

From:
To: [Stevenson, Kirsten](#)
Subject: Concerns over the Hamilton Police Services and City Council Budget
Date: Thursday, July 23, 2020 12:36:16 PM

Good afternoon,

I was directed to you after reaching out to city council officials and I hope this is the correct contact. I am writing today to demand that the Hamilton Police Services Board and City Council move to defund the HPS budget 20% for a total cut of \$35 million. I am a Hamilton resident as well as a current McMaster University student and I am deeply concerned about how the excess of funding allocated to the HPS takes resources away from our most at risk Hamilton communities - funds which would ultimately contribute to the safety of our city and its community.

Of this \$35 million dollars, \$30 million should be cut from HPS salaries, specifically from Divisions 1, 2, and 3, community mobilization (mounted unit, ACTION team) and support services (mounted services). \$2.5 million should be cut from HPS materials and supplies in order to demilitarize the police force. \$2 million should be cut from overtime and part-time pay to HPS staff. There is absolutely no use for these \$35 million in the HPS. It is time to reallocate these funds to departments and organizations within our city that will actually contribute to a safer community.

While the 20% reduction may seem far-fetched, it is just a first step towards the goal of ultimately defunding and abolishing the police. Police who do not serve and protect our communities - but rather who criminalize and abuse our fellow Hamiltonians - should no longer be granted the ample funding our municipal council affords them.

20% is just the beginning. I am hoping that Hamilton will follow Minneapolis's lead in moving to defund the HPS altogether and implement a community-based alternative to policing that is based in restorative and transformative justice practices.

I urge you to hear my voice as a member of the Hamilton community. I am asking you to move or support a motion to defund the HPS budget by 20%.

Thank you for your consideration and have a good day,

Kailey Cutillo