

Janzen, Heather

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Karin and Richard Schwier - Saskatoon Freeway Planning Study – Phase 2 Endorsement Request – May 2024 Update - CK 6003-1

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, May 27, 2024 3:13 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Karin and Richard Schwier - Saskatoon Freeway Planning Study – Phase 2 Endorsement Request – May 2024 Update - CK 6003-1

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

Submitted on Monday, May 27, 2024 - 15:13

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, May 27, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: Karin and Richard

Last Name: Schwier

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: Shweer

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] University Drive

Ward: Ward 6

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: His Worship Mayor Charlie Clark and Council

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: Protecting the Swales

Comments:

Dear Mayor Clark and Council Members:

We are writing to you today to urge you to seriously consider the details outlined in the Swale Watchers' position paper on the Saskatoon Freeway Phase 2 Functional Planning Study. Further, we urge you to carefully read the position paper and vote in favour of the Swale Watchers recommendations to not endorse the proposed design that would cause irreparable damage to the precarious and vital lands of the Northeast and Small Swales.

We live in a beautiful city, one whose designers and planners have had the foresight to protect natural areas and who recognized the importance of building a place to live that is in harmony with nature. The efforts to preserve and protect the Meewasin Valley, for example, has ensured we live in an urban environment with nature just steps away for residents to enjoy.

The physical and psychological benefits of having easy access to nature are undeniable. Saskatoon is the envy of the world for our commendable and careful approach as stewards of natural habitat and our efforts to preserve and protect for future generations.

We urge City Council to consider the following:

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 proposed, we urge you NOT to endorse Phase 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. Please vote NO to the Phase 2 Proposed Saskatoon Freeway alignment through the Northeast and Small Swales.

We beg to differ with Joni Mitchell, who wrote, "You don't know what you've got 'til it's gone." In this care, we do and the legacy of this Council can rank with those around the world who have boldly chosen to preserve the natural habitat for future generations.

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