



# Fernhill Cemetery Company

*(Incorporated 1848 • Crematorium 1939)*

November 27, 2024

City of Saint John  
15 Market Square  
Saint John, NB  
E2L 4L1

Attention City Clerk

By email to [cityclerk@saintjohn.ca](mailto:cityclerk@saintjohn.ca)

Greetings through you Mr. Clerk to the Mayor and Councillors.

This letter is an initial public comment from the Fernhill Cemetery Company on the application for rezoning and Municipal Plan amendments proposed for Sunnyside Avenue.

Fernhill has not adopted a position at this time insofar as any possible objection or support on the proposal but reserves its right to do so throughout the process. We also have questions that are important to have answers to.

Some of those questions include, yet are not limited to:

1. What measures will be implemented to address any migration and set up of any tent community as has occurred around the city and as been the case around the Fredericton 12 Neighbours community?
2. What is the plan for snow management in such a tight footprint? Will there be a physical barrier along the Fernhill property?
3. What measures will be implemented to ensure that litter etc. does not make its way into Fernhill?
4. If security concerns manifest themselves in relation to the need to protect Fernhill property and the burial sites as a result of the development proposal will the Sunnyside Community managers take responsibility for addressing same?

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5. We understand the current Municipal Plan definition of Park and Natural Areas highlights that **“Lands in the City designated Park and Natural Areas are generally not appropriate for any form of development...”**

The supporting Policy LU-113 goes on to say “Council intends that the Park and Natural Areas designation will permit a range of conservation and appropriate recreational land uses permitted in the City’s major regional and community parks, environmentally sensitive or significant areas, lands that are located adjacent to watercourses, lands adjacent to the City’s coastlines, estuarine areas, significant archaeological and geological sites, **historic sites**, designated heritage places and **cemeteries**.”

Why would it be appropriate to vary the above provisions at this time and for this purpose given likely more promising locations?

Fernhill’s contiguous neighbour the Shaarei Zedek cemetery shares the interest and concerns that have been expressed herein.

In closing we look forward to hearing much more information and answers to questions as we follow this matter and consider what if any position the Fernhill Cemetery Company may take.

We thank you for your consideration.

Regards,



Elaine Daley  
President  
Fernhill Cemetery

cc. Members of the Fernhill Cemetery Board.  
cc Members of the Shaarei-Zedek Cemetery Board