
From: Web NoReply
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 3:32 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Email - Communication - Robert Kavanagh - Plans for Future Saskatoon Freeway - CK 6003-1
Attachments: Kavanagh letter to Council.pdf

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Submitted on Monday, February 26, 2024 - 15:28

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 26, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: Robert

Last Name: Kavanagh

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: Kav a gnaw

Phone Number : 306 [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: 334 Mahabir Court

Ward: Ward 10

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: Plans for future Saskatoon Freeway

Comments:

Please find attached my comments.

Thank you

Attachments:

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

Members of Saskatoon City Council,

I have been a resident of Saskatoon for over 50 years, and a resident of Saskatchewan all my life except for 5 years studying in the USA.

I grew up in an era where the prevailing North American world view was that fresh water was free or almost so, where the natural environment was there to be exploited, that the climate was something that was impervious to human activity, and energy for transportation, home heating and electrification was very affordable.

Sadly, many people still think that way, with the exception of rising energy costs. Political leaders at all levels now have the difficult challenge of explaining to the electorate that we must change our ways, including the need to pay for correcting past mistakes.

Saskatoon is a very desirable place to live. We have many 'big city benefits' while yet remaining a community that allows access to a healthy life style that is not found in much larger centres. I spent 5 years in the Los Angeles area where air pollution, lack of green space and long commute times were 'normal'. Many children never, or rarely, saw a forest or a wild species.

One of the most unique and desirable features of our city is the presence of green space, including natural prairie, within city limits. Few places in the world can boast of that. I feel very strongly that it is incumbent upon our city to protect and preserve those spaces for recreation, education and opportunities for healthy living within access to the natural world.

I urge Council to reject the plan for Phase 2 of the proposed Saskatoon Freeway and request the Province to collaborate on a thorough study of options for that project that avoid the devastating impact on the Northeast and Small Swales.

Many people do not appreciate the challenges faced by members of a City Council; I do. I have great appreciation and respect for the work that you do on behalf of our city. I especially appreciate that it takes real courage to make difficult decisions. Saying no to the proposed plan will no doubt displease the Ministry of Highways, **even though their own studies confirm the worst fears about the potential impact on the two Swales.**

I hope you will take a stand in favour of protecting an irreplaceable asset to our city. Future generations will thank you for it.

Yours sincerely,

Robert N Kavanagh
334 Mahabir Court