

Lasby, Mary

Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Meghan Mickelson - Swale Watchers - Natural Areas Policy Framework - CK 4110-38
Attachments: January 7-SwaleWatcher-Submission.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Sunday, January 7, 2024 9:09 AM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Meghan Mickelson - Swale Watchers - Natural Areas Policy Framework - CK 4110-38

--- Replies to this email will go to swalewatchers@gmail.com ---

Submitted on Sunday, January 7, 2024 - 09:07

Submitted by user: Anonymous

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: Sunday, January 07, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: She/her/hers

First Name: Meghan

Last Name: Mickelson

Email: swalewatchers@gmail.com

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: ██████ 2nd St E

Ward: Ward 6

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

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: SPC-PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - PUBLIC

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 8.3.1

Comments:

View attached letter

Attachments:

- [January 7-SwaleWatcher-Submission.pdf](#)64.61 KB

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



January 7, 2023

8.3.1 Natural Areas Policy Framework.

We look forward to reviewing the various tools described in this report when they become available later in the year. Saskatoon is far behind the curve when it comes to protecting natural areas, and these new policies and procedures can't come soon enough. Recently, we had an opportunity to speak with Catherine Shier, formerly the Senior Ecological Planner for the City of Edmonton (did you hear that—Senior *Ecological* Planner), now conservation coordinator with Edmonton's Valley Zoo. She was shocked to learn that the City of Saskatoon still does not have a bylaw or policy directive establishing its commitment to protect and enhance biodiversity.

While we wait for the Natural Area Policy Framework to be fleshed out, the City's most important biodiversity hotspots—the Northeast and Small Swales—continue to be at risk. Remember the old saying about shutting the barn door after the horse has run away? The Swales are the best of what's left in this city, and we trust that they will be top of mind as the various aspects of the Framework are developed. How can the new tools guide and support the protection of these irreplaceable natural assets while we still have time?

Meghan Mickelson, co-chair
Swale Watchers

www.swalewatchers.org email: swalewatchers@gmail.com