
From: City Council
Subject: Comments - Sheri Benning - National Urban Park - Vision, Governance and Boundaries

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2026 10:46 AM
To: City Council <City.Council@saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Comments - Sheri Benning - National Urban Park - Vision, Governance and Boundaries

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

Submitted on Friday, March 20, 2026 - 10:44

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, March 20, 2026

To: Her Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: She/her/hers

First Name: Sheri

Last Name: Benning

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: 306 [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] Hugo Avenue

Ward: Ward 6

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 8.5.2

Comments:

Dear Councillors & Your Worship,

I am encouraged that work toward and discussion around a National Urban Park in Saskatoon is continuing, and I appreciate that Council's March 11 Committee discussion acknowledged concerns raised by residents.

I remain concerned about the proposed National Urban Park boundaries in relation to the Northeast and Small Swales (Appendix 4). The revised park boundaries do not ensure protection of the swales within the boundaries endorsed by Council on February 22, 2023, which were supported by the community and grounded in conservation science. The 2023 boundaries protect ecologically important areas of the Swales and include buffers necessary to safeguard these rare prairie landscapes.

While the recent motion acknowledged Council's 2023 direction, it unfortunately left room for further discussion about developing within those boundaries because for now, the Swale boundaries are not final. Given the importance of these lands, Council has an opportunity, and a responsibility, to reaffirm its previous direction and ensure meaningful public involvement in any discussion about changes to boundaries going forward.

I am writing with three requests, that Council:

Proposes a motion and votes NO to Recommendation 2: Approval of the 2026 Provisional National Urban Park Boundary in Appendix 3 based on the deficiencies of the boundaries, as shown in Appendix 4.

Proposes a motion and votes YES to aligning the NUP boundary with the 2023 Council approved boundaries of the Small Swale and Northeast Swales.

Proposes a motion and votes YES to instructing City administration to commit to transparent and authentic engagement with Swale Watchers and other members of the conservation community regarding any decisions that will affect the health or protection of the Northeast and Small Swales.

The March 11 discussion demonstrated that residents are concerned. I urge Council to build on that momentum by reaffirming its 2023 direction and ensuring that any future decisions about the Swales are informed, transparent, and grounded in community engagement.

Sincerely,
Sheri Benning

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