

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Officers Opening Fire on Our Streets - Accountability, Budget Review, Independent Investigation & Retraining Demands

From: Lauren Morocco

Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2020 11:43 AM

To: Nann, Nrinder; Office of the Mayor; Stevenson, Kirsten; clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Officers Opening Fire on Our Streets - Accountability, Budget Review, Independent Investigation & Retraining Demands

I wrote to you previously asking for defunding of the police. In addition to EVERYTHING that is happening in our world and our communities regarding abuses against BIPOC and LGBTQS+ communities at the hands of the police, our streets are also no longer safe, BECAUSE of the police. This happened in a residential neighborhood, close to my home. Granted not all the details are out yet, but there are no reports at this time that the man fired a weapon first or even held a weapon--just that there was an "interaction". What if a bystander had been walking by and had been hit? What if a **child** had been? Not only has the HPS spent 600,000 of city money because they didn't know their own bias and had to be told that they put members of the LGBTQ community's lives at risk by their inaction, they are now opening fire on residential streets and not making it safe for any of us to live. Was there nothing the officers could do to detain the man without opening fire?

Your officers and HPS service need to hold themselves to a better degree of standards, and as in all leadership training i have done in my career--the suggestion is always: give someone the room to showcase their abilities until they prove to you that they cannot manage that level of independence and then you remove that independence until they earn your trust again.

The Hamilton Police Service does not have the trust of its citizens. Not only am I calling for a drastic decrease in budget, there needs to be a very strong review of when and where officers should carry weapons and when they should use them. We are all aware that the SIU has a tendency to wrongfully side with the police in these matters. We have seen the city of Edmonton and the mayor's office take action and reduce their budgets by 11m to reinvest into the community.

<https://toronto.citynews.ca/2020/07/07/siu-invokes-mandate-after-man-shot-in-hamilton/>

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Lauren Morocco