Good evening. My name is Keith Lay. I live in Porter Creek. I am here for Active Trails Whitehorse Association concerning the Whitehorse South Draft Trail Plan.

The *last line* of tonight’s Administrative Report on the topic reads as follows: “Snowmobile use will continue to be permitted as per the City Snowmobile Bylaw.” Unfortunately, *even this* *limited* information was not provided in the City survey completed by **21%** of Whitehorse South residents. As a result, ***five*** of the ***seven*** survey questions were compromised, since responders were not made aware of what is actually meant by the term non-motorized multiple use trail.

This misinformation continues as seen in the Legend of the current draft map. There is no indication beside the terms “Proposed Non-Motorized Trails” and “New Non-Motorized Trail Construction,” that these trails will actually be motorized in the winter.

And this is all very strange indeed, as in the Administrative Report we are told that the Whitehorse South Trail Plan is in part based on “priorities outlined in the 2020 Trail Plan.” And, administration recently said the City is using the new 2020 Trail Plan to “shape [its] work.”

The Trail Plan defines a Motorized Multiple Use Trail as “Trails designed and designated by the City to be used by both non-motorized and motorized users *including snowmobilers*.” Such trails are the most expensive trails to design, construct, maintain and monitor.

The Trail Plan defines a Non-Motorized Multiple Use Trail as one that is “to be used by a variety of non-motorized users.”

However, it appears that despite the intent of the 2020 Trail Plan, in reality, the City is actually defining this term as “Trails to be used by a variety of non-motorized users [**including snowmobilers**],” a definition which makes no sense at all.

A year ago Councillor Boyd told citizens that “administration confirmed that a top priority [would be] to identify the policies and bylaws that need to be updated” to reflect the intentions of the 2020 Trail Plan. If this had been done with respect to the Snowmobile Bylaw we would not be in this inane situation with regard to the Whitehorse South trail plan.

Please examine the draft map. Look at all the proposed MMU trails. Then look at the proposed Non-Motorized trails. Now add them all together. You will then have an idea as to how many *motorized* trails will be located in Whitehorse South, all because the City will not amend one bylaw.

One can readily see that if the Whitehorse South Trail Plan is approved in its current form, *every trail* in Whitehorse South (except some trails in ESAs) will be open to motorized use in either summer or winter. This does not reflect the intent of the 2020 Trail Plan, which was to ensure that non-motorized trails are truly non-motorized.

As well, it will not result in an equitable trail network for Whitehorse South. It will not reduce the degradation of so-called non-motorized multiple use trails, and will not support the right of community members to the quiet enjoyment of their property, local trails and greenbelts.

Strangely enough the City does not appear to have any concern about combining motorized and non-motorized users on trails that are *not* *designed* to accommodate such use, an action that has potential safety and environmental repercussions.

As both administration and councillors are aware, there *is a way* to ensure the draft plan’s proposed and constructed non-motorized trails, do become *truly* non-motorized as defined in the 2020 Trail Plan.

City Council could ask administration to undertake the process that will add these trails to the ***Excluded Trails/Schedule “E”*** section of the Snowmobile Bylaw. This would ensure that at least a few trails in Whitehorse South are free from motorized use in *both* summer and winter. Approval of this neighbourhood trail plan should be contingent on this action.

Another concern that we have relates to a section on the current draft map entitled, *Future Non-Motorized Trail Development in this Area*. The area is located within the boundaries of McIntyre Creek Regional Park, which will most likely be the next regional park to get a management plan.

This proposal should be dropped from the draft Whitehorse South Trail plan. The integrity of Mt. McIntyre regional park could well be damaged by a haphazard approach to trail development, a point to which the 2014 Regional Park Plan alludes.

What some may consider “growth opportunities” may not be considered as such by those who have been trying for years to ensure the protection of this area and its establishment as a regional park.

If it is to be considered at all, then it should be in the context of a draft management plan for the existing McIntyre Creek Regional Park.

Thank you,

Keith Lay (Active Trails Whitehorse Association)