

From: Atlas DiTommaso
Sent: February 4, 2021 6:47 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Written Delegation for GIC meeting on February 8th

Hello, here is my written delegation for the GIC meeting on February 8th.

Kind Regards, Theo (They/Them)

Dear Mayor and Members and Council

My name is Theo, my pronouns are They/Them and I am a ward 3 hamilton resident. As a member of your community I am incredibly concerned at the appalling increase to the Hamilton Police Budget.

As a queer non-binary person I don't feel like the police keep me safe. In 2003, [REDACTED], a trans woman was arrested and dragged down seven flights of stairs. She was killed. I am terrified to think that something like this could happen to someone I know. Increasing funding to the Hamilton Police Service will lead to more violence like this.

The 2021 operating budget analysis includes \$108,657 for the sexual assault detective constable while womans shelters are at capacity. We need tangible supports, and adequate funding for woman's shelters and organisations like SACHA.

It is disturbing to think that the 2021 projected intelligence equipment cost is \$44,460. This equipment is only used to surveil, track, traumatize and harm poor, Black and racialized people. By approving this budget increase you are allowing continued violence against your own neighbours and community members.

I am asking you to vote against the proposed budget increase to the Hamilton Police Service.

I am asking you to vote for the proposed return of the HPS budget surplus to the city to be re-allocated into housing and community led supports.

Failing to act on these demands is a failure to do your job. Reform is not an option, I am asking for a complete re-imagining of what our community could look like.