

Correspondence to City Council for its April 15, 2020 meeting

April 14, 2020

Mayor Eisenberger and City Council:

The following letter pertains to the idea of temporarily restricting non-emergency motorized vehicles to some of the city's streets - similar to events such as Supercrawl, Locke Street Festival, and Concession Street Fair.

We, the undersigned, are asking City Council to temporarily close James Street North, in Ward 2, for the duration of the pandemic to allow more space for residents who are using sidewalks for walking and roadways for biking. We think that this closure could act as a "pilot" to spur the closure of other streets in Hamilton.

We chose James Street North because it has been habitually closed for events like Supercrawl and, therefore, its closure would put less of a burden on City staff to come up with workarounds for public transit and other regular services and allow them the lead time needed to anticipate and plan for other road closures.

Dozens of other cities around the world including Toronto, Vancouver and Calgary have already deployed these types of actions in order to help walking, biking, and outdoor respite-taking in accordance with physical distancing guidelines. Bogotá, Brampton, Mexico City, and Berlin have all expanded cycling networks to make way for bikes.

The City of Oakland has a program titled "Oakland Slow Streets", which was implemented by their City Council. The program began by closing four street segments to through traffic (local traffic and emergency vehicles were still permitted).

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation closed three segments of parkways in the greater Boston area to vehicles, leaving them open to pedestrians and cyclists only.

We believe that this will benefit the community's mental health in regards to balancing the stresses associated with maintaining physical distance while trying to avoid vehicle traffic. A reduction in noise pollution and air quality will also be a positive benefit of this temporary restriction.

These measures could be implemented by placing barriers such as the ones currently used to block other vehicle access in the city during road closures. This

way, emergency vehicles would still be able to access these areas free of restriction if necessary.

Thank you for your time and consideration, it is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lisa Mawdsley	Stefan Spolnik
Jason Lawrence	Alex R
Andrew Lychy (resident of Dundas)	Eric Duma
Cameron Kroetsch	Paul Mason
Tristanne	Lisa-marie Johnston
Mary-Rose Chennery	Donna Caprice
Connie Kidd	John Neary
Mark Anderson	Janice Brown
Peggy Freeman	Jessica Claus
Kate Folsetter	Mary Anne McDougall
Greg Caldwell	Tom Flood
Bettianne Hedges	M. McDougall
Michael Cunliffe	John Schuurman
Alyssa Schuurman	Ron Rubin
Bob Berberick	Scarlett Stinson
Mandie Purdy	Frances Murray
Karen M. Venning	Alex Zafer
Matthew Munk	Craig Burley
Katherine Kinsman	Katelyn Grittani
Kathryn Rehner	Jocelyn Weatherbe
Shannon Collins	Sam Winona, Bay Street.
Laura Borrelli	Margaret Baines
Chantel Dow	Doug Baker
Tim McClemont	Karl J Andrus
Monica De Sousa	Maggie Howes
Rowan Nancarrow	Jay Howes
Jim Perdikoulis	Martin Szamotulski
Mark Derkach	Tom Broen
Randy Kay	The Rev. Ken Patterson
Rosa Bialski	Paul Gainfort
Jamie Philp	Lisa Kiriakopoulos
Ann McKay	Graham Carroll
Shannon Graszat	Shane Percy
Siobhan Murphy	Graeme Luke
Richard Gelder, Ward 13	John Scime, CFI

Tova Vertes
Michael Boivin
Carmelo Iachelli
James MacNevin
Adele D'Arcy
Dale Guenter
SANDRA QUIG
Kerry Turcotte
Celeste Konopka
Kristin Roe
Jon Davey
Derek Gamlem
Diana Bazon
Craig Matthews
Ruth O'Connor
Mary Griffiths
John Boddy
Barbara Howe
Kieran Lehan
Jasmine
Ashley Moore
Tammy Edwards
Joann Irvine
Emma Russell
Ian Fox
Roseann Barry
Chantelle Pealey
Dawn Manning
Ling Zhang
Yingwen Zhao
Kim Samuels
Anna Jarvis
Debbie Davies
Matt Jelly
Denise Graham

Brian Mason
Daniel Watkins
Justin McBride
David Levy
Brittney holton
Cora Muis
Theresa Malar
Steve Dykstra
Paula McKay
Amy K
Greg Cowell
Madeline Thombs
Waverley Birch
Tanya Karyakina
Lorne Warwick
Savannah Kilpatrick
Lauren Craig Stephen
Michael Callura
Jake M
Geneviève O'Grady
Patti Encinas
Maggie Martineau
Sarah Kovacs
Sean Burak
Tory Kenny
Darren Stewart-Jones
Cathy Sutherland
Linda Durkin
Brian Durkin
Susan Yu
Lucy Carrick
Nicholas Kevlahan
Anne Marie Pavlov
Karan Chrysler
Melanie Parish