

Janzen, Heather

Subject: FW: Email - Communication - David Pyett - Downtown New Arena - CK 4130-14

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

Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:09 PM

To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>

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

Submitted on Thursday, November 10, 2022 - 16:08

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

Date: Thursday, November 10, 2022

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: David

Last Name: Pyett

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] Armistice Way

City: Saskatoon

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code: [REDACTED]

Subject: New Arena

Comments:

I am writing to oppose the downtown arena project. I do not see the need for such a project for the following reasons.

1 The City has no tenant for such a building. This not a if we build it they will come. The City cannot afford to build a building with no chance of recouping the costs either to build it or operate it.

2 The City could renovate the present building at a substantially lower cost. Yes the existing building has deficiencies but they are not insurmountable.

3 Yes, other Cities have built such downtown arenas but their success has been limited in drawing people to the downtown core. Winnipeg which is sized closest in population as Saskatoon, has not been able to revitalize its downtown with the building of there arena. Winnipeg and Edmonton which are two cities cited by Mayor Clark also hold an NHL team, a major draw. Saskatoon does not have such a draw.

4 Public engagement, such as it was, asked which of two sites residents preferred but no option to veto the project.

Public input was online only, many of your residents are older and may not have embraced the electronic age. Many of these people, left out of your public engagement, are homeowners and tax payers.

5 How does the City propose to deal with the homeless in the downtown who will no doubt see the arena as place for warmth and shelter. The Saskatoon Tribal Councils new wellness centre will not alleviate homeless downtown.

6 Parking will be a major issue. We have been told that there are 3600 parking stalls in the area but realistically how many of those will actually be available as many are located on private property. Bus Rapid Transit, may provide a solution but only if Saskatoon gets it right.

Unless these concerns can be publically addressed, I fail to see how elected officials can legitimately proceed with the project. This project should have been put to plebiscite.

Sincerely,

David Pyett

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