

Submission – Robin Dyck

Expropriation and Rezoning of Lemay Forest (Item 1 - Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – Notice of Motion)

Delegation information

Committee you want to address
Council

Agenda item you want to address (number and title)
1. Expropriation and Rezoning of Lemay Forest

Support or oppose recommendations
I support the recommendations

Submit comments in writing checkbox
Submit comments in writing

Comments
To Winnipeg City Council.

I am in support of expropriating and rezoning the Lemay forest. I don't know the entire story of this land, but keeping it as a historic and cultural site will obviously be a significant action towards not only reconciliation and fostering good relations with Indigenous peoples, but also a step in the right direction for climate action. I have a 4 year old kiddo, and a lot of our time, even in the cold, long winter, is being outside. We walk along the Seine River Parkway, we go to Lagimodier-Gaboury and Whittier parks. We snowshoe and bike and bird watch. It is so important for everyone to spend time outside and enjoy nature. It is part of our daily routine. Without these spaces in our city, we would consider moving. Our tree canopy is so important. Every year we see trees that have to be cut down due to disease. Why are we cutting them down now for no reason. Because one developer/owner is stubborn and wants to make a point to the detriment of an entire community/city/province.

This seems to have been a missed opportunity by the city. This site should have been protected long ago, and because of that lack of vision and lack of proactive steps, council now faces an acute challenge. It is time to admit the mistakes, learn the lesson and start in the right direction by protecting this land. The owner will be reimbursed for hopefully just what he paid. Taxpayers may be angry, but that is a potential consequence and accountability that council members face every day and with every decision they make.

Public engagement (optional)

I consent to being contacted to participate in potential public engagement related to this matter.
Yes