

Janzen, Heather

Subject: FW: Email - Communication - John Penner - Tree Protection Bylaw - CK 4200-0

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

Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 2:26 PM

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

Subject: Email - Communication - John Penner - Tree Protection Bylaw - CK 4200-0

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

Submitted on Friday, January 26, 2024 - 14:22

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: Friday, January 26, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: John

Last Name: Penner

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] 7th Ave N

Ward: Ward 1

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): SOS Tree Coalition

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: City Council Meeting Jan 31, 2024

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: Tree Protection Bylaw Agenda Item 11.2.1

Comments:

Dear City Council,

I am writing this letter to you in support of the proposed Tree Protection Bylaw.

Here are the reasons why we need a Tree Protection Bylaw.

1. The Dutch Elm disease has hit the city and the number of cases is increasing and will increase exponentially in the future. The consequences could be devastating.
2. The city is losing boulevard trees due to drought, old age, disease and infill development. While some of these trees are being replaced the replacement seems to lag behind due to funding shortages and associated policies. It takes many years before a replacement tree provides the same level of benefits as the tree it replaces.
3. Current tree protection legislation is scattered about the administration and can be confusing to residents and developers as well as the staff responsible for administrating them. We need clear goals, standards, rules and means of enforcement which will reduce ambiguities for all.
4. Current standards are inadequate, particularly I the protection of root zone important to the survival of trees. Some developers are quite conscientious about protection while many are not and provide only token protection during infill development. Current inspection procedures lack vigour an enforcement mechanisms are lacking. Significant financial penalties are required to obtain compliance.
5. Passage of the proposed Tree Protection Bylaw would send a clear message to residents and developers that the City of Saskatoon values its urban forest and would encourage everyone to treat the urban forest with love and respect.

In conclusion, I would also hope that the city would mount an educational and promotional program to accompany the passage of the bylaw. Perhaps the City could also provide some form of assistance to developers in tree protection such as borrowable steel flats to cover the root zone during construction and potable cages to protect tree trunks.

In the SOS Coalition meetings with ward Councillors and residents this past fall, there was an overwhelming support for the protection and expansion of the urban forest. Everyone loves trees and boulevard trees must be treated as public assets.

John Penner
Board Member, SOS Tree Coalition
Urban Design Consultant

Sent from my iPad

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