
From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Peter Goode - Saskatoon Road Runners Association - Letter in support of the Meewasin Valley Authority Funding - CK 1700-1
Attachments: MVA support letter November 2023.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Sunday, November 19, 2023 7:16 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Peter Goode - Saskatoon Road Runners Association - Letter in support of the Meewasin Valley Authority Funding - CK 1700-1

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

Submitted on Sunday, November 19, 2023 - 19:13

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: Sunday, November 19, 2023

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: Peter

Last Name: Goode

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: Good

Phone Number : 306 [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] Lynd Crescent

Neighbourhood: [Stonebridge](#)

City: Saskatoon

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code: S7T [REDACTED]

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Saskatoon Road Runners Association

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

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: Funding for the Meewasin Valley Authority

Comments:

I am submitting a letter in support of the Meewasin Valley Authority, on behalf of the Saskatoon Road Runners Association. (see attached)

Attachments:

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



November 19, 2023

Mayor and Council, City of Saskatoon

RE: City of Saskatoon Preliminary Business Plan and Budget Review – with respect to the Meewasin Valley Authority

I am writing on behalf of the Saskatoon Road Runners Association (SRRA), a local club dedicated to healthy bodies and healthy minds through many running events throughout the year. The SRRA's history dates to the late 1970s, roughly the same time as R. Moriyama was producing his vision for the MVA. As a Geography and Planning student at the time, I remember that report well and was excited for Saskatoon. We have a long history together and it is with great enthusiasm that we offer our support for the Meewasin Valley Authority, an institution that has played a crucial role in the development and enhancement of our region's natural and outdoor recreation assets. The SRRA and the MVA have grown together.

Meewasin's commitment to preserving the South Saskatchewan River valley is not only a testament to their dedication to environmental stewardship but a key fundraising institution for gathering the community to support important infrastructure projects, like necessary trail infrastructure upgrades. The Meewasin Valley provides an exceptional natural backdrop for community events and public access to nature in an urban environment, making our region an attractive destination for residents and visitors alike. Its well-maintained riverbanks, trails, and green spaces contribute to the high quality of life that draws people to our community and supports local commerce.

By promoting local history, heritage, and cultural activities, they create a vibrant and dynamic atmosphere that attracts tourists and bolsters the local economy. Specifically, we would like to highlight their commitment and volunteerism to Saskatchewan's annual marathon, engaging with our club and community to enhance the area for accessibility and ensure a successful marathon.

As costs for all operations increase, a freeze is a significant detriment and will have negative effects for their organization and many partners. Further, the funds the city continues to allocate to support for trail infrastructure is invaluable to a meaningful corridor for active transportation and recreation for over 2 million visits per year.

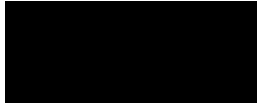
Meewasin's efforts to protect and enhance this unique urban wilderness are instrumental in supporting community connection and ensuring learning and recreation opportunities to support a healthy next generation. We believe that their mission aligns seamlessly with the interests of the vision for the City of Saskatoon, and we are committed to working collaboratively to ensure the ongoing success of this cherished organization.

The MVA is important to the SRRA, the City of Saskatoon residents, and many visitors we have each year. It is much more than just trails – and while we certainly use the trails (paved, gravel, etc.) to a massive

extent, we – and the residents and visitors to Saskatoon – benefit in so many other ways. Mental health, enjoyment of the natural environment, educational opportunities, and simply pleasure being in such an amazing environment. We have Moriyama and the MVA, the province, the University of Saskatchewan, and the City of Saskatoon to thank for such a treasure.



In conclusion, while we understand the challenges our city faces with budgetary decisions, we are asking that CPI for 2024 & 2025 be reinstated for Meewasin, as well, and we ask that all other funding, including the trail infrastructure funds provided to Meewasin annually are not impacted.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Peter Goode

President, Saskatoon Road Runners Association

 Lynd Crescent, Saskatoon, S7T 

306-