

## Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Friday, February 5, 2021 - 8:11am

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:** General Issues Committee

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Alicia De Jong

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

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

My name is Alicia and I live in ward 14 of Hamilton Ontario. I support the motion being put forward by Councillor Nann to reinvest the proposed HPS budget increase and HPS surplus into social services that help our citizens. It is clear that the police are not keeping our communities safe and are causing harm. Black and indigenous people, sex workers, the LGBTQ's community, those with disabilities/mental health challenges and those who are low income or homeless, cannot depend on the police for help and they should not have to.

Investing the proposed HPS budget increase and HPS surplus into social programs that support populations in Hamilton is the only way to protect and enhance communities in our city. I am tired of seeing and hearing about the police in Hamilton responding to situations only to have it end worse off than it began, or end in a tragedy. We have seen the carelessness with which the Hamilton police handle homeless people, people with disabilities and mental health challenges, sex workers, BIPOC,

the LGBTQ community. It is appalling and frightening. Increasing the police budget would be irresponsible and makes it clear that this city does not care about all of its citizens and their needs.

Terry- Please vote against the proposed 2.98% budget increase to the HPS and vote for the proposed return of the HPS budget surplus to the city and reallocate into community led harm reduction.

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

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