
From: Web NoReply
Sent: Saturday, February 3, 2024 10:21 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Email - Communication - Kathryn Green - Saskatoon Freeway Planning Study – Phase 2 Endorsement Request - CK 6003-1

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Submitted on Saturday, February 3, 2024 - 22:06

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: Saturday, February 03, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: She/her/hers

First Name: Kathryn

Last Name: Green

Phone Number : [639](tel:639-) [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] Main St, Saskatoon S7N [REDACTED]

Ward: Ward 6

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

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Standing Policy Committee on Transportation

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 7.2.2 Saskatoon Freeway Planning Study – Phase 2 Endorsement Request [TS2024-0205]

Comments:

I urge the committee NOT to endorse the Saskatoon Freeway Functional Planning Study because of the harm it would do to the important and irreplaceable ecosystems of the Northeast Swale and the Small Swale. One of the things I value most about living in Saskatoon is the respect for preserving natural areas and the ease of accessing nature. The plan for the Saskatoon Freeway goes against this. At a time when biodiversity is increasingly diminishing and habitats are being destroyed, our City has the opportunity to act with ecological understanding and foresight and protect these grasslands and wetlands rather than harming them. The Freeway will directly harm the Swale ecosystems and the species that rely on them, through fragmentation, habitat loss, damage and degradation of wetlands, and noise and light pollution.

The estimated cost of the Saskatoon Freeway is well over \$2,000,000,000 (2015 estimate). That is a lot of money to spend on infrastructure that will cause irreversible damage to our last, best natural areas. (More information: <https://swalewatchers.org/seeking-solutions/>)

Moreover, highways and busy urban roads pose a health risk to people within 500 m of them. Endorsing the Saskatoon Freeway ignores the future harms to people who will be living in neighbourhoods next to the freeway.

Finally, there are clear advantages to protecting the Swales. These range from the provision of ecosystem services to the potential for a National Urban Park.

A healthy future for the people of Saskatoon depends on our leaders making wise choices now. Approving a freeway that will cause irreversible damage to the Swales for the sake of increased vehicular traffic--with all the additional damage this will do to the environment--is a backwards step. Please endorse Option 1 and do not endorse the study.

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