

October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Secretary, SPC on Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development & Community Services

Dear Secretary,

**Re: Street Activity Subcommittee - Extreme Weather Strategy**

The Street Activity Subcommittee, at its meeting held on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 resolved to write a letter to the Standing Policy Committee on Policy, Development & Community Services to ask the City departments involved with the Extreme Weather Strategy, such as Saskatoon Fire Department and Emergency Management Organization, to look at ways of providing water and hydration stations and provide feedback to the Street Activity Subcommittee.

This summer the Community Support Officers encountered many people who were suffering from dehydration, especially amid periods of sweltering heat. People who have trouble accessing fresh water, are street-entrenched, traveling long-distances on foot or visiting outdoor festival sites need access to water in our core neighbourhoods and business districts.

While there are civic facilities and service providers that do provide water during operating hours, further accessibility is needed, especially for those who are banned from entering various buildings.

In Winnipeg, Edmonton and Vancouver this past summer, the City tapped fire hydrants as water stations to keep their citizens hydrated during extreme warm weather either as drinking fountains, bottle fillers, misting stations and/or hand washing stations.

The Street Activity Subcommittee respectfully requests that these imperative assets be integrated into Saskatoon's urban landscape in preparation for future extreme heat events.

Yours truly,



**DeeAnn Mercier, Chair**  
Street Activity Subcommittee

cc: General Manager, Community Services Department  
DeeAnn Mercier, Chair, Street Activity Subcommittee