

Walter, Penny

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Mackenzie Burnett - Saskatoon Climate Hub - Transportation Business Line Information and Environmental Health Business Line Information - CK 430-72 x 1700-1
Attachments: Saskatoon Climate Hub Letter Regarding July 25, 2023 Special Meeting on Governance and Priorities Committee.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 4:32 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Mackenzie Burnett - Saskatoon Climate Hub - Transportation Business Line Information and Environmental Health Business Line Information - CK 430-72 x 1700-1

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

Submitted on Monday, July 24, 2023 - 16:26

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

I have read and understand the above statements.: Yes

I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.: No

I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.: No

Date: Monday, July 24, 2023

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: She/her/hers

First Name: Mackenzie

Last Name: Burnett

Email: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] 5th Avenue N, [REDACTED]

City: Saskatoon

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code: [REDACTED]

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Saskatoon Climate Hub

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: July 25, 2023 Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 4.3.1 Transportation Business Line Information [GPC2023-0703]; 4.3.4 Environmental Health Business Line Information [GPC2023-0701]

Comments:

Dear Mayor Clark and Councillors,

Please accept our letter regarding the July 25th, 2023 Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting. On behalf of the Saskatoon Climate Hub, thank you for your consideration and work on these vital issues.

Sincerely,

Ines Sanchez-Rodriguez, Ward 10 citizen
Mackenzie Burnett, Ward 6 citizen




Attachments:

- [Saskatoon Climate Hub Letter Regarding July 25, 2023 Special Meeting on Governance and Priorities Committee.pdf](#) 104.75 KB

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



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CLIMATE HUB

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July 24, 2023

Saskatoon City Council
222 3rd Ave North
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

Dear Mayor Clark and Councillors,

We are writing on behalf of the Saskatoon Climate Hub, an organisation operating under the umbrella of Climate Reality Canada. Our objective is to unite a broad coalition of Saskatonians who are eager to address the climate crisis at the local level in order to drive local change.

Today, we are reaching out to express our concerns about the upcoming discussion related to the City's 2024-2025 Business Plan and Budget. We write to you amidst the most destructive fire season in Canadian history, one that's burned more than 25 million acres—an area larger than Portugal (1). We write to you knowing that 37% of the burned forest area in Western Canada and the United States from 1986-2021 can be traced back to 88 major fossil fuel producers and cement manufacturers (2). We write to you after facing the hottest day ever recorded, July 6th, 2023 (3).

We appreciate the initiative the City has shown through the development of its Climate Action Plan. We urge you to consider your commitments to this plan as well as to current and future Saskatonians while making decisions about the upcoming budget. We can not afford to delay climate action. If we do, it will cost the City and its citizens greatly; each additional year of delay in implementing mitigation will cost an additional 0.3–0.9 trillion dollars in the future (4).




We understand that the City is currently seeking to address a budgetary deficit and we have carefully reviewed the Public Agenda Meeting for the Governance and Priorities Committee scheduled for July 25th, 2023. What follows are our recommendations regarding the Transportation and Environmental Health Business Lines.

4.3.1 Transportation Business Line [GPC2023-0703]

To effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions, it is crucial for the City to prioritise efforts in lowering car dependency and promoting public transportation. **Therefore, we recommend eliminating transit fares for citizens 13 and younger.**



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CLIMATE HUB

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Currently, Saskatoon Transit is only free for children under 5. In comparison, Regina, Winnipeg, Calgary, and Edmonton have all made transit fares free for children ranging for 13, 12, and 11 and under.

4.3.4 Environmental Health Business Line [GPC2023-0701]

Regarding the decision report for the Environmental Health Business Line, **we oppose the following proposed options:**

- **Options 1 and 6**, which may increase waste, resulting in higher emissions.
- **Option 9**, which may force the City to make decisions on climate change mitigation under significant uncertainty due to a lack of updated information on greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Options 7, 10, and 11**, which could hinder the city's ability to adapt to climate change, foster a culture of sustainability, and preserve green spaces.

On behalf of the Saskatoon Climate Hub, thank you for your consideration and work on these vital issues.

Sincerely,

Ines Sanchez-Rodriguez, Ward 10 citizen

Mackenzie Burnett, Ward 6 citizen

1- Chappell, B. (2023, July 21). Why can't Canada just put the fires out? Here are 5 answers to key questions. NPR. <https://www.npr.org/2023/07/21/1188618934/canada-wildfires-answers>

2- Osborne, M. (2023, July 6). Earth faces hottest day ever recorded—three days in a row. Smithsonian Magazine. <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/earth-faces-hottest-day-ever-recorded-three-days-in-a-row-180982493/>

3- Dahl, K.A. et al (2023, May 16). Quantifying the contribution of major carbon producers to increases in vapor pressure deficit and burned area in western US and southwestern Canadian forests. Environmental Research Letters, 18, 064011). <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/acbce8>

4- Sanderson, B.M., O'Neill, B.C. (2020, June 8). Assessing the costs of historical inaction on climate change. Scientific Reports, 10, 9173. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-66275-4>