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April 9, 2021

City of Saskatoon Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services

I recall when the Meadowgreen Recycle Centre was first proposed. As members of the Meadowgreen Community Assoc. we went about the neighbourhood, explained to people what it was and how this would enhance our ability to recycle.

Initially I felt the Centre was poorly planned as the access was directly off of Whitney Avenue, congesting a busy corner that has a bus stop and access to the back alley. Access off the back alley would have been more practical.

The idea of a recycle centre soon became marred by people dumping everything there, although this did take the pressure off the big garbage bins and illegal dumping in the back alley.

Dumping in itself was bad enough, but the main problem was transients and scavengers going through the bins, dumping everything on the ground, then the wind would blow it around the neighborhood. Some would end up in the trees nearby where transients would set up camp with what they scavenged from the Centre.

When you suggested to people that they should not dump or scavenge, it usually resulted in a verbal or physical confrontation.

The closure of the Centre will eliminate some of the problems, but I can assure you that illegal dumping in the back alley will increase. Thanks to cell phone cameras we can catch some of these violators. I for one will be vigilant and I will be calling for you to pick up illegal dumps.

Robert A. Roy
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