

Bryant, Shellie

From: Joanne Blythe <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: March 24, 2019 9:46 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council

Submitted on Sunday, March 24, 2019 - 21:45
Submitted by anonymous user: 142.165.170.129
Submitted values are:

Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name: Joanne
Last Name: Blythe
Email: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED] Munroe Avenue South
City: Saskatoon
Province: Saskatchewan
Postal Code: [REDACTED]
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable):
Subject: Northeast Swale - Working Group Update
Meeting (if known): City Council Agenda - Regular Business Meeting
Comments:

I am writing concerning the report on the activities of the Northeast Swale working group. I see that the committee was able to address some of the 12 concerns raised by the Northeast Swale Watchers, however others remain unaddressed or await further information from future assessments.

I am very concerned about the lack of legal protect for the Northeast Swale and the Small Swale and believe that all planning of the Saskatoon Freeway should be halted until a complete environmental assessment has been done. This should be done for the entire area, but at the very least for the proposed corridor; however, the entire area would be ideal. The swales are areas of ecological importance and should be protected. In fact, all natural areas in and around Saskatoon should be afforded protection as ecological reserves. In no way, no matter what actions are taken to mitigate harm, can building a provincial highway through rare ecological systems be considered protection. A different route should be considered for the Saskatoon Freeway or no highway should be built at all. The remnants of natural areas are more than unique and interesting pieces of land, they are vibrant ecosystems and habitat for many creatures. Research is showing, what those who are connected to the land have always known that these disappearing systems are far more important to the overall environment and to our own well-being than has been previously thought by the "prevailing wisdom."

We are long past the point of balancing the needs of the environment with the needs of the economy or even the people as our current society has long taken far more from the land and the ecosystems that support us than we have given or protected. It is time for us to redress the great imbalance we have caused.

Sincerely,
Joanne Blythe

PS

- for an excellent article on the subject of protecting natural remnants see: Why We Should Save the Last Little Scraps of Nature

https://ensia.com/voices/ecosystem-remnants-biodiversity-nature/?fbclid=IwAR2HY_8BXk8D1LJVyewY5QLoQdzknOGVDGpck0FF2nm1AlrSboMuMnK-anc

Attachments:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/294133>