From: Web NoReply

Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 2:06 PM

**To:** City Council

**Subject:** Email - Communication - Joshua Erikson - Saskatoon Freeway Planning Study - Phase 2

Endorsement Request - CK 6003-1

--- Replies to this email will go to

Submitted on Monday, February 5, 2024 - 13:33

Submitted by user:

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

Pronouns: He/him/his

First Name: Joshua

Last Name: Erikson

Phone Number : 306

Email:

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward: Address: Main St

Address: Ward 6

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

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

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 7.2.2

## **Comments:**

To the members of the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation. I am writing to ask you to please not endorse

the Phase 2 Functional Design Report for the Saskatoon Freeway. I believe that Saskatoon should be holding off on progressing any large development projects in this area until the National Urban Park is established with Parks Canada. Including the Northeast and Small Swales into a National Urban Park is a chance to protect a truly excellent natural space for all future generations of Saskatonians. The Swales are a wonderful place for people to easily escape the city for a while and connect with nature. I have helped run several nature events for children at the Northeast Swale. The excitement and joy in their faces when they find a prairie crocus or see a mule deer in the distance shows how vital these kind of experiences are for them. A freeway would cause irreversible harm to the sensitive ecosystems and the species that call the Swales home, and make it less enjoyable for the people who want to spend time there. Not everyone can afford to travel to Grasslands or Prince Albert National Parks to have these nature experiences which is why I don't think it is asking too much for this bypass road to be designed to also bypass Saskatoon's last remaining wilderness area so that it can be enjoyed by all in the future.

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