

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Helping community members living in Encampments in Hamilton

From: Laura Palumbo

Sent: July 14, 2020 12:57 PM

To: Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Farr, Jason <Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca>; Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>; Merulla, Sam <Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca>; Collins, Chad <Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Ward 8 Office <ward8@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Pearson, Maria <Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca>; Johnson, Brenda <Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca>; Ferguson, Lloyd <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>; VanderBeek, Arlene <Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca>; Whitehead, Terry <Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca>; Partridge, Judi <Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Helping community members living in Encampments in Hamilton

Dear Councillors,

I'm respectfully sharing the concerns around how to help folx living in the encampments in Hamilton as written by HAM SMaRT. I understand that some of you are already on board, and that is extremely promising. As a private citizen, I am going to be supporting these community members financially through donation to Keeping Six and ticket sales from the Hamilton Fringe. In addition, I'm going to participate in safe water drops for those living in my community of Corktown.

I hope that you please acknowledge these concerns and requests publicly, and if public support is needed to see any of this through, I am happy to be included in this.

Our requests are:

1. Stop ticketing people who are homeless.
2. Enact a moratorium on clearing encampments on public lands as per available public health guidance.
3. Work to quickly open more washrooms, showers, and physical spaces for people to safely be throughout downtown and east Hamilton.
4. Ensure that people have adequate access to potable water.
5. Take a housing first approach to helping people access non-congregate housing options.

Thank you,
Laura Palumbo