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**From:** Web NoReply  
**Sent:** Friday, May 2, 2025 10:20 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Comments - Sherry Olson - Green Space Weed Management Pilot Project

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Submitted on Friday, May 2, 2025 - 22:19

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:** Friday, May 02, 2025

**To:** Her Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**Pronouns:** She/her/hers

**First Name:** SHERRY

**Last Name:** OLSON

**Phone Number :** [306](#) [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** [REDACTED] Pinehouse Dr

**Ward:** Ward 5

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** SPC-PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - PUBLIC

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** 6.2.9 Green Space Weed Management Pilot Project [CC2024-0915]

**Comments:**

I am writing to respectfully express my concerns about the proposed Green Space Weed Management Pilot Project, particularly the planned use of herbicides in Prairie Lily Park. While I understand the City's desire to improve turf and sports field conditions in newer neighborhoods, I urge the Council to reconsider the reintroduction of chemical herbicides in these public spaces, especially in areas with high foot traffic from children and youth.

There is ample evidence that young people are more vulnerable to the health impacts of chemical exposures, and the northern section of Prairie Lily Park, which borders a school zone, is frequently used by young residents. The potential for inadvertent contact with treated turf, even with signage, creates an unnecessary and undesirable situation, especially given that the City has successfully avoided such methods for over two decades.

Naturalized plants and so-called "weeds" also play an essential ecological role. Their removal through herbicides could negatively affect pollinators and other beneficial insects, many of which are already under stress due to habitat loss and climate change. These insects are crucial not only to the biodiversity of urban ecosystems but also to broader food web stability.

Rather than reverting to chemical solutions, I urge the City to expand its exploration of solutions and invest in more sustainable and community-friendly options such as:

Expanding mechanical and cultural weed control methods, including the hiring of students during the summer to support those methods with the same funds

Increasing the use of native ground cover and low-maintenance turf species

Supporting local stewardship programs where residents can help maintain green spaces

Trialling organic or biologically based alternatives to herbicides

Using the pilot funds to enhance soil quality and long-term turf resilience through compost and regenerative practices

I encourage you to ensure that health and ecological concerns are a central consultation focus. In the meantime, I ask that you pause the herbicide component of the pilot project and explore safer, more innovative methods that reflect our community's commitment to sustainability and public health. Weeds are not a matter of public safety, but the use of herbicides is.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of this important matter.

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