

I am in opposition of the disposition of parkland at Glenmore Landing.

Our city is rapidly changing with new development and considerations for what the future will look like. The city has to make room for new development as the demand for housing increases, and has developed many guidelines and policies to do so in the context of environmental concerns. The commendable values encapsulated in the City of Calgary's numerous planning guidelines, designed to ensure that the future of our city is flourishing and sustainable, are being compromised and completely ignored, by the City's selling this designated parkland for commercial development.

Our City's values encapsulate the philosophy that Parks and greenspaces are natural assets and are quintessential resources for the health and well-being of Calgarians.

Selling this designated parkland for commercial development is a flagrant departure from the City's Municipal Development Plan (pages 63/64) which:

- *Prioritizes ecological protection for natural areas;assets .
- *Prioritizes ecological protection for natural areas, open spaces and parks.
- *Aims to reduce the cumulative impacts of development on ecosystems.
- * Seeks to improve the aesthetic quality and sense of place for all communities and landscapes
- * Has as a goal reducing disruption and fragmentation of habitat .
- * Includes parks and natural assets as part of Calgary's heritage, natural history and identity
- * States the priority to protect, restore and expand Calgary's urban forests and to provide adequate space and environmental conditions for forests to thrive (pg. 74).

The sale of the parkland is not consistent with the City's Biodiversity Strategic Plan's ten year framework which lays out the city's commitment to protect and restore the natural environment. "Our vision is to value Calgary's diversity and richness in wildlife, vegetation and landscapes (pg. 39). Greening the city, prioritizes maintaining biodiversity and landscape diversity. It is clear that Calgarians want a healthy natural environment and aspire to a lifestyle that will reduce their ecological footprint (pg. 16).

Again, the Calgary Climate Strategy states the city plans to "improve the climate resilience of natural infrastructure" (which includes trees and parks that help sequester carbon dioxide). "to provide a thriving landscape into the future e.g., restoring underutilized spaces, selecting native species and drought tolerant vegetation,... and maintaining green stormwater infrastructure)" (pg. 72). The loss of trees and vegetation in the sale of the land would exacerbate the loss of greenspace that Calgary has experienced; from 2000 to 2022 there was a reduction from 54.1% to 37.6%.

Calgarians have been denied a transparent view of the terms of this sale; how the city has gone from defending their decision from the 1970s to mid-1980s, where the city hall fought the original developer to maximize the parkland and protect the aesthetics of the project for the adjoining neighbors. There has not been transparent reporting on the Traffic Impact, the Environmental Impact, Sanitary Sewer Study, Stormwater Study, whether there is any impact on the Wetlands; which have protected status. No sale should proceed under this veil of secrecy and without full transparency.

It's our duty to protect these lands, once greenspace is gone, we can no longer buy it back. We understand the city's need to densify but must it come at the cost of our precious greenspaces and parklands?

