

## Walter, Penny

---

**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Sherry Tarasoff - City Centre and Downtown Event and Entertainment Plan – Interim Strategic Directions Report - CK 4130-14  
**Attachments:** 2024-02-14 8.3.3 City Centre and Downtown Event and Entertainment Plan – Interim Strategic Directions Report.pdf

---

**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 12, 2024 4:45 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Sherry Tarasoff - City Centre and Downtown Event and Entertainment Plan – Interim Strategic Directions Report - CK 4130-14

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

Submitted on Monday, February 12, 2024 - 16:44

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, February 12, 2024

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**First Name:** Sherry

**Last Name:** Tarasoff

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** [REDACTED] Peterson Cres

**Ward:** Ward 4

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** GPC - February 14, 2024

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** 8.3.3 City Centre and Downtown Event and Entertainment Plan – Interim Strategic Directions Report

**Comments:**

Please find my comments attached. Thank you.

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

### 8.3.3 City Centre and Downtown Event and Entertainment Plan – Interim Strategic Directions Report

The DEED project has not been approved definitively. How will this new Plan be impacted if a new arena is not approved to be built downtown?

The Information Report indicates that *“The vision for the Downtown and the District builds upon the success of the 2013 City Centre Plan.”* Since 2013, what has been the success of the City Centre Plan? The only thing that I could find is an [Implementation and Priority Strategy](#) from late 2014 that listed 25 near-term projects, 13 mid-term projects and 5 long-term projects, none of which have status updates. The *“Building on Success in the City Centre”* report lists many highlights since 2013 but does not distinguish which were related directly to the City Centre Plan. The Information Report also states *“The Plan will be used as the foundation upon which future Downtown-related budget requests, both capital and operating, will be based.”* This is an ambitious statement, considering that the previous City Centre Plan appears to have made little progress.

The Interim Strategic Directions Report indicates that downtown is an economic force with *“Over 10% of the city’s total municipal property tax, less than 1% of its area.”* This seems to indicate that downtown properties generate a greater tax revenue per acre than the rest of the city. Where is the comparison of the foregone property taxes on the civic-owned DEED properties (which will be tax-exempt) vs what the collected property taxes may have been had the City Centre Plan been followed (potential commercial or mixed-use buildings on the North Midtown parking lot)?

The Interim Strategic Directions Report does not consider public washrooms in the Public Realm Strategy. Why not?

Under the Economy and Land Use Strategy, the Interim Strategic Directions Report mentions the market demand analysis that was conducted. The key takeaways that are listed failed to mention the recommended action of *“Establishing a pattern of ongoing housing development in Downtown Saskatoon is the most catalytic development-related action that can be taken to support the vibrancy of downtown.”*