



**City of Hamilton**  
**GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE**  
**ADDENDUM**

**Meeting #:** 21-007  
**Date:** March 29, 2021  
**Time:** 9:30 a.m.  
**Location:** Due to the COVID-19 and the Closure of City Hall (CC)

All electronic meetings can be viewed at:

City's Website:  
<https://www.hamilton.ca/council-committee/council-committee-meetings/meetings-and-agendas>

City's YouTube Channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/InsideCityofHamilton> or Cable 14

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

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**5. COMMUNICATIONS**

- \*5.1. Correspondence from Mary Love, Secretary, Council of Canadians - Hamilton Chapter respecting the Province of Ontario's Revised Municipal Planning Guidelines

Recommendation: Be received

- \*5.2. Correspondence from Cordelia Clarke Julien, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, respecting A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe

Recommendation: Be received.

- \*5.3. Correspondence respecting GRIDS 2 and the Municipal Comprehensive Review - Land Needs Assessment

Recommendation: Be received and referred to the consideration of Items 8.1 and 8.2.

\*5.3.a. Rose Janson

\*5.3.b. Eleanor Hayward

- \*5.3.c. Ken Inouye
- \*5.3.d. Don Brown
- \*5.3.e. Durand Neighbourhood Association
- \*5.3.f. Hart Jansson, Halton Action for Climate Emergency Now
- \*5.3.g. Frank Ahern
- \*5.3.h. Doyne Ahern
- \*5.3.i. Paul Copcutt
- \*5.3.j. David Atkins
- \*5.3.k. Veronica Ross Mottley
- \*5.3.l. Halton Hills Climate Action
- \*5.3.m. Sue Carson
- \*5.3.n. Laurie Nielsen
- \*5.3.o. Paul Wilson
- \*5.3.p. Ron and Mary Sealey
- \*5.3.q. Tina Di Clemente
- \*5.3.r. Mervyn Russell
- \*5.3.s. Andrea Zorzi
- \*5.3.t. Diane Samchuk
- \*5.3.u. Elizabeth Seidl
- \*5.3.v. Lyn Folkes
- \*5.3.w. Richard Koroscil, Chair, Bay Area Climate Change Council; and, Bianca Caramento, Chair, Bay Area Climate Change Council
- \*5.3.x. Wayne Poole, Eco Churches of West Hamilton

- \*5.3.y. Rosa Beraldo
- \*5.3.z. Margot Olivieri
- \*5.3.aa. Janet Duval and Jane Fogul, Co-leaders, Halton Hills Climate Action Plan
- \*5.3.ab. Harvey Feit
- \*5.3.ac. Dr. Meghan Davis, Crown Point Family Health Centre
- \*5.3.ad. C. A. Klassen
- \*5.3.ae. Marine Wilson
- \*5.3.af. Marsha Sulewski
- \*5.3.ag. Mary Ellen Scanlon
- \*5.3.ah. Nancy Cooper and Brian Hay
- \*5.3.ai. Nicole Buchanan, MD
- \*5.3.aj. North End Neighbourhood Association
- \*5.3.ak. Paul Shaker, Principal, CivicPlan
- \*5.3.al. Peg Kelly
- \*5.3.am. Rachel Cook
- \*5.3.an. Rachelle Sender
- \*5.3.ao. Richard Dejong
- \*5.3.ap. Richard McKinnon
- \*5.3.aq. Rose Janson, Eco-Locke
- \*5.3.ar. Sara Shwadchuck
- \*5.3.as. Sukhdeep Dhillon
- \*5.3.at. Subhas Ganguli
- \*5.3.au. Sue Yarwood

- \*5.3.av. Susie O'Brien
- \*5.3.aw. Virginia H. Aksan
- \*5.3.ax. Rob Stovel, Stovel and Associates Inc.
- \*5.3.ay. Susan Wortman
- \*5.3.az. Mark A. Cachia, MD
- \*5.3.ba. Colin Chung, Glen Schnarr and Associates
- \*5.3.bb. Rose Janson, Eco-Locke, Eco Churches of Locke Street
- \*5.3.bc. Sarah Hopen
- \*5.3.bd. Stuart Campbell
- \*5.3.be. Natalie Lazier
- \*5.3.bf. Norman Newbery
- \*5.3.bg. Adeline H Brown
- \*5.3.bh. Agnes Bongers
- \*5.3.bi. Anka Cassar
- \*5.3.bj. Barb Allen
- \*5.3.bk. Barry Coombs
- \*5.3.bl. Bianca Beraldo
- \*5.3.bm. Brenda Ginn
- \*5.3.bn. Bruce R. Allen
- \*5.3.bo. Carolanne and Duncan Forster
- \*5.3.bp. Catherine Thomas
- \*5.3.bq. Catherine Woodley
- \*5.3.br. Charlane Surerus

- \*5.3.bs. Cheryl Paterson
- \*5.3.bt. Chris and Theresa Cardey
- \*5.3.bu. Chris Wilson
- \*5.3.bv. Cynthia Meyer
- \*5.3.bw. Dale Guenter
- \*5.3.bx. Danielle Steenwyk-Rowaan
- \*5.3.by. David Hitchcock
- \*5.3.bz. David Price
- \*5.3.ca. David Higgins
- \*5.3.cb. Debbie Medeiros
- \*5.3.cc. Derek Hrynyshyn
- \*5.3.cd. Don Brown
- \*5.3.ce. Donna Lewis
- \*5.3.cf. Doreen Stermann
- \*5.3.cg. Tushar Mehta
- \*5.3.ch. Edward Reece
- \*5.3.ci. Emma Cubitt, Principal, Invizij Architects
- \*5.3.cj. Trina Hetherington
- \*5.3.ck. Michelle Hruschka
- \*5.3.cl. Megan Sonke
- \*5.3.cm. Maryann Botts
- \*5.3.cn. Judy Moore
- \*5.3.co. Don McLean

\*5.3.cp. Thomas Cassidy

\*5.3.cq. Stephanie Bochenek

\*5.3.cr. Sonia Mataj

\*5.3.cs. Shirley Schellenberg and Wilf Ruland

\*5.3.ct. Shelley Porteous

\*5.3.cu. Sandra Starr

\*5.3.cv. Rose Anne Prevec

\*5.3.cw. Rodger Brunning

\*5.3.cx. Roderick Gillyatt

\*5.3.cy. Rhu Sherrad

\*5.3.cz. Rashne Baetz

\*5.3.da. Peggy Freeman

\*5.3.db. Norman Newbery

\*5.3.dc. Natalie Lazier

\*5.3.dd. Michelle Aasman

\*5.3.de. Michael Cuberovic

\*5.3.df. Melissa Ricci

\*5.3.dg. Matthew Nash

\*5.3.dh. Matthew Belanger

\*5.3.di. Maryanne Lemieux

\*5.3.dj. Mary De Sousa

\*5.3.dk. Mary Collier

\*5.3.dl. Mary Beth Neibert

\*5.3.dm. Mark A. Cachia, MD  
\*5.3.dn. Malcolm Clark  
\*5.3.do. Maeve Hay Cooper  
\*5.3.dp. Macey Noseworthy  
\*5.3.dq. Lyn M. Gates  
\*5.3.dr. Liz Koblyk  
\*5.3.ds. Lindsey Daubney  
\*5.3.dt. Lianne Lefebvre  
\*5.3.du. Liam MacLeod  
\*5.3.dv. Lauren Stephen  
\*5.3.dw. Laura Konyndyk  
\*5.3.dx. L. Christine Shepherd  
\*5.3.dy. Kristen Stark  
\*5.3.dz. Kirsten McCarthy  
\*5.3.ea. Kevin Intini  
\*5.3.eb. Kenneth Jackson  
\*5.3.ec. Kenneth Burgess  
\*5.3.ed. Kay O'Sullivan  
\*5.3.ee. Kate Chung  
\*5.3.ef. John O'Connor  
\*5.3.eg. Joanne Patak  
\*5.3.eh. Joanna Sargent  
\*5.3.ei. Jill Tonini

- \*5.3.ej. Jacob Stief
- \*5.3.ek. Hussam Taha
- \*5.3.el. Heather Vaughn
- \*5.3.em. Hart Jansson
- \*5.3.en. George Sweeney
- \*5.3.eo. Gail Lorimer
- \*5.3.ep. Frank Ahern
- \*5.3.eq. Erin Rittich-Haber

## 6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

- \*6.1. Delegation Requests respecting GRIDS 2 and the Municipal Comprehensive Review - Land Needs Assessment

**NOTE: Regardless of the order on the agenda, video submissions will be played after all other delegates in attendance via WebEx have concluded.**

- \*6.1.a. Mike Collins-Williams, West End Homebuilders Association
- \*6.1.b. Don McLean
- \*6.1.c. Paul Szachlewicz and Ed Fothergill, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce
- \*6.1.d. Rabbi David Mivasair
- \*6.1.e. Laura Katz
- \*6.1.f. Ruth Pickering
- \*6.1.g. Jim Quinn
- \*6.1.h. Kathleen Livingston
- \*6.1.i. Akira Ourique
- \*6.1.j. Nancy Hurst
- \*6.1.k. Senna Thomas



- \*6.1.l. Michelle Tom
- \*6.1.m. Glen Brown
- \*6.1.n. Summer Elly Thomas
- \*6.1.o. Suzanne Mills
- \*6.1.p. David Carson
- \*6.1.q. Lynda Lukasik
- \*6.1.r. Howard Katz
- \*6.1.s. Becky Katz
- \*6.1.t. Chris McLaughlin, Bay Area Restoration Council
- \*6.1.u. Dr. Gail Krantzberg  
**(Video Submission)**
- \*6.1.v. Cameron Kroetsch
- \*6.1.w. Patricia Baker  
**(Video Submission)**
- \*6.1.x. Kathy Garneau
- \*6.1.y. Gord McNulty, Hamilton Naturalists' Club
- \*6.1.z. Katharine King, Hamilton 350  
**(Video Submission)**
- \*6.1.aa. Kojo Dampney, Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion
- \*6.1.ab. Frances Murray, Chair, Durand Neighbourhood Association, Climate Change Committee
- \*6.1.ac. Miriam Sager
- \*6.1.ad. Aaron Marques
- \*6.1.ae. Diane Shamchuk

- \*6.1.af. Dr. Meghan Davis, Crownpoint Family Health Centre
- \*6.1.ag. Veronica Gonzalez, Environment Hamilton
- \*6.1.ah. Beverly Wager
- \*6.1.ai. Cheryl M. Patterson
- \*6.1.aj. Drew Spoelstra, Ontario Federation of Agriculture
- \*6.1.ak. Zoe Green  
**(Video Submission)**
- \*6.1.al. Rebecca Guzzo, ACORN
- \*6.1.am. Yuki Hayashi
- \*6.1.an. Ian Borsuk, Environment Hamilton
- \*6.1.ao. Rhu Sherrard
- \*6.1.ap. Lilly Noble
- \*6.1.aq. Lisa Hind, Hamilton ACORN - Mountain Chapter
- \*6.1.ar. Peter Ormond  
**(Video Submission)**
- \*6.1.as. Mark Noskiewicz, Goodmans LLP on behalf of the Elfrida Landowners Group
- \*6.1.at. Stephanie Brash
- \*6.1.au. Elizabeth Ellis  
**(Video Submission)**
- \*6.1.av. Alex Wilson
- \*6.1.aw. Lauren Stephen  
**(Video Submission)**
- \*6.1.ax. John Corbett, Corbett Land Strategies Inc., on behalf of the Upper West Side Landowners Group

- \*6.1.ay. Lee Parsons, MGP City Plan LTD, on behalf of the Upper West Side Landowners Group
- \*6.1.az. John Doherty, Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
- \*6.1.ba. Jonathan Minnes, Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
- \*6.1.bb. Paul Lowes, SGL Planning & Design Inc
- \*6.1.bc. Alice Park
- \*6.1.bd. Mary Love, IndigenousAffinity Group, Extinction Rebellion Hamilton
- \*6.1.be. Chris Krucker, National Farmers Union
- \*6.1.bf. Jackson Hudecki
- \*6.1.bg. Cynthia Meyer

## **8. STAFF PRESENTATIONS**

- 8.1. GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review - Final Land Needs Assessment (PED17010(i)) (City Wide)
  - \*8.1.a. Amendment to Report PED17010(i), respecting GRIDS2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review - Final Land Needs Assessment

## **12. NOTICES OF MOTION**

- \*12.1. Request to Delay Submission of Growth Plan Conformity Official Plan Amendment, Suspension of the Timetable for Municipal Conformity of the Growth Plan and an Extension to the Deadline for Growth Plan Conformity

## **14. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

**HAMILTON CHAPTER**

78 East 14 St.  
Hamilton ON  
L9A 4B5

February 24, 2021

City of Hamilton  
Office of the City Clerk  
City Hall, 71 Main St. West  
Hamilton ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Mr. Mayor and City Councillors,

The Hamilton Chapter of the Council of Canadians requests that you receive this letter concerning the province's revised municipal planning guidelines as official correspondence during your next Council meeting. We are the largest social justice organization in the country, with over 45 chapters. We are an independent, non-partisan non-profit organization that advocates for clean water, fair trade, green energy, public health care, and a vibrant democracy.

There are, of course, many issues related to increasing urban boundaries: in this case, the danger to watersheds and the species that live in them, and the heightened emissions that increased low density residential development (suburbs) would lock in till 2050 are of great concern to us, as would be the effect on public health and safety of losing more green space and prime agricultural land. However, today, we want to focus on our commitment as the Council of Canadians to pursuing a vibrant democracy. At this time when people cannot meet in person to give you their views in full, we strongly urge you to hold off on any decisions concerning the urban boundary and the revised Ontario planning guidelines until we can meet in person again.

Several of our members have watched a number of your online Council meetings, and while we appreciate all the efforts you and City staff have made to conduct them as well as possible, we are sure you would agree that they are far from satisfactory when it comes to fulfilling your pledge that “Citizens are consulted and involved in making the decisions that impact them.” I note that several people who were on the speakers’ list the other day for the budget delegation day gave up because the internet problems encountered made the meeting longer than it would have been in person. Some people even have to “turn their face off” in order to be heard. This takes away greatly from the impact of their words!

The heavy government, media and wider society’s absorption with COVID makes it impossible for the general citizenry to be aware of much that is going on, including this important legislation that would lock in boundary changes till a fair number of us, both in our chapter and in your Council will not even be alive anymore. People not aware of something can’t even begin to learn about it and form an opinion, let alone go through the extra steps now needed to take part in public life. What will they say to their grandchildren if these changes go through? “I am so sorry I’ve made it impossible for you to eat good local food! I was concerned about your great grand parents’ health in long term care and didn’t notice what was being proposed by the Ontario government.”?

One of the inequities in this country that the Council of Canadians is very aware of because we have chapters from coast to coast to coast, is access to a reliable internet connection. Those who can’t afford even a spotty rural connection would have no chance to participate in consultations on the urban boundary question and its short and long term implications for our community.

In closing, Mr. Mayor and Councillors, the Hamilton Chapter of the Council of Canadians respectfully requests that Hamilton City Council pass a similar “Delay” resolution to the one the Town of Halton Hills

unanimously passed on February 1st. On February 17, the Halton Regional Council also voted unanimously to delay deliberating on the province of Ontario's revised municipal planning guidelines until in-person public consultation can begin again. Ultimately, we hope that you will listen to those calling on you to freeze our city's urban boundary and direct new development to take place within the existing built-up areas. This will give us the space and spur we need to continue to develop smart intensification plans that are good for people and planet for the long term, which is the only term that matters what it comes to the survival and well-being of future generations and of the lands and waters around the Great Lakes that have been so well cared for by Indigenous peoples since time immemorial, and which we settlers need to learn to protect much better.

Thank you for considering our request. We hope you will receive our letter as official correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Love". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Mary Love,

Secretary, Hamilton Chapter of the Council of Canadians

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs and Housing**

**Ontario Growth Secretariat**

777 Bay Street, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Suite 2304  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Tel: 416 325-1210  
Fax: 416 325-7403

**Ministère des Affaires  
municipales et du Logement**

**Secrétariat des initiatives de  
croissance de l'Ontario**

777, rue Bay, 23<sup>e</sup> étage, bureau 2304  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Tél. : 416 325-1210  
Télééc. : 416 325-7403



February 23, 2021

Jason Thorne  
General Manager of Planning and Economic Development  
City of Hamilton

Dear Jason Thorne:

As part of Ontario's COVID-19 economic recovery efforts, this past summer changes were made to A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe to help increase housing supply, create more jobs, attract business investments, and better align infrastructure while protecting what matters most, including the Greenbelt.

I am writing to you today in follow up to our discussions this past summer regarding the proposed and final changes to the Plan and the upcoming requirements for Municipal conformity. The date by which upper and single-tier municipalities must update their official plans to conform with the policies in A Place to Grow is July 1, 2022. This can be achieved through phasing a series of official plan amendments or a single official plan amendment.

As you know, the Plan's policies require municipalities to designate all land required to accommodate the Schedule 3 growth forecasts to the 2051 planning horizon. We encourage you to work with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing staff at the various stages as you work towards meeting conformity. As a reminder, Official Plans/Official Plan Amendments must be submitted by end of 2021 or early 2022.

Continued engagement with our Indigenous partners helped inform the changes to A Place to Grow. As part of these changes, a reminder that municipalities have a requirement to work with Indigenous communities in recognition of the unique relationship that all levels of government have with Indigenous Peoples.

We are committed to continue working with you and our inter-ministerial partners to achieve balance that ensures local decision-making that better reflects local realities. Should you or your staff have any questions about A Place to Grow, its implementation criteria, or matters related to conformity, please feel free to contact the Ontario Growth Secretariat at [growthplanning@ontario.ca](mailto:growthplanning@ontario.ca).

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to your community and for your ongoing collaboration and engagement in support of effective growth management in the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cordelia Clarke Julien'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

Cordelia Clarke Julien  
Assistant Deputy Minister



Subject: PLEASE DELAY ACTION ON HAMILTON GROWTH PLAN

Date: Fri, 12 Mar 2021 16:43:03 -0500

From: Rose Janson

To: mayor@hamilton.ca

Dear Mayor and Councilors,

Thank you for the work you continue to do under difficult circumstances.

We ask you to delay adopting the proposed growth plan for Hamilton. We need time for good consultation with citizens. Halton Region got a delay in a unanimous vote on Feb. 17th.

We need to delay this until after Covid restrictions have passed and citizens can once again assemble and have an active voice in how our city grows.

We should not lock in sprawl for 30 years by adopting the Ford government's "market driven" policy changes.

-Our agricultural land in the areas outside our present boundary is Class 1 and 2. We shouldn't risk losing these lands to large lots for expensive suburban tract housing.

-Sprawl is the key lever in locking in greenhouse emissions according to Yuill Herbert, the CEEP consultant for Hamilton.

-New sprawling subdivisions cost taxpayers more with added infrastructure, as you are well aware.

At the March 29 meeting, please support the motion introduced by Councilor Brad Clark and seconded by Brenda Johnson to ask for a delay.

Hamilton Council should ask the Province to suspend the timetable for municipal conformity to the Growth Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement.

With respect,

Rose Janson and Family

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This email has been checked for viruses by AVG.

<https://www.avg.com>

**From:** Eleanor Hayward

**Sent:** March 12, 2021 6:40 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam

<[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther

<[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>;

Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry

<[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason

<[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** NO BOUNDARY EXPANSION

Greetings to the Representatives in the City of Hamilton,

As a resident of Hamilton Ward 1, I firmly request that you follow the lead of neighbouring Halton Hills' council.

They recently requested that the province suspend the timetable for the municipality to conduct the needed growth plan process until the pandemic is over; please support Councillor Brad Clark's motion to delay the planning until after public consultations can occur.

I agree with this local editorial: <https://www.thestar.com/local-stoney-creek/opinion/editorials/2021/03/01/hamilton-council-needs-to-stop-expanding-the-urban-boundary.html>

"Allowing sprawl to eat up the already disappearing farmland in the region for the sake of homeowners wanting to live in a large, sprawling residence with a white picket fence and backyard is nonsensical. If Hamilton is truly interested in protecting the environment, preserving rural areas and tackling climate change, it needs to stop expanding the urban boundary."

Thank you for your community service,  
Eleanor Hayward

**From:** Ken Inouye  
**Sent:** March 19, 2021 9:48 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Freeze Hamilton's Urban Boundary

Dear City of Hamilton Office of the Clerk,

As a resident of Hamilton, I am writing to you to raise concerns about the expansion of the urban boundary of Hamilton. It has come to my attention that the City of Hamilton is looking at expanding its urban boundary into prime agricultural lands. Environmental groups such as Environment Hamilton, 350 Hamilton, and others are bringing attention to the impact the urban expansion will have on transit, affordable housing, the environment, and vulnerable communities.

As your constituent, I am asking that you vote to FREEZE Hamilton's urban boundary. This action is essential if we have any hope of building a sustainable, climate-resilient, inclusive future for Hamilton!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Ken Inouye

Hamilton, ON  
Canada

**From:** Don Brown

**Sent:** March 13, 2021 3:03 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; [sam.medulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:sam.medulla@hamilton.ca); Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; [judy.partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:judy.partridge@hamilton.ca); [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** Urban Planning

Dear Mayor and Councilors,

I want to add my voice to others in raising concern over the proposed growth plans for our City.

Having lived in Waterdown for 30 years, it was heart rending to watch so much agricultural land being exploited as a resource for housing people when it was clearly suited as a source for providing food for people. Especially when there are other ways to house people.

That's why, now living in the City Core, I ask you to delay adopting the proposed growth plan for Hamilton. We need time for good consultation with citizens. Halton Region got a delay in a unanimous vote on Feb. 17th.

We need to delay this until after Covid restrictions have passed and citizens can once again assemble and have an active voice in how our city grows.

We should not lock in sprawl for 30 years by adopting the Ford government's "market driven" policy changes.

-Our agricultural land in the areas outside our present boundary is Class 1 and 2. We shouldn't risk losing these lands to large lots for expensive suburban tract housing.

-Sprawl is the key lever in locking in greenhouse emissions according to Yuill Herbert, the CEEP consultant for Hamilton.

-New sprawling subdivisions cost taxpayers more with added infrastructure, as you are well aware.

At the [March 29](#) meeting, please support the motion introduced by Councilor Brad Clark and seconded by Brenda Johnson to ask for a delay. Hamilton Council should ask the Province to suspend the timetable for municipal conformity to the Growth Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement.

With respect,

Don Brown  
Hamilton, ON



March 7, 2021

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

RE: Motion to Delay Land Use Planning Deadline

As you are aware, the province has revised municipal planning guidelines to include population projections to 2051, while lowering density targets for new development and enacting a “market-driven” approach to planning for new residential.

As the Climate Change Committee of the Durand Neighbourhood Association, we request that Hamilton City Council delay Hamilton’s Official Review Plans (MRC) at the March 29 GIC meeting. There is recent precedent for this delay as Halton Hills unanimously voted on February 1st for a delay, and the Region of Halton did the same on February 17.

We must not lock in planning guidelines that encourage sprawl until 2051. Land use planning is the key lever in locking in or locking out greenhouse emissions according to Yuill Herbert, a leading energy consultant for many Canadian municipalities including Burlington.


Given COVID restrictions, constituents cannot be properly consulted on major policy decisions. Many residents do not have internet access or lack the expertise to use Zoom software to delegate to council. Critical decisions which will impact Hamilton for the next 30 years, should not be made while in-person consultation is impossible. Hamilton’s 2016-2025 Strategic Plan makes clear the city’s commitment and responsibility to community engagement and participation when it states: “Citizens are consulted and involved in making the decisions that impact them.”

The best option for our municipality is to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development to within the existing built-up areas. Low density residential development is an economic disaster, as well as an environmental one. Our current infrastructure deficit will only grow as we continue to build out into green fields. Our current tax base cannot support the building of new roads and water infrastructure as existing infrastructure repairs and maintenance are already pushing budgets to the limit. Moreover, there are major environmental impacts that are a result of sprawl. In particular, storm run-off from impermeable surfaces will only increase as the effects of climate change grow. As well, transportation emissions from these developments will prevent us from reaching our climate targets and should not be considered. We have more than enough land within the current urban boundary to develop complete, self-sustaining communities for future growth until 2031 and should have the flexibility to plan for 2041 using the guiding principles of Places to Grow.

Councillor Fogal of Halton Hills suggests that for this action to delay to be effective, councils around the Golden Horseshoe will need to pass similar motions and stand in solidarity. Therefore, for posterity's sake, we urge you to delay Hamilton's Official Review Plans (MRC) at the March 29 GIC meeting.

Thank you for considering these important issues.

Sincerely,



Christopher Redmond  
President, Durand Neighbourhood Association



Frances Murray  
Chair, DNA, Climate  
Change Committee

**From:** Hart Jansson

**Sent:** March 14, 2021 4:15 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Thorne, Jason <[Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** [\*\*\*\*POSSIBLE SPAM]Delay of Municipal Comprehensive Review

To: Hamilton Council – Mar 15, 2021

**From:** Hart Jansson on behalf of HACEN (Halton Action for Climate Emergency Now), a citizen's group advocating for rapid and effective action to lower carbon emissions in Halton and Ontario. We are addressing our neighbouring municipality of Hamilton in recognition of the fact that climate change knows no boundaries, and a united front among Ontario municipalities to defer critical decisions regarding long-term land use planning is necessary.

**The changes to a number of Provincial Statutes and policies that impact how municipalities plan for growth could be of serious concern to many Hamilton residents, if they could understand their potential impact.**

These changes include:

- The Provincial Policy Statement,
- A Place to Grow: The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe,
- The Development Charges Act,
- The Planning Act,
- The Environmental Assessment Act, and
- The Conservation Authorities Act;

Some of these changes are:

- reduced density targets in new greenfield development from 80 persons and jobs per hectare to 50 persons and jobs per hectare,
- reduced intensification targets from 60% beyond 2031 to 50%,
- setting minimum population and employment growth forecasts that can be exceeded subject to Provincial approval,
- extended the planning horizon from 2041 to the year 2051,
- introducing market demand as a consideration in determining the housing mix, and
- revisions to how municipalities fund growth

### **Potential Impacts**

The impact of these changes is far-reaching and difficult to comprehend given their scope, their interactivity, the length of time they are in force and the timeframe of their long-term impact.

These and other changes signal an abrupt shift from the emphasis on creating compact and complete communities to a planning regime that facilitates lower density and car dependent communities.

Hamilton is among the dozens of Ontario municipalities and the over 500 Canadian jurisdictions that have declared climate change emergencies; Hamilton must consider the impact of land use planning in its strategy to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions.

The planning changes mentioned create pressure to convert more farmland in Hamilton to urban uses than necessary, which is contrary to Hamilton's Official Plan and its Strategic Plan.

Ensuring that Ontarians have access to healthy safe food in the future requires thoughtful consideration of the long-term impact of converting thousands of acres of prime agricultural lands in the Greater Golden Horseshoe to urban uses.

**I suggest that you have a duty to consider that changing the official plans in the GTHA to accommodate these changes will lock in increasing carbon emissions and other environmental damage potentially for generations.**

### **Justification for Delay**

- the news cycle has been dominated by COVID-19 for the past year, therefore the profound changes to policies and statutes regarding municipal planning for growth have had little exposure in the media
- the magnitude, scope and long-term duration of impacts of these changes are much more significant than typical policy/legislative changes, therefore consultation is of utmost importance
- the changes are contrary to federal objectives and regional/municipal policies regarding growth and climate change
- the pandemic has not allowed and will not allow the usual means for in-person consultation and discussion, therefore the quality of consultation will suffer
- people who are technology-challenged may be left out
- people in rural areas who have limited or less than reliable internet access may be left out
- further time is needed for proper and thorough consultation with citizens, including education of citizens in this regard

**Therefore, I ask you to support this Resolution to extend the period of the Municipal Comprehensive Review.**



**From:** Frank Ahern  
**Sent:** March 14, 2021 8:22 PM  
**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>  
**Cc:** Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** Motion to Delay Land Use Planning Deadline

Dear Mr Farr, Mayor Eisenberger and Councillors:

As you are aware, the province has revised municipal planning guidelines to include population projections to 2051, while lowering density targets for new development and enacting a “market-driven” approach to planning for new residential.

As a concerned Hamilton citizen I request that Hamilton City Council delay Hamilton’s Official Review Plans (MRC) at the March 29 GIC meeting. There is recent precedent for this delay as Halton Hills unanimously voted on February 1st for a delay, and the Region of Halton did the same on February 17.

We must not lock in planning guidelines that encourage sprawl until 2051. Land use planning is the key lever we have in increasing or decreasing greenhouse emissions for decades into the future.

Given COVID restrictions, constituents cannot be properly consulted on major policy decisions. Many Hamilton residents do not have internet access or lack the expertise to use Zoom software to delegate to council. Critical decisions, which will impact Hamilton for the next 30 years, should not be made while in-person consultation is impossible. Hamilton’s 2016-2025 Strategic Plan makes clear the city’s commitment and responsibility to community engagement and participation when it states: “Citizens are consulted and involved in making the decisions that impact them.”

Councillor Fogal of Halton Hills suggests that for this action to delay to be effective, councils around the Golden Horseshoe will need to pass similar motions and stand in solidarity. Therefore, for the sake of our children and grandchildren, I urge you to delay Hamilton’s Official Review Plans (MRC) at the March 29 GIC meeting.

Thank you for considering these important issues.

Sincerely,

Frank Ahern

Hamilton

--

Frank Ahern  
Hamilton, Ontario

**From:** Doyne Ahern <[doyne@cogeco.ca](mailto:doyne@cogeco.ca)>

**Sent:** March 14, 2021 8:31 PM

**To:** Frank Ahern; Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Re: Motion to Delay Land Use Planning Deadline

Dear Mr Farr, Mayor Eisenberger and Councillors:

As you are aware, the province has revised municipal planning guidelines to include population projections to 2051, while lowering density targets for new development and enacting a “market-driven” approach to planning for new residential.

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Councillor Fogal of Halton Hills suggests that for this action to delay to be effective, councils around the Golden Horseshoe will need to pass similar motions and stand in solidarity. Therefore, for the sake of our children and grandchildren, I urge you to delay Hamilton’s Official Review Plans (MRC) at the March 29 GIC meeting.

Thank you for considering these important issues.

Sincerely,

Doyne Ahern

--

Doyne Ahern  
Hamilton, Ontario

**From:** Paul Copcutt  
**Sent:** March 8, 2021 5:12 PM  
**To:** Paul Copcutt  
**Subject:** Please stop the Hamilton sprawl

Dear Mayor and All of Council

Further to recent news items and attention to the proposed expansion of Hamilton development boundaries can I please ask that you consider focusing on urban development within current city limits.

<https://www.thestar.com/local-stoney-creek/opinion/editorials/2021/03/01/hamilton-council-needs-to-stop-expanding-the-urban-boundary.html>

There are plenty of positive outcomes that building up versus building out can have for our city and communities. We do not need more suburban sprawl.

When this comes up for consideration and vote I implore you to vote against expanding urban boundaries.

Thank you

Paul Copcutt

**From:** David Atkins  
**Sent:** March 18, 2021 1:59 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Stop The Sprawl

Dear City of Hamilton Office of the Clerk,

As a resident of Hamilton, I am writing to you to raise concerns about the expansion of the urban boundary of Hamilton. It has come to my attention that the City of Hamilton is looking at expanding its urban boundary into prime agricultural lands. Environmental groups such as Environment Hamilton, 350 Hamilton, and others are bringing attention to the impact the urban expansion will have on transit, affordable housing, the environment, and vulnerable communities.

As your constituent, I am asking that you vote to FREEZE Hamilton's urban boundary. This action is essential if we have any hope of building a sustainable, climate-resilient, inclusive future for Hamilton!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
David Atkins

Sidney, BC  
Canada

**From:** Veronica Ross Mottley  
**Sent:** March 18, 2021 9:14 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Stop The Sprawl

Dear City of Hamilton Office of the Clerk,

As a resident of Hamilton, I am writing to you to raise concerns about the expansion of the urban boundary of Hamilton. It has come to my attention that the City of Hamilton is looking at expanding its urban boundary into prime agricultural lands. Environmental groups such as Environment Hamilton, 350 Hamilton, and others are bringing attention to the impact the urban expansion will have on transit, affordable housing, the environment, and vulnerable communities.

As your constituent, I am asking that you vote to FREEZE Hamilton's urban boundary. This action is essential if we have any hope of building a sustainable, climate-resilient, inclusive future for Hamilton!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Veronica Ross Mottley

Hamilton, ON  
Canada



38 Chelvin Drive  
Georgetown ON L7G 4P9  
haltonhillsclimateaction@gmail.com  
haltonhillsclimateaction.com

16 March 2021

Mayor Fred Eisenberger and members of Council  
Hamilton City Hall  
71 Main St. West  
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

Your Worship and members of Council:

We are in firm support of Councillor Brad Clark's motion asking that the province allow the City to delay its report on a municipal comprehensive review of its Official Plan, until full and fair in-person public consultation becomes possible after the pandemic.

We congratulate the City on declaring a climate emergency. If the climate threat is to be mitigated and carbon emissions reduced, then fresh, creative land use planning is vital. Unchecked urban sprawl must give way to firm urban boundaries, intensification of housing within those boundaries, and preservation of prime agricultural lands and green spaces. Do we expect Peru to feed us when those lands are gone?

We are proud that the Town of Halton Hills aims for net-zero carbon emissions by 2030. We are proud that our town and the Region of Halton both unanimously passed motions similar to the one that Councillor Clark proposes. We hope that the City of Hamilton will do the same.

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Janet Duval in black ink.

Janet Duval

Handwritten signature of Jane Fogal in black ink.

Jane Fogal

Co-leaders, Halton Hills Climate Action

Cc: clerk@hamilton.ca  
brad.clark@hamilton.ca



**From:** Sue Carson  
**Sent:** March 18, 2021 5:30 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Urban Sprawl - we need to stop and reflect longer

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and city councillors.

I have been reading information provided by Environment Hamilton, an organisation that I have trusted in the past on Climate Change issues. And so I have been impelled to write and ask that your decision about Hamilton's urban boundary be put on hold until after the COVID pandemic. People are too preoccupied with the dangers of illness to think about what is happening to their future city.

By making such an important decision about future housing as a time when most of us are too fearful about leaving our homes is not a wise decision. There needs to be a chance for all residents to have input not just those who have access to their own computers. When I see how the library computers are used by an enormous number of people any decision you make without allowing input from all members of society will paint you as a council that only cares about the ones who might re-elect you.

As to the urban boundary eating into farm lands this is not a sensible decision. Why can't we grow food on our doorsteps and save emissions from transportation. Eating local is better for us and for the planet.

As a society we need to rethink the space we have in the city and build up rather than outwards. Housing costs are rising and more affordable housing is needed in the city, close to transportation, rather than homes sprawling into the green spaces that are needed for our sanity.

I hope that council will take the sensible decision and tell Mr. Ford that more time and consideration are needed before embarking on 30 years of paving over some of the most beautiful areas that surrounded our great city.

I hope that you all think carefully before March 29<sup>th</sup> and realise that speed on this is the wrong decision at this time.

respectfully, Sue Carson.

Sue Carson

**From:** Laurie Nielsen

**Sent:** March 18, 2021 11:45 AM

**To:** Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** RE:

Dear Councillor Wilson,

I am a resident of Ward 1 and am writing to ask that you support a motion to delay any further discussion on the provinces changes to the municipal planning guidelines which would be locked in until 2051 and impact severely our greenhouse gas emission.

Current restrictions, due to COVID-19, do not allow the public to fully take part in the consultation on this decision. Many residents do not have internet access or lack the expertise or internet capacity to take part in Zoom events.

On Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> Halton Region became one of the first municipalities to unanimously vote for a delay on the planning decision. I am asking Hamilton City Council to do the same, just until a fully open (i.e. in-person) public consultation can take place.

Sincerely,

Laurie Nielsen

Hamilton, ON

Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

**From:** Paul Wilson

**Sent:** March 16, 2021 11:09 AM

**To:** Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Sprawl

March 16, 2021

Dear Jay, Fred and Councillors,

RE: Motion to Delay Land Use Planning Deadline

I'm hoping Hamilton City Council will decide to delay Official Review Plans (MRC) at the March 29 GIC meeting.

We shouldn't lock in planning guidelines that encourage sprawl until 2051.

Critical decisions that will impact Hamilton for the next 30 years should not be made while in-person consultation is impossible.

The best option for Hamilton is to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development to within existing built-up areas.

Hamilton may have a history rooted in industry, but we are blessed to still have green space right at our doorstep. Let's protect this precious resource.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Paul Wilson

Hamilton, ON

**From:** Ron and Mary Sealey  
**Sent:** March 17, 2021 2:21 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Please delay adoption of growth plan for Hamilton

Dear Hamilton Clerk:

Thank you for the work you continue to do under the difficult circumstances of this COVID-19 pandemic!

We are concerned about the possible sprawl of urban growth into valuable agricultural land beyond the current urban boundary.

At the March 29 meeting, we ask the Council to please support the motion introduced by Councillor Brad Clark and seconded by Brenda Johnson to delay adopting the proposed growth plan for Hamilton. We need time for good consultation with citizens. Note that Halton Region got a delay in a unanimous vote on February 17.

We need to delay this plan until after pandemic restrictions have passed and citizens can once again assemble and have an active voice in how our city grows.

Hamilton Council should ask the Province to suspend the timetable for municipal conformity to the Growth Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement.

We should not lock in sprawl for 30 years by adopting the Ford government's "market driven" policy changes. Our agricultural land in the areas outside our present boundary is Class 1 and 2. We shouldn't risk losing these lands to large lots for expensive suburban tract housing.

New sprawling subdivisions cost taxpayers more with added infrastructure that is not offset by contributions from developers.

Please delay adoption of any growth plan for Hamilton and ask for delay from the Province.

Respectfully,

Ron and Mary Sealey

Waterdown ON

**From:** Tina Di Clemente  
**Sent:** March 17, 2021 2:43 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Save our farmland + greenspaces

Dear Clerk,  
I have pasted below a copy of the letter I have sent to our Mayor and all Councillors.  
Thank you.

Dear Councillor

If the pandemic has taught us anything, it has made crystal clear how the LACK OF PREPARATION can lead to disaster.

Politicians have been ignoring science for decades because such cautionary advice gets in the way of “doing business”.

But recent events are waking us all up to realize this is not the way to a healthy future. The historic loss of power across Texas (the most energy rich state in the USA!) during a sudden and rare deep freeze, EXPOSES the reckless behaviour of many politicians who show little regard for a stable climate and the overall common good.

Now the Ford government is proceeding “Texas-style” as they push to pave much of our valuable farmland and green spaces in the name of “doing business”. But people are starting to understand that the reckless promotion of our economy often leads to a small number of people getting richer while the vast majority foot the bill for the poor vision of such policies.

The pandemic and climate change disasters have taught us we will pay sooner or later for such short-sighted planning.

If a sudden disaster were to hit Hamilton, I don’t think a new housing development or new highway is going to help us.

We need our farmland to supply a basic food supply. In light of a changing climate, it would be reckless to rely on the global food supply to meet our needs.

We need our greenspaces to help provide clean water and clean air for our community.

Greenspaces have also played a critical role in getting us through this terrible pandemic. People need outdoor recreation to keep our hearts and minds healthy. My walks through the RBG trails have literally kept me from going crazy during the pandemic!

What does Hamilton really need?

- A FIRM URBAN BOUNDARY
- A PLAN THAT ADDRESSES THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
- PROTECTED FARMLAND
- PROTECTED GREENSPACES

The City of Hamilton needs to stand up to the irresponsible tactics of the Ford government.

I implore you Councillor to act in the interest of your community, not in the interest of money-making projects that only benefit the few and lead to unforeseen disaster into our common future.

I look forward to your reply and I thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,  
Tina Di Clemente  
Ward 1 Resident

**From:** Mervyn Russel  
**Sent:** Monday, March 15, 2021 4:44 PM  
**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Delay of Municipal Comprehensive Review

Dear Mayor, I hope you will share this message with your colleague Councillors  
Following my HACEN colleague ,Hart Jansson's email, I have attached the Region of Halton Resolution on Extending the Consultation Process for the Regional Official Plan Review which was moved by Councillor Jane Fogal of the municipality of Halton Hills and seconded by Regional Chair , Garry Carr  
I have also attached Councilor Fogal's statement regarding urban sprawl. I hope these two documents will encourage the Council of the City of Hamilton to resist the demands and land development intentions of the Provincial government.  
Regards

Mervyn Russell

Oakville ON

# A sprawling disaster - Ford's plan for Ontario

According to Halton Hills councillor Jane Fogal, development sprawl will occur if the proposed changes to the Places to Grow Act go unchecked.

BY JANE FOGAL

FEBRUARY 21, 2021

The Ford government, through a rapid fire series of decisions and legislation, has successfully rewritten the rules for municipal planning in a manner that is very favourable to developers and very unfavourable to municipalities trying to build healthy, complete communities and address climate change.

Since 2005, municipalities in Ontario have been obliged to conform to the Places to Grow Act. This Act sought to reign in sprawl by requiring municipalities to meet intensification goals when planning to accommodate growth. Also development on new urban areas, generally farmland, was required to meet higher density targets as well.

The Greenbelt Act was also approved to ensure greenspace and natural areas remain intact to protect the ecological function of the land.

Over the past 15 years, Ontarians also saw enormous investments by Metrolinx in GO Transit and additional funding for municipal transit systems which benefitted from intensification.

The Green Energy Act and Cap and Trade provided incentives for green energy production and funding for transit and energy efficiencies.

The province shifted funding away from new higher order highways. In the case of the GTA West highway, the cancellation came after an expert panel found that transportation goals could be reached through other interventions such as creating subsidized truck lanes on highway 407 or introducing congestion pricing. These alternatives could be achieved in a much shorter timeframe, would cost less and be



more effective, all without the environmental damage or increased greenhouse gas emissions.

## **And then everything changed**

The Conservatives, led by Doug Ford, won the provincial election in June 2018. Although changes to municipal planning and weakening of environmental protections were not part of the Ford election platform, they have become a major focus both before and during the pandemic.

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Changes that will promote sprawl include

- Amendment #1 stipulates minimum population growth goals but removed maximums, meaning that developers can push for greater population increases.
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- The deadline for municipalities to approve their 30 year plan is summer 2022, conveniently before the next provincial election. Should Ford lose the election, it doesn't matter. The land will have been approved for development and cancelling approved land has never been done before.
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## Consequences

We are living in a time when climate change is causing weather related events such as massive destructive hurricanes, frightening wild fires, famine, property damage, floods, massive loss of species, etc. etc.

Due to this emergency cities around the world are working hard at reducing their greenhouse gas emissions by holding the line on sprawl, creating complete healthier communities, reducing car dependence and protecting farmland.

Ontario is moving in the opposite direction, purposely encouraging sprawl, making people more dependent on cars and commuting for hours each day, making transit less effective, building new highways that will encourage more driving, devoting more space to parked cars and less to greenspace for people, paving over ecological areas that support our water resources.

There is only one logical explanation for this massive failure to lead Ontario in a positive healthy direction – greed. Just follow the money. The developers want to make more money and Ford has made it much easier for them to do that.

## What can we do about it?

1. Municipalities should refuse to meet the timetable set out to be compliant with the Places to Grow Act. There is no reason to rush to identify lands that won't be available for 10 more years at a minimum. Planning anything this big should wait until after the pandemic and be after the next provincial election. The people of Ontario deserve an opportunity to understand what is being proposed and an opportunity to say how their communities will grow.
2. Municipalities should refuse to open up their urban boundaries at this time. Although making the boundaries permanently fixed is the best solution, they are always open to review by future councils. Developers won't like that so they will appeal the decision. The appeal process will take months to sort out, by which time the election will have taken place and perhaps sanity will return with a new government.
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4. To address the problem of affordability, which Ford said was the impetus for the planning act changes, municipalities should demand that all subdivision plans include 10 per cent affordable units that will be available for the municipality to purchase. The municipality can then require that these units be built to the highest energy efficiency level. Upon purchase the municipality would rent the affordable units at rates to pay for the carrying costs. The cost of the added energy upgrades would be offset by the reduced energy costs. The net result would be a guaranteed increase in rental properties and increased energy efficiency in the housing stock. It would also contribute to achieving a complete community with a mix of housing types and affordability.

## Conclusion

The priorities of the current government have resulted in fundamental changes to how Ontario evolves. Unfortunately this is out of step with the circumstances and challenges we are facing today. The climate change emergency gets worse by the day and cannot be ignored by any level of government.

The solutions to our problems exist but to use those solutions there must be a will to act in the best interests of all the people. We need the government to change course and do the right things. Incentivizing sprawl and car culture is no longer acceptable.

Now is the time to push back and call for the government to stop enriching developers and start tackling affordable housing, greenhouse gas emissions, the loss of significant wetlands and habitats and the loss of some of the best agricultural lands in Canada.

**From:** Andrea Zorzi  
**Sent:** March 20, 2021 4:17 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Freeze Hamilton's Urban Boundary

Dear City of Hamilton Office of the Clerk,

As a resident of Hamilton, I am writing to you to raise concerns about the expansion of the urban boundary of Hamilton. It has come to my attention that the City of Hamilton is looking at expanding its urban boundary into prime agricultural lands. Environmental groups such as Environment Hamilton, 350 Hamilton, and others are bringing attention to the impact the urban expansion will have on transit, affordable housing, the environment, and vulnerable communities.

As your constituent, I am asking that you vote to FREEZE Hamilton's urban boundary. This action is essential if we have any hope of building a sustainable, climate-resilient, inclusive future for Hamilton!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Andrea Zorzi

-----Original Message-----

From: Diane Shamchuk <

Sent: March 22, 2021 3:51 PM

To: Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>

Cc: Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>;

Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam

<[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson,

Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward

8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria

<[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>;

Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene

<[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry

<[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>;

[clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

Subject: Urban Sprawl

Dear Maureen,

I am a property tax paying citizen in ward 1 and I am concerned about the haste city council may be in to approve urban sprawl throughout Elfrida and I am asking you, the mayor and city councillors to pause the decision making/planning until in person consultations have occurred. Not all citizens are comfortable with webinars and zoom meetings and many citizens have no idea what is happening regarding these important decisions. In person town halls and information sessions are needed so ideas can be exchanged and knowledge gained. I fear the elected leaders of our communities are being irresponsible in making these important decisions during a pandemic.

Urban sprawl is costly, and our tax dollars are needed for our crumbling infrastructure, as this is where people live and work. Population density within our urban boundaries can be increased at a much lower cost than suburban infrastructure needs, such as emergency services, public transportation, schools, roads, utilities, etc.

Regarding climate change, though we all acknowledge as citizens that world's climate is changing, I believe there is a disconnect that people, including citizens of our own communities, believe the climate problems are happening elsewhere and not in our own backyard. As elected leaders you all have a obligation to ensure that integrity of our climate footprint is accurately measured, listen to the science.

I am asking all of you to not accept the motion to move forward with the GRIDS 2/MCR report without further stakeholder, in person consultation.

Sincerely,  
Diane Shamchuk

**From:** Elizabeth Seidl  
**Sent:** March 23, 2021 7:09 AM  
**To:** clerk@hamilton.ca; Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca>  
**Subject:** GRIDS 2 / MCR Final Land Needs Assessment and Related Reports

To the Mayor & Councillors of the City of Hamilton,

As a resident of Hamilton, I am writing to you because I'm very concerned about the possible expansion of the urban boundary of Hamilton. I understand from the MCR/GRIDS2 report that the City of Hamilton is looking at expanding its urban boundary into prime agricultural lands. I was part of a small group of people to participate in the MCR/GRIDS2 consultation in January, only because it was brought to my attention by Environment Hamilton who explained what was going on and what it was all about.

During the consultation survey, I was disappointed to see that there was no option to freeze the urban boundary and that you were essentially forced to choose the least bad option in terms of expansion. I don't recall being given the option to 'opt out' of making a choice but I did leave comments that recommended the urban boundary **not** be expanded and the city should strongly consider various opportunities for infill within the existing boundary.

It also doesn't seem right that the consultation pool for the report was so small (our city has over 540,000 people in it) and this review relates to planning for the next 30 years. And with the pandemic shifting living and working patterns in ways that continue to unfold, who can even say that the data and criteria used to generate the target growth numbers are even valid anymore? Why are we rushing into this? Why are we doing this now, in the midst of a global pandemic? My position is that not nearly enough people were consulted on this very important decision, because internet access is not equitable across the city (my child is in remote school so I see the effects of this every day).

Environmental groups such as Environment Hamilton, 350 Hamilton, and others are bringing attention to the impact the urban expansion will have on transit, affordable housing, the environment, farming and vulnerable communities. Expanding the urban boundary will be a move against the actions the city should be taking in addressing the climate emergency that was declared two years ago now.

As your constituent, I am asking that you vote to FREEZE Hamilton's urban boundary. This action is essential if we have any hope of building a sustainable, climate-resilient, inclusive future for Hamilton!

Thank you for your time.

Elizabeth Seidl

**From:** Lyn Folkes  
**Sent:** March 18, 2021 4:38 PM  
**To:** Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca>  
**Subject:** Grids2 & MCR

To Whom It Concerns,

This is a final plea from a resident of Hamilton to ask that the current worsening Climate Crisis be considered FIRST in any decisions made concerning our present and future development in the Hamilton area.

Although I learned about this impending devastation in the late 1980's while attending the University of Waterloo, in general the seriousness of the threats from global warming are largely ignored. We haven't been doing enough to reverse the trend in global GHG emissions for over 30 years since then. Just the idea of developing all of the remaining green space around Hamilton shows extremely poor judgement by our current provincial leaders.

I am worried about my future, the future of my family, and the future of the world. As a scientist, I continue to collect good quality data so that we can monitor and prepare for the negative impacts that the Climate Crisis continues bringing to our population. I hope for changes soon, changes which we have waited far too long to make in our society. I hope the situation we have put ourselves in can be mediated to some extent by new innovative research ideas. In order to do that we need to find new green solutions and stop following traditional patterns, like robots who cannot see the writing on the wall.

Please act responsibly and understand that the citizens of Hamilton do not want their natural green spaces paved over, nor do we want to end up with a lack of good farmland which is necessary to meet our most basic life needs. We don't need more highways and stores, we need clean air, water and soil to survive. And I see that there is no slowing of habitat destruction in Hamilton today - quite the reverse. I fear we are doomed due to those in charge not understanding the gravity of our situation.

The climate crisis will soon overtake any effort we have made to date. Be warned of what our climate holds in the near future. Pay attention to the number of extinctions in today's world and the loss of species in the Hamilton area that will come with continued disregard of the seriousness of the climate crisis. Our current provincial government is steering us in the wrong direction and I will support farther thinking Hamilton leaders in resisting strongly.

Sincerely,  
Lyn Folkes  
Ward 8 Hamilton

On behalf of the Bay Area Climate Change Council, we would like to thank the members of the General Issues Committee for their time and consideration.

The Bay Area Climate Change Council represents a collaborative voice for climate action in the Hamilton-Burlington region. Members of the Council and our implementation teams span the two cities and represent organizations in the municipal, non-profit, education and private sectors, and include citizen representatives.

Buildings and transportation account for 28% of Hamilton's overall greenhouse gas emissions (GHG). Any land needs assessment (LNA) put forward by the City of Hamilton to determine urban growth needs to account for the impact growth would have on these two sources of emissions.

Much like a fiscal budget, the City of Hamilton is bound by a GHG budget. Meeting our target of 50% emission reductions by 2030 and net zero by 2050 requires that we weigh long term planning decisions through the lens of what we can 'afford' to emit.

Through this lens, conservative urban growth with high-efficiency building standards and the provision of transit oriented development is likely the most we can afford to accommodate. **To confirm that projection, we strongly recommend committee members delay their land needs assessment decision until the Community Emissions and Energy Plan confirms the City of Hamilton's capacity for urban growth from a carbon budget perspective.**

We thank the committee for its efforts to improve Hamilton's emissions profile so far. The Bay Area Climate Change Council continues to support the region's transition to a low carbon future.

Sincerely,



**Richard Koroscil**  
Chair, Bay Area Climate Change Council



**Bianca Caramento**  
Manager, Bay Area Climate Change Council



March 18, 2021

To Mayor Eisenberger and Hamilton City councillors. I am writing to you on behalf of the Eco churches of West Hamilton, EcoWHam, to express our concerns over the proposed growth plan.

### **Climate Change**

Notwithstanding nuclear war, our greatest existential threat is climate change. Given that the City has formally declared a Climate Emergency, we are deeply concerned that the urban growth plan will only facilitate sprawl, at a time when urban boundaries should be frozen to protect the Greenbelt, and development intensified within existing boundaries. This is in keeping with the City's stated principle of intensification. Sprawl perpetuates the car culture, increases greenhouse gases, pollution, the potential for flooding, and is unsustainable. Conversely, intensification will support efficient public transit and hasten the shift from private vehicles.

### **Development**

Development should not be market driven, as it leads to inappropriate development and sprawl, with the loss of irreplaceable agricultural land. All possible avenues should be explored to contain development within existing urban boundaries.

### **Greenbelt/Whitebelt**

It is imperative that we maintain current Greenbelt boundaries and incorporate, if at all possible, existing Whitebelt lands as these are often prime agricultural properties which act as a carbon sink and reduce run-off and flooding.

### **Infrastructure**

Sprawl requires expensive new infrastructure. Instead, the priority should be to rehabilitate/replace the city's existing sewer infrastructure, especially as the aging storm/sanitary system is incapable of handling greater stormwater volumes as we experience more frequent "one hundred year" storms.

### **Timelines**

We are puzzled by the Province's thirty year planning timeline and question the rationale for such a timeline. We ask that Hamilton Council approach the Province to suspend the timetable for municipal conformity to the Growth Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement.

### **Public Consultation**

The public should have every opportunity to weigh in on the growth plan. Important as it is, any decision on growth should not be rushed. Given the current situation with COVID, WE ask that adoption of the proposed plan be delayed until the public has had sufficient time to provide input.

(cont'd...)

(cont'd...)

Respectfully,

Wayne Poole, Chair

Eco churches of West Hamilton

(St. Mark's United, St. James Anglican, St. Paul's United, Knox Presbyterian, Westdale United,  
Quaker Meeting House)

To whom it may concern,

We are dealing with unprecedented times the global covid pandemic and all it's frightening affects. It's troubling that this is the time our Council chooses to vote on expanding our urban boundaries. A vote in favour will put forward a chain of environmentally damaging policies that will have detrimental consequences not only for our community but the planet.

The pandemic has demonstrated more than ever the importance of preserving our farm lands, so we can continue to supply our communities and neighbours with locally grown foods. So as not be as depend on trucked in produce, and food source from the U.S. This is good for our community and environment. Our farmers and their farms are precious resources that need to be protected and supported for the betterment of everyone, including the environment. Lowering carbon emissions is a must.

At a time when more people are home and enjoying the outdoors in their communities, we need them to be kept safe, and walker/biker friendly. I as an Ancaster resident I can say this need to improve greatly, traffic jams, speeders, pollution, safety caused by too much vehicular traffic are already alarming. Adding any more vehicles to our roads is not acceptable to me for these reasons.

Our children's safety and future depend on clean air, reliable and local food sources. Protecting our communities protects the planet for all children.

It is important for our elected officials to stand up for the environment and not the self -interest of Developers.

Sincerely,

Rosa Beraldo

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I am writing to express my concerns about the government's plans to expand our urban limits into our greenspaces and farmlands.

We know the Ford government is taking advantage of the distraction of the pandemic to push forward short-sighted. Agendas. These will result in the loss of protected areas and more sprawl, while a few developers and other citizens profit from these reckless and quickly implemented decisions.

Greenspace is necessary to the health and well being of every community. We need only look at our situation through the winter months to notice that people and communities rely on these spaces. I see more and more walkers, cyclists, joggers and families taking advantage of our green spaces in order to combat the frustration, loneliness and tedium brought on by the pandemic.

The loss of such spaces will be disastrous to the environment as well. It will create an ever increasing dependence on cars, and thus an increase of the deadly emissions we are attempting to contain.

Sprawl will not solve our housing crisis, nor will it assist our aging population, of which I am a member, in accessing essential services and amenities.

Hamilton needs: A FIRM URBAN BOUNDARY  
A PLAN TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY  
PROTECTED FARMLAND FOR A RELIABLE FOOD SOURCE  
PROTECTED GREEN SPACES

I am hopeful that our Council will see past the shortsighted, self serving plans of the Ford government and do the right thing for Hamilton's future.

Thank you for your attention to my request. I look forward to a reply and to learning that our council is truly working for the good of our wonderful city.

Margot Olivieri  
Dundas, Ward 13



38 Chelvin Drive  
Georgetown ON L7G 4P9  
haltonhillsclimateaction@gmail.com  
haltonhillsclimateaction.com

16 March 2021

Mayor Fred Eisenberger and members of Council  
Hamilton City Hall  
71 Main St. West  
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

Your Worship and members of Council:

We are in firm support of Councillor Brad Clark's motion asking that the province allow the City to delay its report on a municipal comprehensive review of its Official Plan, until full and fair in-person public consultation becomes possible after the pandemic.

We congratulate the City on declaring a climate emergency. If the climate threat is to be mitigated and carbon emissions reduced, then fresh, creative land use planning is vital. Unchecked urban sprawl must give way to firm urban boundaries, intensification of housing within those boundaries, and preservation of prime agricultural lands and green spaces. Do we expect Peru to feed us when those lands are gone?

We are proud that the Town of Halton Hills aims for net-zero carbon emissions by 2030. We are proud that our town and the Region of Halton both unanimously passed motions similar to the one that Councillor Clark proposes. We hope that the City of Hamilton will do the same.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet Duval".

Janet Duval

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane F. Fogal".

Jane Fogal

Co-leaders, Halton Hills Climate Action

Cc: clerk@hamilton.ca  
brad.clark@hamilton.ca

# A sprawling disaster - Ford's plan for Ontario

According to Halton Hills councillor Jane Fogal, development sprawl will occur if the proposed changes to the Places to Grow Act go unchecked.

BY JANE FOGAL

FEBRUARY 21, 2021

The Ford government, through a rapid fire series of decisions and legislation, has successfully rewritten the rules for municipal planning in a manner that is very favourable to developers and very unfavourable to municipalities trying to build healthy, complete communities and address climate change.

Since 2005, municipalities in Ontario have been obliged to conform to the Places to Grow Act. This Act sought to reign in sprawl by requiring municipalities to meet intensification goals when planning to accommodate growth. Also development on new urban areas, generally farmland, was required to meet higher density targets as well.

The Greenbelt Act was also approved to ensure greenspace and natural areas remain intact to protect the ecological function of the land.

Over the past 15 years, Ontarians also saw enormous investments by Metrolinx in GO Transit and additional funding for municipal transit systems which benefitted from intensification.

The Green Energy Act and Cap and Trade provided incentives for green energy production and funding for transit and energy efficiencies.

The province shifted funding away from new higher order highways. In the case of the GTA West highway, the cancellation came after an expert panel found that transportation goals could be reached through other interventions such as creating subsidized truck lanes on highway 407 or introducing congestion pricing. These alternatives could be achieved in a much shorter timeframe, would cost less and be

more effective, all without the environmental damage or increased greenhouse gas emissions.

## **And then everything changed**

The Conservatives, led by Doug Ford, won the provincial election in June 2018. Although changes to municipal planning and weakening of environmental protections were not part of the Ford election platform, they have become a major focus both before and during the pandemic.

The Cap and Trade system and Green Energy Act were cancelled and green projects under construction were ordered to be dismantled. Incentives for electric vehicles and energy retrofits were cancelled.

## **Reviving the GTA West/Highway 413**

Shortly after taking power, Premier Ford announced the revival of the GTA West 400 series highway (413) with the launch of a fast-tracked environmental assessment. Reviving the 413 was not included in Ford's platform and was a surprise to most people. There was no consideration given to the alternative solutions recommended in the expert panel's report. However, there is no doubt that major landowners along the GTA West corridor will reap benefits as it is normal for land along a 400 series highway to be rezoned for development. Although the construction of the highway alone will have significant negative impacts due to destruction of sensitive environmental areas and farmland, the anticipated adjacent development will do far more harm in the long run. This will result in sprawl along the length of the new highway.

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- Density goals have been reduced, meaning there can be more single family dwellings -- ie. sprawl.
- 'Market Demand' was explicitly added as justification for planning the housing mix. Since we know there is a demand for single family dwellings, the developers will argue for it based on the market. Expect more sprawl.
- The planning horizon has been moved out to 2051. This means that today's municipal councils must approve plans to accommodate population growth to 2051. It pushes designating rural land now to provide housing up to 30 years into the future. The net result is that developers who have speculated on future development lands don't have to wait 20 years to get permission to build. They get permission for all of the land required for 30 years of housing development now.
- The deadline for municipalities to approve their 30 year plan is summer 2022, conveniently before the next provincial election. Should Ford lose the election, it doesn't matter. The land will have been approved for development and cancelling approved land has never been done before.
- Public input into planning for the next 30 years is scheduled to happen during the pandemic when it is impossible to hold in-person public meetings or workshops.

## Consequences

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Due to this emergency cities around the world are working hard at reducing their greenhouse gas emissions by holding the line on sprawl, creating complete healthier communities, reducing car dependence and protecting farmland.

Ontario is moving in the opposite direction, purposely encouraging sprawl, making people more dependent on cars and commuting for hours each day, making transit less effective, building new highways that will encourage more driving, devoting more space to parked cars and less to greenspace for people, paving over ecological areas that support our water resources.

There is only one logical explanation for this massive failure to lead Ontario in a positive healthy direction – greed. Just follow the money. The developers want to make more money and Ford has made it much easier for them to do that.



## What can we do about it?

1. Municipalities should refuse to meet the timetable set out to be compliant with the Places to Grow Act. There is no reason to rush to identify lands that won't be available for 10 more years at a minimum. Planning anything this big should wait until after the pandemic and be after the next provincial election. The people of Ontario deserve an opportunity to understand what is being proposed and an opportunity to say how their communities will grow.
2. Municipalities should refuse to open up their urban boundaries at this time. Although making the boundaries permanently fixed is the best solution, they are always open to review by future councils. Developers won't like that so they will appeal the decision. The appeal process will take months to sort out, by which time the election will have taken place and perhaps sanity will return with a new government.
3. People can lobby their MPPs and tell them that this is not what they voted for. Protests such as we saw regarding the 413 highway actually work. The uproar over Ford telling developers he would open up the Greenbelt for development blew up and he walked that idea back.
4. To address the problem of affordability, which Ford said was the impetus for the planning act changes, municipalities should demand that all subdivision plans include 10 per cent affordable units that will be available for the municipality to purchase. The municipality can then require that these units be built to the highest energy efficiency level. Upon purchase the municipality would rent the affordable units at rates to pay for the carrying costs. The cost of the added energy upgrades would be offset by the reduced energy costs. The net result would be a guaranteed increase in rental properties and increased energy efficiency in the housing stock. It would also contribute to achieving a complete community with a mix of housing types and affordability.

## Conclusion

The priorities of the current government have resulted in fundamental changes to how Ontario evolves. Unfortunately this is out of step with the circumstances and challenges we are facing today. The climate change emergency gets worse by the day and cannot be ignored by any level of government.

The solutions to our problems exist but to use those solutions there must be a will to act in the best interests of all the people. We need the government to change course and do the right things. Incentivizing sprawl and car culture is no longer acceptable.

Now is the time to push back and call for the government to stop enriching developers and start tackling affordable housing, greenhouse gas emissions, the loss of significant wetlands and habitats and the loss of some of the best agricultural lands in Canada.

Addressing: General Issues Committee, March 29, 2021, item 8.1 - Municipal Comprehensive Review, and related issues.

March 25, 2021

Written Delegation

To: Mayor Eisenberger and all Members of Hamilton City Council

Dear Mayor and Members of City Council:

I am writing to ask you to delay all decisions relating to the Land Needs Assessment process and the expansion of the Hamilton city limits to accommodate the expected future expansion of the population of the city, and to reject the recommendations in item 8.1. The delay would afford the time to do a professional, credible, and responsible assessment of all future market demands, and the best available means to meet them. Such an assessment is necessary to fulfill the responsibility of your office and Council toward the present and future citizens of Hamilton and to the future of the City itself.

Briefly, my reasons for a delay are as follows:

1) The projections of the future market demand for new housing in Hamilton are based on a report that appears to use past growth to project future growth. This is an erroneous means of projecting future market demand, as has been well known for several decades. Where it was used in the past it led to flawed decisions, unmet emerging market demands, foreclosed opportunities for development, and to serious waste of taxpayers' funds and of market investments. And erroneous data and decisions have been subject to successful court challenges, and sometimes rejection of underway plans or other costly changes.

I will give but one immediate example of why past growth in demand for real estate cannot be used to project future market demands on which to plan for housing and associated infrastructure and services. The current generation of the province that is now entering adulthood and the more precarious job market is marrying at a significantly later age, and it is having children later in life than previous generations. Their market demand will be for single, and two-member family housing for a significant part of their active lives. This housing demand will not be met by single-family houses on newly urbanized land for families with children. It will require core and urban-center housing on already serviced grey lands. These may be larger condos with outside spaces, townhouses, or low-rise multi-dwellings with ample adult recreational facilities. This is what many developers today are talking about developing and investing in, a process accelerated by the pandemic. Hamilton is already promoting and investing in such housing.

A significant part of planning, infrastructure and servicing expenses funded by the city for future housing must be directed to these market demands. Tax dollars are limited, and existing and ongoing suburban development has already placed high financial burdens on the city for maintaining and servicing suburban areas with city finances. Expanding those areas dramatically will drain city resources from other needs and market demands, as well as further indebt the city.

It is surprising for city planners to present to Council a plan based on data that is erroneous, without at least indicating the inadequacies, and evaluating the consequences of making decisions based on those data. And it would be irresponsible of Council to proceed to discuss such a plan without such

considerations. And irresponsible as well as to use such a plan as a basis for its decisions that will shape the future development and possibilities of the city for decades.

2) Given that the market projections of housing demand presented to and used by the city planners and Council are not up to the best current practice, a serious consultation and review process guided by Council's needs for information and responsible decision-making should be instituted.

The consultation process to date has been mis-informative, and not widely accessible to a broad diversity of affected organizations or interested citizens. The consultation to date compounds and obscures the failures in the processes that have occurred so far. Council needs to take greater control and responsibility for what is happening in this planning process.

The consultation process to date does not serve the city because it does not consider the diverse market options the city needs to develop and to offer to future citizens, and to organizations that will be considering whether to make Hamilton part of their future – both market-based organizations and other potential future employers.

If the full range of interests and needs of Hamilton's citizens and developers is to be considered, it will require at minimum, a meaningful, informed, and appropriately extended time frame for significant public participation and for interested parties involved in all forms of development to be involved in a consultation process. A broadened and properly facilitated consultation can identify for city planners and Council both needs and market demands that have been overlooked in the present data and the planning process to date. It will also acknowledge wider social and environmental concerns.

I strongly urge you Mr. Mayor and Council to extend and develop the consultation, and to make it an effective process that can address the diverse futures of the city, before reaching any decisions about land needs. No single group or interest should be allowed to prevail to the exclusion of other groups, those with other market interests or those with other future contributions to make to the development of Hamilton.

Erroneous data, faulty planning and failed and exclusionary consultation should not be allowed to take the place of responsible action by Mayor and Council.

Sincerely,

[signed]

Harvey A. Feit, PhD, FRSC  
Professor Emeritus of Anthropology  
Hamilton

**Crown  Point**  
**Family Health Centre**

67 KENILWORTH AVE N, LOWER LEVEL  
HAMILTON, ONTARIO L8H 4R6  
TELEPHONE (905) 547-2302  
FASCIMILE (905) 548-9722

DR. MEGHAN DAVIS

22 Mapleside Avenue  
Hamilton ON  
L8P3Y5

March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

As a resident of Ward 1, a family physician in the Crown Point neighbourhood and a member of CAPE (Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment), I ask that Hamilton City Council delay consideration of Hamilton's Final Land Needs Assessment and related reports, currently on the March 29 GIC meeting agenda, until in-person meetings are being held again.

I believe it is vitally important that all citizens have an opportunity to be engaged in critical decisions about how and when our city grows. The pandemic has prevented us from participating in time-honoured in-person public engagement processes, including meetings held at multiple locations and different times of day, that are designed to increase civic engagement. In fact, the only public engagement opportunities available to citizens on Grids2 during the pandemic have been two online webinars posted on the Engage Hamilton website.

This is a failure in civic engagement on a subject that affects the future of every citizen.

As a physician, I know that the best way to communicate with my patients is through a discussion that allows questions to be asked and answered in real time, leading to an organic back-and-forth that results in true understanding. This cannot be replicated in a live or, worse, recorded webinar with time constraints that limit questions and discussion among attendees.

Furthermore, many people in both rural and urban parts of our city do not have access to the technology, including high speed internet, or the knowledge and confidence needed to run a Zoom or webex.

In short, online outreach should be considered one tool the city can use for public engagement but it by no means should replace in-person town halls and meetings. As a result, I hope you'll do the right thing and postpone the discussion planned for March 29.

As part of this letter, I would also like to comment on Ontario's revised municipal planning guidelines for a "market-driven" approach to city planning.

As a physician in the Crown Point neighbourhood, I am acutely aware of the health outcomes of people living in poverty in our inner city. Lack of affordable housing, crumbling infrastructure, lack of basic services like sidewalk snow clearing, safe bike lanes for those who don't own a car, and reliable public transit all further marginalize families already living in precarious circumstances. It is widely known that building out more subdivisions is very costly for a city. As such, **I believe the best course of action for the health and wellbeing of our citizens is for Hamilton to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending within the current urban boundary.**

Climate change is another important reason to establish city plans and policies that are led by public health, not market forces. [The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change](#) policy brief for Canada, published in November 2019, states that “climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century and tackling it could be our greatest health opportunity. The health of a child born today will be impacted by climate change at every stage in their life. Without significant intervention, this new era will come to define the health of an entire generation.”<sup>1</sup> If Hamilton’s vision is to be the best place to raise a child, climate change cannot be ignored.

Climate change is, in fact, already affecting the health of Canadians, including wildfire-related asthma and population displacement, flood and drought-related deaths and damage, increased severity and duration of pollen seasons, tick-borne diseases, and heat-related illness due to heat waves.

Expanding urban boundaries moves people further from mass transit, requiring more use of automobiles and generating more GHGs and fine particulate air pollution. In 2018, [8400 Canadians died from air pollution](#).<sup>2</sup> We should be making planning decisions that reduce this number, not put more citizens at risk of illness and death from poor air quality.

In her 2017 [Report on the State of Public Health in Canada](#)<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, says, “Our communities are changing and often expanding through urban sprawl rather than by building compact and ‘complete communities’.” Urban sprawl has been linked to sedentary lifestyles, easy access to unhealthy food, less physical activity and higher rates of obesity. She advocates for the “development of new communities located within urban containment boundaries that support active transportation and physical activity by including higher density and land use mix, a range of housing options and affordability, easy access to recreational facilities and parks and good links to frequent public transit.”

Similarly, a 2017 Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada position paper, [Community Design, Physical Activity, Heart Disease and Stroke](#)<sup>5</sup>, recommends that municipal governments, community planners and developers work together to “establish urban containment policies to manage the outward growth of cities to promote increased development density and opportunities for active travel.” The most popular forms of active travel include walking and cycling.

In their [“Planning Healthy Communities Fact Sheet Series”](#)<sup>4</sup>, The Canadian Institute of Planners points out that the “lack of physical activity is considered a ‘conveyor belt’ to heart disease, stroke and other chronic conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes and various cancers.” They mention a study of Vancouver residents that found that the walkability index and its components related to land-use mix, residential density and street connectivity were significant predictors of body mass index, a key health indicator.

We need to put people at the center of city planning decisions. Carlos Moreno’s [15-minute city](#)<sup>6</sup> framework does just that. Moreno, Paris City Hall’s [special envoy for smart cities](#), is regarded as the

key theorist behind the recent resurgence in this new model for urban planning. The concept is to improve quality of life by creating cities where everything a resident needs can be reached within a quarter of an hour by foot or bike. The 15-minute city requires minimal travel among housing, offices, restaurants, stores, parks, educational facilities, hospitals, recreation and cultural venues. The cost to provide a 15-minute city experience in sprawl-oriented development would be astronomical.

To recap, land zoning that discourages urban sprawl makes for strong climate policy and best practice health policy. People who live in walkable neighbourhoods occupy less space, have a higher quality of life, a smaller carbon footprint, drive less and have better health. Urban planning guidelines that put people closer to each other create successful public transit systems, making our society more efficient and more equitable.

In closing, I urge you to delay consideration of GRIDS2 and the Municipal Comprehensive Review until citizens have the opportunity to fully engage in a robust public consultation process. I also ask you to think about the impact of “market-driven” municipal planning on the health of Hamiltonians and the vitality of our city.

Thank you for your consideration,

Meghan Davis

Dr. Meghan Davis

1. [https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown\\_Policy-brief-for-Canada\\_FINAL.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown_Policy-brief-for-Canada_FINAL.pdf)
2. <https://policybase.cma.ca/documents/PolicyPDF/PD21-01.pdf>
3. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/chief-public-health-officer-reports-state-public-health-canada/2017-designing-healthy-living.html>
4. <https://www.cip-icu.ca/Files/Resources/FACTSHEETS-ActiveTransportation-FINALenglish.aspx>
5. <https://www.heartandstroke.ca/-/media/pdf-files/canada/2017-position-statements/community-design-ps-eng.ashx?la=en>
6. <https://www.bbc.com/worklife/article/20201214-how-15-minute-cities-will-change-the-way-we-socialise>

**From:** C.A. Borstad Klassen

**Sent:** March 26, 2021 12:00 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Urban boundary expansion

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I'm a resident of Ward 2, and I'm writing to you today to urge you not to expand the urban boundary and to pause any long-term land use planning decisions until in-person public consultation can safely take place. Expanding the urban boundary to meet market demand for single-family homes benefits developers, to be sure, and perhaps those few residents left (or coming) who can afford these homes. But in a time where the crisis of the pandemic has laid bare the inequities of the climate crisis and the housing crisis, we must all work in the broadest sense of the public interest, which I trust you all strive to do. The type of housing that would be built on these lands will not solve the affordable housing crisis, but it will irrevocably turn rare land where food can be grown into land where it cannot.

I worry for the future, especially for the world I'm part of building and leaving to my child. Please, for the sake of all Hamiltonians present and future, I urge you to slow this decision-making process down and consider it carefully and with full, in-person public consultation when it is safe to do so with regard to pandemic conditions.

Sincerely,  
C.A. Klassen

-----Original Message-----

From: Wilson

Sent: March 25, 2021 11:16 AM

To: Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Thorne, Jason <[Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca)>

Subject: Re; March 29 Decision on Urban Boundaries

I am writing in regards to the Council meeting being held March 29th in regards to expanding our Urban Boundary.

I watched the video created by Stop Sprawl Hamilton and believe they articulated the dilemma that is facing many communities right now. Our green space and our farmland once built upon will never be regained. Most people now are acutely aware of the impact of human sprawl on our environment, its effect on climate change, and the world we are leaving our children and grandchildren.

To develop urban sprawl in the interests of the economy is short-sighted and disastrous for our future.

I disagree completely with any attempts to expand our Urban Boundary and think we should focus on expansion within the boundaries we have.

We could take direction from the Indigenous communities across Canada, including Caledonia and LandBack Lane. We all need to focus on preserving and maintaining our green spaces, and protecting our water.

Marnie Wilson

Hamilton, ON



**From:** Marsha Sulewski

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 9:04 PM

**To:** VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Urban Sprawl

Dear Arlene, I am a property tax paying citizen in ward 1 and I am concerned about the haste city council may be in to approve urban sprawl throughout Elfrida and I am asking you, the mayor and city councillors to pause the decision making/planning until in person consultations have occurred. Not all citizens are comfortable with webinars and zoom meetings and many citizens have no idea what is happening regarding these important decisions. In person town halls and information sessions are needed so ideas can be exchanged and knowledge gained. I fear the elected leaders of our communities are being irresponsible in making these important decisions during a pandemic.

Urban sprawl is costly, and our tax dollars are needed for our crumbling infrastructure, as this is where people live and work. Population density within our urban boundaries can be increased at a much lower cost than suburban infrastructure needs, such as emergency services, public transportation, schools, roads, utilities, etc.

Regarding climate change, though we all acknowledge as citizens that world's climate is changing, I believe there is a disconnect that people, including citizens of our own communities, believe the climate problems are happening elsewhere and not in our own backyard. As elected leaders you all have an obligation to ensure that integrity of our climate footprint is accurately measured, listen to the science.

I am asking all of you to not accept the motion to move forward with the GRIDS 2/MCR report without further stakeholder, in person consultation.

Thank you,

Marsha Sulewski

**From:** mescanlon mescanlon

**Sent:** March 26, 2021 11:07 AM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** I support a freeze on urban boundary expansions at this time

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and Members of Council,

I wish to add my voice to those in this community who are opposed to any further deliberation over an urban boundary expansion at this time. It is anti-democratic to take such an important planning decision during a pandemic. I am disappointed that this Council is bolstering the efforts of the Provincial government to silence meaningful community engagement in planning matters.

I am also very concerned that there is no consideration of any option apart from boundary expansion. There seems to be little regard for food security in spite of the struggles this community has faced during the pandemic. I also object to the use of the term "white belt" to describe productive lands that could be used to support the local agricultural sector. The implication of "white belt" is that these lands are in need of a real purpose. This term would be better applied to underused lands already within the urban boundary which could be redeveloped sustainably.

Thirty years ago this municipality was recognized for excellence in planning for a sustainable future. The objectives of Vision 2020 included "support the local agricultural sector" and "protect valuable farmland". It is rather sad to see how far we have wandered from that Vision.

Thank you,

Mary Ellen Scanlon, Hamilton

**From:** nancy cooper  
**Sent:** March 26, 2021 11:33 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Written Delegation

Dear Mayor and city council

This is a request for a freeze on the city of Hamilton Urban Boundary plan.

This is a request to prevent planned sprawl and focus instead on accommodating urban growth within existing boundaries. As a city we must instead implement new and innovative ways to build a climate resistant community.

It is imperative to save and prioritize farm land for food security. Inclusive in this we must also preserve and increase green buffer areas for climate and environmental protection.

A focus on improved mass and alternative transit to allow an alternative to dependence on fossil fuel based cars.

We must be brave enough to work towards a sustainable, climate resilient, and inclusive Hamilton.

We must stop the destructive, and short sighted pattern of damage by the current Ford government.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely

Nancy Cooper and Brian Hay

**From:** Nicole Buchanan

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 8:47 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Urgent letter from Hamilton Physician

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

As a resident of Hamilton and a physician, I urge you to enshrine health into the GRIDS2 municipal comprehensive review. The best course of action for the health and wellbeing of our citizens is for Hamilton to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.

I am acutely aware of the health outcomes of people living in poverty in our inner city. Lack of affordable housing, crumbling infrastructure, lack of basic services like sidewalk snow clearing, safe bike lanes for those who don't own a car, and reliable public transit all further marginalize families already living in precarious circumstances. Building more subdivisions beyond the current City boundaries will further gut the core of our City.

We are in a climate emergency and sprawl would only make it worse. The prestigious medical journal The Lancet has stated that "climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century and tackling it could be our greatest health opportunity"<sup>1</sup> Expanding urban boundaries moves people further from mass transit, requiring more use of cars and generating more greenhouse gas emissions and fine particulate air pollution, which we know kills over 8,000 Canadians annually.<sup>2</sup> We should be making planning decisions that reduce this number, not put more citizens at risk of illness and death from poor air quality.

In her 2017 Report on the State of Public Health in Canada<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, says, "Our communities are changing and often expanding through urban sprawl rather than by building compact and 'complete communities'." Urban sprawl has been linked to sedentary lifestyles, easy access to unhealthy food, less physical activity and higher rates of obesity. She advocates for the "development of new communities located within urban containment boundaries that support active transportation and physical activity by including higher density and land use mix, a range of housing options and affordability, easy access to recreational facilities and parks and good links to frequent public transit."

Similarly, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, recommends that municipal governments, community planners and developers work together to "establish urban containment policies to manage the outward growth of cities to promote increased development density and opportunities for active travel."<sup>5</sup> The most popular forms of active travel include walking and cycling.

In their “Planning Healthy Communities Fact Sheet Series”<sup>4</sup>, The Canadian Institute of Planners points out that the “lack of physical activity is considered a ‘conveyor belt’ to heart disease, stroke and other chronic conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes and various cancers.” They mention a study of Vancouver residents that found that the walkability index and its components related to land-use mix, residential density and street connectivity were significant predictors of body mass index, a key health indicator.

We have an enormous opportunity to discourage urban sprawl. Doing so would be one of our best tools for fighting climate change and improving peoples’ health. People who live in walkable neighbourhoods occupy less space, have a higher quality of life, a smaller carbon footprint, drive less and have better health. Urban planning guidelines that put people closer to each other create successful public transit systems, making our society more efficient and more equitable.

Sprawl threatens the health of our community today and generations into the future. I urge you to vote to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nicole Buchanan MD  
Resident Doctor, McMaster University

[https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown\\_Policy-brief-for-Canada\\_FINAL.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown_Policy-brief-for-Canada_FINAL.pdf)

<https://policybase.cma.ca/documents/PolicyPDF/PD21-01.pdf>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/chief-public-health-officer-reports-state-public-health-canada/2017-designing-healthy-living.html>

<https://www.cip-icu.ca/Files/Resources/FACTSHEETS-ActiveTransportation-FINALenglish.aspx>

<https://www.heartandstroke.ca/-/media/pdf-files/canada/2017-position-statements/community-design-ps-eng.ashx?la=en>

<https://www.bbc.com/worklife/article/20201214-how-15-minute-cities-will-change-the-way-we-socialise>

On Mar 17, 2021, at 5:35 PM, North End Neighbours wrote:

Good afternoon,

During a recent community meeting our Environmental Committee raised the issue that was discussed regarding urban boundaries decisions being made by the City.

Our neighborhood association is concerned that after a climate change emergency being declared, these boundaries could be enlarged creating secondary issues and reducing land for agriculture. As everyone is currently living through a pandemic and full open public consultation hasn't taken place, we request that any decision about boundary expansion be delayed or halted - see attached.

Regards

**North End Neighbourhood Association**



North End Neighbourhood Association

March 3, 2021

Motion: Request that Hamilton City Council delay a decision on urban boundary expansion

Mover: Jon Davey

Seconder: Judy Snyder

Whereas the Ontario Government has revised municipal planning guidelines to include population projections to 2051, lowered density targets for new development and enacted a “market-driven” approach to planning for new residential, and whereas the city of Hamilton has declared a climate emergency, NENA is concerned that any expansion of our urban boundaries would increase emissions and permanently lose some of Ontario’s remaining prime local agricultural land.

Being in the midst of a pandemic we’re also concerned that citizens without internet access are being deprived of an ability to participate in the public consultation on this issue.

Therefore we request that Hamilton City Council delay Hamilton’s Official Review Plans (Municipal Comprehensive Review) at your upcoming meeting. The region of Halton voted unanimously to pause their planning on Feb 17 and we believe Hamilton should follow suit.

Yeas: 13

Nays: 0

Abstained: 1

March 3, 2021

**From:** Paul Shaker  
**Sent:** March 26, 2021 11:29 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Motion on Lands Needs Assessment

Dear Mayor and Council,

I'm writing to support the proposed motion calling for an extension of consultation on the Lands Needs Assessment and for the inclusion of a third option that demonstrates how our anticipated growth can be accommodated within our existing urban boundary.

It is not an understatement to say that the decision on how we decide to grow today will influence our success as a city for decades to come. By only presenting two sprawl-growth options, we are significantly limiting our opportunities to explore how we can become a prosperous city with sustainable growth, both economically and environmentally. As such, there needs to be a more fulsome set of options to consider for the next 30-years. Having reviewed the planning documents, there appears to be a number of opportunities for growth that are not part of the discussion, but would still create outcomes that would comply with Provincial requirements. The inclusion of a third option that demonstrates how our growth can be accommodated within our existing urban boundary, while complying with Provincial requirements will only strengthen debate around this important decision.

Additionally, the level of engagement to date, as highlighted in the staff report, should be higher for an initiative of this importance. It is not only essential to have more engagement, but this city-wide discussion around the future of Hamilton can be a positive community-building exercise where people from across our region feel they can play a part in building a legacy. City planning at its best brings a community together to have an inspiring conversation about what the future can hold. Hamilton has a deep well of community expertise in a number of areas that should be brought to the table to help articulate different options and alternatives. The discussion around Hamilton growth over the next 30 years can become an example of this type of planning.

I urge you to pass the motion to address these two issues of more growth options and more engagement.

Regards,

**Paul Shaker, MCIP, RPP**  
Principal

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[civicplan.ca](http://civicplan.ca)



**From:** Margaret Kelly  
**Sent:** March 26, 2021 8:44 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** pleas stop the sprawl!

Dear Mayor and Council members please stop the sprawl of our city into our rural farm and watershed land.

Act responsibly and morally.

Ward 1 constituent, Margaret Kelly

**From:** Rachel Cook

**Sent:** March 26, 2021 10:28 AM

**To:** Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** Freeze the urban boundary

Hi Maureen and City Clerk,

I'm writing to add my voice to the many others to ask our city council to freeze our urban boundaries. There are countless reasons behind this, but the key ones for me are the need for local agriculture, the need for green space, the high cost of infrastructure to reach the sprawl, and the need for revitalization in the downtown core. Expanding our boundaries seems so short-sighted! Please urge council to not let any other green space or farm land go.

Thank you,  
Rachel Cook

-----Original Message-----

From: Rachelle Sender

Sent: March 25, 2021 9:00 PM

To: [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

Cc: Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>

Subject: Stop urban sprawl

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and City Council:

I am a family physician and a long time resident of Hamilton. I urge the city to freeze Hamilton's urban boundaries until proper consultation can take place, once the pandemic is over. We do NOT need more urban sprawl; it is bad for the health of the planet and of Hamilton's citizens.

Your sincerely,

Rachelle Sender, MD, CCFP, FCFP  
Hamilton

**From:** RICHARD DE JONG

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 8:34 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** Upcoming vote on developing farm land/ green land

Please let councillors know that development of green space to expand Hamilton is a bad idea. There is pressure from the provincial government to make changes that will make this development easier. Do not accede to this pressure. Over Developing green space is a bad idea in the long term and these decisions should be made keeping the best interests of Hamiltonians in mind- not the short term interests of developers.

We will back our councilors if they stand up to Our provincial government.

Yours

Richard DeJong

-----Original Message-----

From: Richard MacKinnon

Sent: March 17, 2021 8:07 PM

To: [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

Subject: Sprawl

Councillors

Sprawl is antithetical to climate change. It's a crucial issue that as to be dealt with now. Although the province is clearly in the pockets of developers, you needn't.

Richard MacKinnon

Ward 3

-----Original Message-----

From: Rose Janson

Sent: March 25, 2021 8:29 PM

To: Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>

Subject: Fwd: ECO-LOCKE ASKS FOR DELAY ON HAMILTON GROWTH PLAN

Dear Mayor and Councilors,

For the last six years, 'Eco-Locke' (Eco Churches of Locke St.), has been raising awareness about environmental issues in our congregations and communities. Eco-Locke represents five Churches: St. Josephs, St. Johns, Melrose United, Blessings Church and the Unitarian Church of Hamilton.

We ask you to delay adopting the proposed growth plan for Hamilton. We need time for good consultation with our members. We need to delay this until after Covid restrictions have passed and citizens can once again assemble and have an active voice in how our city grows.

We should not lock in sprawl for 30 years by adopting the Ford government's "market driven" policy changes.

- We need to preserve precious farmland, as growing populations will need local food.
- We need to focus on affordable housing within the urban boundary, that is not car-dependent
- Our City should not be investing in expensive 'sprawl' infrastructure

At your March 29 meeting, please support the motion to ask for a delay. Hamilton Council should ask the Province to suspend the timetable for municipal conformity to the Growth Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement.

With respect,

Rose Janson  
Contact person for Eco-Locke

I would like to start by first saying hello to my ward councillor Jason Farr.

Secondly, I would like to state that I am writing on behalf of the birds.

When I visited the proposed area of development in Elfrida on Sunday March 21<sup>st</sup>, I observed a variety of bird species: Chickadees, Red-tailed hawks, Goldfinches, House finches, and most notably – Killdeer. I counted a total of 17 Killdeer in the area.

The following is from the Government of Canada website:

“Results from the Breeding Bird Survey suggest that the species has exhibited a large and unabated decrease in abundance since 1970. The Killdeer's use of cultivated or managed habitat exposes it to significant threats. The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) has listed the Killdeer as is a [candidate wildlife species](#) for assessment. This species has been identified as a priority for conservation and/or stewardship in one or more [Bird Conservation Region Strategies](#) in Canada.”

Killdeer are listed as a priority species in the lower great lakes – our region.

Therefore, we need to ensure that our actions do not jeopardize this species even further.

There are three billion fewer birds in North America today than 50 years ago. One of the key threats to birds is habitat loss. I want Hamilton to freeze the urban boundary and build a climate resilient city – and a bird friendly city.

Thank you,

Sara Shwadchuck, Co-chair of Bird Friendly City of Hamilton & Burlington

Hamilton, Ontario

[birdfriendlycityhamburl@gmail.com](mailto:birdfriendlycityhamburl@gmail.com)

**From:** Sukhdeep Dhillon  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 6:43 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Stop The Sprawl

Dear City of Hamilton Office of the Clerk,

As a resident of Hamilton, I am writing to you to raise concerns about the expansion of the urban boundary of Hamilton. It has come to my attention that the City of Hamilton is looking at expanding its urban boundary into prime agricultural lands. Environmental groups such as Environment Hamilton, 350 Hamilton, and others are bringing attention to the impact the urban expansion will have on transit, affordable housing, the environment, and vulnerable communities.

As your constituent, I am asking that you vote to FREEZE Hamilton's urban boundary. This action is essential if we have any hope of building a sustainable, climate-resilient, inclusive future for Hamilton!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Sukhdeep Dhillon



**From:** Subhas Ganguli  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 10:15 PM  
**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Please don't support urban sprawl

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

**As a resident of Hamilton and a physician**, I urge you to enshrine health into the GRIDS2 municipal comprehensive review. The best course of action for the health and wellbeing of our citizens is for Hamilton to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.

I am acutely aware of the health outcomes of people living in poverty in our inner city. Lack of affordable housing, crumbling infrastructure, lack of basic services like sidewalk snow clearing, safe bike lanes for those who don't own a car, and reliable public transit all further marginalize families already living in precarious circumstances. Building more subdivisions beyond the current City boundaries will further gut the core of our City.

**We are in a climate emergency and sprawl would only make it worse.** The prestigious medical journal The Lancet has stated that "climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century and tackling it could be our greatest health opportunity"<sup>1</sup> Expanding urban boundaries moves people further from mass transit, requiring more use of cars and generating more greenhouse gas emissions and fine particulate air pollution, which we know kills over 8,000 Canadians annually.<sup>2</sup> We should be making planning decisions that reduce this number, not put more citizens at risk of illness and death from poor air quality.

In her 2017 [Report on the State of Public Health in Canada](#)<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, says, "Our communities are changing and often expanding through urban sprawl rather than by building compact and 'complete communities'." Urban sprawl has been linked to sedentary lifestyles, easy access to unhealthy food, less physical activity and higher rates of obesity. She advocates for the "development of new communities located within urban containment boundaries that support active transportation and physical activity by including higher density and land use mix, a range of housing options and affordability, easy access to recreational facilities and parks and good links to frequent public transit."

Similarly, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, recommends that municipal governments, community planners and developers work together to "establish urban containment policies to manage the outward growth of cities to promote increased development density and opportunities for active travel."<sup>5</sup> The most popular forms of active travel include walking and cycling.

In their "[Planning Healthy Communities Fact Sheet Series](#)"<sup>4</sup>, The Canadian Institute of Planners points out that the "lack of physical activity is considered a 'conveyor belt' to

heart disease, stroke and other chronic conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes and various cancers.” They mention a study of Vancouver residents that found that the walkability index and its components related to land-use mix, residential density and street connectivity were significant predictors of body mass index, a key health indicator.

**We have an enormous opportunity to discourage urban sprawl.** Doing so would be one of our best tools for fighting climate change and improving peoples’ health. People who live in walkable neighbourhoods occupy less space, have a higher quality of life, a smaller carbon footprint, drive less and have better health. Urban planning guidelines that put people closer to each other create successful public transit systems, making our society more efficient and more equitable.

Sprawl threatens the health of our community today and generations into the future. I urge you to vote to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.

Thank you for your consideration, sincerely,

Subhas Ganguli

Hamilton

1. [https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown\\_Policy-brief-for-Canada\\_FINAL.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown_Policy-brief-for-Canada_FINAL.pdf)
2. <https://policybase.cma.ca/documents/PolicyPDF/PD21-01.pdf>
3. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/chief-public-health-officer-reports-state-public-health-canada/2017-designing-healthy-living.html>
4. <https://www.cip-icu.ca/Files/Resources/FACTSHEETS-ActiveTransportation-FINALenglish.aspx>
5. <https://www.heartandstroke.ca/-/media/pdf-files/canada/2017-position-statements/community-design-ps-eng.ashx?la=en>
6. <https://www.bbc.com/worklife/article/20201214-how-15-minute-cities-will-change-the-way-we-socialise>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sue Yarwood**

Date: Thu, Mar 25, 2021 at 2:49 PM

Subject: Urban Sprawl

To: <[Ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:Ward1@hamilton.ca)>

I'm extremely concerned about the proposed re-zoning of agricultural land for the purposes of inefficient, environmentally toxic and very costly suburban housing. Council should delay decision making on this vital issue until Covid measures have ceased. The public MUST be able to provide in person delegations and be given extensive opportunities to contribute to the consultations.

Thank you for considering this important matter, Sue Yarwood  
( ward 1 resident)

**From:** Susie O'Brien  
**Sent:** March 26, 2021 9:06 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Land use legislation

To Mayor Eisenberger and City Councillors,

I am writing to urge you to delay voting on the decision to expand Hamilton City boundaries to allow further discussion. Promoting the conversion of agricultural land to sites for urban development will have devastating, irreversible effects on climate, food security and housing accessibility. The voices of those who will be affected by this decision, including urban and rural residents deserve a chance to be heard in a conversation that has so far been steered by developers who have the ear of government. The consequences of this decision will be far-reaching for the region, for many decades into the future. Please act to support local democracy and the environment and delay a vote on this decision.

Sincerely,

Susie O'Brien, Hamilton

**From:** Aksan, Virginia

**Sent:** March 26, 2021 11:53 AM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Thorne, Jason <[Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Don't let Sprwal Take All

I live in a downtown condo and love it. I also love the outdoors. Everytime I walk in our great parks and conservation areas, I say to myself, what if previous councils had agreed to pave them over? Ermosa Karst is so instructive for that, now completely surrounded by ubiquitous single housing developments and unsightly, on their last legs, big box malls. Please stop letting the developers set the agenda. Please move from the 1950s to the 2020s. Greenbelts, whitebelts. Whatever it takes. There is very little time left to us all to create the liveable and sustainable environment.

Virginia H. Aksan, Professor Emeritus  
Department of History  
McMaster University  
Hamilton, ON  
Canada L8S 4L9  
Excrementum vincit cerebellum

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**Stovel and Associates Inc.**  
*Planners, Agrologists and Environmental Consultants*

February 12, 2021

Hamilton City Hall  
71 Main Street West  
Hamilton, Ontario  
L8P 4Y5

Attention: **Heather Travis**, Senior Project Manager, Policy Planning

**RE: City of Hamilton Official Plan Update**

Dear Ms. Travis:

Stovel and Associates Inc. has been retained by The Greenhorizons Group of Farms Ltd. and Greenhorizons Holdings Inc. ("Greenhorizons"), Willow Valley Holdings Inc. ("Willow") and 1231 Shantz Station Road Inc. ("Shantz") to review the work completed to date in association with the City of Hamilton's Official Plan Update.

Greenhorizons, Willow and Shantz own land that is fronting on Upper James and the easterly Urban Area boundary line (see attachment for title documents and property mapping) and immediately east of the John C. Munro International Airport.

In total, the lands in question comprise approximately 329.94 acres:

1. 8474 English Church Road,
2. 2907 Highway 6,
3. 3065 Upper James Street,
4. 3005 Upper James Street,
5. Con 5 Pt Lot 7 GL GB (Airport Road), and
6. Con 5, Pt Lot 8 GB RP 62R11806 Part 1, Airport Road.

We note that Appendix "H" to Report PED 1701(h) identifies a large blue polygon described as "*Whitebelt Restricted to Employment Only*" on a Figure entitled *Whitebelt Growth Options – City of Hamilton*. My clients' parcels 1-4 inclusive and parcel 6 are wholly contained in this blue polygon. The remaining parcel, (Parcel 5) is mostly contained within the blue polygon with the southernmost portion being mapped as "Whitebelt Outside 28 dB NEF".

It is our opinion that the lands in question are a prime candidate for inclusion within the expansion of the Urban Area boundary and should be designated Employment Lands. The following paragraphs set out our rationale for inclusion:

- **Amazon Fulfillment Centre:** my client's lands are located in very close proximity to the recently approved Amazon Fulfillment Centre. Please find attached photographs from the driveway of parcel 2 that my client took recently. The tower cranes (4 in total) in the background represent the construction zone for the Amazon Fulfillment Centre. It is located immediately across Highway 6; literally a "stone's throw away". The local effects of the development are (and will continue to be) tremendous. Additional employment lands will be needed in this immediate vicinity as the multiplier effect from Amazon will exceed substantially the availability of Employment Land in this immediate area.

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As the City's Economic Development Officer indicated:

*"Hamilton is home to Canada's busiest overnight express cargo airport, the busiest port on the Canadian Great Lakes and one of the lowest rates of traffic congestion in the Greater Toronto/Hamilton Area (GTHA). With Amazon Canada's announcement of their intent to invest in Hamilton, this solidifies Hamilton's position as a Canadian goods movement leader, encapsulates the type of investments targeted for the Airport Employment Growth District and illustrates investor confidence from one of the most recognizable brands and the largest e-commerce company in the world." - Norm Schleeahn, Director, Economic Development, City of Hamilton*

- **Municipal Services**: the availability of existing services in this local area is also a consideration. Currently, it is our understanding that municipal services already exist along the frontage of these properties on Upper James Street, in immediate proximity to four of my client's parcels.
- **Limited Agricultural Use of My Client's Lands**: much of my client's land base has been converted to non-agricultural uses, primarily a golf course and a parking lot/business office, but also non-farm residential parcels. These lands are considered to have a lower agricultural capability than adjacent farmlands and are constrained by the surrounding development for agricultural uses. My client recognizes that the area is in transition, and is prepared to move its existing agricultural type operations to a more suitable rural area to complete the transition. In addition, the potential for impacts on adjacent agricultural operations (i.e. MDS 1 setbacks) have already been addressed through the approval of the golf course.

This letter constitutes our request for the lands to be included in the proposed Urban Area expansion of the City of Hamilton and designated Employment Lands. We look forward to participating in discussions with the City and their planning staff/consultant in regards to the Official Plan update. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

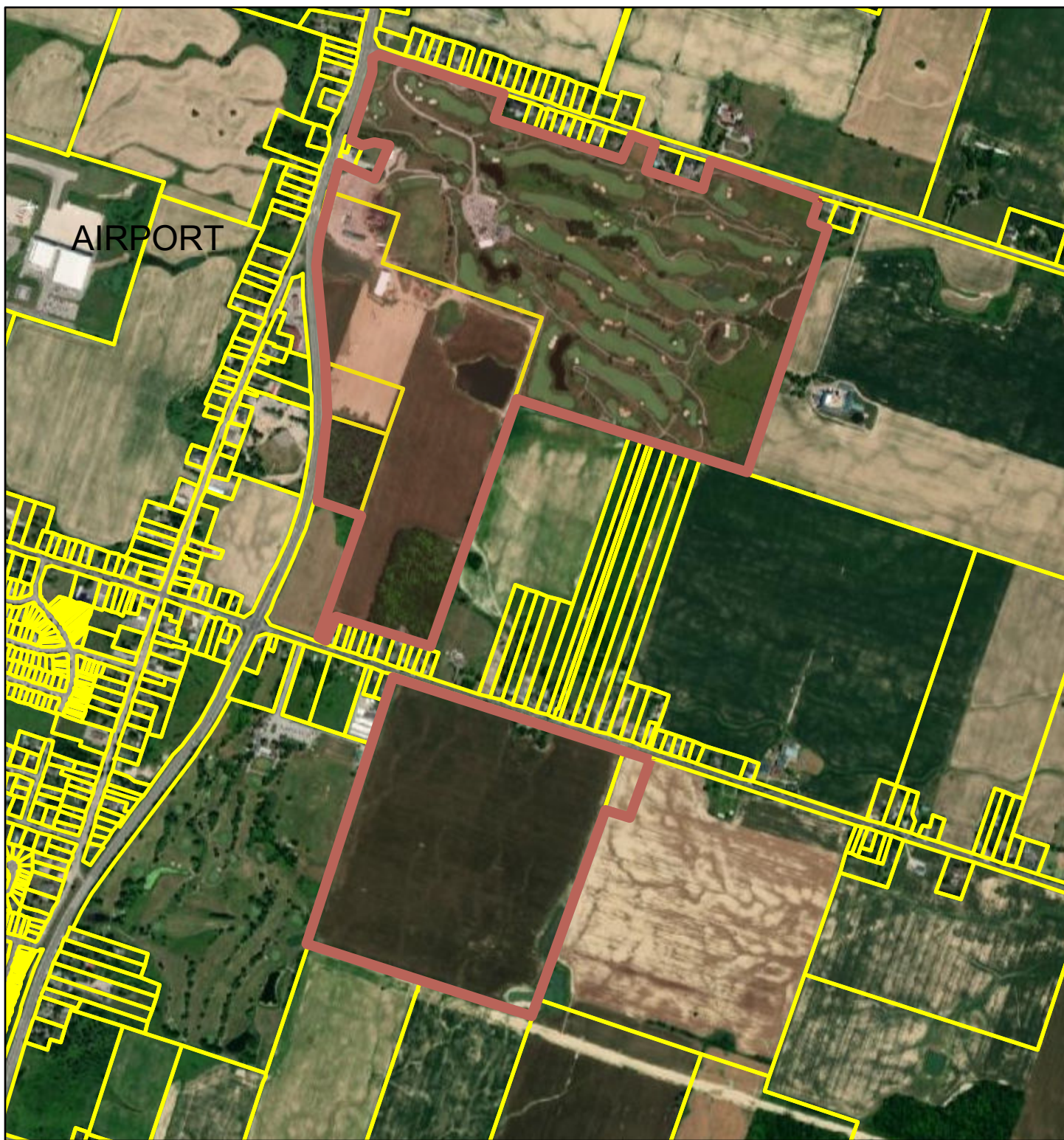
Yours truly,







Robert P. Stovel, M.Sc., M.C.I.P., R.P.P., P.Ag.

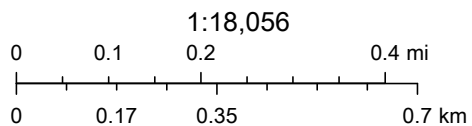
cc. Clerks Department, City of Hamilton  
Steve Schiedel, Greenhorizons Holdings Inc., Willow Valley Holdings Inc., 1231 Shantz Station Rd Inc.  
Jeff Wilker, Thomson, Rogers Lawyers

# ArcGIS Web Map



2/11/2021, 2:49:12 PM

-  Override 1 SUBJECT LANDS
-  Override 1
-  NPCA Member Municipalities
-  Assessment Parcels



USDA FSA, GeoEye, Maxar







**From:** Susan Wortman  
**Sent:** March 13, 2021 7:26 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Biodiversity Action Plan

To all Hamilton Councillors,

I understand that on April 7th, staff will present a Biodiversity Action Plan Framework to the General Issues Committee. I am writing to let you know that I support a Biodiversity Action Plan for Hamilton. Along with the Climate Crisis, we are in a global biodiversity crisis worldwide, and Hamilton is no exception. The federal government responded by setting biodiversity goals and targets that were to be achieved by the end of 2020. One of those targets is for municipalities to include biodiversity considerations into their planning practices.

The City of Hamilton has implemented some policies that support urban biodiversity, however, we are no where near where we need to be.

Not only does nature have its own intrinsic value, but it provides critical eco-systems services to humans, such as filtering air and water, safeguarding against flooding and drought--green infrastructure supporting gray infrastructure, providing nature based solutions to the climate crisis.

I urge you to be champions for biodiversity protection, enhancement and restoration and to vote on our behalf for a healthy city.

Thank you, Susan Wortman

**From:** Mark Andrew Cachia <[mark.cachia@medportal.ca](mailto:mark.cachia@medportal.ca)>

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 11:09 AM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Protecting the Future Health of Hamilton Residents

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

As a resident of Hamilton and a physician, I urge you to enshrine health into the GRIDS2 municipal comprehensive review. **The best course of action for the health and wellbeing of our citizens is for Hamilton to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.**

I am acutely aware of the health outcomes of people living in poverty in our inner city. Lack of affordable housing, crumbling infrastructure, lack of basic services like sidewalk snow clearing, safe bike lanes for those who don't own a car, and reliable public transit all further marginalize families already living in precarious circumstances. **Building more subdivisions beyond the current City boundaries will further gut the core of our City.**

We are in a climate emergency and sprawl would only make it worse. The prestigious medical journal The Lancet has stated that "climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century and tackling it could be our greatest health opportunity"<sup>1</sup> Expanding urban boundaries moves people further from mass transit, requiring more use of cars and generating more greenhouse gas emissions and fine particulate air pollution, which we know **kills over 8,000 Canadians annually.**<sup>2</sup> We should be making planning decisions that reduce this number, not put more citizens at risk of illness and death from poor air quality.

In her 2017 Report on the State of Public Health in Canada<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, says, "Our communities are changing and often expanding through urban sprawl rather than by building compact and 'complete communities'." **Urban sprawl has been linked to sedentary lifestyles, easy access to unhealthy food, less physical activity and higher rates of obesity.** She advocates for the "development of new communities located within urban containment boundaries that support active transportation and physical activity by including higher density and land use mix, a range of housing options and affordability, easy access to recreational facilities and parks and good links to frequent public transit."

Similarly, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, recommends that municipal governments, community planners and developers work together to "establish urban containment policies to manage the outward growth of cities to promote increased development density and opportunities for active travel."<sup>5</sup> The most popular forms of active travel include walking and cycling.

In their “[Planning Healthy Communities Fact Sheet Series](#)”, The Canadian Institute of Planners points out that the “lack of physical activity is considered a ‘conveyor belt’ to heart disease, stroke and other chronic conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes and various cancers.” They mention a study of Vancouver residents that found that the walkability index and its components related to land-use mix, residential density and street connectivity were significant predictors of body mass index, a key health indicator.

We have an enormous opportunity to discourage urban sprawl. Doing so would be one of our best tools for fighting climate change and improving peoples’ health. People who live in walkable neighbourhoods occupy less space, have a higher quality of life, a smaller carbon footprint, drive less and have better health. Urban planning guidelines that put people closer to each other create successful public transit systems, making our society more efficient and more equitable.

Sprawl threatens the health of our community today and generations into the future. I urge you to vote to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mark A. Cachia, MD

McMaster University  
David Braley Health Sciences Centre Department of HEI - Public Health & Preventive Medicine

100 Main St W  
Hamilton, ON  
L8P 1H6

1. [https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown\\_Policy-brief-for-Canada\\_FINAL.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown_Policy-brief-for-Canada_FINAL.pdf)
2. <https://policybase.cma.ca/documents/PolicyPDF/PD21-01.pdf>
3. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/chief-public-health-officer-reports-state-public-health-canada/2017-designing-healthy-living.html>
4. <https://www.cip-icu.ca/Files/Resources/FACTSHEETS-ActiveTransportation-FINALenglish.aspx>
5. <https://www.heartandstroke.ca/-/media/pdf-files/canada/2017-position-statements/community-design-ps-eng.ashx?la=en>
6. <https://www.bbc.com/worklife/article/20201214-how-15-minute-cities-will-change-the-way-we-socialise>

--

Mark A. Cachia, MD (He/Him)  
PGY-1 Public Health & Preventive Medicine  
McMaster University



January 29, 2020

GSAI File: 709-014

City of Hamilton  
Hamilton City Hall  
71 Main Street West  
Hamilton, ON  
L8P 4Y5

**Attention:** Ms. Stephanie Paparella,  
Legislative Coordinator

**RE: GRIDS 2 / Municipal Comprehensive Review – Land Needs Assessment  
and Technical Background Report (PED17010(h) (City wide)  
City of Hamilton**

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Glen Schnarr & Associates Inc. (GSAI) represents Hamilton Country Properties Ltd., who own land within the Elfrida area that is generally located at the northwest corner of Hendershot Road and Golf Club Road (see attached key map). We have been actively monitoring the City of Hamilton's GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review. Recently, our office participated in the Virtual Information Meeting on the draft Land Needs Assessment on January 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Our clients have reviewed the above noted Land Needs Assessment, which was considered at the General Issues Committee on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020. As such, we are providing our comments in support of Staff's findings thus far through this process; being that the draft Lands Needs Assessment confirms the City needs to support intensification and responsible urban boundary expansion to meet its 2051 population and growth projections. We would like to express our support of the land needs scenarios, *Growth Plan Minimum* (50% intensification) and *Increased Targets* (55% intensification), as both scenarios represent reasonable growth targets that are in keeping with the Province's market-based approach for land use planning.

At the December 14, 2020 General Issues Committee meeting, both Committee members and others expressed concerns that urban expansion into the Elfrida area will result in the removal of prime agricultural land. In response, we would like to provide commentary on these concerns. The Staff Report states that a majority of Rural Hamilton is located within the Greenbelt Plan. The Greenbelt Plan area permits agricultural uses.

10 KINGSBRIDGE GARDEN CIRCLE  
SUITE 700  
MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO  
L5R 3K6  
TEL (905) 568-8888  
FAX (905) 568-8894  
www.gsai.ca



**GLEN SCHNARR & ASSOCIATES INC.**  
URBAN & REGIONAL PLANNERS, LAND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS

Whitebelt lands are those lands located within Rural Hamilton but are not included in the Greenbelt Plan area. While Whitebelt lands are currently characterized by rural and agricultural land uses, they are not subject to the same policy framework as ‘prime agricultural lands’ designated in Provincial policy. The draft Land Needs Assessment has identified that most or all of the City’s ‘Community Area whitebelt lands’ will be required for future growth to the year 2051.

The expansion of a settlement boundary area to accommodate provincially mandated growth is permitted by the Provincial Policy Statement (as referenced in *Section 1.1.3.8*), so long as it is warranted. Through the GRIDS 2 and MCR processes, the City of Hamilton is fulfilling their responsibility and obligation in determining if an urban boundary expansion is warranted to meet provincial growth projections.

It is understood that urban expansion to include the Elfrida area has been long debated. Through the GRIDS 1 process (2006), the City identified Elfrida as Hamilton’s next urban boundary expansion area to accommodate growth to 2031, coupled with intensification of the downtown and built-up areas. Furthermore, in 2017 and 2018, the City held public consultation and community meetings on the “Elfrida Growth Area Study” seeking public input on ‘visioning and design’ and community structure scenarios for Elfrida. Through GRIDS 2, Elfrida continues to be studied and is identified as a strategic growth option that is necessary to meet the City’s population and employment projections. Contrary to other submissions made to the Committee, it is our opinion that the Elfrida area continues to remain a logical and viable option to expand the City’s urban boundary to accommodate growth and development.

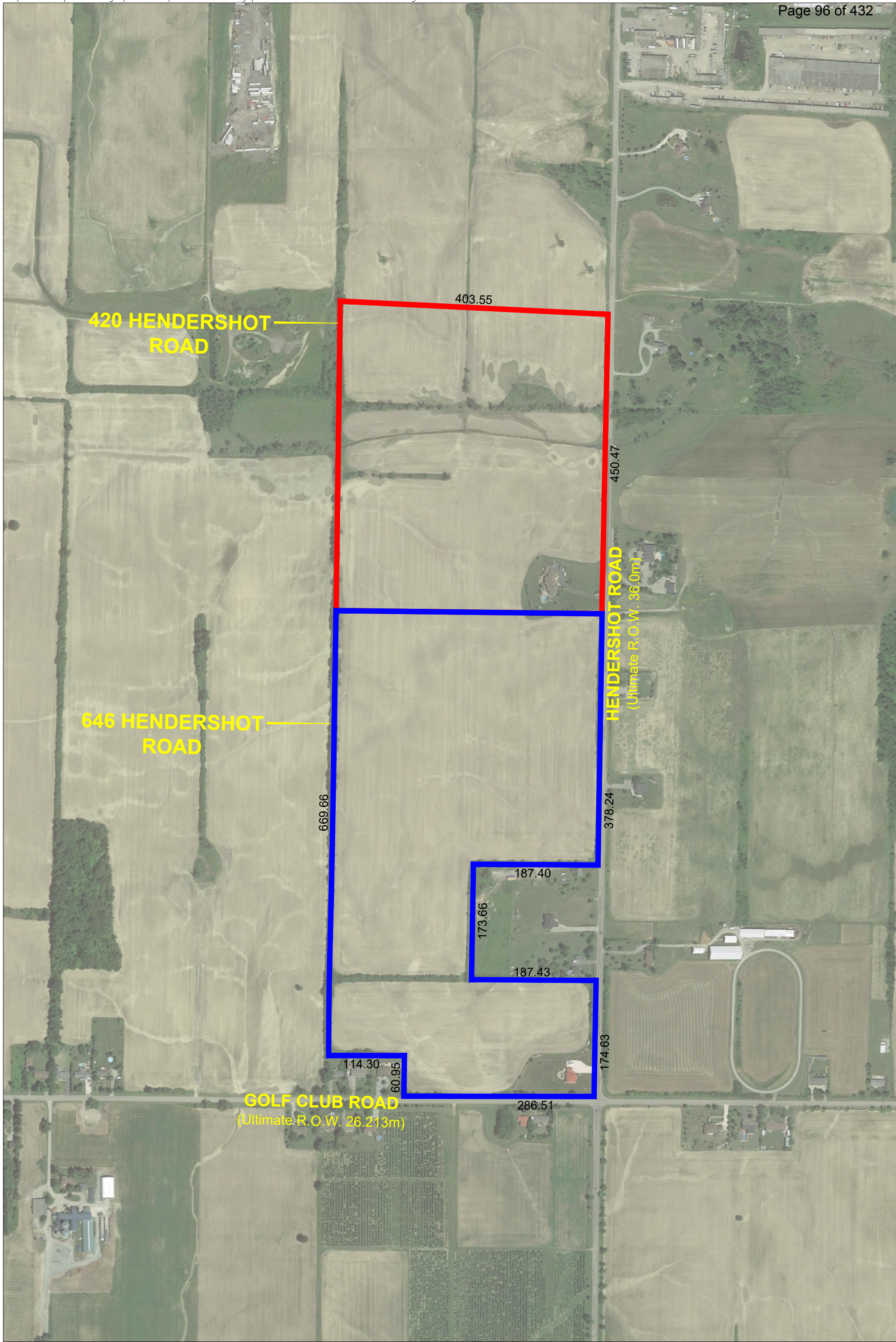
Our office will continue to monitor the City’s GRIS 2 and MCR process. Please provide notification of a public meeting and staff report regarding this matter. Please contact the undersigned should you have any questions.

Yours very truly,

**GLEN SCHNARR & ASSOCIATES INC.**

---

Colin Chung, MCIP, RPP  
Partner



# AERIAL CONTEXT PLAN

420 & 646 HENDERSHOT ROAD,  
CITY OF HAMILTON,  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HAMILTON - WENTWORTH

SCALE 1:5000  
JANUARY 27, 2021





-----Original Message-----

From: Rose Janson

Sent: March 25, 2021 8:29 PM

To: Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>

Subject: Fwd: ECO-LOCKE ASKS FOR DELAY ON HAMILTON GROWTH PLAN

Dear Mayor and Councilors,

For the last six years, 'Eco-Locke' (Eco Churches of Locke St.), has been raising awareness about environmental issues in our congregations and communities. Eco-Locke represents five Churches: St. Josephs, St. Johns, Melrose United, Blessings Church and the Unitarian Church of Hamilton.

We ask you to delay adopting the proposed growth plan for Hamilton. We need time for good consultation with our members. We need to delay this until after Covid restrictions have passed and citizens can once again assemble and have an active voice in how our city grows.

We should not lock in sprawl for 30 years by adopting the Ford government's "market driven" policy changes.

- We need to preserve precious farmland, as growing populations will need local food.
- We need to focus on affordable housing within the urban boundary, that is not car-dependent
- Our City should not be investing in expensive 'sprawl' infrastructure

At your March 29 meeting, please support the motion to ask for a delay. Hamilton Council should ask the Province to suspend the timetable for municipal conformity to the Growth Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement.

With respect,

Rose Janson  
Contact person for Eco-Locke

**From:** Sarah Hopen

**Sent:** March 26, 2021 11:40 AM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** written delegation - general issues committee meeting March 29th

Good morning,

I would like to submit my written delegation in advance of the March 29th special session of the General Issues Committee focused on the Growth Related Integrated Development Strategy (GRIDS2).

As a citizen of Hamilton deeply concerned about the effects of climate change on the future of our city, I would like to ask that the committee consider two actions:

**1.) Pause the review and approval** of the GRIDS2 until such a time as this topic can be discussed and considered in person. The implications of the city planning strategy will affect future generations. Pushing this incredibly important planning tool through at this time is inappropriate and ill considered.

**2.) Revisit this strategy** with a clear articulated, vision of climate change mitigation. Strong urban boundaries, public transportation, innovative waste and rainwater management, mixed use and high density growth, public green spaces, and public energy projects are among the current tools that Hamilton could bake into its planning.

The City of Hamilton declared a climate emergency.

Our urban planning strategy for the next 30 years should reflect that bold step.

Thank you,

Sarah Hopen

Lynden, ON

**From:** Stuart Campbell  
**Sent:** March 26, 2021 11:23 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Freeze Urban Boundary

Hello,

I am writing to express my concern for the expansion of the Hamilton Urban Boundary. I do not believe this is consistent with the recent declaration of a Climate Emergency by the Hamilton City Council. There are many alternatives to address housing issues (i.e. infilling, higher density urban housing, laneway suits).

As a long time member of the Hamilton community, this concept does **not** have my support.

Regards,

Stuart

**From:** Natalie Lazier < >

**Sent:** March 26, 2021 11:03 AM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** Written delegation for General Issue Meeting March 29 (GRIDS2)

Hello City Clerk

Hope this email finds you well. Please see my written delegation for the General Issues Committee Meeting coming up Monday March 29, 2021.

I am a member of Ward 3 with elected representative Cllr Nrinder Mann.

The written delegation is attached.

Thank you

**From:** Norman Newbery <  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 7:12 PM  
**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>  
**Cc:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Submission to Council Meeting, Mar 29 re: Changes to Zoning until 2050

Dear Mayor Fred Eisenberger and Members of Council,

I write with concern about changes to the proposed growth plan for Hamilton which will be in force for the next 30 years. It is absolutely essential that we move forward with plans for growth that are sustainable not only in terms of the costs of maintenance but also in terms addressing the issues resulting from the impacts of suburban lifestyles on the health of its citizens and the entire world. Earlier today, The Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE) issued a press release applauding the Supreme Court of Canada's ruling in favour of the constitutionality of a federal carbon price.

They state that "as physicians, their expectation is that governments at all levels will do everything they can to address the climate crisis. Carbon pricing is recognized by over 3,500 economists and 27 Nobel Prize winners as the single most effective tool to manage the climate emergency". Carbon pricing protects our health. The Lancet, the world's top medical journal, calls carbon pricing the best single treatment for climate change. It decreases greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, saving lives and healthcare dollars. "Climate inaction kills, and climate action is good for health.

We need to look at our Zoning, Planning and actions through a climate lens. Our past models of suburban lifestyles that are car based; carbon intensive; inefficient and unaffordable are well documented as major contributors to climate change; poor air quality and unhealthy lifestyles.

A major concern for me is that we are still building most homes according to 1960's energy standards. These homes are out of date even before they are occupied. The Passif Haus (Passive Home Standard) has demonstrated how buildings can be built using up to 90% less energy). We need to consider if as a progressive city we can mandate builders to provide a carbon budget much like happens when we buy a new car or a refrigerator. Inefficient oversized homes might make big profits for builders but they are the worst thing for the environment. We can also expect that millennials will reject these white elephants once their energy characteristics are made available.

Carbon pricing protects our health. The Lancet, the world's top medical journal, calls carbon pricing the best single treatment for climate change. It decreases greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, saving lives and healthcare dollars. "Climate inaction kills, and climate action is good for health".

We ask you to delay adopting the proposed growth plan for Hamilton. We need time to more carefully examine our options for development including careful consideration of how we can accommodate greater intensification in our present built up areas to meet the total need for the next 30 years.

At the March 29 meeting, please support the motion introduced by Councilor Brad Clark and seconded by Brenda Johnson to ask for a delay. Hamilton Council should ask the Province to suspend the timetable for municipal conformity to the Growth Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement until after Covid restrictions have passed and citizens can once again assemble and have an active voice in how our city grows.

Your respectfully,  
  
Norman Newbery,

**From:** Aline Brown <  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 11:57 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Motion on Delay of Replacing Farmland

Dear Mayor and Council:

I sincerely hope you will reconsider the motion on the changes to land use which would result in farm use being changed to residential use until 'in-person' public hearings can be safely scheduled.

Thank You

Adeline H Brown

**From:** Agnes Bongers <  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 9:43 PM  
**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); VanderBeek, Arlene  
<[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** Please stop Urban Sprawl

Dear Arlene

I live in Ward 13, where I own a home and pay property taxes. I am writing to express my concern about the haste city council may be in to approve urban sprawl throughout Elfrida.

I am asking you, the mayor and city councillors to pause the decision making/planning until in person consultations have occurred. Not all citizens are comfortable with webinars and zoom meetings and many citizens have no idea what is happening regarding these important decisions. In person town halls and information sessions are needed so ideas can be exchanged and knowledge gained. These are important decisions that need to be decided with due process, not in this manner during a pandemic.

There are more effective use of our resources and ways to support the growth of our cities. Urban sprawl is costly, and our tax dollars are needed for our crumbling infrastructure, as this is where people live and work. Population density within our urban boundaries can be increased at a much lower cost than suburban infrastructure needs, such as emergency services, public transportation, schools, roads, utilities, etc.

As elected leaders you also have a obligation to ensure that integrity of our climate footprint is accurately measured, listening to the science. A move to increase urban sprawl into precious lands, and to ignore the needed infrastructures of housing, and means for walkability, public transportation and cycling within the city does not address both the needs of our citizens and the impact on climate.

I am asking all of you to **not accept** the motion to move forward with the GRIDS 2/MCR report without further stakeholder, in person consultation.

Sincerely,  
Agnes Bongers

**From:** Anka Cassar <  
**Sent:** March 24, 2021 8:10 AM  
**To:** Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>  
**Cc:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Thorne, Jason <[Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** Delay the City's Growth Plan

Dear Councillor Lloyd Ferguson,

As a Ward 12 Constituent, I am writing to you to ask you and your fellow councillors to consider delaying the city's growth plans and follow similar actions taken by Halton Region. I am requesting that Hamilton City Council delay the Official Review Plans (MCR) at your upcoming meeting and I feel that Hamilton needs to freeze the urban boundary and prevent any more sprawl. More residents need to be aware of the plans to expand our boundaries but the pandemic has been the focus of citizens for the past year. Citizens need to be included in the decision making and they need to be informed. I have not heard or read one single mention of this on any news site and just recently learned about this after stumbling upon it on Facebook. I am sure there are many more residents in my community that feel the same way that I do but are unaware of what the city's plans are. Wait until after Covid has passed so that in person consultations can occur to ensure that the community has a chance to truly be involved and have a chance to share their voice. When I drive down Garner Rd in Ancaster I am personally disheartened every time I see farmland that is up for sale for development knowing that this will be built up soon with more homes and businesses. My heart sinks thinking about all of the farmland and natural areas in my community that will be paved over and destroyed. What will happen to our local farmers and local food, There is so much research out there that outlines the numerous negative impacts that come with suburban sprawl and this is counterintuitive considering Hamilton has declared a climate emergency. I want my children to be left with a community that is environmentally friendly and provides them with local food, green spaces, natural areas, clean air and one that is not dependent on fossil fuels.

Thank you,

Anka Cassar



-----Original Message-----

From: Barb Allen <

Sent: March 25, 2021 10:01 AM

Subject: [\*\*\*POSSIBLE SPAM]NO expansion of current urban boundary!

Hello,

How wonderful it would be to see Hamilton grow WITHIN its present city limits. 🍷

Barb Allen

Ward 2

## **BIRD FRIENDLY CITIES**

Hamilton/Burlington Team 2021

### **Statement to Hamilton General Issues committee on March 29, 2021**

The Bird Friendly City Hamilton/Burlington Bird Team opposes this development on the grounds of irretrievable habitat loss. Our team partners with Environment Hamilton, Conservation Halton, Hobbitstee Wildlife Refuge, Burlington Green, Ontariogreen, Trumpeter Swan Coalition, and the Hamilton Aviary and is supported by the Hamilton Naturalists' Club.

The fields, streams and woodlots of Elfrida host a significant population of resident and breeding birds and support a large number of migratory bird species on their journey from Central and South America to the boreal forest and tundra. The welfare of many of these species is of critical concern.

Habitat loss is listed by the Birds Canada organization as one of the five key threats to healthy bird populations. It's scientifically proven that a healthy bird population is essential to biodiversity.

On March 29, a Biodiversity Action Plan will be presented to this General Issues committee. We hope that this plan will be adopted. However, the loss of the Elfrida lands to a development that is the antithesis of current and progressive urban planning will detract greatly from any effort to protect and increase badly needed biodiversity in our region.

Scores of bird species use the Elfrida lands and these include year-round residents, breeding birds, winter residents and migrants.

In the past week, American Kestrels have returned to the Elfrida lands to breed. These small falcons are a **Priority** species, which controls rodent populations. They have experienced a **large decrease** in population since 1970. This decrease is primarily due to loss of habitat. This species will no longer breed on the Elfrida lands if the proposed development is approved.

Killdeer, a plover that has adapted to agricultural lands, is also a **Priority** species and has suffered a **large decrease** in population. The Elfrida lands host a significant population of breeding Killdeer, which will also lose their vital habitat.

Winter visitors to the area include other **Priority** species such as Snow Bunting and Snowy Owl. These species have also suffered **large decreases** in their numbers.

If this proposed development is approved, many bird species will still attempt to migrate through the area. They will be subject to other key threats, specifically deadly collisions with windows and predation by outdoor, roaming cats. These two threats combine for hundreds of millions of bird deaths annually in North America.

We thank the committee members for their time and attention and repeat our objection to the development of the Elfrida lands. Hamilton will only be a Green city when it is a bird friendly city.

**From:** Bianca Beraldo

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 9:32 AM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** FREEZE HAMILTON'S URBAN BOUNDARY

Dear City of Hamilton and Lloyd Ferguson, I am your Ward 12 constituent.

I won't bore you with a long winding letter, but I will ask you this:

Do you even care about the future of our children, or grandchildren?

This system is so unbelievably corrupt that I am truly disgusted.

Why would you allow developers to re-zone and build on prime agricultural land that the entire province of Ontario will need by 2050? We live in a time when Climate Change is the biggest concern all around the world, and even our own councilors are doing absolutely nothing to stop it.

I urge you to watch this short video and carefully consider your moral and ethical standards in the vote on March 29th.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=WZQZOi2c8v4&fbclid=IwAR0coGJ42YrnPF1epn7zrgtIET\\_L4rGrCYThbekf\\_n\\_yhcpvcqb4VMULdU4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=WZQZOi2c8v4&fbclid=IwAR0coGJ42YrnPF1epn7zrgtIET_L4rGrCYThbekf_n_yhcpvcqb4VMULdU4)

What side of history do you want to be on?

PLEASE FREEZE Hamilton's urban boundary. This action is essential if we have any hope of building a sustainable, climate-resilient, inclusive future for Hamilton!

What is so wrong with gentle density like 3 to 6 storey residential buildings along major arterials like Upper James or along an east-west LRT system, and greyfield redevelopment (like transforming Eastgate Square - the eastern terminus of the proposed LRT route - into a high density residential/commercial complex)... Why does it have to be on prime agricultural land?

All of the above outcomes will ultimately help to create a city that is capable of accommodating growth in a manner that is far more sustainable, climate resilient and inclusive than the sprawling, car-dependent, high carbon output alternative.

-Firm boundaries combined with good municipal policy can also work to increase the availability of more affordable housing options in the city - a critical goal to achieve right now with so many people struggling to find affordable places to live in our city.

**What is at stake right now?**

Despite the call from the community, and despite the **CLIMATE EMERGENCY** declaration, city planning staff and consultants did not offer a 'no boundary expansion' option for the public to consider; we are in danger of losing huge tracts of prime agricultural land to urban expansion.

The final staff recommendation regarding the LNA will go to Planning Committee and Council in March of this year.

Meanwhile, we know from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that **climate action needs to be swift and significant over the next decade if we have any hope of averting extreme climate impacts. This is why Environment Hamilton is calling for Hamilton City Council to FREEZE Hamilton's urban boundary.**

**I urge you to listen to your people.**

**Regards,  
Bianca Beraldo**

**From:** brenda ginn <>  
**Sent:** March 24, 2021 10:13 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Act Now to Stop Climate-Destroying Sprawl in Hamilton  
**Importance:** High

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and City Council Representatives:  
Hamilton is currently pursuing expanding into the vulnerable and MASSIVELY important section of the Greenbelt that is Elfrida, in order to build more low-density housing.

I am writing to inform you directly that I am opposed. While we need more housing for current and future Hamiltonians, expansion is *not* the answer.

Hamilton's Chapter of [350.org](http://350.org) writes:

"Stop the rush *at least* until in-person public consultation can take place. A motion calling for delay will be considered at the *Monday, March 29* meeting where the agenda includes a recommendation to dramatically expand the urban area onto foodlands to make way for more low-density housing.

**The growth plans for the next THIRTY years are being determined now in the middle of the pandemic when appropriate public consultation and engagement is impossible.**

Rural residents without adequate internet are excluded. Low-income residents who can't afford computers and/or internet access are excluded. Those uncomfortable with or unfamiliar with Zoom-type technology are excluded.

**Low-density urban sprawl worsens the climate emergency in multiple ways.**

It increases car dependency. It replaces rural carbon sinks with urban carbon sources. It replaces vegetated areas with pavement and buildings. It overuses land, making the city more spread out and increasing distances travelled. It is impossible to efficiently service with transit. It increases the urban heat island effect. It increases stormwater runoff and consequent flooding. It requires millions of dollars in new roads, pipes and other infrastructure that consume already very scarce city finances.

Of course it reduces food security by permanently eliminating more foodlands. Its car dependency excludes affordable housing and lower income residents thus further ghettoizing residents. It also degrades wildlife habitat and makes ecological restoration more difficult."

The answer is not in expansion but retooling. Many other cities around the world, like Singapore, have done this well and efficiently.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brenda Ginn

**From:** B <>  
**Sent:** March 24, 2021 8:50 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Sprawl

Please be advised that I join the voices of those opposing continued urban sprawl in Hamilton. Urban sprawl will be the death of us all in the face of the climate change crisis.

Bruce R. Allen  
Paralegal

## **Written Delegation to the General Issues Committee Meeting, Monday March 29, 2021**

Completed by Carolanne Forster and Duncan Forster  
Residents of the Municipality of Hamilton

Good Morning/Afternoon Chairperson and Members of the Planning Committee. Thank you for this opportunity to write to this Committee today.

We are responding to the City of Hamilton's Urban Growth Management Plan and the possible expansion of the present urban boundary as one option contained in the draft **Land Needs Assessment (LNA)** document.

We take serious issue with the kind of decision making taking place at this time during the second and third waves of a **pandemic** which has forced Hamiltonians into isolation for the past full year and continues forward. The City's proposed 'Public Engagement' timeline for January, February and March 2021, has occurred during a Public Health mandated lockdown. The public, as a key stakeholder is preoccupied and less likely to engage in these vital planning issues.

Given this, we respectfully request this process is **delayed** until the pandemic is declared over. We list the following key issues the public may not be fully educated about or broadly aware of with respect to multiple provincial planning policy guideline changes brought in by the Ford government:

- Private boundary expansions up to 40 hectares in size with no limits to the allowed number, and private requests that can occur outside the municipal process, threatening the urban/rural boundary
- Reinstatement of market demand as the driving force for LNA
- Urban intensification and density targets lowered from 60% to 50%
- Planning horizon expanded from 2041 to 2051 - increased time horizons lead to greater unpredictability in housing demand forecasts.
- The potential for serious urban sprawl resulting in the loss of large parcels of natural areas and prime agricultural lands

The City of Hamilton LNA planning 'engagement survey,' posted to its website, provided two options for the public to select. Gentle density or ambitious density, with no mention of urban boundary expansion. With a now 30 year planning horizon, community members need more choices.

Lastly, Hamiltonians are very concerned about climate change. Many do not want the urban boundary expanded and want to see the city deal with growth in a way that is more climate adaptable and resilient, both for themselves and for our future generations.

Taken together, these points demonstrate that significant changes are being made to the Urban Growth Management Plan. Given this, and that the current pandemic is focusing the public's attention elsewhere, we believe a delay in the process is appropriate.

Thank you for your time,  
Carolanne Forster  
Duncan Forster





**From:** Catherine Thomas  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 3:08 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Hamilton growth plans

**Dear Mayor and Council - I am asking that you stop the provincial plan to extend the boundaries of our city. We need to limit the urban sprawl and prevent the paving over of prime farm land of which we are in short supply in southern Ontario. Much of our oil city is ripe for renovation and redevelopment within the current boundaries and clearly densification is the way to go considering the impacts of climate and the need to become more self sufficient in food supply.**

**The growth plans for the next THIRTY years are being determined now in the middle of the pandemic when appropriate public consultation and engagement is impossible.**

It is incumbent on you, as the decision makers for this city, to look out for the future of our children and grandchildren we depend on you to make the right decision. None of this was part of the platform for those who have been voted in as our representatives. Please take a stand for the wishes of the people of Hamilton.

Yours sincerely  
Catherine Thomas

Hamilton  
Ontario

**From:** Catherine Woodley

**Sent:** March 26, 2021 11:36 AM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** The need for public consultation pertaining to Hamilton's growth plans

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and members of the Hamilton City Council,

I am very concerned that a decision will be made regarding the growth of Hamilton for the next thirty years without providing the opportunity for appropriate public consultation. This is too important a matter to be rushed through: our world is changing around us as I write and paving over paradise (farmland) will have major consequences which might seem minor or unlikely now but will not seem so minor when they occur. Recent flooding in NSW Australia was exacerbated by the expansion of urban/suburban areas: paved areas simply did not allow for the absorption of stormwater runoff generated by 'once in a century flood rains'. Alas, climate change more or less guarantees that we'll all be experiencing 'once in a century' events of various kinds.

I therefore ask you to support the motion calling for a delay regarding this decision. Much more open discussion is needed regarding the deleterious consequences of low-density urban sprawl. Indeed, this type of development only contributes to the problem and makes (catastrophic?) climate change even more likely (e.g. it increases car dependency; replaces vegetated areas with pavement and buildings; requires expensive infrastructure which would be better spent preparing for said climate change - and on other unmet needs, e.g. for low-income housing; etc.)

I look forward to hearing that the Council has seriously considered the need for public involvement and has supported the motion to delay the decision until civil society organizations and members of the public are given an opportunity to air their views. After all, we do live in a democracy.

Yours truly,

Catherine Woodley (Ms.)

**From:** Charlane Surerus

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 5:03 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Please NO Boundary Expansion!

I am a constituent of Ward 1, although I grew up in Upper Stoney Creek.

Please do not vote in favour of expanding our boundaries for development. Farmland is irreplaceable and it may seem like we have a lot of it, but we really don't. This arable land will be even more important for future generations with the warming of our climate.

Instead, let's concentrate our development on the core, filling in parking lots and building taller buildings on top of retail malls etc. I was also hoping to see more laneway housing since the city passed that. We have so much area that needs to be developed in the inner city before we ever think of spreading the tendrils of overdevelopment into our farmland.

This really is an easy decision to make when made by the citizens of Hamilton. Let's hope your decision reflects their desires for a more sustainable future that values biodiversity in our community.

Thank you very much for your time,  
Charlane Surerus

**From:** Cheryl Paterson >

**Sent:** March 24, 2021 2:02 PM

**To:** VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** Urban Sprawl

Dear Arlene,

I am a property tax paying citizen in ward 13 and I am concerned about the haste city council may be in to approve urban sprawl throughout Elfrida and I am asking you, the mayor and city councillors to pause the decision making/planning until in person consultations have occurred. Not all citizens are comfortable with webinars and zoom meetings and many citizens have no idea what is happening regarding these important decisions. In person town halls and information sessions are needed so ideas can be exchanged and knowledge gained. I fear the elected leaders of our communities are being irresponsible in making these important decisions during a pandemic.

Urban sprawl is costly, and our tax dollars are needed for our crumbling infrastructure, as this is where people live and work. Population density within our urban boundaries can be increased at a much lower cost than suburban infrastructure needs, such as emergency services, public transportation, schools, roads, utilities, etc.

Regarding climate change, though we all acknowledge as citizens that our world's climate is changing, I believe there is a disconnect that people, including citizens of our own communities, believe that the climate problems are happening elsewhere and not in our own backyard. As elected leaders you all have an obligation to ensure that integrity of our climate footprint is accurately measured, listen to the science.

I am asking all of you to not accept the motion to move forward with the GRIDS 2/MCR report without further stakeholder, in person consultation. People are focused on staying healthy and the vaccine roll out. We owe it to our citizens to engage in dialogue about our agricultural lands until Covid is over.

I am looking forward to your response.

Sincerely

Cheryl Paterson  
Dundas

**From:** CHRIS & THERESA CARDEY  
**Sent:** March 26, 2021 11:28 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** urban sprawl

Dear Mayor and Councillors,  
We are concerned about the proposed urban sprawl plan.

We should not lock in sprawl for 30 years by adopting the Ford government's "market driven" policy changes.  
Our agricultural land in the areas outside our present boundary is Class 1 and 2. As we are in the midst of the climate crisis we need to build up our ability to grow our own food and guarantee food security as we should have done with vaccines.  
Sprawl is the key lever in locking in greenhouse emissions.  
New sprawling subdivisions cost taxpayers more with added infrastructure.  
Let's take a serious look at Second Dwelling Units as well.

We need to delay this until after Covid restrictions have passed and citizens can once again assemble and have an active voice in how our city grows.

At the March 29 meeting, please support the motion introduced by Councilor Brad Clark and seconded by Brenda Johnson to ask for a delay. Hamilton Council should ask the Province to suspend the timetable for municipal conformity to the Growth Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement.

Chris and Theresa Cardey

Hamilton

**From:** Chris Wilson

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 9:59 AM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Thorne, Jason <[Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** NO to greenbelt expansion.

Hi Jason,

I'm a long time Durand resident.

It breaks my heart to see the greenbelt expansion is up for debate. We've talked about making the environment a priority and this decision is right in our backyard.

I want a community and environment that my kids can grow up to enjoy. This will not happen if we continue to make development a priority above all else.

I count on you to vote on my behalf. Please know that it's important to have my voice heard.

**Vote NO to the greenbelt expansion.**

Be well,

Chris

-----Original Message-----

From: cynthia meyer  
Sent: March 25, 2021 11:53 AM  
To: [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
Subject: Stop Hamilton's sprawl

Dear Mayor Eisenberg and Councillors,

My name is Cynthia Meyer and I was born and raised on Bold St. in downtown HAMILTON .I left for university and returned 25 yrs ago. In the 24 year interim I lived in Copenhagen, Waterloo, Toronto, Reykjavik, rural India and Bhutan. Hamilton is my home and my community of which I am deeply invested. I ask you to please examine the real alternatives to extending the city limits. Our downtown core offers great possibilities.

The present climate crisis will only be exacerbated by paving and building over our extremely rich farmland. What good is it to have a spacious house when our food supply is in jeopardy or relying on imported food is too expensive to afford?

Mr Braden, a former councillor, wisely suggests allowing Hamiltonians to build 2nd and 3rd stories creating multiplexes . No expensive infrastructure to add and an increased tax income for the city. Why not?

(It was done to the house I live in converting a bungalow to a multi family dwelling but it took a long process of obtaining neighbours' signatures of support and appearing before the Committee of Adjustment etc. ) Wildlife and farmland is left intact.

Hamiltonians get to determine how our city will be, not speculators and developers who have no interest in Hamilton other than profit.

I thank you for considering my request and to at least delay this decision for urban development of our farmlands and rural areas.

Cynthia Meyer

Hamilton



**From:** Guenter, Dale

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 8:41 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** municipal comprehensive review

March 25th, 2021

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

As a resident of Hamilton and a physician, I urge you to enshrine health into the GRIDS2 municipal comprehensive review. **The best course of action for the health and wellbeing of our citizens is for Hamilton to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.**

I am acutely aware of the health outcomes of people living in poverty in our inner city. Lack of affordable housing, crumbling infrastructure, lack of basic services like sidewalk snow clearing, safe bike lanes for those who don't own a car, and reliable public transit all further marginalize families already living in precarious circumstances. **Building more subdivisions beyond the current City boundaries will further gut the core of our City.**

We are in a climate emergency and sprawl would only make it worse. The prestigious medical journal The Lancet has stated that "climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century and tackling it could be our greatest health opportunity"<sup>1</sup>. Expanding urban boundaries moves people further from mass transit, requiring more use of cars and generating more greenhouse gas emissions and fine particulate air pollution, which we know **kills over 8,000 Canadians annually**.<sup>2</sup> We should be making planning decisions that reduce this number, not put more citizens at risk of illness and death from poor air quality.

In her 2017 Report on the State of Public Health in Canada<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, says, "Our communities are changing and often expanding through urban sprawl rather than by building compact and 'complete communities'." **Urban sprawl has been linked to sedentary lifestyles, easy access to unhealthy food, less physical activity and higher rates of obesity.** She advocates for the "development of new communities located within urban containment boundaries that support active transportation and physical activity by including higher density and land use mix, a range of housing options and affordability, easy access to recreational facilities and parks and good links to frequent public transit."

Similarly, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, recommends that municipal governments, community planners and developers work together to "establish urban containment policies to manage the outward growth of cities to promote increased development density and opportunities for active travel."<sup>4</sup> The most popular forms of active travel include walking and cycling.

In their "[Planning Healthy Communities Fact Sheet Series](#)", The Canadian Institute of Planners points out that the "lack of physical activity is considered a 'conveyor belt' to heart disease, stroke and other chronic conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes and various cancers." They mention a study of Vancouver residents that found that the walkability index and its components related to land-use mix, residential density and street connectivity were significant predictors of body mass index, a key health indicator.

We have an enormous opportunity to discourage urban sprawl. Doing so would be one of our best tools for fighting climate change and improving peoples' health. People who live in walkable neighbourhoods occupy less space, have a higher quality of life, a smaller carbon footprint, drive less and have better health. Urban planning guidelines that put people closer to each other create successful public transit systems, making our society more efficient and more equitable.

Sprawl threatens the health of our community today and generations into the future. I urge you to vote to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dale Guenter

**From:** Danielle Steenwyk-Rowaan  
**Sent:** March 26, 2021 11:02 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Freeze Hamilton's urban boundary

Dear Hamilton City Council,

I am writing today to ask you to freeze Hamilton's urban boundary, joining my voice to many in the city who support intensification rather than sprawl, including Environment Hamilton.

As someone who works with refugee claimants to find long-term housing, I know how urgent the need for affordable housing is in this city. But I don't believe that an ever-growing city boundary is the answer. Rather, I believe that intensification within the existing boundaries through more permissive bylaws for laneway housing, incentives for secondary rental suites within existing homes, and better enforcement of rental bylaws to prevent renovations are the answer.

In a time of climate crisis, which City Council has acknowledged, sprawl will not help us to reduce emissions.

Thank you for your time,

Danielle Steenwyk-Rowaan

Hamilton ON

**From:** Hitchcock, David  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 10:57 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** proposed growth plans

Dear mayor and councillors,

I completed the online survey about Hamilton's plans for growth in the next few decades. I was extremely frustrated that I was not given the option to oppose any extension of the urban boundary.

I live in Westdale, in a detached house on a lot that is 30 feet wide and 100 feet deep. That is plenty big enough. There are all sorts of homes similar to mine that are currently rented by absentee landlords to groups of students. There are around six proposals for development of high-rise apartment buildings along Main Street West, west of Leland Street, that would provide much more suitable accommodation for McMaster students. Homes on my block are already being converted from student houses to owner-occupied homes. Westdale is a wonderful neighbourhood to raise a family, and conversion of student houses back to owner-occupied homes where children live would provide a lot of accommodation for young families. Multiply this scenario across the city and there is no need for expansion of the urban boundary.

I urge you to send a message to the provincial government to allow cities to make their own decisions about their urban boundary and growth plans, taking into account the need to preserve farmland, the benefits in many respects of compact cities, and the massive effort required to get greenhouse emissions down by 60% in the next nine years and then to zero by 2050.

No to sprawl!

David Hitchcock

Hamilton

-----Original Message-----

From: David Price

Sent: March 5, 2021 7:45 AM

To: GRIDS 2 and MCR <[grids2-mcr@hamilton.ca](mailto:grids2-mcr@hamilton.ca)>

Subject: You hid this pretty good

You really have to stop immigration and curtail development. Stay away from Elfrida and Ridge Rd. You're making a mess of the area already Simple!

You're probably hoping more deadly viruses happen to decrease the surplus population!

Signed

Dave Price

**From:** david higgins

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 9:30 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** Hamilton Urban planning and hearings on extension of the Urban Area

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and all Members of City Council.

It is atrocious that a decision of this importance is being forced through the planning without appropriate consultation and citizen involvement. My family and I along with many friends and fellow residents of our city are gravely concerned. Decisions which encroach upon farmland, propose new highway development and reduction in green space have far reaching and potentially serious consequences and should NOT be rushed through particularly while citizens are occupied and stressed during a global pandemic. The process is appears at worst deceitful and appears to favour vested interests. Counsellors should be cognizant of these factors when seeking our votes. I urge you to reconsider the current planning process and ensure such a an important matter is seen to be transparent and engaging of the citizens of this city and region.

David Higgins.  
Dundas.

**From:** Medeiros, Debbie

**Sent:** Thursday, March 25, 2021 2:14 PM

**To:** Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Freeze the Urban Boundary

Dear, Councillor Clark,

I am your Ward 9 constituent and fully support your upcoming motion on March 29. Our land is precious, must be respected, and massive urban sprawl will only increase the already high levels of greenhouse gases. We are already in a climate change crisis and expanding boundaries for development will only make things worse. So please, continue your good work to freeze the urban boundary.

Sincerely, Debbie Medeiros

**From:** Derek Hrynyshyn  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 11:12 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Input on decision for March 29th

Dear Mayor Eisenberg:

I am writing to you to express my concern about the plan to expand the urban boundary and absorb more agricultural land for conversion to residential development. I am a resident of Ward 1, and have been for the last 15 years, and expect to be for the next several decades. I love living in Hamilton, and believe it has great potential but that potential will never be developed and the city will never be what it could be if we devote our resources to building large communities at the edge of the city, instead of increasing the density in the city centre.

I am opposed to this plan, or any similar plan that prioritizes the outward growth of cities. Urban expansion into such areas should be stopped in order to make our cities denser, more ecologically sustainable, and more liveable as social spaces.

The present plan to build large single-family dwellings on agricultural land is part of a trajectory of urban planning that has been creating large, thinly-inhabited suburbs around major cities across North America and leaving urban centres under-populated and without significant investment. Thriving urban centres are the source of vital communities. Those thinking about what cities they most want to live in could move to any suburb anywhere, but no one wants to live in a deserted, abandoned downtown core.

People never choose cities that they want to live in because it has large suburbs around it to which they need to drive long distances to get anywhere interesting. People want to live in exciting, thriving urban centres. By expanding our urban boundaries, we are doing nothing to make Hamilton the kind of centre that people think of as a desirable place to live, and thus we are doing nothing to attract important investment to our economy.

On top of all of that, the obvious ecological costs of building low-density suburbs, and the extra fossil fuel combustion necessary for transportation long distances to work places, should make it obvious that in an age of a climate emergency, this is absolutely the wrong thing to do.

Please stop this plan at the next council meeting.  
Sincerely,

Derek Hrynyshyn  
Hamilton, Canada.



**From:** Don Brown

**Sent:** March 13, 2021 3:03 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; [sam.medulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:sam.medulla@hamilton.ca); Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; [judy.partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:judy.partridge@hamilton.ca); [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** Urban Planning

Dear Mayor and Councilors,

I want to add my voice to others in raising concern over the proposed growth plans for our City.

Having lived in Waterdown for 30 years, it was heart rending to watch so much agricultural land being exploited as a resource for housing people when it was clearly suited as a source for providing food for people. Especially when there are other ways to house people.

That's why, now living in the City Core, I ask you to delay adopting the proposed growth plan for Hamilton. We need time for good consultation with citizens. Halton Region got a delay in a unanimous vote on Feb. 17th.

We need to delay this until after Covid restrictions have passed and citizens can once again assemble and have an active voice in how our city grows.

We should not lock in sprawl for 30 years by adopting the Ford government's "market driven" policy changes.

-Our agricultural land in the areas outside our present boundary is Class 1 and 2. We shouldn't risk losing these lands to large lots for expensive suburban tract housing.

-Sprawl is the key lever in locking in greenhouse emissions according to Yuill Herbert, the CEEP consultant for Hamilton.

-New sprawling subdivisions cost taxpayers more with added infrastructure, as you are well aware.

At the [March 29](#) meeting, please support the motion introduced by Councilor Brad Clark and seconded by Brenda Johnson to ask for a delay. Hamilton Council should ask the Province to suspend the timetable for municipal conformity to the Growth Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement.

With respect,

Don Brown

Hamilton, ON

**From:** Donna Lewis  
**Sent:** March 26, 2021 10:37 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** Stop urban sprawl. It's making us all sick

this was copied from an email I received from the Canadian medical association  
Please contact me if you require further information.

Dear fellow physician,

I am writing to you with an urgent request. As you may know, on Monday March 29th the City of Hamilton is set to unleash its GRIDS2 municipal comprehensive review that will lock in 30 years of urban sprawl. As you know, urban sprawl has been linked to sedentary lifestyles, easy access to unhealthy food, less physical activity, and higher rates of obesity. Dr. Theresa Tam advocates for the “development of new communities located within urban containment boundaries that support active transportation and physical activity by including higher density and land use mix, a range of housing options and affordability, easy access to recreational facilities and parks and good links to frequent public transit.”

As physicians, our primary responsibility is to serve individuals and families, as well as to identify and address their immediate health needs in clinics and hospitals. But if our goal is optimal health for all our patients, we must also speak out about the upstream causes of illness and injury that we witness and intervene on the conditions that “shape and constrain well-being”.

**Email all Hamilton City councillor, mayor and city clerk using our draft email below by FRIDAY MARCH 26TH AT 12 NOON.**

[clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>,

Office of the Mayor" <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>,  
Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>,  
Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>,  
Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>,  
Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>,  
Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>,  
Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>,  
Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>,  
Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>,  
Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>,  
Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>,  
Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>,  
Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>,  
Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>,

If you would like to get more involved with CAPE-ON, please email [capeontariovolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:capeontariovolunteers@gmail.com).

Thank you for considering,

CAPE-ON

Draft email:

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

As a resident of Hamilton and a physician, I urge you to enshrine health into the GRIDS2 municipal comprehensive review. The best course of action for the health and wellbeing of our citizens is for Hamilton to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.

I am acutely aware of the health outcomes of people living in poverty in our inner city. Lack of affordable housing, crumbling infrastructure, lack of basic services like sidewalk snow clearing, safe bike lanes for those who don't own a car, and reliable public transit all further marginalize families already living in precarious circumstances. Building more subdivisions beyond the current City boundaries will further gut the core of our City.

We are in a climate emergency and sprawl would only make it worse. The prestigious medical journal *The Lancet* has stated that "climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century and tackling it could be our greatest health opportunity"<sup>1</sup> Expanding urban boundaries moves people further from mass transit, requiring more use of cars and generating more greenhouse gas emissions and fine particulate air pollution, which we know kills over 8,000 Canadians annually.<sup>2</sup> We should be making planning decisions that reduce this number, not put more citizens at risk of illness and death from poor air quality.

In her 2017 [Report on the State of Public Health in Canada](#)<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, says, "Our communities are changing and often expanding through urban sprawl rather than by building compact and '[complete communities](#)'." Urban sprawl has been linked to sedentary lifestyles, easy access to unhealthy food, less physical activity and higher rates of obesity. She advocates for the "development of new communities located within urban containment boundaries that support active transportation and physical activity by including higher density and land use mix, a range of housing options and affordability, easy access to recreational facilities and parks and good links to frequent public transit."

Similarly, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, recommends that municipal governments, community planners and developers work together to “establish urban containment policies to manage the outward growth of cities to promote increased development density and opportunities for active travel.”<sup>5</sup> The most popular forms of active travel include walking and cycling.

In their [“Planning Healthy Communities Fact Sheet Series”](#)<sup>4</sup>, The Canadian Institute of Planners points out that the “lack of physical activity is considered a ‘conveyor belt’ to heart disease, stroke and other chronic conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes and various cancers.” They mention a study of Vancouver residents that found that the walkability index and its components related to land-use mix, residential density and street connectivity were significant predictors of body mass index, a key health indicator.

We have an enormous opportunity to discourage urban sprawl. Doing so would be one of our best tools for fighting climate change and improving peoples’ health. People who live in walkable neighbourhoods occupy less space, have a higher quality of life, a smaller carbon footprint, drive less and have better health. Urban planning guidelines that put people closer to each other create successful public transit systems, making our society more efficient and more equitable.

Sprawl threatens the health of our community today and generations into the future. I urge you to vote to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.

Thank you for your consideration,

Your name

Your home address

Your phone number and email

1. [https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown\\_Policy-brief-for-Canada\\_FINAL.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown_Policy-brief-for-Canada_FINAL.pdf)
2. <https://policybase.cma.ca/documents/PolicyPDF/PD21-01.pdf>
3. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/chief-public-health-officer-reports-state-public-health-canada/2017-designing-healthy-living.html>
4. <https://www.cip-icu.ca/Files/Resources/FACTSHEETS-ActiveTransportation-FINALenglish.aspx>
5. <https://www.heartandstroke.ca/-/media/pdf-files/canada/2017-position-statements/community-design-ps-eng.ashx?la=en>
6. <https://www.bbc.com/worklife/article/20201214-how-15-minute-cities-will-change-the-way-we-socialise>

**From:** Doreen Stermann

**Sent:** March 22, 2021 11:36 AM

**To:** Eisenberger, Fred <[Fred.Eisenberger@hamilton.ca](mailto:Fred.Eisenberger@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Danko, John-Paul <[John-Paul.Danko@hamilton.ca](mailto:John-Paul.Danko@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Thorne, Jason <[Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Doreen Stermann

**Subject:** [\*\*\*\*POSSIBLE SPAM]Freeze Urban Boundary /Delay the decision

Hello, I have been a resident of Ward 1 for 30 years. A Hamiltonian for close to 60!  
I vehemently oppose any further expansion of our urban boundary. I request that the City delay any decision in deciding to expand the boundary.

" Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results"  
Albert Einstein

We have a massive Infrastructure maintenance debt which the city has created by continuing to build outward to enlarge the tax base.  
Continuing to expand is costly. IT DOES NOT PAY FOR ITSELF! Inner city wards are subsidizing urban outward expansion. The degradation of the urban infrastructure will only increase. What is the current road replacement plan? I was told by a planner it was 100 yrs! And in time the degradation of the suburbs will also be evident. Look at how long it took to rebuild Sanatorium Road. It took 60 years! The road was in a deplorable state. I have driven on worse roads in third world countries. I kid you not. And that was only one of many roads in poor condition in Hamilton. What is the rate of return on investment by continuing to build outward?

Eliminating viable farmland is not the answer. We are in a climate crisis. The city has acknowledged as much but what does that mean when carrying out our land use policies? "Put your money where your mouth is". Stop claiming one thing and acting the opposite. Local farmland will become more and more necessary as food supplies will cost more dearly and availability will become scarcer. There was a real threat of losing our food supply during this pandemic. How did that make you feel? Had overseas supplies been shut down because of widespread death in factories or farms where would we be? We must secure our local food supply! A failure in imagination of how bad it can get will get us into serious peril.

We have a massive shortfall of available housing. Cars are not the future for the younger generation. they want inner urban walkable sustainable neighbourhoods. They are not buying cars as much and prefer a reliable swift urban transit option. Singles, couples and families can not afford to buy into the housing market. Building outward is continuing to build a car-centric society. How is that acting like we have declared a climate crisis? We must provide inner city affordable housing in multiple forms. 1,2,3 bedroom apartments for singles, couples, families. It does not have to be all tall condos either. There is the Missing Middle Housing option ( multi storey with commerce below).



I also see the huge shopping malls as becoming irrelevant due to the increase in on-line shopping. What will be come of these behemoths? There is opportunity there for Long Term Care facilities tor retirement residences to be built within these malls. We must use our space more efficiently. Build with commerce below/residents above. This provides developers/ store owners an instant market for their goods and provides security (eyes on the street with residents living above). This concept works in Europe why can't North American cities develop this way?

I support a motion to delay a decision being made until the pandemic is over or until we can get herd immunity and we can have a ample in-person public debate on this most serious policy decision confronting us.

Ask yourself why is Premier Ford rushing this? Is it because they know the public is too busy to get involved? Too worried with enough on their plate to just survive getting through the pandemic?

There is no need to rush or ram this through.

A freeze on making a decision is necessary.

A freeze on expanding the urban boundary is crucial to our future.

Sincerely

Doreen Stermann

Ward 1

**From:** Tushar Mehta

**Sent:** March 24, 2021 11:48 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Urban Sprawl and Hamilton

Dear Mayor and counsellors,

Below is a standard letter drafted by CAPE, the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment.

Beyond what it says in the letter, please note that the increasing sprawl causes the permanent destruction of so much natural or farmed land, increasing land fragmentation, biodiversity impacts, energy needs material impacts, and climate change. As we have greater needs than ever to protect the Canadian and global environment, sprawl creates one of the most egregious and irreversible impacts.

Keep Hamilton beautiful and let us work together to protect the remaining environment rather than radical economic growth.

Best wishes

Dr. Tushar Mehta

**From:** Reece Edward <  
**Sent:** March 23, 2021 7:40 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Subject: Urban Boundary Meeting March 29th

**To: Mayor Eisenberger and all Members of City Council**

I am writing to you to express my concerns regarding the proposed expansion of Hamilton's urban boundary. Council needs to freeze the urban boundary and pause planning till in person consultations have occurred.

Expansion of Hamilton's urban boundary will have only negative effects with regards to climate change. Prime farmland will be lost and converted to suburban areas.

People need affordable housing and not the luxury homes that developers plan to build on these lands. There are many opportunities to build affordable housing within Hamilton's current boundaries.

Currently, people are focused on covid and on their own survival, not on urban planning decisions that will affect them far into the future. The hour long webinar that you are planning on March 29<sup>th</sup> cannot replace the in-person town halls and information sessions that need to take place in order for people to properly consider this issue.

Please freeze the urban boundary and pause planning till in person consultations have occurred.

Thank you.

Edward Reece



I N V I Z I J

March 26, 2021

To members of Hamilton City Council and planning staff,

I have lived in Wards One and Two for nearly the past two decades and am a principal of the Hamilton-based architectural practice Invizij Architects. I have led the design of hundreds of new residential dwellings within Hamilton's urban boundary, all of which take into account our professional responsibility to design towards a low-carbon future. This housing has included the adaptive reuse of existing buildings into housing to the redevelopment of sites that contained unusable buildings or parking lots to single family homes in backyards. By developing the spaces we already have within our urban boundaries, we know that we make our city safer, cleaner, and more sustainable places for people to live and work.

I understand a proposed urban boundary expansion is being suggested to Council to meet the revised growth targets from the Province. As a community-engaged architect and Hamiltonian, I wanted to let you know that I was not aware of this proposed boundary expansion until a week ago when I was contacted by some of the members of Environment Hamilton. Being that I was unaware of this massive proposed change, I expect most Hamiltonians are unaware also and as a result I respectfully request that the city delay delivering their final land use plan to the Province until in-person public consultation has occurred. In this time of Covid people are distracted and not focusing on urban planning but it is an important issue that will affect all of us for decades.

Rather than building more new construction further away from our downtown, we know that a better goal is for a more compact, livable city, which is walkable, has higher order transit, and includes infill housing. You were a part of Hamilton's declaration of a Climate Emergency, and know that Urban Sprawl is a huge contributor to GHG emissions. I understand that the report by Lorus did not include an analysis (or even a mention) of climate change in their recommendations which makes me concerned. How can that be possible in this era of knowing that designing in a better way to reduce climate change is necessary for us as decision-makers and professionals. Most of the housing projects I have designed in the past decade have been designed to the Passive House standard which allows for development that is Net Zero Ready (NZR) or Low Carbon in order to help meet Federal Climate Change targets. Due to their infill locations, these households all have well lower car ownership than a typical development as people can rely on walking, cycling, and public transit to get everywhere they need. Alternatively, sprawl development is guaranteed to only be designed to meet the minimum energy standards of the Ontario Building Code and at the same time creating increased gas consumption and traffic due to the need for more cars on the road. It is the opposite of the direction we need to be taking.

In 2019, the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (of which I am a member), the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, the Canadian Institute of Planners, the Canadian Water and Wastewater Association and ICLEI Canada wrote a joint statement that we have taken to hear in our architectural practice.

*Canadian professionals have both the opportunity and responsibility to respond to this challenge and address both emissions reduction and adaptation. Our national professional associations have a crucial role to play in advancing ethics, awareness, practices and policies that support this integrated Low*

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*Carbon Resilience approach to action on climate change, due to their prominent roles in many aspects of the development and management of resources, ecosystems and communities.*

I believe major decisions like whether to expand the urban boundary need to take into account this Low Carbon Resilience approach, which is why I am writing to you today.

Rather than expand our urban boundary for future growth, I think we can do a much better job providing the zoning and framework for growth-positive infill housing. For example, one policy that I have been closely engaged with is for the zoning to allow laneway housing and secondary dwelling units (SDU) within our urban boundary. The report on making this SDU zoning city-wide is being presented by Staff to the Planning Committee next week – April 6<sup>th</sup>. I expect that the recommended zoning provisions in this type of infill alone could allow for thousands of infill units over time – many for smaller families and households that are ground oriented and in walkable neighbourhoods. In addition, this type of housing is often intended for family members which will help build healthier communities - either aging parents that want to downsize and live close to family, or adult children that want to live in an affordable home close to their parents. So far, those two demographics have made up all the SDU projects I have designed, which are currently awaiting this new zoning.

In order to show the potential for infill development, I wanted to share a summary table of the hundreds of homes we (as Invizij Architects) have designed to be built within Hamilton’s urban boundary. These projects use the existing infrastructure that we already have and allow for more affordable, compact, and livable cities for people to call home. There are thousands of other homes that have been designed just like these within our existing urban boundaries. Rather than pushing the boundary further out, I suggest we take more time and look at how to make this type of development more feasible for developers. This way, we would be improving the built environment we already have, filling in the gaps and holes, rather than ignoring what we already have and putting pressure outwards.

I respectfully request that these suggestions for smart growth be considered and that the city delay delivering their final land use plan to the Province until in-person public consultation has occurred which takes into account development that aligns with the Climate Emergency we live in. Thank you for considering my request.

Respectfully,

Emma Cubitt, MArch, OAA, MRAIC, LEED®AP

Principal Invizij Architects


**Table 1: Recent Infill Housing Projects by Invizij Architects in Hamilton**

Year Constructed / Planned Construction completion	Project Name	Hamilton Ward	Type of project / construction	# New Homes	Energy standard designed to meet
2011	Perkins Centre	Ward 4	Adaptive reuse of former banquet hall and rooming house	46	Low Energy
2016	Rudy Hulst Commons	Ward 4	New Construction on former underused storefront/ parking lot	47	Low Energy
2016	Strathearne Suites	Ward 4	Renovation of existing uninhabitable apartment building	38	
2018	Parkdale Landing	Ward 4	Adaptive reuse of former banquet hall and rooming house	57	Passive House
2020	North End Landing	Ward 2	New Construction on former commercial plaza, includes a new church	45	Passive House
2020	McQuesten Lofts	Ward 4	New Construction on unused lot, includes a new branch library	50	Passive House
2021	Royal Oak Dairy – Phase 1	Ward 3	New Construction on former site of a former dairy (which was beyond repair)	95	Passive House
2022	Royal Oak Stables	Ward 3	Adaptive reuse of former stables and carriage storage building	13	Low Energy
2021	Modern Coach House	Ward 1	SDU (awaiting new zoning)	1	Passive House
2021	Dundurn St. Laneway House	Ward 1	Laneway House (awaiting MV)	1	Passive House
2021	Ottawa/ Cannon apartments	Ward 4	Renovation of existing uninhabitable apartments above commercial space	12	Low Energy
2021	Hamilton Place Seniors Apartments	Ward 2	Adaptive reuse of former commercial space into apartments	15	-



2021	Beulah St. Laneway House	Ward 1	Laneway House	1	Passive House
2022	383 Hughson	Ward 2	Adaptive reuse of a church and new construction	18	Low Energy
2023	55 Queenston	Ward 4	New Construction on former City Motor Hotel site	40	Passive House
2023?	Royal Oak Walkups	Ward 3	New Construction on vacant site	31	Passive House
2023?	Jamesville redevelopment	Ward 2	New Construction on the former Jamesville townhouse site	100-120	Passive House
2023?	Macassa Seniors Apartments (feasibility study)	Ward 7	New Construction on unused green space	65	Passive House

**From:** Trina Hetherington

**Sent:** March 24, 2021 5:16 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** NO BOUNDARY EXPANSION

Please include and respect the community and don't allow for the destruction of land only for homes that we cannot afford. I am writing to you as a concerned community member of Hamilton. Our city is treasured for its natural surrounding habitats and agricultural land. Please do not accept the destruction of mother Earth on your watch. Please do not allow yourselves to be persuaded. Please listen to us, we are your city's people and we do not want this. Please support us and work with us.

Trina Hetherington  
Hamilton



**From:** michelle hruschka  
**Sent:** March 24, 2021 8:07 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** STOP THE SPRAWL

Attention to all at City Council:

I am writing to express my perspective on this public consultation.

In my view the greatest issue is the growing homelessness problem, the growing number of tenants like myself facing N12 evictions simply because of greed.

You can all flap your lips about affordable housing that will never be built, as you all represent the needs of affluent rather than those struggling the most.

I have written about Jason Farr and Chad Collins, who were on CHML last summer who were both in complete histrionics, painting very untoward picture of the homeless. It is evident they care about the affluent not concerned about their own lack of action and concern years before that caused the inhuman conditions that were the encampments.

Destroying farmland will cause greater food insecurity, why does the film Soylent Green enter my.mind.

How about the job title housing support worker that does not find you housing and given my recent battle with not for profit organizations who keep saying, not my job, yet you all keep funneling money into a system that still carries the nuances of the workhouses of the Victorian Era.

The covid has definitely affected the ability of individuals like myself who cannot afford to engage in zoom conferences, which is allowing for a rushed public consultation process that sees the affluent earning more.


Stop the sprawl, you guys covered up sewer gate, so there is no possible way you all can say you stand up for the environment the living plants and fellow creatures we live with.

Why is it you are always hiding in camera?

This is not a democracy, in my view! Time to add in all eligible voters in totals opposed to just those who mark an X beside a name which skews results. The current mayor had only around 21%, not the 50 % you all keep pounding into the minds of the public.

I rest my case!!

Michelle Hruschka  
SCRAP  
steel city rising against poverty

 the lion roars

**From:** Megan Sonke

**Sent:** March 24, 2021 8:40 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** To: Mayor Eisenberger and all Members of City Council Re: Hamilton's Urban Development Plan

Dear Mayor Eisenberger,

I am writing to inform you directly that I am opposed to the action you are currently taking in pursuit of Hamilton's urban boundary expanding into the Greenbelt area in Elfrida. I understand the pressure you are under, to lead in this time of Covid, to consider the health and lives of your city's residents while considering its future residents. Of course we need more housing for current and future Hamiltonians, it is smart to solve that problem- and quickly! However, expansion is *not* the answer.

Hamilton's Chapter of [350.org](http://350.org) writes:

"Stop the rush *at least* until in-person public consultation can take place. A motion calling for delay will be considered at the *Monday, March 29* meeting where the agenda includes a recommendation to dramatically expand the urban area onto foodlands to make way for more low-density housing.

**The growth plans for the next THIRTY years are being determined now in the middle of the pandemic when appropriate public consultation and engagement is impossible.**

Rural residents without adequate internet are excluded. Low-income residents who can't afford computers and/or internet access are excluded. Those uncomfortable with or unfamiliar with Zoom-type technology are excluded.

**Low-density urban sprawl worsens the climate emergency in multiple ways.**

It increases car dependency. It replaces rural carbon sinks with urban carbon sources. It replaces vegetated areas with pavement and buildings. It overuses land, making the city more spread out and increasing distances travelled. It is impossible to efficiently service with transit. It increases the urban heat island effect. It increases stormwater runoff and consequent flooding. It requires millions of dollars in new roads, pipes and other infrastructure that consume already very scarce city finances.

Of course it reduces food security by permanently eliminating more foodlands. Its car dependency excludes affordable housing and lower income residents thus further ghettoizing residents. It also degrades wildlife habitat and makes ecological restoration more difficult."

There are so many great examples of cities working towards a future that serves us all - Copenhagen, Stockholm, Singapore. The answer is NOT in expansion but in re-tooling.

You MUST act with those of us thinking of our futures, after all, it's your future too!

Sincerely,

Megan Sonke

**From:** Maryann Botts  
**Sent:** March 24, 2021 7:15 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** City Council has the power to stop the urban sprawl

Hello, this is a plea to the Mayor of Hamilton and all City Councillors.

Please consider the effects of urban sprawl within the City of Hamilton. Greenspace and farmland is more important to our survival than development. Climate change is real, and more sprawl, in my opinion, will not help climate change. Increased housing, further away from services, will put more cars on the road, increasing greenhouse gasses, pollution and it will affect climate change. We need more greenspace and farmland to counter the climate emergency that council has previously declared...I believe the push to increase the urban boundary during a pandemic, is just an opportunity for developers to benefit on the backs of civilization in the short term...while no one is watching...

Please consider stopping the urban sprawl, by reviewing the boundaries and the impacts carefully.

Thanks

Maryann Botts

Hamilton

**From:** judy moore  
**Sent:** March 24, 2021 8:22 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Urban Sprawl

Mayor Eisenberger and members of City Council

Please stop this urban expansion move at the expense of our green space and farm land. I do not need to enumerate the devastation this would be not only to our city but to the environment,. The argument in favor of paving “protected” green spaces with housing , roads etc. has no validity when the destruction it would cause is considered. I truly believed that “protected” meant just that and felt secure that we would be assured these areas were safe when the government planned new projects. We need our farm land, crucial to feeding the population, and green areas to sustain wild life and the our well being.

With the stroke of a pen Doug Ford & his conservatives apparently can erase this promise. Listen to the Conservation Authorities and stand against Doug Ford’s short sighted one track mind set. Our water, farmland and green areas are extremely important to Hamilton and our survival.

Judy Moore  
Dundas, Ontario

**From:** Don McLean

**Sent:** March 24, 2021 4:59 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Cc:** Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Eisenberger, Fred <[Fred.Eisenberger@hamilton.ca](mailto:Fred.Eisenberger@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Danko, John-Paul <[John-Paul.Danko@hamilton.ca](mailto:John-Paul.Danko@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Please include this in the correspondence for the March 29 GIC

Re: General Issues Committee March 29 2021 – item 8.1 – Municipal Comprehensive Review etc

To: Mayor Eisenberger and all Members of Hamilton City Council

Dear elected officials,

I believe there are multiple reasons why you should reject the recommendations in item 8.1 (and delay any decision on 8.2) arising out of the Land Needs Assessment process. These include that the public consultation being reported was inadequate and indeed effectively impossible to carry out during the restriction arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Too many Hamiltonians were effectively denied the possibility of participating. And even if they could have participating the vast majority would be unable to interpret the acronyms used to try to engage them. To actually engage residents, the consultation effort would need to wait until in-person meetings are again the norm, and would need to honestly explain that this is about how our city is planned to grow over the next 30 years, and more specifically whether that should include any expansion of the urban boundary onto agricultural and other rural lands.

The consultation would also need to offer a FULL range of options rather than the two presented in the January attempt which were only expansion or more expansion, less foodlands or even less foodlands, elimination of a zero carbon future or even more certain elimination of a zero carbon future, etc. The staff decision to refuse to offer a no boundary expansion option doomed this consultation from the start. So what you are now presented with is not and cannot be the views of the public about the future growth of the city, but merely a choice made by a very small number of residents between two very similar options that could not possibly gather an accurate picture of residents' views.

The consultation process done in January and to date throughout the MCR/GRIDS2 process has also failed because it has not included a full description and accounting of the tax costs of each option presented. The most recent one had effectively nothing to say about this even though it is well established that growth does NOT pay for itself and that the costs of growth are intimately tied to the resulting density.

As you know and your staff constantly remind you, our city is increasingly failing to find the funds to even maintain our existing infrastructure. The current shortfall, I believe, is \$3.8 Billion and rising by about \$200 million per year. Your general manager of finance has advised you that even to just stop making this enormous hole any deeper would require an immediate property tax increase of 30 percent. Unfortunately, council has not chosen to carefully examine how we got into this hole, so we haven't seen staff advice on how to get out of it. No doubt there are complex features of this situation, but one thing is dramatically obvious – we have too much infrastructure to be maintained by existing taxpayers without a massive increase in taxation.

That is fundamentally, I would suggest, a problem of density. We need more residents, but without additional new infrastructure, to start extracting ourselves from this deep financial hole. That's one of the reasons why we need to freeze the urban boundary while our population continues to increase. That will gradually give us more taxpayers to pay for the necessary repair and replacement of our roads, pipes, and other public infrastructure.

But that is not the vision of your planners who stand behind the report at 8.1. They are not grappling with this fundamental problem, and their recommendations will undoubtedly make it much worse. Expanding the urban area with more low-density housing (and anything under 200 persons per hectare cannot support efficient public transit) will sharply increase the amount of public infrastructure and the costs of maintaining that.

It will also bring with it a plethora of additional problems.

We will lose thousands of acres of prime agricultural land that could help feed us in the increasingly difficult food security situation facing the global community.

These car-dependent areas will pour thousands of additional vehicles onto existing publicly-owned roads and escarpment accesses, aggravating congestion and associated problems.

The vast increase in impervious areas will impose much heavier stormwater runoff. It will increase water consumption in areas that are the furthest possible from our water source and treatment facility. It will increase sewage flows over very long distances to those treatment facilities.

Indeed for much of the rural land south of our existing urban boundary, the gravity feed is AWAY from our treatment facilities, thus requiring immense pumping costs to push it uphill before it will be able to take advantage of down slopes.

The new housing will be extremely expensive so these new areas will be ghettos of the well-off (or at least of the deeply indebted well-off). Indeed even trying to locate affordable housing in low-density areas far from the city centre and public facilities is a fool's game. How can low-income people live so far away from their employment and other needs with no more than low frequency transit service?

And most importantly of all, in my view, is the unavoidable climatic impact. If council fails to freeze the urban boundary it should retract its declaration of a climate emergency and stop pretending this was serious.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely

Don McLean  
Hamilton ON



**From:** Thomas Cassidy <  
**Sent:** March 24, 2021 7:27 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** MCR GRIDS2

Good morning

I didn't see the online consultation survey but would like the chance here to write with some feedback on the MCR GRIDS2 staff recommendations.

I am sad not to see an option offered that would halt the expansion of the urban boundary.

- We are in a climate emergency. This will not in any way help the situation.
- We have a large infrastructure deficit. This will add new expenses to what we already carry and might even attract people to move away from existing infrastructure downtown. The most cost effective growth is urban intensification.
- Developments like these do not support healthy living. People will need to use cars to get around and will not feel a close-knit community. These areas are tough to serve by public transit and low density.
- We need green spaces for recreation. I like to cycle and it is getting harder and harder to ride out of the city from my house each year.
- We need farmland for food.

My request would be to please ask staff to resubmit the report with an option including a halt of the urban boundary. I think the numbers would show that it is the best option for both financial return and environment. When I say financial return I mean that we have a duty to seek the best return based on taxpayer money. I feel very strongly this would be investment in the downtown core. We have lots of space there to increase population density.

Anecdotally I think it would also be best for quality of life and promotion of health.

Thomas Cassidy  
Ward 1 - Strathcona

**From:** Stephanie Bochenek  
**Sent:** March 24, 2021 9:46 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Freeze Hamilton's Urban Boundary

Dear City of Hamilton Office of the Clerk,

As someone who grew up in Hamilton and who still has family living in Hamilton, I am writing to you to raise concerns about the expansion of the urban boundary of Hamilton. It has come to my attention that the City of Hamilton is looking at expanding its urban boundary into prime agricultural lands. Environmental groups such as Environment Hamilton, 350 Hamilton, and others are bringing attention to the impact the urban expansion will have on transit, affordable housing, the environment, and vulnerable communities.

As a Hamiltonian at heart who loves the city (both the urban and nature parts), I am asking that you vote to FREEZE Hamilton's urban boundary. This action is essential if we have any hope of building a sustainable, climate-resilient, inclusive future for Hamilton!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Bochenek

Saskatoon, SK  
Canada

**From:** Sonia Mataj <  
**Sent:** March 23, 2021 9:36 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Re: Municipal Comprehensive Review and GRIDS2

To the Mayor and members of Hamilton City Council,

The Hamilton 350 Committee works for real action on climate change. You are now facing an absolutely critical climate decision that will determine whether council actually believes there is a climate emergency and is prepared to act effectively to address that emergency. We urge you to recognize and act decisively to ensure that greenhouse gas emissions from Hamilton are reduced as rapidly as possible, and that additional measures are taken to make our city resilient in the face of the climatic changes ahead and already evident.

The crossroads Hamilton is at is whether to finally protect the city's remaining foodlands and natural areas by freezing the urban boundary. The current provincial government is trying to force municipalities to make decisions by 2022 on how they will accommodate provincial population and job growth projections for the next THIRTY years. These long range projections carry great uncertainty and are premature for planning purposes. In the past two years the current provincial government has torn up or seriously modified almost all the growth planning rules to ensure that so-called independent municipal governments make decisions that it wants.

It is clear that their intent is to force a massive expansion of municipal boundaries onto rural foodlands and natural areas for the pleasure and profit of land speculators and developers. It is literally a crime against present and future generations to decree – as the Ford government has done – that planning for growth must NOT consider climate implications, food security or other aspects of sustainability.

The situation created by the Ford government is bizarre. Never before have municipalities been required to plan 30 years into the future. Never before have they been forced to actually expand their urban area decades before there is any indication that the predicted growth will actually occur. Never before have the features of that growth, the economic landscape, and the likely commuting patterns in the wake of the pandemic been so uncertain. And never before have so many parts of the planning system been turned on their heads or so obviously distorted in favour of private profit and against the public good.

Further expansion of Hamilton's boundaries is completely incompatible with council's declaration of a climate emergency. As Ontario's recent Environmental Commissioner fired by the Ford administration has stated many times, "urban sprawl is the tar sands of Ontario". Submission to more sprawl development increases greenhouse gas emissions and further compromises city finances. More loss of Hamilton's foodlands clearly compromises our fragile food security. Replacement of rural lands with urbanization inevitably makes us more vulnerable to the stormwater runoff and flooding that comes with the increasingly extreme weather we face. More sprawl means an even weaker transit system as well as more single occupancy vehicle travel and an increasingly congested road system. Urbanization also reduces the plant life that helps to absorb greenhouse gases.

We understand some of you recognize that effective public consultation and engagement on the plans for Hamilton's next thirty years is effectively not possible during the pandemic lockdowns. So many people are being excluded from opportunities to provide their views on these critical

questions. That exclusion has been made much worse by the decision of your planning department to exclude a fixed urban boundary from the possible options on which it has tried to obtain comments. This appears to be a sad and beaten reaction to the provincial rule changes, but nevertheless it is completely unacceptable – a clear abandonment of the city’s written commitments to public engagement.

The Hamilton 350 Committee recognizes that the time is very late for humans to minimize climatic disruption and additional catastrophic consequences. We are eager for city council to be our allies in doing everything possible to cut emissions and to build a resilient, just and inclusive community. We hope you are just as committed.

Best regards,

Sonia

**From:** Shirla Schellenberg

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 1:46 AM

**To:** Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Wilf Ruland; Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** March 29 meeting: GRIDS 2 / MCR Report

*Dear Councillor Lloyd Ferguson,*

*We are property tax paying rural residents in Ward 12.*

*We are very concerned about reports that City Council may be on the verge of making an overly hasty decision to allow urban sprawl throughout Elfrida by approving an expansion of the urban boundary in that area. This is a hugely important decision, which will have ramifications for our City for decades to come.*

*We are asking you, the mayor, and other city councillors, to pause the decision making/planning process in regard to any urban boundary expansions until in person consultations have occurred.*

*Not all citizens are comfortable with webinars and zoom meetings and many citizens have no idea what is happening regarding these important decisions. In-person town halls and information sessions are needed so ideas can be exchanged and knowledge gained. It would be irresponsible to be making these important planning decisions during a pandemic, when many people are distracted and many others are not able to properly participate in the planning process.*

*Urban sprawl is costly and unsustainable. Our tax dollars are needed for our crumbling urban infrastructure, as this is where most people live and work. Population density within our existing urban boundaries can be increased at a much lower cost because the infrastructure needs (such as emergency services, public transportation, schools, roads, utilities, etc.) are already in place.*

*The planning process regarding potential urban boundary expansion to date has felt rushed and non-transparent and inaccessible.*

*We sincerely request that you not accept the motion to move forward with the GRIDS 2 / MCR Report without further stakeholder, in-person consultations with the residents of our City.*

*Sincerely,*

*Shirley Schellenberg and Wilf Ruland  
Ancaster*

**From:** Shelley Porteous  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 10:22 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Cc:** Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** Delay decision on Hamilton Urban Sprawl Plan!

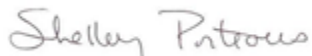
March 25, 2021

To: Mayor Eisenberger and Members of Hamilton City Council

Re: A Request for Public Consultation on Massive Urban Sprawl Plans

The proposal by Hamilton City Council to replace 5,000 acres of farmland and rural lands with residential sprawl is unfathomable in our present era of climate crisis. Minimally, there should be a delay on this decision until there can be appropriate public consultation and environmental assessment. Was City Council's declaration of a climate emergency a greenwashing exercise? Should City Council not take a stand against the Ford government's weakening of the Environmental Assessment Act and the Endangered Species Act? We need to protect our foodlands and our natural spaces. Hamilton could be a leader in City planning, instead of bowing to the wishes of developers and paying tribute to the rule of the almighty dollar. It is time to take action in protecting what little we have left and to think about what lies ahead for future generations if we don't.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shelley Porteous".

Shelley Porteous and Family

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I am a property tax-paying citizen in ward 12 and I am concerned about the haste city council may be in to approve urban sprawl and I am asking you, the mayor and city councillors to pause the decision making/planning until in person consultations have occurred. Not all citizens are comfortable with webinars and zoom meetings and many citizens have no idea what is happening regarding these important decisions. In person town halls and information sessions are needed so ideas can be exchanged and knowledge gained. I fear the elected leaders of our communities are not being prudent in making these important decisions during a pandemic.

Urban sprawl is costly, and our tax dollars are needed for our crumbling infrastructure. Population density within our urban boundaries can be increased at a much lower cost than suburban infrastructure needs, such as emergency services, public transportation, schools, roads, utilities, etc.

Regarding climate change, though we all acknowledge as citizens that our world's climate is changing, I believe there is a disconnect that people, including citizens of our own communities, believe that the climate problems are happening elsewhere and not in our own backyard. As elected leaders you all have an obligation to ensure that integrity of our climate footprint is accurately measured, listen to the science.

**I am asking all of you to OPPOSE the motion to move forward with the GRIDS 2/MCR report without further stakeholder, in person consultation.**

**People are focused on following public health measures and staying safe. We owe it to our citizens to engage in dialogue about our agricultural lands until Covid is under control and we can safely meet.**

I am looking forward to your response.

Sandra Starr

**From:** RoseAnne Prevec <

**Sent:** March 24, 2021 3:27 PM

**To:** VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** please delay land use decisions

Dear Arlene,

I am a property tax paying citizen in ward 13 and I am emailing you in the hopes that you and Hamilton city council will delay reconsidering Hamilton's growth and development plans.

I am greatly concerned about urban sprawl and believe it is important that we not make land-use planning decisions in haste and during a pandemic, without in person consultation.

Thank you  
Rose Anne Prevec  
Dundas



**From:** rodger brunning  
**Sent:** March 24, 2021 10:30 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Why the rush?

Dear Mayor

Please consider taking more time to decide on development plans in this era of climate emergency.

Thank you

Rodger Brunning

**From:** Roderick Gillyatt

**Sent:** January 25, 2021 9:17 AM

**To:** GRIDS 2 and MCR <[grids2-mcr@hamilton.ca](mailto:grids2-mcr@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Travis, Heather <[Heather.Travis@hamilton.ca](mailto:Heather.Travis@hamilton.ca)>; Vraets, Lauren <[Lauren.Vraets@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lauren.Vraets@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Re: GRIDS2 / MCR Project Mailing List

Heather/Lauren

Thank you for the GRIDS2 presentation last week.

During the presentation you mentioned there would be an Agricultural Impact Assessment under GRIDS2 in the near future.

Our family has a chicken broiler operation that borders the urban boundary in Waterdown. We would very much appreciate the opportunity to participate in the Agricultural Impact Assessment process.

Thank you

Roderick Gillyatt

As a resident of Ontario, I am sure you are aware that the Provincial government is systematically weakening our natural environment. From changes in protections for endangered species in our Environmental Protection Act, to abuse of Minister's Zoning Orders which issue permits to build on environmentally sensitive lands with no possibility of appeal or public input, to dismantling the powers of our conservation authorities the list is far too long for this email.

Now there is a new development. The Province has meddled in municipal land use planning and has reduced density targets from 80% set by the former Provincial government down to only 50% density. This will result in tens of thousands of acres of prime agricultural rural land within the Greater Golden Horseshoe being lost to urban sprawl as single-family homes rather than middle density housing are being prioritized. Sprawl is associated with huge increases of GHG emissions, loss of precious rural land and loss of food production. A better goal is for a compact, livable city, which is walkable, has higher order transit, affordable infill housing, clean air and water. The suburban sprawl land-grab means select landowners will become billionaires overnight if the urban boundary moves an inch to include their land, and increased GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions will be locked in for centuries. Very little affordable housing, decaying inner cities and a massive loss of prime agricultural land are just some of the grave concerns of unchecked urban sprawl.

All of this is being done under the shroud of COVID-19 when people are distracted, losing jobs and homes, and forbidden from attending town halls, workshops, or public meetings. The Province and Municipalities are relying on zoom meetings and online questionnaires but people in rural areas as well as some urban areas have little to no internet connection and are being excluded from having a say in the growth of their city. Some students from rural areas are forced to sit in their cars in Tim Horton's parking lots for several hours per day just to connect to Wi-Fi and finish high school. This is not what public engagement looks like.

This campaign already had a huge win in Halton (Burlington, Oakville, Milton, and Halton Hills) where a motion was **unanimously** passed on Feb. 17 to delay their Land Needs Assessment Plan until after Covid-19 restrictions are lifted and people can be better informed. This issue is simply too complex to be considered by the public at this juncture amid a world-wide pandemic.

Please ensure an environmental impact study will be completed and those details are shared with the community.

Kind Regards,

F.I.R.M (Farrah, Isaac, Rhu and Michael) SHERRARD

**From:** Rashne Baetz <>

**Sent:** March 24, 2021 10:04 AM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** rashne <[rashne@cogeco.ca](mailto:rashne@cogeco.ca)>

**Subject:** from Rashne Baetz former councillor of the Town of Dundas-Please maintain firm urban boundary-our children and grandchildren deserve a future!

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

As a resident of Dundas, citizen of the world, and former Dundas town councillor, I ask you to seriously consider the importance of maintaining a firm urban boundary in Hamilton. **Each decision we make at the local level affects our globe and this one that you will be making on March 29<sup>th</sup> on Hamilton's urban boundary is crucial in signalling how important you believe it is to preserve nature so our children and grandchildren can have a future.**

I would suggest you strongly oppose this expansion into rural land. This pandemic has shown us how important it is to have short supply lines when it comes to food in the future, we need to protect remaining prime agricultural land. Also greater sprawl means more pollution, less biodiversity and the need for more infrastructure that never pays for itself, but rather costs the municipality. Planning research has shown us that for every dollar spent on sprawl by the municipality, 85cents is retrieved in taxes.

Thanks for your consideration.

Warm regards,  
Rashne Baetz,

**From:** Peggy Freeman <>

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 1:01 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** NO to Urban Sprawl!!

Hello.

In response to the upcoming meeting on expanding Hamilton's Urban Boundary, I want to add my name to the ever growing list of Hamiltonian's who are opposed to this.

We want to freeze the Urban Boundary and to delay any further land needs planning until after public in-person consultations occur.

We should be investing in our existing community, not expanding outward. Investment in mass transit, current infrastructure and green spaces is what we need, not more sprawl.

Sprawl is very expensive and drives up our property taxes.

Sprawl eats up irreplaceable prime Agricultural land.

Sprawl Sucks the life out of Downtown. We should be investing in and revitalizing our Downtown!!

Sprawl contributes to Climate Change and increases greenhouse gas emissions. We are living in a time of severe ecological crisis, so why would we want to encourage sprawl knowing that it will contribute to the worsening crisis??

Please do the right thing for our city and vote NO to expanding our urban boundary.

Thank you,  
Peggy Freeman  
Ward 2

**From:** Norman Newbery  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 7:12 PM  
**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>  
**Cc:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Submission to Council Meeting, Mar 29 re: Changes to Zoning until 2050

Dear Mayor Fred Eisenberger and Members of Council,

I write with concern about changes to the proposed growth plan for Hamilton which will be in force for the next 30 years. It is absolutely essential that we move forward with plans for growth that are sustainable not only in terms of the costs of maintenance but also in terms addressing the issues resulting from the impacts of suburban lifestyles on the health of its citizens and the entire world. Earlier today, The Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE) issued a press release applauding the Supreme Court of Canada's ruling in favour of the constitutionality of a federal carbon price.

They state that "as physicians, their expectation is that governments at all levels will do everything they can to address the climate crisis. Carbon pricing is recognized by over 3,500 economists and 27 Nobel Prize winners as the single most effective tool to manage the climate emergency". Carbon pricing protects our health. The Lancet, the world's top medical journal, calls carbon pricing the best single treatment for climate change. It decreases greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, saving lives and healthcare dollars. "Climate inaction kills, and climate action is good for health."

We need to look at our Zoning, Planning and actions through a climate lens. Our past models of suburban lifestyles that are car based; carbon intensive; inefficient and unaffordable are well documented as major contributors to climate change; poor air quality and unhealthy lifestyles.

A major concern for me is that we are still building most homes according to 1960's energy standards. These homes are out of date even before they are occupied. The Passif Haus (Passive Home Standard) has demonstrated how buildings can be built using up to 90% less energy). We need to consider if as a progressive city we can mandate builders to provide a carbon budget much like happens when we buy a new car or a refrigerator. Inefficient oversized homes might make big profits for builders but they are the worst thing for the environment. We can also expect that millennials will reject these white elephants once their energy characteristics are made available.

Carbon pricing protects our health. The Lancet, the world's top medical journal, calls carbon pricing the best single treatment for climate change. It decreases greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, saving lives and healthcare dollars. "Climate inaction kills, and climate action is good for health".

We ask you to delay adopting the proposed growth plan for Hamilton. We need time to more carefully examine our options for development including careful consideration of how we can accommodate greater intensification in our present built up areas to meet the total need for the next 30 years.

At the March 29 meeting, please support the motion introduced by Councilor Brad Clark and seconded by Brenda Johnson to ask for a delay. Hamilton Council should ask the Province to suspend the timetable for municipal conformity to the Growth Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement until after Covid restrictions have passed and citizens can once again assemble and have an active voice in how our city grows.

Your respectfully,  
  
Norman Newbery,  
  
Hamilton

**From:** Natalie Lazier

**Sent:** March 26, 2021 11:03 AM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** Written delegation for General Issue Meeting March 29 (GRIDS2)

Hello City Clerk

Hope this email finds you well. Please see my written delegation for the General Issues Committee Meeting coming up Monday March 29, 2021.

I am a member of Ward 3 with elected representative Cllr Nrinder Mann.

The written delegation is attached.

Thank you

**From:** Michelle Aasman

**Sent:** March 23, 2021 11:20 AM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** NO BOUNDARY EXPANSION!

Good Morning,

I'm writing this morning to urge you to consider NO BOUNDARY EXPANSION under the new Provincial planning methods and delay any further land needs planning until after public in-person consultations occur. I am a Ward 1 constituent living at 120 Stanley Avenue. I URGE you to please, please consider the implication of your decision on your city and green spaces. Michelle Aasman



**From:** michael cuberovic  
**Sent:** March 23, 2021 3:48 PM  
**To:** Chad Collins <[chad.collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:chad.collins@hamilton.ca)>  
**Cc:** Lyn Folkes  
**Subject:** Upcoming GRIDS2 Meeting

Dear Chad:

Please vote to stop urban sprawl and encourage using vacant land within our Hamilton urban boundary for any future development. Encourage going vertical with the exception of properties along our waterfront.

Urban sprawl is bad for the environment and will be a pox on taxpayers as we will have to continually pay higher property taxes to sustain everything that expansion entails.

Having developers pay the cost of expansion won't work because they will just pass on their costs to the purchaser of their developments.

Warmest regards,

Michael Cuberovic  
Ward 5

**From:** Melissa Ricci  
**Sent:** March 22, 2021 8:46 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Written delegation re: GRIDS2

Hi there,

My name is Melissa and I am a resident of Ward 2. I am extremely concerned with recent developments being made to cut into existing farmland and greenspace. We have seen numerous examples in the news lately, and the GRIDS2 evaluation is another example. As the city grapples with numerous crises, such as a lack of affordable housing and climate change, spreading the development boundary threatens to make these issues worse.

Some important points to consider:

- Sprawl development is car-dependent & will not help us reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the coming decade.
- These developments are not aging friendly and will create unique challenges for residents as they age (e.g. snow removal, lack of accessible public transportation, no nearby grocery stores)
- Sprawl will consume more farmland & rural open space, putting our local food security at risk and making us more vulnerable to extreme weather impacts.
- There is already a housing crisis in Hamilton and expanding the boundary will not solve this issue. Creating neighbourhoods where people \*need\* cars to exist will not be accessible to many people who need housing during a global pandemic. There are many locations that could be (re)developed within existing zoning, where people already live and already need housing
- A firm boundary will help to build 'complete communities' within the urban area - including enhancing public amenities in existing urban neighbourhoods.

We are privileged in Ontario to have farmland and nearby green space. It would be a misguided decision to develop this land. If the city does consider climate change worthy an emergency, I encourage council to consider the impacts of sprawl on this crisis.

Thank you,

Melissa Ricci

**From:** Matthew Nash  
**Sent:** March 24, 2021 8:56 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Written delegation to the City Clerk for GIC March 29

To the Mayor and members of Hamilton City Council

Re: Municipal Comprehensive Review and GRIDS2

Please freeze the urban boundary to protect farmland, natural ecosystems and reduce climate change.

We need food security by maintaining our productive land.

Extinction of plants and animals is so pronounced that collapse of our life support systems is a very real possibility so habitats must be preserved.

Finally, allowing for increased sprawl only adds to climate changing pollution from car dependent suburbs.

Let's focus on investing in resilient, inclusive, affordable and accessible communities while preserving the ecological support systems that sustain us all.

Thank you,

Matthew Nash  
Ward 1 Resident

**From:** M Belanger < >

**Sent:** March 22, 2021 10:04 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** please oppose the destruction of the whitebelt

Dear Hamilton City Council,

I am a Ward 3, from 96 east Avenue S, Hamilton, ON

Please keep our farmland safe and free and oppose Doug Ford's plans to build houses on them. As city councillors, I ask that you continue to invest in downtown hamilton. Improve the existing bike infrastructure, work towards building upwards rather than outwards, and open up the many closed and boarded-up buildings in our city.

Thank you, Mathew Belanger

**From:** Maryanne Lemieux

**Sent:** March 22, 2021 10:39 AM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; [brad.collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:brad.collins@hamilton.ca); Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** [\*\*\*\*POSSIBLE SPAM]freeze urban boundary-- city council voting

To our elected representatives for the City of Hamilton,

Re: City Council vote on March 29, 2021

We want to freeze the Urban Boundary and to delay any further land needs planning until after public in-person consultations occur.

I am writing on behalf of myself and many Hamiltonians who are deeply concerned about the impact of urban sprawl on the well being of our citizens and the natural environment. Sustainability of both is of paramount importance.

Yours sincerely,

Maryanne Lemieux

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary De Sousa

Sent: March 21, 2021 6:10 PM

To: Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>

Subject: Freeze the Urban Boundary

Please..... think of us, our children and grandchildren!!

"We want to freeze the Urban Boundary and to delay any further land needs planning until after public in-person consultations occur".

Sprawl is very expensive and drives up our property taxes Sprawl eats up irreplaceable prime Agricultural land Sprawl Sucks the life out of Downtown Sprawl contributes to Climate Change and increases greenhouse gas emissions Sprawl makes developers wealthy: not many can afford McMansions

Happy to be a new Hamiltonian,  
Mary De Sousa

**From:** Mary Collier <>  
**Sent:** March 23, 2021 11:16 PM  
**To:** Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>  
**Cc:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** [\*\*\*\*POSSIBLE SPAM]re: delay land-use decisions

Dear Councillor Wilson,

I am a resident of Ward 1. As you are aware, the province has revised municipal planning guidelines to include population projections to 2051, lowered density targets for new development and enacted a “market-driven” approach to planning for new residential.

**I am requesting that Hamilton City Council delay Hamilton’s Official Review Plans (MRC) at your upcoming meeting.** The region of Halton voted unanimously to pause their planning on Feb 17 and I believe we must follow suit.

We must not lock in sprawl until 2051. Land use planning is the key lever in locking in or locking out greenhouse emissions according to Yuill Herbert, a leading energy consultant for many Canadian municipalities including Hamilton.

Constituents cannot be properly consulted given COVID restrictions. Many residents do not have internet access or lack the expertise to use Zoom software in order to delegate. Critical decisions which will impact Hamilton for the next 30 years, should not be made while in-person consultation is impossible. Hamilton’s 2016-2025 Strategic Plan commits to community engagement and participation and states: “Citizens are consulted and involved in making the decisions that impact them”.

For this action to be effective, councils around the Golden Horseshoe will need to pass similar motions and as it started in Halton, I hope it can continue in Hamilton.

Thank you,

Mary Collier

**From:** Mary Neibert < >  
**Sent:** March 23, 2021 2:18 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** stop urban area expansion

I am strongly encouraging the mayor of Hamilton and city councillors to delay consideration of expanding urban lands by increased low density housing. In person public consultation must take place. Rapid land urbanization is being pushed forward during a covid pandemic and is not appropriate action to take at this time.

On March 29, please delay any discussion of increased urbanization which will reduce foodlands and make way for more low density housing.

Respectfully,  
Mary Beth Neibert



**From:** Mark Andrew Cachia

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 11:09 AM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Protecting the Future Health of Hamilton Residents

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

As a resident of Hamilton and a physician, I urge you to enshrine health into the GRIDS2 municipal comprehensive review. **The best course of action for the health and wellbeing of our citizens is for Hamilton to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.**

I am acutely aware of the health outcomes of people living in poverty in our inner city. Lack of affordable housing, crumbling infrastructure, lack of basic services like sidewalk snow clearing, safe bike lanes for those who don't own a car, and reliable public transit all further marginalize families already living in precarious circumstances. **Building more subdivisions beyond the current City boundaries will further gut the core of our City.**

We are in a climate emergency and sprawl would only make it worse. The prestigious medical journal The Lancet has stated that "climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century and tackling it could be our greatest health opportunity"<sup>1</sup> Expanding urban boundaries moves people further from mass transit, requiring more use of cars and generating more greenhouse gas emissions and fine particulate air pollution, which we know **kills over 8,000 Canadians annually.**<sup>2</sup> We should be making planning decisions that reduce this number, not put more citizens at risk of illness and death from poor air quality.

In her 2017 Report on the State of Public Health in Canada<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, says, "Our communities are changing and often expanding through urban sprawl rather than by building compact and 'complete communities'." **Urban sprawl has been linked to sedentary lifestyles, easy access to unhealthy food, less physical activity and higher rates of obesity.** She advocates for the "development of new communities located within urban containment boundaries that support active transportation and physical activity by including higher density and land use mix, a range of housing options and affordability, easy access to recreational facilities and parks and good links to frequent public transit."

Similarly, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, recommends that municipal governments, community planners and developers work together to "establish urban containment policies to manage the outward growth of cities to promote increased development density and opportunities for active travel."<sup>5</sup> The most popular forms of active travel include walking and cycling.

In their "[Planning Healthy Communities Fact Sheet Series](#)", The Canadian Institute of Planners points out that the "lack of physical activity is considered a 'conveyor belt' to heart disease, stroke and other chronic conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes and various cancers." They mention a study of Vancouver residents that found that the walkability index and its components related to land-use mix, residential density and street connectivity were significant predictors of body mass index, a key health indicator.

We have an enormous opportunity to discourage urban sprawl. Doing so would be one of our best tools for fighting climate change and improving peoples' health. People who live in walkable neighbourhoods occupy less space, have a higher quality of life, a smaller carbon footprint, drive less and have better health. Urban planning guidelines that put people closer to each other create successful public transit systems, making our society more efficient and more equitable.

Sprawl threatens the health of our community today and generations into the future. I urge you to vote to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mark A. Cachia, MD

McMaster University  
David Braley Health Sciences Centre Department of HEI - Public Health & Preventive Medicine

Hamilton, ON

1. [https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown\\_Policy-brief-for-Canada\\_FINAL.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown_Policy-brief-for-Canada_FINAL.pdf)
2. <https://policybase.cma.ca/documents/PolicyPDF/PD21-01.pdf>
3. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/chief-public-health-officer-reports-state-public-health-canada/2017-designing-healthy-living.html>
4. <https://www.cip-icu.ca/Files/Resources/FACTSHEETS-ActiveTransportation-FINALenglish.aspx>
5. <https://www.heartandstroke.ca/-/media/pdf-files/canada/2017-position-statements/community-design-ps-eng.ashx?la=en>
6. <https://www.bbc.com/worklife/article/20201214-how-15-minute-cities-will-change-the-way-we-socialise>

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Mark A. Cachia, MD (He/Him)  
PGY-1 Public Health & Preventive Medicine  
McMaster University

**From:** Malcolm Clark

**Sent:** March 17, 2021 1:34 PM

**To:** Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Urban Boundary Expansion

Dear Councillor Ferguson:

I am your constituent in Ward 12

In light of the recent Provincial changes affecting urban planning methods I am writing to express my support for a pause to any boundary expansion planning until after proper in-person meetings and workshops are once again permitted after Covid. Citizens must be properly included in the decisions of how our city grows. I support a move to set a firm urban boundary because as a retired farmer, I see the need to maintain access to farmland for young people who wish to become farmers and maintain our food supply. Covid has alerted the citizens of Hamilton to the importance of a local sustainable food supply.

Sincerely,  
Malcolm Clark

Ancaster

**From:** Maeve Cooper

**Sent:** March 24, 2021 3:29 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Stop the Sprawl

I am emailing you in the hopes that you and all of Hamilton's other councilors will delay reconsidering Hamilton's growth and development plans.

I believe it is very important that we not make land-use planning decisions in haste and during a pandemic when in-person meetings are not possible. Many citizens do not have access to the internet making it undemocratic to make huge decisions without being able to have a proper consultation.

Please, please do not let the Ford governments thoughtless and destructive plans add to environmental damage and override Hamilton's ability to decide our own future!

Thank you for taking the time to consider this.

Maeve Hay Cooper

**From:** Macey Noseworthy

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 7:56 AM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** EXPANDING URBAN BORDERS

Dear City of Hamilton

Please vote NO to expanding urban borders. You have already devalued our standards of living in the name of monetary profit. It is already difficult for the average person to purchase property in Hamilton, and when they do they are subject to paying more taxes and receiving less government investment in their communities. You are pandering to developers and builders instead of putting your community needs and your citizens first. This can only hurt us.

People are paying their mortgages and taxes at an all time high, -despite the pandemic- and they are getting almost nothing from you in return. Property owners are still waiting months to gain permits for necessary work, they are still waiting months for hearings at the LTB (which is a whole other group of people having housing issues you are not dealing with).

For you to propose that this money goes to anything but your citizens first is inexcusable. Invest in the communities we already have. There has been minimal effort or investment in solving every day issues for regular hamiltonians, therefore there is no logical reason to be intentionally expanding the amount of people living here.

As a citizen of Hamilton I do not want my tax dollars going to yet another new government funded project, when there are plenty that are currently incomplete or being delayed because of a lack of foresight and planning. You have no business attempting to expand on urban living when you do not maintain the living areas already in existence.

More buildings will not fix it.

More developers will not fix it.

Leave our farmland as farmland.

Money may feed you for now, but it will not feed us forever.

Put your people first.

**From:** Lynn Gates  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 11:57 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Cc:** Lynn Gates  
**Subject:** Motion to Delay Expansion of Urban Boundary

I am writing to the Mayor and Councillors of the City of Hamilton because of my great concern regarding the proposed expansion of the current Urban Boundary. Neither recommendation by staff is acceptable as the loss of viable farmland has already been too much. There are many ways to accommodate population growth through multiple family housing on existing properties.

Given the lack of adequate public consultations on this very important planning decision, I support the Motion to Delay, to be discussed on March 29th.

Sincerely,

Lynn M Gates, MSc

Hamilton

**From:** Liz Koblyk <

**Sent:** March 22, 2021 9:08 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Please reconsider intensification

Hello,

I'm writing because Hamilton is in Canada's Carolinian zone, which has 70% of Canada's biodiversity in less than 1% of Canada's landmass. We have more at-risk species here than anywhere else in Canada. We also have one of the best agricultural regions, including one of only two soft fruit growing regions.

To develop either greenspace or agricultural land would be a mistake that we can't undo. Hamilton has an opportunity to change course. Halting intensification, and preserving the limited greenspace and agricultural land that we have, would send a message to voters that the City is learning from the mistakes made with water custodianship, and is taking on the responsibility of being good stewards of the lands that clean our air, improve water management, feed and house native flora and fauna, and help maintain local food security.

Please let me know how the City plans to research and evaluate the losses that intensification would cost.

Thank you,

Liz

**From:** Lindsey Daubney

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 10:05 AM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Thorne, Jason <[Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Vote NO to greenbelt expansion.

Hello Jason,

I'm a Durand resident. I'm writing to you about the greenbelt expansion. This stands against the values I believe we share. The environment needs to come first if we hope to continue enjoying this beautiful world we live in.

I'm counting on you to vote on my behalf.

**Please vote NO to the greenbelt expansion.**

Thank you,

Lindsey



**From:** Lianne Lefebvre  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 8:49 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Stop the Sprawl: Monday's meeting

Dear council members,

I am a concerned citizen of Hamilton writing to you regarding your decision meeting about urban sprawl next Monday. My concern with urban sprawl is its environmental impact since THOUSANDS of acres of farmland and rural lands would be replaced with this low-density residential housing.

At the very least I am writing to ask that you stop the rush to make this decision until in-person public consultations can take place. I am aware that there are two options being considered - adding 4,000 or 5,400 acres to the urban area. I would like to ask why a "climate-appropriate choice" to stop expanding the urban area was excluded from this consultation. Big developers and corporations are getting what they want as the provincial government tears up or replaces all major planning rules that are in place in order to favor THEIR INTERESTS, not the people's welfare, livelihood **OR** health. This is our future and our environment they are messing with!

Scientific evidence is overwhelmingly pointing to the importance of maintaining a biodiversity and the microbiome to support our health. I believe protecting farmlands is important for our future and that corporations and developers do not have that in their minds.

Please ensure that such consultations can occur and I am asking that you do not acquiesce to Ford's insistence that Hamilton's growth plans include 30 years instead of the usual 20 years.

Concerned in Hamilton,  
Lianne Lefebvre

**From:** Liam MacLeod

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 2:26 PM

**To:** Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Request to Delay the Land-use Planning Decision

Dear Councillor Wilson,

I am a ward 1 resident, living in Kirkendall. I am writing to you to ask that City Council delay land-use planning decisions until after COVID when we can proper in-person consultation.

As an engineering & management student at McMaster, I have learned about the environmental and financial impacts of urban sprawl.

Sprawl increases the costs per capita to the local government with new roads and utilities that need to be maintained in perpetuity. Building higher density housing has a lower cost per capita in terms of public utilities.

There is also the environmental impact of sprawl, increased car use, decreased rainwater permeability, and decreased local food production.

If Hamilton hopes to have a promising future, it needs to have one that is environmentally and financially viable.

Thanks,

Liam MacLeod,  
A ward 1 resistant.

-----Original Message-----

From: Lauren Stephen

Sent: March 25, 2021 12:40 PM

To: Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

Subject: Written Delegation, March 29 GIC

Below is the text of my pre-recorded video delegation to the March 29 GIC. The hook into my argument has fuzziness. We are talking about expanding the designated urban area, not city boundaries.

That does not affect the reality of my argument. Hamiltonians have a higher carbon footprint built into the design of our city, which presents an ethical problem to people who want to build families or businesses here.

By failing to take meaningful action on climate change, the city is placing a terrible ethical burden on young Hamiltonians. Heavier carbon footprint means a less livable world for others. It will be a dispiriting thought for young people to understand that in their name and for their supposed benefit, their community and their family disregarded harm caused to others.

This is already a quality of life and mental health issue for many people. I do not know whether to envy or pity those who do not struggle with the ethical burden of our heavier climate footprint. We are seeing a viable future slip away.

Lauren Stephen

Members of City Council. Thank you for allowing my video delegation. I am working today, and cannot attend live.

Hamilton is a huge city, geographically. At 1138 km<sup>2</sup>, Hamilton is 80% larger in size than the amalgamated City of Toronto, with just one sixth the population. Hamilton is about the same surface area as the cities of Toronto, Mississauga and Brampton combined. Those three cities have a combined population 4,300,000, with a total surface area of 1183 km<sup>2</sup>.

Hamilton is inefficient in our use of space. We are disorganized and wasteful in our use of land. We have so much land, but somehow we need more.

Our population density is low. That translates into higher property taxes, more expensive delivery of city services. And it translates into a much higher carbon footprint for Hamilton families. Our sprawl is costly and inefficient. It is also unethical.

There is an ethical challenge facing families who want to live in Hamilton, buy homes in Hamilton, start a business, or raise children here.

How many people are likely to die this century because of climate change, if we do nothing to mitigate it. 25 million? 500 million? And how many will die next century if we do nothing. 250 million? 5 billion?

If Hamilton families continue to have a higher and growing carbon footprint than families in neighbouring cities, in peer cities... it means that Hamilton families will be responsible for more economic hardship, more environmental degradation, more disease, and more deaths due to climate change than in neighbouring and peer cities.

There is an ethical challenge facing people who want to live, work, buy homes, have children, start families in Hamilton. A heavier carbon footprint is built into our city design, our sprawl, our reliance on the automobile, our lack of pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, our transit myopia. And we are not seeing enough movement in the right direction.

Council is forcing a terrible burden onto young Hamiltonians and Hamiltonians yet to be born. They are going to have to work that much harder to solve this climate crisis because we collectively have failed to take meaningful action in the last 20 years.

And they will face an ethical burden in the knowledge that their families are responsible for more economic hardship, more environmental degradation, more disease, and more deaths due to climate change than in our neighbour and peer cities. This is going to affect quality of life and mental health in deep, profound ways.

With Hamilton as massive as it already is--the size of Toronto, Mississauga, and Brampton combined--it seems greedy and irresponsible to gobble up more land and not even consider the possibility that we might have enough for our needs.

I urge Council to at least consider the possibility of freezing Hamilton's urban boundaries. Given our already huge geographical area, and low population density.

**From:** laura kay <

**Sent:** March 23, 2021 8:31 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** No boundary expansion

I am a long time Hamilton resident, currently living in the Durand neighbourhood. And I care about the future of this city. I firmly believe there should be NO BOUNDARY EXPANSION under the new Provincial planning methods and that leaders must delay any further land needs planning until after public in-person consultations occur.

Laura Konyndyk

**From:** L. Christine Shepherd  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 9:54 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Municipal Comprehensive Review and GRIDS2

To the Mayor and members of Hamilton City Council

Re: Municipal Comprehensive Review and GRIDS2

The Hamilton 350 Committee works for real action on climate change. You are now facing an absolutely critical climate decision that will determine whether council actually believes there is a climate emergency and is prepared to act effectively to address that emergency. We urge you to recognize and act decisively to ensure that greenhouse gas emissions from Hamilton are reduced as rapidly as possible, and that additional measures are taken to make our city resilient in the face of the climatic changes ahead and already evident.

The crossroads Hamilton is at is whether to finally protect the city's remaining foodlands and natural areas by freezing the urban boundary. The current provincial government is trying to force municipalities to make decisions by 2022 on how they will accommodate provincial population and job growth projections for the next THIRTY years. These long range projections carry great uncertainty and are premature for planning purposes. In the past two years the current provincial government has torn up or seriously modified almost all the growth planning rules to ensure that so-called independent municipal governments make decisions that it wants.

It is clear that their intent is to force a massive expansion of municipal boundaries onto rural foodlands and natural areas for the pleasure and profit of land speculators and developers. It is literally a crime against present and future generations to decree – as the Ford government has done – that planning for growth must NOT consider climate implications, food security or other aspects of sustainability.

The situation created by the Ford government is bizarre. Never before have municipalities been required to plan 30 years into the future. Never before have they been forced to actually expand their urban area decades before there is any indication that the predicted growth will actually occur. Never before have the features of that growth, the economic landscape, and the likely commuting patterns in the wake of the pandemic been so uncertain. And never before have so many parts of the planning system been turned on their heads or so obviously distorted in favour of private profit and against the public good.

Further expansion of Hamilton's boundaries is completely incompatible with council's declaration of a climate emergency. As Ontario's recent Environmental Commissioner fired by the Ford administration has stated many times, "urban sprawl is the tar sands of Ontario". Submission to more sprawl development increases greenhouse gas emissions and further compromises city finances. More loss of Hamilton's foodlands clearly compromises our fragile food security. Replacement of rural lands with urbanization inevitably makes us more vulnerable to the stormwater runoff and flooding that comes with the increasingly extreme weather we face. More sprawl means an even weaker transit system as well as more single occupancy vehicle travel and an increasingly congested road system. Urbanization also reduces the plant life that helps to absorb greenhouse gases.

We understand some of you recognize that effective public consultation and engagement on the plans for Hamilton's next thirty years is effectively not possible during the pandemic lockdowns.

So many people are being excluded from opportunities to provide their views on these critical questions. That exclusion has been made much worse by the decision of your planning department to exclude a fixed urban boundary from the possible options on which it has tried to obtain comments. This appears to be a sad and beaten reaction to the provincial rule changes, but nevertheless it is completely unacceptable – a clear abandonment of the city's written commitments to public engagement.

The Hamilton 350 Committee recognizes that the time is very late for humans to minimize climatic disruption and additional catastrophic consequences. We are eager for city council to be our allies in doing everything possible to cut emissions and to build a resilient, just and inclusive community. We hope you are just as committed.

**From:** Kristin Stark

**Sent:** March 22, 2021 8:24 AM

**To:** Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** urban boundary

Hello Councilor Naan and everyone,

I am writing because I believe I was one of the few who responded to the public engagement survey about Hamilton's proposed urban boundary expansion. I don't think enough consultation has been done for this important decision. Also, it is very difficult to do this consultation over internet meetings for a number of reasons. One of which is that people have been working more during COVID and have less time for other things. I would not want a decision to be made that does not fully capture the will of the people.

Covid has taught us all that outdoor spaces are very important and land for farming is no exception. I question why we need to use this land when in my Ward (3) there are vacant buildings and underutilized spaces? I think this land should be kept for farms. I can think of a number of farmers who expand their business from traditional farming to also include inviting the public onto their land (pick your own, weddings, holiday events). This is vital to the health of one's psyche to be able to go to a farm that is within a short drive and to be able to have food grown locally, on prime agricultural land.

I am very opposed to expanding our urban boundaries and definitely opposed to making this decision with so little public consultation. I want us to have a vibrant core and even more vibrant green spaces and farming surrounding us. Not like the giant spread out concrete city that is Toronto.

Thank you for your time,

Kristin Stark



**From:** Kirsten McCarthy

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 10:39 AM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:**

Dear lawmakers and decision makers:

We want to freeze the Urban Boundary and to delay any further land needs planning until after public in-person consultations occur.

Sprawl is very expensive and drives up our property taxes

Sprawl eats up irreplaceable prime Agricultural land

Sprawl Sucks the life out of Downtown

Sprawl contributes to Climate Change and increases greenhouse gas emissions

Sprawl makes developers wealthy: not many can afford McMansions

STOP!! The Sprawl!!

Watch this 4min video for alternatives to sprawl in Hamilton!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZQZOi2c8v4>

Sincerely,  
Kirsten McCarthy

Mayor Eisenberger and all Members of City Council

Re: Municipal Comprehensive Review and GRIDS2

The importance of the decisions before you cannot be understated. Committing to a sprawling growth plan that encompasses 30 years is extremely irresponsible. The effects of this plan are long lasting and will potentially prevent Hamilton from being resilient and sustainable. The ability to mitigate climate change is rapidly disappearing. We can no longer tolerate growth; let alone the type the provincial government is forcing upon municipalities.

It is very arrogant of us to think we understand and can recreate all the complex natural systems we are a part of and rely on. Our history books are filled with countless examples of our civilization's ignorance. The number of problems culminating are almost unthinkable and it's a wonder any individual could continue to bear them. Expanding on to undeveloped land will only expose us to more of the same issues we face currently such as... flooding, food insecurity, runaway infrastructure costs, inequitable access to public services, ineffective mass transit, and generally an unwelcoming and dysfunctional city experience.

While I don't agree any growth should be entertained; the public deserves to be consulted. During a pandemic is not the appropriate time to do so. With so much inequality currently, it would be impossible to have a true representation of the citizens will.

Expansion of Hamilton's Boundaries are incompatibility with council's declaration of a climate emergency. Our right to clean air, water, and food will not be purchased for any price

Sincerely

Kevin Intini

**From:** Kenneth Jackson  
**Sent:** March 24, 2021 8:40 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Urban Sprawl

Dear Clerk,

I am absolutely opposed to the extension of the boundaries of the city of Hamilton. The only ones to benefit from this are the developers who are the bankers of Doug Ford. Let the councillors know of my view, please.

Kenneth Jackson

**From:** Burgess, Kenneth  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 4:06 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** FW: GRIDS2 municipal comprehensive review

March 25th, 2021

Dear Mayor and Counsellors,

As a resident of Hamilton and a physician, I urge you to enshrine health into the GRIDS2 municipal comprehensive review. **The best course of action for the health and wellbeing of our citizens is for Hamilton to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.**

I am acutely aware of the health outcomes of people living in poverty in our inner city. Lack of affordable housing, crumbling infrastructure, lack of basic services like sidewalk snow clearing, safe bike lanes for those who don't own a car, and reliable public transit all further marginalize families already living in precarious circumstances. **Building more subdivisions beyond the current City boundaries will further gut the core of our City.**

We are in a climate emergency and sprawl would only make it worse. The prestigious medical journal The Lancet has stated that "climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century and tackling it could be our greatest health opportunity"<sup>1</sup>. Expanding urban boundaries moves people further from mass transit, requiring more use of cars and generating more greenhouse gas emissions and fine particulate air pollution, which we know **kills over 8,000 Canadians annually**.<sup>2</sup> We should be making planning decisions that reduce this number, not put more citizens at risk of illness and death from poor air quality.

In her 2017 Report on the State of Public Health in Canada<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, says, "Our communities are changing and often expanding through urban sprawl rather than by building compact and 'complete communities'." **Urban sprawl has been linked to sedentary lifestyles, easy access to unhealthy food, less physical activity and higher rates of obesity.** She advocates for the "development of new communities located within urban containment boundaries that support active transportation and physical activity by including higher density and land use mix, a range of housing options and affordability, easy access to recreational facilities and parks and good links to frequent public transit."

Similarly, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, recommends that municipal governments, community planners and developers work together to "establish urban containment policies to manage the outward growth of cities to promote increased development density and opportunities for active travel."<sup>5</sup> The most popular forms of active travel include walking and cycling.

In their "Planning Healthy Communities Fact Sheet Series"<sup>4</sup>, The Canadian Institute of Planners points out that the "lack of physical activity is considered a 'conveyor belt' to heart disease, stroke and other chronic conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes and various cancers." They mention a study of Vancouver residents that found that the walkability index and its components related to land-use mix, residential density and street connectivity were significant predictors of body mass index, a key health indicator.

We have an enormous opportunity to discourage urban sprawl. Doing so would be one of our best tools for fighting climate change and improving peoples' health. People who live in walkable neighbourhoods occupy less space, have a higher quality of life, a smaller carbon footprint, drive less and have better health. Urban planning guidelines that put people closer to each other create successful public transit systems, making our society more efficient and more equitable.

Sprawl threatens the health of our community today and generations into the future. I urge you to vote to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kenneth Burgess BSC MD FCFP

Hamilton Ontario

1. [https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown\\_Policy-brief-for-Canada\\_FINAL.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/lancet-countdown/2019/11/Lancet-Countdown_Policy-brief-for-Canada_FINAL.pdf)
2. <https://policybase.cma.ca/documents/PolicyPDF/PD21-01.pdf>
3. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/chief-public-health-officer-reports-state-public-health-canada/2017-designing-healthy-living.html>
4. <https://www.cip-icu.ca/Files/Resources/FACTSHEETS-ActiveTransportation-FINALenglish.aspx>
5. <https://www.heartandstroke.ca/-/media/pdf-files/canada/2017-position-statements/community-design-ps-eng.ashx?la=en>
6. <https://www.bbc.com/worklife/article/20201214-how-15-minute-cities-will-change-the-way-we-socialise>

**From:** Kay O'Sullivan  
**Sent:** March 26, 2021 9:29 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Urban sprawl

Dear Mayor Eisenberg and City Council,

I want to add my voice to the many citizens of Hamilton who oppose the Provincial Governments push to expand commercial and housing developments outside of the city boundary.

We need this good farming land to remain in the business of growing crops. We need to have the "brown fields" within the city limits be developed where services already are in place.

While the move by the Provincial Government favors developers, it does not recognize the concerns of climate change expressed by our Conservation Authorities both in Hamilton, Binbrook and Haldimand.

Our City has the chance to take the lead in promoting good planning based on scientific knowledge of the environmental concerns of this era. Its time to chuck the old adage that "development is progress"- now our slogan should be "Sustainability and Health, Hallmarks of Good Government."

Thank you,  
Kay O'Sullivan

Hamilton Ont

**From:** Kate Chung

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 9:15 AM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Don't destroy the farmland that feed us all

Dear Mayor and councillors,

Don't destroy the farmland that feeds us all.

Hamilton contains many, many streets of buildings needing improvement or replacement. **Build up** in those areas - **not out** in our rapidly disappearing farmland.

Covid has taught us that Canada must stop importing essential things like vaccines, PPE, and food. We must become self-sufficient. We can't do that if our farmland is gone.

Do not let Doug Ford and his developer cronies trick you into extending Hamilton's borders in order to make millions of dollars building single family homes which we do not really need. This would leave central Hamilton to rot into slums.

Save Hamilton and Canada. Protect our farmland by keeping Hamilton concentrated in its current boundaries.

Think 7 generations in all your decisions. Your children and grandchildren (and mine) are depending on you.

Please watch this young person's video, and think clearly.

<https://youtu.be/WZQZOi2c8v4>

Sincerely,  
Kate Chung

**From:** John O'Connor

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 3:44 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Anne Treadwell

**Subject:** I am a Ward ONE constituent, sign with your address.

[#HamOnt](#) [#StopSprawlHamOnt](#) [#StopSprawlOntario](#) [#Sprawl](#) [#SaveTheFarmOnt](#)

John O'Connor

Dundas, Ontario



**From:** Joanne Patak

**Sent:** March 21, 2021 2:53 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** [\*\*\*\*POSSIBLE SPAM]Urban Boundary planning.

We want to freeze the Urban Boundary and to delay any further land needs planning until after public in-person consultations occur

Sprawl is very expensive and drives up our property taxes

Sprawl eats up irreplaceable prime Agricultural land

Sprawl Sucks the life out of Downtown

Sprawl contributes to Climate Change and increases greenhouse gas emissions

Sprawl makes developers wealthy: not many can afford McMansions

Thank you!

Joanne Patak

**From:** Joanna Sargent  
**Sent:** March 24, 2021 1:55 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Urban Boundary Meeting March 29th

**To: Mayor Eisenberger and all Members of City Council**

I am writing to you to support the motion to delay the decision to expand Hamilton's urban boundary. Effective public consultation and engagement on the plans for Hamilton's next thirty years is not possible during the pandemic lockdowns. So many people are being excluded from opportunities to provide their views on these critical questions. That exclusion has been made much worse by the decision of your planning department to exclude a fixed urban boundary from the possible options on which it has tried to obtain comments. This appears to contradict the city's written commitments to public engagement. Please support the motion to delay this decision and pause planning till in person consultations and information sessions have occurred and add a fixed urban boundary to your planning options.

Further, the planning for growth must consider climate implications, food security and sustainability. Expansion of Hamilton's urban boundary will have only negative effects with regards to climate change. Further expansion of Hamilton's boundaries is completely incompatible with council's declaration of a climate emergency. I urge you to act effectively on your declaration to address this climate emergency and freeze the urban boundary immediately. This will also prevent further loss of farmland with ensuing risk to food security and encourage higher density neighbourhoods within existing boundaries.

Please think about the legacy you wish to leave. Do you want to be the council that ignored the looming problems for our community and the planet? Or do you want to be remembered for your leadership in facing issues and taking bold actions to tackle them? My family and I have been proud Hamiltonians for decades. We applauded your good judgement when you recognized & declared the climate emergency. Now you have an opportunity to further impress Hamiltonians with your courage and foresight to act to stem this crisis. My family and I don't just sleep in Hamilton – we work, study, shop, pay taxes and vote in Hamilton. This is the time to show the kind of leadership Hamiltonians deserve and expect from our elected representatives.

I urge you to freeze the urban boundary immediately and to pause urban boundary planning and extend the planning period till in person consultations have occurred.

Thank you.

Joanna Sargent

**From:** Jill Tonini <

**Sent:** March 24, 2021 10:36 AM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Thorne, Jason <[Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Prioritize our Ecosystem and Stop Urban Sprawl

**Importance:** High

I'm calling on all Hamilton government to please stand up against farmland development for profit. We are in a climate emergency and need to protect this valuable human resource. Please be on the right side of history, protect our land, and care about sustaining a liveable ecosystem for our children, with the ability to grow our own food. Suburban sprawl helps no one but the developers, and it's criminal to allow them to dictate what happens to our land.

Much of the existing downtown Hamilton is ripe for development density (building up!) but requires investment in both affordable mixed-use housing as well as access to public transportation. This is where we need you to focus the attention of developers, to help create a richer urban fabric, not more suburbs where few can afford to live. We have a responsibility to help Hamilton grow in a sustainable way, and this would still be great for the economy.

Action13 created this video to plead our case:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=WZQZOi2c8v4>

I implore you to prioritize our agricultural land.

Sincerely,  
Jill Tonini

**From:** Jacob Stief  
**Sent:** March 26, 2021 11:21 AM  
**To:** Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>  
**Cc:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Freeze Hamont's urban boundary

Good morning Jason,

I hope this email finds you well.

As a resident and homeowner of Corktown in Hamilton I am writing to formally voice my concern for the expanding of Hamilton's urban boundary. The urban boundary should be frozen.

What this city requires is further investment / encouragement around densification, improving existing infrastructure, expanding transit options, and creating a better overall quality of life for its residents in the heart of this city. Now is NOT the time for sprawl.

We know so much about smart growth within cities, and the impacts climate change will have on the global population. Let's apply that knowledge and improve the infrastructure we do have, build up not out, and encourage in-fill development.

Thank you for your consideration,

--

Jacob Stief

**From:** Hussam Taha  
**Sent:** March 24, 2021 10:26 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Urban Sprawl outside the boundaries of City of Hamilton

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

As a physician working in Hamilton, I urge you to enshrine health into the GRIDS2 municipal comprehensive review. **The best course of action for the health and wellbeing of our citizens is for Hamilton to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.**

I am acutely aware of the health outcomes of people living in poverty in our inner city. Lack of affordable housing, crumbling infrastructure, lack of basic services like sidewalk snow clearing, safe bike lanes for those who don't own a car, and reliable public transit all further marginalize families already living in precarious circumstances. **Building more subdivisions beyond the current City boundaries will further gut the core of our City.**

We are in a climate emergency and sprawl would only make it worse. The prestigious medical journal The Lancet has stated that "climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century and tackling it could be our greatest health opportunity"<sup>1</sup>. Expanding urban boundaries moves people further from mass transit, requiring more use of cars and generating more greenhouse gas emissions and fine particulate air pollution, which we know **kills over 8,000 Canadians annually**.<sup>2</sup> We should be making planning decisions that reduce this number, not put more citizens at risk of illness and death from poor air quality.

In her 2017 Report on the State of Public Health in Canada<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, says, "Our communities are changing and often expanding through urban sprawl rather than by building compact and 'complete communities'." **Urban sprawl has been linked to sedentary lifestyles, easy access to unhealthy food, less physical activity and higher rates of obesity.** She advocates for the "development of new communities located within urban containment boundaries that support active transportation and physical activity by including higher density and land use mix, a range of housing options and affordability, easy access to recreational facilities and parks and good links to frequent public transit."

Similarly, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, recommends that municipal governments, community planners and developers work together to "establish urban containment policies to manage the outward growth of cities to promote increased development density and opportunities for active travel."<sup>5</sup> The most popular forms of active travel include walking and cycling.

In their "Planning Healthy Communities Fact Sheet Series"<sup>4</sup>, The Canadian Institute of Planners points out that the "lack of physical activity is considered a 'conveyor belt' to heart disease, stroke and other chronic conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes and various cancers." They mention a study of Vancouver residents that found that the walkability index and its components related to land-use mix, residential density and street connectivity were significant predictors of body mass index, a key health indicator.

We have an enormous opportunity to discourage urban sprawl. Doing so would be one of our best tools for fighting climate change and improving peoples' health. People who live in walkable neighbourhoods occupy less space, have a higher quality of life, a smaller carbon footprint, drive less and have better health. Urban planning guidelines that put people closer to each other create successful public transit systems, making our society more efficient and more equitable.

I have attended your city of Hamilton climate plan public meeting in 2019 and I was inspired by what the counselors and representatives discussed and wanting to achieve to green the city. I hope that I don't get disappointed that all said was just for talks.

Sprawl threatens the health of our community today and generations into the future. I urge you to vote to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development and spending into the current urban boundary.

Thank you for your consideration,

Hussam Taha, CCFP

Clinic's Address:  
MediCorner  
5-521 Hamilton Regional Highway 8  
Stoney Creek ON L8G 1G4  
Work P: 905 662-2777

-----Original Message-----

From: Heather Vaughan

Sent: March 25, 2021 9:07 PM

To: [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

Subject: Written delegation for March 29th GIC GRIDS2 discussion

Dear Hamilton Mayor and Councillors

I am a proud resident of Dundas, wife, mother of 2 children, and a physiotherapist in cardiology, CCU and vascular surgery at the Hamilton General hospital. I love Dundas/Hamilton because of the unique mix of urban core with its cultural opportunities and surrounding green spaces, and agricultural land. I love the spectrum of opportunities from hands on industrial careers in the trades, commerce, and steel producing to the intellectual community of health care and university and the wealth of entrepreneurial energy and innovation across this entire spectrum. It is truly a unique and wonderful place to live.

For these and many other reasons, I urge you to FREEZE the urban boundaries as this decision will THREATEN our ability to maintain our current level of autonomy and PREVENT us from developing the sustainable community that we need to be.

Expanding the urban boundaries for more sprawl will a) remove the precious farmland that we need to develop our own sustainable food security b) will contribute to the environmental degradation and the climate emergency which threatens our very survival c) will further threaten the diversity of the delicate ecosystem of plants and animals that were here long before we were and still support and enrich our own existence d) make the desperately needed affordable housing an impossibility and will create an environment where our own children will not be able to live where they grew up because of astronomical taxes and housing prices e) will cause the crumbling inner city to continue to decay rather than receive the investment it needs to recover and develop. The aging infrastructure of the entire city needs to be addressed rather than spending our tax dollars on sprawl that will only deplete our health, our environment and the incredible potential of this community.

To make this decision during a pandemic without proper in-person consultation is unfair to the citizens of this community and the future generations that this decision will affect. Please DELAY this decision until it is possible for proper public consultation to occur. I urge you to STOP and LISTEN to the voices of your community!! Delay the decision and freeze the boundaries!!

Sincerely

Heather Vaughan Reg PT (ON), MSc (Physio), MSc (KIN), BSc (KIN)



**From:** Hart Jansson

**Sent:** March 14, 2021 4:15 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Thorne, Jason <[Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** [\*\*\*\*POSSIBLE SPAM]Delay of Municipal Comprehensive Review

To: Hamilton Council – Mar 15, 2021

From: Hart Jansson on behalf of HACEN (Halton Action for Climate Emergency Now), a citizen's group advocating for rapid and effective action to lower carbon emissions in Halton and Ontario. We are addressing our neighbouring municipality of Hamilton in recognition of the fact that climate change knows no boundaries, and a united front among Ontario municipalities to defer critical decisions regarding long-term land use planning is necessary.

**The changes to a number of Provincial Statutes and policies that impact how municipalities plan for growth could be of serious concern to many Hamilton residents, if they could understand their potential impact.**

These changes include:

- The Provincial Policy Statement,
- A Place to Grow: The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe,
- The Development Charges Act,
- The Planning Act,
- The Environmental Assessment Act, and
- The Conservation Authorities Act;

Some of these changes are:

- reduced density targets in new greenfield development from 80 persons and jobs per hectare to 50 persons and jobs per hectare,
- reduced intensification targets from 60% beyond 2031 to 50%,
- setting minimum population and employment growth forecasts that can be exceeded subject to Provincial approval,
- extended the planning horizon from 2041 to the year 2051,
- introducing market demand as a consideration in determining the housing mix, and
- revisions to how municipalities fund growth

### **Potential Impacts**

The impact of these changes is far-reaching and difficult to comprehend given their scope, their interactivity, the length of time they are in force and the timeframe of their long-term impact.

These and other changes signal an abrupt shift from the emphasis on creating compact and complete communities to a planning regime that facilitates lower density and car dependent communities.

Hamilton is among the dozens of Ontario municipalities and the over 500 Canadian jurisdictions that have declared climate change emergencies; Hamilton must consider the impact of land use planning in its strategy to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions.

The planning changes mentioned create pressure to convert more farmland in Hamilton to urban uses than necessary, which is contrary to Hamilton's Official Plan and its Strategic Plan.

Ensuring that Ontarians have access to healthy safe food in the future requires thoughtful consideration of the long-term impact of converting thousands of acres of prime agricultural lands in the Greater Golden Horseshoe to urban uses.

**I suggest that you have a duty to consider that changing the official plans in the GTHA to accommodate these changes will lock in increasing carbon emissions and other environmental damage potentially for generations.**

#### **Justification for Delay**

- the news cycle has been dominated by COVID-19 for the past year, therefore the profound changes to policies and statutes regarding municipal planning for growth have had little exposure in the media
- the magnitude, scope and long-term duration of impacts of these changes are much more significant than typical policy/legislative changes, therefore consultation is of utmost importance
- the changes are contrary to federal objectives and regional/municipal policies regarding growth and climate change
- the pandemic has not allowed and will not allow the usual means for in-person consultation and discussion, therefore the quality of consultation will suffer
- people who are technology-challenged may be left out
- people in rural areas who have limited or less than reliable internet access may be left out
- further time is needed for proper and thorough consultation with citizens, including education of citizens in this regard

**Therefore, I ask you to support this Resolution to extend the period of the Municipal Comprehensive Review.**

**From:** George Sweeney  
**Sent:** March 22, 2021 10:26 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** Freeze Hamilton's Urban Boundary

Dear City of Hamilton Office of the Clerk,

As a resident of Hamilton, I am writing to you to raise concerns about the expansion of the urban boundary of Hamilton. It has come to my attention that the City of Hamilton is looking at expanding its urban boundary into prime agricultural lands. Environmental groups such as Environment Hamilton, 350 Hamilton, and others are bringing attention to the impact the urban expansion will have on transit, affordable housing, the environment, and vulnerable communities.

As your constituent, I am asking that you vote to FREEZE Hamilton's urban boundary. This action is essential if we have any hope of building a sustainable, climate-resilient, inclusive future for Hamilton!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
George Sweeney

-----Original Message-----

From: Gail Lorimer <>

Sent: March 23, 2021 11:44 AM

To: [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

Subject: Urban sprawl

Please stop urban sprawl. At least give time to look at negative effects on Hamilton and climate crisis.

Blessings, Gail

**From:** Frank Ahern <[Frank.Ahern@hamilton.ca](mailto:Frank.Ahern@hamilton.ca)>  
**Sent:** March 14, 2021 8:22 PM  
**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>  
**Cc:** Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** Motion to Delay Land Use Planning Deadline

Dear Mr Farr, Mayor Eisenberger and Councillors:

As you are aware, the province has revised municipal planning guidelines to include population projections to 2051, while lowering density targets for new development and enacting a “market-driven” approach to planning for new residential.

As a concerned Hamilton citizen I request that Hamilton City Council delay Hamilton’s Official Review Plans (MRC) at the March 29 GIC meeting. There is recent precedent for this delay as Halton Hills unanimously voted on February 1st for a delay, and the Region of Halton did the same on February 17.

We must not lock in planning guidelines that encourage sprawl until 2051. Land use planning is the key lever we have in increasing or decreasing greenhouse emissions for decades into the future.

Given COVID restrictions, constituents cannot be properly consulted on major policy decisions. Many Hamilton residents do not have internet access or lack the expertise to use Zoom software to delegate to council. Critical decisions, which will impact Hamilton for the next 30 years, should not be made while in-person consultation is impossible. Hamilton’s 2016-2025 Strategic Plan makes clear the city’s commitment and responsibility to community engagement and participation when it states: “Citizens are consulted and involved in making the decisions that impact them.”

Councillor Fogal of Halton Hills suggests that for this action to delay to be effective, councils around the Golden Horseshoe will need to pass similar motions and stand in solidarity. Therefore, for the sake of our children and grandchildren, I urge you to delay Hamilton’s Official Review Plans (MRC) at the March 29 GIC meeting.

Thank you for considering these important issues.

Sincerely,

Frank Ahern

**From:** Erin Haber <

**Sent:** March 24, 2021 8:52 AM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** NO BOUNDARY EXPANSION

As a resident of Hamilton I support NO BOUNDARY EXPANSION under the new Provincial planning methods and delay any further land needs planning until after public in-person consultations occur.

Erin Rittich-Haber

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Wednesday, March 3, 2021 - 8:48 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Mike Collins-Williams

**Name of Organization:** West End Homebuilders' Association

**Contact Number:** 416-435-6757

**Email Address:** [mikecw@westendhba.ca](mailto:mikecw@westendhba.ca)

**Mailing Address:** 1112 Rymal Road East, Hamilton

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Request to speak to General Issues Committee March 29, 2021 on behalf of the West End Homebuilders' Association regarding the City's GRIDS 2 project.

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

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



----- Original message -----

From: Mike Collins-Williams <[mikecw@westendhba.ca](mailto:mikecw@westendhba.ca)>

Date: 2021-03-05 12:08 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Travis, Heather" <[Heather.Travis@hamilton.ca](mailto:Heather.Travis@hamilton.ca)>, GRIDS 2 and MCR <[grids2-mcr@hamilton.ca](mailto:grids2-mcr@hamilton.ca)>

Cc: "Thorne, Jason" <[Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca)>, "Robichaud, Steve" <[Steve.Robichaud@hamilton.ca](mailto:Steve.Robichaud@hamilton.ca)>,

"Donald, Sherree" <[Sherree.Donald@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sherree.Donald@hamilton.ca)>, "Fabac, Anita" <[Anita.Fabac@hamilton.ca](mailto:Anita.Fabac@hamilton.ca)>, "Sergi,

Tony" <[Tony.Sergi@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tony.Sergi@hamilton.ca)>, Michelle Diplock <[michelle@westendhba.ca](mailto:michelle@westendhba.ca)>

Subject: WE HBA Submission to City of Hamilton on GRIDS 2 (MCR/LNA)

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a submission from the West End Home Builders' Association (WE HBA) responding to the GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review with our recommendations going forward.

The WE HBA appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the LNA, as part of the GRIDS 2 and MCR process. WE HBA has participated in past consultations in the GRIDS 2 / MCR Process and is pleased the City is advancing a market-based approach through the LNA Analysis, as is required by MMAH. The WE HBA appreciates that professional planning staff at the City of Hamilton recognize that an urban boundary expansion will be required to accommodate population growth to the year 2051. With this submission, WE HBA is offering our comments on the City of Hamilton's LNA, focusing on our preferred intensification target of 50 % to 2051, and our concerns about the public policy ramifications of a potential increased intensification target of greater than 50% to 2051.

Thank you – we would be please to meet with the city to discuss our submission or answer any questions you may have,

Mike Collins-Williams, MCIP, RPP  
Chief Executive Officer  
West End Home Builders' Association

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March 5, 2021  
Delivered via email

### City of Hamilton

Heather Travis, Senior Project Manager  
 Policy Planning Division - Growth Management Strategy  
 71 Main Street West, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

### West End Home Builder's Association | Submission on GRIDS 2, MCR and LNA

The West End Home Builders' Association (WE HBA) is the voice of the land development, new housing and professional renovation industries in Hamilton and Halton Region. The WE HBA represents nearly 300 member companies made up of all disciplines involved in land development and residential construction, including: builders, developers, professional renovators, trade contractors, consultants, and suppliers. The residential construction industry employed over 27,300 people, paying \$1.7 billion in wages, and contributed over \$3.0 billion in investment value within the Hamilton Census Metropolitan Area in 2019.

Our industry is constantly facing challenges that affect our ability to build the necessary supply of new housing to meet growing demand for a variety of housing options in Hamilton. Today, during a global pandemic, this has become even more challenging with housing of all types and tenures becoming more expensive, making home ownership less attainable. The WE HBA strongly believes that a healthy housing system only exists when all levels of government work together with the private sector to ensure the right mix of housing choices and supply that provide all residents' shelter needs through their full life cycle.

Within this context, the WE HBA appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the Land Needs Assessment, as part of the GRIDS 2 and MCR process. WE HBA has participated in past consultations in the GRIDS 2 / MCR Process and is pleased the City is advancing a market-based approach through the Land Needs Assessment Analysis, as is required by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The WE HBA appreciates that professional planning staff at the City of Hamilton recognize that an urban boundary expansion will be required to accommodate population growth to the year 2051. With this submission, WE HBA is offering our comments on the City of Hamilton's Land Needs Assessment, focusing on our preferred intensification target of 50 % to 2051, and our concerns about the public policy ramifications of a potential increased intensification target of greater than 50% to 2051.



## **Provincial Context**

Ontario's Greater Golden Horseshoe is Canada's primary economic engine and is the fastest growing region in the country. It also contains some of Canada's best farmland and natural features. As such, it is critical that the Growth Plan work with the *Planning Act*, *Provincial Policy Statement*, *Greenbelt* and other Provincial Plans to provide a broad, long-term, and comprehensive planning framework that promotes employment growth and an appropriate supply of housing, while protecting our most valuable environmental resources. The City of Hamilton is well positioned through the provincial planning framework to accommodate a range of new housing supply opportunities through both greenfield development opportunities and through intensification. The City of Hamilton is also well positioned to balance this new growth with strong environmental protections that exist in the 83,674 hectares (836 km<sup>2</sup>) of already protected land designated in the City boundaries within the provincial *Greenbelt*.

Going forward it is critical to ensure that a clear, transparent, and effective public policy framework exists to guide and support the extensive and unwavering growth this region continues to experience. A properly functioning housing system should provide stability to both renters and owners, at prices people can afford and in the choice that meets their needs. The housing system must also be able to respond to meet projected demographic and market requirements for current and future residents. The Greater Golden Horseshoe is forecast to welcome 4.6 million new people over the in the next three decades, and the City of Hamilton through Schedule #3 of the Growth Plan is required by the provincial planning framework to plan to accommodate 236,000 additional people by 2051.

To put the Greater Golden Horseshoe growth forecasts into context, this is the equivalent of the entire population of Greater Montreal moving to this region over the next three decades. Growth of this magnitude provides both challenges and opportunities for the City of Hamilton. It is absolutely critical that the City of Hamilton recognize the magnitude of growth that is coming, and to make realistic and achievable plans to ensure the city is positioned to absorb this population and economically thrive from the opportunities the coming decades will bring this growing region.

While the pandemic has created some degree of uncertainty, it is important for the City of Hamilton to recognize that the provincial planning policy framework for which conformity with the policies of the Growth Plan is required to the planning horizon of 2051, is underpinned by strong technical demographic analysis by Hemson Consulting. The new market-based approach of the Land Needs Assessment is now in place to better ensure that long-term planning for housing supply is better aligned to housing demand to avoid market distortions that can arise if long-term supply is not planned in a balanced manner. Recognizing that local needs are diverse, the methodology provides the key components to be completed as municipalities plan to ensure that sufficient land is available to accommodate all housing market segments; avoid housing shortages; and consider market demand. The LNA examines household formation rates for different age groups and forecasts housing needs by dwelling types to ensure through the MCR process that municipalities are appropriately planning for diverse housing supply requirements including both high density and ground-oriented housing product. Furthermore, the WE HBA notes that despite the pandemic, the federal government continues to have in place ambitious immigration targets that significantly exceed the targets of previous federal governments; therefore it is critical to continue to appropriately plan for long-term growth.

Demographic and economic research published recently by Michael Moffatt demonstrate that over the last decade, not only have municipalities within the Greater Golden Horseshoe been growing at a significant rate, but that growth has in fact been accelerating.

## Ontario Population Growth – Comparing 2010-15 to 2015-20

Sources of Pop Growth	2010-15	2015-20	Chg
Natural	236,040	174,539	-61,501
Net Immigration	387,916	532,607	144,691
Net Non-Permanent	68,135	290,784	222,649
Net Interprovincial	-51,778	39,395	91,173
Net Intraprovincial	0	0	0
Residual Deviation	-68,973	-10,429	58,544
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>571,340</b>	<b>1,026,896</b>	<b>455,556</b>

Source: Ontarians on the Move - Michael Moffatt: Senior Director, Smart Prosperity. Assistant Prof, Ivey Business School

This acceleration has also been experienced within the City of Hamilton with the population growing by 2.8% between 2010-15 and accelerating to a 6.3% increase between 2015-20. Economist Michael Moffatt has further noted that patterns of growth are shifting as there is an exodus of young families out of both the Toronto and parts of the Greater Toronto Area, moving to places like Woodstock and Stratford, in search of more affordable real-estate. As the cost of real estate in the City of Toronto and parts of the GTA reaches for the stratosphere, the City of Hamilton could come under even further pressure to accommodate even higher rates of growth than is currently forecasted. Unfortunately, the rate of growth and demographic demand over that last decade has vastly outpaced the ability of the residential construction industry to keep pace. A mismatch between housing supply and demand has contributed to an escalation in housing prices and rents in many parts of Ontario including Hamilton. The accelerating rate of population growth and migration dynamics that have changed substantially over the last five years has caused some of the chaos in the housing market, as growth is exceeding our ability to plan and build new housing. The current GRIDs/MCR/LNA process is therefore absolutely critical to “get right” in terms of adequately planning for a diversity of housing typologies and communities to meet the incredible volume of growth coming our way.

### Community Land Needs Assessment

The West End Home Builders’ Association appreciates the work of City Staff to produce a variety of options as part of the public consultation process to demonstrate the impacts of different public policy options in terms of density and intensification targets.

#### *Current Trends*

The WE HBA notes that current intensification trends in the City of Hamilton, since the inception of the 2006 Growth Plan is currently at 40%. Should these trends continue to 2051, it would result in a land need of 3,440 hectares. While the WE HBA recognizes that an intensification rate of 40% to 2051 does not achieve the goals of the Growth Plan, the City and the public should recognize that even achieving the new minimum target of 50% will not be a simple task. It will require significant changes in approaches to planning policy going forward. Even the 40% rate of intensification did not occur in a vacuum without



significant effort. The current intensification rate is being achieved a decade and a half after the initial Growth Plan and three separate reviews of the Provincial Policy Statement with each version of the PPS being more supportive of intensification. Paired with this, numerous local policy changes and major shifts in marketplace sentiments towards urban living have contributed to the 40% intensification rate. While the WE HBA looks forward to further public policy evolution and a greater focus on intensification, it should not be lost on public policy makers or public observers that significant changes and steps have occurred over the past decade. Increasing the rate of intensification is not a simple task and will require other public policy adjustments beyond the Official Plan itself.

#### *Growth Plan Minimum*

The WE HBA recognizes that based on current trends, the Growth Plan minimum of 50% intensification is an ambitious target for the City of Hamilton and will require a land need of 2,200 hectares through urban boundary expansion. WE HBA supports the City of Hamilton adopting an intensification rate of 50% to 2051. Since this scenario represents a shift to higher densities than market demand currently projects, the City of Hamilton will need to improve the attraction of investment to support higher densities. The City can do this through enhanced local planning policy frameworks that support intensification. The planning framework should not only support higher levels of density in nodes and corridors, but also have a more permissive approach to “gentle density” within established neighbourhoods. The City of Hamilton will also need to invest in the provision of infrastructure, including higher order transit to support Transit Oriented Development.

#### *Increased Targets*

The WE HBA recognizes that the *Increased Targets* scenario projects that to 2031 an intensification rate of 50% is projected, with targets projected to increase to 55% to 2041, and 60% to 2051. Even with these very ambitious intensification targets, 1,640 hectares of land will be required to be brought into the urban boundary. WE HBA has some concerns with this approach being achievable. If this scenario is selected as the preferred option, WE HBA would welcome further discussion on how to make this scenario work from a public policy perspective. A 50% intensification target to 2051 set out in the Growth Plan Minimum Scenario already represents a major divergence from current market trends. The WE HBA notes that if this option for increased targets is selected, the City will have to revisit its entire approach to city building. Hamilton will need to make significant amendments to as-of-right zoning permissions downtown, and other nodes and corridors, including allowing new forms of housing within existing established communities. Such an approach will require a very different approach by City Councillors to the politics of intensification and NIMBYism.

#### *Ambitious Density*

The Ambitious Density scenario (50% to 2031, 60% to 2041, 70% to 2051) would represent a significant shift in intensification and infill for the City of Hamilton and would still require an urban boundary expansion of 1340 hectares. By 2051, the share of apartment buildings in Hamilton would be 47% of the housing stock, but there would be a significant shortfall of ground-related housing. This approach will require a substantial cultural shift in housing preferences and a recognition by the City that market distortion will cause significant increases in the cost of ground-oriented housing. WE HBA cautions that this approach poses significant risk to the City of Hamilton with regards to planning for types of growth that may not occur. WE HBA would like to remind the City of Hamilton that planning for a higher rate of intensification significantly outside of market demand is unlikely to result in built intensification. The WE HBA strongly recommends the City not adopt such an unrealistic growth planning scenario.

#### *WE HBA's Preferred Scenario*

The WE HBA is supportive of the City of Hamilton adopting the minimum targets established in the Growth Plan for a 50% intensification target within the built-up area. WE HBA recognizes that given historical rates of intensification, an intensification rate of 50% will already be an ambitious target to achieve and represent a major shift to the mix of future housing. As a result, the City will need to change their approach to how medium and high-density housing projects are planned for in a local political environment that can be challenging. In an environment where housing of all types and tenures is becoming more expensive, and pricing more people out of the market, the WE HBA believes the City has an important opportunity to plan for growth in a way that is more economically sustainable. A healthy and sustainable housing system exists when a city has the right mix of housing choices and supply that can address all residents' shelter needs. This will ultimately help Hamilton become a destination of choice to raise a child, open a new business, and age-in-place successfully. This will involve planning for both intensification within the current urban boundary as well as new greenfield communities provided through an expansion of Hamilton's urban boundary.

### **Potential Intensification Targets Over 50% to 2051**

The WE HBA would be very concerned with respect to an approach for an intensification target of greater than 50% to 2051. While the WE HBA appreciates there are different perspectives from diverse stakeholder groups, we would like to reiterate that the Growth Plan target of 50% is ambitiously high from a market perspective. It is also high given historical trends in Hamilton since the Growth Plan was first established in 2006. There are significant risks to the City in planning for unrealistic growth scenarios if significant levels of high-density housing absorption do not occur. This can impact land supply, growth related development charges revenue, costs of municipal services, and property tax assessment growth. Planning for unrealistic growth scenarios also presents risks in terms of planned infrastructure investments that do not match the amount or type of growth realized.

Conversely, if growth does occur at significantly higher intensification rates, there is a risk of over development causing significant infrastructure stresses for certain pockets of the City. WE HBA notes that the December 2020 Lorus Report referenced in their commentary on Toronto's "Condo Boom" along the waterfront as a caution for the City of Hamilton. Should the City adopt an intensification rate as projected in the *Increased Targets* or *Ambitious Density* scenarios, there will be a massive paradigm shift required for all City departments, all City policies, and planned infrastructure investments. While WE HBA would welcome dialogue and consultation on such a public policy paradigm shift, we caution that our members experience in bringing medium density or even missing middle housing opportunities into existing communities has been politically challenging. Achieving much higher rates of intensification without negatively impacting both housing affordability and neighbourhood stability will not be possible. Again, the WE HBA would welcome dialogue and consultation on such an approach, but professional City Staff and City Councillors would need to be prepared for an entirely different approach to infill and intensification going forward. As a key partner to the City of Hamilton in the delivery of new housing units, WE HBA wishes to ensure we can effectively work together towards the goal of affordable and sustainable housing choices for a growing population.

### **Supporting the City's Intensification**



WE HBA wants to reinforce that if the City of Hamilton is to adopt an intensification rate of 50% to 2051, it will represent a paradigm shift that requires greater public policy alignment and tools to support intensified growth. WE HBA notes that in the December 2020 City of Hamilton *Residential Intensification Market Demand Analysis* by Lorius and Associates an intensification rate of 50% was recommended as a suitable aspirational goal for growth to 2051. To support this ambitious target, the City will need to address a wide variety of policy concerns to ensure strategic alignment between all municipal departments and services. In particular, the City of Hamilton will need to focus on improving the attraction of investment from the private sector to support higher density living. The City can do this through ensuring planning policy alignment and financial tools to enable a greater range of infill, mid-rise, and high-rise built forms. The City can also attract investment through the adoption of financial tools such as modern pay-on-demand surety bonds. In addition to this, ensuring required infrastructure and community services are available to accommodate growth is important. This will ensure WE HBA's members are well positioned to invest in Hamilton and align themselves with the City in the requirement to plan housing for an additional 236, 000 people, while ensuring a vibrant and complete community for current and future residents.

### **Urban Boundary Expansion**

The WE HBA appreciates that through preliminary analysis of the Land Needs Assessment process, City Staff recognize the reality of the situation for which Hamilton will require an urban boundary expansion to meet the Growth Plan targets to 2051 in all proposed scenarios. WE HBA supports the expansion of the City of Hamilton's urban boundary as specified in the Growth Plan 50% intensification scenario. WE HBA cautions the City that pursuing intensification at a higher than recommended level may have perverse public policy consequences. It may encourage leapfrog low-density development patterns, as market forces and a demand for ground-oriented housing push urban development outside of the City's current and proposed future urban boundary to outer ring communities beyond the greenbelt. This scenario is already occurring through a flight to affordable ground-oriented housing options in communities such as Paris, Woodstock, and St. Thomas. These communities have been experiencing very high levels of growth in the past few years due in part to economic displacement from the GTHA. Unfortunately, many people moving to these communities are still commuting to Hamilton or Toronto contributing to higher levels of GHG emissions. Given this, it is important for the City of Hamilton to plan for an adequate and appropriate range of housing as is required and established through the provincial market-oriented Land Needs Assessment.

### **Conclusion**

The COVID-19 Pandemic has further emphasized the importance and need to plan for the necessary supply of adequate and affordable housing for all residents. The WE HBA would like to emphasize our willingness to work collaboratively with the City to plan for and to accommodate the substantial growth that the City of Hamilton is projected to receive. WE HBA believes that by working together with the right public policy framework, our members are well positioned to help contribute to the COVID-19 economic recovery through the provision of both housing and local employment opportunities.

Sincerely,



Mike Collins-Williams, MCIP, RPP  
Chief Executive Officer  
West End Home Builders' Association



# GRIDS 2 Deputation

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March 29, 2021

## **WE HBA members contribute:**

- 27000+ jobs
- \$ 1.7 billion in wages
- \$ 3 billion in investment value

**to the local economy.**





members will need the City of Hamilton's support to deliver **110,300** new housing units by 2051.

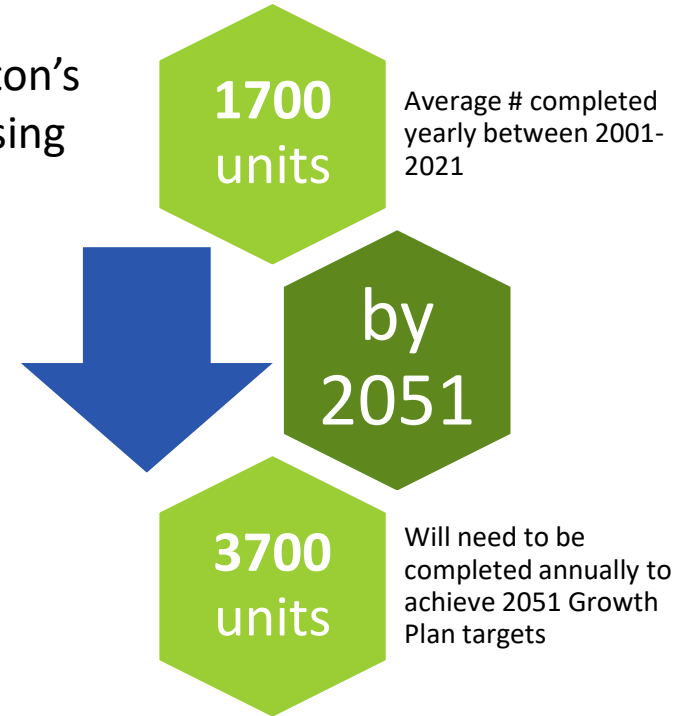
GROWTH FORECAST: 2051



An increase of **236,000 people**, for a total population of **820,000 people**

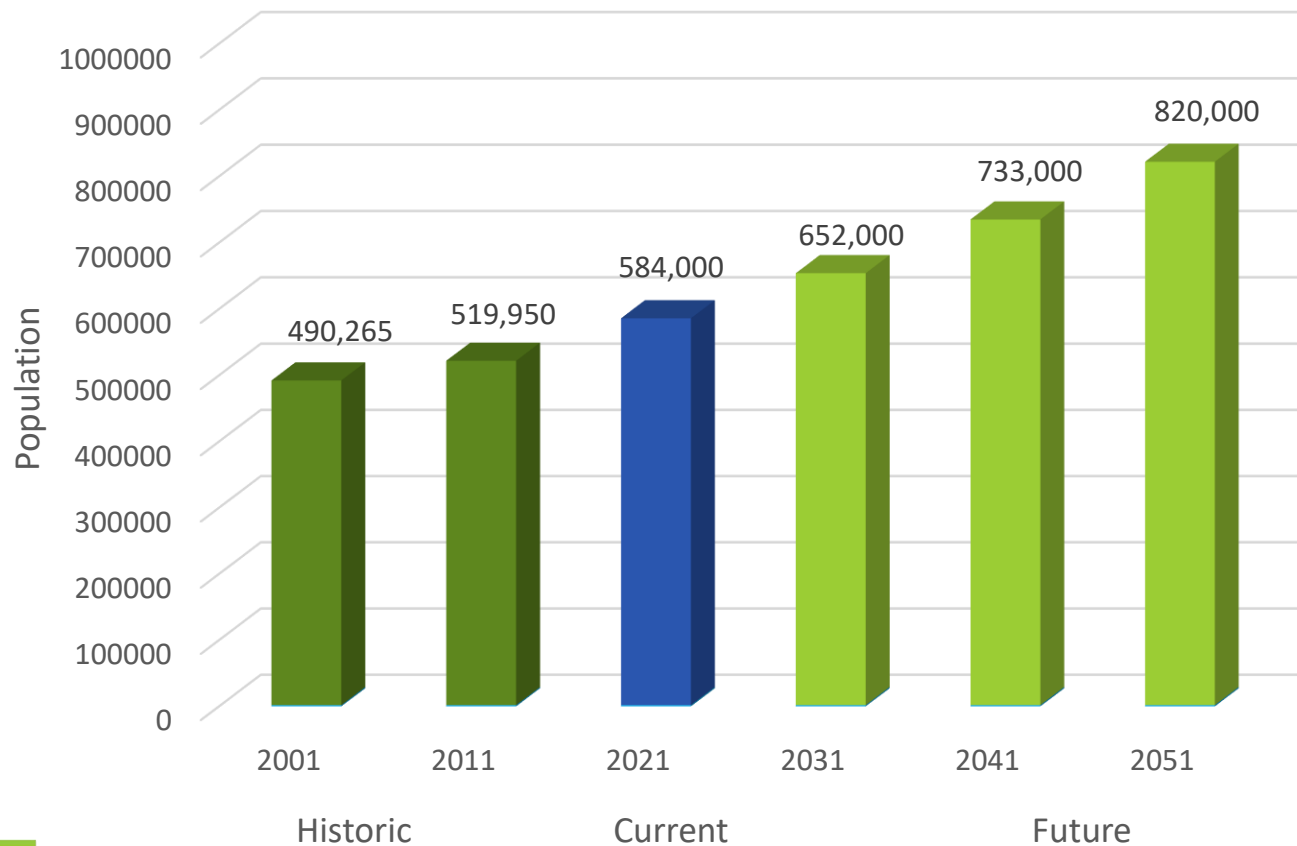


An increase of **122,000 jobs**, for a total employment of **360,000 jobs**



# As We Grow Towards 1 Million...

Historic and Projected Growth in Hamilton



# Achieving Higher Intensification Target

- Hamilton struggled to reach previous growth plan intensification target of 40%.
- Significant market, financial & infrastructure related risks in planning for types of growth that may not occur.
- Achieving even a 50% rate of intensification requires a substantial cultural shift in housing preferences, and a recognition by the City that market distortions where demand for ground-oriented housing continues to exceed supply may cause significant increases in the cost of ground-oriented housing.
- The City should recognize that planning for a higher rate of intensification well beyond market demand may result in unforeseen consequences and perverse incentives (i.e. leap-frog growth to other side of greenbelt in smaller communities up the 403, 401 & QEW)
- Within the Ambitious Density Scenario (an average intensification rate of 60% to 2051), the share of apartment buildings in Hamilton would be 47% of the housing stock.

# Risks of Delays to the Process

- If the Land Needs Assessment and GRIDS 2 process is delayed, this poses significant risks to the City's Master Planning work that is currently underway.
- This can impact the City's Development Charges By-law updates—resulting in financial challenges for the City.
- If the GRIDS 2 Process is delayed, Hamilton will experience significant challenges to achieving planned growth to 2031.
- The Provincial deadline for conformity is July 1, 2022.
- **WE HBA urges Committee to show leadership in moving the GRIDS2/MCR process forward to ensure a local approach is taken for Hamilton's growth.**

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Sunday, March 14, 2021 - 10:37 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:** On March 29, General Issues Committee is scheduled to consider a report on consultations about the MCR GRIDS2 process currently underway and particularly its Land Needs Assessment. I wish to address this specific agenda item.

**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, March 15, 2021 - 12:59 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Paul Szachlewicz

**Name of Organization:** Hamilton Chamber of Commerce

**Contact Number:** 9052206568

**Email Address:** [p.szachlewicz@hamiltonchamber.ca](mailto:p.szachlewicz@hamiltonchamber.ca)

**Mailing Address:** 120 King Street West, Plaza Level

**Reason(s) for delegation request:**

My name is Paul Szachlewicz and I would like to register a virtual delegation request for the March 29, 2021 General Issues Committee Meeting on behalf of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce.

Specifically, my colleague Ed Fothergill and I will be requesting a delegation to speak and correspondence to the GRIDS2 item that will be on the agenda. We will also be submitting a formal presentation for Committee's consideration closer to March 29, 2021.

Let me know if there is any additional information I need to provide at this time.

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

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



## **GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review Process Submission Hamilton Chamber of Commerce**

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The Hamilton Chamber of Commerce has consistently supported and promoted long term municipal land use planning in the City of Hamilton ("City"). Having a clear sense of purpose and direction is critically important for a community to prosper and grow in an orderly and predictable fashion.

### **1. Principles of Long-Range Planning**

#### **1.1 Guiding Investment**

An Official Plan policy document, by definition, is meant to direct and guide public and private investment throughout the municipality to provide residents, existing and potential investors and decision-makers with a clear sense of direction to minimize conflict and inefficiencies and to implement the best plan possible. This investment strategy must be clear, understandable and predictable in order to attract and guide investment from those in the development community, those in the agricultural community, our broader community, and those who are yet to invest in our City.

From a development perspective, this involves establishment of a clear and firm urban boundary so that development interests have a sense of certainty as to where they should place their investment. Conversely, a firm urban boundary assists investment decisions for those in the agricultural community who need to understand that their lands and their investments will be protected in the long term.

What is to be avoided is a situation where uncertainty is introduced through a review of urban boundaries undertaken every five years and a piecemeal expansion of the urban boundary on a regular basis.

#### **1.2 Infrastructure Investment**

Long term planning is required to ensure that land use planning is coordinated with the provision of basic road and service infrastructure to allow for the proper implementation of the plan. If this work is not coordinated, it is possible to generate a mismatch whereby urban services are in place however the planning process lags years behind. Alternatively, it can also result in situations where planning approvals are in place but servicing is not available, thus delaying and frustrating the intent of the planning documents.



### **1.3 Time Resources and Local Control**

By engaging in long range planning, less time, energy and resources are spent in litigation, battling decisions with respect to how and where to proceed. What is not desirable is having to engage in ongoing and expensive discussions, reports and hearings that only serve to delay and drive up the cost of outcomes that are predictable and will not change, regardless of the number of studies that are undertaken.

In addition, this adversarial approach leads to a final outcome which is determined by an outside decision maker in the form of LPAT, (formerly the OMB). This has led to many of the long-range planning decisions which have contributed to the development pattern the City over the years being established by an external authority.

### **1.4 Staging**

By undertaking long term planning, proper staging of development can take place within an overall predictable, understandable and comprehensive structure that is defined more by reasonable expectations than artificial, pre-set timing parameters. This will allow for a stable and controlled unfolding of the plan that ensures planning and infrastructure investment is properly coordinated.

What is to be avoided is an uncontrolled free for all that allows development at any cost. Rather, carefully designed staging mechanisms must be put in place to ensure orderly growth takes place and proper planning principles are followed, including the protection of significant environmental features, proper plans for roads, transit, community facilities, open spaces and employment needs.

In this fashion, each stage of development will need to meet intensification objectives and can undergo a thorough secondary planning process to design complete communities within the broader context of the entire city.

### **1.5 Maximization of employment investment**

By undertaking long range planning of employment lands, opportunities to attract new investment into the community are maximized. By offering more choices to potential investors, the opportunity for employment growth is maximized. What is to be avoided is the restriction of the supply of employment land, which can lead to the loss of investment and employment growth to other surrounding communities.

## **2.0 Chamber Position**





Based on the above principles, the Chamber of Commerce has consistently taken the position that the City should engage in long term urban planning and not be restricted by 20 or even 30 year time horizons and ongoing 5 year reviews of potential urban boundary expansions. The Chamber has taken the position that the long-term investment opportunities for new growth within the City are properly defined by all of those lands inside the Greenbelt Plan.

The Province has established a clear and long-term boundary for urban growth through the establishment of the Greenbelt Plan. In doing so, this plan provides certainty and clear expectations for both developers and the farming community that these lands are intended to remain as agricultural lands for a period well beyond 20-30 years. The Chamber has always supported the Greenbelt Plan and believes it is an effective defining limit of urban growth.

From a review of urban growth patterns in the city together with an expectation of future growth requirements, it is clear that urban growth will continue to expand from the current urban boundary through areas described as 'Whitebelt lands' to the limits of the Greenbelt Plan. This expectation provides us an opportunity to properly plan and implement servicing infrastructure to ensure timely provision of adequate services that do not result in any of the premature investment of unused services or of lost opportunities arising from lack of available infrastructure.

While the Chamber has not provided any specific direction with respect to timing of the development of individual blocks, it has always been recommended that a sequence of development be established through strong staging policies that will ensure that the intensification of existing urban areas occurs, and that premature development does not occur. This approach will eliminate the significant resources that are routinely spent on determining who goes next.

### **3.0 History of Evolution of Development**

Unfortunately, the City has in the past not proceeded to implement a long-term strategy and many of the pitfalls that were identified in the past have been experienced. There is no overall comprehensive plan for development in the city for the Whitebelt area and staging policies have not been put forward.

As a result, the City has seen a mismatch in terms of infrastructure and planning implementation in areas such as Elfrida where major trunk services have been provided. However, due to a lag in the planning process, the construction of homes for this new community is still a number of years away and that infrastructure has not been used.



In the case of Elfrida, the planning has led to a postponement of income from development charges and taxes to pay for those services well after the financial investment in the services has been made.

Lack of long-term planning has also resulted in a considerable amount of expenditure in terms of planning resources with disappointing results. As noted in the staff report, the GRIDS process started in 2003. The municipality and City now finds itself in a position 17 years later, after 3 versions of the GRIDS report still not being a position to implement the initial GRIDS recommendation to establish Elfrida as the next development community. The continuation of this process will simply delay the inevitable development of each successive community in the Whitebelt area that will ultimately be needed for Hamilton to evolve as a complete community.

#### **4.0 AEGD**

In a similar but reverse pattern found in the Elfrida situation, a plan for half of the AEGD has been in place for a number of years and yet servicing has not been able to be provided. In this case, the city has continued to lose investment opportunities to other communities as the half-approved business park remains underdeveloped because of lack of services.

The initial planning process for the AEGD identified ultimate development that would proceed as far west as Fiddlers Green Road. With respect to the AEGD, the Chamber has always taken the position that the ultimate development limits of the AEGD to Fiddlers Green Road should be established and that staging of servicing policies be put in place to ensure orderly development of a comprehensive industrial community. However, only the first phase of development was brought into the Urban Area. This has resulted in another second planning process that is now underway before the first phase of the AEGD can be serviced.

This inefficiency has created duplication in terms of resources required for planning. It has also created uncertainty through a Rural designation of Phase 2 lands that are designated Rural and intended for agricultural and other rural uses. Notwithstanding this somewhat misleading designation, it would be unreasonable to assume that these lands will attract investment from those with long term agricultural possibilities in mind.

In addition, delay of bringing these additional lands into the Official Plan, simply delays the opportunity for these lands to begin to develop returns in terms of employment opportunities.

The Phase 1 lands are now subject to a review process to allocate services throughout the Employment Growth District. The report can only consider half of the ultimate AEGD lands. The questions arise: Is this allocation program at all compromised by only



including half of the future AEGD lands. Will there be decisions made in the short term that could limit long term options?

Is the servicing infrastructure for the Phase 2 lands being put in place at the outset? If not, this could result in an inefficient use of infrastructure, which may have to be upgraded later.

If, in fact, the current infrastructure improvements being brought to the airport are indeed intended to accommodate Phase 2 lands, it will be important to ensure that planning policies are consistent with future infrastructure expectations. In any event, this exercise represents a significant illustration of why it is important to integrate long range land use planning with infrastructure planning.

## **5.0 Agricultural Community**

The pattern of short-term planning has not been helpful to the agricultural community in terms of Whitebelt lands. Planning policies point to the use of these Whitebelt lands for agricultural purposes. However, other than farming these areas to minimize assessment and tax generation, these lands are not conducive to long term investment in agriculture. It is recommended that policies for the Whitebelt areas recognize this reality and not purport to accommodate long term agricultural activity. This will reinforce the use of the Greenbelt policy and establish greater certainty with respect to the agricultural community.

## **6.0 Summary**

The Chamber has great expectations for the ultimate development of our community. There is significant diversity in terms of living environments. The City, unlike other municipalities within the GTA, has opportunities for future community building beyond the limits of the existing urban boundary. The City has an opportunity to be visionary in how our community will evolve and more fully control that process and its important outcomes.

There are no Whitebelt lands in Niagara, Burlington or Oakville, so in terms of accommodating future growth in the West GTHA, Hamilton is it.

As land supply becomes limited and housing prices escalate, pressures have been moving from Toronto to here. By not allowing Whitebelt areas to develop, supply is restricted further and pressure on land values increases even more. This is part of the reason we are currently facing such extraordinary housing prices.

Moreover, if there is no room to accommodate future growth within the Whitebelt, it will simply go elsewhere. If people want to pursue reasonable housing options and have



affordability constraints, they will keep looking outside of the urban area, on the other side of the Greenbelt. This is the urban sprawl that the Greenbelt was intended to prevent. But, by not allowing development within the existing Whitebelt areas, Greenbelt lands become the alternatives.

The Chamber believes there are very positive outcomes associated with long range planning and many of the deficiencies that have been experienced over the last two decades can be avoided by providing greater certainty to development interests, the agricultural community, and the broader community at large.

The Chamber also feels that through a better coordination of the provision of infrastructure with long range planning, situations are avoided where infrastructure is provided without an immediate ability to generate revenue to pay for that investment. Similarly, by ensuring infrastructure improvements keep pace with planning policy, particularly in terms of employment lands, there is greater opportunity to enhance employment investment and prevent the potential loss of new opportunities to other jurisdictions.

This long-range planning strategy can be properly staged and phased to allow the City to meet intensification targets within the existing built-up area and to ensure that future development within the Whitebelt takes place in an orderly and pre-determined fashion. By undertaking proper land use planning, greater effort can be spent on designing complete communities rather than time and energy being spent on determining who is next. We can also then ensure that decisions about our future are not made by an outside arbitrator but are truly a 'made in Hamilton' solution.

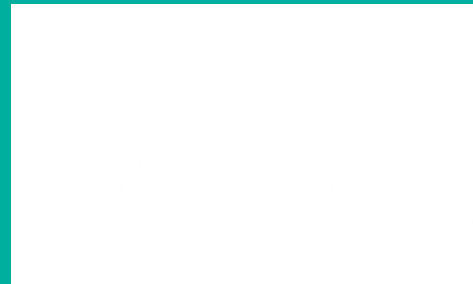
The Chamber of Commerce strongly supports the establishment of a long-term plan for urban growth in the City of Hamilton that will produce a clear, staged approach to the development of all lands within the Whitebelt area and the full extent of the Airport Employment Growth District.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission.

# GRIDS 2 and MCR Process Review

PRESENTATION TO THE GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

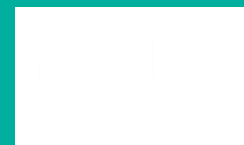
MARCH 29, 2021



# Overview

- Chamber Position
- Principles of Long-Range Planning
- Case Studies: Elfrida & AEGD
- Agricultural Considerations
- Summary

# CHAMBER POSITION



# GRIDS 2 and MCR Process Review

- The Hamilton Chamber of Commerce (HCC) has consistently supported and promoted long term municipal land use planning in the City of Hamilton (the City)
- Having a clear sense of purpose and direction is critically important for a community to prosper and grow in an orderly and predictable fashion
- HCC believes there are positive outcomes associated with long range planning and many issues that have occurred over the last two decades can be avoided by providing greater certainty to all stakeholders



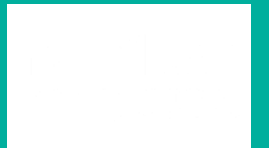
# Chamber Position

- City should engage in long term planning and not be restricted by 20, or even 30 year, time horizons and ongoing 5 Year Reviews of potential urban boundary expansion
- Province has established clear long-term boundary for urban growth through Greenbelt Plan – provides certainty to developers and farming community
- Chamber supports Greenbelt Plan and believes it to be effective defining limit of urban growth
- Long-term investment opportunities for new growth within City should be properly defined by all of those lands inside the Greenbelt Plan

# Chamber Position cont.

- A review of urban growth patterns together with expectation of future growth requirements indicates that current urban boundaries will continue to expand into ‘whitebelt lands’
- This expectation provides opportunity to properly plan and implement servicing infrastructure to ensure alignment of servicing provisions and development investment
- Recommended that sequence of development be established through strong staging policies that will ensure intensification of urban areas occurs, and that premature development / investment does not occur

# PRINCIPLES OF LONG-RANGE PLANNING



# Principles of Long-Range Planning

## • Guiding Investment

- Official Plan is meant to direct and guide public / private investment throughout municipality to provide clear sense of direction to minimize conflict and inefficiencies to implement best plan possible
- Involves establishment of clear and firm urban boundary in order to attract and guide investment

## • Infrastructure Investment

- Long term planning is required to ensure land use planning coordinated with basic road / service infrastructure to allow for proper implementation of the plan
- If not coordinated, possible to generate a mismatch between available urban services and current position in planning process

# Principles of Long-Range Planning cont.

## • Time Resources

- Engaging in long range planning results in less time, energy and resources spent in litigation battling decisions with respect to how and where to proceed
- Engaging in multiple short range planning exercises tends to delay and drive-up cost of outcomes that are predictable, regardless of number of studies undertaken

## • Local Control

- Adversarial approach leads to a final outcome which is determined by an outside decision maker, LPAT
- This has led to many of the long-range planning decisions which have contributed to development pattern in the City being established by an external authority

# Principles of Long-Range Planning cont.

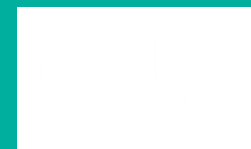
## • Staging

- Undertaking long term planning allows for proper staging of development within an overall predictable, understandable and comprehensive structure
- Carefully designed staging mechanism must be put in place to ensure orderly growth takes place, including the protection of significant environmental features
- Allows for stable and controlled unfolding of the plan that ensures planning and infrastructure investment is coordinated

## • Maximization of Employment Investment

- Undertaking long range planning of employment lands maximizes new investment opportunities by offering more choices in the supply of employment land
- Restriction of the supply of employment land leads to loss of investment and employment growth to other communities

# CASE STUDIES: ELFRIDA & AEGD



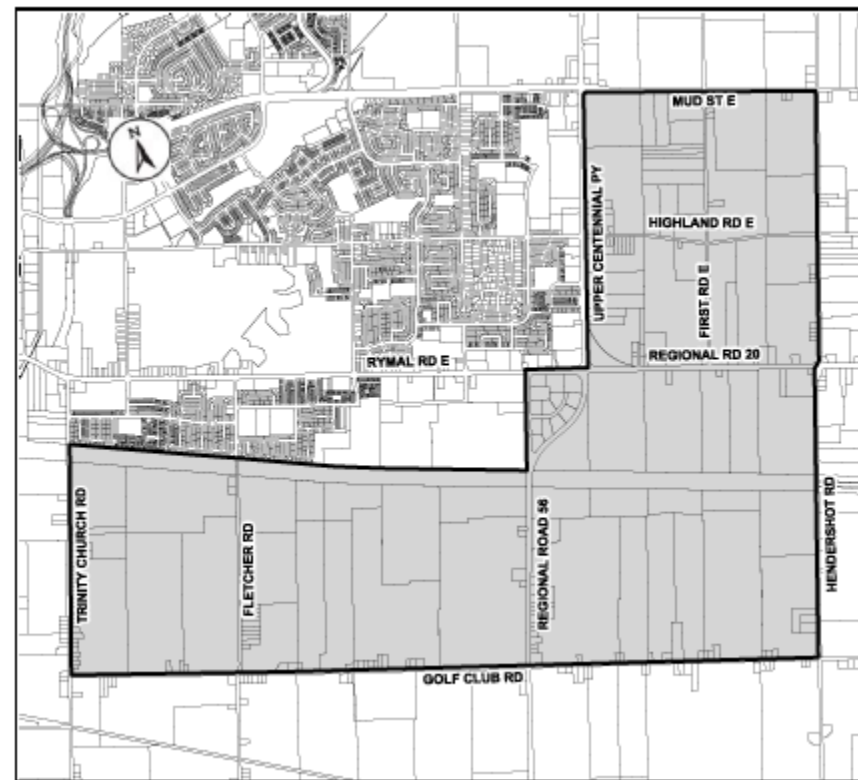
# Case Studies: Elfrida & AEGD

- Unfortunately, the City has not proceeded to implement a long-term strategy and many of the pitfalls that were identified in the past have been experienced
- There is no overall comprehensive plan for development in the city for the Whitebelt area and staging policies have not been put forward
- As a result, the City has seen a mismatch in terms of infrastructure and planning implementation in areas such as Elfrida and the AEGD



# Elfrida

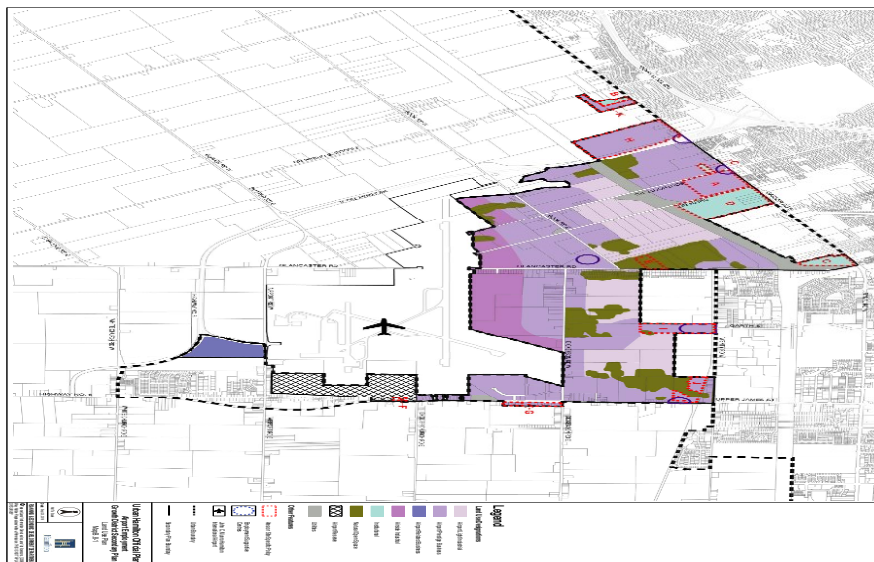
- Due to mismatch in terms of infrastructure and planning implementation in Elfrida, major trunk services have been provided however, the construction of homes for this new community is still a number of years away and that infrastructure has not been used
- The planning has led to a postponement of income from development charges and taxes to pay for those services well after the financial investment in the services has been made



## Elfrida cont.

- Lack of long-term planning has also resulted in a considerable amount of expenditure in terms of planning resources
- The GRIDS process started in 2003 - the municipality now finds itself in a position 17 years later, after 3 versions of the GRIDS report still not being a position to implement the initial GRIDS recommendation to establish Elfrida as the next development community
- The continuation of this process will simply delay the inevitable development of each successive community in the Whitebelt area that will ultimately be needed for Hamilton to evolve as a complete community

# AEGD



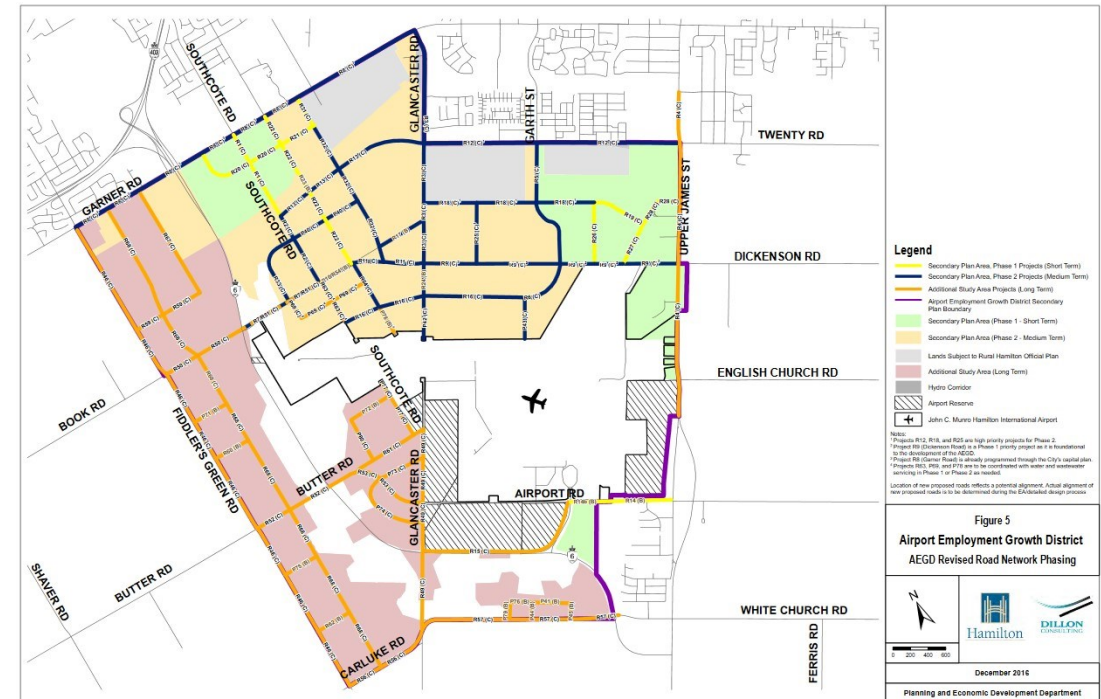
- In a similar but reverse pattern found in the Elfrida situation, a plan for half of the AEGD has been in place for a number of years and yet servicing has not been able to be provided
- In this case, the city has continued to lose investment opportunities to other communities as the half-approved business park remains underdeveloped because of lack of services.

## AEGD cont.

- The initial planning process for AEGD identified ultimate development would proceed as far west as Fiddlers Green Road
- Chamber has always taken the position that the ultimate development limits of AEGD to Fiddlers Green Road should be established and that staging of servicing policies be put in place to ensure orderly development of a comprehensive industrial community
- However, only the first phase of development was brought into the Urban Area, resulting in a second planning process that is now underway before the first phase of the AEGD can be serviced

# AEGD cont.

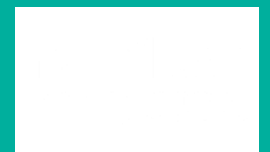
- Has also created uncertainty through a Rural designation of Phase 2 lands that are designated Rural and intended for agricultural and other rural uses
- It would be unreasonable to assume that these lands will attract investment from those with long term agricultural possibilities in mind
- In addition, delay of bringing these additional lands into the Official Plan, simply delays the opportunity for these lands to begin to develop returns in terms of employment opportunities



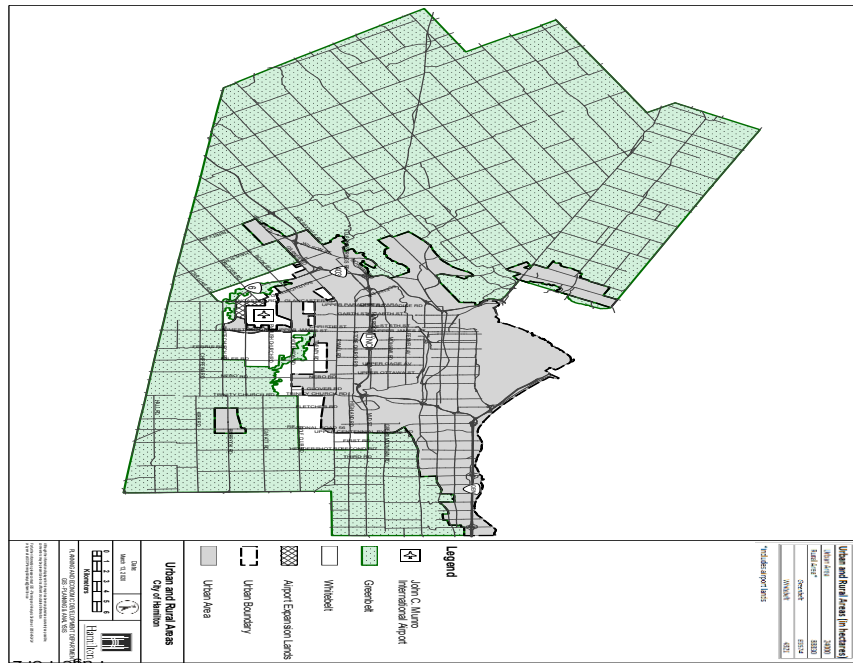
# AEGD cont.

- Phase 1 lands now subject to a review process to allocate services throughout the Employment Growth District - report can only consider half of the ultimate AEGD lands
- Is the servicing infrastructure for the Phase 2 lands being put in place at the outset? If not, this could result in an inefficient use of infrastructure, which may have to be upgraded later.
- If the current infrastructure improvements being brought to the airport are intended to accommodate Phase 2 lands, it will be important to ensure that planning policies are consistent with future infrastructure expectations
- This exercise represents a significant illustration of why it is important to integrate long range land use planning with infrastructure planning

# AGRICULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS



# Agricultural Considerations

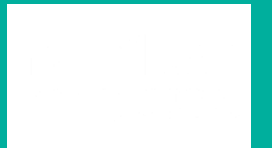


Appendix "H" to Report PED17010(h)  
Page 1 of 2

- Pattern of short-term planning has not been helpful to agricultural community in terms of Whitebelt lands
- Planning policies point to the use of Whitebelt lands for agricultural purposes - however, other than farming these areas to minimize assessment and tax generation, these lands are not conducive to long term investment in agriculture
- It is recommended that policies for Whitebelt areas recognize this reality and not purport to accommodate long term agricultural activity
- This will reinforce the use of the Greenbelt policy and establish greater certainty with respect to the agricultural community



# SUMMARY



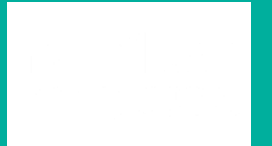
# Summary

- Hamilton, unlike other municipalities within the GTA, has opportunities for future community building beyond the limits of the existing urban boundary - the City has an opportunity to be visionary in how our community will evolve and more fully control that process and its important outcomes
- The Chamber believes there are positive outcomes associated with long range planning and many of the deficiencies that have been experienced over the last two decades can be avoided by providing greater certainty to development interests, the agricultural community, and the broader community at large
- The Chamber feels that through a better coordination of the provision of infrastructure with long range planning, situations are avoided where infrastructure is provided without an immediate ability to generate revenue to pay for that investment
- Similarly, by ensuring infrastructure improvements keep pace with planning policy, particularly in terms of employment lands, there is greater opportunity to enhance employment investment and prevent the potential loss of new opportunities to other jurisdictions

# Summary cont.

- Coordinated long-range planning can help combat growing affordability challenges as well as limit urban growth in areas outside of the Greenbelt
- As pressures to leapfrog over the Greenbelt increase, there is more demand for the expansion of highways to external locations, congestion on major corridors and the adverse environmental impact of more vehicular travel to further destinations - this pattern has already started and will be given further impetus if we do not adequately accommodate our share of growth
- Long-range planning strategy can be properly staged and phased to allow the City to meet intensification targets within the existing built-up area and to ensure that future development within the Whitebelt takes place in an orderly and pre-determined fashion
- We can also then ensure that decisions about our future are not made by an outside arbitrator but are truly a 'made in Hamilton' solution

**THANK YOU**





## **GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review Process Submission Hamilton Chamber of Commerce**

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The Hamilton Chamber of Commerce has consistently supported and promoted long term municipal land use planning in the City of Hamilton ("City"). Having a clear sense of purpose and direction is critically important for a community to prosper and grow in an orderly and predictable fashion.

### **1. Principles of Long-Range Planning**

#### **1.1 Guiding Investment**

An Official Plan policy document, by definition, is meant to direct and guide public and private investment throughout the municipality to provide residents, existing and potential investors and decision-makers with a clear sense of direction to minimize conflict and inefficiencies and to implement the best plan possible. This investment strategy must be clear, understandable and predictable in order to attract and guide investment from those in the development community, those in the agricultural community, our broader community, and those who are yet to invest in our City.

From a development perspective, this involves establishment of a clear and firm urban boundary so that development interests have a sense of certainty as to where they should place their investment. Conversely, a firm urban boundary assists investment decisions for those in the agricultural community who need to understand that their lands and their investments will be protected in the long term.

What is to be avoided is a situation where uncertainty is introduced through a review of urban boundaries undertaken every five years and a piecemeal expansion of the urban boundary on a regular basis.

#### **1.2 Infrastructure Investment**

Long term planning is required to ensure that land use planning is coordinated with the provision of basic road and service infrastructure to allow for the proper implementation of the plan. If this work is not coordinated, it is possible to generate a mismatch whereby urban services are in place however the planning process lags years behind. Alternatively, it can also result in situations where planning approvals are in place but servicing is not available, thus delaying and frustrating the intent of the planning documents.



### **1.3 Time Resources and Local Control**

By engaging in long range planning, less time, energy and resources are spent in litigation, battling decisions with respect to how and where to proceed. What is not desirable is having to engage in ongoing and expensive discussions, reports and hearings that only serve to delay and drive up the cost of outcomes that are predictable and will not change, regardless of the number of studies that are undertaken.

In addition, this adversarial approach leads to a final outcome which is determined by an outside decision maker in the form of LPAT, (formerly the OMB). This has led to many of the long-range planning decisions which have contributed to the development pattern the City over the years being established by an external authority.

### **1.4 Staging**

By undertaking long term planning, proper staging of development can take place within an overall predictable, understandable and comprehensive structure that is defined more by reasonable expectations than artificial, pre-set timing parameters. This will allow for a stable and controlled unfolding of the plan that ensures planning and infrastructure investment is properly coordinated.

What is to be avoided is an uncontrolled free for all that allows development at any cost. Rather, carefully designed staging mechanisms must be put in place to ensure orderly growth takes place and proper planning principles are followed, including the protection of significant environmental features, proper plans for roads, transit, community facilities, open spaces and employment needs.

In this fashion, each stage of development will need to meet intensification objectives and can undergo a thorough secondary planning process to design complete communities within the broader context of the entire city.

### **1.5 Maximization of employment investment**

By undertaking long range planning of employment lands, opportunities to attract new investment into the community are maximized. By offering more choices to potential investors, the opportunity for employment growth is maximized. What is to be avoided is the restriction of the supply of employment land, which can lead to the loss of investment and employment growth to other surrounding communities.

## **2.0 Chamber Position**



Based on the above principles, the Chamber of Commerce has consistently taken the position that the City should engage in long term urban planning and not be restricted by 20 or even 30 year time horizons and ongoing 5 year reviews of potential urban boundary expansions. The Chamber has taken the position that the long-term investment opportunities for new growth within the City are properly defined by all of those lands inside the Greenbelt Plan.

The Province has established a clear and long-term boundary for urban growth through the establishment of the Greenbelt Plan. In doing so, this plan provides certainty and clear expectations for both developers and the farming community that these lands are intended to remain as agricultural lands for a period well beyond 20-30 years. The Chamber has always supported the Greenbelt Plan and believes it is an effective defining limit of urban growth.

From a review of urban growth patterns in the city together with an expectation of future growth requirements, it is clear that urban growth will continue to expand from the current urban boundary through areas described as 'Whitebelt lands' to the limits of the Greenbelt Plan. This expectation provides us an opportunity to properly plan and implement servicing infrastructure to ensure timely provision of adequate services that do not result in any of the premature investment of unused services or of lost opportunities arising from lack of available infrastructure.

While the Chamber has not provided any specific direction with respect to timing of the development of individual blocks, it has always been recommended that a sequence of development be established through strong staging policies that will ensure that the intensification of existing urban areas occurs, and that premature development does not occur. This approach will eliminate the significant resources that are routinely spent on determining who goes next.

### **3.0 History of Evolution of Development**

Unfortunately, the City has in the past not proceeded to implement a long-term strategy and many of the pitfalls that were identified in the past have been experienced. There is no overall comprehensive plan for development in the city for the Whitebelt area and staging policies have not been put forward.

As a result, the City has seen a mismatch in terms of infrastructure and planning implementation in areas such as Elfrida where major trunk services have been provided. However, due to a lag in the planning process, the construction of homes for this new community is still a number of years away and that infrastructure has not been used.



In the case of Elfrida, the planning has led to a postponement of income from development charges and taxes to pay for those services well after the financial investment in the services has been made.

Lack of long-term planning has also resulted in a considerable amount of expenditure in terms of planning resources with disappointing results. As noted in the staff report, the GRIDS process started in 2003. The municipality and City now finds itself in a position 17 years later, after 3 versions of the GRIDS report still not being a position to implement the initial GRIDS recommendation to establish Elfrida as the next development community. The continuation of this process will simply delay the inevitable development of each successive community in the Whitebelt area that will ultimately be needed for Hamilton to evolve as a complete community.

#### **4.0 AEGD**

In a similar but reverse pattern found in the Elfrida situation, a plan for half of the AEGD has been in place for a number of years and yet servicing has not been able to be provided. In this case, the city has continued to lose investment opportunities to other communities as the half-approved business park remains underdeveloped because of lack of services.

The initial planning process for the AEGD identified ultimate development that would proceed as far west as Fiddlers Green Road. With respect to the AEGD, the Chamber has always taken the position that the ultimate development limits of the AEGD to Fiddlers Green Road should be established and that staging of servicing policies be put in place to ensure orderly development of a comprehensive industrial community. However, only the first phase of development was brought into the Urban Area. This has resulted in another second planning process that is now underway before the first phase of the AEGD can be serviced.

This inefficiency has created duplication in terms of resources required for planning. It has also created uncertainty through a Rural designation of Phase 2 lands that are designated Rural and intended for agricultural and other rural uses. Notwithstanding this somewhat misleading designation, it would be unreasonable to assume that these lands will attract investment from those with long term agricultural possibilities in mind.

In addition, delay of bringing these additional lands into the Official Plan, simply delays the opportunity for these lands to begin to develop returns in terms of employment opportunities.

The Phase 1 lands are now subject to a review process to allocate services throughout the Employment Growth District. The report can only consider half of the ultimate AEGD lands. The questions arise: Is this allocation program at all compromised by only





including half of the future AEGD lands. Will there be decisions made in the short term that could limit long term options?

Is the servicing infrastructure for the Phase 2 lands being put in place at the outset? If not, this could result in an inefficient use of infrastructure, which may have to be upgraded later.

If, in fact, the current infrastructure improvements being brought to the airport are indeed intended to accommodate Phase 2 lands, it will be important to ensure that planning policies are consistent with future infrastructure expectations. In any event, this exercise represents a significant illustration of why it is important to integrate long range land use planning with infrastructure planning.

## **5.0 Agricultural Community**

The pattern of short-term planning has not been helpful to the agricultural community in terms of Whitebelt lands. Planning policies point to the use of these Whitebelt lands for agricultural purposes. However, other than farming these areas to minimize assessment and tax generation, these lands are not conducive to long term investment in agriculture. It is recommended that policies for the Whitebelt areas recognize this reality and not purport to accommodate long term agricultural activity. This will reinforce the use of the Greenbelt policy and establish greater certainty with respect to the agricultural community.

## **6.0 Summary**

The Chamber has great expectations for the ultimate development of our community. There is significant diversity in terms of living environments. The City, unlike other municipalities within the GTA, has opportunities for future community building beyond the limits of the existing urban boundary. The City has an opportunity to be visionary in how our community will evolve and more fully control that process and its important outcomes.

There are no Whitebelt lands in Burlington or Oakville, so in terms of accommodating future growth in the West GTHA, Hamilton is it.

As land supply becomes limited and housing prices escalate, pressures have been moving from Toronto to here. By not allowing Whitebelt areas to develop, supply is restricted further and pressure on land values increases even more. This is part of the reason we are currently facing such extraordinary housing prices.

Moreover, if there is no room to accommodate future growth within the Whitebelt, it will simply go elsewhere. If people want to pursue reasonable housing options and have



affordability constraints, they will keep looking outside of the urban area, on the other side of the Greenbelt. This is the urban sprawl that the Greenbelt was intended to prevent. But, by not allowing development within the existing Whitebelt areas, areas outside the Greenbelt lands become the alternative.

The Chamber believes there are very positive outcomes associated with long range planning and many of the deficiencies that have been experienced over the last two decades can be avoided by providing greater certainty to development interests, the agricultural community, and the broader community at large.

The Chamber also feels that through a better coordination of the provision of infrastructure with long range planning, situations are avoided where infrastructure is provided without an immediate ability to generate revenue to pay for that investment. Similarly, by ensuring infrastructure improvements keep pace with planning policy, particularly in terms of employment lands, there is greater opportunity to enhance employment investment and prevent the potential loss of new opportunities to other jurisdictions.

This long-range planning strategy can be properly staged and phased to allow the City to meet intensification targets within the existing built-up area and to ensure that future development within the Whitebelt takes place in an orderly and pre-determined fashion. By undertaking proper land use planning, greater effort can be spent on designing complete communities rather than time and energy being spent on determining who is next. We can also then ensure that decisions about our future are not made by an outside arbitrator but are truly a 'made in Hamilton' solution.

The Chamber of Commerce strongly supports the establishment of a long-term plan for urban growth in the City of Hamilton that will produce a clear, staged approach to the development of all lands within the Whitebelt area and the full extent of the Airport Employment Growth District.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission.

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 - 7:58 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Rabbi David Mivasair

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To speak in support of a motion regarding changes in land use planning

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

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

**From:** David Mivasair

**Sent:** March 13, 2021 2:05 PM

**To:** Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Farr, Jason <[Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Merulla, Sam <[Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca)>; Collins, Chad <[Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Pearson, Maria <[Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; VanderBeek, Arlene <[Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca)>; Whitehead, Terry <[Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca)>; Partridge, Judi <[Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca)>; Thorne, Jason <[Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** [\*\*\*\*POSSIBLE SPAM]We must delay reconsidering Hamilton's growth and development plans, not rush it -- please support Clr. Brad Clark's motion

## Hello Councillor Wilson,

I am writing as a proud Ward 1 constituent but also want every other Councillor and the Mayor to read my comments below.

It is vitally important that we in the City of Hamilton not allow ourselves to be pushed around by the current provincial government regarding our municipal development plans.

As you are aware, the province has revised municipal planning guidelines to include population projections to 2051, lowered density targets for new development and enacted a "market-driven" approach to planning for new residential.

I urge you to support Councillor Brad Clark's motion to **delay Hamilton's Official Review Plans (MRC)**. The region of Halton voted unanimously on Feb 17 to pause their planning. I believe we must follow suit. .

We **must not lock in sprawl until 2051**. Land use planning is the key lever in locking in or locking out greenhouse emissions according to Yuill Herbert, a leading energy consultant for many Canadian municipalities including Burlington.

Constituents cannot be properly consulted given COVID restrictions. Many of us do not have internet access or lack the expertise to use Zoom software in order to delegate. Critical decisions which will impact Hamilton for the next 30 years, should not be made while in-person consultation is impossible.

Hamilton's 2016-2025 Strategic Plan commits to community engagement and

states: "Citizens are consulted and involved in making the decisions that impact them".

I believe we need to **freeze the urban boundary** and **direct new development to within the existing built-up areas**. Low density residential development is an economic disaster, as well as an environmental one. Our current infrastructure deficit will only grow as we continue to build out into greenfields, building new roads and water infrastructure that taxpayers cannot support. As well, storm run-off from impermeable surfaces will only increase as the effects of climate change grow. Transportation emissions from these developments will prevent us from reaching our climate targets and should not be considered. We have more than enough land within the current urban boundary to develop complete, self-sustaining communities for future growth until 2031 and should have the flexibility to plan for 2041 using the guiding principles of Places to Grow.

I know that you pay attention to the overarching issues and I deeply appreciate that you are committed as our Ward 1 Councilor to maintaining a healthy, thriving environment for all living beings who we share this place with.

**David Mivasair**

Hamilton, ON

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 - 9:35 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Laura Katz

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I would like to delegate at the March 29th meeting to support the motion to delay any decision-making for land use planning due to covid.

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

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

**From:** Laura Katz

**Sent:** March 8, 2021 10:06 AM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>

**Cc:** Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; Johnson, Brenda <[Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Delay decision making about urban boundaries

Good morning,

I am requesting that Hamilton City Council delay Hamilton's Official Review Plans (MRC) at your upcoming meeting. The region of Halton voted unanimously to pause their planning on Feb 17 and I believe we must follow suit. .

Constituents cannot be properly consulted given COVID restrictions. Many residents do not have internet access or lack the expertise to use Zoom software in order to delegate. Critical decisions which will impact Hamilton for the next 30 years, should not be made while in-person consultation is impossible. Hamilton's 2016-2025 Strategic Plan commits to community engagement and participation and states: "Citizens are consulted and involved in making the decisions that impact them".

For this action to be effective, councils around the Golden Horseshoe will need to pass similar motions and as it started in Halton, I hope it can continue to Hamilton and beyond.

The best option for our municipality is to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development to within the existing built-up areas.

**Sprawl is costly for our health, the environment and our wallets. We will all pay the cost of irresponsible development.**

Low density residential development is an economic disaster, as well as an environmental one. Our current infrastructure deficit will only grow as we continue to build out into greenfields, building new roads and water infrastructure that taxpayers cannot support. As well, storm run-off from impermeable surfaces will only increase as the effects of climate change grow. Transportation emissions from these developments will prevent us from reaching our climate targets and should not be considered. We have more than enough land within the current urban boundary to develop complete, self-sustaining communities for future growth until 2031 and should have the flexibility to plan for 2041 using the guiding principles of Places to Grow.

Please delay any decision making until voices from all wards can be heard, particularly Ward 11 and Ward 9, where some constituents face internet connectivity issues.

Best,

Laura Katz

Ward 1

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, March 18, 2021 - 3:47 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Ruth Pickering

**Name of Organization:** N/A

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:**

Concerns about urban sprawl (for presentation on March 29)

**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 Thursday, March 18, 2021 - 4:50 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Jim Quinn

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:**

City boundary expansion and sprawl

**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, March 19, 2021 - 11:22 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Kathleen Livingston

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I object to using prime agricultural land as a solution to Hamilton's housing needs.

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

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

# DENSIFICATION:

The ROI imperative

delegation to general issues  
committee

Monday, March 29, 2021

Kathleen Livingston

Hamilton **TAXPAYER.**



# Introduction

Joe Minicozzi, AICP, (American Institute of Certified Planners) founded Urban3 to explain and visualize market dynamics created by tax and land use policies.

- Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Miami
- Master of Architecture and Urban Design from Harvard University.
- In 2017, recognized as one of the 100 Most Influential Urbanists of all time.
- His work has been featured at the **Congress for New Urbanism**, the **American Planning Association**, the **International Association of Assessing Officers**, and **New Partners for SmartGrowth** conferences as a paradigm shift for thinking about development patterns.
- Associates & partners with StrongTowns.

Minicozzi's presentation, entitled "Do the Math", urges all stakeholders and urban planners to view decisions through the lens of **Return on Investment**.

As a taxpaying stakeholder, I support this urban planning approach.

**What is the return on investment of urban sprawl?**



# Is Hamilton FULL?

Fully serviced vacant urban lots. **What tax revenue is generated on these lots?**



Main St, West & Longworth



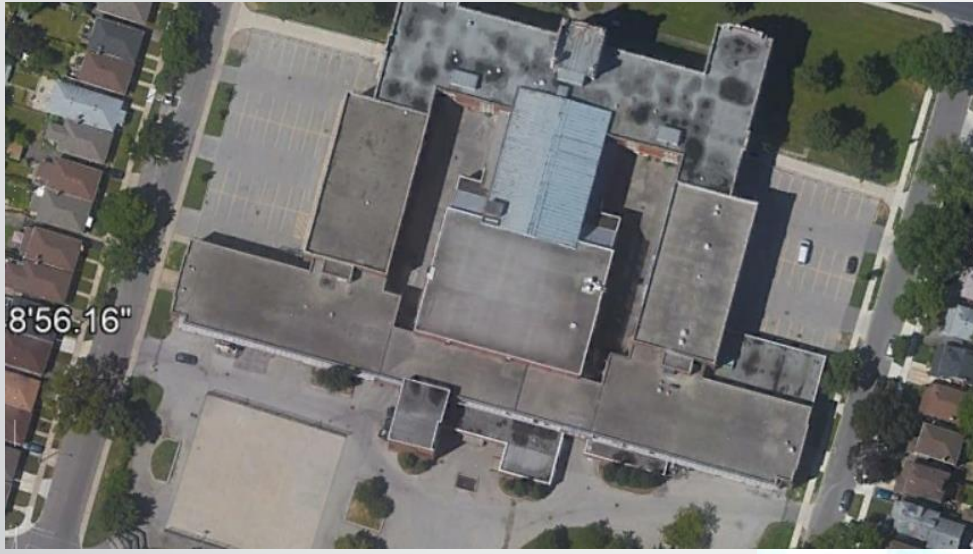
Main St,  
West &  
Longworth



Main St, West &  
Longworth

# Is Hamilton full?

Cootes & Hwy  
Dundas



DELTA HIGHSCHOOL, Main St. E & Graham Ave. so.



King St. East & Thorpe St., Dundas

## WHAT IS THE RETURN ON INVESTMENT ON VACANT LAND & EMPTY SCHOOLS?

# ***IS EAST HAMILTON FULL?***

**Empty lots & buildings on  
Kenilworth Ave. North**

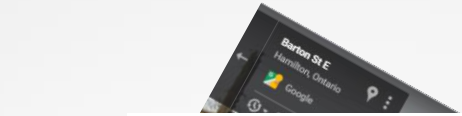
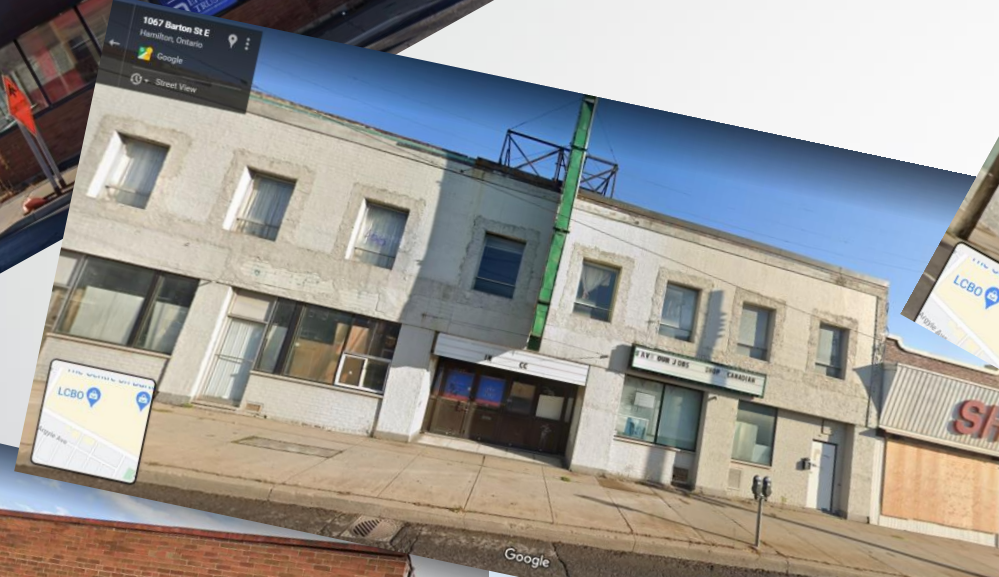


# ***OR JUST NEGLECTED?***



# ***IS EAST HAMILTON FULL?***

**Empty lots & buildings on  
Barton St. E.**



# ***OR JUST NEGLECTED?***

# ***IS EAST HAMILTON FULL?***

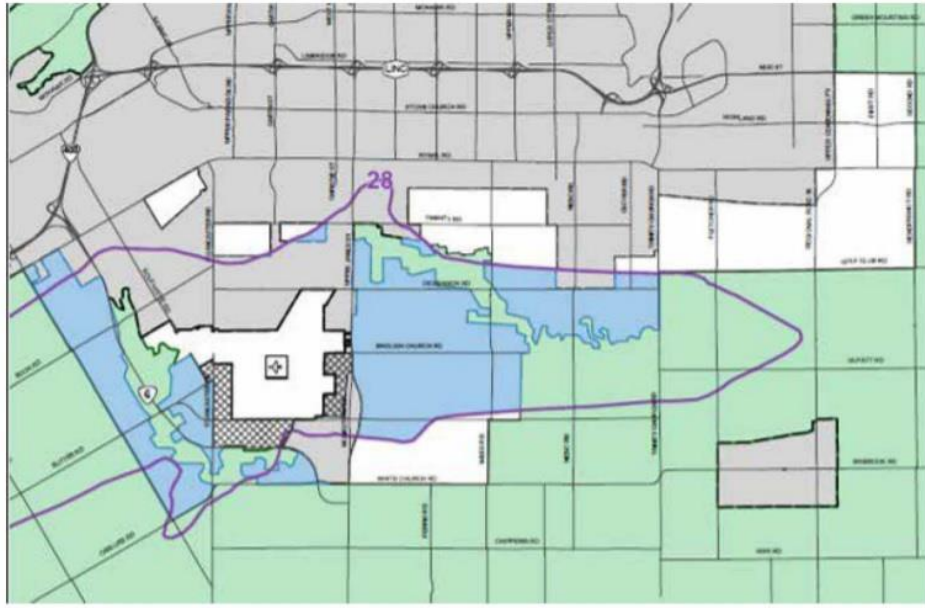


183 Britannia Ave

Decommissioned school  
on Britannia at  
Kenilworth No.

# ***OR JUST NEGLECTED?***

# IS EAST HAMILTON REALLY FULL?

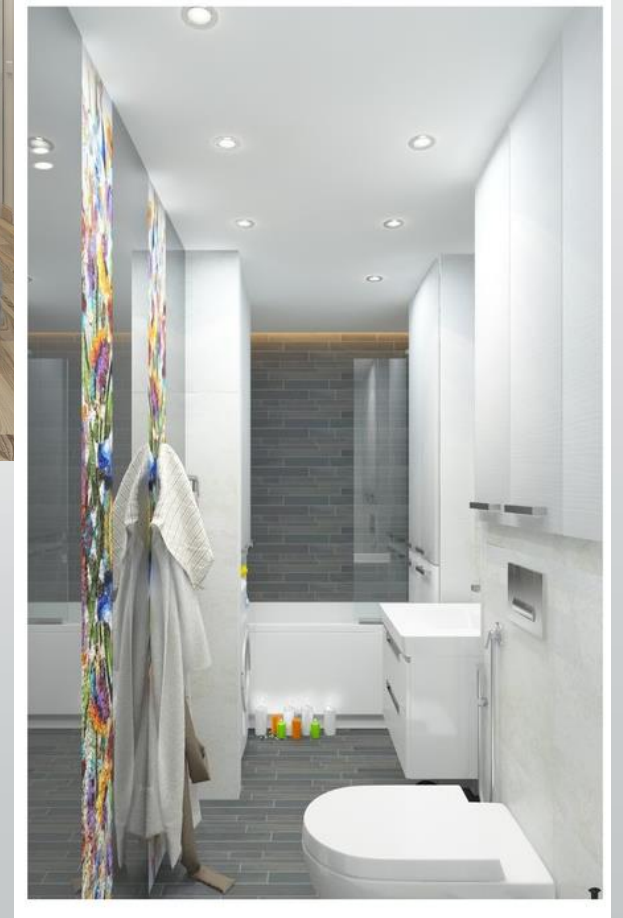


SCHOOL ON BRITANNIA at KENILWORTH NO.

**24,190 Ft<sup>2</sup> = 35 – 40 500 Ft<sup>2</sup> apartments.**

# THIS.....

IS WHAT A 500  
SQ.FT. APARTMENT  
CAN LOOK LIKE

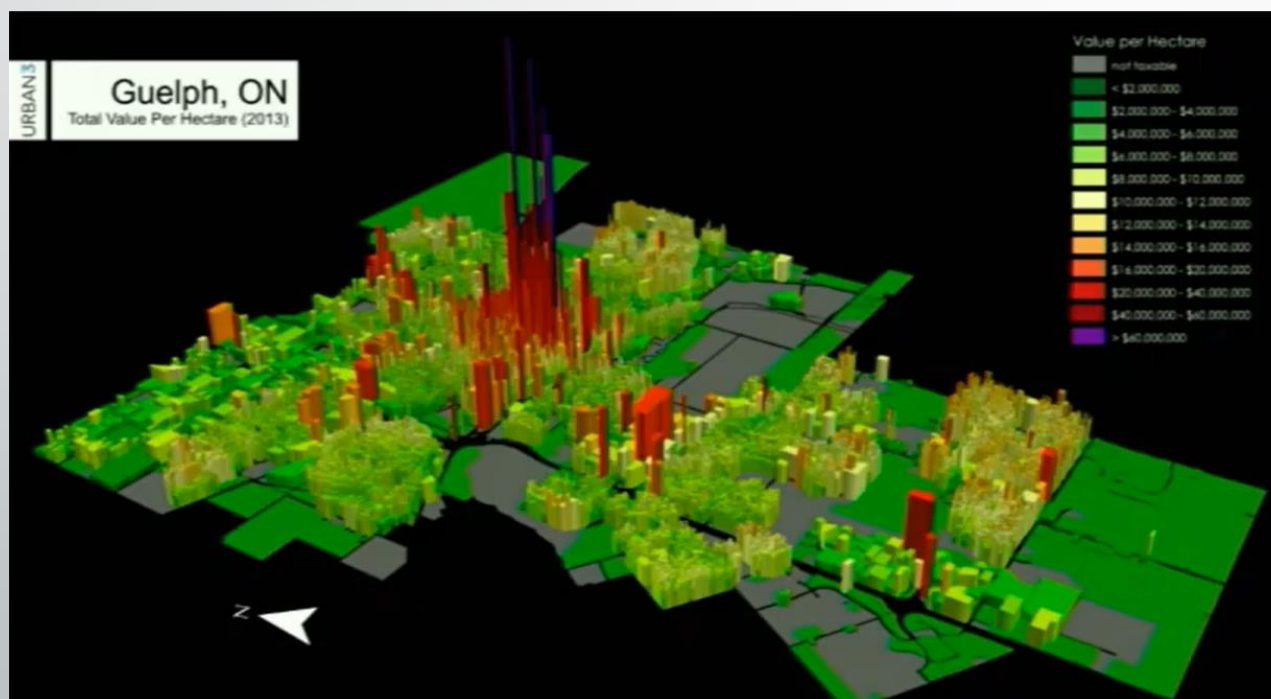


.....VS.



# What's the ROI?

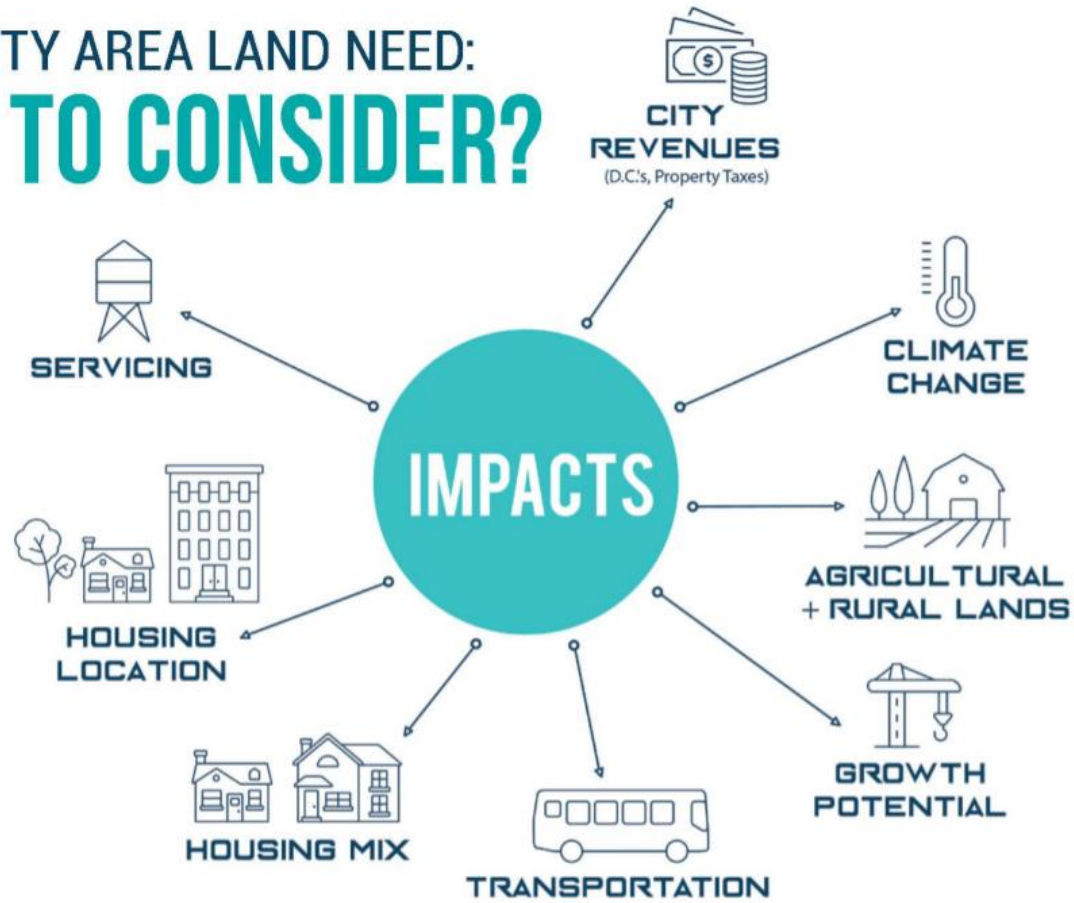
THROUGH ANALYSIS CONDUCTED BY URBAN3  
GUELPH DISCOVERED THAT IT WAS 50% EMPTY!



- What is the tax value per acre in Hamilton's neighbourhoods?
- How much revenue and avoided infrastructure expense can be captured by using existing urban infrastructure first?
- What is the long term financial liability of the infrastructure needed to sprawl into Efrida?

# GRIDS STUDY

## COMMUNITY AREA LAND NEED: **WHAT TO CONSIDER?**



That this move by the provincial government, and the subsequent recommendation by the City's Administration, have been undertaken while citizens are burdened by COVID19 restrictions. This is reprehensible - an egregious example of shock doctrine politicking..

**I call upon City Council to agree to delay the decision to proceed with this plan until citizens are fully apprised of it, until a fulsome civic engagement and consultation can be mounted, and until we are all, as taxpayers, able to assess the future liabilities that this plan represents to each of us.**

Thank you for the opportunity to address this Committee.



## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Saturday, March 20, 2021 - 2:02 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Akira Ourique

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I am a resident in Hamilton and wish to speak in the next city hall meeting (Mar 29th) as the urban boundary debate is important to me.

**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 Sunday, March 21, 2021 - 12:52 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:** To comment on the LNA  
GRIDS2 draft plan

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

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

## Getting the Word Out

Virtual sessions, and the opportunity to provide advice through the Engage Hamilton portal, were advertised in several ways. Community members were invited to either or both of the public sessions.

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!** 

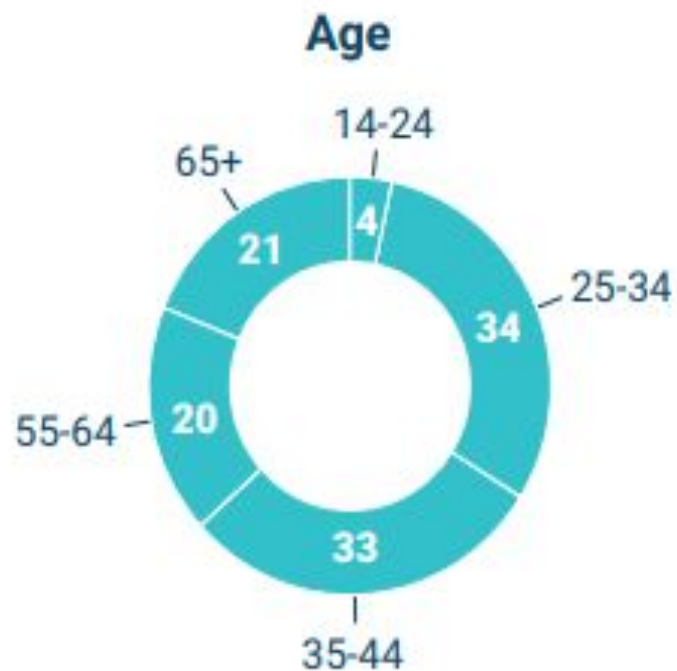
**MCR GRID<sup>2</sup>**  
Moving Forward Together

[engage.hamilton.ca](http://engage.hamilton.ca)

The advertisement features a night cityscape background with a grid of green and blue squares on the left. The text 'WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!' is in large, bold, black letters at the top left, followed by a large black quote icon. Below this, the 'MCR GRID<sup>2</sup>' logo is centered, with 'Moving Forward Together' underneath it. At the bottom left is the website 'engage.hamilton.ca'. At the bottom right are the logos for the City of Hamilton and Engage Hamilton.

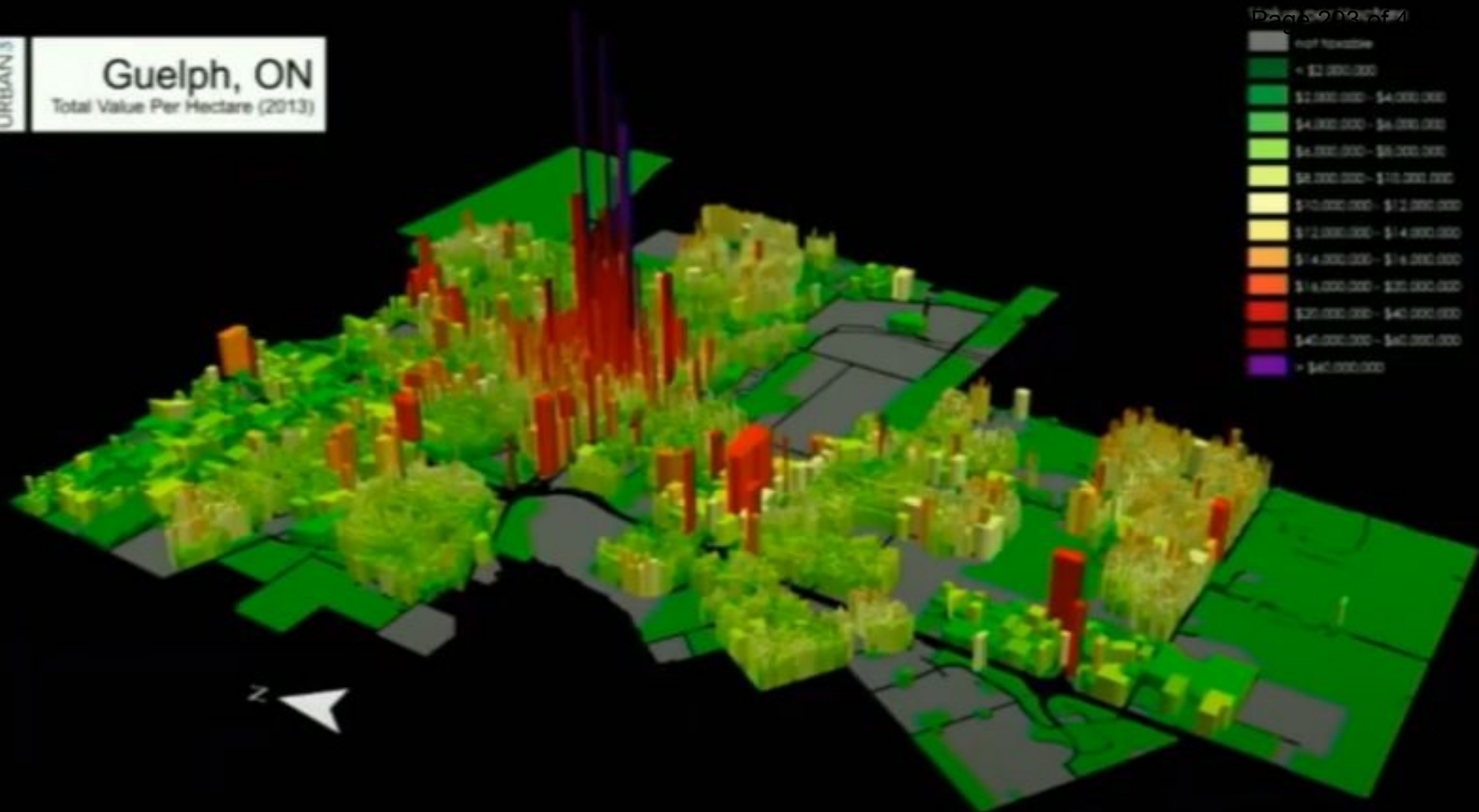
Approximately 150 people from across the City responded to the survey. The distribution of respondents by age and by ward are shown below.



The following summary provides an overview of key findings for each of the four survey sections. Open ended questions (Q2, Q7, Q8, and Q9) where people provided a written response have been summarized by overall themes with number of responses shown for each theme. Written responses in their entirety can be found in **Appendix C**.

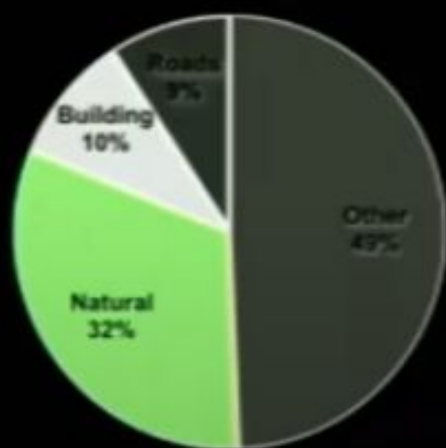
## Guelph, ON

Total Value Per Hectare (2013)



# Guelph, ON







Figure Ground (+ Natural Features)



# Assets\*




# Breakdown of Revenue by Building Type

	LOW DENSITY	MEDIUM DENSITY	HIGH DENSITY
RESIDENTIAL			
MIXED-USE			
COMMERCIAL			



# Breakdown of Revenue by Building Type

	LOW DENSITY	MEDIUM DENSITY	HIGH DENSITY
RESIDENTIAL	 <p><b>-\$1,381</b></p>	 <p><b>\$1,498</b></p>	 <p><b>\$3,061</b></p>
MIXED-USE	 <p><b>\$2,540</b></p>	 <p><b>\$3,515</b></p>	 <p><b>\$10,472</b></p>
COMMERCIAL	 <p><b>\$551</b></p>	 <p><b>\$9,614</b></p>	 <p><b>\$12,051</b></p>



They can be arranged side-by-side, stacked or as a combination of the two









## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Sunday, March 21, 2021 - 12:56 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Senna Thomas

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To discuss my position on the land needs plan and a boundary expansion for Hamilton

**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, March 22, 2021 - 3:50 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Michelle Tom

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

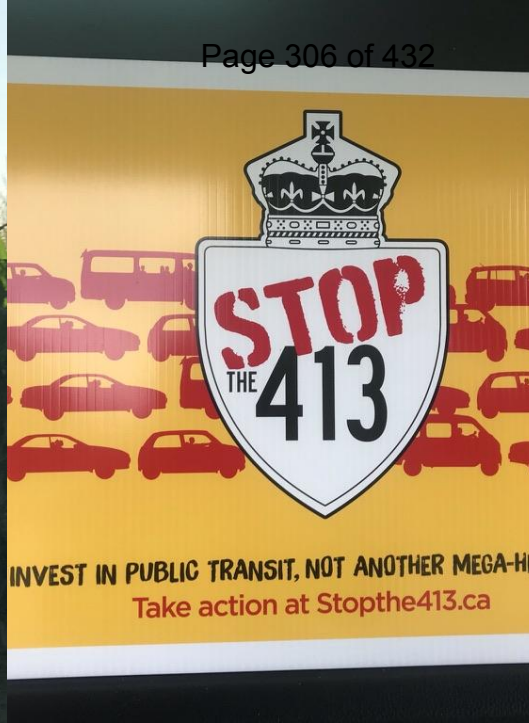
**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Respond to Lands Needs Assessment March 29<sup>th</sup>

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

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



**Don't let Sprawl  
Take it all.**



**“Death by 1,000 cuts.”**  
Jane Fogal Halton Hills  
Councillor

Planning Act

Provincial Policy Statement

Entire Province

Provincial Plans

Parts of Province

Official Plans

Zoning By-Laws

Minor Variances

Site Plans

Community  
Planning  
Permits

Land Division

Municipalities

Building Permits

Since June 2019 the Province has amended a number of Provincial Statutes and policies that impact how municipalities plan for growth including the following:

- The Planning Act
- The Provincial Policy Statement
- A Place to Grow: The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe
- The Environmental Assessment Act
- The Conservation Authorities Act
- The Development Charges Act



# REALITY CHECK

**Carbon Emissions Inventory  
for the Greater Toronto and  
Hamilton Area 2018**

## DENSITY AS DRIVER OF GHG IN HAMILTON

Municipalities have jurisdiction over many actions needed to decarbonize transportation, such as zoning and by-laws that impact density

Hamilton's population density is high compared to some other GTHA municipalities, which is a great opportunity to support modal shift and transit investment to reduce emissions from transportation.

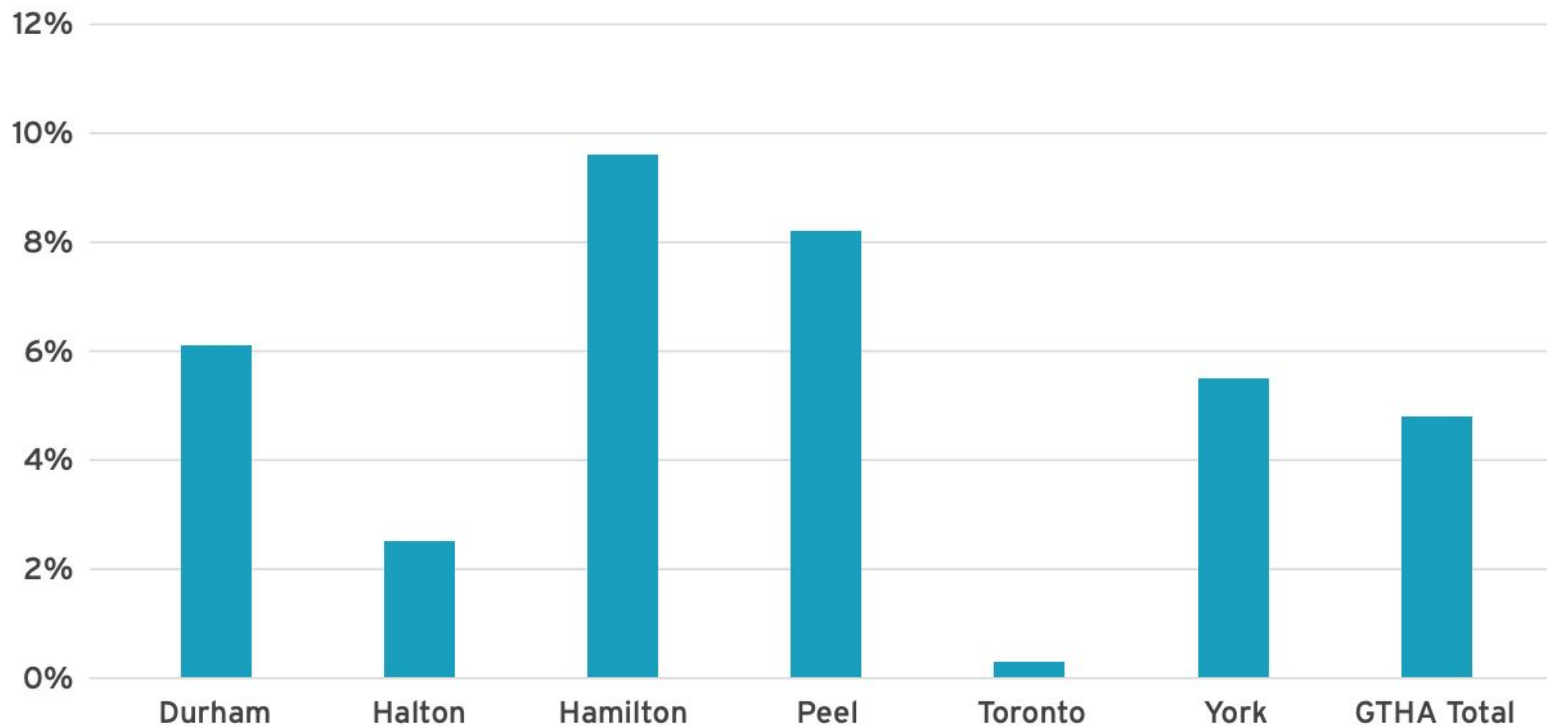


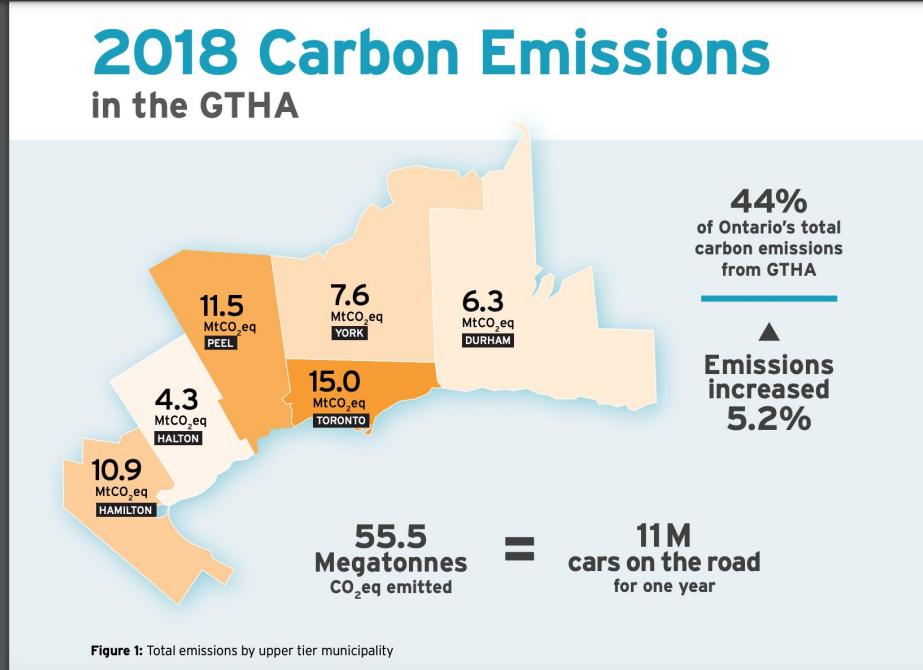
Figure 11: Trend in transportation emissions increase over four years 2015 to 2018

Transportation emissions overall have been growing at 1-2% every year, despite cleaner fuels and more efficient vehicles.

This can likely be attributed to a combination of an increase in the number of personal vehicles, a continuing trend to larger vehicles, *increasing sprawl resulting in more kilometers travelled*, and increased goods movement.

Transportation emissions per capita did fall slightly in 2018, even with the growth in population.

**The Toronto trend illustrates that you can have population growth and stable or falling transport emissions if growth is concentrated in existing neighbourhoods with good transit access.**



## LAND, FOOD

---

- Climate crisis already affects food quality and security
- High risks at 1.5°, very high risks at 2°
- **If we keep delaying:**
  - Food supply less stable, more expensive
  - Rapid declines in agricultural productivity
  - Irreversible damage to land and ecosystems
  - More wildfire, more conflict, more migration

## CLIMATE LENS FOR EVERY DECISION

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- Will this reduce our total GHGs per science-based target?
- Will this make the transition to a low carbon economy easier?
- If not, it is causing real harm to people alive today





## 3 KEY PATHWAYS

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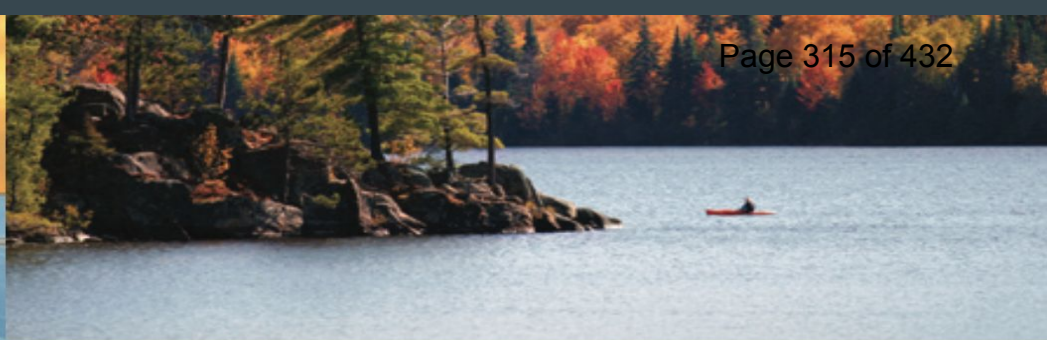
- a. Community energy plan
- b. Stop sprawl
- c. Protect nature



## Toronto Star Article “Slam Dunk for Developers”

Agricultural land is valued as low as \$18,000 an acre, but residential land is easily worth \$1 million an acre,”

There are hundreds of millions of dollars to be made right now simply by rezoning farmlands around the new freeway into development lands. And there are **billions** more to be made in the future from developing those lands into ever more unsustainable sprawl when we should be building up in our existing urban areas.”



# Community Emissions Reduction Planning: A Guide for Municipalities

## Consultant Yuill Herbert for 60 Canadian Municipalities:

“The most powerful mechanism  
municipalities have to reduce CO2  
emissions is

## LAND USE PLANNING

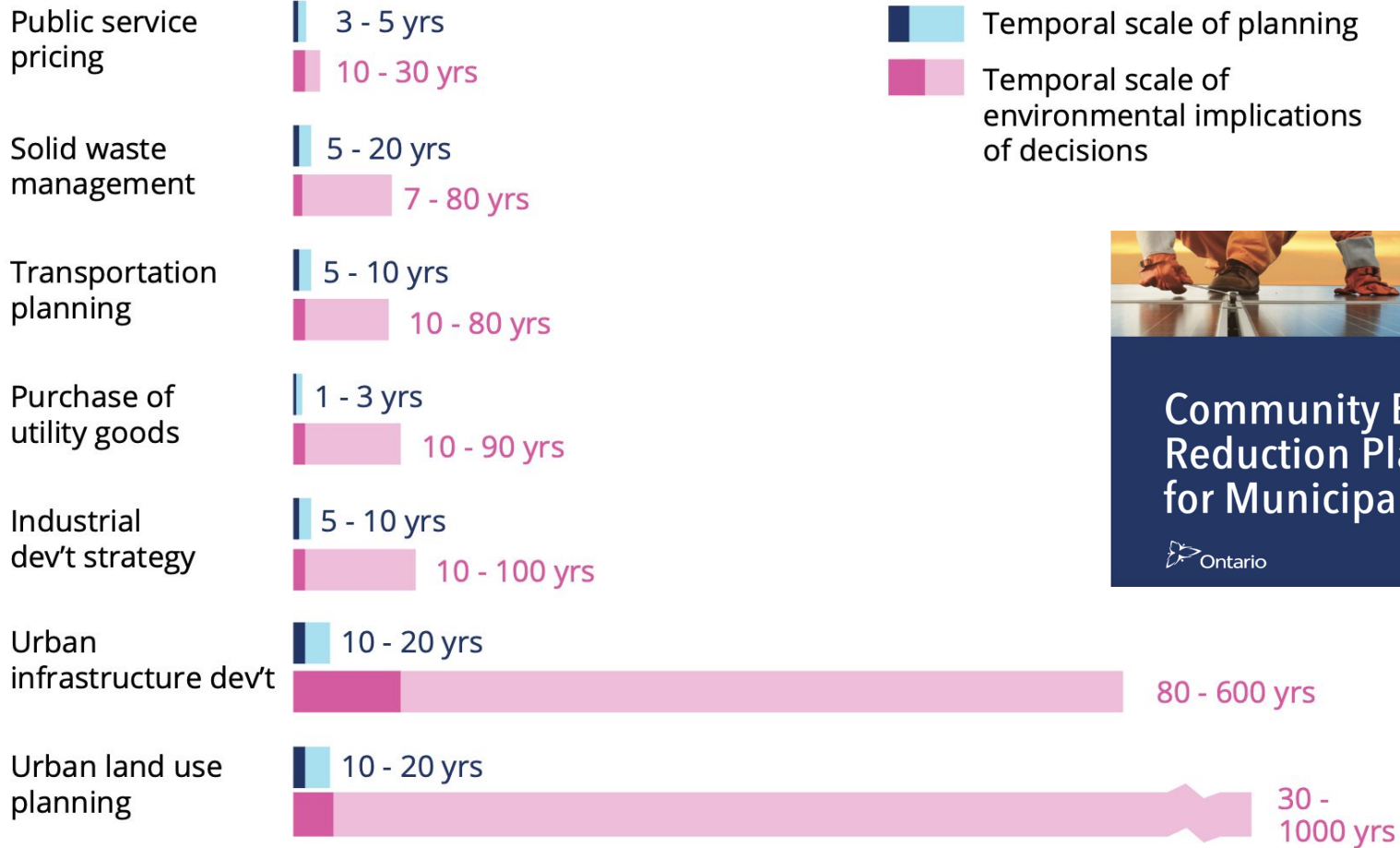
“Land-use Planning is the key lever to locking in or  
locking out greenhouse gas emissions at the  
municipal level.”

”



Local government as...	Authority	Sample actions	Community energy and emissions planning techniques	Potential impact on GHG emissions reductions
Energy consumers.	Direct control.	Retrofits of municipal buildings, construction of high performance municipal buildings, purchase of zero emissions vehicles, development of renewable natural gas from organic materials.	Corporate GHG inventory and plan.	Low.
Investors.	Indirect control.	Renewable natural gas from a landfill, zero emissions transit system, cycling infrastructure, electric vehicle charging stations, recycling programs, public/private partnerships.	Situational analysis [review of capital budgets].	Medium-High.
Influencers.	Indirect control.	Official Plan policies, Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs.	Modelling and scenario-planning.	High.

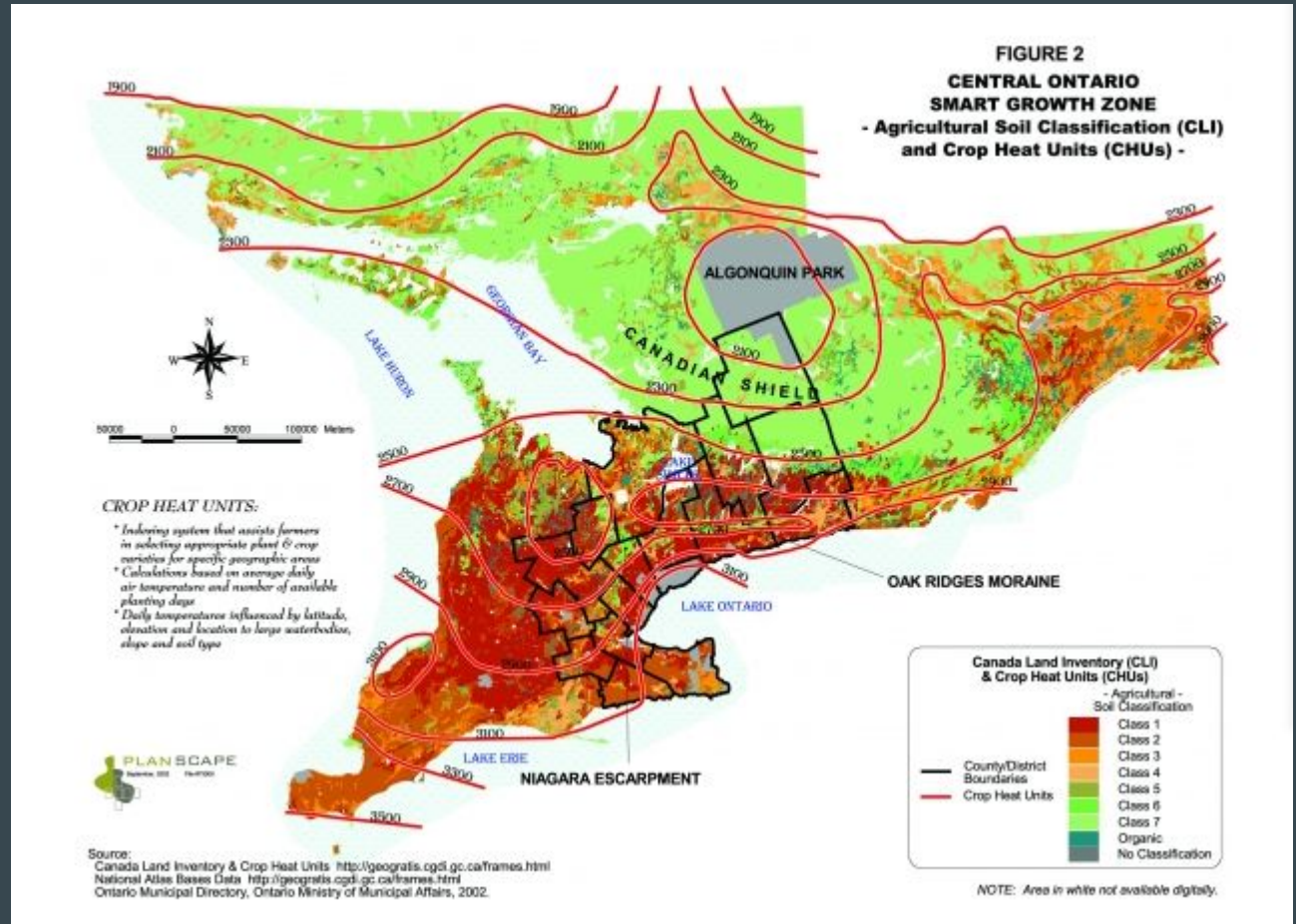




RED is prime agricultural land

Only 0.5% is Class 1 and most of it is in Southern Ontario

#SaveTheFarmOnt



# Population growth

**SCHEDULE 3 GROWTH PLAN FORECAST GROWTH FOR 2012-2019  
VERSUS ACTUAL GROWTH 2012-2019**

	Estimated Growth 2011 - 2019 (000s)	SCHEDULE 3 Forecast Growth 2011 - 2019 (000s)	Variance (Estimated - forecast) (000s pop)	Variance (% of estimated growth)	Variance as Reported by Hemson (% of total population / employment )
<b>POPULATION</b>					
Toronto	261	226	35	13%	1%
York	115	210	-95	-83%	-8%
Durham	70	110	-40	-57%	-6%
Halton	79	99	-20	-25%	-3%
Peel	203	177	26	13%	2%
Hamilton	39	53	-14	-36%	-2%
GTAH	769	877	-108	-14%	-1%
OUTER RING	249	273	-24	-10%	-1%
GGH	1018	1150	-132	-13%	-1%
<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>					
Toronto	200	71	129	65%	7%
York	108	170	-62	-57%	-10%
Durham	27	75	-48	-178%	-20%
Halton	49	80	-31	-63%	-11%
Peel	101	128	-27	-21%	-4%
Hamilton	24	48	-24	-100%	-10%
GTAH	508	570	-62	-12%	-2%
OUTER RING	95	152	-57	-60%	-5%
GGH	603	722	-119	-20%	-2%

Source: Copied / derived from Hemson: Greater Golden Horseshoe: Growth Forecasts to 2051 (June 16, 2020), Figure 2 – 2012 Forecast Population in 2019 vs. 2019 Estimates (page 4), Distribution of Population in the Greater Golden Horseshoe 1986 – 2051 - Reference Forecast (page 37), Distribution of Employment in the Greater Golden Horseshoe 1986 – 2051 - Reference Forecast (page 37)  
Hemson: Greater Golden Horseshoe - Growth Forecasts to 2041 - Technical Report Addendum (June 2013) - Distribution of Population and Employment for the Greater Golden Horseshoe 2001 - 2041 Reference Scenario (Page 62)



# Compact city- Complete communities



# Options for Density within our City Limits



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



## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Monday, March 22, 2021 - 9:27 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Glen Brown

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I would like to address Council with the purpose of urging them to consider supporting the motion to delay land use planning decisions until after Covid pandemic is over.

**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, March 22, 2021 - 9:30 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Summer Elly Thomas

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To comment on the GRIDS2 Land Needs Assessment for the March 29th general issues meeting and urge city councilors to freeze the urban boundary.

**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, March 22, 2021 - 11:03 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Suzanne Mills

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I would like to request that council freeze the urban boundary and pause planning till in person consultations have occurred. Given the communication limitations resulting from Covid, it was not possible to have full community consultation. Additionally, this will only accentuate inequality in the city by adding costs to the city to service large homes on the urban fringe - taking funds away from vulnerable populations in the urban core.

**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, March 22, 2021 - 5:32 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** David Carson

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To address the impacts of the Land Needs Assessment recommendations.

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

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

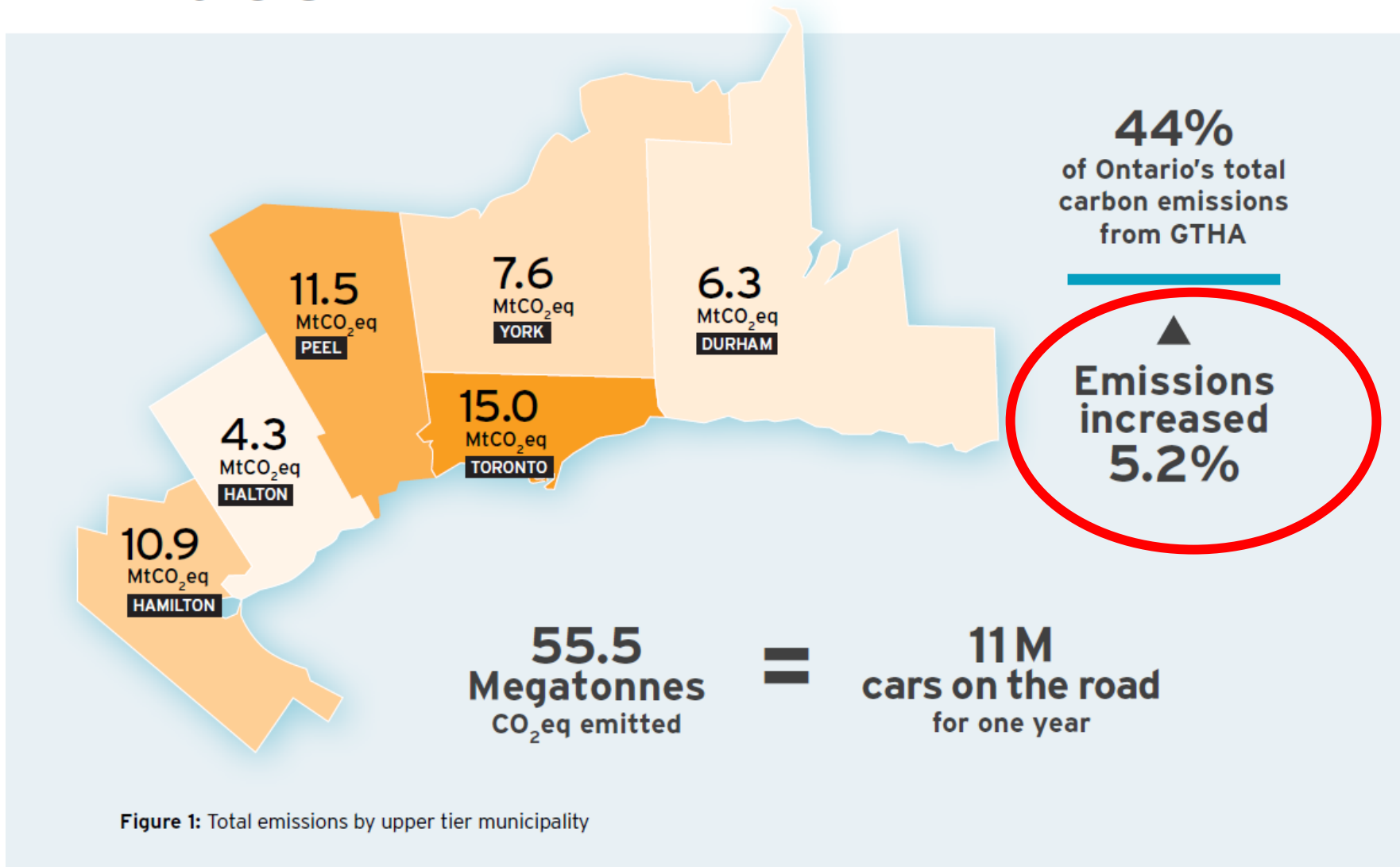
# Connecting the dots to a boundary expansion

Dave Carson - GIC Meeting March 29<sup>th</sup> 2021

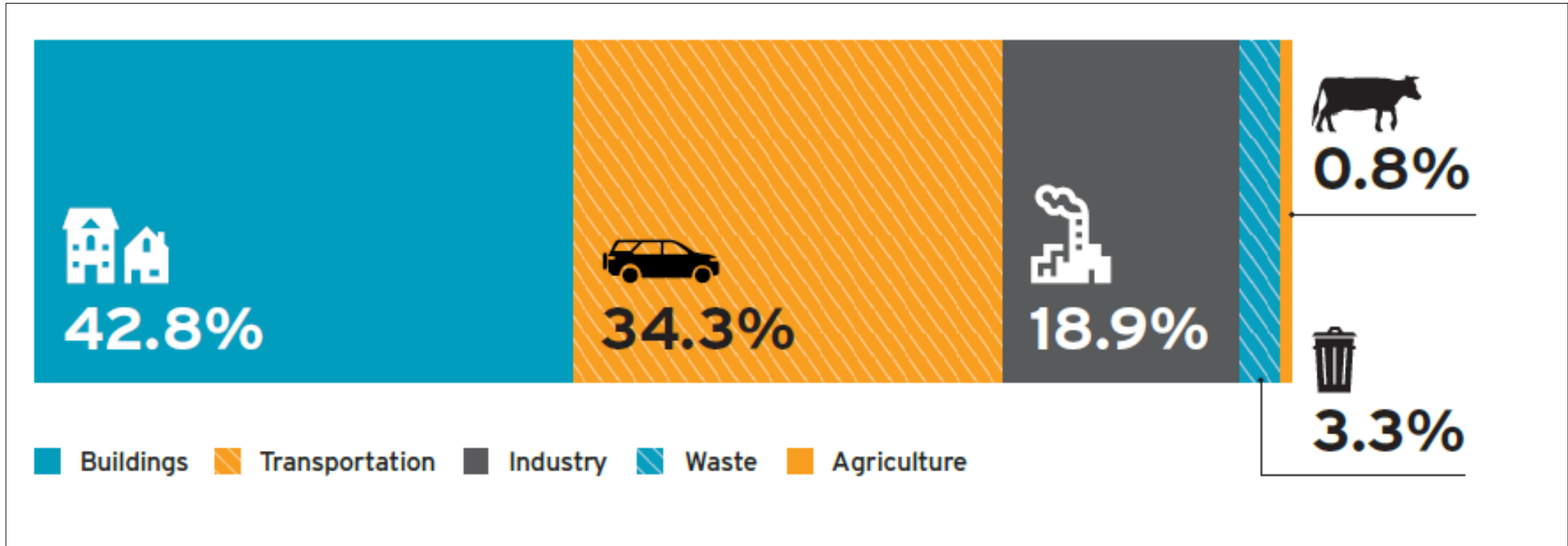


# 2018 Carbon Emissions

## in the GTHA



# GTHA total emissions by sector - 2018



<http://taf.ca/gtha-carbon-emissions/>

## Combining Up-front and Operational Emissions

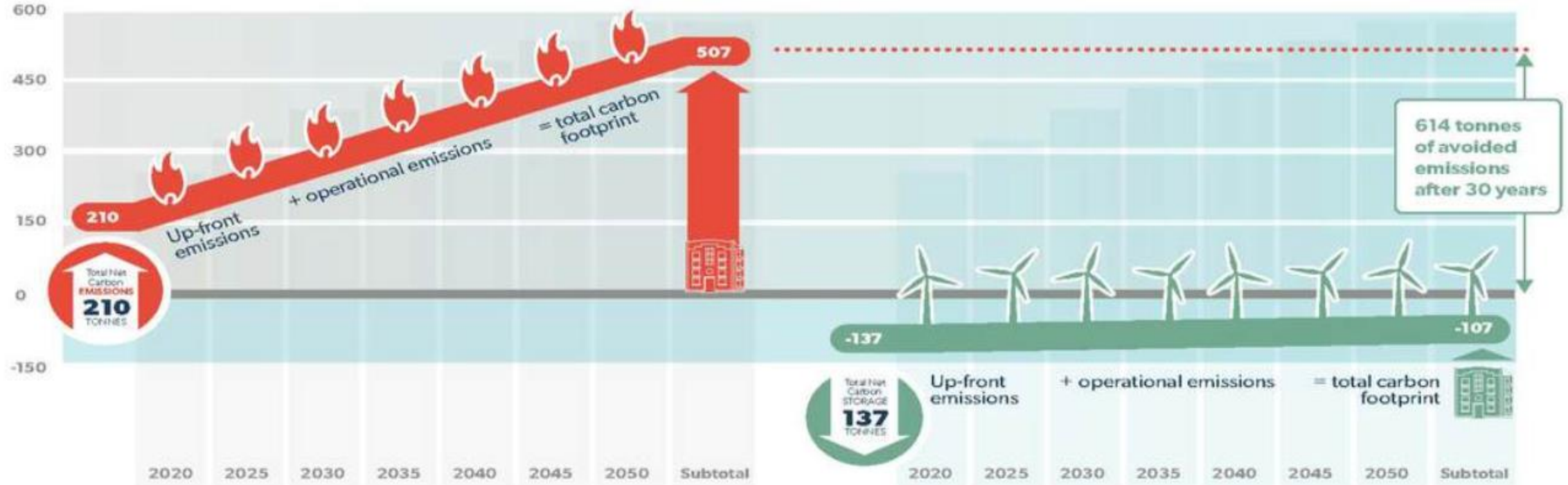
### Carbon Emitting Building using Natural Gas

Buildings can continue to **DRIVE** climate change...

OR

### Carbon Storing Building using Renewable Electricity

Buildings can help to **REVERSE** climate change.

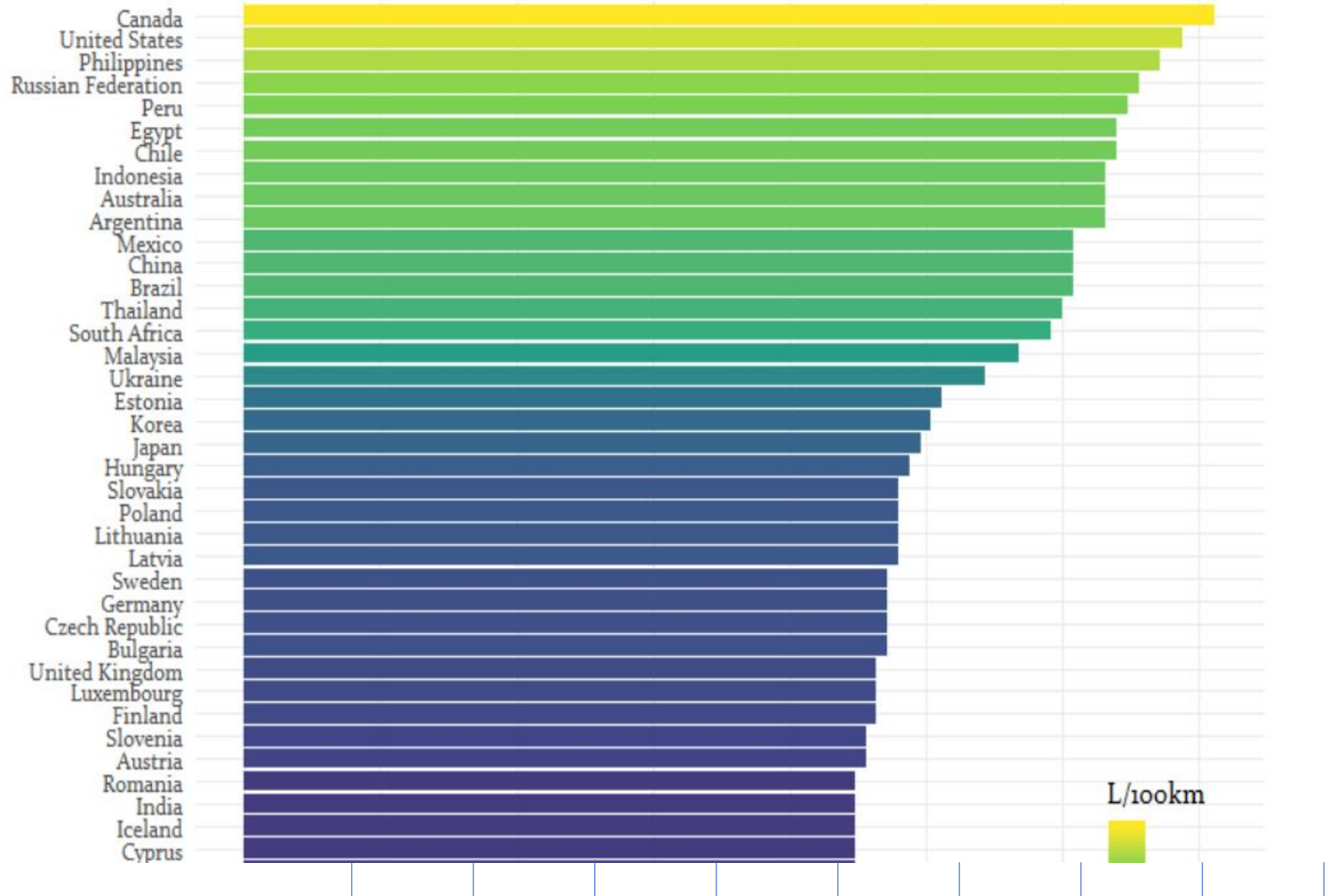


**WE DRIVE  
THE MOST  
POLLUTING  
CARS**



## How fuel efficient is the vehicle fleet?

Average litres of gasoline-equivalent per 100km



## Carbon reduction potential

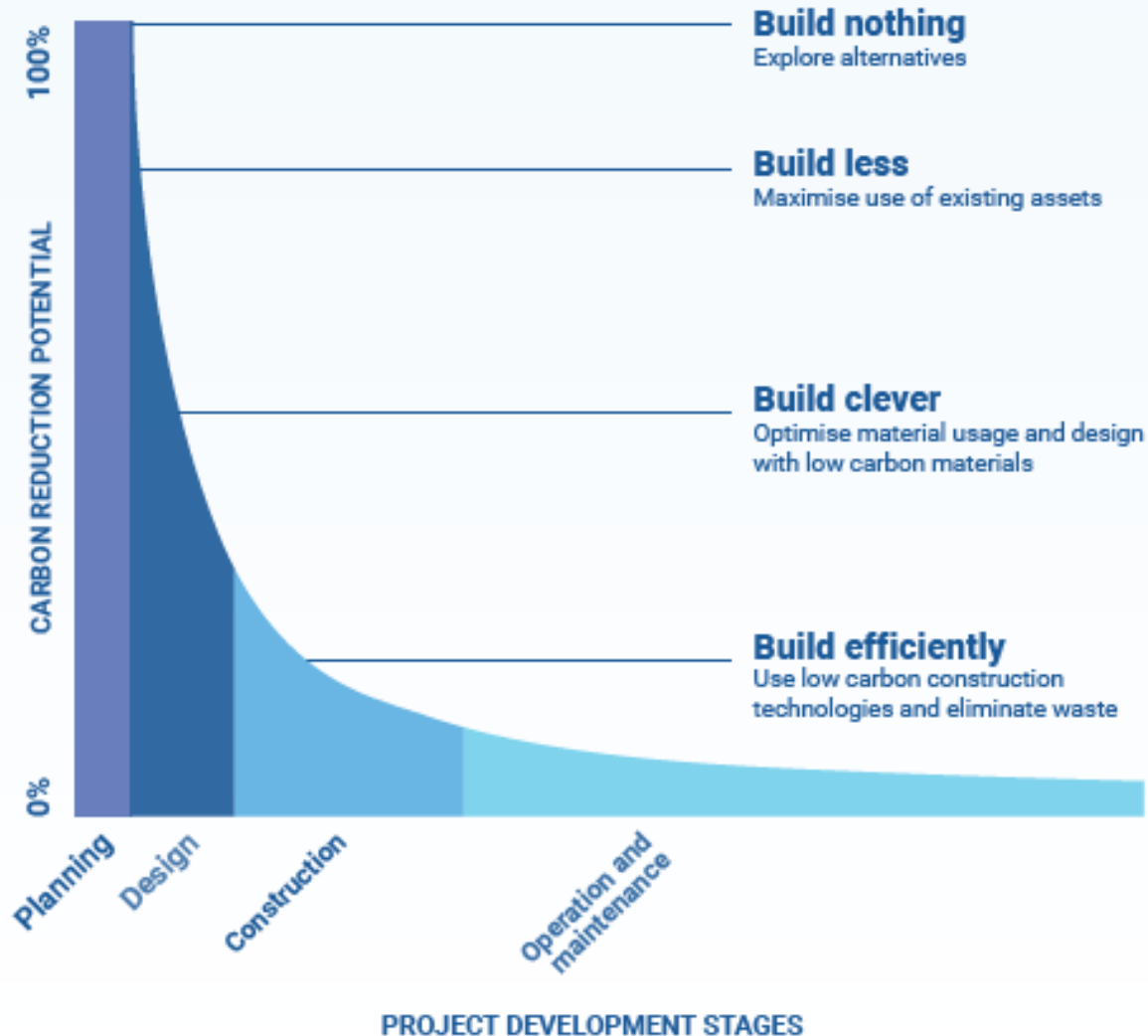
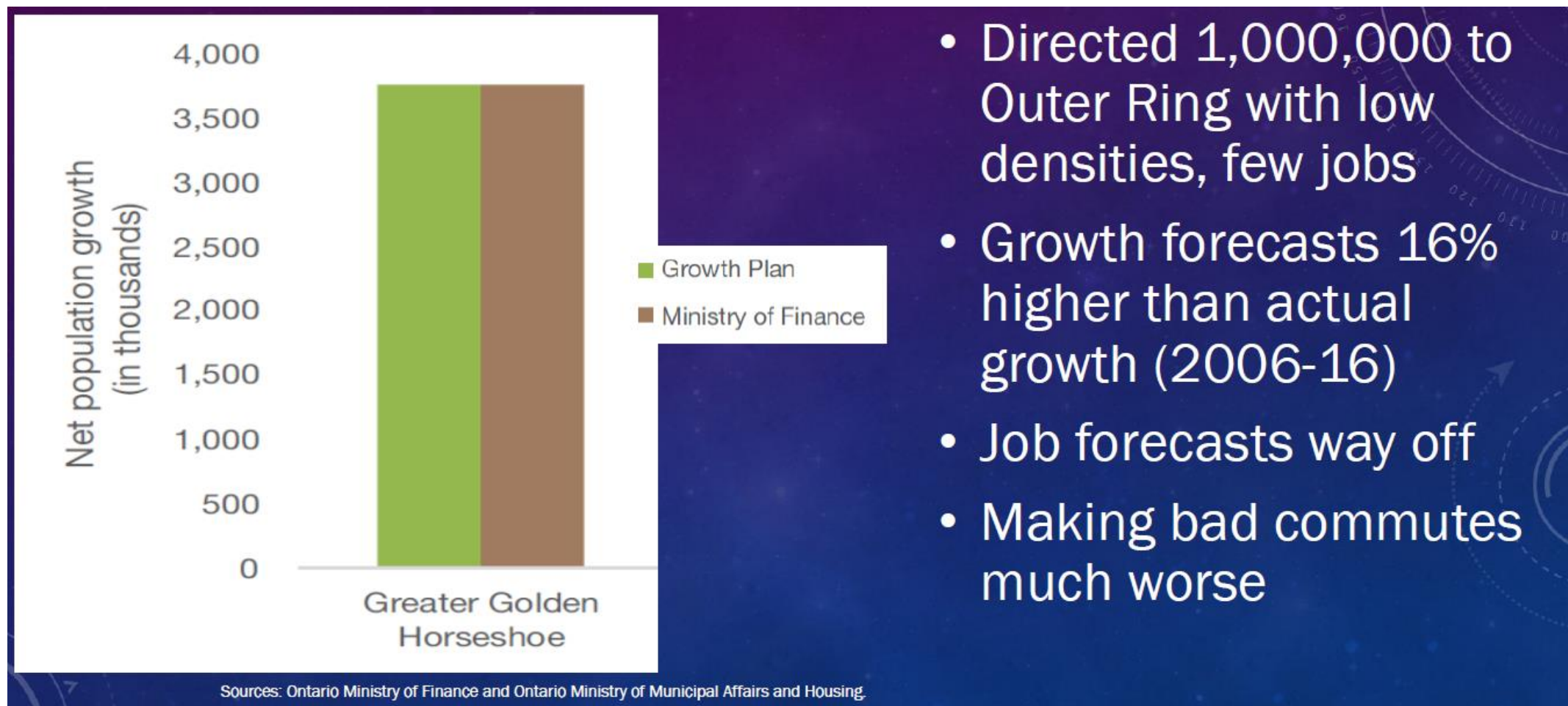


Figure 4: Opportunities to reduce embodied carbon from stage of design process.

Decisions at the planning stage cost the least and impact the most when it comes to emissions impact.

# Growth Plan flaws



Hamilton's Community Energy and Emissions Plan  
Low-Carbon Scenario Consultation – January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Q & A Report

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6.	<b>Land Use Planning</b>	<p><b><i>The City is currently undertaking its Land Needs Assessment and is requesting public input on where and how to grow. Are your CEEP folks working alongside the GRIDS2 MCR folks?</i></b></p> <p><i>Response: Yes. The City project teams for both the GRIDS2 project and the CEEP are working together to determine how the CEEP modeling and outcomes can inform the GRIDS2 process.</i></p>
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# More consultation PLUS full integration of urban planning with emissions planning

Avoid a decision based on

- Insufficient regard for the emissions growth it will create
- Lack of integration with energy and emissions plans
- Uncertain population growth forecasts
- Market-based assessments that depend on consumer preferences that are outdated and that we cannot sustain.



## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 - 8:12 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Lynda Lukasik

**Name of Organization:** Environment Hamilton

**Contact Number:** 905-549-0900

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

**Mailing Address:** 22 Wilson Street, Suite 4

### **Reason(s) for delegation request:**

I am requesting delegation status for the March 29th 2021 Special GIC meeting regarding GRIDS 2. I am interested in speaking to BOTH Item 8.1 and 8.2 on the agenda for this meeting. I would appreciate if someone from the Clerk's Office could clarify for me how it works when a request is made to speak to two different items on a meeting agenda. Will I have the opportunity to speak to each item separately, or do I need to be prepared to address both items in 5 minutes?

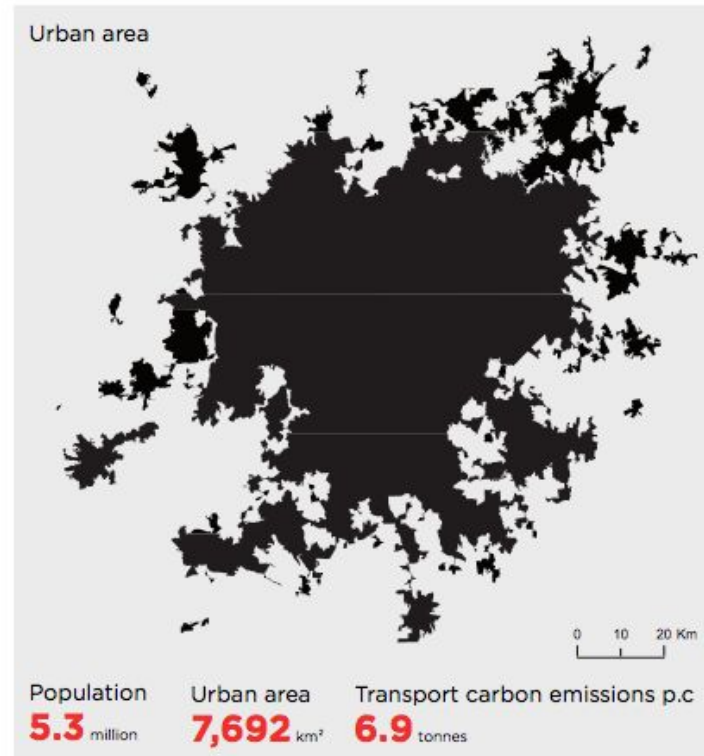
Thank you

Lynda Lukasik

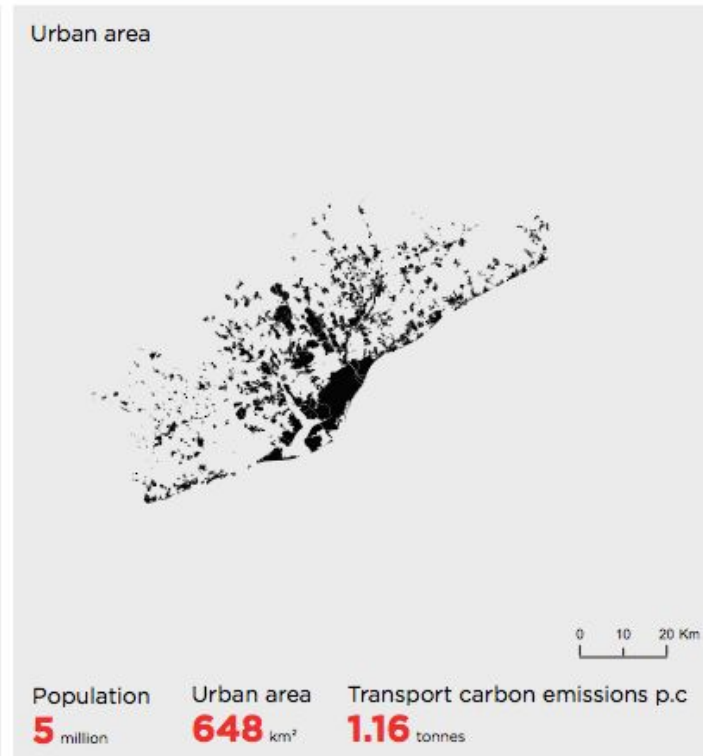
**Will you be requesting funds from the City?** No

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

## ATLANTA



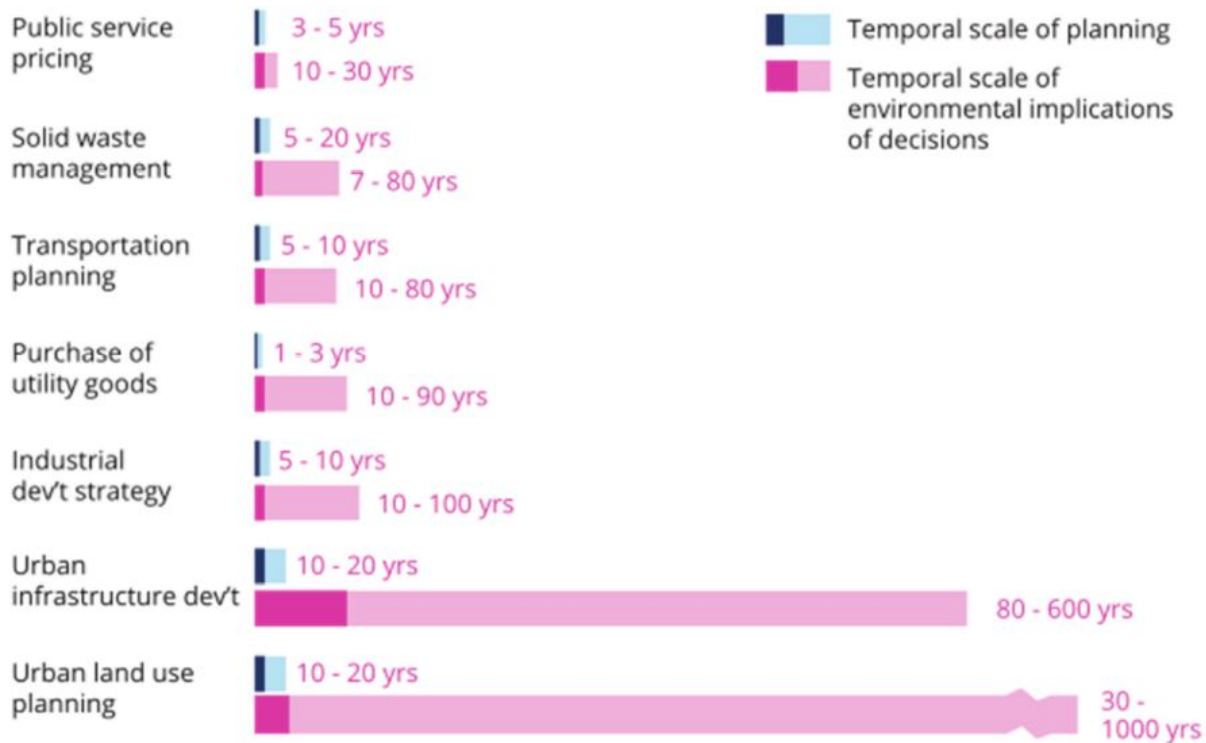
## BARCELONA



Source: LSE Cities 2014

**More compact development can reduce transport emissions by an order of magnitude.**

## TEMPORAL SCALES OF MUNICIPAL **PLANNING DECISIONS** VERSUS **IMPLICATIONS**



Source: Bai et al 2010 as represented by Sustainable Solutions Group in City of Edmonton's GHG Emissions & Energ Analysis for the City Plan - Feb 2020

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 - 10:15 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Howard Katz

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To speak on the matter of Land use planning.

**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 Tuesday, March 23, 2021 - 10:18 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Becky Katz

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To speak on the matter of urban boundaries.

**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 Tuesday, March 23, 2021 - 1:29 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Chris McLaughlin

**Name of Organization:** Bay Area Restoration Council

**Contact Number:** 9055706278

**Email Address:** [cmclaughlin@hamiltonharbour.ca](mailto:cmclaughlin@hamiltonharbour.ca)

**Mailing Address:**

1280 Main Street West

LSB B130F

Hamilton, ON L8S 4K1

**Reason(s) for delegation request:**

DATE: March 29, 2021

TO: address staff reports on items 8.1 and 8.2

**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 Tuesday, March 23, 2021 - 3:12 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Dr. Gail Krantzberg

**Name of Organization:** McMaster University

**Contact Number:** 9058977225

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

**Mailing Address:**

1280 main st. w. ETB

hamilton, ontario

L4S 1K4

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** to speak to the special Growth Related Integrated Development Strategy (GRIDS2) meeting where the city's 'land needs assessment' for urban growth management to 2051 is slated to be considered for approval by council.

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

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

# Expanding Our Urban Boundary is the Wrong Way to Grow in Hamilton

General Issues Committee

March 29, 2021

Cameron Kroetsch

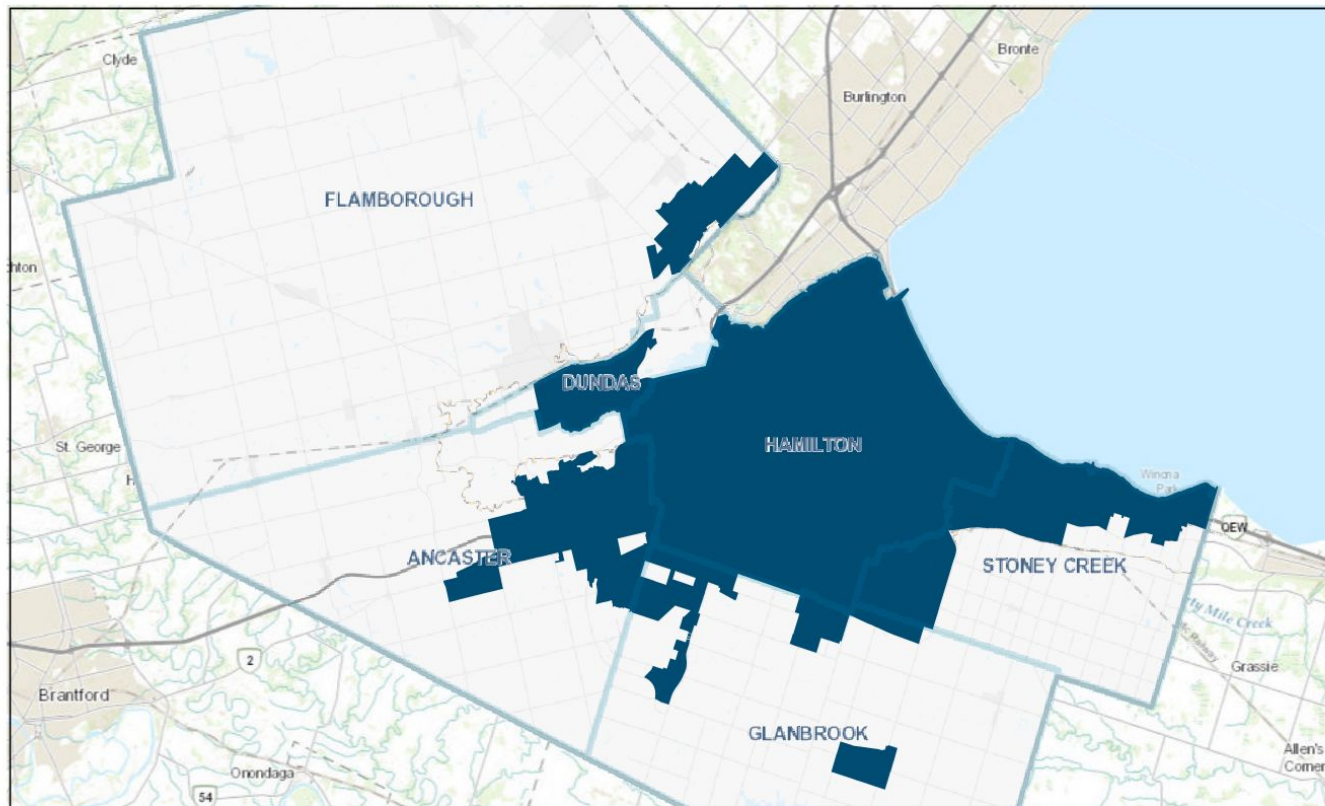
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# Overview

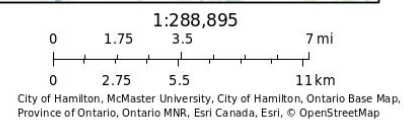
- **Context** - yes, this is sprawl
- **Costs** - not part of the picture
- **Deficits** - we've fallen behind
- **Options?**

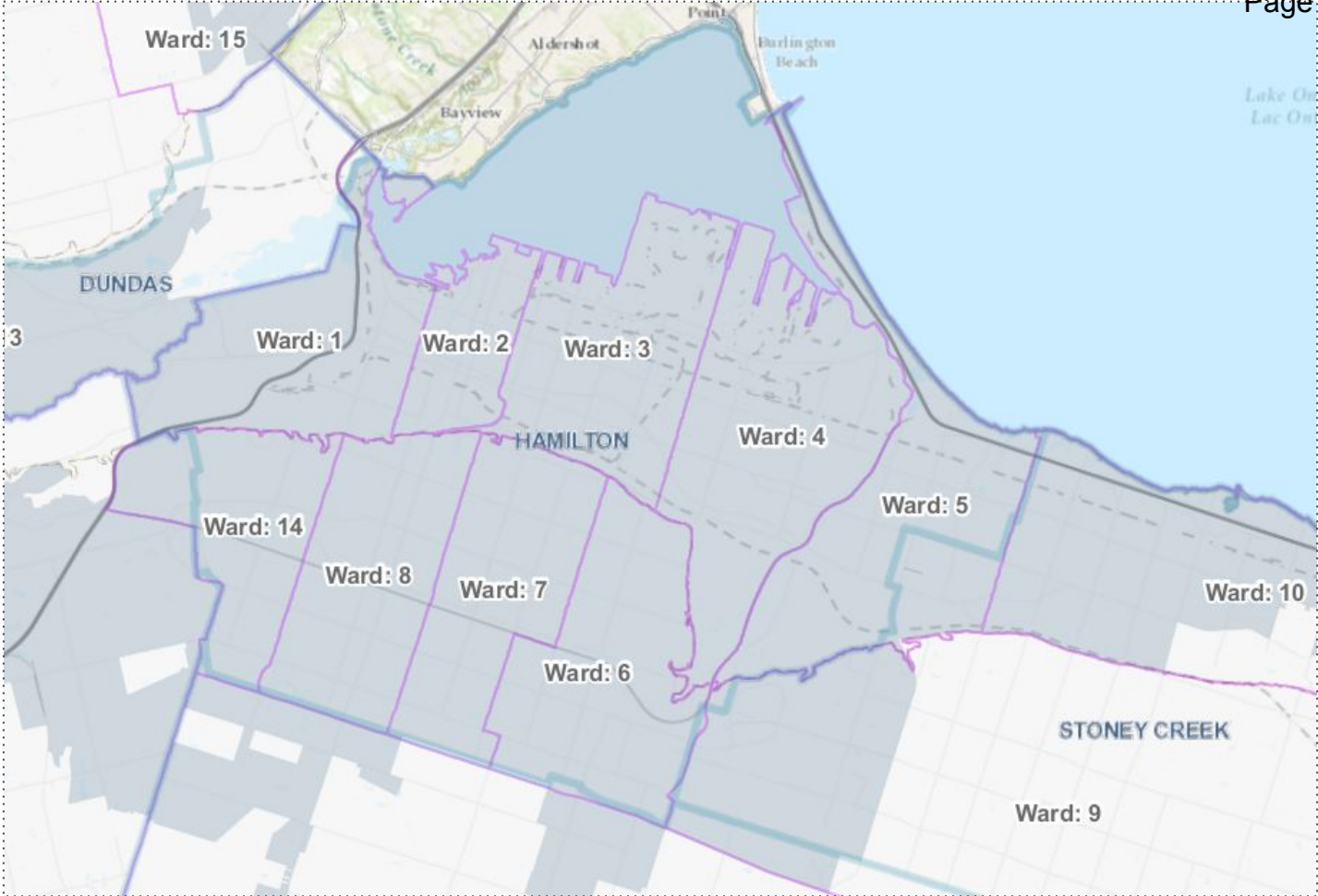
# Context



2021-03-25, 9:07:54 a.m.

Urban Boundary





**"The required 15 year residential supply cannot be met through intensification alone because it would result in a unit mix comprised primarily of apartments, and would not meet the provincial requirement for a **market based housing supply**."**

*Report PED17010i - page 9 • March 29, 2021*

"[The City] wants this rezoned for industrial use, and for housing—much of which [it] says will be single family homes—to meet the **market demands of property developers**, and the province."

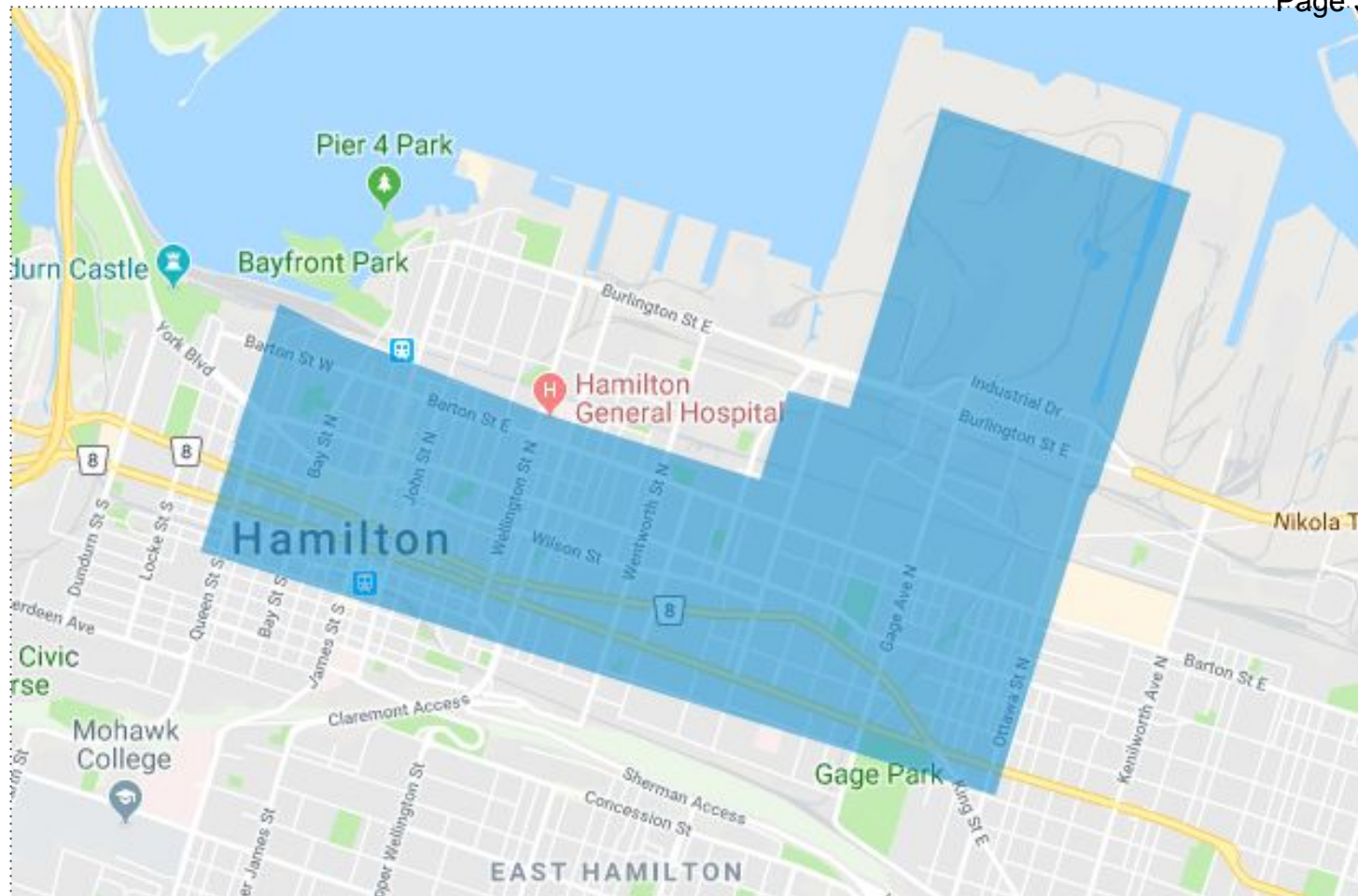
*Hamilton Spectator* • March 29, 2021

**"There was a concern that the proposed expansion would result in 'sprawl.'"**

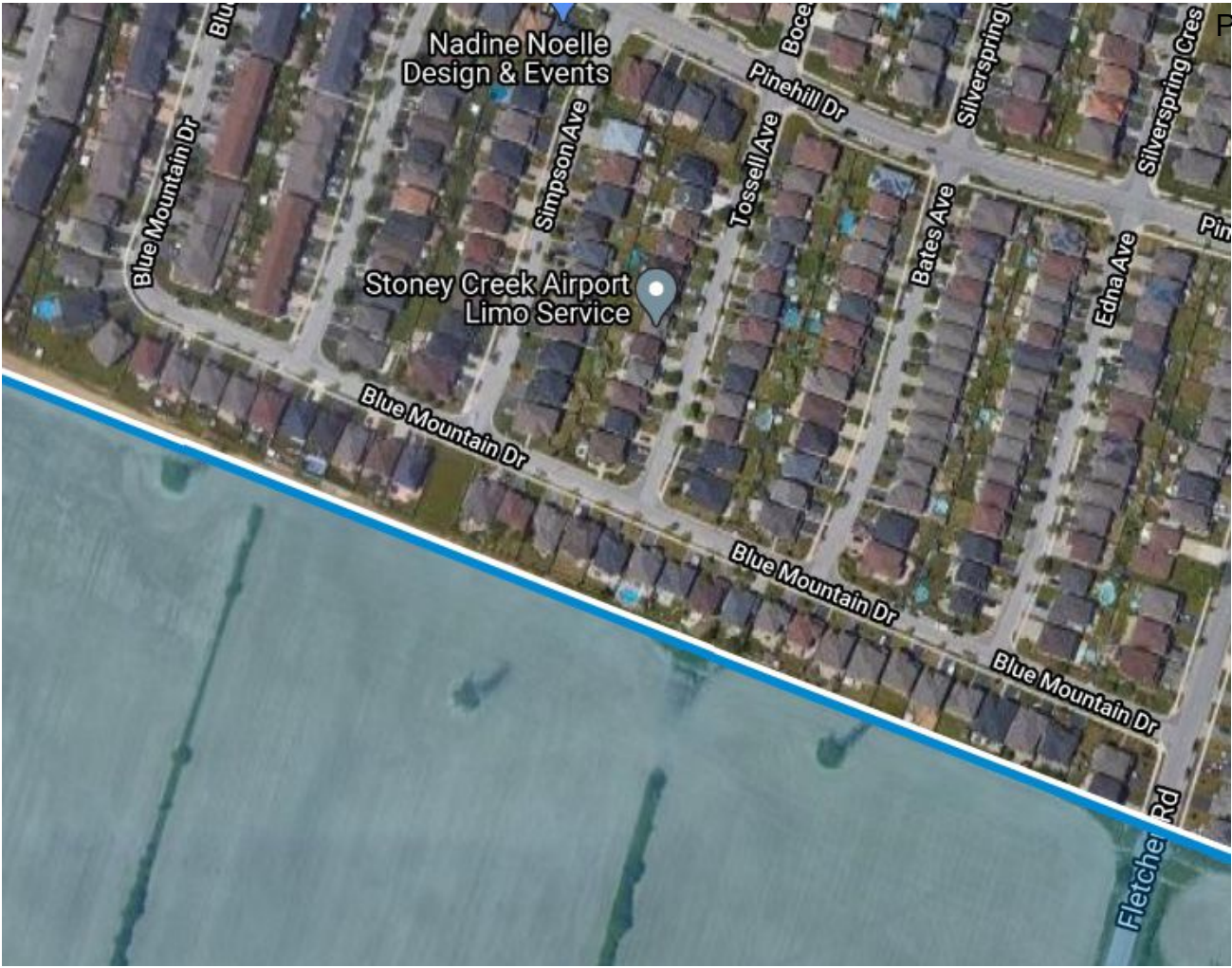
*Report PED17010i - page 18 • March 29, 2021*











# Costs

# Urban

City's Annual Cost, per Household



**\$1416**

(Total)



Parks & Recreation  
**\$69**



Solid Waste  
**\$185**



Fire Department  
**\$177**



Governance  
**\$158**



Police  
**\$192**



Transportation  
**\$91**



Libraries  
**\$38**



School Bussing  
**\$13**



Culture / Economy  
**\$19**



Roads  
**\$26**



Transfers to Provinces  
eg. School Boards  
**\$232**



Sidewalks & Curbs  
**\$27**



Storm & Waste Water  
**\$147**



Water  
**\$42**



For more data and more reports, visit [thecostofsprawl.com](http://thecostofsprawl.com)  
Data based on Halifax Regional Municipality

# Suburban

City's Annual Cost, per Household



**\$3462**

(Total)



Parks & Recreation  
**\$129**



Solid Waste  
**\$185**



Fire Department  
**\$406**



Governance  
**\$297**



Police  
**\$360**



Transportation  
**\$171**



Libraries  
**\$72**



School Bussing  
**\$87**



Culture / Economy  
**\$36**



Roads  
**\$280**



Transfers to Provinces  
eg. School Boards  
**\$435**



Sidewalks & Curbs  
**\$194**



Storm & Waste Water  
**\$613**



Water  
**\$197**



For more data and more reports, visit [thecostofsprawl.com](http://thecostofsprawl.com)  
Data based on Halifax Regional Municipality

**The staff reports do  
not include estimates  
for *how much it will  
cost us* to expand**

**"Population and job growth will be monitored against provincial forecasts, required infrastructure and transportation upgrades, and the financial implications of growth."**

*Report PED17010i - page 24 • March 29, 2021*

## **FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Financial: N/A

Staffing: N/A

Legal: N/A



# Deficits

# What we're hearing from you

**We have an almost \$4b infrastructure deficit, and it continues to rise**

City of Hamilton - 2021

**To stop the deficit from *increasing annually* = a 30% tax hike**

City of Hamilton - 2015

**"(But he stressed) property taxes alone can no longer handle increasingly complex municipal needs."**

Mayor Eisenberger - 2015

# Options?

# Freeze the Boundary

**"In Hamilton, [the chief planner] acknowledges that Council 'could adopt a zero boundary growth option.'"**

*Hamilton Spectator* • March 29, 2021

# **This will not help Hamilton address its *big* future needs**

- **More affordable housing**
- **Expanded public transit network**
- **Climate change mitigation**
- **Increased food security**

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 - 7:51 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Patricia Baker

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:** 905-521-6929

**Email Address:** [pjbassociates@compuserve.com](mailto:pjbassociates@compuserve.com)

**Mailing Address:**

182 Hess St S

Hamilton, ON

L8P 4V5

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To request freezing the urban boundary and pause planning until in person consultations are feasible.

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

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

-----Original Message-----

From: Dennis/Patricia Baker <[pjbassociates@compuserve.com](mailto:pjbassociates@compuserve.com)>

To: [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca) <[clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)>

Cc: Dennis/Patricia Baker <[pjbassociates@compuserve.com](mailto:pjbassociates@compuserve.com)>

Sent: Mon, Mar 22, 2021 8:39 pm

Subject: Written delegation MCR/GRIDS2, March 29, 2021

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and City Councillors,

We are writing regarding the urban boundary which has been in the press recently. As concerned citizens we would like to make several comments. Dennis' work had us living in four very different European cities, three had populations triple the size of Hamilton; all were pedestrian friendly with good transit, very tight urban boundaries and many medium density low-rise residential buildings - great places to live.

We think everyone now realizes that climate change is very close to being upon us in a major way and we must do all we can to mitigate the effects of industrialization and attempt to slow the change. Increased downtown density, not necessarily high rise buildings unsuitable for family living, would prevent the significant increase in vehicle emissions which will occur with an expanded city boundary. We need a transit system better geared to current needs and more intensification in the existing city would be helped by such a system. Hamilton is already a leader in transit options with the first carbon-negative bus in Ontario - let us continue!

At the moment everyone, the city included, is very focused on the COVID19 and people are not necessarily aware that such a monumental urban boundary change is being considered. We have some of the best farmland in Ontario on our doorsteps but citizens are not aware it is at risk. Many are not willing or able to attend virtual presentations and decisions as major as this one should be delayed until people are fully aware of the situation and can participate in live discussions.

We request that you freeze the urban boundary and pause planning until in person consultations have occurred.

Yours respectfully, Patricia and Dennis Baker  
182 Hess St S, Hamilton, ON  
905-521-6929

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 - 4:55 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Kathy Garneau

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegate on request:** Speak to urban planning for white belt.

**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, March 24, 2021 - 9:40 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Gord McNulty

**Name of Organization:** Hamilton Naturalists' Club

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To comment on the Growth Related Integrated Development Strategy (GRIDS2) on March 29 and request an extension in the planning period until in-person consultations have occurred.

**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, March 24, 2021 - 10:11 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Katharine King

**Name of Organization:** Hamilton 350

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Worried about urban boundary Expanding

**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, March 24, 2021 - 11:24 am

==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](mailto:kdampsey@hcci.ca)

**Mailing Address:** 423 King Street East, Hamilton, Ontario,  
L8N 1C5

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion will be delegating regarding the urban boundary expansion issue for the March 29th special GIC meeting where councillors will consider a staff recommendation to commit to a large boundary expansion.

**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, March 24, 2021 - 12:39 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Frances Murray

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Request to delegate to GIC re: Land Needs Assessment/Grids 2 on March 29

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

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



March 7, 2021

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

RE: Motion to Delay Land Use Planning Deadline

As you are aware, the province has revised municipal planning guidelines to include population projections to 2051, while lowering density targets for new development and enacting a “market-driven” approach to planning for new residential.

As the Climate Change Committee of the Durand Neighbourhood Association, we request that Hamilton City Council delay Hamilton’s Official Review Plans (MRC) at the March 29 GIC meeting. There is recent precedent for this delay as Halton Hills unanimously voted on February 1st for a delay, and the Region of Halton did the same on February 17.

We must not lock in planning guidelines that encourage sprawl until 2051. Land use planning is the key lever in locking in or locking out greenhouse emissions according to Yuill Herbert, a leading energy consultant for many Canadian municipalities including Burlington.

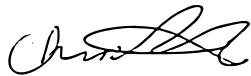
Given COVID restrictions, constituents cannot be properly consulted on major policy decisions. Many residents do not have internet access or lack the expertise to use Zoom software to delegate to council. Critical decisions which will impact Hamilton for the next 30 years, should not be made while in-person consultation is impossible. Hamilton’s 2016-2025 Strategic Plan makes clear the city’s commitment and responsibility to community engagement and participation when it states: “Citizens are consulted and involved in making the decisions that impact them.”

The best option for our municipality is to freeze the urban boundary and direct new development to within the existing built-up areas. Low density residential development is an economic disaster, as well as an environmental one. Our current infrastructure deficit will only grow as we continue to build out into green fields. Our current tax base cannot support the building of new roads and water infrastructure as existing infrastructure repairs and maintenance are already pushing budgets to the limit. Moreover, there are major environmental impacts that are a result of sprawl. In particular, storm run-off from impermeable surfaces will only increase as the effects of climate change grow. As well, transportation emissions from these developments will prevent us from reaching our climate targets and should not be considered. We have more than enough land within the current urban boundary to develop complete, self-sustaining communities for future growth until 2031 and should have the flexibility to plan for 2041 using the guiding principles of Places to Grow.

Councillor Fogal of Halton Hills suggests that for this action to delay to be effective, councils around the Golden Horseshoe will need to pass similar motions and stand in solidarity. Therefore, for posterity's sake, we urge you to delay Hamilton's Official Review Plans (MRC) at the March 29 GIC meeting.

Thank you for considering these important issues.

Sincerely,



Christopher Redmond  
President, Durand Neighbourhood Association



Frances Murray  
Chair, DNA, Climate  
Change Committee

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 - 1:43 pm

==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:** Land Needs Assessment

**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, March 24, 2021 - 4:41 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Aaron Marques

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:**

As a resident of this city, I would like our elected council members to vote against changes to the city's boundary. I want to see the protection of agricultural lands. I want our city government to spend money in continued rehabilitation of the urban core.

**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, March 24, 2021 - 5:52 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Diane Shamchuk

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To make a statement about the cost of urban sprawl.

**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, March 24, 2021 - 6:42 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Dr. Meghan Davis

**Name of Organization:** Crownpoint Family Health Centre

**Contact Number:** 9059626284

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

67 Kenilworth Avenue North  
lower level

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I wish to present on the health impacts of city boundaries. I am a family physician and an engineer.

**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, March 24, 2021 - 6:38 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Veronica Gonzalez

**Name of Organization:** Environment Hamilton

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Growth Related  
Integrated Development Strategy (GRIDS2)

**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, March 24, 2021 - 8:39 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Beverley Wagar

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I want to comment on the GRIDS2 meeting on March 29., regarding urban boundary expansion.

**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, March 24, 2021 - 9:13 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Cheryl M. Paterson

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

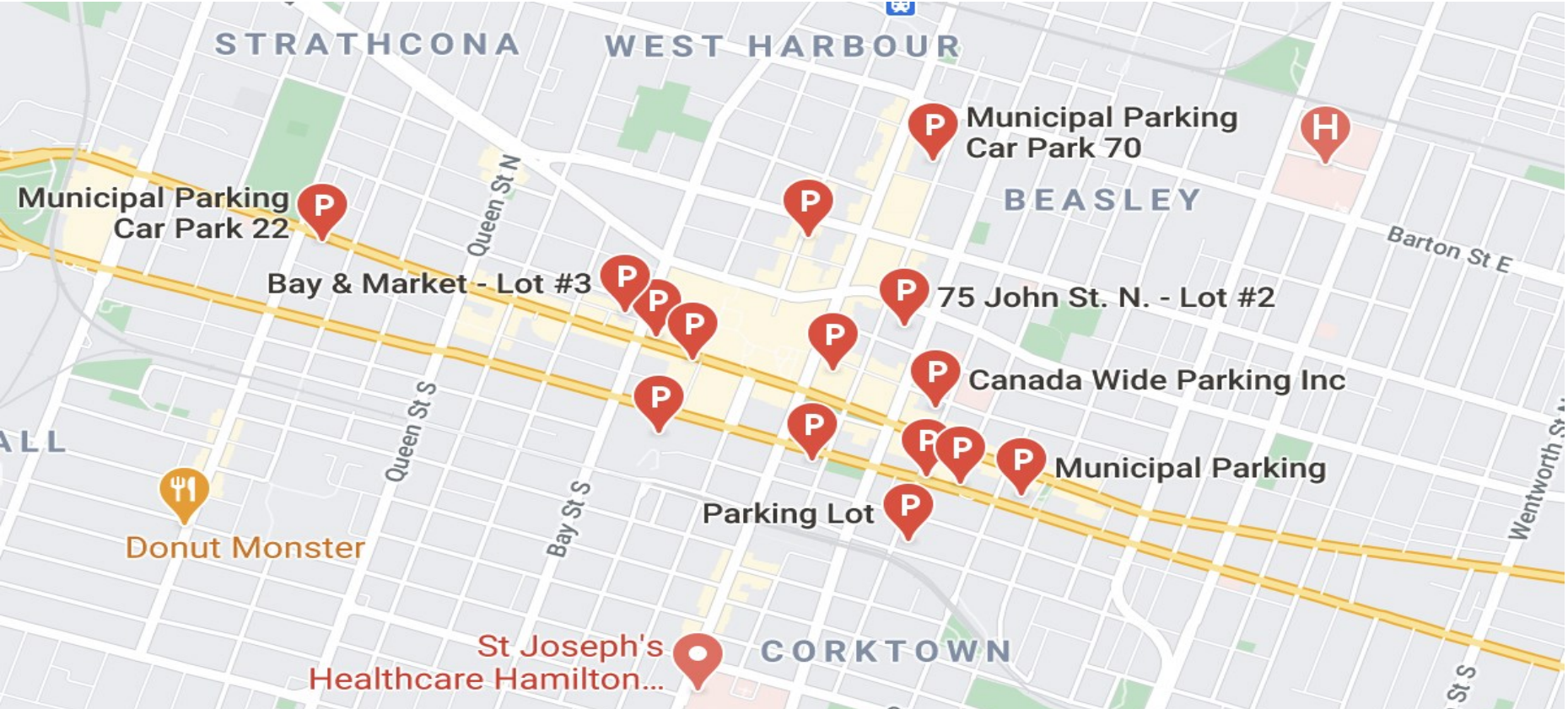
**Mailing Address:**

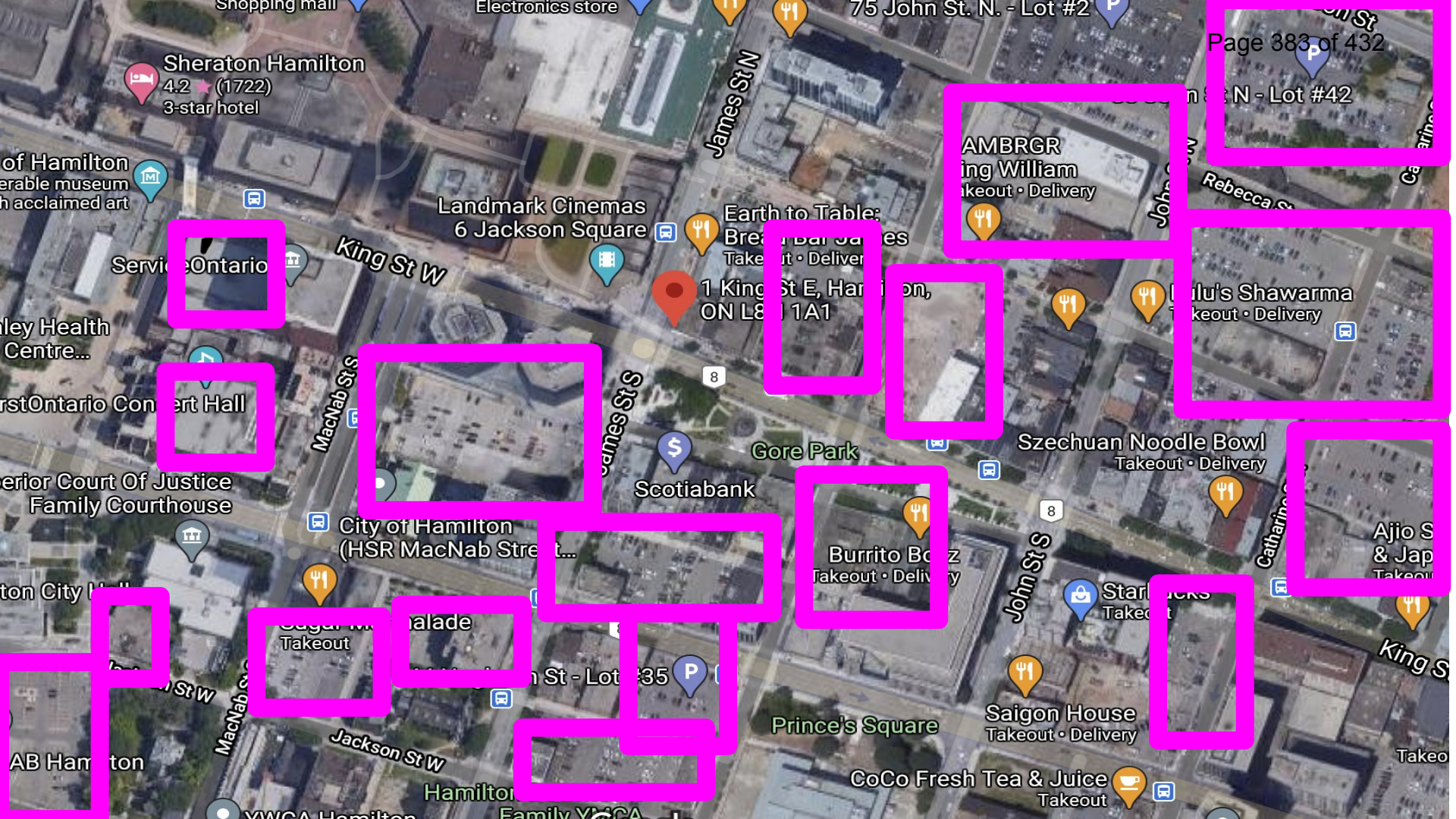
**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Urban Intensification not sprawl.

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

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

# Parking Lots or Potential Housing?





Sheraton Hamilton  
4.2 (1722)  
3-star hotel

Landmark Cinemas  
6 Jackson Square

Earth to Table:  
Breakfast & Lunch  
Takeout • Delivery

AMBRGR  
King William  
Takeout • Delivery

Lu's Shawarma  
Takeout • Delivery

Szechuan Noodle Bowl  
Takeout • Delivery

Burrito Boyz  
Takeout • Delivery

Starbuck's  
Takeout

Saigon House  
Takeout • Delivery

CoCo Fresh Tea & Juice  
Takeout

of Hamilton  
erable museum  
h acclaimed art

Service Ontario

First Ontario Concert Hall

erior Court Of Justice  
Family Courthouse

City of Hamilton  
(HSR MacNab Street ...)

Scotiabank

Ajio S  
& Jap  
Takeout

Sugar ...  
Takeout

Salade

Prince's Square


AB Hamilton

Jackson St W

Hamilton  
Family YWCA

Takeo

“Closing” as a city parking lot this week. “Re-opening” soon as a 55-unit affordable housing development [#hamont](#)

 Jason Thorne (@JasonThorne)





## Intensification

**Intensification** is development that allows for more people to connect, work and play within the **existing urban** boundary. It happens when we re-develop, expand and/or re-purpose existing areas, buildings or vacant lands.

What happens when our farms no longer exist?

**FARMERS  
FEED  
CITIES**

If we develop our prime agricultural land where will we grow the food that we need to feed cities?

Transporting food is expensive and BAD for the planet! Covid has taught us the importance of sourcing locally.

Please Build up not out.



## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 - 10:50 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Drew Spoelstra

**Name of Organization:** Ontario federation of agriculture

**Contact Number:** 9053795751

**Email Address:** [drew.spoelstra@ofa.on.ca](mailto:drew.spoelstra@ofa.on.ca)

**Mailing Address:**

531 Guyatt Rd

Binbrook On

L0R1C0

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Discuss the issues of grids 2 and farmland preservation

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

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

I'm happy to be with you again today to discuss the issue of Grids 2, the land needs assessment and the importance of farm land presentation. I am Drew Spoelstra, I farm in Binbrook and sit as Vice president of the OFA and the chair of Hamilton's Agriculture and Rural affairs advisory committee.

The OFA represents 38,000 farm families across Ontario and works as a strong advocate for Farms and Food forever. Farmland preservation and a sustainable agriculture system is a key priority for our membership and we continue to advocate provincially and locally for fixed urban boundaries to slow the loss of agricultural land. The goal being to benefit the overall agricultural system, agricultural services, agricultural infrastructure, local farm markets, distributors, food processors etc.

As highlighted by former chief planner in Toronto Jennifer Keesmat, Ontario loses on average 5 farms per week to development. That's 175 acres or 132 Tim Hortons fields per day of farmland lost permanently from food production capabilities right here in Hamilton and Ontario. We can better use land in our existing urban areas to build up- not out. At only 5% of Ontario's land base being suitable for food production, agricultural land is a finite, shrinking non renewable resource that must be preserved for food production.

The farm industry right here in Hamilton is home to 810 farms, producing grains and oil seeds, dairy, poultry, greenhouse vegetables and field grown local produce, contributing over \$1 billion in gross economic impact for the city. Not to mention the incredible contribution that the Hamilton Port authority plays in Ontario's agricultural economy as key player in the export/ import market and food processing sector.

The agriculture sector plays a key role in climate change mitigation and providing environmental benefits. The OFA also believes that Government's should recognize the non-agricultural benefits or environmental goods and services, provided by agricultural lands; aesthetic and recreational space, air quality and Biodiversity

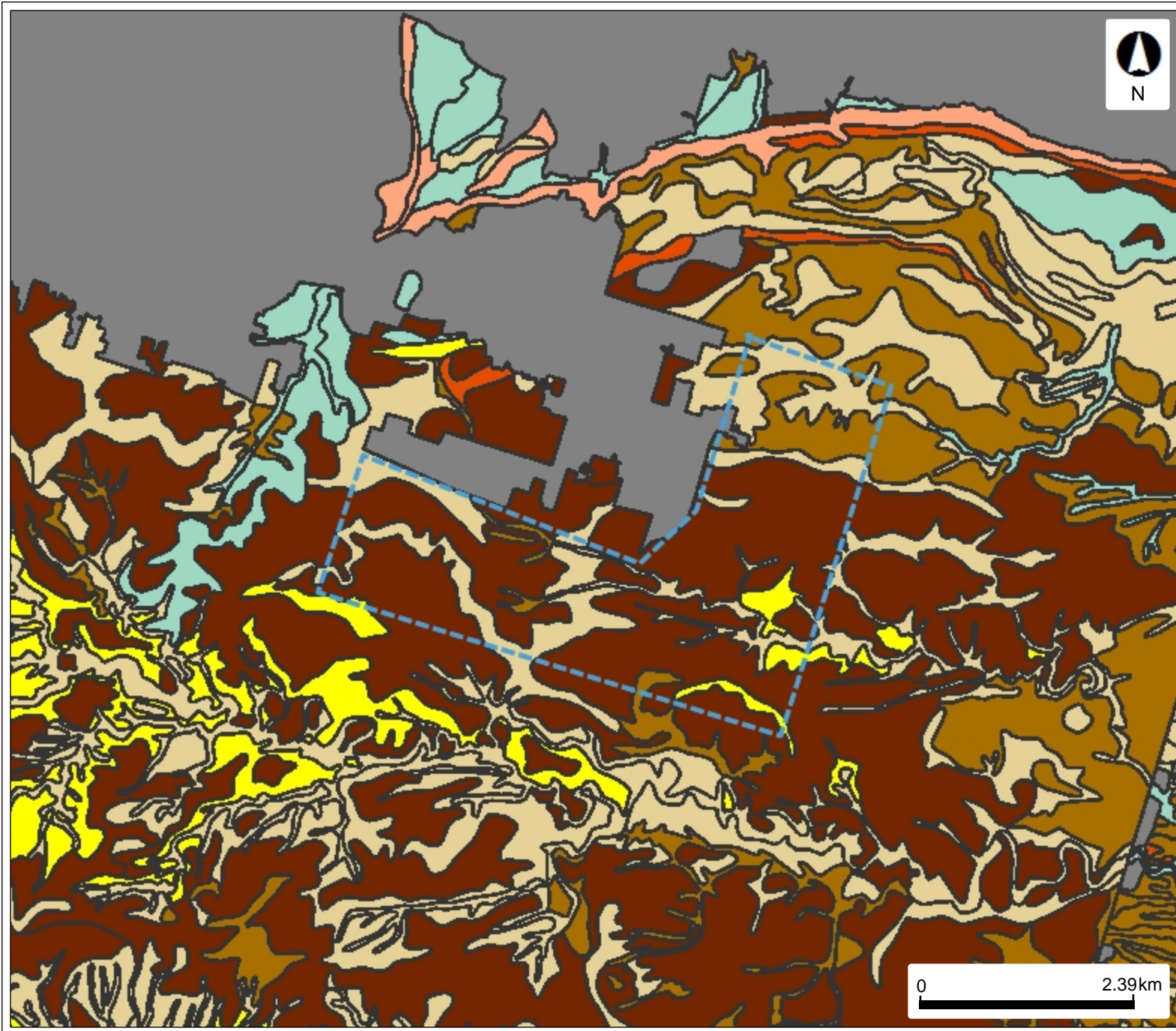
Other Environmental benefits like carbon sequestration, climate change mitigation, nutrient cycling, pollination services, soil erosion control, water cycling (purification, retention, flood attenuation, groundwater recharge) and wildlife and endangered species habitat are possible when land is retained for Agriculture.

Hamilton enjoys a historical and vibrant rural economy with over 70% of our land mass being rural. The back bone to rural life in Hamilton is agriculture, an important primary sector to the city.

I fully appreciate the effort that staff have made to work towards an ambitious density target moving forward but it's simply not ambitious enough. With respect to the suggestion that removing 1340 ha is insignificant with Hamilton's vast rural landscape I would argue that just because land is in the greenbelt or the rural area doesn't mean it's a prime agricultural area or the best available land for food production.

If I can share my screen for a moment I took the liberty of identifying the prime agricultural areas in the Elfrida growth area through the OMAFRA web portal using the CLI. As you can see the over whelming majority of this land is Classified as #1 with the rest in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> category under CLI. That's Prime Farm land. To put it in perspective of local food and production, this is land that every year has the ability to produce 5.3 million loaves of bread, 1.15 million litres of Ethanol for clean fuel production, 12.8 million litres of soy milk and hay and forage to feed 83,800 cows or Clydesdales for a day. Recently the ag sector made recommendations to the mayors economic recovery task force that identified Farmland protection as a top priority for the city to support Hamilton's economy.

Simply put we can't have it all. Lets focus on higher intensification targets and densities in urbanized areas and supporting our agriculture sector by permanently protecting food producing land in Hamilton.



**Legend**

@language-layer-soil-capabilit

-  Unclassified
-  Class 1
-  Class 2
-  Class 3
-  Class 4
-  Class 5
-  Class 6
-  Class 7
-  Organic Soil
-  Water

This map should not be relied on as a precise indicator of routes or locations, nor as a guide to navigation. The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) shall not be liable in any way for the use or any information on this map. of, or reliance upon, this map.

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, March 25, 2021 - 8:19 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Zoe Green

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:**

Proposed urban boundary expansion in the Land Needs Assessment Report

I will be submitting a pre-recorded video (less than 5min)

**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 Thursday, March 25, 2021 - 10:09 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Rebecca Guzzo

**Name of Organization:** Acorn

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To discuss the situation of urban development taking over important rural farming land.

**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, March 25, 2021 - 10:20 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Yuki Hayashi

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Concerned citizen and taxpayer

**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 Thursday, March 25, 2021 - 10:24 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Ian Borsuk

**Name of Organization:** Environment Hamilton

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I would like to delegate to Council about the proposed urban boundary expansion and it's related discussions for the March 29th GIC.

**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, March 25, 2021 - 10:31 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Lilly Noble

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Discuss Land Needs Assessment Plan.

**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, March 25, 2021 - 10:47 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Lisa Hind

**Name of Organization:** Hamilton ACORN, Mountain Chapter

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:** o

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** GIC March 29th meeting

**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, March 25, 2021 - 11:09 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Peter Ormond

**Name of Organization:** Stop Sprawl Delegation

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I have already submitted a video to be shown to the General Issues Committee GRIDS2 meeting on March 29th as part of the Stop Sprawl Delegation.

**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 Thursday, March 25, 2021 - 11:13 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Mark Noskiewicz

**Name of Organization:** Goodmans LLP on behalf of an Elfrida Landowners Group

**Contact Number:** 416.597.4136

**Email Address:** [mnoskiewicz@goodmans.ca](mailto:mnoskiewicz@goodmans.ca)

**Mailing Address:**

333 Bay Street, Suite 3000  
Toronto, ON  
M5H 2S7

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Purpose of the delegation request is to speak to item 8 - GRIDS 2 and City of Hamilton Municipal Comprehensive Review.

**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, March 25, 2021 - 11:31 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:** Request that Council freeze Hamilton's urban boundary

**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, March 25, 2021 - 11:42 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Elizabeth Ellis

**Name of Organization:** ACORN Hamilton, co-chair of East Hamilton Chapter

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:** [hamilton@acorncanada.org](mailto:hamilton@acorncanada.org)

**Mailing Address:** Hamilton, Ontario

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Request to submit pre recorded video delegation for March 29 GIC Committee

**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, March 25, 2021 - 11:54 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Alex Wilson

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** I wish to delegate regarding the Hamilton Land Needs Assessment at the Monday March 29th GIC discussion.

**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, March 25, 2021 - 12:00 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Lauren Stephen

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Request to freeze urban boundaries of Hamilton, rather than expand.

**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 Thursday, March 25, 2021 - 3:46 pm

==Committee Requested==

Committee: General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** John Corbett

**Name of Organization:** Corbett Land Strategies Inc.

**Contact Number:** 416-806-5164

**Email Address:** [john@corbettlandstrategies.ca](mailto:john@corbettlandstrategies.ca)

**Mailing Address:**

483 Dundas Street W, Unit 212

Oakville ON L6M 1L9

**Reason(s) for delegation request:**

On behalf of the Upper West Side Landowners Group, to address the following:

GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review: Final Land Needs Assessment (PED 17010(i); and,

GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review: Planning Growth to 2051 – Draft Evaluation Framework and Phasing Criteria (PED 17010(j)).

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

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



March 25, 2021

The Chair and Members of General Issues Committee  
The Corporation of the City of Hamilton  
71 Main Street North  
Hamilton, Ontario

**RE: WRITTEN AND DELEGATION MATERIAL FOR THE GENERAL ISSUES  
COMMITTEE OF MARCH 29, 2021  
GRIDS 2/ MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW PROCESS AND THE  
EVALUATION FRAMEWORK/PHASING CRITERIA**

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This is to transmit our written documentation and presentation material to be considered at the above captioned Committee meeting.

The Upper West Side Group is pleased to contribute and work with the City in the on-going GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review processes. We support the overall findings of the Land Needs Study, conditional upon the resolution of a few specific matters as outlined in the attached materials.

I look forward to addressing the Committee on Monday March 29<sup>th</sup> 2021.

Thank you

*JOHN B. CORBETT*

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John B Corbett, MCIP, RPP

# UPPER WEST SIDE



## UPPER WEST SIDE LANDOWNERS GROUP

The Corporation of the City of Hamilton  
Monday March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review: Final Land Needs Assessment (PED17010(i)); and, Growth to 2051 – Draft Evaluation Framework and Phasing Criteria (PED17010(j))



## CONTEXT:

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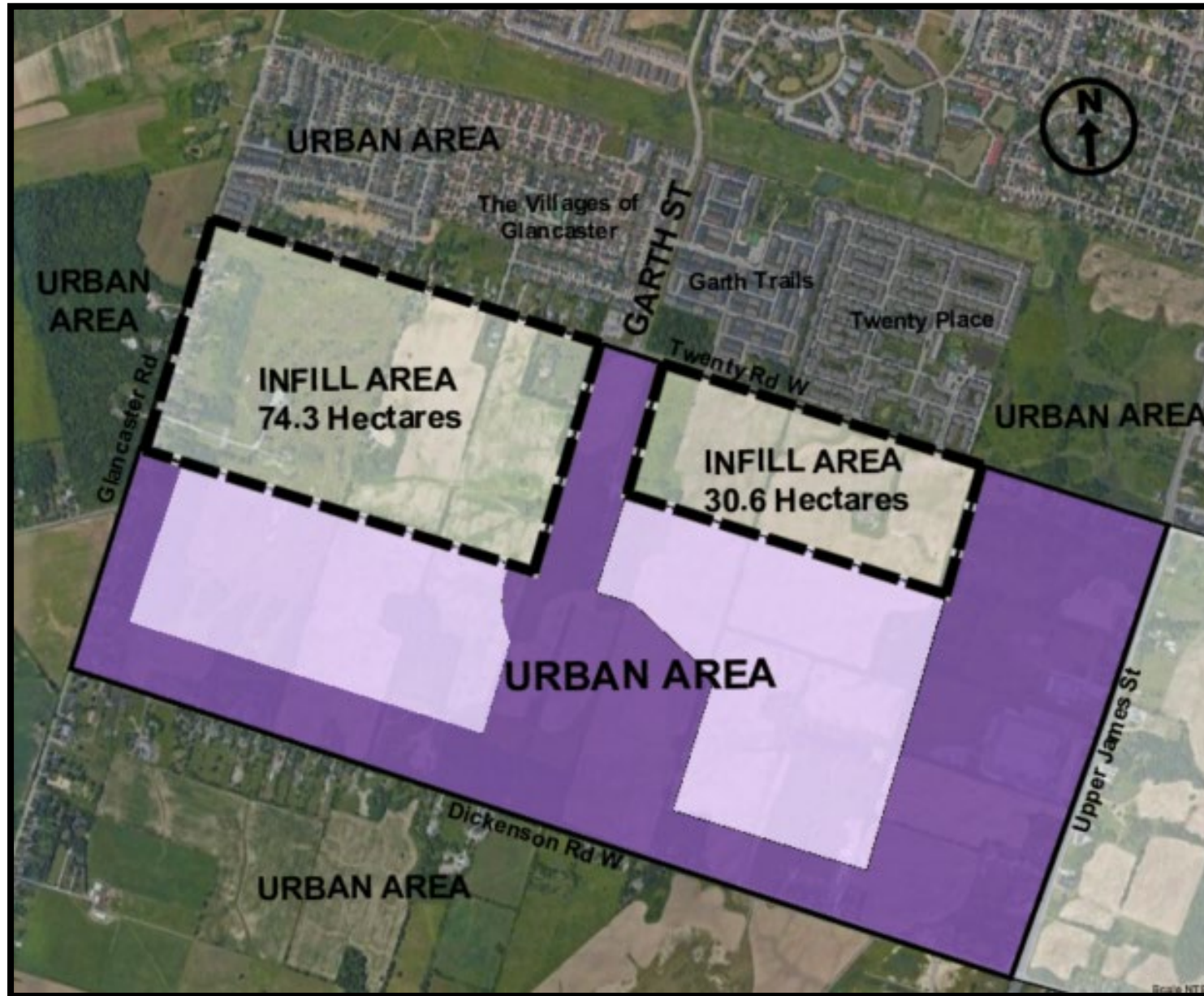
The Upper West Side Landowner Group (UWSLG) owns approximately 175 hectares of land bounded by Glancaster Road, Twenty Road West, Upper James Street and Dickenson Road;

These lands are included in as a candidate growth area in the on-going GRIDS 2 (MCR) process;

The Upper West Side lands represent the only **infill development opportunity** that is fully enclosed by the current urban boundary;

This precinct is also the only substantial **non-prime agricultural land** available to accommodate growth in compliance with Provincial Policy.

# Upper West Side Infill Development Lands



## Legend

### Land Use Designations

- Airport Light Industrial
- Airport Prestige Business
- Airport Related Business
- Airside Industrial
- Institutional
- Natural Open Space
- Airport Reserve
- Utilities

### Other Features

- Area or Site Specific Policy
- Employment Supportive Centres
- John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport
- Urban Boundary



## OUR POSITION:

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The UWSLG is pleased to offer our conditional support for the final Land Needs Study that recommends an additional 1340 gross developable hectares of community area lands, and zero (0) hectares of employment lands to the year 2051.

Our support is subject to the resolution of the following matters:

- Finalization and agreement on the net development area quantities for the white belt areas;
- Confirmation of the existing inventory of residential land supply within the built boundary of the City of Hamilton;
- That Council adopt full urban boundary expansion needs to the year 2051 given the relatively modest amount of additional land to satisfy community land requirements between 2041 and 2051, and the benefits of planning for a definitive mature state urban boundary for the City;
- Priority allocation be given to locations that are of infilling in nature, are non-prime agricultural lands and are contiguous to the current urban boundary;
- That the MCR process conclude with the adoption of a 2051 urban boundary with staging of development to proceed based on specific growth management criteria rather than site specific allocation identified in the Official Plan.

# IMPACT OF THE AGGRESSIVE INTENSIFICATION SCENARIO:

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The logo for 'UPPER WEST SIDE' is displayed in a white rectangular box. The word 'UPPER' is in green, and 'WEST SIDE' is in blue. There are horizontal lines on either side of 'UPPER'.

City council, the public and all stakeholders in the MCR process must understand and be assured of the full accuracy of the existing inventory of available capacity within the built boundary to achieve the intensification rate up to **70 percent in 2051**. This is essential to:

- Ensure the availability of a wide range of housing types to fulfill the City's attainable and affordable housing needs in a realistic manner otherwise the current housing crisis will continue to be problematic;
- Existing neighbourhoods will have to accommodate and manage the impact of introducing higher density unit forms including apartments with significant vertical definition;
- Specific and significant impacts will occur in mature neighbourhoods with respect to capacity of community facilities, infrastructure and the road network;
- Aging infrastructure will need to be replaced and upgraded resulting in increased capital and operating costs and disruption to host communities through on-going construction;
- The City should carefully compare the financial impact on taxpayers resulting from the intensification scenario in relation to the other growth options.

# THE ADVANTAGES OF THE 2051 PLANNING HORIZON:

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The advantages of the 2051 planning horizon to be fully implemented in the current MCR process:

- Finalize the urban boundary to define a “mature state” for the City of Hamilton resulting in certainty for all residents and stakeholders in the city;
- Allowing for the comprehensive planning of complete communities;
- Final and full protection to sensitive environmental and agricultural/rural areas;
- Provide for accurate long range financial planning by ensuring all costs of growth are accommodated in the City’s Capital Budget and Development Charges programs;
- The time frame of 2031/2041 will be quickly upon us, within a decade after MCR approvals. The land needs will be quickly absorbed within this time period thereby placing pressure on land costs and housing affordability.

# DRAFT EVALUATION FRAMEWORK AND PHASING CRITERIA:

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We urge the City not to adopt a rigid/site specific phasing strategy to implement the land needs study. An alternative should be considered to impose definable growth management criteria that will enable development to proceed based on:

- Immediate availability of key/strategic infrastructure in line with the City's economic development and planning goals;
- Demonstration of a positive municipal financial impact for the ratepayers based on developer driven cost sharing and front end financing agreements;
- Delivering on key municipal infrastructure, assets and facilities in line with the City's Strategic Plan;
- Providing clear direction to prioritize development that is infilling in nature, abuts or is contiguous to the current urban boundary.

# DRAFT EVALUATION FRAMEWORK AND PHASING CRITERIA:

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Phasing and Evaluation Criteria should be imposed in a single step to ensure all growth options are considered on a fair and equal basis in accordance with the December 2020 direction of Committee and Council.

Consideration should be given to providing weighted criteria in the evaluation process that reflects the priorities of Council and those identified in the consultation process (e.g. Protection of prime agricultural lands, environmental areas and municipal financial impact receiving the most emphasis in the scoring system or as otherwise directed by Council).

# \_\_UPPER\_\_ WEST SIDE

## THANK YOU!

For further information please visit the UWS website.

<https://upperwestsidehamilton.ca/>



## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, March 25, 2021 - 3:52 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Lee Parsons

**Name of Organization:** MGP City Plan LTD.

**Contact Number:** 905-513-0170

**Email Address:** LParsons@mgpcity.com

**Mailing Address:**

140 Renfrew Drive, Suite 201, Markham

Ontario, Canada L3R 6B3

**Reason(s) for delegation request:**

On behalf of the Upper West Side Landowners Group, to address the following:

GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review – Planning for Growth to 2051: Draft Evaluation and Planning Criteria (PED 17010(j)) (City Wide) and,

GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review: Final Land Needs Assessment (PED 17010(i)).

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

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

140 Renfrew Drive, Suite 201, Markham  
Ontario, Canada L3R 6B3  
Tel: 1-905-513-0170  
Fax: 1-905-513-0177

[lparkers@mgpcity.com](mailto:lparkers@mgpcity.com)

March 25, 2021

**Chair and Members**  
**General Issues Committee**  
**City of Hamilton**

**Re: GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review – Planning for Growth to 2051: Draft Evaluation and Planning Criteria ( PED 17010(j)) ( City Wide)**

We are the Land Economics Consultants for Upper West Side Land Owners Group Inc., Spallaci & Sons Limited, 2112443 Ontario Ltd., Twenty Roads Developments Inc., Sullstar Twenty Limited, Lynmount Developments Inc., 909940 Ontario Ltd., and Liv Developments Ltd. (collectively, the "**UWS Landowners**").

We have reviewed the "GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review – Planning for Growth to 2051 (PED17010(j)) (City Wide)" (the "**Report**"), which we understand is to be considered by the General Issues Committee (the "**Committee**"), at the meeting scheduled for March 29, 2021.

We are pleased to be in a position to offer our conditional support of the recommended land need for an additional 1340 developable ha of Community Area lands and 0 ha of employment lands to the year 2051. Our support is subject to the resolution of the following matters:

- Finalization and agreement on the net development area quantities for the white belt areas;
- Confirmation of the existing inventory of residential land supply within the built boundary of the City of Hamilton; and,
- That Council adopt full urban boundary expansion needs to the year 2051 given the relatively modest amount of additional land to satisfy community land requirements between 2041 and 2051 and the benefits of taking this opportunity to conclude a definitive mature state urban boundary for the City;
- That allocation priority should be given to locations that are infill in nature, are substantially non-prime agricultural lands and which abut and are contiguous to the current urban boundary; and,



- That the Municipal Comprehensive Review process conclude with the adoption of a 2051 urban boundary with staging of development to proceed based specific growth management criteria rather than area specific allocation.

It is understood that the definition of “development land” excludes restrictions from Airport Noise Exposure Forecast contours, and non- developable features such as natural heritage features, cemeteries, and rights of way. This is defined on page 8 of 18 of the Report which notes that “the developable white belt area for Community Area Uses is approximately 1600 ha” subject to refinement through the planning process.

The City’s adoption of the “Aggressive Intensification’ Scenario as the basis for the land needs assessment must be viewed in context of:

- The accuracy and true capacity of the existing inventory of available development potential within the built boundary to achieve the level of intensification to achieve the aggressive rates of up to 70 percent over the planning period;
- The significant impact this level of intensification will have on the stability and character of existing neighbourhoods across the City. The adoption of the aggressive intensification scenario means that neighbourhoods will have to accommodate and manage the impact of introducing higher density unit forms including apartments with significant vertical definition. This will have specific impacts on community facilities, infrastructure and traffic capacity in host neighbourhoods across the City.
- City Council should understand the financial impact of intensification particularly in existing communities with aging infrastructure and insufficient public amenities. The level of aggressive intensification will place significant demands on capital and operating budgets to meet the demands of increased populations in older areas of the City. This municipal financial impact of aggressive intensification must be compared to the cost of carefully managed development in the white belt areas.

We request that MCR not focus on 2031 but rather provide for the additional land requirement to 2051 with a process to determine phasing to 2051.

There are a number of reasons for this request. The first is that 2031 will be upon us in less than 10 years after the approvals for the MCR. Clearly, the vast majority of the land needs projected for the 2031 horizon will not be developed until after the time horizon has passed. The second reason is that the “Ambitious Density” targets for the lands within the Built Boundary represent a major shift in development trajectory and it may take time to realize the densities required to accommodate the expected population growth in Hamilton.

Finally, we are of the view that the City should not exclude any post 2041 land need from inclusion in the urban boundary. The MCR is being applied holistically to the 2051 horizon with a view to balancing the need for an urban expansion to allow for compact new complete communities and the promotion of intensification beyond the minimum standards in the Growth Plan. By establishing firm and final urban boundaries for the planning horizon, the City achieves a number of important

objectives as follows:

- Promoting and finally resolving fixed long term mature urban boundaries;
- Resolving all uncertainties for existing communities and stakeholders as to where the built limits of the City will be fixed and protecting the agricultural and rural base;
- Allowing for much higher certainty in capital budgeting, transportation and infrastructure planning as to where growth will be accommodated over the long term; and
- Enabling and accommodating growth on a dynamic basis for the planning horizon depending on where infrastructure and complete communities can be provided to integrate with the existing urban boundary.

Thank you for your consideration of this submission.

Yours truly,

MGP CITY PLAN LTD



L Lee Parsons

Cc

Clients

Jason Thorne

Steve Robichaud

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, March 25, 2021 - 4:21 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** John Doherty

**Name of Organization:** Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

**Contact Number:** 519-574-8749

**Email Address:** [John.Doherty@gowlingwlg.com](mailto:John.Doherty@gowlingwlg.com)

**Mailing Address:**

50 Queen Street North

Suite 1020

Kitchener, ON N2H 6M2

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Coming in separate email

**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, March 25, 2021 - 4:25 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Jonathan Minnes

**Name of Organization:** Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

**Contact Number:** 519-998-3693

**Email Address:** [Jonathan.Minnes@gowlingwlg.com](mailto:Jonathan.Minnes@gowlingwlg.com)

**Mailing Address:**

50 Queen Street North

Suite 1020

Kitchener, ON N2H 6M2

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Coming in Separate Email

**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, March 25, 2021 - 4:33 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Paul Lowes

**Name of Organization:** SGL Planning & Design Inc

**Contact Number:** 416-347-7103

**Email Address:** [plowes@sglplanning.ca](mailto:plowes@sglplanning.ca)

**Mailing Address:**

1547 Bloor Street West

Toronto, ON M6P 1A5

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Coming in separate email

**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, March 25, 2021 - 8:41 pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Alice Park

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:.**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** speak about urban sprawl

**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, March 26, 2021 - 12:22 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Mary Love

**Name of Organization:** Indigenous Affinity Group, Extinction Rebellion Hamilton

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** We wish to urge city council to hold off on decisions about the urban boundary until in person delegations can resume. We urge the City of Hamilton to uphold their Urban Indigenous Strategy Plan as it relates to consultation, particularly when land is involved, as in this case of the urban boundary, as we consider this still to be sovereign Indigenous land.

**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, March 26, 2021 - 7:42 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Chris Krucker

**Name of Organization:** National Farmers Union

**Contact Number:** 9056489608

**Email Address:** [manorunfarm@gmail.com](mailto:manorunfarm@gmail.com)

**Mailing Address:**

782 Hwy 52

Lynden ON

L0R 1T0

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** to speak about the GRIDS2 Land Needs on March 29

**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, March 26, 2021 - 9:14 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Jackson Hudecki

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** To urge council to freeze the Urban Boundary and to hold off on voting until a clearer future is before us.

**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, March 26, 2021 - 1:18 am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Cynthia Meyer

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:** Stop urban sprawl

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

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

# CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

Special General Issues Committee: March 29, 2021

**MOVED BY COUNCILLOR B. CLARK.....**

**SECONDED BY MAYOR / COUNCILLOR .....**

**Amendment to Report PED17010(i), respecting GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review - Final Land Needs Assessment**

That Report PED17010(i), respecting GRIDS 2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review - Final Land Needs Assessment, be amended by deleting sub-sections (a) through (c) in their entirety and replacing them with the following in lieu thereof, and by re-lettering the balance accordingly:

- ~~(a) — That the City of Hamilton Land Needs Assessment to 2051— Technical Working Paper, prepared by Lorius & Associates, dated March 2021, attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED17010(i) be adopted by Council for the GRIDS 2/ MCR integrated growth management planning process;~~
- ~~(b) — That the following reports be approved by Council:
 
  - ~~(i) — Residential Intensification Market Demand Study, prepared by Lorius and Associates, dated March 2021, attached as Appendix “B” to Report PED17010(i);~~
  - ~~(ii) — Residential Intensification Supply Update, dated March 2021, attached as Appendix “C” to Report PED17010(i);~~
  - ~~(iii) — Existing Designated Greenfield Area Density Analysis, dated March 2021, attached as Appendix “D” to Report PED17010(i);~~~~
- ~~(c) — That Council adopt the “Ambitious Density” scenario, as identified in the Land Needs Assessment to 2051— Technical Working Paper prepared by Lorius & Associates, dated March 2021, as the preferred Community Area land needs scenario, and the following growth projections, intensification target, planned density of greenfield areas, and Community / Employment Area land needs be utilized and incorporated into the GRIDS 2 / MCR process and the development and evaluation of growth scenarios:~~

- ~~(i) A projected household growth of 110,300 households;~~
  - ~~(ii) An intensification target of 50% between 2021 and 2031, 60% between 2031 and 2041 and 70% between 2041 and 2051;~~
  - ~~(iii) A planned density of 60 persons and jobs per hectare (pjh) in existing Designated Greenfield Areas and 77 pjh in new Designated Greenfield Areas (urban expansion areas);~~
  - ~~(iv) A Community Area land need of 1,340 gross developable ha to 2051; and,~~
  - ~~(v) An Employment Area land need of 0 ha, to be confirmed subject to the finalization of the Employment Land Review report.~~
- (a) ***That staff be directed to conduct a city-wide mail consultation with a survey on the Land Needs Assessment and the Municipal Comprehensive Review that includes the Ambitious Density Scenario, a “no boundary expansion” scenario, and that also allows residents to submit their own alternative scenario, to be funded from the Tax Stabilization Reserve No. 110046 at an estimated cost of \$35,000;***
  - (b) ***That, with respect the mailout survey regarding the Land Needs Assessment and the Municipal Comprehensive Review, staff be directed to:***
    - (i) ***include a postage prepaid return envelope as part of the mailout; and,***
    - (ii) ***give residents 30 days to respond to the survey, respecting the Land Needs Assessment and the Municipal Comprehensive Review;***
  - (c) ***That staff be directed to compile the data from the Land Needs Assessment and the Municipal Comprehensive Review survey and provide an Information Report to be presented at a Special General Issues Committee no later than October 2021; and,***
  - (d) ***That staff be directed to prepare scenarios for where and how growth would be accommodated under the Ambitious Density Scenario as well as a “no boundary expansion” scenario, and to present these scenarios as well as staff’s recommended land needs assessment, growth targets, and***

***preferred growth scenario at that same Special General Issues Committee to be held no later than October 2021.***

- (e)** That the GRIDS 2 / MCR process and the development and evaluation of scenarios consider phasing options that would ensure that any future urban boundary expansions are controlled and phased, including consideration of options for identifying growth needs beyond 2041 without formally designating the land as urban at this time; and,
- (f)** That at the conclusion of GRIDS 2 / MCR and the final approval of the implementing Official Plan Amendments identifying the land need to accommodate growth to 2051, staff prepare a report for Council with respect to the necessary steps for recommending to the Province that any remaining Community Area Whitebelt lands be added to the Greenbelt.

# CITY OF HAMILTON

## NOTICE OF MOTION

Special General Issues Committee: March 29, 2021

**MOVED BY COUNCILLOR B. CLARK.....**

**Request to Delay Submission of Growth Plan Conformity Official Plan Amendment, Suspension of the Timetable for Municipal Conformity to the Growth Plan and an Extension the Deadline for Growth Plan Conformity**

WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario has mandated the City of Hamilton to conduct a Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) of its Official Plan; whereby, decisions must be made as to how all of the population and employment growth is to be accommodated in the local municipalities for the years 2031 to 2051;

WHEREAS, since June 2019, the Province has amended a number of Provincial Statutes and policies that impact how municipalities plan for growth including the following:

- Provincial Policy Statement;
- A Place to Grow: The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe;
- *Development Charges Act*,
- *Planning Act*,
- *Environmental Assessment Act*; and.
- *Conservation Authorities Act*,

WHEREAS, these significant Provincial changes include:

- reduced density targets in new greenfield development from 80 persons and jobs per hectare to 50 persons and jobs per hectare;
- reduced intensification targets from 60% beyond 2031 to 50%;
- setting minimum population and employment growth forecasts that can be exceeded, subject to Provincial approval;
- extended the planning horizon from 2041 to the year 2051;
- introduced market demand as a consideration in determining the housing mix; and,
- revisions to how municipalities fund growth;

WHEREAS, these Provincial changes signal an abrupt shift from the emphasis on creating compact and complete communities to a planning regime that facilitates lower density and car dependent communities;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton has declared a climate change emergency and must consider the role of land use planning in their strategies to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions;

WHEREAS, these Provincial changes create pressure to convert more class 1, 2 and 3 farmlands in Hamilton to urban uses than would otherwise be necessary, which is contrary to Hamilton's Official Plan;

WHEREAS, ensuring that Ontarians have access to healthy safe food in the future requires thoughtful consideration of the long-term impact of converting thousands of acres of prime agricultural lands in the Hamilton area to urban uses;

WHEREAS, the change of the planning horizon to 2051, by the Province, means that future municipal councils and the public will have little power to change decisions where they will grow after 2031 to the 2051 planning horizon;

WHEREAS, in the rural areas, internet service is often poor or non-existent, making it difficult for rural residents to engage in virtual public consultations;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton's current timelines project an Official Plan Amendment by January 2022, seven months before the current Provincial Deadline of July 2022;

WHEREAS, the desired outcome of the City of Hamilton's Strategic Plan, under the Community Engagement and Participation Priority is... "Hamilton has an open, transparent and accessible approach to City government that engages with and empowers all citizens to be involved in their community.";

WHEREAS, the current pandemic is making effective, in person public consultation impossible at a time when robust, informed public consultation is needed more than ever; and,

WHEREAS, the nature of work has evolved in response to the pandemic, which may cause long-term changes to the assumptions underlying the province's Land Needs Assessment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Mayor correspond with the Honourable Premier Doug Ford and the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to request the Province allow the City of Hamilton to delay its submission of its Growth Plan conformity Official Plan Amendment until proper, in person, informed consultation with the public has been conducted on the growth concepts and the preferred growth concepts;
- (b) That the Province be requested to suspend the timetable for municipal conformity to the Growth Plan to ensure that the public can fully participate in the process of planning their communities for the growth planning period covering 2031 to 2051;

- (c) That the Province be requested to extend the deadline for Growth Plan conformity in order to allow municipalities time to better understand and reflect the impacts of COVID as it relates to real estate markets, housing demand, commercial and office development impacts, and overall land needs; and,
- (d) That this resolution be copied to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the leaders of the Provincial opposition parties, Hamilton's MPP's, and the neighbouring municipalities.