



City of Hamilton

GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE ADDENDUM

Meeting #: 21-002(h)
Date: February 8, 2021
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: Due to the COVID-19 and the Closure of City Hall

All electronic meetings can be viewed at:

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Stephanie Paparella, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 3993

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From: Craig Burley
Sent: January 21, 2021 2:36 PM
To: Ferguson, Lloyd <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca; Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>
Subject: Street Checks/Carding

[Dear Clerks: please include a copy including attachment as correspondence to the next meeting of the Hamilton Police Services Board and also to the General Issues Committee re PSB budget]

Dear Councillor Ferguson,

I understand that at today's General Issues Committee, you had questions for Deputy Chief Bergen as part of the Police Services Board's budget presentation. The questions were on the topic of street checks or "carding".

In so doing, you raised a rather conspiratorial point: that until after Chief Girt's departure you would not be able to receive a "clear" answer on the reasons for street checks and carding having been significantly restricted (which, as you will know, was done by provincial regulation).

I think I can help. Justice Tulloch was asked by the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services to prepare a report on Street Checks in 2017. In late 2018, he brought forward his report. It was **very clear** and contained two pages in particular, in the introduction, which demonstrated concisely the uselessness--indeed counterproductiveness--of "carding" and street checks as a policing tool.

I really do think this brief to-page analysis (the full report is at <http://www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca/sites/default/files/content/mcscs/docs/StreetChecks.pdf> if you wish to read it) is fully explanatory of why it was important for random and arbitrary street checks to be eliminated. It is two pages and can be easily read in five minutes.

With thanks and regards,

Craig Burley

encl. Pages 27-28 of Justice Michael Tulloch, *Report of the Independent Street Checks Review*

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Craig Burley
Barrister & Solicitor

1. For decades, various police services in Ontario have utilized the practice of street checks, sometimes referred to as “carding” (in reference to the cards on which the information is recorded), as a means to gather personal information from citizens who police officers suspect may be involved in criminal activities.
2. This targeted practice, which was used as a crime prevention measure, was widely viewed by the policing community as a valuable intelligence gathering tool in the fight against crime.
3. Over time, street checks evolved into a general, uncontrolled practice that did not have the checks and balances required to ensure its usefulness. The very definition of the term “street checks” became vague. Different police services within Ontario ascribed different police practices to the term and, in many police services, the number of street checks conducted became a measure of officer performance. As a result, police officers were incentivized to engage in poor practices.
4. The degree to which the practice devolved became, at times, quite ridiculous. In order to meet the required quotas, the bar for suspicious behaviour was lowered, and then dropped entirely. I was informed by police stakeholders that some police officers recorded the names and birthdates obtained from tombstones to submit as street checks. Groups of young people on their way to school were stopped and asked for their identifying information, sometimes with only the racialized members of the group being questioned. Young men simply playing basketball were stopped and collectively asked to provide their identifying information.
5. What was once a useful investigative tool became an unfocused practice that was disproportionately applied to the most marginalized communities and against the most disadvantaged people. It was conducted without any measurement of its effectiveness, including its effectiveness as a crime prevention tool. Instead of capturing people involved in criminality, this tool captured and recorded the identity and personal information of hundreds of thousands of individuals who did not have any criminal history. In essence, it amounted to a general documentation of anyone the police felt was suspicious. That subjective suspicion varied greatly with each police officer. To make matters worse, the system had no fair, objective process for individuals to have their street check records removed or nullified.
6. Because of the nature of various police records management systems, as well as the access and exchange of information between police services, many innocent individuals’ reputations and lives were tarnished as a result of this practice.
7. During my consultations, these points were poignantly captured in a submission to the Review by a retired deputy chief of police of one of the 12 largest police services outside of Toronto. He stated the following:

I absolutely despise the manner in

which this once useful tool has evolved. In my day – you know, the neo-Juras-sic period of policing – we had “suspect cards”. These were filled out and entered police files only if officers checked a person who had a criminal record, or was on probation or parole. They were an effective tool in putting a person (who had a documented criminal history) in a particular place at a particular time. Many new investigative leads were generated as a result. The cards were never used for anything else that I was aware of.

I am very disappointed (but not shocked or even surprised) to see traditional police and civic leaders who are stubbornly defending the carding system. This controversy could easily have been virtually eliminated if the police had sat down with the community and talked openly. Perhaps a joint police/community panel could have navigated the issues into a system that would have worked for everyone.

When I was a young officer, we learned a great deal from the actions of more senior officers who we perceived as “good” or “effective models”. We never received formal instruction on effective patrol at Police College or through the police service itself. But we did receive the informal street policing message loud and clear that to be really effective you had to stop everything that moved after midnight and particularly in lower income areas. I think that particular practice is also alive and well.

8. During my consultations, I met with police officers at all levels as well as from small, medium and large police services throughout Ontario. The message delivered to me in those meetings was consistent. The practice of street checks was originally intended to be an investigative tool to capture the information of people who had a criminal record, were on probation or parole, or were suspected of being involved in some type of criminal activity. The majority of the police leaders concurred that this practice was once an effective one. The information obtained in these encounters was useful in tracking individuals involved in criminality as well as placing a person in a particular location at a particular time. As a result, new investigative leads were generated.

Because of the nature of various police records management systems, as well as the access and exchange of information between police services, many innocent individuals’ reputations and lives were tarnished as a result of this practice.

9. However, the practice eventually evolved from targeted inquiries of people suspected of criminal activity to inquiries of people who simply looked suspicious and, eventually, to completely random inquiries. This latter practice is what most people think of when they think of “carding”.



February 4, 2021

Hamilton Chamber of Commerce Endorses a “Just Recovery” for All Hamiltonians

Dear Members of Hamilton City Council,

As Council deliberates on the City of Hamilton 2021 Budget, the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce would like to take this opportunity to add its voice to a chorus of community organizations and partners advocating for a “Just Recovery” for our community. This comes at a time where municipal councils and all levels of government financially plan for the future to ensure that when the COVID-19 pandemic is behind us Canada is poised for a strong, rapid and inclusive economic and social recovery process.

Alongside contributors and participating organizations, the Chamber believes that it is the collective responsibility of the City of Hamilton, local business, community service providers and residents to work together to continue to advocate for the necessary changes and additional funding from other levels of government to not only recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, but to build a better and more equitable community.

From the Chamber’s perspective, the foundation of any good economic policy relies robust social policy that helps to enable the conditions for an inclusive and productive workforce. COVID-19 has highlighted and exacerbated challenges experienced by many in our community, preventing them from fulsome participation in our local economy and beyond. It is imperative that government recognize barriers to economic participation and implement proactive policy to maximize inclusion for all residents in Hamilton’s recovery process.

In concert with our partners, the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce would like to endorse the recommendations contained within the Just Recovery budget submission for consideration by Hamilton City Council. Particularly, the Chamber would like to highlight a few areas of particular importance to our membership to ensure a rapid and inclusive economic recovery:

◆ **Investing in Women**



The pandemic has had significant impacts on the division of gendered labour within the home and with society. It remains imperative that government make efforts to increase women's, and those who identify as women, engagement with the labour force. This includes ensuring safe and affordable childcare options in addition to targeted training and retraining efforts to expand economic opportunities for women and those who identify as women in our community.

◆ **Focus on Inclusive City Building**

As decisions are made regarding important City building projects and overall vision, it remains imperative that the City of Hamilton engages in productive consultation with the community to ensure that decisions are made inclusively of feedback from our diverse population. This includes continuing to provide active and important roles for disability, mobility, 2SLGBTQIA+, and anti-racism actors within our community who bring significant expertise about their lived experiences. Broad-based community participation in community decision-making creates the best outcomes for our entire community, from both an economic and social perspective.

◆ **Investing in Decent Jobs, Decent Wages & Our Local Economy**

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted different sectors of our economy to varying degrees, with particularly significant impacts felt in the accommodation, hospitality, restaurant, tourism and arts industries. Government must do what it can to support these employers and their employees through creative policymaking to help keep their operations as "business-as-usual" as possible. Moreover, there is a unique opportunity presented to take a leadership role in advancing burgeoning sectors of the economy, particularly in those combatting climate change. While it is imperative to continue to support our current employment, we must also look to what the future of employment may look like in Hamilton.

◆ **Investing in Green Infrastructure, Policy & Public Access**

As the City of Hamilton continues on its path towards net-zero by 2050, there are a number of issues that will have to be kept top of mind such as carbon absorption, flood mitigation and air filtration. Through strategic investments in green infrastructure in urban parks, natural areas, commercial, industrial and residential areas, the City can help



combat the effects of climate change and also take a leadership role in demonstrating best green infrastructure practices. Moreover, through our unique industrial sector and excellent local post-secondary research facilities, Hamilton has the potential to become a regional leader in green technology. Hamilton ought to consider green infrastructure foremost moving forward.

◆ **Housing as a Human Right**

In alignment with the findings of the Ontario Human Rights Commission that “adequate housing is essential to one’s sense of dignity, safety, inclusion and ability to contribute to the fabric of our neighbourhoods and societies,” it is important that every effort is made to increase the stock of affordable and supportive housing in the City of Hamilton. Without appropriate housing, it is often not possible to secure and maintain employment, to recovery from mental illness or other disabilities, or to integrate into the community. It is important that the City continue to utilize creative municipal bylaws to encourage the development of affordable and supportive housing.

With these priorities in mind, the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce would like to join our community partner organizations in calling for Council’s consideration of a “Just Recovery” for all Hamiltonians. Now is the time for ambitious, innovative and progressive decision-making to help build back a more inclusive Hamilton as we begin our economic recovery from the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keanin Loomis". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Keanin Loomis
President & CEO

From: Abedar Kamgari <abedarkamgari@gmail.com>
Sent: February 5, 2021 11:04 AM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Cc: Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; info@defundhps.com
Subject: GIC February 8 Meeting

Hello,

Please accept this written delegation for the upcoming February 8 General Issues Committee Meeting, in regards to the 2021 Hamilton Police Budget.

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Dear Hamilton City Councillors,

My name is **Abedar** and I live in Hamilton, Ontario in **ward 1**. I am reaching out to express my outrage regarding the astronomically high Hamilton Police Services budget of \$171.5 million dollars, with an existing surplus of \$567,000-- well beyond the allocated funding for any other social service in the city. This money needs to be invested into the community to address the deepening affordable housing crisis as residents are turned away from shelters and forced to sleep on the streets.

I am calling on you to vote against the proposed 2.98% increase to the Hamilton Police Services budget and vote in favour of the return of the HPS budget surplus to the City, and its re-allocation into housing and community-led, harm reduction supports for the housing, mental health, addiction crises. For months, thousands of Hamiltonians have tirelessly advocated for defunding the HPS in order to deliberately invest in other vital yet underfunded social services. Residents have consistently called, written, delegated, protested, rallied, and marched. As public representatives, your unwillingness to act upon these proposed demands is a failure to represent a concerned community of your constituents -- a community evidenced through these calls. I am not comfortable continuing to fund policing in my community at the expense of essential services like housing, community health centres, mental health etc.

Increased police presence does not keep us safe. It threatens the lives of our most vulnerable communities: Black, Indigenous and People of Colour, the LGBTQ2S+ community, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc. Police continue to discriminately target Black and Indigenous communities through tactics of racial profiling, implicit bias, algorithmic bias, etc. In addition to being extremely racist, policing is an ableist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, and a classist institution that necessitates perpetuating these varied oppressions to function.

Police officers do not have the most basic understandings of queer and gender-diverse communities, as evidenced by their interactions with Pride Hamilton organizers. The 2021 HPS operating budget analysis notes that the sexual assault detective constable will make \$108,657, while women's shelters are at capacity and organizations like SACHA, who are doing the real work to support survivors, are severely underfunded.

The HPS reports a 14.5% increase in 911 calls involving a person in crisis. People in crisis should not have to resort to police nor have police called on them. Most people killed by police in Canada since 2000 had mental health or substance abuse related issues. Funds should be reallocated towards a dedicated mental health crisis response support that does not involve police.

Police reform will not protect community members experiencing mental health distress, address a culture of dismissing sexual assault and missing person inquiries, nor prevent the systemic criminalization of marginalized communities. Reform tactics such as body cameras have proven to be ineffective in reducing police brutality.

Crime rates in Hamilton, Ontario, and Canada have been declining for the last two decades, with *all* categories of crime rates in Hamilton dropping during COVID-19. Yet, police budgets continue to inflate. In the operating budget analysis, the Hamilton Police Services will see a 78.3% increase to its ammunition expenses if this budget is approved. The City continues to overfund violence while underfunding crucial services for building healthy and well-supported communities.

Investing in the health and wellbeing of our communities addresses the root cause of most criminalized acts, which are often need-based and consequences of poverty. What we really need are robust services that can effectively respond, such as mental health outreach workers, community and housing centres, and accessible educational/preventative programs. We need to reallocate the HPS budget to existing community-led organizations offering services to vulnerable communities, and create effective alternative services such as crisis intervention, mental health centres, and housing.

I am calling on you to vote against the proposed 2.98% increase to the Hamilton Police Services budget and vote in favour of the return of the HPS budget surplus to the City to be re-allocated into housing and community-led, harm reduction supports for the housing, mental health, addiction crises. If you are unable to offer immediate, meaningful action in response to the demands outlined above, then I ask that you resign and make way for leadership that is able to do so.

**Sincerely,
Abedar Kamgari
Ward 1 Resident**

From: Atlas DiTommaso
Sent: February 4, 2021 6:47 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Written Delegation for GIC meeting on February 8th

Hello, here is my written delegation for the GIC meeting on February 8th.

Kind Regards, Theo (They/Them)

Dear Mayor and Members and Council

My name is Theo, my pronouns are They/Them and I am a ward 3 hamilton resident. As a member of your community I am incredibly concerned at the appalling increase to the Hamilton Police Budget.

As a queer non-binary person I don't feel like the police keep me safe. In 2003, [REDACTED], a trans woman was arrested and dragged down seven flights of stairs. She was killed. I am terrified to think that something like this could happen to someone I know. Increasing funding to the Hamilton Police Service will lead to more violence like this.

The 2021 operating budget analysis includes \$108,657 for the sexual assault detective constable while womans shelters are at capacity. We need tangible supports, and adequate funding for woman's shelters and organisations like SACHA.

It is disturbing to think that the 2021 projected intelligence equipment cost is \$44,460. This equipment is only used to surveil, track, traumatize and harm poor, Black and racialized people. By approving this budget increase you are allowing continued violence against your own neighbours and community members.

I am asking you to vote against the proposed budget increase to the Hamilton Police Service.

I am asking you to vote for the proposed return of the HPS budget surplus to the city to be re-allocated into housing and community led supports.

Failing to act on these demands is a failure to do your job. Reform is not an option, I am asking for a complete re-imagining of what our community could look like.

Dear City Council,

My name is Hannah Barrie and I live in Hamilton, Ontario in Ward 2. I am reaching out to express my outrage regarding the astronomically high Hamilton Police Services budget of \$171.5 million dollars, with an existing surplus of \$567,000. This is well beyond the allocated funding for any other social service in the city. Money desperately needs to be invested into the community, especially given pandemic conditions and the affordable housing crisis as people are being turned away from shelters and sleeping on the streets.

I am calling upon you to vote *against* the proposed of 2.98% increase to the Hamilton Police Services budget vote *for* the proposed return of the HPS budget surplus to the City, and its re-allocation into housing and community-led, harm reduction supports for facing housing, mental health, addiction crises. As your constituent, you represent me. Failure to act upon these proposed demands is a failure to represent a concerned community of your constituents - a community evidenced through these calls. I am not comfortable continuing to fund policing in my community at the expense of essential services like housing, community health centres, etc.

Increased police presence does not keep us safe. It threatens the lives of our most vulnerable communities (Black, Indigenous and People of Colour, the LGBTQ2S+ community, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.)

Police continue to discriminately target Black and Indigenous communities through tactics of racial profiling, implicit bias, algorithmic bias, etc. In addition to being extremely racist, policing is an ableist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, and a classist institution that necessitates these varied oppressions to function.

When police officers do not have the most basic understandings of queer and gender-diverse communities, why is that the 2021 operating budget analysis says that the sexual assault detective constable will make \$108,657, but women's shelters are at capacity and organizations like SACHA, who do real work to support survivors, are underfunded?

The HPS reports a 14.5% increase in 911 calls involving a person in crisis. People in crisis should not have to resort to police/should not have police called on them and funds should be reallocated towards proper mental health support. Most people killed by police in Canada since 2000 had mental health or substance abuse related issues.

Police reform will not protect community members experiencing mental health distress, address a culture of dismissing sexual assault and missing person inquiries, nor prevent the criminalization of certain identities and need-based acts. Reform is a failed tactic. Reform tactics such as body cameras have had little to no tangible effect on reducing police brutality.

Crime rates in Hamilton, Ontario, and Canada have been declining for the last two decades, with *all* categories of crime rates in Hamilton dropping during COVID-19. Yet, police budgets continue to inflate. In the operating budget analysis, the Hamilton Police Services will see a 78.3% increase to ammunition expenditures if this budget is approved. The City continues to

overfund violence while underfunding sectors and organizations crucial to building healthy and supported communities.

Investing in our communities better addresses the root cause of most criminalized acts, which are often need-based and consequences of poverty. What we really need are robust services that can effectively respond, such as mental health outreach workers, community and housing centres, and accessible educational/prevention programs. We need to reallocate the budget to existing community-led organizations that are offering services to vulnerable communities, and create effective alternative services such as crisis intervention, mental health centres, and housing.

Sincerely,
Hannah Barrie
Ward 2

From: jess geddes
Sent: February 5, 2021 10:44 AM
To: Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca>
Subject: City Council Agenda - Statement

Hello Stephanie,

I hope this email finds you well. I would like to add this statement to the agenda if possible in the same grouping as my fellow concerned citizens. I am not sure of the exact process, but I hope this is clear.

I would like to echo the outrage and concerns that many other Hamilton residents are bringing to City Council today regarding the proposed 2.98% increase of the Hamilton Police Services budget. I am a proud resident of Ward 2 and re-allocating the HPS budget surplus into community-led initiatives is necessary to prioritize healing, safety, accountability and community resilience for our residents. Hamilton Police Services are especially prominent in my neighbourhood and the statistics shared about over-policing and violence toward vulnerable communities is evident in my neighbours experiences and the way that I navigate my community. I am concerned that an increase in the HPS budget will lead to further violence and a diminished lack of support services for the most vulnerable members of my community. I ask you to consider the direct needs of our City at this time. More citizens are in need of community services such as food banks, shelter and employment resources than ever before. Please allocate these funds responsibility to community initiatives instead of into further bloating police funds. This is a time for us to take care of each other, and I hope to see you do the right thing in denying this increase. Best, Jess Geddes Ward 2

Chair, Mayor Eisenberger, and Members of the General Issues Committee,

Since moving to Hamilton in 2013, I've encountered overt racism repeatedly. There are the hateful messages scrawled across the local park's picnic tables, the n-word spray painted onto the sign of the community garden, the newcomer kid who was harassed by older white teens, the slurs and threats that were yelled at my neighbour last week, and the calls made to Councillor Nann's office – just to name a few. This is hate. It's wrong. Hamilton has a racism problem and we must take a stand against it.

Do you also see the covert racism? Bylaw officers speak threateningly to my brown neighbour and change their tune when my white-skinned body walks out the door. Hamilton Police pull over and degrade my partner, a man of colour, while ignoring the white friends he is cycling with. Mayor Eisenberger, do you see the harm that your callous fear-filled words caused when you spoke to the media about the Black community leaders protesting in the forecourt? Racism is happening every day. It happens in me. It is happening in most, if not all, white people. We have a racism problem. Are we going to take a stand against it?

I'm no politician or financial expert, however I submit these words in hopes that you will ask yourself some questions as you wield your power and make financial decisions for the 2021 Operating Budget that will impact Hamilton's future:

1. How intently have I been listening to the most marginalized voices in our community?
2. How have I responded to IBPOC who have challenged my leadership and expressed needs?
3. Am I able to take an honest look at where racism exists in me?
4. What am I going to do about it?

I ask that as you make decisions you consider the needs highlighted in the *A Just Recovery for Hamilton* policy paper and the thoughtful recommendations made by a number of community leaders and organizations that help make up Hamilton's heart.

As Council you have a responsibility to show the community what it looks like to confront who we are and craft the kind of culture Hamilton will have. It will not be easy, quick, or comfortable, however, it will be necessary if we want to participate in growing a future that is anti-racist, hopeful, healthy, and community-centred.

Sincerely,

Joanna Aitcheson (she/her)

From: Sean Hurley <
Sent: February 5, 2021 11:01 AM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: [****POSSIBLE SPAM]Budget Delegation in writing for Feb 8, 2021

Please accept the following correspondence as my written delegation to council for February 8th, budget delegation day.

Mayor and Members of Council

Thank you for the opportunity to delegate to you on the proposed budget in writing.

The one thing the City of Hamilton could do to ease affordability for residents while meeting density targets, and improving quality of life at little expense is to make travel without a car easier.

The pandemic is the latest of a series of critical challenges to test the policy skills of civic leaders here in Hamilton. COVID-19 is more than a public health crisis. It has exacerbated all others including housing, employment, transportation, land use, and racial and economic inequality.

The Globe and Mail reports that pandemic is widening existing social fault lines: “New polling from Leger and the Association for Canadian Studies suggests some Canadians feel their mental health has declined as the pandemic has rolled on, with the effects potentially striking women, single parents, the unemployed, relatively recent immigrants and racialized people more than others (<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-pandemic-worsening-mental-health-for-women-more-than-men-poll-suggests-2/>).”

To afford to live in a city like Hamilton, a person must be able to pay the rent or the mortgage, put food on a table, and get to where they need to go. All of these things have prices. Hamilton by itself can have some influence on some developers but not enough. Hamilton can't do much about food prices, at all. However, Hamilton can act on transportation.

The policy document, [A Just Recovery For Hamilton](#), released last month by local advocacy groups, lays out a road map for pandemic and post-pandemic mobility. Under “*Urgent COVID Response*” is listed:

- Commit to full funding of the 10-year transit strategy -including fast-tracking implementation of express bus service on the L, S & T lines of the BLAST Network -to provide frequent, reliable public transit across the city.
- Commit to the immediate establishment of bus lanes on Express Transit Routes (the B and A-Line), to offer more frequent and reliable service.
- Pursue higher order transit service along key corridors, starting with the shovel-ready east-west King Street LRT corridor from Eastgate Square to McMaster University.
- Commit to freezing public transit fares during the COVID-19 recovery.
- Consider creation of temporary cycle and pedestrian paths on existing roads with movable construction barriers.
- Implement a universal sidewalk snow removal program in 2021 to ensure equal sidewalk access for all during winter months.

The Just Recovery road map dovetails perfectly with official City of Hamilton planning documents and especially the Transportation Master Plan.

All members of council have expressed support for the BLAST network. Mobility for Hamiltonians without the need for a car could be greatly enhanced by deploying express buses along the BLAST lines immediately. The B-Line express was first put into service in 1986. Over the ensuing 35 years, the B-Line has witnessed some service improvements but it remains a bus without any infrastructure enhancements. By now the B-Line could have a dedicated lanes along King and Main for the full length of the corridor, stations allowing for all-door boarding, light priority and queue lane jumping. The City of Brampton has grown transit ridership in leaps and bounds by implementing these same improvements.

Installing dedicated lanes for the B-Line and A-Line express service would be relatively inexpensive and would demonstrate council is serious about implementing BLAST and providing Hamilton with a modern transit service. I will admit that is inconceivable to me that in this city where every member of council has expressed support for better transit and the implementation of the BLAST network there is not a single bus lane in the entire city and especially not along the most heavily used transit corridor.

I encourage you to implement these lanes immediately and demonstrate the expressed support for transit with concrete action.

Thank you for your consideration as well as your dedication to public service during these trying times.

Regards,
Sean Hurley,

February 5 2021

My name Dawn Hoad. I am a tenant at 285 Melvin Ave in East Hamilton. I have lived there for 8 years.

I am submitting this written delegation to share my concerns with the housing crisis in Hamilton and urgent need for municipal protections for tenants and Hamilton's market affordable housing.

Last spring new owners of the building Family Properties offered me \$2,000 to move out of my unit. My rent is \$700.25 and my income on ODSP is \$1411 a month. This means over half of my income is going towards rent. I said no to the buyout.

In November of 2020, the landlord gave tenants of 285 Melvin Ave a N13 eviction notice claiming major renovations in the building that require tenants to move out by March 31 2021.

We are in the middle of a public health crisis and housing crisis. Where are low income tenants supposed to go.

The landlord of 285 Melvin Ave has neglected on repairs and pest treatment since taking over and with already offering us money to move out, it is clear their motivation is to push out long term tenants to charge higher rent.

I've applied to Indwell but they said 1,500 applications are ahead of me.

I am joining ACORN's call for the City of Hamilton to bring forward local legislation to protect tenants from renoviction. We need the 2021 and future budgets to put low income tenants first, ahead of the profit of developers.

Thank you.

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 - 4:18 pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Jamie Stuckless

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address: L8R 3B7

Reason(s) for delegation request: Speak to 2021 Budget on February 8th

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? Yes

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 - 5:44 pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Geoff Ondercin-Bourne

Name of Organization: Council of Canadians

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: I will be making a presentation in support of solar retrofitting public buildings in Hamilton, based on the written submission I have forwarded to the City Clerk.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Council of Canadians, Hamilton Chapter
General Issues Committee Presentation

Monday, February 8, 2021, 3 p.m.

On behalf of the Hamilton chapter of the Council of Canadians, we ask that Council consider a strategy by which the City can meet the climate emergency and at the same time save money and create local jobs. This can be done by expanding the local installation of renewable energy sources, specifically solar panels placed on municipal buildings.

Cities are starting to realize that the shift to renewable energy can be a huge financial boon for the municipality. All monies spent on gas and oil leave Ontario. This is a powerful argument for Hamilton to generate renewable energy right here. The money stays in the community, especially if it is small scale energy production such as solar panels on homes, businesses and municipally owned buildings. This generates local jobs that pay well and likely will mean more taxes collected by the municipality.

Given that Hamilton is examining a new Community Energy Plan for the City, there is an opportunity here to expand local solar power energy production. For example, the City can suggest and provide subsidies for the installation of solar panels or solar water heating systems in new buildings, both municipal and private.

Another opportunity presents itself in regards to the municipal facilities roof replacement program. Given that the City is looking at the replacement of a number of facility roofs over the next few years, it would be possible to plan for the addition of solar panels on these roofs. Structural roofing upgrades may not be necessary as lower-weight panels are now a definite option.

Many communities **are** already taking significant steps towards local renewable power generation. Here are a few examples with accompanying links to municipal websites.

Halifax:

Green Municipal Fund

- “Between 2008 and by 2011 the City of Halifax reduced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by more than 10,000 tonnes per year through a combination of energy efficiency retrofits and more efficient building designs.”

“In 2009, the city created a sustainable building fund to redirect energy cost savings from these initiatives toward funding for future projects. Since then, the fund's annual energy savings deposits have grown from \$350,000 to over \$750,000 and have helped to finance millions of dollars' worth of energy upgrades, including those undertaken through the city's Solar City initiative.

<https://www.halifax.ca/home-property/solar-projects/about-solar-city-halifax>

Red Deer: Community Generation Capacity Building Program

Alberta implemented a Micro-Generation program for individuals and small business, which is off the grid, and a Community Generation where energy is sold back to the grid

- Red Deer College has surged beyond its own goals for renewable energy by installing a 1.6-megawatt [solar system](#), the largest on any post-secondary institution in Canada.

<https://mccac.ca/programs/community-generation-capacity-building-program/>

Kingston:

Since April 2004, energy savings from assessing and rating large municipal building and retrofit projects, the city has implemented a system called ‘net metering’.

- “Net metering allows the City to send electricity generated from Renewable Energy Technologies...for a credit, reducing our electricity costs. Excess generation credits can be carried forward for a consecutive 12-month period to offset future electricity costs. The goal is to over-generate during the summer months and use up the excess credits during the winter months.”

<https://www.cityofkingston.ca/residents/environment-sustainability/climate-change-energy/climate-action-plan/toolkit/renewables>

Toronto

- [TransformTO](#), Toronto’s climate action strategy identifies several key goals, including that 75 per cent of energy must come from renewable or low carbon sources by 2050.

High Performance New Construction Program

- Buildings generate about half of the greenhouse gas emissions in Toronto today. Through its [High Performance New Construction Program](#), the City offers incentives to help building owners and design/decision-makers make buildings more energy efficient.

<https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/official-plan-guidelines/toronto-green-standard/>

Vancouver

- “...Under Vancouver’s Zero Emissions Building Plan for new construction, approximately 40% of buildings existing today will be replaced with new buildings by 2050. Specifically:

...Similar to Vancouver’s approach for new buildings, we will set annual carbon pollution limits for most existing buildings that decrease over time. This regulatory approach provides

a clear signal for trades to invest in training, suppliers to begin sourcing needed systems, and for building owners to start long-term planning toward zero emissions.

<https://vancouver.ca/green-vancouver/vancouvers-climate-emergency.aspx>

More details and references can be provided to Council as required.

To conclude, Council can meet the climate emergency, save money, generate jobs locally and move Hamilton in the direction of becoming a Green New Deal Community by adopting this strategy.

Specifically, we ask that Council direct City staff to identify all possibilities for installation of solar panels on municipal buildings, especially as roof repair and replacement occurs, and bring back recommendations to Council that identify initial costs, payback times, and any significant risks to installation.

Thank you.

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 - 6:47 pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Darlene Wesley

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: To speak on public delegation day - February 8th.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 - 8:46 pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Michael Lopez

Name of Organization: Hamilton ACORN

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: 2021 Budget

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? Yes

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 - 9:05 pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Veronica Gonzalez

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: To discuss the Just Recovery for Hamilton policy document as it relates to the Hamilton Community Benefit Networks work. To be presented on the Public Budget Delegation day February 8th. 2021.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? Yes

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 - 11:43 pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Ian Borsuk

Name of Organization: Environment Hamilton

Contact Number: 9055157956

Email Address: iborsuk@environmenthamilton.org

Mailing Address: 22 Wilson Street, Suite 4

Reason(s) for delegation request: I wish to speak to Council on Delegation Day (February 8th) with regards to the city's 2021 budget.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 9:03 am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Barry Conway

Name of Organization: CUPE 5167

Contact Number: 905-537-7048

Email Address: conway@cupe5167.org

Mailing Address:

818 King St E

Hamilton, On

L8M 1B2

Reason(s) for delegation request: Speak to the budget

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 9:26 am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Violetta Nikolskaya

Name of Organization: YWCA Hamilton

Contact Number: 9055229922 ext 320

Email Address: vnikolskaya@ywcahamilton.org

Mailing Address: 75 MacNab Street South , L8P 3C1

Reason(s) for delegation request: To discuss the Just Recovery for Hamilton policy document as it relates to the work of the YWCA Hamilton. To be presented on the Public Budget Delegation day February 8th.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 9:44 am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Kasey Waddell

Name of Organization: Hamilton and District Labour Council

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: As a Masters of Social Work student on placement with the Hamilton and District Labour Council, I have been conducting research on the intersectionality of student living wage and social determinants of health. There is misconception that the typical profile of a student is a young adult, living at home, and who is being supported by family during their educational career. We know that our student population in Hamilton is much more diverse and that these individuals rely on good paying jobs to be able to meet the financial demands of the necessities of daily life. I will be presenting a formal presentation on my research of student profiling in Hamilton, Ontario, and using this quantitative data to support my request that the City pay a living wage to summer student workers.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? Yes

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? Yes

Student Living Wage for City Employees

- **GENERAL ISSUES
COMMITTEE MEETING**
- **FEBRUARY 8, 2021**
- **KASEY WADDELL, M.ED**
- **ON BEHALF OF
HAMILTON AND DISTRICT
LABOUR COUNCIL**



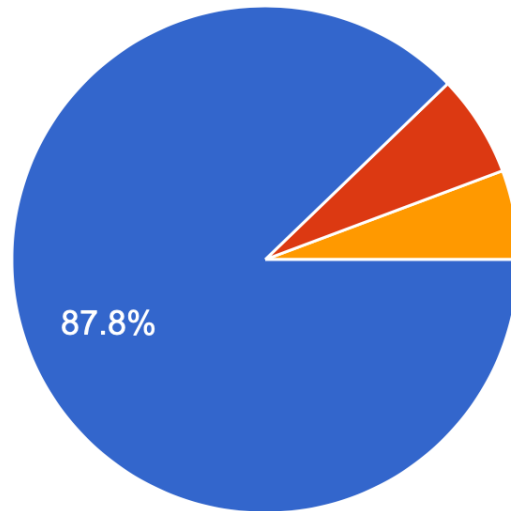
Challenging the Notion of a “Student”

- Misconception that a “student” is someone entering post secondary out of high school, and is being supported financially by family members
- The student population in our city is diverse, and made up of domestic and international students who could be mature learners, students with disabilities, living independently, or supporting families of their own
- A diverse student population also means significant diversity in terms of personal expenses
- Survey data supports that
 - 66.7% of students either live independently or in non-traditional familial homes
 - 49.6% of students do not live at home with family
 - 58.3% of students have household incomes under \$60,000

Survey Data- Education Status

Education status

123 responses

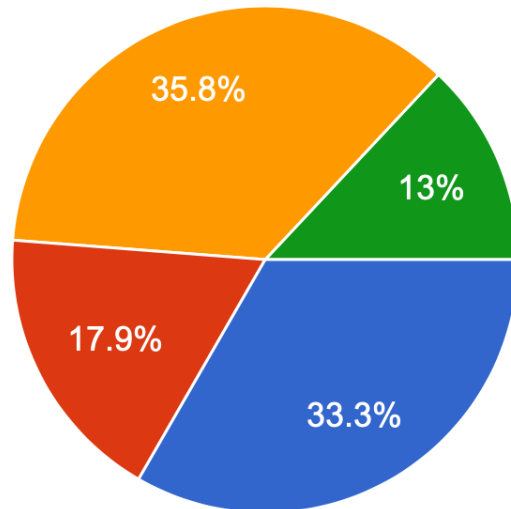


- Full-time post-secondary (college or university)
- Part-time post-secondary (college or university)
- Academic Upgrading and/or Continuing Education

Survey Data- Household Demographics

Household demographics

123 responses

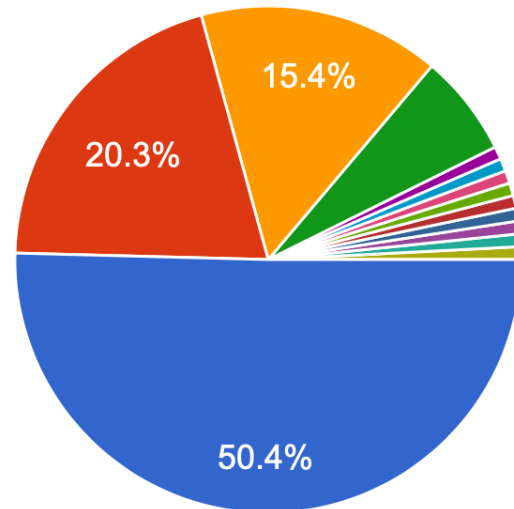


- Living at home with parents/guardians-traditional household (ie. dual parent income)
- Living at home with parent(s)/guardians-non-traditional household (ie. single parent, one income)
- Living independently- rent
- Living independently- own

Survey Data- Household Composition

Household composition

123 responses



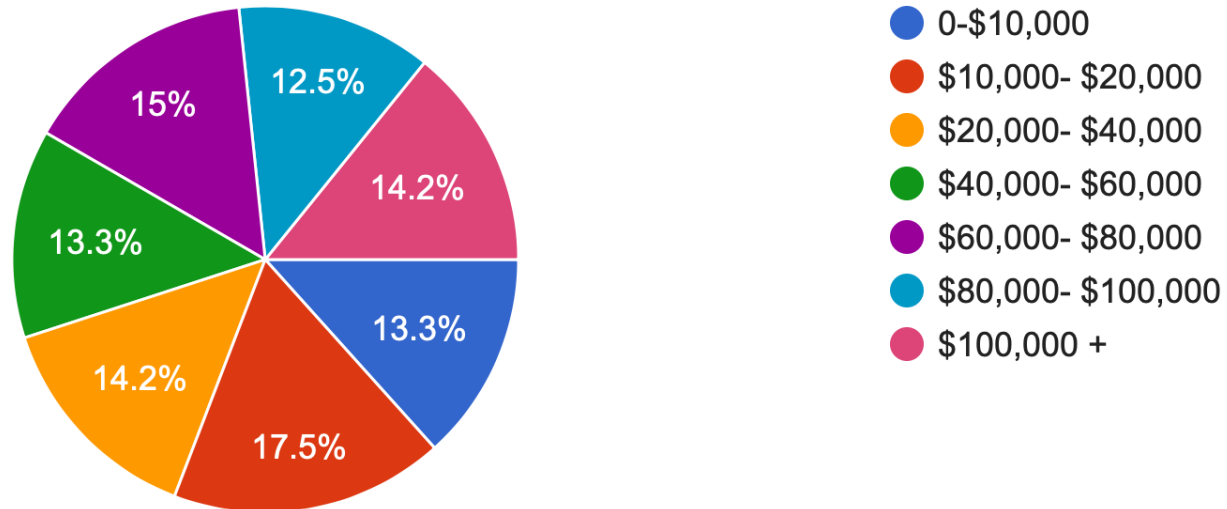
- Living at home with family
- Living independently
- Living with partner/spouse
- Living with partner/spouse and childre...
- widowed with children
- Living with roommates
- Living with roommates
- living with roommates

▲ 1/2 ▼

Survey Data- Household Income

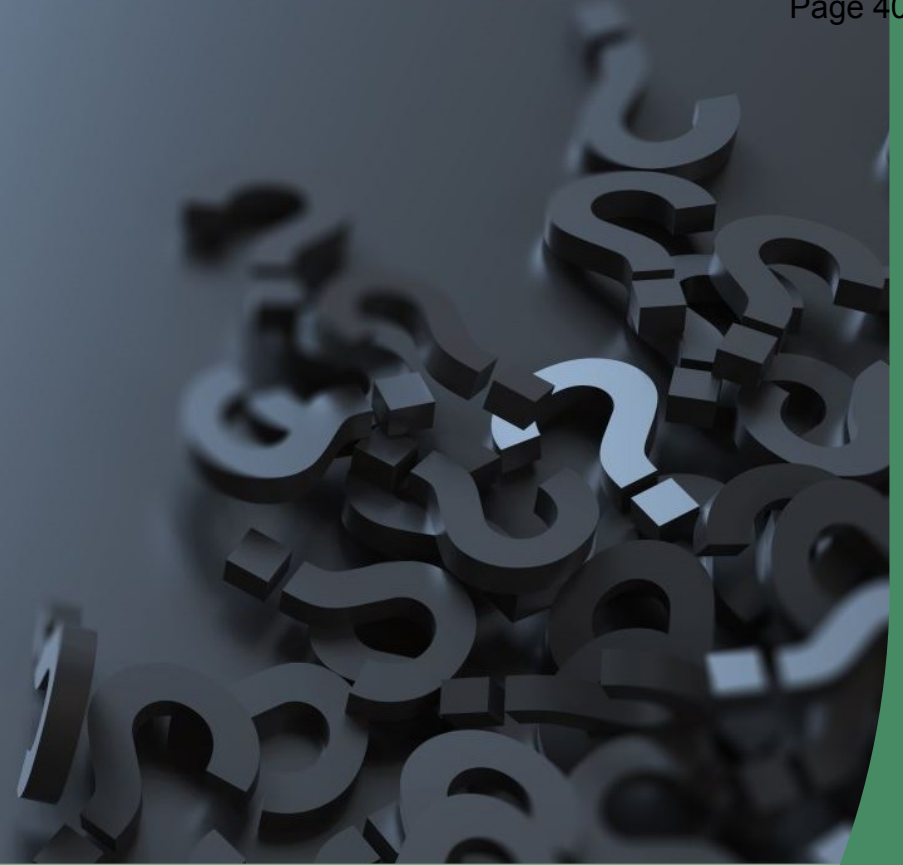
What is your average household income?

120 responses



Conclusions

- City policy that a summer student worker must be returning to full time studies the following fall is presumptive of significant expenses to follow employment period
- Many full-time students are unable to work during the academic year and rely on well paying summer jobs to cover expenses for the forthcoming academic year
- The profile of a student, their household, financial means, and expenses is diverse and not following an antiquated traditional notion
- Work is work- why would we compensate a student any differently than any other worker?



Questions & Discussion

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 9:44 am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Stephanie Brash

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: Providing budget priorities for a Just Recovery

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 11:35 am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Paula Grove

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request:

I wish to delegate to the GIC meeting on Feb 8th with respect to the budget.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 11:43 am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Eric Tuck

Name of Organization: Atu 107

Contact Number: 9059024107

Email Address: President@atu107.com

Mailing Address: 1005 King St E.

Reason(s) for delegation request: Feb.8th Public Delegation in support of HSR and enhanced investment in Public Transit.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 12:56 pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Don McLean

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: Request is for the February 8 public delegations day on the 2021 budget.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 6:18pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Theo Ditommaso (They/Them)

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: I would like to voice my concern of the proposal to increase the HPS budget

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 6:22pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Mohammed Alshalalfeh

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request:

My name is Mohammed Alshalalfeh and I live in Hamilton, Ontario in Ward 1. As your constituent, I want to express my frustration concerning the proposed 2.98% increase to the already astronomically high Hamilton police budget, with an existing \$567k surplus. Hamilton Police Services need to be defunded - denying the proposed of 2.98% increase to the Hamilton Police Services budget and re-allocating the HPS budget surplus into community-led initiatives. Money desperately needs to be invested into the community, especially given pandemic conditions and the affordable housing crisis as people are being turned away from shelters and sleeping on the streets.

Hamilton Police Services facilitate encampment teardowns across city the in the midst of a global pandemic and affordable housing crisis.

In 2018, Hamilton Police tased 30-year-old [REDACTED], an Indigenous woman, and once on the floor, shot her four times. No charges were laid.

In 2018, Hamilton police fatally shot 19-year-old [REDACTED], an Indigenous man, after responding to his distress call to 911. No charges were laid.

In 2003, [REDACTED], a 26-year-old Black transgender woman, was arrested by Hamilton police and dragged down seven flights of stairs face-down, killing her in the process. No charges were laid.

Stats Canada only tracks fatal police shootings if an officer is criminally charged.

Increased police presence does not keep us safe. It threatens the lives of our most vulnerable communities (Black, Indigenous and People of Colour, the LGBTQ2S+ community, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.)

In 2020, intelligence equipment cost \$18,460. The 2021 projected intelligence equipment costs is \$44,460. That is a 140.85% increase in equipment that will be used to surveil and intimidate poor, Black and racialized people in Hamilton

In the operating budget analysis, the Hamilton Police Services will see a 78.3% increase to ammunition expenditures if this budget is approved. The City continues to overfund violence while underfunding sectors and organizations crucial to building healthy and supported communities.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 6:55pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Shanice Bowrin

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request:

My name is Shanice Bowrin and I live in Hamilton, Ontario in Ward 3. As your constituent, I want to express my ongoing frustration concerning the proposed 2.98% increase to the already astronomically high Hamilton police budget, with an existing \$567k surplus.

What?

Hamilton Police Services need to be defunded - denying the proposed of 2.98% increase to the Hamilton Police Services budget and re-allocating the HPS budget surplus into community-led initiatives. The police budget is already astronomically high, with an existing surplus of \$567,000. Money desperately needs to be invested into the community, especially given pandemic conditions and the affordable housing crisis as people are being turned away from shelters and sleeping on the streets.

Police are dangerous and discriminately target Black, Indigenous, and low-income communities.

Hamilton Police Services facilitate encampment teardowns across city in the midst of a global pandemic and affordable housing crisis.

In 2018, Hamilton Police tased 30-year-old Robyn Garlow, an Indigenous woman, and once on the floor, shot her four times. No charges were laid.

In 2018, Hamilton police fatally shot 19-year-old Quinn MacDougall, an Indigenous man, after responding to his distress call to 911. No charges were laid.

In 2003, Chevranna Abdi, a 26-year-old Black transgender woman, was arrested by Hamilton police and dragged down seven flights of stairs face-down, killing her in the process. No charges were laid.

Stats Canada only tracks fatal police shootings if an officer is criminally charged. Increased police presence does not keep us safe. It threatens the lives of our most vulnerable communities (Black, Indigenous and People of Colour, the LGBTQ2S+ community, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.)

In 2020, intelligence equipment cost \$18,460. The 2021 projected intelligence equipment costs is \$44,460. That is a 140.85% increase in equipment that will be used to surveil and intimidate poor, Black and racialized people in Hamilton

In the operating budget analysis, the Hamilton Police Services will see a 78.3% increase to ammunition expenditures if this budget is approved. The City continues to overfund violence while underfunding sectors and organizations crucial to building healthy and supported communities.

How?

On February 11th, vote against the proposed of 2.98% increase to the Hamilton Police Services budget vote for the proposed return of the HPS budget surplus to the City, and its re-allocation into housing and community-led, harm reduction supports for facing housing, mental health, addiction crisis

Why We Need to Defund Police:

Increased police presence does not keep us safe. It threatens the lives of our most vulnerable communities (Black, Indigenous and People of Colour, the LGBTQ2S+ community, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.)

Police continue to discriminately target Black and Indigenous communities through tactics of racial profiling, implicit bias, algorithmic bias, etc. In addition to being extremely racist, policing is an ableist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, and a classist institution that necessitates these varied oppressions to function.

When police officers do not have the most basic understandings of queer and gender-diverse communities, why is that the 2021 operating budget analysis says that the sexual assault detective constable will make \$108,657, but women's shelters are at capacity and organization like SACHA, who do real work to support survivors are underfunded.

The HPS reports a 14.5% increase in 911 calls involving a person in crisis. People in crisis should not have to resort to police/should not have police called on them and funds should be reallocated towards proper mental health support. Most people killed by police in Canada since 2000 had mental health or substance abuse related issues.

Police reform will not protect community members experiencing mental health distress, address a culture of dismissing sexual assault and missing person inquiries, nor prevent the criminalization of certain identities and need-based acts. Reform is a failed tactic. Reform tactics such as body cameras have had little to no tangible effect on reducing police brutality.

Crime rates in Hamilton, Ontario, and Canada have been declining for the last two decades, with all categories of crime rates in Hamilton dropping during COVID-19. Yet, police budgets continue to inflate. In the operating budget analysis, the Hamilton Police Services will see a 78.3% increase to ammunition expenditures if this budget is approved. The City continues to

overfund violence while underfunding sectors and organizations crucial to building healthy and supported communities.

Investing in our communities addresses the root cause of most criminalized acts, which are often need-based and consequences of poverty. What we really need are robust services that can effectively respond, such as mental health outreach workers, community and housing centres, and accessible educational/prevention programs. We need to:

Decriminalize minor offences.

Reallocate the budget to existing community-led organizations that are offering services to vulnerable communities.

Create effective alternative services such as crisis intervention, mental health centres, and housing.

Pledge Needed:

I am asking you to take meaningful action in response to the senseless police violence against Black and Indigenous communities, community members living with disabilities, unhoused people, and other discriminately targeted communities. I call upon you to:

vote against the proposed of 2.98% increase to the Hamilton Police Services budget

vote for the proposed return of the HPS budget surplus to the City, and its re-allocation into housing and community-led, harm reduction supports for facing housing, mental health, addiction crisis

As your constituent, you represent me. Failure to act upon these proposed demands is a failure to represent a concerned community of your constituents - a community evidenced through these calls.

I am not comfortable continuing to fund policing in my community at the expense of essential services like housing, community health centres, etc.

If you are unable to offer immediate, meaningful action, then I ask that you resign and make way for leadership that is able to do so.

Kind Regards,

Shanice Bowrin

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 7:41pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Rachel Cuthill

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: Speak to the issue of increasing the HPS budget.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council
Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 8:33pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Claudia Spadafora

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request:

I am asking you to take meaningful action in response to the senseless police violence against Black and Indigenous communities, community members living with disabilities, unhoused people, and other discriminately targeted communities. I call upon you to:

vote against the proposed of 2.98% increase to the Hamilton Police Services budget

vote for the proposed return of the HPS budget surplus to the City, and its re-allocation into housing and community-led, harm reduction supports for facing housing, mental health, addiction crisis

As your constituent, you represent me. Failure to act upon these proposed demands is a failure to represent a concerned community of your constituents - a community evidenced through these calls. I am not comfortable continuing to fund policing in my

community at the expense of essential services like housing, community health centres, etc.

If you are unable to offer immediate, meaningful action, then I ask that you resign and make way for leadership that is able to do so.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council
Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 8:53pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Casandra Thiessen

Name of Organization: Hamilton ACORN

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: Public Delegation Day
Feb 8th

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Greetings,

My name is Casandra and I am a member of Hamilton ACORN's Mountain Chapter. We are part of the Just Recovery Coalition in Hamilton.

In recent years Hamilton has seen a huge spike in the price of rental units. Personally, I was lucky enough to rent an apartment just before rents started to spike, since then rents have doubled. My income has not doubled and the state of the buildings I am living in get worse and worse. If things get worse, I would just move but there is no way I can afford double the rent so I am now left stuck in a bad situation. I am not the only one in this situation or worse, clearly something needs to be done about this. I and so many others are in bad situations due to the lack of oversight for landlords. Hamilton needs to step up and pass mandatory measures to keep apartments and complexes safe and affordable.

Due to COVID19 we are seeing more and more people out on the streets and it will only get worse if there is no intervention. It looks like COVID will be a long-term presence in our lives and from what I have seen and heard it is not being taken as seriously as it should be. In my building and many others regular cleaning is not being done. I could not tell you the last time someone came through. I have seen the same dirt and garbage in the hallways for weeks, even though recommendations are to clean twice a day. Public Health recommendations for apartment buildings need to be made mandatory in Hamilton. At the end of the day I feel it is clear that bad landlords (and there are many) are not willing to anything that isn't enforced.

In conclusion I feel slumlords have been unregulated for way too long and are knowingly putting their tenants at risk. It is time to license and regulate all landlords for the health and safety of Hamilton tenants.

Thank you for your time,

Casandra Thiessen

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 10:05pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Miriam Sager

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: Respecting the Hamilton
Just Recovery Initiative

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council
Submitted on Friday, February 5, 2021 - 5:04am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Haley Reap

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: I wish to express my support for Councillor Nann' motion to reallocate the Hamilton Police Services budget surplus into housing, and community-led harm reduction supports for those facing housing, addiction, and mental health crises.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Friday, February 5, 2021 - 8:11am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Alicia De Jong

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request:

My name is Alicia and I live in ward 14 of Hamilton Ontario. I support the motion being put forward by Councillor Nann to reinvest the proposed HPS budget increase and HPS surplus into social services that help our citizens. It is clear that the police are not keeping our communities safe and are causing harm. Black and indigenous people, sex workers, the LGBTQ's community, those with disabilities/mental health challenges and those who are low income or homeless, cannot depend on the police for help and they should not have to.

Investing the proposed HPS budget increase and HPS surplus into social programs that support populations in Hamilton is the only way to protect and enhance communities in our city. I am tired of seeing and hearing about the police in Hamilton responding to situations only to have it end worse off than it began, or end in a tragedy. We have seen the carelessness with which the Hamilton police handle homeless people, people with disabilities and mental health challenges, sex workers, BIPOC,

the LGBTQ community. It is appalling and frightening. Increasing the police budget would be irresponsible and makes it clear that this city does not care about all of its citizens and their needs.

Terry- Please vote against the proposed 2.98% budget increase to the HPS and vote for the proposed return of the HPS budget surplus to the city and reallocate into community led harm reduction.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Friday, February 5, 2021 - 9:16am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: Emergency & Community Services Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Annie Webber

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request:

My name is Annie Webber and I live in Hamilton, Ontario in ward 3. As your constituent, as well as an artist and educator, I want to express my deep, continuing frustration concerning the proposed 2.98% increase to the already grossly inflated Hamilton police budget, with an existing \$567k surplus.

Hamilton Police Services MUST be defunded - denying the proposed of 2.98% increase to the Hamilton Police Services budget and re-allocating the HPS budget surplus into community-led initiatives. The police budget is already far too high, and money desperately needs to be invested into the community, especially given pandemic conditions and the affordable housing crisis as people are being turned away from shelters and sleeping on the streets - only to have their own shelters removed. Where are people supposed to go?? We have the resources to help, and the way the city has treated houseless folks is utterly shameful.

The HPS reports a 14.5% increase in 911 calls involving a person in crisis. People in crisis should not have to resort to police/should not have police called on them and funds should be reallocated towards proper mental health support. Most people killed by police in Canada since 2000 had mental health or substance abuse related issues.

Police reform will not protect community members experiencing mental health distress, address a culture of dismissing sexual assault and missing person inquiries, nor prevent the criminalisation of certain identities and need-based acts. Reform is a failed tactic. Reform tactics such as body cameras have had little to no tangible effect on reducing police brutality.

We need to defund the police NOW.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Friday, February 5, 2021 - 9:18am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Maria Paz Villar

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request:

My name is Maria Paz Villar and I live in Hamilton, Ontario in Ward 3. I want to express my outrage concerning the proposed 2.98% increase to the already astronomically high Hamilton police budget, with an existing \$567k surplus. Money desperately needs to be invested into the community, especially given pandemic conditions and the affordable housing crisis as people are being turned away from shelters and sleeping on the streets. I want to express that I am against the proposed of 2.98% increase to the Hamilton Police Services budget. I support the return of the HPS budget surplus to the City, and its re-allocation into housing and community-led, harm reduction supports..

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Friday, February 5, 2021 - 9:41am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Eric Hoevenaars

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request:

I am reaching out to express my outrage regarding the astronomically high Hamilton Police Services budget of \$171.5 million dollars, with an existing surplus of \$567,000. This is well beyond the allocated funding for any other social service in the city. Money desperately needs to be invested into the community, especially given pandemic conditions and the affordable housing crisis as people are being turned away from shelters and sleeping on the streets.

I am calling upon you to vote against the proposed 2.98% increase to the Hamilton Police Services budget vote for the proposed return of the HPS budget surplus to the City, and its re-allocation into housing and community-led, harm reduction supports for facing housing, mental health, addiction crises.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council
Submitted on Friday, February 5, 2021 - 9:47am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Richard DeJong

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request:

Input on Councillor Nann's motion

I am writing in support of Councillor Nann's motion to redirect the requested 2.98% increase to the police budget into targeted harm reduction strategies for social services. The police budget surplus should also be redirected. I support police but they are not the proper tool to respond to mental health issues and homelessness issues. More mental health workers to support police response and supports for addiction/ mental health, homelessness is a better way to to use this money.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council
Submitted on Friday, February 5, 2021 - 10:18am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Angela Shlimon

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request:

I am reaching out to express my outrage regarding the astronomically high Hamilton Police Services budget of \$171.5 million dollars, with an existing surplus of \$567,000. This is well beyond the allocated funding for any other social service in the city. Money desperately needs to be invested into the community, especially given pandemic conditions and the affordable housing crisis as people are being turned away from shelters and sleeping on the streets.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? Yes

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council
Submitted on Friday, February 5, 2021 - 11:06am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Sarah Jama

Name of Organization: Disability Justice Network of Ontario
(DJNO)

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: Would like to speak on the issue of Just Recovery in Hamilton on behalf of the Hamilton Just Recovery Coalition's specific recommendations around accessibility and disability justice.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council
Submitted on Friday, February 5, 2021 - 11:53am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Laurel Carter

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: Submit written delegation for the topic of increasing police budget.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No

Request to Speak to Committee of Council
Submitted on Friday, February 5, 2021 - 11:55am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: Emergency & Community Services Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Eshan Merali

Name of Organization:

Contact Number:

Email Address: merale1@mcmaster.ca

Mailing Address:

Reason(s) for delegation request: Supporting motion to reallocate HPS funds to housing and community-led, harm reduction support for those who are experiencing houselessness.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No