

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 6:22pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Mohammed Alshalalfeh

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

### **Reason(s) for delegation request:**

My name is Mohammed Alshalalfeh and I live in Hamilton, Ontario in Ward 1. As your constituent, I want to express my frustration concerning the proposed 2.98% increase to the already astronomically high Hamilton police budget, with an existing \$567k surplus. Hamilton Police Services need to be defunded - denying the proposed of 2.98% increase to the Hamilton Police Services budget and re-allocating the HPS budget surplus into community-led initiatives. Money desperately needs to be invested into the community, especially given pandemic conditions and the affordable housing crisis as people are being turned away from shelters and sleeping on the streets.

Hamilton Police Services facilitate encampment teardowns across city the in the midst of a global pandemic and affordable housing crisis.

In 2018, Hamilton Police tased 30-year-old [REDACTED], an Indigenous woman, and once on the floor, shot her four times. No charges were laid.

In 2018, Hamilton police fatally shot 19-year-old [REDACTED], an Indigenous man, after responding to his distress call to 911. No charges were laid.

In 2003, [REDACTED], a 26-year-old Black transgender woman, was arrested by Hamilton police and dragged down seven flights of stairs face-down, killing her in the process. No charges were laid.

Stats Canada only tracks fatal police shootings if an officer is criminally charged.

Increased police presence does not keep us safe. It threatens the lives of our most vulnerable communities (Black, Indigenous and People of Colour, the LGBTQ2S+ community, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.)

In 2020, intelligence equipment cost \$18,460. The 2021 projected intelligence equipment costs is \$44,460. That is a 140.85% increase in equipment that will be used to surveil and intimidate poor, Black and racialized people in Hamilton

In the operating budget analysis, the Hamilton Police Services will see a 78.3% increase to ammunition expenditures if this budget is approved. The City continues to overfund violence while underfunding sectors and organizations crucial to building healthy and supported communities.

**Will you be requesting funds from the City? No**

**Will you be submitting a formal presentation? No**