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From: City Council
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2018 9:56 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council



Submitted on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 - 09:56
Submitted by anonymous user: 107.162.4.24
Submitted values are:

Date: Tuesday, November 06, 2018
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name: Mike
Last Name: Winter
Email: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED] 2 St E
City: Saskatoon
Province: Saskatchewan
Postal Code: S7H [REDACTED]
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Walking Saskatoon
Subject: Centre Boulevards
Meeting (if known): SPC on Transportation Nov. 6th.
Comments:
Regarding: Right-of-Way Boulevard Leases – Policy Update

Many city-owned boulevard sections are on streets that have no sidewalks, for example, Macpherson Avenue, Wiggins Avenue, Stonebridge Boulevard and 18th Street, but directly connect or are on vital routes to schools, parks and major transportation corridors.

Additionally, the city generally does not provide a high quality of maintenance for these interstitial areas, leaving adjacent homeowners to maintain (or not) the boulevard sections despite having no ownership interest in the property.

I am asking SPCoT to direct administration to examine the following proposal:

1. The City of Saskatoon offer for purchase city-owned boulevard sections to the property owners adjacent to the property section on the condition that the money received by the city from the property sale be used to construct a sidewalk on part of the boulevard or beside it. In the case where the boulevard section in question contains a sidewalk, the money could be used to fund unfunded projects identified from the neighbourhood's most recent Neighbourhood Traffic Review or to plant a boulevard tree if one is needed.
2. That financing for the boulevard land purchase be provided through a property tax levy amortized over a five-to-ten year period, allowing for homeowners of all means to participate in the program at a low yearly cost.

This proposal benefits many parties:

Property owners, who gain an increased property size, sidewalk amenity and ownership interest on property they are maintaining anyway.

The City of Saskatoon, which will gain money from property sales, increased taxable land base from homeowners with bigger lots and a reduction in maintenance costs on boulevard land.

Residents of Saskatoon, who will see major infrastructure needs addressed with no additional mill rate increase.

Thanks for your consideration

Mike Winter, Walking Saskatoon and Buena Vista Community Association.

Attachments:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/265534>