

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** Meet publicly with Defund HPS

**From:** Danielle Hitchcock-Welsh

**Sent:** November 28, 2020 10:57 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** Meet publicly with Defund HPS

Mr. Mayor:

Please meet publicly with the peaceful demonstrators outside city hall.

That the police were given more money for their budget despite dozens of videos and letters from the citizens of Hamilton is a slap in the face to our young people, the BIPOC community, the LGBTQ+ community and all those people spending the cold winter on the streets — in addition to those of us who sent videos and letters pleading for council to look into this matter. To do the work to understand the real problems people face daily with the HPS.

Driving near First Ontario Centre is a travesty. We need housing solutions. We need more funding to children. We need more funding to mental health. We need more anti-racism training at all levels in government and within the HPS. We need serious change and now is the time to find a way to make it a reality.

The police budget is ludicrous. We give them more money than any other sector in Hamilton and we the people of Hamilton are saying enough. Divest. Defund.

Meet publicly with the activists. They are doing this for a better future and have a right to be heard.

Thank you,

Danielle

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Danielle Hitchcock, B.Des