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**From:** Web NoReply  
**Sent:** Monday, February 5, 2024 2:47 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Sara Bryson - Saskatoon Freeway Planning Study – Phase 2 Endorsement Request - CK 6003-1  
**Attachments:** Freeway Phase 2 Letter - 2024 02 05.docx

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

Submitted on Monday, February 5, 2024 - 14:46

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 05, 2024

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

**First Name:** Sara

**Last Name:** Bryson

**Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name:** 306 [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** [REDACTED] Tait Crescent

**Ward:** Ward 8

**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

**Comments:**

Please see the attached letter.

**Attachments:**

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

February 5, 2024

Re: SPC Transportation, February 6, 2024, Agenda item 7.2.2  
Saskatoon Freeway Planning Study Endorsement Request

The Northeast Swale and Small Swale are both ecologically sensitive areas of endangered grassland within our city that are not only valuable to the land and the ecosystems it connects to, but to the people of this city. This was evident last year, when council addressed the swale boundaries, by the 7 speakers that presented and amazing 42 letters written, including one from the Swale Watchers that was supported by 12 local and provincial organizations, to protect as much of these Swales as we could. Citizens of Saskatoon care about the Swales and want to see them conserved. These Swales can also pave the way for our National Urban Park.

The proposed freeway threatens the ecological integrity of the Swales by forcing a minimum of 8 lanes of high-speed traffic through both areas, causing irreversible damage. These impacts include ecosystem fragmentation, habitat loss, damage and degradation of wetlands, and noise and light pollution. Increased fragmentation of the area makes it difficult for wildlife to pass through and around our city and can make it more difficult and less enjoyable for recreational walking of the area too. Habitat loss (to development) is the biggest issue faced by already endangered grasslands and is made worse when there are species at risk in that ecosystem. Wetlands provide numerous environmental services just by existing, including water filtration and improving water quality, maintaining surface water flow (evening out flood and drought), and carbon storage. Noise and light pollution not only disturb wildlife but also people living near these large scale projects.

The disadvantages of this freeway development are quit evident, and it does not align with the City's Triple Bottom Line, Green Infrastructure planning, and the hope of having a National Urban Park in Saskatoon. You, as councillors, have listened to concerned citizens before and made the right decision to protect the Swales and can easily do it again by not endorsing this Phase 2 of the Freeway and consider a further educated decision of looking at the impacts this development will have on the Northeast and Small Swales and other environmentally sensitive assets.

Respectfully,  
Sara Bryson