

Janzen, Heather

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Joanne Blythe - Small Swale and Richard St Barbe Baker Afforestation Area – Natural Area Management and Conceptual Master Plans - CK 1860-1
Attachments: WAS_Small Swale Management Plan.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 4:21 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Joanne Blythe - Small Swale and Richard St Barbe Baker Afforestation Area – Natural Area Management and Conceptual Master Plans - CK 1860-1

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

Submitted on Monday, May 6, 2024 - 16:19

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, May 06, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: Joanne

Last Name: Blythe

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

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] Munroe Avenue South

Ward: Ward 6

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Wild About Saskatoon

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: SPC on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 7.2.1 Small Swale and Richard St. Barbe Baker Afforestation Area Natural Area Management and Conceptual Masterplans

Comments:

Wild about Saskatoon is commenting on the Small Swale Management Plan.

Attachments:

- [WAS Small Swale Management Plan.pdf](#)86.81 KB

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



May 6, 2024

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

Agenda Item 7.2.1 Small Swale and Richard St. Barbe Baker Afforestation Area Natural Area Management and Conceptual Masterplans

Wild About Saskatoon is very pleased that the City is devoting detailed attention to and recognizes the ecological, cultural and recreational importance of these two areas. Our comments are in relation to the Small Swale Management Plan as this is the area we are most familiar with.

Unfortunately, we only received the full Small Swale Management Plan, including Appendices, on Monday (May 6) morning and have not had enough time to fully review and formulate thoughtful comments on this 228-page document before the 5:00 pm same day deadline for submitting comments to the Committee.

Based on our long-standing involvement and what we have seen so far, we do have some serious concerns. The Management Plan for the Small Swale refers to a bureaucratically (not ecologically) defined area and a restricted fragment of the Small Swale. The highest quality areas (i.e., the true ecological core) of the Small Swale are not covered by this plan. The report focuses only a segment of the Small Swale and the whole ecological corridor needs to be considered.

We also note that proposed developments are among the biggest threats to this ecosystem. These developments include both the city's proposed UH3 neighbourhood and the province's provincial highway which will cross through the ecological core of the Small Swale.

The City's Official Community Plan in E2.2 Natural Asset Management states that "Natural assets are managed with the same amount of care as other critical infrastructure." While this plan is a step in that direction, it is a small step and much more needs to be done to ensure the long-term protection and continued health and vitality of the Small Swale and its inhabitants.

We are aware that this report will go to Council in the near future, and we intend to stay engaged in the discussions and decisions regarding the Small Swale.

Sincerely,
Joanne Blythe, Andrea Carroll, Chad Hammond

Wild About Saskatoon
<https://wildaboutsaskatoon.org/>
hello@wildaboutsaskatoon.org