

Janzen, Heather

Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Julia Adamson - Small Swale and Richard St Barbe Baker Afforestation Area – Natural Area Management and Conceptual Master Plans - CK 1860-1 X 1702-1
Attachments: CoS Swale Letter May 7 SPC EUC.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>

Sent: Sunday, May 5, 2024 10:30 PM

To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>

Subject: Email - Communication - Julia Adamson - Small Swale and Richard St Barbe Baker Afforestation Area – Natural Area Management and Conceptual Master Plans - CK 1860-1 X 1702-1

--- Replies to this email will go to friendsafforestation@gmail.com ---

Submitted on Sunday, May 5, 2024 - 22:30

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, May 05, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: Julia

Last Name: Adamson

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: [REDACTED]

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: friendsafforestation@gmail.com

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] Appleby Crt

Ward: Ward 2

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas inc.

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services May 7, 2024

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: ITEM7.2.1 Small Swale and Richard St Barbe Baker Afforestation Area – Natural Area Management and Conceptual Master Plans [CC2023-0406]

Comments:

As attached

Attachments:

- [CoS Swale Letter May 7 SPC EUC.pdf](#)180.52 KB

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



**Friends of the Saskatoon
Afforestation Areas Inc.**
Registered **Charity #777143876 RR 0001**
Come To Nature Come To life
<http://friendsareas.ca/>

Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas

████ Appleby Court, Saskatoon, SK █████
friendsafforestation@gmail.com

██████████
May 3, 2024

Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services May 7, 2024

ITEM7.2.1 [Small Swale and Richard St Barbe Baker Afforestation Area – Natural Area Management and Conceptual Master Plans \[CC2023-0406\]](#)

Dear Councillor M. Loewen, Chair, SPC on EUC Committee members

As representatives entrusted with the stewardship of our environment and the well-being of our community, we urge your attention to a matter of critical importance concerning the Northeast and Small Swales in Saskatoon.

These natural landscapes serve as invaluable refuges for both wildlife and the people of Saskatoon. Rich in native grasslands and natural wetlands, they support an astonishing array of life, including no less than 49 species listed as Species of Conservation Concern. At a time when biodiversity loss is escalating at an alarming rate, it is imperative that we safeguard areas of such diversity and significance from further development.

However, we are deeply concerned by proposals set forth by the provincial Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure, which seek to introduce multiple lanes of high-speed traffic through both Swales. The potential damage and degradation resulting from such development are well-documented and raise significant environmental and ecological concerns.

Therefore, we make the following urgent requests:

1. We implore you NOT to endorse the Functional Planning Study for Phase 2 of the Saskatoon Freeway.
2. We urge you to call upon the Ministry of Highways to select a route for the Saskatoon Freeway that avoids encroachment upon the Swales. Furthermore, we request that the Ministry commits to conducting a thorough, impartial Environmental Impact Assessment for the project.

The preservation of our natural heritage and the protection of our environment for future generations are paramount. We trust that you will give due consideration to these requests and take decisive action to safeguard the Northeast and Small Swales from irreparable harm.

There have been numerous cases worldwide where the construction of highways or other infrastructure projects has directly contributed to the extirpation or decline of species at risk and the destruction of their habitats. Some examples include:

1. **The Sumatran Tiger in Indonesia:** The construction of roads and highways through the forests of Sumatra has fragmented the habitat of the critically endangered Sumatran tiger, leading to increased human-tiger conflicts and poaching. This has contributed to the decline of tiger populations in the region.
2. **The Florida Panther in the United States:** Highways and roads cutting through the habitat of the Florida panther have resulted in numerous deaths from vehicle collisions, as well as habitat fragmentation, which isolates populations and reduces genetic diversity, further endangering this critically endangered species.
3. **The Amur Leopard in Russia:** Infrastructure projects, including highways, in the Russian Far East have fragmented the habitat of the critically endangered Amur leopard, reducing available habitat and increasing human-wildlife conflicts. This has contributed to the decline of the already small population of these rare big cats.
4. **The Mountain Gorilla in Africa:** Roads and highways constructed through the forests of Central Africa have fragmented the habitat of the endangered mountain gorilla, increasing poaching and human-wildlife conflicts. Habitat loss and fragmentation also limit the gorilla's ability to forage and find suitable mates, contributing to population decline.

These are just a few examples, but they illustrate the significant impact that infrastructure development can have on endangered species and their habitats. It underscores the importance of carefully planning and mitigating the environmental impacts of such projects to minimize harm to wildlife and preserve biodiversity.

Sincerely



Julia Adamson, Chair Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas

