

Dear Regina City Council,

I Andrea Perron, a grade 11 student at Thom Collegiate feel very concerned with the plans you have to do with acreage of beautiful land in the Coronation Park neighbourhood near my family and I. I want to start by saying that a healthy environment is important and is a necessity to have on our earth, and the Regent Par 3 golf course has that important quality that a community needs. Trees have a crucial role in a safe environment and community. Trees provide a safe and clean atmosphere. As well as a scenic and beautiful aspect to a community and I believe that cutting the number of trees that you have and are planning to, is not the right move for now and for the future of our city and the area.

In 2017, the Council of Regina has been putting together a plan to redevelop the Regent Par 3 Golf Course into a recreational area for the people. This idea started and surveyed the whole area receiving negative feedback from the locals in the area about the future changes to an environmentally friendly neighbourhood. Many locals have not agreed to the changes the city has been planning on pursuing.

The trees are important and the amount that has been cut down is alarming. We know that these trees that you have been cutting down are some of the oldest trees in the city. You the City Council are planning on removing a massive number of trees. Trees provide clean and safe air to breath. Trees also provide intercept airborne particulates, and reduce smog, enhancing on a community's respiratory health. Along with trees taking away carbon dioxide, condensing the number of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. According to Treepeople, trees can preserve energy by reducing the demand of energy for cooling our homes while reducing carbon dioxide. Trees have also been proven to reduce violence and crime rates by reducing the level of fear in this area, with this area of town having its history of being one of the worst neighbourhoods to be in.

"We have parkland that's needed by the community. We should respect that. We should develop it for the benefit of the whole community" said Councilmember Bob Hawkins at one of the city meetings. We need these trees for our survival. So by cutting them down, you are at greater risk of catching an airborne disease for that there is so much CO2 in the atmosphere that there needs to be as many trees and plants that we can have available for our health, safety, emotional, and spiritual mental wellbeing.

The trees in this community come with many pros. Trees are habitats for animals, insects, and many other living organisms. Without trees flooding will occur. If you remove these trees you are putting the area in huge flood risk, and keeping the trees will help with keeping homes and habitats alive for living organisms. These trees help keep a balance in the ecosystem.

There have been many plans that the city has thought of and have come up with. Finalizing your proposal to a recreational area with a soccer field, multi-use pathways, a playground, a spray pad, and picnic areas. I feel as though this plan is a waste of space, money, and time as you change a whole community for the worst.

I recently talked to one of the local residents about the Regent Par 3 Golf Course Development plan that the city has been planning for, for the last three years. That being my Grandfather. I asked him about his opinion on the redevelopment plan. Which he is not happy nor does he agree with the plan the city is making and promising for the future of the neighbourhood. He says that the city should not change the golf course or the area, but rather change the ownership of the golf course to a private business, that way you would be making money off of the golf course rather than spending money to change a whole ecosystem.

You could use the money that you are planning to use to redevelop the land, by instead upgrading the facility that is already there on the property of the golf course. It's the perfect spot for selling hotdogs, hamburgers, as well as selling cold drinks. It's a spot to build picnic tables as that was one of the many features you were going to include in the redevelopment process anyways. My Grandfather, an 80-year-old resident of the area, just a block away, uses the golf course at least once every day during the open seasons of the golf course, and does not want that to change.

Although for some of your plans for the area, I would much rather see a playground for children and families to enjoy the outdoors instead of a spray pad as there is a public pool on the same street, but do agree that your plan for picnic tables and bbq grills would be a better idea as there would be a space for families to enjoy the outdoors on a hot summer day. Although, your idea for a tobogganing hill does not make any sense as though there is one already located within the city and that our province, and city alone does not get as much snow as we use to, due to climate change from the small number of trees we have left in our area of the province. I would reconsider your place for the soccer field as there are many other areas where you could build that without having to cut down any trees.

In conclusion, I do not agree with your plan to redevelop the Regent Par 3 Golf Course, and I want you to reconsider your plans to benefit the people and not just do what you the city council wants. I respect that you are just wanting to make and see a change for the city, but cutting down 100 to 200 trees is beyond ridiculous for what you are wanting to do. I believe that you should really reconsider and that there are 100's of other options on what to do for the city and its future.

Andrea Perron

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