

Submission to Hamilton City Council re: Ward Boundaries

By Alan Hall -- February 2, 2017

I have attached two ward boundary proposals for your consideration. One map – Option 15C – keeps the council at its current size (15 wards), while the other – Option 16C – adds an additional member (16 wards). Both of these maps were included in an e-mail I sent to all councillors last November, in response to the request to forward alternative ward boundary model options to the City Clerk.

This proposal is a complement to the submission made by Mr. Rob Dobrucki to the General Issues Committee on February 1. His Options A and B use the latest Census figures (2011) and keep all ward populations within 10% of the average.

My Option C uses the 2015 estimates and 2026 projections provided by the City to the Consultants. It attempts to keep all boundaries within 25% of the average for both years. Since this data was not made available to the public, I've done my best to estimate the populations for each ward.

The Consultants have done a very thorough review of the issues surrounding representation in Hamilton and prepared 13 alternative ward maps for public consideration. However, none of the final three options presented by the Consultants keep all the wards within the 25% population range mentioned in the Supreme Court decision.

My proposed ward maps keep almost all of the wards within this mandated range. For Option 15C, no wards exceed the 25% threshold, and for Option 16C, only one ward falls just below the lower limit for one year (Ward 9 – 1995 estimates).

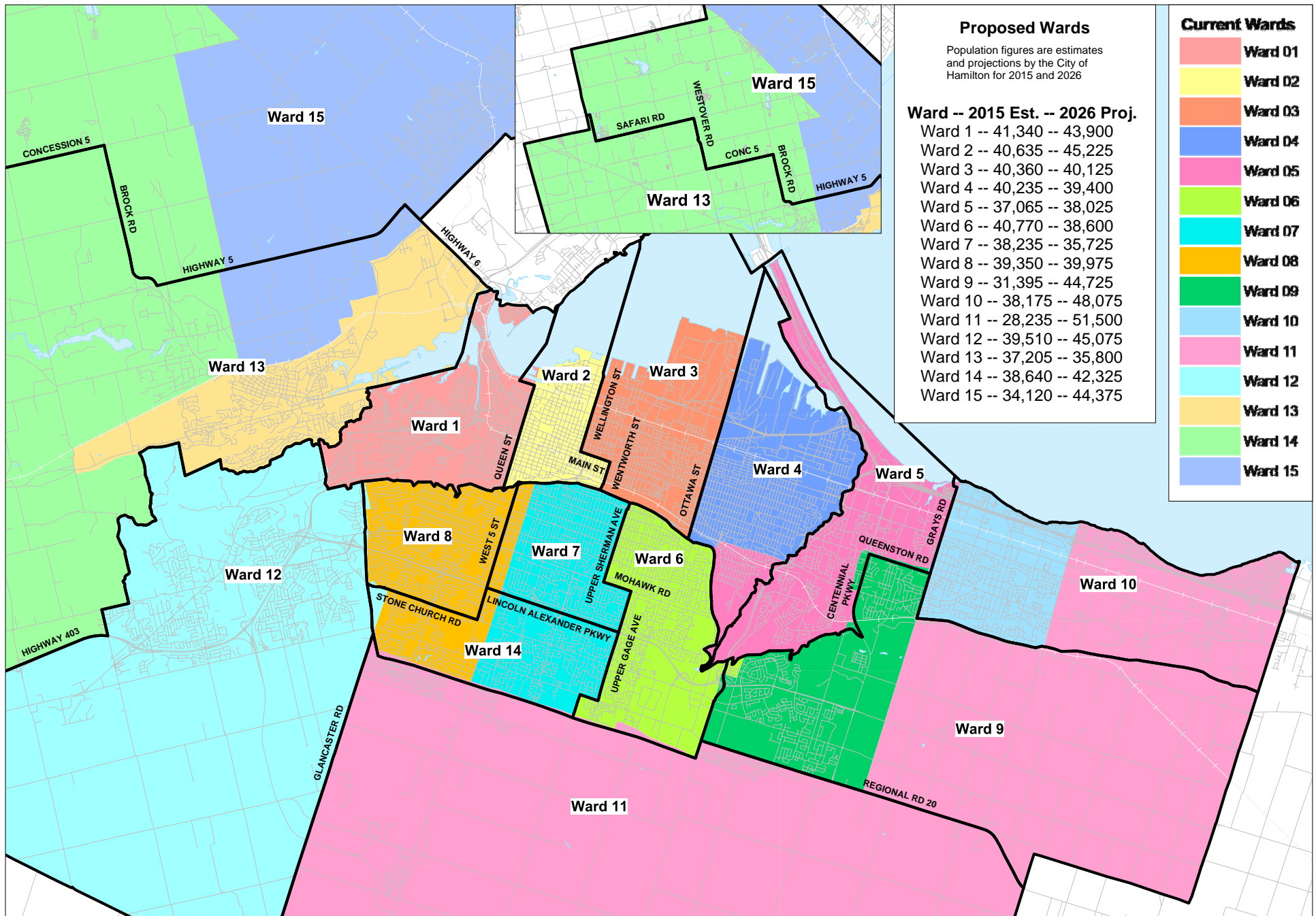
In addition, I believe both maps reflect a better community of interest in Flamborough/Dundas and the Mountain area. My alternatives link the communities along Highway 6 (Waterdown, Carlisle, Freelon) in Ward 15, and the communities along Highway 8 (Dundas, Rockton, Sheffield) in Ward 13. On the Mountain, the Linc provides an excellent boundary between wards 7 and 14/16, while keeping Ward 6 intact.

For the remainder of Hamilton, Option 15C maintains existing ward boundaries to the greatest extent possible. Option 16C adds an additional ward to the eastern part of the city, which causes a ripple effect from Ward 2 around to Ward 11. The proposed Ward 9 would extend south to include Elfrida, while Ward 11 would retain the rural area of Upper Stoney Creek.

Thank you for allowing me to share these proposals with you, and to place them on the public record.

Proposed Hamilton Wards -- 15 Wards Option C

Objective: Keep all wards within 25% of 2015 and 2026 City populations average



Proposed Hamilton Wards -- 16 Wards Option C

Objective: Keep all wards within 25% of 2015 and 2026 City populations average

