

Morin, Lois

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**From:** Kerry Jarvi <kerry@downtownhamilton.org>  
**Sent:** May-21-19 11:12 AM  
**To:** egirt@hamiltonpolice.on.ca; JAnderson@hamiltonpolice.on.ca;  
MWFletcher@hamiltonpolice.on.ca; Farr, Jason; Morin, Lois  
**Subject:** Downtown Hamilton BIA Request  
**Attachments:** ACTION Request.pdf

Dear Chief,

Please see attached a letter from our Board of Management with regards to policing in the downtown core. We ask that you share this with the Hamilton Police Services Board for support and consideration.

If we can offer any further information, please let me know.

Thank you,

Kerry Jarvi, Executive Director  
Downtown Hamilton Business Improvement Area  
20 Hughson Street South, Suite 104  
Hamilton, Ontario L8N 2A1  
(905) 523-1646  
[www.downtownhamilton.org](http://www.downtownhamilton.org)





HAMILTON

Chief Eric Girt  
Hamilton Police Services Board  
155 King William Street  
P.O. Box 1060, LCD 1  
Hamilton, Ontario, L8N 4C1

May 17, 2019

Dear Chief Girt,

On behalf of the Downtown Hamilton BIA Board of Management, we would like to share our thoughts on changes that have transpired in the downtown core with regards to diminished community policing efforts.

The Downtown Hamilton BIA has worked closely with the ACTION Team, the Crime Managers, the Mounted Unit and many other departments of the HPS to reduce crime in our area which has translated into lower crime statistics over the past few years. In the past few years, we have increased the residential mix downtown, welcomed many new businesses and benefitted from a decreased vacancy rate in both retail and office vacancies. These improvements have been a result of community policing efforts and targeted economic development strategies.

We are aware that the ACTION Team is responsible for the entire city; we have noticed a large decrease in their visibility in the downtown core on a day to day basis as well as for special events. The presence of these officers significantly contributes to the sense of safety and security downtown.

One strategic focus for the Downtown Hamilton BIA Board of Management over the next two years is New Employer Attraction. A task force has been established to create new initiatives and programs to attract new employers that will reduce our office and commercial vacancy. The sidewalk experience of those that are coming downtown for the first time is impactful on their decision to locate here. The graffiti, loitering, excessive panhandling and repeated break-ins, especially of properties under construction diminish the sidewalk experience. These instances are on the rise.

We strongly recommend the return of a dedicated ACTION team to downtown Hamilton. Safety and security of our businesses, our visitors and our residents is a high priority for all of us.

Sincerely,

Una Gibbons  
Chair, Downtown Hamilton BIA

Downtown Hamilton Task Force Participants: Dave Thompson – WALTERFEDY, Mark Poce – Dan Lawrie Insurance Brokers, Paul Demarco – Simpson Wigle Law LLP, Beth Molnar – Aragon Properties, Stefanie Bonazza – Alectra Utilities, Evan Apostol – Wilson Blanchard Management, Steve Kulakowsky – Core Urban

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DOWNTOWN HAMILTON BIA

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HAMILTON

Cc:

Mayor Fred Eisenberger

Councillor Chad Collins

Councillor Jason Farr

Councillor Tom Jackson

Mr. Fred Bennink

Mr. Donald MacVicar

Mrs. Pat Mandy

Lois Morin, Administrator

Superintendent Jamie Anderson

Sergeant Matt Fletcher

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