

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** FW: Encampments

From: **Haider Saeed**

Date: Thu, 30 Jul 2020 at 11:23

Subject: Encampments

To: Wilson, Maureen <[maureen.wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:maureen.wilson@hamilton.ca)>

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Hi Maureen. As a physician with the Shelter Health Network, I'm writing today to advocate for a hold on dismantling the encampments that have been set up by individuals who are homeless.

I along with many others, are requesting the following from the City:

1. To not dismantle homeless encampments
2. To provide interim and permanent housing for encampment residents with necessary supports
3. To prioritize individuals experiencing homelessness for urgent housing placement
4. To engage encampment residents in assessing their needs prior to dismantling
5. To remove barriers in shelters and hotels in order to accommodate the individual needs of encampment residents
6. To allow for sanctioned encampment sites and/or designate specific parks/public lands where individuals are allowed to set up tents/temporary structures
7. To allow for a streamlined, low-barrier, accessible process of issuing permits allowing for tents and temporary structures

There are many organizations in the City that will be willing to work with Council/delegates to come up with solutions that are humane and appropriate to the needs of each individual affected.

As always, thank you for your tireless advocacy for those that live in the City of Hamilton.

Haider Saeed

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Haider Saeed, MD, MSc, CCFP, FCFP