

June 19, 2020

To the Mayor and City Council of the City of Hamilton:

We have come together to sign this joint letter to ask that you immediately allow City of Hamilton citizen committees the option to resume their meetings virtually.

The City of Hamilton is continuing to make decisions during the COVID-19 pandemic that affect the public without consulting these formal committees. While barriers to privacy and technology are serious impediments for some members of these committees, we have seen that the City has the resources to overcome these barriers and to make sure that meetings are accessible to all members and the public.

We ask that City Council pass a motion, as soon as possible, to change the established procedural bylaws to give the City's volunteer citizen committees the option to resume their meetings virtually until it is safe for them to meet again in person.

Respectfully signed,

Kate Berry
Stephanie Bertolo
Janice Brown
Karen Burke
Roman Caruk
Alissa Denham-Robinson
Diane Dent
James Diemert
Sophie Geffros
Sharon Gibbons
Freja Gray
Cameron Kroetsch

Jake Maurice
Ann McKay
Jessica Merolli
Cora Muis
Chris Ritsma
Rammy Saini
John Scime
Stefan Spolnik
Cathy Sutherland
Kyle Weitz
Alex Wilson
Christine Yachouh

*NOTE: Though we are all members of citizen committees we are speaking as residents and citizens of the City of Hamilton only. We recognize that, because these committees are not currently meeting, we cannot speak or give advice in any official capacity.