## Walter, Penny

Ward: Ward 2

Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Julia Adamson - Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc -Blairmore Sector Plan Amendment - CK 4110-32 **Attachments:** MPC June 25 - RW.pdf From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca> **Sent:** Monday, June 24, 2024 1:19 PM To: City Council < City. Council@Saskatoon.ca> Subject: Email - Communication - Julia Adamson - Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc - Blairmore Sector Plan Amendment - CK 4110-32 --- Replies to this email will go to Submitted on Monday, June 24, 2024 - 13:15 Submitted by user: 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 24, 2024 To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council Pronouns: She/her/hers First Name: Julia Last Name: Adamson Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: Phone Number: Email: Llive outside of Saskatoon: No. Saskatoon Address and Ward: Address: Appleby Court

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):: Municipal Planning Commission

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: Agenda Item 7.4 Blairmore Sector Plan Amendment [MPC2024-0606] of the Municipal Planning Commission City of Saskatoon

## **Comments:**

As Attached.

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

June 24, 2024

Regarding Agenda Item 7.4 Blairmore Sector Plan Amendment [MPC2024-0606] of the Municipal Planning Commission City of Saskatoon

Dear Chair Kreg Harley and Members of the Municipal Planning Commission,

On behalf of Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas, I am writing to express our strong support for Agenda Item 7.4 regarding the Blairmore Sector Plan Amendment [MPC2024-0606]. We have thoroughly reviewed the Community Services Division report and commend the efforts put forth in preserving and enhancing our cherished afforestation areas.

First and foremost, we are gratified by the proposed conservation efforts outlined in the plan, especially concerning the preservation and naturalization of existing wetlands wherever feasible. This commitment to ecological sustainability aligns with our organization's mission and will undoubtedly benefit the diverse biodiversity and the species at risk exist in the wetlands that call these areas home.

The inclusion of Natural Area Screenings for hydrological and ecological field studies, particularly in the West Swale, is a crucial step towards informed conservation and development practices. We appreciate the thoroughness of these assessments and commend the long-range planners and administration for their diligence in this regard. Ideally an ecological restoration plan would be put into place similar to <a href="The Meadoway">The Meadoway</a> to manage the invasive species mentioned.

Moreover, we are excited about the proposed Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) network and active transportation connections that will link the southwest greenspaces and wetlands with residential neighborhoods across Saskatoon. This initiative not only enhances accessibility but also promotes sustainable modes of transport that reduce our carbon footprint.

While we largely endorse the Blairmore Sector Plan Amendment, we have identified potential discrepancies regarding specific land designations and descriptions provided in our attached documentation. i.e. The City Archives report for Park Naming October 19, 1978 mentions that the name of Richard St. Barbe Baker is bequeathed as follows; "That the afforested area south of the C.N.R. station and yards (Part S 1/2 22-36-6 and part SW 23-36-6) be named Richard St. Barbe Baker Park. (Urban Regional Park.)" We kindly request clarification on these matters to ensure alignment with the attached representation of these areas. [attachment]

Furthermore, the archaeological significance of the Gowen sites in relation to the Yorath Island Glacial Spillway, as documented by Professor Emeritus Larry Edwin Hodges in Morphology of the South Saskatchewan River Valley Outlook to Saskatoon PhD Thesis, Department of Geography merits special attention. Hodges' research illuminates a historical context wherein Pleistocene-era bison likely traversed this

ancient river, followed by Paleo-Indians to the confluence with Glacial Lake Saskatoon, now the South Saskatchewan River. These findings underscore the cultural and geological richness of the area, reinforcing the importance of preserving and recognizing its heritage values.

In conclusion, we appreciate the comprehensive approach taken in the Blairmore Sector Plan Amendment to protect our natural and cultural heritage while facilitating responsible development. We are hopeful that the Municipal Planning Commission will accept the administration report and continue to collaborate with stakeholders to ensure the sustained vitality of these vital green spaces.

Thank you for your attention to these important matters. We look forward to continuing our engagement in the preservation and enhancement of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas.

Sincerely,

Julia Adamson

Chair

Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas

[attachment]



