From:
To: Stevenson, Kirsten

Subject: Hamilton Demands Body Cams
Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 11:09:40 AM

Hello.

I'm reaching out as a local Hamilton citizen in regards to community safety and the recent displays of police brutality in America and Toronto. It worries me that Hamilton police still do not have body cams, the death of Regis Korchinski-Paquet is a perfect example of why they are so important. You have voted against them 4 times, what is the Hamilton police force trying to hide? With the current state of unrest and tension between the Police and the public it is necessary to have complete transparency in order to hold our police accountable and keep our people safe. Making body cams necessary would only elevate your law enforcement legitimacy as well as increase the communities confidence and trust in Police. In terms of safety, body cams would reduce violent police interactions as both citizens and cops behave differently if they know they are being recorded. Body cams would improve training in the Police force as it would allow you to analyze and critique real life decision making, something that is important considering how often Police use unnecessary excessive force in the heat of the moment. It would allow you to analyze these interactions and ask questions, what prompted them to get violent? Is there a racial bias? I realize that body cams cost money but in light of recent events, is ensuring your citizens' safety not worth it? This should be a priority. Hamilton citizens do not feel safe in police presence, we do not feel protected. Your Police force needs to enforce more rigorous race and discrimination training in order for something to change. Body cams are a great start to regaining the public's trust. With all of the pros of body cams, why are they still not being used? Why is the City of Hamilton still so against them? Once again, what are you trying to hide? Hamilton citizen's are demanding body cams, petitions have been made and emails will continue to be sent. Please let me know how you plan to proceed from here.

Sincerely, Olivia Bozzo