am writing to strongly urge you to vote against any proposal to take away half the park land for a large new Public elementary school, paved parking and access for diesel school buses, especially since community consultation has been a hit and miss scenario. It was the community associations who had to reach out to the SPSD. A community meeting did occur but only after the insistence of the school board that no media would participate.

I am disappointed that civic administration would even consider this as an acceptable possibility. They have not in any way spoken with the people who would be affected by losing half their precious park space. Again, a lack of public consultation. I am left wondering if this lack of consultation would happen in the higher end neighbourhoods. Do they believe that parks, safety and good housing isn't a desire of people living in the core areas.

Optimist Park is on the edge of Riversdale in the West Industrial, and we have a deficiency of park space- far less than most Saskatoon neighborhoods. We also live with the negative aftermath of zoning decisions that were made in the early 1900s, that bring noisy, stinky and polluting industrial operations. We, as a community have lived with this for 42

years with no change in site from city planning. This makes our small park a real refuge for children and adults.

Please don't allow any of this important park space to be paved and built over. If the City of Saskatoon is looking for a place for a recreation centre, White Buffalo redevelopment or new school, please look to redevelop one of the vacant lots in our communities. Do something positive, rather than negative, for the community or do we have to wait another 42 years .

Donna Leszko
ave J south
Saskatoon.
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