

I am writing regarding **Item 11: Declaration of Surplus of the Former Aubrey Bus Loop – 139 Aubrey Street (Daniel McIntyre Ward)**. I am a 20-year resident of the Wolseley neighbourhood and have lived that entire time within site of the former Aubrey Bus Loop. I am writing to ask the Committee to declare the Aubrey Loop property **not** surplus, and instead to retain it as public land.

Since I've lived here, I've observed the Aubrey Loop functioning as green space while being serviced by public transit. Since the stoppage of transit service to this property, it continues to be used as a green space by neighbourhood residents. The space gets used daily for a variety of outdoor pursuits including picnics, playing catch, yoga and other exercise activities, sunbathing, studying, yard games, snow games, or games of fetch with pets to name a few.

Of the 15 wards in Winnipeg, Daniel McIntyre has the highest population density, the lowest area of park lands in hectares, the lowest park land as percent of the ward area, the lowest park lands hectares per 1000 residents, and the lowest number of inventoried city trees per 1000 residents. I support adding housing or childcare spots to our neighbourhood but question the use of scarce open public land in one of Winnipeg's most park-poor wards. Of note, there are already 2 multifamily housing apartment blocks within roughly 50 metres of the Aubrey Loop, and the residents of those blocks use this property effectively as their collective yard space.

The benefits of green space are practical and measurable. Green spaces protect root zones while adding shade, assist in stormwater absorption, provide habitat and more diverse replacement trees, support physical activity and social connection as well as stress relief. Systematic reviews also find cooler daytime conditions in parks and demonstrate associations between green space exposure and better health outcomes. Keeping it public preserves choices and could support seating, accessible paths, play, naturalization, or community programming. A surplus declaration would not

guarantee affordable housing or public access, and replacement land in a built-up neighbourhood would be difficult and costly to reacquire.

In conclusion I think council should be very cautious about permanently disposing of scarce public green space in a dense and growing neighbourhood. I ask that council do not declare the Former Aubrey Loop surplus and instead retain it in City ownership for green space for the following reasons:

1. The limited existing green space provision in a population dense ward.
2. The importance of mature trees on this site which contribute to our urban canopy and their known benefits to cities.
3. The importance of green space to communities and recreational value they bring.
4. The irreversibility of selling public land.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Respectfully,

Sheri-Lee Krymusa

September 9th, 2026