

FROM

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ROBERT JAMES

August 2, 2016

Miss Rosa Caterini  
Office of the City Clerk  
Hamilton City Council  
71 Main Street West, 1st Floor  
Hamilton L8P 4Y5

Dear Miss Caterini,

I am writing to you to express my concern, through you, to the City Council of the City of Hamilton, regarding the attempted privatization and request for sale of the unassumed alleyway behind Sydenham Street in Dundas.

I have been the owner of a house at 71 Sydenham Street for the past eleven years. We have enjoyed access from the back of our property, via this alleyway, to both Alma Street on the north, and Victoria Street on the south. This alleyway has been public for over a century (it shows up on maps of the area dating from the 1860's). It has been used on a regular basis by pedestrians, cyclists, mothers with strollers, people dropping their children at the nearby daycare centre and school, dog-walkers, and so on. It has provided a quieter and safer alternative to the noisy and busy Sydenham Street.

While graffiti and garbage have been an issue elsewhere in the City, these have not been concerns in this alleyway.

What is an issue at present is an attempt by the new owner of 65 Sydenham Street to privatize this public alleyway. He has placed a fence across the alleyway, blocking passage. He has paved one end of the alleyway, increasing run-off. While he has applied to buy one end of the alley, this was only after these trespassing actions.

I feel this expropriation of public land must be stopped.

Sincerely yours,

Robert James

