
From: Web NoReply
Sent: Sunday, March 3, 2024 10:51 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Email - Communication - Chet Neufeld - Saskatoon Freeway Planning Study – Phase 2 Endorsement Request - CK 6003-1
Attachments: Letter to Saskatoon City Council.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED]

Submitted on Sunday, March 3, 2024 - 22:47

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: Sunday, March 03, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: He/him/his

First Name: Chet

Last Name: Neufeld

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] Stensrud Road

Ward: Ward 10

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 ?: Agenda item 7.2.1

Comments:

See attached file for my comments to council.

Attachments:

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

Dear Committee Members,

We are 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.

Between 8-13% of native prairie remains in all of Saskatchewan, and Saskatoon is fortunate to have accessible parcels of this valuable habitat, home to hundreds of species including provincially and nationally rare species. We have a duty to protect what precious little is left of it, and having yet another road cross it will further degrade this area. The Ministry of Highways’ plan was flawed from the start. It did not envision and accommodate for Saskatoon’s recent growth and, by the time the Ministry had a finalized plan, the city had grown up to the proposed highway route near the Northeast Swale and will soon surpass it. When this happens, it will no longer be a bypass, defeating its initial purpose. A much better route would be to link the highway to the Clarkboro Ferry, replacing the seasonal crossing with an all-season bridge, and directing the traffic well around Saskatoon’s city limits.

Sincerely,

Chet and Candace Neufeld

■ Stensrud Road

Saskatoon