Oct. 5, 2020

Dear City Council Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to address city council.

The quality of life in the city of Edmonton is rapidly deteriorating and it is not due to COVID-19.

We, the property owner have no viable options to "fight city hall".

The mature overlay in neighbourhoods will go ahead no matter what and neighbours nor the community have a say.

Going to the development appeal board is a complete waste of time because even armed with facts and bylaws you are humiliated, spoken down to and denied to speak even after receiving lawyer's advice. (Even) calling the Minister of Municipal Affairs results in "lip service.

The ordinary citizen has nothing to say. He/she is
informed about developments but cannot do anything as the decision is already made.

The development officer cannot as will not reveal information requested because of confidentiality.

The switch to RF3 from RF1 in the district of Avonmore in the middle of the block is the demise of the neighborhood. I personally know of three properties in the vicinity that would be next.

I have lived this nightmare for many years. I do not want to live it all over again.

The area is rezoned. The development plans change. Then the homes are built. They are inspected and the next step is the development change what I was applied for. The duplexes will only be for one family each.
Then after inspection, walls that have been covered by siding are suddenly cut into and a door and a window have been pre-installed and are now revealed.

Nothing can be done about it. Fences are built that exceed the limit, but once built, nothing can be done about it.

Illegal suites are then put in and parking becomes an absolute nightmare and yes, your car gets hit while parked. There’s no room on the street. Reporting to bylaw, you are informed that yes it is perfectly legal to convert lower levels, with bare sunlight possible to tenants as rooming spaces up to 5 people with shared accommodation.

That leads to the homeowner leaving and cannot be found and if there is an AIR BNB next door. Your privacy is completely lost. You cannot sit in your backyard as any number can view you from the desk which is much higher than your own property.
The feeling of invasion by strangers is overwhelming. The garbage left behind is slowly and gone through by garbage pickers in the neighborhood because of a run-down shopping center nearby (VLT's). The worst of it then are notices to inform that the lower levels are being converted to permanent rental space by a business. Parking? Where? The doors and windows face bedrooms. Lights blaze into the bedroom. People observe what is occurring and dressing becomes a public event. TVs (large) sign shine on the walls and the sound windows can be open so the sound travels. Blackout drapes are necessary at all times and lights I need to be put on unnecessarily so that you can see. Even the bathroom needs an extra light and blinds for some privacy. There can be up to 20 people in one duplex.
I have unable to ascertain what is expected to be built if this rezoned. There is just the beginning. The LRT station waiting area is so large that all of West Avonmore could fit on it at the same time. The homes are all RF1 and some sub-division of lots has occurred in the neighborhood. There are at least 3 other properties close in the vicinity which have the potential for rezoning. There is the ubiquitous problem of parking. With the new snow removal program where are these people going to park? There is no room.

Unfortunately, I have also had the unfortunate experience of living across from 2 row houses and 2 ofplexes where you can actually see through the home and they can see through mine. The number of occupants, as evidenced by a housefire in them, can be quite large.
The developer reigns in the city of Edmonton and we have no recourse. We have input and it falls on deaf ears.

Taking another viewpoint, Edmonton is not Europe, where by absolute necessity people need to live in close quarters and have many rules to cope with overcrowding and the assembly of many people in small places.

I feel very sorry for the way how people have to live in some of these developed homes. They have limited sunlight, high fences between units for privacy, no green grass to maneuver and snow shovelling is a nightmare, even from balconies on third floors.

Some are unfortunate to even have windows only on two sides.

No one cares what is built, how the neighbors are affected, the impact on the neighbourhood, parking, snow-shovelling or quality of life for residents both inside and outside of the building.

Miss Buffi
Dear Mayor and City Councillors;

I strongly object to the rezoning of river valley land for a solar farm. It is very important to protect our river valley from development. As one of Edmonton’s greatest assists we need to put conservation of the river valley first. I have lived here all my life and over the decades I have seen our city praising our great green belt and extensive river valley. We have by-laws to protect our river valley and associated ravines but continually the City of Edmonton has built in the valley, proposed “enhancements” which are basically more infrastructure and changed bylaws and plans as COE say it is “deemed necessary” only deemed necessary by councillors and administration that are not looking to the future but only the current status. The COE is always double speaking purporting to want natural areas protect our river valley and enhance biodiversity however we have lost many of our natural areas and are losing our Biodiversity. When will the city stop destroying the river valley which has economic value as Natural Capital.

I am not opposed to solar farms but there are many other areas where these could be placed and using this as a ‘green solution’ to further build in the river valley is not an appropriate excuse.

There are other options for solar panels - on tops of houses and other buildings, brownfield sites, other vacant lots that aren’t zoned parkland.

During the pandemic when people are "staycationing" more, and as our city grows we need to show that our river valley is a priority for Edmontonians and for our biodiversity. The land has rich cultural value. An archaeological survey undertaken for this site discovered cultural objects dating back 9,000 years, making it the oldest known archaeological site in the Edmonton area.

Please do not change bylaws for this project find another site.

Margaret Reine
The following information has been submitted via the Contact Council web form. This message is in regards to a Public Hearing, Council or Committee meeting.

**Submission Detail**

- **Confirmation Number:** CTCC032046
- **Submission Date:** Oct 05, 2020 - 18:22:03
- **IP Address:** [redacted]

**Contact Information**

- **First Name:** Elizabeth
- **Last Name:** Atherton-Reid
- **Email Address:** [redacted]
- **Phone Number:** [redacted]
- **Fax:** [redacted]
- **Organization:** [redacted]
- **Street Address:** [redacted]
- **City:** Edmonton
- **Province:** Alberta
- **Country:** Canada
- **Postal Code:** [redacted]

**Agenda Information**

- **Meeting Type:** City Council
- **Meeting Date:** Oct 06, 2020
- **Agenda Item Title:** Vote on solar farm

**Message**

- **Subject:** Vote on solar farm
  
  I am opposed to the Epcor solar farm being built in the river valley. Our valley is precious and irreplaceable as are the wildlife living in it. Please vote against rezoning the area to allow Epcor to build their solar farm there.
The following information has been submitted via the Contact Council web form. This message is in regards to a Public Hearing, Council or Committee meeting.

Submission Detail

Confirmation Number: CTCC032057
Submission Date: Oct 06, 2020 - 07:37:29
IP Address: [redacted]

Contact Information

First Name: linda
Last Name: thompson
Email Address: [redacted]
Phone Number: [redacted]
Fax: [redacted]
Organization:

Street Address: 12106 - 91 street
City: Edmonton
Province: Alberta
Country: Canada
Postal Code: [redacted]

Agenda Information

Meeting Type: Urban Planning Committee
Meeting Date: Oct 07, 2020
Agenda Item Title:
Agenda Item Number:

Message

Subject: Application by EPCOR to put a solar farm in the river valley
Comments: Please vote no. this is not appropriate for the river valley for many reasons, most of which were outlined in the article in the Edmonton Journal today. The river valley should be absolutely off limits and remain as a beautiful oasis for the citizens of Edmonton.
Dear Councillor Henderson,

I will keep this brief as I know the city council is deliberating this matter tomorrow. I am writing to express opposition to Epcor’s solar farm proposal for the river valley, and my hope that you will vote against it.

I am passionately committed to the need to address climate change, so the idea of a solar farm is, in general, very appealing. However, I am deeply concerned about the impacts on our priceless and irreplaceable river valley. The river valley is so precious to Edmontonians, which has been very evident in the past months - the river valley trails have never been busier than during this pandemic, giving us a chance to get out and enjoy natural surroundings when so many other options are closed off. Changing a portion of the river valley for industrial development would be a loss that could never be reversed. I am also concerned about the loss of habitat and connectivity for wildlife.

Regards,

Denise Thomson
THE WORLD AND HUMANITY

2020 is a time when two great things are colliding. Covid 19 has brought together humanity for the first time and made all people equal. At the same time we have been given the word to leave the old world of fire of our beginning and reach for the sun which makes our lives possible. We have to build a future of renewables. But how?

H2 is to remove CO2. The best choice is now with wind turbines particularly in cold climates with little light for half the year. One wind turbine provides the same energy as 45,000 solar panels. 5 would provide all the water facility needs not just 1 and there are better places to place them. Doing this would make the best step to eliminating CO2.

Across the northern world these are becoming the way to phase out old power plants over time. This is on the basis that wind pays for itself in less than 7 months and solar in 3 years, costs less to put in place, is more durable and allows the land or water below to be used.

Wind turbines now compete with coal but the big thing is that they will make for a clean world. You cannot put a price on that. Our world and especially our cities should keep as much environment as possible. Our air should be clean. We have neither with our coal power. There should be some serious thinking to start using renewables to remove this menace to our city and the world.

David Hamilton