

Janzen, Heather

Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Lavinia Cheng - Councillor C Block - Cycling Safety - CK 6000-5
Attachments: EcoQuest Bike Letter.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:35 AM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Lavinia Cheng - Councillor C Block - Cycling Safety - CK 6000-5

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

Submitted on Monday, June 26, 2023 - 11:13

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, June 26, 2023

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: She/her/hers

First Name: Lavinia

Last Name: Cheng

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: Lavinia Cheng (La-VEE-NEE-a Ch-UNG)

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Address: City Park School 820 Ave 9th North

Neighbourhood: [Stonebridge](#)

City: Saskatoon

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code: S7K2Z2

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): EcoQuest

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Wednesday, June 28th, 2023 Regular Business Meeting

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 14. Cycling Safety

Comments:

For privacy reasons, I have put my address as my school's, however, my neighbourhood is, in fact, Stonebridge.

Attachments:

- [EcoQuest Bike Letter.pdf](#)33.61 KB

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

To: Saskatoon City Council,

My name is Lavinia Cheng and I am a Grade 8 student from EcoQuest, I enjoy biking and want to create a safe environment for other cyclists out there, especially those who aren't used to biking on roads, or are young and haven't received the proper training to be able to bike in places that currently aren't so safe.

Biking in winter is hard, especially in such cold areas we live in the world, I recall multiple times when trying to bus with a bike was a challenging experience, with many different notable obstacles such as:

- Not enough places to put your bike (a max amount of 2 people)
- A generally negative attitude toward cyclists asking if they could put their bike on the bus (which could be understandable if the bus were quite full)
- Also not enough storage space for different kinds of bikes on the racks (most bikes have tires that can't fit on the racks)
- Busses sometimes ignore cyclists at bus stops and drive off without stopping (me and my classmates have had a few incidents like this happen)

Although these problems wouldn't be as awful during the warmer months of the year, it's really rough during the colder months, especially if you're standing outside at -40 waiting for the next bus, only for the racks to be frozen shut, then asking if you could put your bike on the bus and the driver not complying to your request. Winter biking is undoubtedly dangerous (multiple life-threatening situations such as falling off your bike in the middle of the road because of ice, frost bites from waiting at the bus stop with your bike, and many more other situations you may find yourself in if you're winter-biking), which is why it's important for us and everyone else to start fixing these problems.

I want to talk about a friend in my class. Enoch O'soup is a quiet and kind kid, and recently he got tragically hit by a car while he was winter biking. We were all shocked and saddened by the news, thankfully he came back the next day miraculously without a scratch. But this incident led me to start thinking more about bike safety and winter biking, which is why I am writing this letter to you. I want to protect more kids like Enoch who might be winter-biking or just biking normally from the dangers on the road.

Not only that, but we should also strive to educate cyclists, young and old. Before EcoQuest, I had absolutely no idea that I could put my bike on the rack in front of the bus, if I did I'm sure it would have proven useful in my years as a cyclist. We could put instructions on how to put your bike on the racks on the bike map, and we could also put bus stops on the map that can be of use in case you need to get on one.

There are multiple solutions to these problems as there always are, so I hope you can find it in you to read and consider this letter with a great deal of importance.

Sincerely,

Lavinia Cheng