



PUBLIC SUBMISSION FORM

CC 968 (R2023-10)

First name (required)	Maya
Last name (required)	Bedard
How do you wish to attend?	Remotely
If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please indicate if you require language or translator services. (required - max 75 characters)	n/a
What meeting do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Council
Date of meeting (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 20") (required)	Nov 14, 2023
What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (If you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below) (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published here .)	
(required - max 75 characters)	Residual Sub-Area 1K LOC2023-0075
Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? (required)	In favour
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Attachment of letter to council regarding LOC2023-0075.

Maya Bedard
Student
University of Calgary
2500 University Dr NW
Calgary, AB, T2N 1N4

November 3, 2023

City of Calgary
Council Chambers
Municipal Building
800 Macleod Trail SE
Calgary, AB, T2G 2M3

Subject: Public Hearing on Planning Matters (LOC2023-0075)

Dear Council:

I hope you are doing well. My name is Maya Bedard, and I am a student at the University of Calgary's Haskayne School of Business. I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed land use amendment in Residual Sub-Area 1K, located at 9700 Country Hills Boulevard NW, identified as LOC2023-0075. This application seeks to amend the current Special Purpose – Recreation (S-R) land use designation to Special Purpose – Urban Nature (S-UN) in approximately 20 percent of the undeveloped parcel, with a focus on preserving and rehabilitating the area's natural state.

The unique aspect of this land use amendment lies in its dedication to safeguarding an undeveloped landscape, as opposed to the majority of redesignation applications that typically pertain to pre-existing established districts. I wholeheartedly endorse this proposal due to its potential to harmoniously balance the preservation of natural assets within Calgary's evolving urban landscape.

The preservation of natural assets is paramount, particularly in the context of real estate development and the urban expansion of Calgary. As we progress in enhancing our urban environments, it is imperative that we remain steadfast in conserving and integrating these invaluable resources. Natural assets play a crucial role in maintaining the delicate equilibrium of our environment, influencing climate regulation, water cycles, and nutrients flows. Additionally, they offer a multitude of ecological benefits, including clean air, clean water, and biodiverse habitats for wildlife. Preserving the city's natural assets is also a commitment to ensure that future generations can continue to enjoy the beauty and tranquility of undisturbed nature within an increasingly urbanized landscape.

In the context of an existing recreational facility, the Shane Homes YMCA at Rocky Ridge, I firmly believe that preserving an undevelopable landscape, the steep slope on site of the proposed redesignation, demonstrates a thoughtful management of our undeveloped lands. The costs associated with deeming the slope on the site suitable for development are overshadowed

by the potential of this redesignation to promote the preservation of natural assets and seamlessly integrate them into the developing surroundings.

Recognizing the importance of achieving a harmonious balance between preservation and development in urban planning is highly significant. While environmental protection and the preservation of natural spaces are commendable objectives, they can coexist harmoniously with responsible development. It is crucial to acknowledge that the growth and transformation of the surrounding urban landscape should not be hindered solely in the name of preservation.

By effectively balancing the goals of preservation with the imperatives of development that cater to the evolving needs of emerging neighbourhoods, we can foster the creation of sustainable and vibrant communities. In this harmonious coexistence, we can ensure the well-being of both the environment and surrounding residents, thereby realizing the full potential of the community.

The preservation and rehabilitation of natural spaces in growing and developing cities, like Calgary, play a pivotal role in promoting sustainable environments. The proposed space has the potential to mitigate the urban heat island effect, improve air quality, and support biodiversity. These contributions are essential in creating a more sustainable and resilient urban ecosystem. Furthermore, the presence of natural areas aids in climate resilience by acting as natural buffers against extreme weather events, such as flooding and heatwaves.

In conclusion, supporting the lands use designation to S-UN is not solely about balancing preservation and development; it is about investing in a sustainable, climate-resilient, and community-oriented future. By dedicating this sub-area as Environmental Reserve (ER), we are not only protecting natural assets but also ensuring that communities can thrive in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner. This redesignation aligns with the principles of sustainability, climate resilience, and responsible growth, without hindering the development of potential recreational athletic fields on the remaining S-R designation of the parcel.

I kindly request that you give due consideration to the long-term benefits this proposal offers to our city and its residents. I believe that the preservation of natural assets, when coupled with responsible development, is a winning contribution for the sustainable growth of Calgary.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Maya Bedard