From:Web NoReplySent:Wednesday, February 28, 2024 10:36 AMTo:City CouncilSubject:Email - Communication - Reed Lewko - Saskatoon Freeway Planning Study – Phase 2 Endorsement
Request - CK 6003-1

Categories: FILED

--- Replies to this email will go to

Submitted on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 - 10:29

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: Wednesday, February 28, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: She/her/hers

First Name: Reed

Last Name: Lewko

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: Reed LOU-ko

Phone Number : <u>306</u>

Email:

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward: Address: McPherson Ave Ward: Ward 6

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 ?: Saskatoon Freeway Planning Study – Phase 2 Endorsement Request

Comments:

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to you today in favour of the Swale Watchers recommendations which state:

Swale Watchers two urgent recommendations for Saskatoon City Council:

1. Given that the Biological Assessment and the Functional Planning Study for Phase 2 of the Saskatoon Freeway demonstrate that irreversible harm would befall the Northeast and Small Swales –two of Saskatoon's most valuable and valued natural areas—if the project proceeds as planned, we urge you NOT to endorse the Functional Planning Study for Phase 2 of the Saskatoon Freeway.

2. Recognizing that the ultimate authority over where, when or if this project is completed lies with the province, rather than with the City of Saskatoon, we urge you to call on the Government of Saskatchewan to choose a route for the Saskatoon Freeway that does not intrude on the Swales and to guarantee that the project will be subject to a thorough, impartial Environmental Impact Assessment.

I personally visit the Northeast Swale multiple times a year to admire the nature, including plants, birds, and other animals. I would be incredibly saddened to see it become even more fragmented, as well as threatened by invasive species that tend to become introduced by construction equipment.

I think one of the best things about Saskatoon is that we have such great access to nature within the city. Building this freeway through the Swales would directly harm a habitat area that is be used by so many and supports such biodiversity. This would be a huge step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Reed Lewko

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