



Dear Mayor Eisenberger and Members of Council,

On behalf of more than 25,000 McMaster undergraduate students, this delegation expresses strong support for the continuation of Hamilton's bike share system.

The McMaster Students Union asks councillors to recognize the importance of the bike share system as an essential transportation service for students. Research shows that McMaster campus bike share hubs have the highest daily ridership in the city. Students rely on the bike share system as an affordable, convenient and sustainable transportation service to get to and from campus, complete essential activities in the surrounding neighbourhoods, and explore other areas of Hamilton.

The bike share system also provides significant benefits for students and all Hamilton residents across the city. It promotes a healthy lifestyle, provides affordable daily transportation, and reduces carbon emissions. The popularity of the bike share system, with 26,000 members, attests to the positive impact of the bike share system.

The health, social and environmental benefits of the bike share system are even more important in light of restrictions on public transit capacity due to the current pandemic, as evidenced by the 300 new members who have signed up for the bike share system since the COVID-19 emergency declaration.

As such, the MSU calls on the City of Hamilton to hold Uber to their contractual obligations to continue operating the bike share system until Feb 2021. As a secondary alternative, the City should provide financial support through seeking new partners and/or assuming operating costs on its own. Nonetheless, the MSU believes the bike share system should be maintained and expanded beyond 2021.

As the city envisions how to recover from the pandemic, ensuring the continuation of the bike share system will be a key part of building an integrated, sustainable multi-modal transportation network that benefits all McMaster students and Hamilton residents.

Regards,

McMaster Students Union

Ryan Tse,
**Associate Vice-President
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Fawziyah Isah,
Vice-President (Education)

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