

Janzen, Heather

Subject: FW: Email - Request to Speak - Blair Chapman - Downtown Event and Entertainment District Funding Strategy - CK 4130-14
Attachments: DTNYXE Blair Chapman Letter to City of Saskatoon DEED Getting Investment Ready 24Aug26.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2024 1:07 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Request to Speak - Blair Chapman - Downtown Event and Entertainment District Funding Strategy - CK 4130-14

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

Submitted on Monday, August 26, 2024 - 11:55

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, August 26, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: He/him/his

First Name: Blair

Last Name: Chapman

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] 15th St E

Ward: Ward 6

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

What do you wish to do ?: Request to Speak

If speaking will you be attending in person or remotely: In person

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Council, Wed 28, 9:30am

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 10.1 DEED (if have to be more specific, 10.1.2 Funding Strategy)

Comments:

Blair will speak and has a letter provided.


-registered by Sarah.Marchildon@dtnyxe.ca

Attachments:

- [DTNYXE Blair Chapman Letter to City of Saskatoon DEED Getting Investment Ready 24Aug26.pdf](#)225.37 KB

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



August 26, 2024

Mayor Charlie Clark and City Councillors
City Council, City of Saskatoon
222 Third Avenue North
Saskatoon, SK

Re: DEED – Getting Investment Ready – Letter of Support

Dear Mayor Clark and City Councillors,

On behalf of the approximately 1,200 businesses that operate in this district, Downtown Saskatoon Board of Directors would like to express our appreciation for the continued commitment of the current Council to move this critical infrastructure project forward.

The funding strategy being presented today, is such a critical step in securing our path forward. Downtown Saskatoon understands the overall complexity of this project and believes there is widespread alignment in the revenue instruments and tools proposed as similar facilities in many other cities across North America have done the same.

Approval from Council to proceed with execution of the proposed Funding Strategy empowers City Administration, along with the named private partner OVG360, to work toward a fully-funded, shelf-ready plan in a timely, proactive fashion. This is an important milestone and foundational piece, to prepare us for the day a future Council is ready to execute the project.

According to a November 2023 study Downtown Saskatoon released with the Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce this project will provide a \$1.37 billion boost to our city's economy including \$322M in hotels, restaurants, and retail spending along with 4700 jobs. This project is critical to our growth and is an important part of our future. The lost opportunity cost imposed by inadequate facilities is \$7.6M in gross economic activity for every lost music or entertainment event and \$1.2M for every lost major 2-day, 1000 attendee convention.

Downtown Saskatoon is committed to working with the City, community stakeholders, and other partners to bring these essential facilities to our city and province. This project signals a strong desire for future investment in our Downtown, driven by the prospect of renewing our key event and entertainment facilities.

Together, we envision a Downtown Saskatoon that is not only a vital part of our city's fabric but also a beacon of cultural and economic vitality—a place where people come together, businesses thrive, and the future of our city is shaped.

Sincerely,

Blair Chapman, Vice Chair
Downtown Saskatoon Board of Directors

*Studies + Reports can be found here: <https://www.downtowndistrict.ca/>