

Submission in favour of

Standing Committee on Property and Development

Notice of Motion

Expropriation and rezoning of Lemay Forest

I strongly encourage the Council to approve this motion to save the Lemay Forest.

Mature forests are extraordinarily valuable and rare in Winnipeg.

A forest provides both “lungs” for the neighbourhood and a particularly valuable green space for citizens in the area.

I live near the Assiniboine forest, and I visit it more than 100 times a year; each time I am thankful for the foresight of the people who stopped the forest from being converted into another residential area. It is a popular place, there are always many dog walkers, families, retired people, joggers, cyclists, and walkers enjoying a peaceful and green – or white -- moment in the forest.

The Assiniboine forest plays an important role for thousands of Winnipeggers in River Heights, Tuxedo and Charleswood. The Lemay forest should do the same for thousands of people in the south of the city.

It would be an irrecoverable waste of a valuable resource to knock down this forest to make room for buildings and cars. Building housing is important, but building housing should not be a reason to destroy an important natural resource.

Please do the right thing for the Lemay Forest by setting it aside as a park, and help the developer build a successful project elsewhere.

Charles Feaver