

Bryant, Shellie (Clerks)

From: City Council
Sent: September 23, 2018 12:16 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council

Submitted on Sunday, September 23, 2018 - 12:15
Submitted by anonymous user: 71.17.241.165
Submitted values are:

Date: Sunday, September 23, 2018
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name: Molly
Last Name: Nichol
Email: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED] Harrington St.
City: Saskatoon
Province: Saskatchewan
Postal Code: [REDACTED]
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable):
Subject: Potential change to the Farmers' Market building at River Landing
Meeting (if known): City Council meeting, September 24, 2018

Comments:

Dear Council:

I do not believe that our city will be well-served by leasing the building currently occupied by the Saskatoon Farmers' Market to another entity with the potential of the space being turned into a 'mini-mall'.

The Saskatoon Farmers' Market serves the city well by providing fresh, nutritious, and locally produced food in season. It contributes to our food security by facilitating the participation of local farmers. In turn, this reduces carbon emissions by largely eliminating long-distance transport of food.

A large number of jobs are provided by the Farmers' Market. While the farmers themselves may not live (and vote) in Saskatoon, they certainly spend an awful lot of their income in the city, supporting other local businesses. As well, most of their employees at the market are residents of (and voters in) Saskatoon.

The City of Saskatoon has benefited handsomely from the presence of the market at River Landing. From the outset of its presence there, people have been encouraged to regard Riversdale a vibrant and safe place to shop, live, and dine. One need only look at the number of new businesses on 20th Street and the number of high-end condos in the area to see this.

It is not practical, or even possible, for most farmers to operate a market stall six days a week. Resellers, who buy their product from wholesalers, could conceivably be open 24/7.

What would be lost would be our access to fresh, local, sustainably produced food, our interaction with the producers of this food, the feeling of community that comes from this interaction, and also the respect of many visitors (who truly enjoy the atmosphere of a producers-only market) as well as that of the many residents of Saskatoon to whom the Saskatoon Farmers' Market has become a weekly commitment.

Thank you.

Molly Nichol
Attachments:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/258006>