

December 5, 2013

SENT VIA EMAIL: <u>carolyn.biggs@hamilton.ca</u>

General Issues Committee City of Hamilton 71 Main Street West, 1st Floor Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4Y5

Attention:

Ms. Carolyn Biggs, Legislative Co-ordinator

Dear Ms. Biggs:

Re:

Budget 2014 Water, Wastewater & Stormwater User Fees, Charges and Rates

Our File No. 8-3503

Kindly include the attached letter as part of the submissions to General Issues Committee in response to Item FCS13082/PW13085-2014 Recommended Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Budget.

Please contact the writer with any concerns and confirm receipt.

Yours very truly

Mark R. Giavedoni

MRG/tl attachment



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Attention:

Re:

Ms. Carolyn Biggs, Legislative Co-ordinator

Dear Ms. Biggs:

Budget 2014 Water, Wastewater & Stormwater User Fees, Charges and Rates

Our File No. 8-3503

We act as solicitors to McMaster University and submit this correspondence on its behalf for your consideration as you debate the 2014 proposed budget for water, wastewater and stormwater fees.

Staff's recommended budget classifies fees and rates into three classes, namely: residential (metered); commercial, industrial, institutional, and multi-residential (bulk metered); and non-metered.

Institutional landowners within the City of Hamilton should not be classified with industrial, commercial and multi-residential landowners as they are often fundamentally different from a legal, accounting and policy structure and framework.

McMaster University is a tax exempt charitable, not-for-profit organization committed to improving the City of Hamilton's cultural and social framework. McMaster University is a significant contributor to the City as an educator, employer, ambassador and economic engine. Diverting funds from this cause would impact its ability to fund its core mandate.

As such, institutional landowners such as McMaster University should be exempt from water, stormwater and wastewater fees and levies. At a minimum, rates for institutional landowners should

be modified to reflect this unique structure and purpose within the local community. We recommend that the budget for 2014 reflect this and that Council seek input and recommendations from the institutional community prior to approving any budgetary or rate increase.

Yours very truly,

Mark R. Giavedoni

MRG/tl

cc: Mr. Roger Couldrey, Vice-President (Administration), McMaster University

Mr. Mohamed Attalla, AVP and Chief Facilities Officer, Facility Services, McMaster University