

October 2, 2020.

To Hamilton City Council;

I am writing to the Hamilton City Council to express my desire that the lands designated as agricultural on the south side of Twenty Rd. West be developed as residential rather than industrial.

There is a high demand for affordable housing for families in Hamilton. The West mountain requires more livable space to support that need. While it is true that council hopes to develop the core, the reality is that at a certain stage of life, urban living is no longer suitable for the changing needs of growing families. A suburban development on Twenty Road would not only attract families but also tax dollars that could in return be placed into some of the initiatives the council has for the core.

Hamilton would benefit from showing that it is willing to adapt to population and housing needs. The province has announced that communities with the type of land that exists on Twenty Rd. West, should be freed up for residential development. Communities like Paris, Cambridge, Brantford and Caledonia are capitalizing on people's willingness to leave the GTA. We need to be as cutting edge as well to be able to attract that demographic. By building on Twenty Rd, we will gain access to added taxable revenue sources.

The north side of Twenty Rd. W. has already been developed as residential. To add an industrial park across from a residential area does not make for intelligent planning and would lower the property values of those residents who already reside there. Not only would there be an increase in large vehicle traffic which would jeopardize the safety of those living in that neighbourhood, there would be the extra pollution and noise to consider as well.

Industrial development would be better suited on the south side of the Highway 6 bypass given the limited population in this area and the existing infrastructure. It does not make sense for an industrial park to be placed on Twenty when there is vacant land right beside a highway close to the airport. Large trucks travel that anyway. This would cut down on traffic on an already overwhelmed Upper James St.

It is important that Hamilton continue to be forward thinking. The development of land and increased population in this area could perhaps one day lead the province to consider an investment in a Go Station at the HSR depot and/or increased federal spending at the airport. Changes to zoning now will benefit the outlook for this part of Hamilton in the future.

I hope you will consider my opinion as a voting member of the Hamilton Community.

Sincerely,

Kelly Byrne
Dundas, ON