

## Walter, Penny

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**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Swapna Padmanabha - Proposed Closure of Right-of-Way – Portion of Spadina Crescent East – Downtown Neighbourhood - CK 6295-022-001  
**Attachments:** to\_his\_worship.docx

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**From:** Web NoReply <[web-noreply@saskatoon.ca](mailto:web-noreply@saskatoon.ca)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 24, 2022 7:12 AM

**To:** City Council <[City.Council@saskatoon.ca](mailto:City.Council@saskatoon.ca)>

**Subject:** Email - Communication - Swapna Padmanabha - Proposed Closure of Right-of-Way – Portion of Spadina Crescent East – Downtown Neighbourhood - CK 6295-022-001

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Tuesday, May 24, 2022 - 07:12

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

Date Tuesday, May 24, 2022

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Swapna

Last Name Padmanabha

Phone Number [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED] Spadina Crescent East, 1650

City Saskatoon

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code [REDACTED]

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

Subject Public Notice: Proposed Closure of Road- Portion of Spadina Crescent East

Meeting (if known) Public Hearing Meeting

Comments I will be attending remotely and can answer questions or clarify if requested.

Attachments

[to\\_his\\_worship.docx](#)

Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting? No

May 24, 2022

To His Worship, the Mayor and City Council,

I am writing today to protest the Public Notice: Proposed Closure of Road - portion of Spadina Crescent East

As a resident of 424 Spadina Crescent East, I find the purpose behind the road closure to be at odds with the best interests of the City of Saskatoon, in general. As a resident, I have fully supported ventures to increase Saskatoon's revenues, to facilitate greater downtown awareness and use, and to promote and support tourism for our beautiful city. While this has not always been in my personal interest, I have also benefitted or enjoyed many positive events that increase traffic, restrict access and parking to my building, affect the noise and smell levels outside and within my building such as:

- The Saskatoon Jazz Festival
- The Fringe
- Rock on the River
- Saskatoon Dragon Boat races and training for the event that happens most morning during the summer (I can hear the boaters as they row in tandem with their coach/trainer shouting and whistling in the early hours)
- Taste of Saskatchewan
- Pets in the Park
- The Saskatoon Santa Claus Parade
- Drumming at the Vimy Memorial

As well as things that I do not so willingly accept such as Anti-Vax protests, the Freedom Convoy, Pro-Life protestors, etc.

While these events and occurrences are part of tourism, freedom of choice, and encouraging community spirit, the current road closure is being undertaken to further facilitate the growth of Saskatoon through an outdoor event space. In particular, the road closure is to facilitate the housing of a multipurpose facility that will include public washrooms. The city, must not, make the mistake of allowing for the creation of a space that will not bode well for the city or all of the events currently happening at Kiwanis Park, the River, the Vimy Memorial and all along the river.

Our city, beautiful as it is, still suffers from homelessness, vandalism, drug use, and other crimes that all cities are susceptible to. Placing public washrooms, just metres away from a previously constructed and now closed public washroom at the Vimy Memorial, is extremely short-sighted. The underside of the Broadway bridge currently houses homeless peoples throughout the year, and the riverfront areas also house summer partying and late-night activities that may or may not be in the city's best interest. The opening of a public washroom will most certainly affect the peoples utilizing the space directly in front of 424 Spadina Crescent during both day and night. The current public washroom at the Vimy Memorial was closed due to increased vandalism and drug use. The public washrooms in most downtown locations have been

closed or subjected to black light use to discourage drug use and transients using the facilities as shelters. I do not wish to place undue hardship on those that have less than me, but I also do not support the city creating a space that has already been shown to be problematic for itself. If the city cannot support and maintain the opening of already erected public washrooms just metres away from the current proposed site, why would the city entertain the idea of creating a second space for public washrooms?

Importantly, the city also reaps the benefits of all the homeowners in 424 Spadina Crescent who pay taxes and contribute to our city's revenues. To remove green space directly in front of our building...not 100 metres away, not around the corner, not along the river but DIRECTLY in front of our building in a cul-de-sac and at the entrance to the Broadway Bridge walkway, is both harmful to the residents of our building and taking negative advantage of those who pay (both monetarily and through inconvenience) for the choice of living downtown.

If, public washrooms, a ticket or maintenance office or any other type of facility is necessary for the proposed outdoor event area, then that particular structure should be on the same side of the bridge as the event area itself. Importantly, as the city embraced and moved forward with River Landing, the Remail Centre and other ventures to promote the City's overall move to beautify and enhance the downtown and river areas, then that area should continue to be pursued and enhanced through public washrooms erected between the River Landing area and the proposed new outdoor event space rather than encroaching on areas that house Saskatoon residents and visitors throughout the year.

I urge His Worship, the Mayor, and the members of our City Council to reject the proposed closure and subsequent building of a permanent facility on the proposed space. Please note that I am currently on day 5 of isolation for COVID otherwise I would have attended this meeting in person and will be watching the live stream to show my support for those protesting this proposed closure and I thank all those who take the time to consider this missive.

Sincerely,

Swapna Padmanabha

██████████ Spadina Crescent East

Saskatoon, SK ██████████