



**City of Hamilton**  
**GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE REVISED**

**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](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Stevenson, Kirsten <[Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca](mailto: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-Jurassic 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.

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*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.*

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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 that reads "Keanin Loomis". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Keanin Loomis  
President & CEO

**From:** Abedar Kamgari <[abedarkamgari@gmail.com](mailto:abedarkamgari@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** February 5, 2021 11:04 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Cc:** Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; [info@defundhps.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Saturday, December 5, 2020 - 4:51 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Matthew James William Higginson

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To improve road safety for my community and equity for all forms of transportation.

**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 Saturday, December 5, 2020 - 4:56 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Natalie Castellino

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Neighbourhood street safety

**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 Monday, January 18, 2021 - 3:59 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Maanvi Dhillon

**Name of Organization:** McMaster Student Union

**Contact Number:** 905.525.9140 x22003

**Email Address:** [avpmunicipal@msu.mcmaster.ca](mailto:avpmunicipal@msu.mcmaster.ca)

**Mailing Address:**

1280 Main Street West  
Hamilton, Ontario L8S 4L8

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** My name is Maanvi Dhillon and I am the McMaster Student Union's (MSU) Associate Vice-President of Municipal Affairs. I am interested in delegating to Council in regards to the 2021 City Budget during Public Delegation Day on February 8th. I would present/delegate as a representative of the MSU.

**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 Monday, January 18, 2021 - 4:27 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Anthony Marco

**Name of Organization:** Hamilton & District Labour Council

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Next steps on Living Wage for the City of Hamilton's budget 2021.

**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 Tuesday, January 19, 2021 - 2:26 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Aya Younis

**Name of Organization:** Individual

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I want to speak on student living wage as part of the budget process

**Will you be requesting funds from the City?** No

**Will you be submitting a formal presentation?** No

## **Hamilton Students on why they need a Living Wage**

"As a student and one of the primary sources of income for a low-income family, I have seen the adverse effect of the current minimum wage. The minimum wage of \$14.00 an hour is nearly not enough to balance both academics and monthly bills to support an individual and, more importantly, a family financially. A living wage will allow more students to have the chance to gain work experience, fund their academic career and monthly expenses without having to choose between work and school. Some of the positive impacts of paying a living wage to students can increase productivity and increase employment in relation to decreasing students unemployment rate. As a student, I would greatly benefit from receiving a living wage to help my family and I financially."

~ Ayla Bahram, McMaster University Student, Ward 6

"Having a living wage means that I can work and save up on my earnings without fear of not paying off my school debt. The relationship between the cost of living and minimum wage are asymmetrical and its not fair that more money leaves my savings account than the amount that goes in. Being the eldest amongst 5 children as well as 1 out of 2 kids who are in post-secondary (the third eldest will attend university in a year), school fees do drain out both me and my parents earnings. Having a living wage will enable me to pay off accumulated tuition fees so that I don't have to ask my parents to use the money that was meant to pay off our houses' mortgage, groceries, or my baby brother's school trips."

- McMaster Student

"Student life, particularly for those in post-secondary programs, can be considerably costly. The cost of tuition keeps rising. The cost of rent continues to skyrocket. The cost of essentials such as textbooks, meals and hygiene can overwhelm students. As a high school student who will soon be entering post-secondary, these costs are very intimidating to me. Having a living wage would be essential for me in order to pursue a higher education and the extreme costs that come with it. Without a strong minimum wage, high school students, like myself, would have numerous opportunities closed to them. We need to ensure students earn a fair living wage so we can open up doors of opportunity."

- Aiden McIlvaney, McMaster Student, Ward 8

"Students need a living wage because the costs of living don't disappear when you're at school. The expenses can be huge: rent, food, textbooks, tuition, etc. These expenses—combined with low student wages—create barriers to accessing education"

- Former McMaster Student

“As a student, I am subjected to many fees and payments, including tuition, rent and basic living expenses. While OSAP does cover portions of the costs, a large amount of the money received is loans that must be paid back, resulting in an accumulation of debt upon terminating my time in post secondary schooling. A living wage is essential for students, who for the most part do not have a stable income, so that they may be able to pursue an education without being pushed into harsh financial situations.”

- Eshan Merali, McMaster Student, Ward 1

“Receiving a student wage of 10 dollars an hour at my first fast food job was undeniably absurd. With a 10 dollar wage I was not able to pay bills, spend money on myself, or even save for school. Why should students get paid less for the same job then people who are not in school. An increase in the student wage would help with not only saving for post secondary but give me the opportunity to have a stable income to pay for necessities like bills, food and Shelter.”

- Anthony R, Current high school Graduate

“ Minimum wage should be raised to \$16.45 as even surviving by making \$14 an hour is impossible, and constant struggle. Many students are not financially supported by their parents, family etc. Thus they have to pay for everything such as bills, rent, tuition etc from their own pockets. This is not enough to suffice all those funds and would relieve a lot of stress for students if the minimum wage was raised to \$16.45”

- Jasmit, McMaster Student.

“Currently the Ontario minimum wage is \$14 and for students like myself who come from large households with many siblings, much of the money goes towards helping to support the family. Raising the minimum wage from \$14.00 to \$16.45 will aid in relieving some of the financial burdens on many students and will allow them to focus on other areas including education”

- Dami, McMaster Student

“In a time when even those making 70-90k/yr struggle to feed their family, pay their children's tuition and live an average life, a minimum wage of \$14/hr will have detrimental effects on future generations to come”

- BG (prefers to remain anonymous)

“Currently the minimum wage is not enough to support basic living expenses. In the current economy, many students struggle to make ends meet working minimum wage. Where does this end” - S (prefers to remain anonymous)

“As a student, people might think one doesn't have many expenses, which is true to some younger students, however being in university paying multiple bills a month from my part time job that paid 14\$/ hour while studying to pursue higher education after my undergrad, making 2-3\$ more for each hour would have let me to start saving up earlier for my future and maybe have paid some of my tuition myself instead of graduating with a huge debt”

-Shahd, former McMaster Student.

“At the age of 16, I was enlisted to work at a law firm in Downtown Hamilton as a part of my high school's co-op program. I remember feeling engulfed with excitement since it had always been my career goal to be a lawyer. Thus, being given the opportunity to work at a distinguished firm and be exposed to the law firm environment brought my dreams to fruition. .After my co-op term was over, I was hired as a (very) junior legal assistant. Although I was being paid far below the minimum wage, my work was tedious and strenuous. My role involved filing large piles of papers, filing documentation at the courthouse (which would take hours), and personal errands such as bringing coffees and lunches to the office. The longer I worked there, the more tasks I was assigned, such as being the first one in the office to open it, and the last one there to close. To my dismay, my workload increased but my pay did not. My experience working at this law firm and being paid the student wage made me feel as though I had been taken advantage of. I believe the firm viewed themselves as doing me a service by helping an ambitious and naïve teenager; fulfilling her dream of working at a law firm. I did not mask my excitement and gratitude for the opportunity, and they took it as a green light to overwork and underpay me. The Labour Council's efforts to increase or abolish the student wage should certainly be taken into consideration since being a student does not evade you from financial responsibility, and it certainly does not evade one from dignity. Students' financial obligations must not be discounted due to their age or academic level. Rather they should be given an equal opportunity to be compensated for their work and efforts, like all other humans in the workforce.”

-A.N, Former McMaster Student

“Most of my coworkers at my previous job were high school students, University students, or individuals that didn't have the opportunity to pursue a specific career and are providing for their families. As a university student myself, I was earning \$14.00/hour. Meaning I would make somewhere between \$140-\$280 per week, with no specific hours guaranteed. In addition, I was studying full time, which takes about 65% of my time per week, leaving no capacity for another job. On the other hand, my tuition was approximately \$11,000 without books, supplies, etc. While my monthly expenses are between \$350-\$500, this results in a yearly required income of approximately \$16,000. While a part-time minimum wage job with 20 hours per week would

only provide approximately \$13,500. The minimum wage of \$14.00 tends to assume that those students working minimum-wage jobs have minimal expenses with their education or other basic requirements being paid by family members, or government aids. However, minimum wage is not a living wage which means it does not enable those with multiple struggles to pass by monthly without having to have debt. Most people tend to live paycheck to paycheck, while others have to use loans in order to live at the base line, or a combination of both situations.”

- Hala N. , McMaster Student.

“The reality is that many students are in circumstances where they must not only provide for themselves without assistance, but even take on debt trying to pursue their educations. Students need to be compensated fairly for the invaluable labour they provide with wages that meet their needs.”

- Justine Becker, McMaster Student, Ward 1

“As a student, I need a living wage so I can afford to support myself through an already costly program. As a student I am limited in how much I can work as I am a fulltime student. Working for less than a living wage will straddle me with life long debt.”

- Erik Jurriaans, McMaster Student, Ward 2

“We need to stop treating education like some personal self-improvement project and start treating it like the social good that it is. When people can access a good education, the entire community benefits. As a teaching assistant, I know many of my students are struggling just to make ends meet, and with stagnant wages and the ever-rising cost of living and tuition, students are falling farther and farther behind. No one should have to choose between pursuing an education and earning enough money to survive. Making the City of Hamilton a living wage employer for all workers, including students, would be a critical first step in realizing that future.”

- Chris Fairweather, McMaster Student, Ward 3

“Increasing student wages, whether seasonal or not, helps students in numerous ways. Many of us struggle with student loans/debt, rent, or school necessities (text books). Some of us have families that rely on us as well - we may be full time students for a short period of time but we are also full time caregivers in the same time. This increase will help students pay off their education all while helping them with other expenses - which is why it is needed.”

- Nadine Z. , McMaster Student

“Students are human too, they have a life that requires a living wage just like any other worker”

- Former McMaster Student

“Since the collapse of the manufacturing sector in Ontario, Hamilton stands out as being negatively impacted. We know from poverty reduction research that there has been little progress (if any) in rebuilding this heartland. Please consider the economics of providing Hamiltonians a living wage so that it can be reinvested in local businesses and support in returning Hamilton to the prosperous city it once was”

- A McMaster Student (and working mother)

“Canadians as a whole are struggling to meet their needs (close to 50% live paycheque-to-paycheque), and increasingly have to rely on going into debt to sustain themselves. This life-long battle often begins during post-secondary school, with the average student graduating with **\$30,000** in debt. But tuition is not a student's only concern, low wages and the rising cost of living adds further strain to our lives, often resulting in more debt. A quarter of all Canadian students are unable to pay their credit cards off monthly, and those who graduate with credit card debt have an average of **\$2,224**. A living wage would go a long way to help students avoid life-long debt, but also ensure that we can meet our basic needs and do not need to survive off of \$1 packages of noodles.”

- Anonymous McMaster Student

“As a Hamilton resident, I fully support a living wage for student workers. No City of Hamilton employee should be struggling to pay their bills, but high rent prices, tuition fees, and living expenses leave students vulnerable to poverty. A living wage will ensure students have the resources to succeed in their studies and build a future our city can be proud of.”

-Clare, McMaster student, Ward 1

“I believe Hamilton should adopt a living wage because every worker, student or otherwise, should be able to live comfortably in our city without the common fears of eviction or food insecurity.”

- Vincent Barzetti, McMaster student, Ward 5

"I support the increase in student wages because there is a difference between a living wage and a thriving wage. Currently, students are not even being paid a living wage. Their talent, skills, and hard work are exploited by companies because they know students need work experiences. This allows them to compensate students less than their worth. This should change."

- Devika Nair, McMaster University Undergraduate

"I support the motion to increase Hamilton student wages because it would allow me to stay in Hamilton and pursue higher education here. The cost of living is too high and students should be able to access the community resources they need without worrying about money"

- Arjun Nair, McMaster University Undergraduate

"I'm a fourth-year graduate student who receives a stipend that covers my living costs, my food costs, and my transportation cost. I spend over 70 hours per week on my studies. While my friends are buying houses and cars, my bank account has not changed in the past 4 years. I owe the government \$50,000 for my undergraduate education. Increasing student wages would give me the opportunity to start my life after graduate school without feeling trapped by the opportunity cost".

- Anonymous, McMaster University Graduate

“A living wage for students is something that needs to be implemented sooner than later. On a personal level I had to pay tuition, book fees, gas for commuting to class and everything in between on my own. In order to pay for all these mandatory fees by myself means I had to work a minimum of 20-30 hours a week while being a full time student and taking advantage of OSAP loans. That itself causes a huge amount of stress and anxiety. On top of that lots of people struggle with time management and making sure they have a balanced work-life-school schedule. This is nearly impossible to do when you have a full school schedule, and then are rushing to get to work right after. Oftentimes this only allows for a quick lunch break during the day and as soon as our work shifts are over it means we now have to do homework. Homework itself can range anywhere from 1-6 hours a night depending on course load and assigned work.

Now being a recent graduate from Sheridan College, I am living on my own fully independently and it is near impossible to pay rent, groceries, other bills and necessary costs in order to just live. I strongly believe that we need to be paying students a livable wage in order to live. Especially with the hardships which are currently Covid-19 only makes finding a better paying job near impossible. I believe we need to make a difference now instead of facing the possible repercussions later.”

Sincerely,

- Cassandra A.



"Students deserve a higher livable wage. "Student" does not always mean young adult. It was reported in 2019 that almost 129,000 students were over the age of 30 in Ontario and that number is rising each year. Many of these students likely already have families. If the jobs we are offering these mature students can't even offer them a living wage for them and their families, then we are failing them"

- Lindsay McNabb, McMaster University Undergraduate

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 - 2:28 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Brock Bodo

**Name of Organization:** Individual

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I want to speak on student living wage as part of the budget process.

**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 Tuesday, January 19, 2021 - 4:47 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Aiden McIlvaney

**Name of Organization:** Individual

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I want to speak on student living wage as part of the budget process.

**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 Tuesday, January 19, 2021 - 5:12 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Ayla Bahram

**Name of Organization:** Individual

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I want to speak on student living wage as part of the budget process.

**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 Tuesday, January 19, 2021 - 5:54 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Hasnain Khan

**Name of Organization:** Individual

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I want to speak on student living wage as a part of the budget process.

**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 Tuesday, January 19, 2021 - 7:28 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Sharoni Mitra

**Name of Organization:** CUPE 3906

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:** [mitras10@mcmaster.ca](mailto:mitras10@mcmaster.ca)

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I want to speak on student living wage as a part of the budget process.

**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 Monday, January 25, 2021 - 4:46 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Devika Nair

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:** [naird@mcmaster.ca](mailto:naird@mcmaster.ca)

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I want to speak on student living wage as part of the budget process.

**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 Tuesday, January 26, 2021 - 10:52 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Karl Andrus

**Name of Organization:** Hamilton Community Benefits Network

**Contact Number:** 289-214-7636

**Email Address:** [karlandrus@hcbn.ca](mailto:karlandrus@hcbn.ca)

**Mailing Address:** 4-26 West Ave. S. Unit 4.

**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 Feb 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, January 27, 2021 - 12:17pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Tom Cooper

**Name of Organization:** Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction

**Contact Number:** 9055127863

**Email Address:** [tom@hamiltonpoverty.ca](mailto:tom@hamiltonpoverty.ca)

**Mailing Address:** 100 Main Street East, Suite 203, Hamilton, ON

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Pre-budget presentation to Mayor and City Councillors on behalf of the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction.

**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 Friday, January 29, 2021 - 8:42 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Bill Johnston

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To speak to the general issues committee about the 2021 City of Hamilton budget during the day for public presentations on February 8.

**Will you be requesting funds from the City?** No

**Will you be submitting a formal presentation?** Yes

**Pre-budget presentation, City of Hamilton General Issues Committee February 8, 2021****From Bill Johnston**

Good afternoon, and thank you for this opportunity.

My name is Bill Johnston, I am co-chair of the Affordable Housing Team at the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton, but this written submission is my own opinion, and not necessarily my church's.

I speak today to support the housing recommendations in the report, *A Just Recovery for Hamilton*.

I come at housing issues out of my faith commitment to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person and the recognition that we are all interconnected, so none of us can thrive unless we all do.

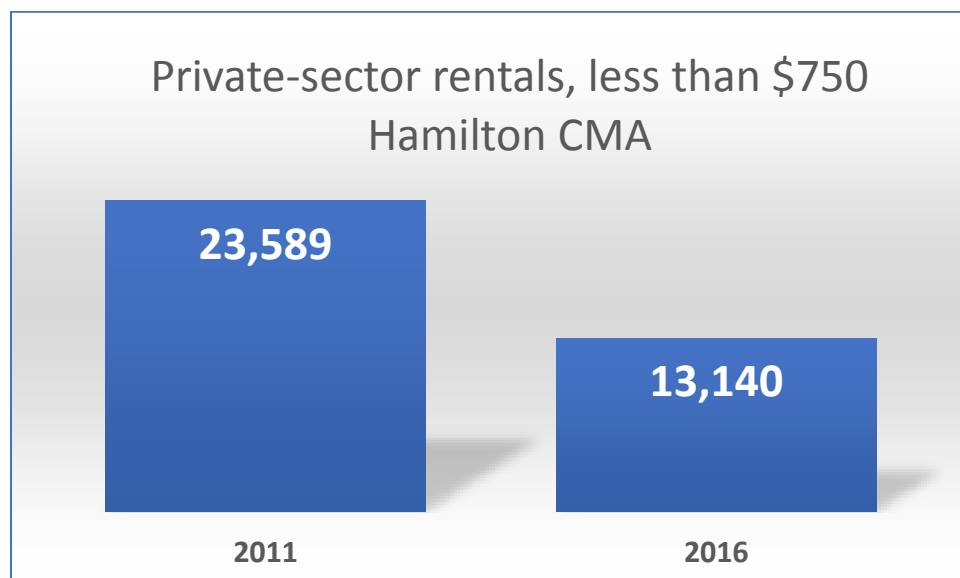
I will focus on a specific aspect of the challenge of providing safe, adequate and affordable housing to all of the tens of thousands of Hamilton households whose housing is inadequate or not affordable.

I am well aware of the city's efforts, including its embrace of Housing First, the \$50 anti-poverty program and its action plans. Yet I am also aware, as you are, that city isn't meeting its goals such as reducing the housing waitlist by half.

One reason—which hasn't got enough attention—is that we are losing affordable private-sector rental units far faster than we can build new affordable units.

You will remember housing consultant Steve Pomeroy, who was keynote speaker at the city's 2019 Hamilton Housing Summit.<sup>1</sup> He has calculated the number of units that rented for \$750 a month or less that disappeared in the five years between the 2011 and the 2016 Census. \$750 a month is affordable on an income of \$30,000 a year.

For the Hamilton Census Metropolitan Area, he calculated that we lost more than 10,000 of those affordable rent units between 2011 and 2016.<sup>2</sup>



Hamilton has just under 80 per cent of the rental units in the Hamilton CMA, so our share of those lost units is about 8,200. Pomeroy says the trend is continuing.

Hamilton has built or approved about 365 new affordable units every five years.<sup>3</sup> So we are losing more than 20 private-sector affordable units for every unit we build.

We lose most of those affordable units because every time a unit is vacated, the rent can and does go up, often a lot.

So, governments need to do everything they can to help tenants avoid eviction.

First, no one should be evicted because they lost income during the pandemic. Moratoriums on evictions, though necessary, are not enough. Tenants need help with arrears or they will be evicted.

A recent Canada Mortgage and Housing survey found 2,700 tenant households in the Hamilton Census Metropolitan Area are in arrears. The average arrears in the Hamilton CMA was \$1,424.<sup>4</sup> Our federal government, in the September Throne Speech, said, “Canadians should not have to take on debt [because of the pandemic] that their government can better shoulder.”<sup>5</sup> That should apply to any rent arrears caused by COVID.

I urge the city to act on recommendation 53 in the *Just Recovery for Hamilton*, to set aside money in a local rent bank to help tenants deal with arrears caused by COVID. But I also urge the city to push Queen’s Park to cover those costs, as recommendation 52 proposes. Both Ottawa and Queen’s Park have provided help to commercial tenants, but no rent relief to residential tenants. Both Ontario and Ottawa are in budget consultations right now, with deadlines of Feb. 12 and 19, respectively for input.

Second, no one should be evicted because of renovations. Landlords have an obligation to allow tenants to return, at their old rent, if they have to move out for major renovations.<sup>6</sup> Many tenants likely don’t know of their rights. So I urge the city to adopt recommendation 60 to ensure tenants know their rights and recommendation 54, for the city to use all its tools to ensure tenants can return, to avoid loss of an affordable unit.

Third, we need Ottawa to expand the Rapid Housing Initiative to provide funds so non-profits, housing co-ops and cities can buy of existing private-sector buildings to keep their rents permanently affordable.

We need, as recommendation 51 says, pro-active inspections to ensure that lack of routine maintenance doesn’t lead to a need for major renovations.

Mostly, the city needs much more investment in new construction, upgrades to existing buildings and portable housing benefits. We support recommendation 55 for more local investment but most of the money must come much bigger investments from the senior governments. The National Housing Strategy will help only a third of Canadian households in core housing need. The Ontario government cut Hamilton’s allocation for new or reburished housing to less than a third of what it had been. Even the original figure was far too little. The amount of Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit provided so far will help only a tiny fraction of Hamilton’s 16,000 precariously housed residents.<sup>7</sup>

Thank you.

**Recommendations from *A Just Recovery for Hamilton* cited above:**

51. Prioritize healthy homes during COVID-19 and beyond, including resuming building inspections, enforcement of all property standards, and the implementation of all COVID-19 health and safety measures as recommended by Public Health.
52. Urge the province to suspend eviction enforcement, hearings and orders until the province has entered the post-pandemic recovery period and immediately bring in rent relief.
53. Implement a municipal 'rent bank' where any tenant in financial need can receive non-repayable grants, so tenants can get the funds they need without falling further into debt.
54. Use all of the city's regulatory powers to protect tenants from predatory renovation practices and save Hamilton's affordable housing stock.
55. Make a deeper municipal capital budget investment in housing first placements to end homelessness.
60. Take a proactive approach when it comes to informing tenants of their rights and provide resources for tenant groups to respond to Above Guideline Increases and threats of displacement.

*A Just Recovery for Hamilton: Municipal Policy, Investment and Opportunities for a more equitable COVID-19 Recovery in 2021*, <https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/8f506d6a-c19c-4d0e-9714-b94e774e3ed5/Just%20Recovery%20Hamilton%20-%20Policy%20Paper-0004.pdf>

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#### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Steve Pomeroy, CEO of Focus Consulting Inc. and Senior Research Fellow for the Centre for Urban Research and Education, Carleton University. "Hamilton Housing Summit (HSC19037), report to the Emergency and Community Services Committee, August 15, 2019, <https://pub-hamilton.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=201209> Focus Consulting <https://www.focus-consult.com/> Carleton University <https://carleton.ca/sppa/people/pomeroy-steve/>

<sup>2</sup> Calculations based on Statistics Canada, "2011 National Household Survey: Data Tables, Shelter Cost Groups (11), Household Total Income Groups in 2011 (11), Shelter-cost-to-income Ration (9), Housing Tenure Including Presence of Mortgage and Subsidized Housing (7), and Household Type (17) for Owner and Tenant Households in Non-Farm, Non-reserve Private Dwellings of Canada, Provinces, Territories, Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations, 2011 National Household Survey," <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/dt-td/Rp-eng.cfm?TABID=2&LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GK=0&GRP=0&PID=106661&PRID=0&PTYPE=105277&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=0&Temporal=2013&THEME=98&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF=> AND Statistics Canada, "Data Tables, 2016 Census, Shelter Cost (12), Tenure include Presence of Mortgage Payments and Subsidized Housing (7), Shelter-cost-to-income Ratio (9), Household Total Income Groups (14) and Household Type including Census Family Structure (16) for Owner and Tenant Households in Non-Farm, Non-reserve Private Dwellings of Canada, Provinces and Territories, Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations, 2016 Census—25% Sample Data," <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/dt-td/Rp-eng.cfm?TABID=2&LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GID=1341763&GK=0&GRP=1&PRID=110571&PRID=10&PTYPE=109445&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=0&Temporal=2017&THEME=121&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF=&D1=0&D2=0&D3=0&D4=0&D5=0&D6=0>

Calculations were made by Steve Pomeroy and sent in an email to Bill Johnston, February 3, 2021. Pomeroy noted that the rent ranges in the 2016 and 2011 data do not align. "In the absence of customized data, I have interpolated, assuming an even distribution of rents across the range. So to convert 400-600 to units under 500 I would select 0.5 x the 400-600 range, etc." Calculations for the graph were made by Bill Johnston, based on Pomeroy's method.

<sup>3</sup> “Recommended Projects from Request for Proposals C5-19-19 Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative: Rental housing Component (HSC19060),” report to the Emergency and Community Services Committee, November 7, 2019, <https://pub-hamilton.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=207363> This report, page 3, shows that “Since 2003, there have been 21 projects with a total construction value of \$101 M, constructed with \$82 M of federal and provincial funds, creating 1011 new affordable rental units available for low and moderate-income households.” Those 1,101 units were built (or approved) over a 16-year period. The five-year figure used in this report divided that 1,101 total by 3.

<sup>4</sup> The Hamilton CMA arrears number was 2,704 and the total rent in arrears was \$3.85 million. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, *2020 Rental Market Report*, January 28, 2021, [https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/housing-observer-online/2021/2020-rental-market-report?utm\\_medium=newsletter&utm\\_source=housing-research-newsletter&utm\\_campaign=january2021&utm\\_content=english](https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/housing-observer-online/2021/2020-rental-market-report?utm_medium=newsletter&utm_source=housing-research-newsletter&utm_campaign=january2021&utm_content=english) and data table for Canada 5.0 Rental Arrears, Privately Initiated Apartment Structures of Three Units and Over—Provinces and Major Centres, <https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/data-and-research/data-tables/rental-market-report-data-tables>

<sup>5</sup> *A Stronger and More Resilient Canada: Speech from the Throne*, to open the Second Session of the Forty-Third Parliament of Canada, September 23, 2020, 10, [https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/pco-bcp/documents/pm/SFT\\_2020\\_EN\\_WEB.pdf](https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/pco-bcp/documents/pm/SFT_2020_EN_WEB.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> *Residential Tenancies Act*, section 53, <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/06r17>

<sup>7</sup> *Canada’s National Housing Strategy: A Place to Call Home*, 4, <https://eppdscrmssa01.blob.core.windows.net/cmhcprodcontainer/sf/project/placetocallhome/pdfs/canada-national-housing-strategy.pdf> says the National Housing Strategy “sets ambitious targets... This will include ... as many as 530,000 households being taken out of housing need.” Statistics Canada, “One in ten Canadian households living in core housing need in 2018,” 2020-10-2, <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/201002/dq201002a-eng.htm#:~:text=More%20than%201.6%20million%20Canadian,alternative%20housing%20in%20the%20community> reported that 1.6 million Canadian households lived in core housing need in 2018. 530,000 is 33.1% of 1.6 million.

The provincial commitment to Hamilton was outlined in Housing Services Division, City of Hamilton, *OPHI/COCHI Key Stakeholder Consultation July 24, 2019*. Slide 8 lists the province’s average commitment for the next three years (2019-2020 to 2021-2022) as \$5.8 million compared to the average annual allocation for the previous three years of \$21.3 million, which was 3.67 times larger.

“Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit,” report to city council February 12, 2020, 1, [https://www.hamilton.ca/sites/default/files/media/browser/2020-02-14/infoupdate-hsc-canada-ontario\\_housing\\_benefit\\_feb122020.pdf](https://www.hamilton.ca/sites/default/files/media/browser/2020-02-14/infoupdate-hsc-canada-ontario_housing_benefit_feb122020.pdf) showed the province had allocated \$1.15 million to Hamilton for 2020-2021, which the report said would translate into about 320-350 portable housing benefits for nine years. That there are 16,000 Hamiltonians precariously housed (that is, paying 50 per cent or more of their pre-tax income for housing) is from City of Hamilton, *Coming Together to End Homelessness: Hamilton’s Systems Planning Framework*, 12, <https://www.hamilton.ca/sites/default/files/media/browser/2019-07-25/coming-together-to-end-homelessness-report-final-07252019.pdf> The specific figure in the report is “approximately 16,400 people spend more than 50% of their income on rent, with incomes of less than \$20,000/year.”

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Friday, January 29, 2021 - 2:26 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Lynda Lukasik

**Name of Organization:** Environment Hamilton

**Contact Number:** 905-560-1177

**Email Address:** [llukasik@environmenthamilton.org](mailto:llukasik@environmenthamilton.org)

**Mailing Address:**

22 Wilson Street, Suite 4

Hamilton, ON L8R 1C5

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I am requesting the opportunity to delegate on February 8th as part of the annual budget Public Delegation Day. I would like to do a live virtual delegation.

**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 Saturday, January 30, 2021 - 9:13 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Nancy Hurst

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Have my five minutes to discuss how I wish the city to approach climate change.

**Will you be requesting funds from the City?** No

**Will you be submitting a formal presentation?** Yes





# A Just Recovery for Hamilton by Stopping Suburban Sprawl

By: Nancy Hurst

# Hamilton Climate Strike

Sept. 2019



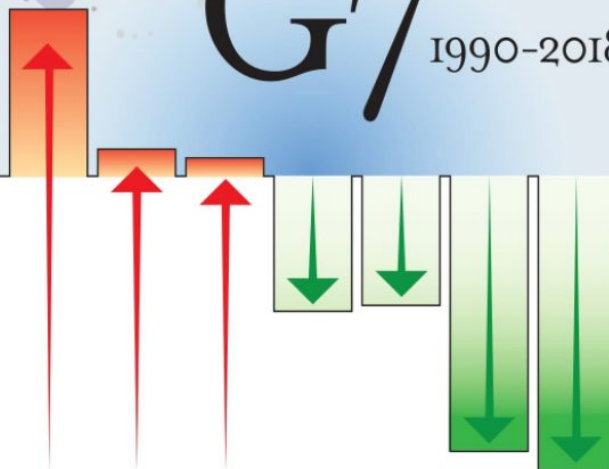
# Jenga

A close-up photograph of a person's hand pulling a wooden block from a tall, wobbly tower of Jenga blocks. The tower is made of light-colored wooden blocks stacked in a staggered pattern. The background is a soft, out-of-focus indoor setting with warm lighting.

**One by one, as the blocks are removed,  
we weaken our climate system tower.**

## GHG EMISSIONS IN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES

G7 1990-2018

1990  
BASELINE

Canada +20.9% USA +3.7% Japan +2.7% Italy -17.4% (by 2017) France -16.4% (by 2015) Germany -35.7% (by 2019) UK -38% (by 2017)

## SOURCE:

Canada: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2020-04/documents/us-ghg-inventory-2020-main-text.pdf>

USA: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2020-04/documents/us-ghg-inventory-2020-main-text.pdf>

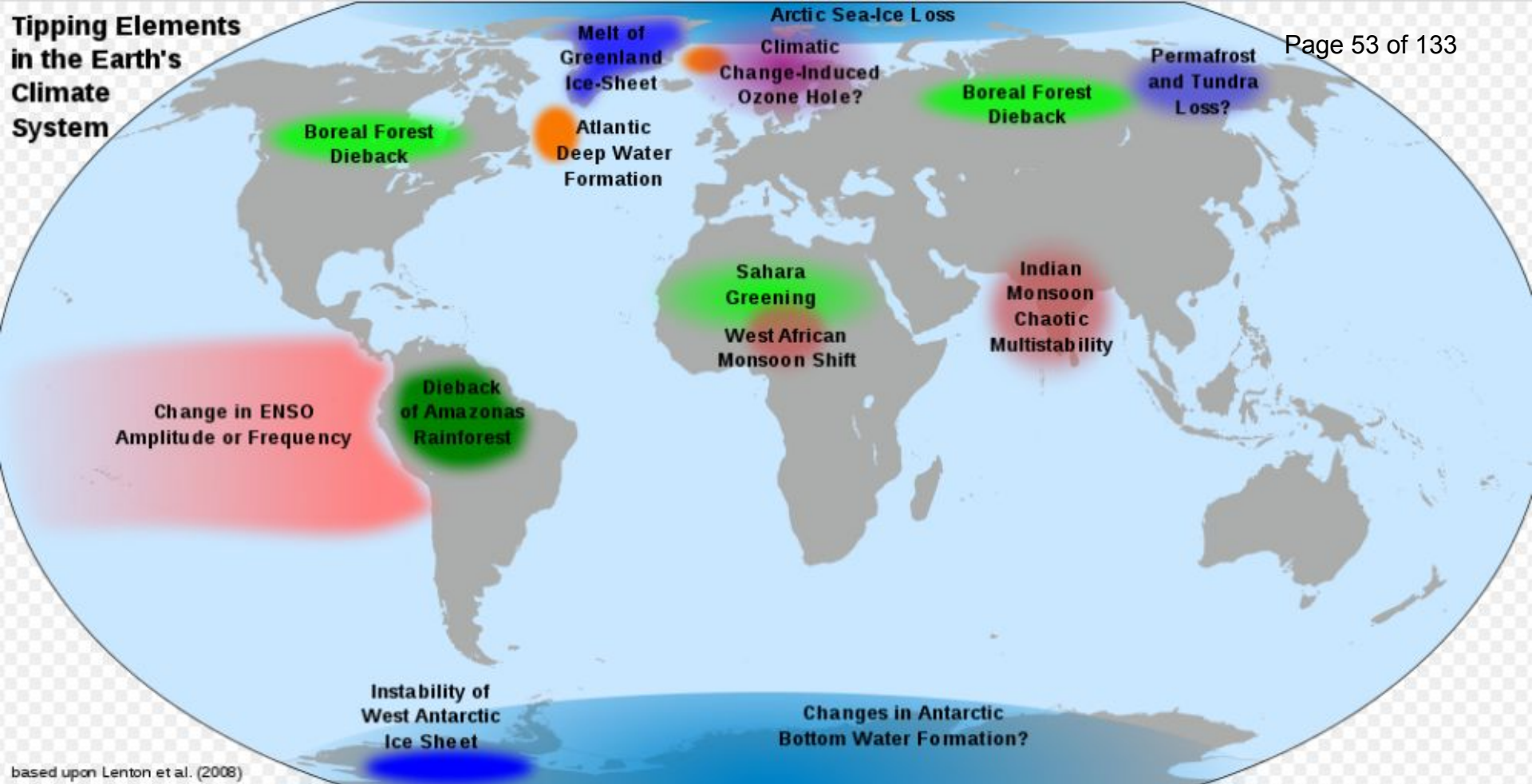
Japan: <https://www.climatecorecard.org/2020/12/since-1990-greenhouse-gas-emissions-have-increased-by-2-7-in-japan/#:~:text=Since%201990%20Greenhouse%20Gas%20Emissions%20Have%20Increased%20by%202.7%25%20in%20Japan,-December%2020%2C%202020&text=According%20to%20the%20National%20Institute,MI%20CO2%20eq>

Italy: [https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/SubmissionsStaging/NationalReports/Documents/67403915\\_Italy-RR4-1-BK4\\_2019%20Italy.pdf](https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/SubmissionsStaging/NationalReports/Documents/67403915_Italy-RR4-1-BK4_2019%20Italy.pdf)

France: <https://www.planete-energies.com/en/medias/does/greenhouse-gas-emissions-france>

Germany: <https://www.cleanenergywire.org/factsheets/germanys-greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-climate-targets#:~:text=In%202019%2C%20Germany%20emitted%20805,since%20the%20recession%20in%202009>

UK: <https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-why-the-uks-co2-emissions-have-fallen-38-since-1990>



based upon Lenton et al. (2008)

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## The CEEP is Hamilton's map to Net Zero

BUT, the release date for the CEEP is not scheduled until after the publication date of the Land Needs Plan.

The Land Needs Plan should be informed by CEEP.



# HAMILTON'S COMMUNITY ENERGY AND EMISSIONS PLAN



## Hamilton's CEEP Consultant Yuill Hebert:

“Land-use planning is the  
key lever to locking in or  
locking out greenhouse  
gas emissions at the  
municipal level”



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## Ford Changed the Rule Book:

The province is forcing HamOnt to build a “market driven” plan 30 years out with lower density targets.

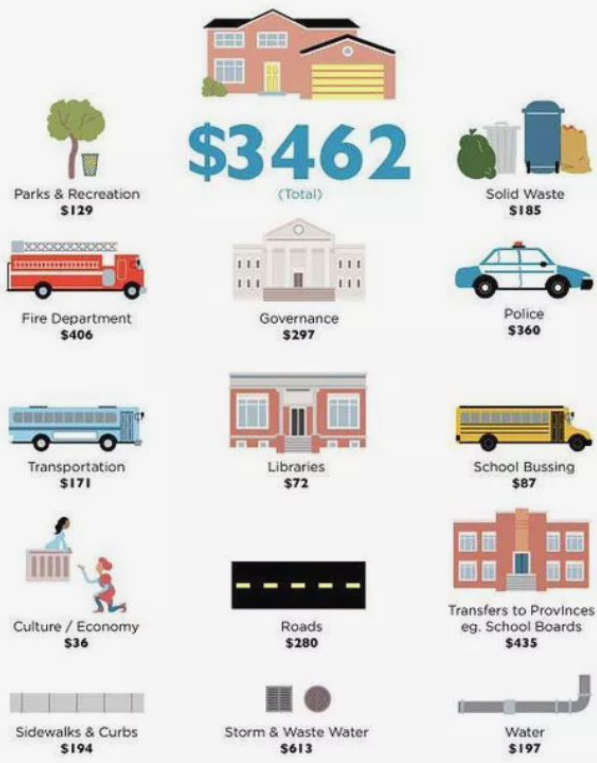




# Cities pay more than double to allow sprawl.

# Are you beholden to Taxpayers or Developers?

## Suburban City's Annual Cost, per Household



## Urban City's Annual Cost, per Household





**\$999,900**

340 BEDROCK DR, Hamilton, Ontario



Bedrooms



Bathrooms



Single Family

# McMansions on Prime Farmland?

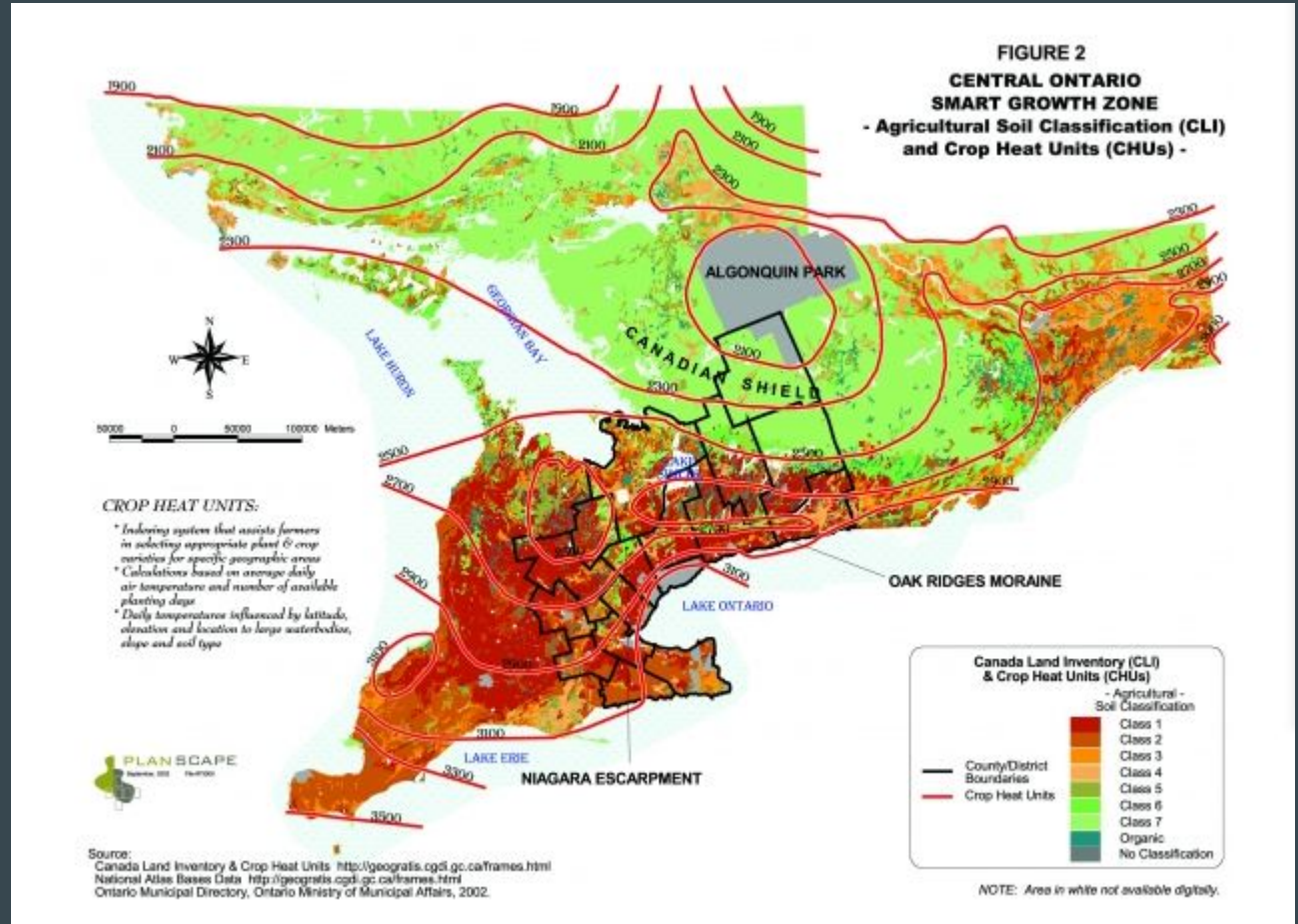
This typical new home in  
Stoney Creek  
\$1,000,000

The average Hamiltonian  
family can no longer afford  
the cost of owning a home  
in the suburbs.

# RED is prime agricultural land

“Humanity owes its existence to six inches of soil and the fact that it rains”

#SaveTheFarmOnt



A photograph of a brick building with a dark door and a window. A person wearing a red cap and a dark jacket is sitting on the concrete steps leading to the door. The number '28' is visible above the door and on the side of the building. A large window with dark shutters is to the right of the door. A small stone planter is on the ground in front of the building.

**We need to invest in  
our existing HamOnt  
neighbourhoods**





[www.environmenthamilton.org/urban\\_sprawl](http://www.environmenthamilton.org/urban_sprawl)

**Our Children deserve  
A safe future.**



## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Sunday, January 31, 2021 - 11:03 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Senna Rose Thomas

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I wish to address the homelessness rate. I feel that this is something that Hamilton can work towards and I am sure many others like myself would like to see a change in this.

**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 Friday, January 29, 2021 - 4:02 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Jeanne Mayo

**Name of Organization:** Seniors Advisory Committee

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To present Seniors Advisory Committee's report on transit needs for older adults

**Will you be requesting funds from the City?** No

**Will you be submitting a formal presentation?** Yes

## Presentation to Mr. Mayor and Members of City Council

The Seniors Advisory Committee, in making this presentation, would like to emphasize the importance of ensuring transportation options for those Hamiltonians who live in areas under or not serviced by the HSR.

The Seniors Advisory Committee would like to acknowledge the collaboration of CityLAB, Professors Emma Apatu, Sean Nix and Jim Vanderwoerd in helping to prepare this presentation.

To begin, the students in Professor Apatu's class in the Master of Public Health program at McMaster University, after doing a rapid review of the scientific literature regarding the impact of the lack of transportation on rural residents, make the following conclusions.

- A lack of access to transportation may negatively affect rural older adults' self-reported health and quality of life compared to those with adequate access to transportation;
- Engaging in social activities is deemed vital to healthy aging by rural older adults, and not having access to transportation appears to be a barrier for rural older adults to engage in social activities, compared to those who had access to a vehicle;
- Older adults living in rural areas who lack transportation are less able to access routine medical visits and more likely to enter long-term care compared to those with access to transportation;
- Reduced access to transportation among rural older adults is linked to adverse mental health outcomes and greater difficulty accessing mental health services in comparison to those with adequate access to transportation;
- Rural older adults who have greater access to transportation engage in more physical activity, have better dental health, and less hypertension compared to those with inadequate access to transportation; however, access to transportation is not linked to reduced weight gain among rural older adults.

In conclusion, the students state that measures to improve access to transportation for older adults living in areas where transit options are very limited of Hamilton may:

- improve subjective health status and quality of life;
- improve social participation and mental health;
- increase access to routine health visits, thereby improving management of chronic conditions such as diabetes;
- increase physical activity which could reduce the incidence of hypertension and other cardiovascular diseases, thereby reducing the demand for healthcare services;
- increase the period of time that older adults can remain at home, thereby reducing the need for long-term care.

The students in Professor Nix's class in the Transportation Planning and Modelling course at McMaster University first of all present the profile of people living in Glanbrook, Stoney Creek, Ancaster, Flamborough. In summary, the population 55+ in these areas is more female, except in Glanbrook, and over 80% have a driver's licence, except in the age group of 85 +, where the percentage drops off dramatically.

The students then outline several transportation options that will be presented shortly.

In preparing this presentation, the Seniors Advisory Committee also consulted with several community groups, Ancaster Community Services, Flamborough Connects, Glanbrook Community Services, Dundas Community Services, Seniors Outreach Stoney Creek and the Red Cross.

At this moment, the Hamilton residents that live in the pre-amalgamation towns have access to the following transit options.

- Fixed route HSR - in very limited areas
- Transcab - in circumscribed areas of Stoney Creek, Glanbrook and Mount Hope. This option allows a resident to take a taxi to the nearest bus stop and vice versa. It is important to note that people who take advantage of this option pay \$0.50 on top of the HSR fare. The charge of \$0.50 was fixed in 1999 and has not increased since, even though HSR fares have increased. HSR pays the remaining taxi fare above the \$0.50.
- DARTS and taxi script - every resident of Hamilton who qualifies has access to the DARTS service. Furthermore, those who are deemed eligible may purchase Taxi Script. Under this option, a person may purchase 3 taxi coupon books worth \$40 for \$24 per month, although there is no time limit to use the taxi script books. Nevertheless, in the rural areas of Hamilton, because the distances between the starting point and the destination are so much greater one Taxi Script book of \$40 covers very few trips.
- Park and Ride - older adults who are less comfortable driving longer distances may prefer driving to the Mountain Transit Centre, located at 2200 Upper James St and park for free before boarding an HSR bus.
- Grocery Bus - from 2009 to 2019, through various federal and provincial funding programs and Hamilton Community Foundation, a bus service organized by Ancaster Community Services, Flamborough Connects, Glanbrook Community Services and DARTS took rural residents who live in Flamborough, Ancaster and Glanbrook from each of their homes to shopping destinations. The destination was determined in consultation with the users and cost \$7 round trip. Unfortunately, no more funding is available but limited service is still available in Flamborough thanks to donations and fundraising.
- Volunteer driving - this service is offered by Dundas Community Services, Ancaster Community Services, Glanbrook Community Services, Stoney Creek Seniors Outreach Services, Red Cross and several other community-based organizations. Each community group establishes its own criteria, sets the fee and matches the driver with the passenger.

Transportation options in rural areas, other than fixed route bus service, are increasing across Ontario, Canada and world-wide because of several factors, including the fact that the rural population is aging, which has a significant impact on the ability to drive. Cities and towns in Ontario have developed several strategies that give rural residents more options to travel other than driving.

In conclusion, the Seniors Advisory Committee would like to remind the Mayor and City Councillors that the following policy guidelines have been adopted:

- City of Hamilton’s Strategic Plan (2016-2025) identifies the following vision: “To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.”
- Additionally, the Transportation Master Plan’s vision: “Provide a comprehensive and attainable transportation blueprint for Hamilton as a whole that balances all modes of transportation to become a healthier city.”
- In March 2019, the Hamilton City Council has declared a climate emergency and directed staff to identify actions to be taken to achieve net zero carbon emissions before 2050.

For these reasons, the Seniors Advisory Committee urges the City to take the following actions.

1. Where possible, HSR should extend existing bus lines further into areas that do not have HSR service. Furthermore, virtual bus stops could be incorporated into this service, as Waterloo has done.
2. The City of Hamilton should review the Transcab service. This service could be linked to more end of line bus routes so that more people could take advantage of this service. However, SAC questions the fare structure of this service. While fares on the HSR have risen, the fee charged for Transcab has remained the same since 1999. The small fee charged the users of this service is contrasted with the cost of a taxi or other ride service that others must pay to reach their destination before or after the bus ride.
3. The City of Hamilton should establish more Park and Ride areas and clearly indicate the existence of these locations on the website. The Park and Ride

service exists at the Mountain Transit Centre. However, no information on this service is on the HSR website.

4. DARTS service is available to all Hamilton residents who are deemed eligible by the Accessible Transportation Services of the HSR. The eligibility assessment could take into consideration the location of the person's residence relative to the nearest HSR bus stop and the ability of the person to drive, either temporarily, in some conditions or not at all. As the population ages, the number of people holding drivers' licences or even wanting to drive will decrease. This of course, will have an impact on the DARTS system. While DARTS is an essential service, we suggest that other options could be developed that would relieve the pressure on the DARTS service.
5. Fixed destination by reservation. As mentioned, some community agencies have obtained funds in the past to offer this type of service to grocery and other stores. The City should begin to collaborate with community groups and DARTS to offer this service to all areas not serviced by regular HSR service, which would reduce the pressure on the regular DARTS service. The various destinations, grocery and other stores, malls, recreation centres, libraries, etc. and times could be publicized on a website and people could then reserve the specific date. Furthermore, different areas could be targeted, i.e. Ancaster one day, Stoney Creek, another, etc. so that the pickup and return is more concentrated. This type of service is offered in many other towns and cities and the passenger is generally charged a higher rate than the regular bus fare.
6. The City of Hamilton should also consider collaborating with bordering municipalities. Outlying Hamilton residents often live closer to another municipality and develop connections to shopping, medical and other services there. It does not always make sense from a cost/benefit ratio to bring these residents into urban Hamilton when many of their needs could be met more efficiently if they had transit options to a neighbouring municipality.
7. The City of Hamilton should collaborate with community organizations who offer volunteer driving services. As stated, many dedicated people offer transit options through organized services or on a purely one to one basis. Even those who have Taxi Script cannot always use a taxi service because of the long distance between the starting point and the destination. Several municipalities have organized shared ride services linking drivers who live in rural areas and those who need a ride, with the cost shared between the rider and the municipality.

8. Finally, although not an option that is available now, the Draft Regional Transportation Plan for Ontario predicts that Autonomous Vehicles will account for 27% of passenger travel by 2030, which could be of great benefit, not only as a safer way to travel but also, if electricity powered, would contribute to lowering GHG emissions. In the rural areas of Hamilton, AVs could be deployed to collect people and bring them to transit hubs.

In conclusion, the Seniors Advisory Committee stresses the importance for the City of Hamilton to fund begin to fund transit options to residents who live in areas currently under or not serviced by the HSR in an equitable and publicized manner.

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Monday, February 1, 2021 - 12:01 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Kojo Dampsey

**Name of Organization:** Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion

**Contact Number:** 2899215294

**Email Address:** kdampsey@hcci.ca

Mailing Address:

423 King Street East,

Hamilton, Ontario

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Speaking to the 2021 municipal budget on Feb 8th, 2021 - Public delegations day.

**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 Monday, February 1, 2021 - 12:22 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Pascale Marchand

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

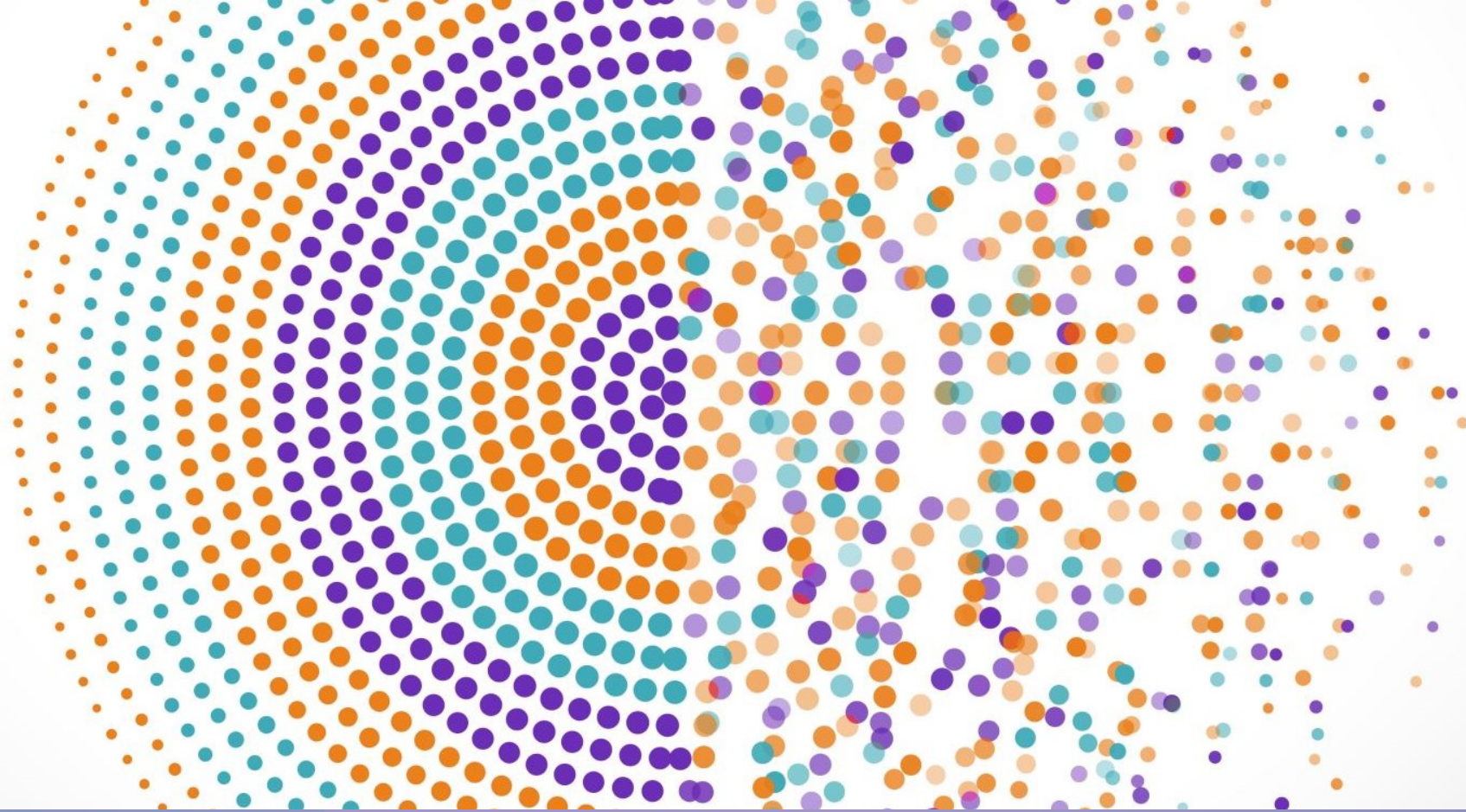
**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Wish to make a public delegation to City Council regarding the 2021 Budget.

**Will you be requesting funds from the City?** No

**Will you be submitting a formal presentation?** Yes



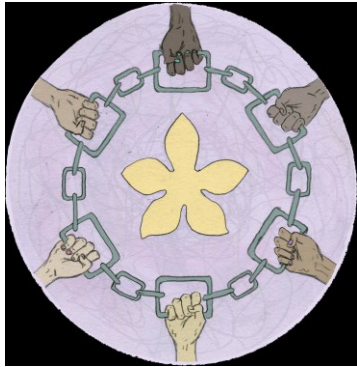
# #JUSTRECOVERYHAMILTON

PASCALÉ MARCHAND

# SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

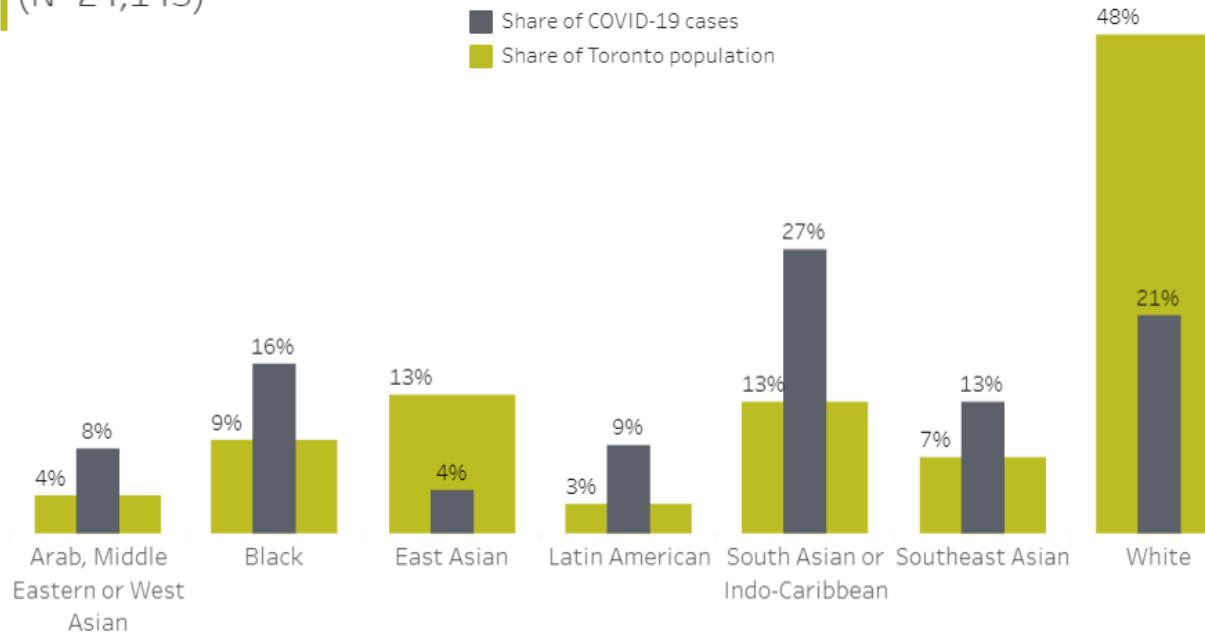
- Disability
- Early child development
- Education
- Employment and working conditions
- Food insecurity
- Gender
- Geography
- Globalization
- Health services
- Housing
- Immigration
- Income and income distribution
- Indigenous ancestry
- Race
- Social exclusion
- Social safety net
- Unemployment and job security

# RACE AS FACTOR



Share of COVID-19 cases among ethno-racial groups compared to the share of people living in Toronto, with valid data up to November 30, 2020

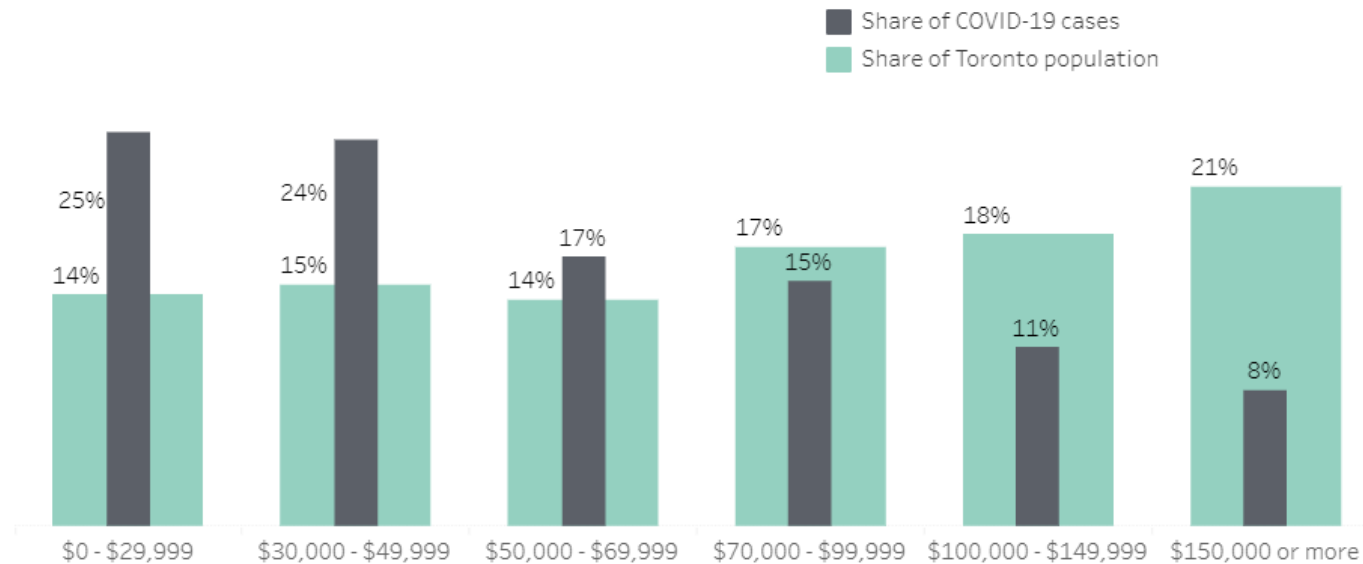
(N=24,143)



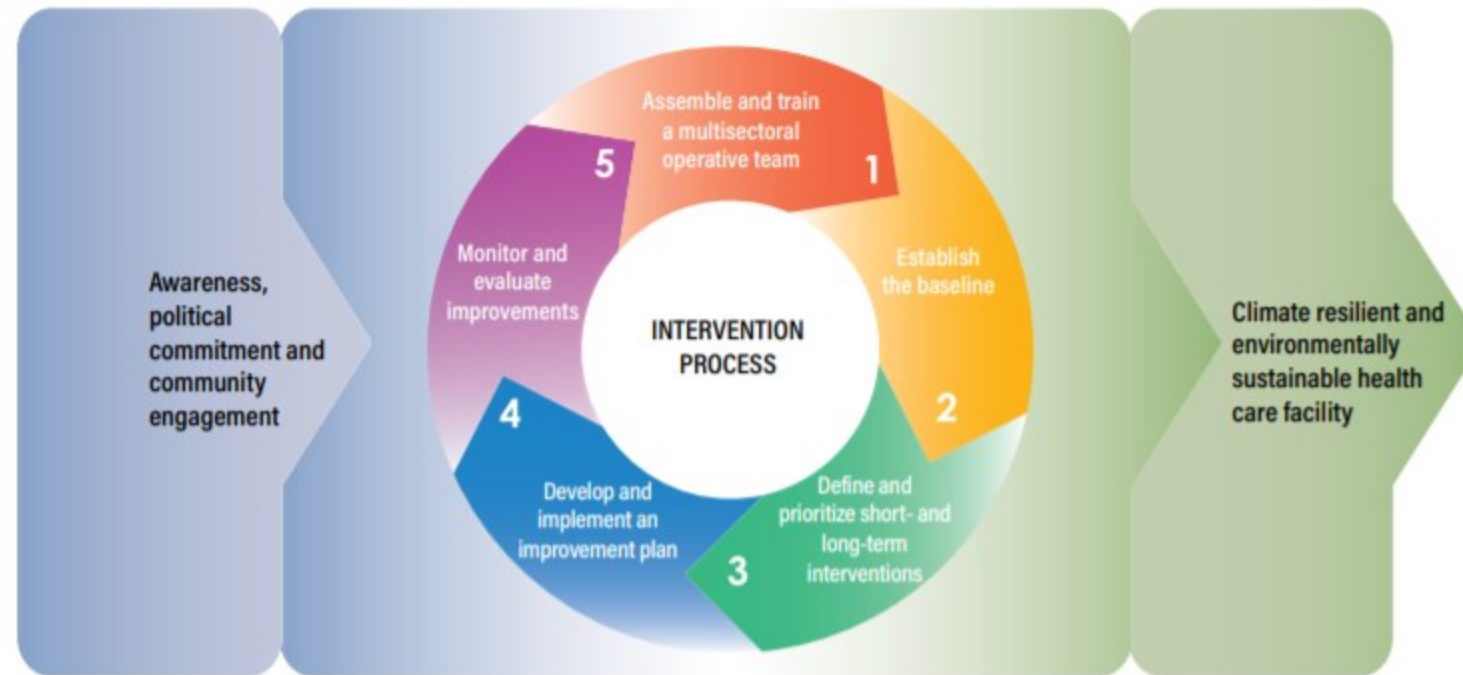
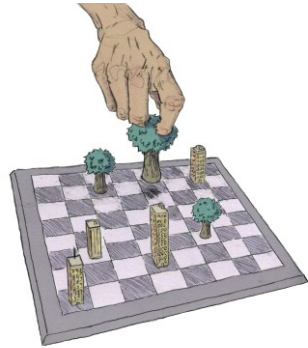
# INCOME AS FACTOR



Share of COVID-19 cases by household income compared to the share of people living in Toronto by income group, with valid data up to November 30, 2020 (N=13,247)



# CLIMATE RESILIENCE & HEALTH CARE



# WHAT CAN WE DO?

- Invest in women
- Disability justice
- Mobility justice
- Inclusive city building
- Decent jobs, wages, and our local economy
- Green infrastructure, policy, and public access
- Tackle systemic racism
- Housing as human right
- Support 2SLGBTQIA+ communities



# HAMILTON POLICE SERVICE

**Toronto pilot project could remove police from mental health calls – but not in emergencies**



Project would target 'non-emergency, non-violent' calls in areas with highest numbers of reported crises

CBC News · Posted: Jan 21, 2021 2:39 PM ET | Last Updated: January 21

- 2020 Operating budget:
  - \$168,274,259
  - 3.87% increase from 2019
- Contribution from average residential property tax:
  - \$648
- 2021 operating budget:
  - \$174,248,233
  - 3.48% increase from 2020

## Forbes

BREAKING | Jan 28, 2021, 09:45am EST | 6,235 views

### Austin To Use Money Cut From Police Budget To Buy Hotel For Homeless Population



**Jemima McEvoy** Forbes Staff

Business

*I'm a British-born reporter covering breaking news for Forbes.*





THANK  
YOU

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Monday, February 1, 2021 - 12:55 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Sue Markey

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I would like to make a presentation to support the Hamilton Just Recovery initiative. Since city council is doing budget deliberations, this is very timely.

**Will you be requesting funds from the City?** No

**Will you be submitting a formal presentation?** No

# 6 Principles for a Just Recovery



## 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 8<sup>th</sup>

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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**





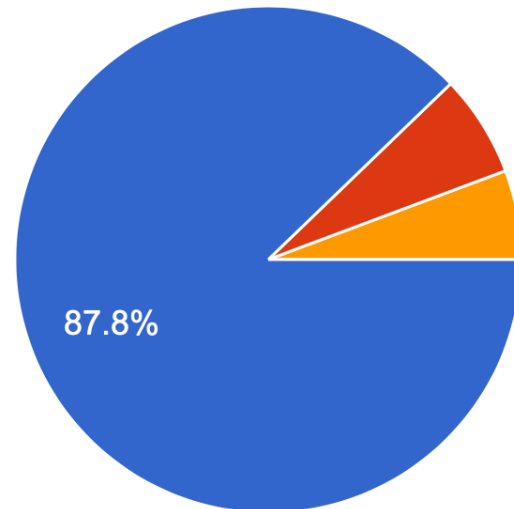
# Challenging the Notion of a “Student”

- 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

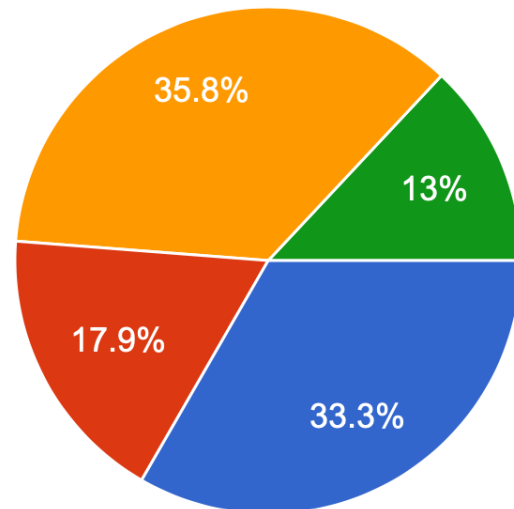


- Full-time post-secondary (college or university)
- Part-time post-secondary (college or university)
- Academic Upgrading and/or Continuing Education

# Survey Data- Household Demographics

## Household demographics

123 responses

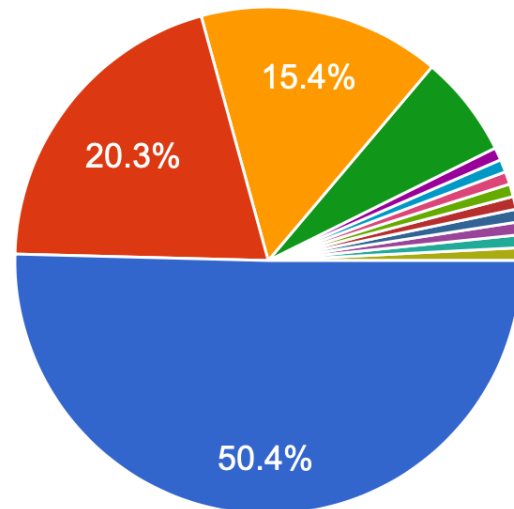


- Living at home with parents/guardians-traditional household (ie. dual parent income)
- Living at home with parent(s)/guardians-non-traditional household (ie. single parent, one income)
- Living independently- rent
- Living independently- own

# Survey Data- Household Composition

## Household composition

123 responses



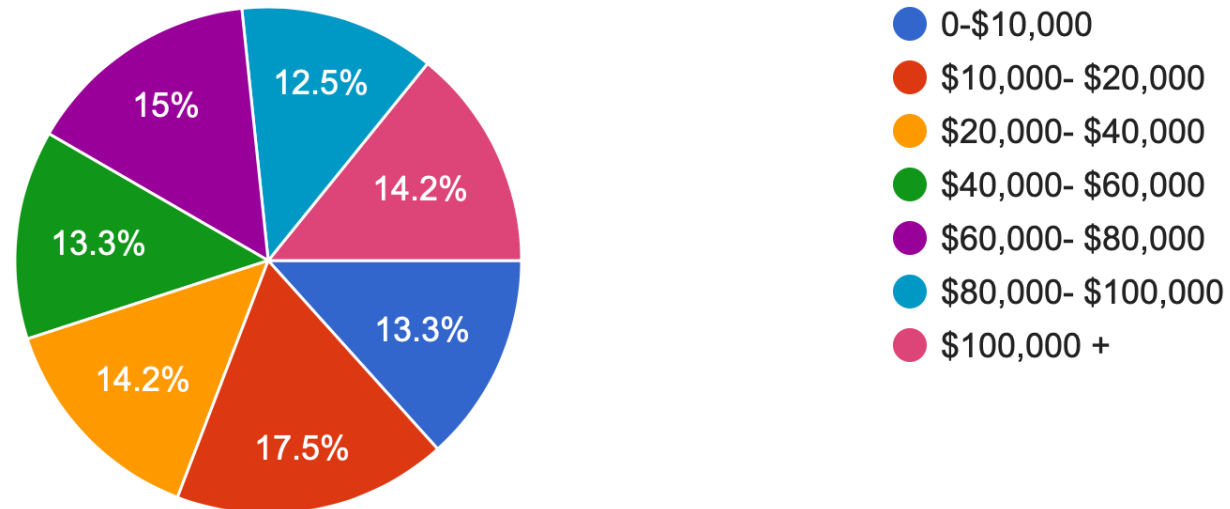
- Living at home with family
- Living independently
- Living with partner/spouse
- Living with partner/spouse and childre...
- widowed with children
- Living with roommates
- Living with roommates
- living with roommates

▲ 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](mailto: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 8<sup>th</sup>

**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](mailto: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