## Janzen, Heather

From: City Council Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Samantha Cowan - Climate Changes Impact on Saskatoon - File CK 1700-1 **Attachments:** Letter of Support (Citizen).pdf From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca> Sent: Sunday, November 26, 2023 3:59 PM To: City Council < City. Council@Saskatoon.ca> Subject: Email - Communication - Sarah Cowan - Climate Changes Impact on Saskatoon - File CK 1700-1 --- Replies to this email will go to Submitted on Sunday, November 26, 2023 - 15:59 Submitted by user: 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, November 26, 2023 To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council Pronouns: She/her/hers First Name: Samantha Last Name: Cowan Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: COW-an **Phone Number:** Email: Address: Clarence Ave S

Neighbourhood: Nutana

City: Saskatoon

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code:

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments? (if known):: City meeting on Preliminary Business Plan and Budget Review, commencing November 28th, 2023 at 930am

## **Comments:**

The letter underscores the urgency of addressing climate change's impact on Saskatoon and calls for prioritizing funding and initiatives in ecology and conservation. It highlights the essential work of organizations like SOS Trees and the Meewasin Valley Authority and stresses that the city's budgets and policies should reflect a commitment to minimizing climate change's effects. The author emphasizes the benefits of a green city, including better health, economic prosperity, green spaces, and tourism opportunities. Concerns about the preservation of the American Elm, a species at risk, are also raised, emphasizing the importance of timely action. The letter urges city councilors to support and fund programs combating the climate crisis and calls on Mayor Clark and councilors to champion climate and environmental action.

## Attachments:

• Letter of Support (Citizen).pdf35.58 KB

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

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.saskatoon.ca/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform 398/submission/64000

November 27th, 2023

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

Your Worship, the Mayor, and Saskatoon City Councillors;

Climate change is not isolated. I know that climate change will impact Saskatoon, it already has. With the expansion in development and population, I want to see that initiatives, services and projects in ecology and conservation are funded, and prioritized.

Projects such as the tireless work of SOS Trees, and the Meewasin Valley Authority, among many leaders, require funding and support.

The climate crisis should also inform the city's budgets and policies now and in the future. A continued unwavering focus on and support for minimizing climate change in our city will leave future generations with better health, more economic and social prosperity, more trees and green spaces, and a higher quality of life. I also believe it will fundamentally bring in more tourism dollars and resource to our City, as we are already considered a leader as a green city and the opportunities in sustainable tourism and sustainable cities is endless. There's so much to be said for keeping Saskatoon green.

My biggest concern currently comes from the fact that the American Elm are a species at risk - Saskatoon is so jaw-droppingly lucky to have so many. If our pruning schedule were to be cut or delayed - I believe that would be detrimental. This is a precious species at risk that makes up 25% of our important tree canopy. Our American Elms are undoubtedly an asset to the city in so many ways. We are living in a time where further delay of climate mitigation is unacceptable and irresponsible. For the 2024-2025 budget, funding towards Saskatoon's Climate Plan and beyond this, and other initiatives in conservation should be given priority.

As a citizen of Saskatoon, I want my city councilor to support and fund programs, services and initiatives that will fight the climate crisis. I've come to rely on services here in the city, such as the good work in resource management, as well as in community support and tourism; the Meewasin Valley Authority provides so much and I believe they should receive support as well.

I hope the City maintains our current I urge Mayor Clark and Councillors to champion action and use its decision making power to enable the city to face the climate and environmental crisis head on.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Samantha Cowan Ward 6 Citizen

