

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Plans for defunding police ??

From: Ariel Bader-Shamai

Sent: July 27, 2020 3:35 PM

To: Farr, Jason <Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca>; Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>

Cc: hwdsbkidsneedhelp@gmail.com; clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Plans for defunding police ??

Good afternoon Councillor Farr and Mayor Eisenberger,

My name is Ariel Bader-Shamai, I'm a resident of Hamilton Ward 2, and I work in community arts in the city.

Over the last few weeks, Black organizers have released demands in response to police brutality occurring across Canada and the United States. The inflated Hamilton Police Services budget needs to be defunded and re-allocated to community organizations and health services (and the creation of new ones) that can actually provide crisis intervention and emergency support for folks who need it in a non-violent manner.

Given the extremely embarrassing reaction that the city of Hamilton had in response to activists who painted Main St. last week (of all the scandals to hit this city, THIS is what you react the fastest to??), we are demanding answers and transparency.

Here are some facts as to why the police budget needs to be reduced by at least 20%:
We spend \$171 million on policing but only \$158 million on social services here in Hamilton.

There are 675 police officers on the sunshine list. That equates to 36.51% of city employees on the sunshine list employed by the police. I am disgusted by this use of my tax dollars.

- The percentage of all Hamilton Police on the sunshine list is 61%.
- The percentage of sworn officers on the sunshine list is 79%.
- Average salary of a Constable \$116,527
- Average salary of a Detective Constable is \$123,073
- Average salary of a Sergeant 1st Class is \$135,110
- Average salary of a Sergeant 2nd class is \$122,979
- Policing costs are the highest cost to Hamilton's taxpayers.

I have tried to contact the both of you about some of these issues over the phone, and get no responses. I am extremely unimpressed by the lack of compassion in our city representatives, and you will not be receiving my support in the next election should these demands continue to go ignored.

What is the plan here?

Ariel Bader-Shamai
Ward 2 Resident