

**Janzen, Heather**

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Garret Gartner - Saskatoon Freeway Planning Study – Phase 2 - CK 6003-1

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 25, 2024 11:28 AM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Garret Gartner - Saskatoon Freeway Planning Study – Phase 2 - CK 6003-1

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

Submitted on Monday, March 25, 2024 - 11:04

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, March 25, 2024

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

**Pronouns:** He/him/his

**First Name:** Garret

**Last Name:** Gartner

**Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name:** GAIR-et GART-ner

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** [REDACTED] Harrison Cres

**Ward:** Ward 7

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** City Council Agenda – Regular Business Meeting

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** 9.2.1 Saskatoon Freeway Planning Study – Phase 2

**Comments:**

Dear Committee Members,

The Northeast and Small Swales are refuges for nature and for the people of Saskatoon. These ribbons of native grassland and natural wetlands support an astonishing abundance of life, including at least 49 species so rare that they are listed as Species of Conservation Concern. In a time of ever worsening biodiversity losses, natural areas of this diversity and importance should be protected from development.

Instead, City Council has been asked to endorse a plan, developed by the provincial Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure, that would drive multiple lanes of high-speed traffic through both Swales. The damage and degradation this development would cause is well documented.

We are living through a time of extreme degradation of the natural world. Our country has signed the Paris Agreement, our province has Environmental Assessment frameworks in place, and our city has its own Environmental Initiatives. Yet it seems like all these measures are only for show.

How can the city and the province justify degrading this natural area? As we move toward a future free from fossil fuels, this decision to destroy a valuable natural area in favor of personal vehicle infrastructure is completely at odds with all parties' stated conservation goals.

I am writing with two requests:

1. Please DO NOT to endorse the Functional Planning Study for Phase 2 of the Saskatoon Freeway.
2. Please DO call on the Ministry of Highways 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

Sincerely,  
Garret Gartner

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