

Calgary City Council
City of Calgary
Calgary, AB

Dear Members of City Council,

Re: Concerns Regarding Glenmore Landing Redevelopment and Impacts on Reservoir Parklands and Calgary's Drinking Water

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed redevelopment at Glenmore Landing and its potential negative effects on the Glenmore Reservoir parklands, a cherished natural asset, and Calgary's vital drinking water supply.

The Glenmore Reservoir is a cornerstone of Calgary's ecosystem, providing clean drinking water for residents while supporting the surrounding parklands that serve as a sanctuary for wildlife and a place of recreation for citizens. Allowing a dense development so close to this sensitive area poses significant risks that cannot be ignored:

1. Risk of Water Contamination:

- The proximity of a high-density development, including large garbage dumpsters required to manage waste, increases the risk of seepage into the reservoir. During the summer months, warmer temperatures exacerbate the decomposition of waste, raising concerns about leachate entering the water supply, not to mention the potential for unpleasant odors affecting nearby communities.
- The presence of numerous dogs in such close proximity to the reservoir increases the likelihood of animal waste runoff during rain or snowmelt events, further threatening water quality.

2. Threats to Migratory Birds:

- The Glenmore Reservoir lies within a key migratory bird pathway, making it a critical habitat for many bird species. The proposed towers in this redevelopment present a significant risk of bird strikes, particularly during migration seasons when birds may be attracted to or confused by the reflective glass and artificial lighting of tall structures. This could lead to a devastating number of bird fatalities, further degrading the biodiversity of the area.

3. Preservation of Natural Ecosystems:

- The Glenmore Reservoir and surrounding parklands are home to diverse plant and animal species. Increased human and pet activity associated with this development may disrupt these ecosystems, diminishing the ecological value of the area.

4. Impact on Public Enjoyment:

- The reservoir parklands are a cherished public space. Increased density may lead to overcrowding, noise, and pollution, compromising the natural tranquility and recreational opportunities that make this area so special to Calgary residents.

I urge City Council to carefully consider the long-term environmental and social implications of this redevelopment. Measures to protect the reservoir, parklands, and Calgary's drinking water supply must take precedence over short-term economic gains.

Specifically, I request that:

- **Comprehensive environmental studies be conducted** and made publicly available, addressing the impacts of increased density, waste management, pet-related runoff, and migratory bird pathways on the reservoir.
- **Development plans be modified to include robust safeguards** to ensure water quality, ecological integrity, and bird safety are preserved.
- **Clear limits be established regarding the proximity of high-density developments, tall structures, and large-scale waste management infrastructure** to the reservoir.

Thank you for considering my concerns. I trust that Calgary City Council will prioritize the protection of our natural resources and the well-being of our community when making decisions about this project.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Contact Information]