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From: Dennis/Patricia Baker <pjbassociates@compuserve.com>

To: clerk@hamilton.ca <clerk@hamilton.ca>

Cc: Dennis/Patricia Baker <pjbassociates@compuserve.com>

Sent: Mon, Mar 22, 2021 8:39 pm

Subject: Written delegation MCR/GRIDS2, March 29, 2021

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and City Councillors,

We are writing regarding the urban boundary which has been in the press recently. As concerned citizens we would like to make several comments. Dennis' work had us living in four very different European cities, three had populations triple the size of Hamilton; all were pedestrian friendly with good transit, very tight urban boundaries and many medium density low-rise residential buildings - great places to live.

We think everyone now realizes that climate change is very close to being upon us in a major way and we must do all we can to mitigate the effects of industrialization and attempt to slow the change. Increased downtown density, not necessarily high rise buildings unsuitable for family living, would prevent the significant increase in vehicle emissions which will occur with an expanded city boundary. We need a transit system better geared to current needs and more intensification in the existing city would be helped by such a system. Hamilton is already a leader in transit options with the first carbon-negative bus in Ontario - let us continue!

At the moment everyone, the city included, is very focused on the COVID19 and people are not necessarily aware that such a monumental urban boundary change is being considered. We have some of the best farmland in Ontario on our doorsteps but citizens are not aware it is at risk. Many are not willing or able to attend virtual presentations and decisions as major as this one should be delayed until people are fully aware of the situation and can participate in live discussions.

We request that you freeze the urban boundary and pause planning until in person consultations have occurred.

Yours respectfully, Patricia and Dennis Baker
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