

I am here in opposition today for the disposition of parkland at Glenmore Landing. I used to be a multi-unit residential designer in Vancouver where I've worked on numerous LEED Gold accredited projects and I'm greatly familiar with projects similar to RioCan's application.

The City cannot have the disposition of parkland and not discuss the implications of that disposition knowing very well there's RioCan's proposal at hand and it's irresponsible to do so otherwise. I am not against densification in our city, but this location is highly inappropriate.

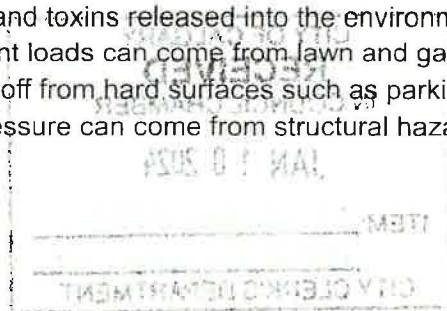
It's important to point out that 5.6 acres of land is sizable and nothing to scoff at. We also cannot look at these 5.6 acres and pull them out of their context because we're talking about the environment and the environment as we hopefully all know, does not work in a silo. It's an ecosystem with integrated parts and when you impact one portion, it impacts the rest. Understanding this relationship is fundamental in creating healthy natural infrastructure.

We're looking at 13 structures, 20-25 storeys, 15 years of construction, adding 6,000 residents using the city's occupancy metric, and what could be an additional 1,000 extra dogs urinating and defecating on our plant biodiversity and scaring away wildlife. Glenmore Reservoir and Weaselhead Flats are the richest in biodiversity within our city and the City is considering not only selling our parkland, but constructing the largest concentrated residential development next to this area.

*Density was created to stop urban sprawl in order to protect the very environment that's*  
Glenmore Reservoir has riparian areas which are a mix of wetland and upland vegetation. *now being*  
When referencing the Biodiversity Report on page 13, "riparian areas are highly productive *threatened.*  
zones with considerable diversity of vegetation. They provide important habitat to resident and migratory wildlife." We have the forest to the north of the 5.6 acres of parklands that are also wetlands.

When we replace parkland with hard infrastructure, we're not only minimizing habitat by removing parkland and their trees, we're creating noise pollution, light pollution, debris and in doing so, we're displacing wildlife from their habitat. Glenmore Reservoir is a hotspot for migratory birds and we'll only be greatly increasing bird strikes, statistically resulting in their death. Our wildlife has undergone great challenges already from the ring road construction on the south west corridor and now Tsuut'ina reserve developing on 1,2000 acres of land. We can only apply so much direct pressure, before it's too much. We have to be the voice for the voiceless.

From Our BiodiverCity Strategy plan on page 21, it speaks to physical pressures caused by development and "[d]irect impact to the natural ecological processes of land and water takes many forms. Degradation predominantly stems from heavy human use, which can lead to disease and pest outbreaks, dirty air and water and resulting declining well-being. Pollution also degrades ecosystems. Chemicals and toxins released into the environment disrupt natural ecological processes. These nutrient loads can come from lawn and garden products, pharmaceuticals, contaminated runoff from hard surfaces such as parking lots and roadways, and industry effluent. Additional pressure can come from structural hazards such as buildings



and freestanding structure guy-wires that hold towers erect, and vehicular hazards when wildlife must cross roads to move between essential habitats: these can all contribute to significant wildlife injury and losses." Our wildlife crosses 14th St daily to get to my neighbourhood in Haysboro.

Another important issue, findings published by Stats Canada, were based on analyzing the colour of summertime satellite images. The study was from 2000 to 2018. Over that time, the total land area of Calgary went from being 54.1% green to 37.6%. Calgary's drop in green space was over double of other major Canadian cities. Not only is Calgary the lowest in green space out of the major cities, the lack of greenspace in urban cities in Alberta has us almost tied for last with Saskatchewan. The City of Calgary has been doing something wrong and now it's time to correct our past mistakes.

The parkland at Glenmore Landing is already valuable parkland, but it is in my proposition to the city that we rewild these 5.6 acres by revegetating the land with native species. To plant more trees to create even more habitat and an even better buffer that further integrates with the surrounding ecology. The close proximity to sensitive and valuable riparian areas makes this parkland ideal for revitalization and naturalization.

We already have interest from the University of Calgary School of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape for students and faculty to design the naturalization of this parkland. We have numerous community residents who want to volunteer in planting. We have volunteer members from horticultural societies who would like to add to this mosaic. We've had community resident requests to put in an outdoor fitness park.

By doing so, we will be aligning with Our BiodiverCity Strategy plan, Procedure 2- C, which states: "Restore underused manicured park space to increase plant diversity and habitat complexity and function." Selling parkland does not align with our city's objectives, but this initiative falls in line with the Municipal Development Plan, Biodiversity Report, Climate Strategy Pathways to 2050, Our BiodiverCity Strategy Plan, Open Spaces Plan, Urban Tree Canopy Expansion, among other policies and strategies.

I only have five minutes today, but I will bring this revitalization proposal directly to each and every one of you along with a report on how this initiative better aligns to all of our City's policies as a whole.

You've asked Calgarians to be good stewards of the environment and here we are. Committee members and councilors cannot move forward with the disposition of parkland at Glenmore Landing in good conscience knowing the blatant disregard it requires of the environment. The responsible decision is to revitalize these parklands and have them remain within the community.

