

**From:** Agnes Bongers <

**Sent:** March 25, 2021 9:43 PM

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

**Subject:** Please stop Urban Sprawl

Dear Arlene

I live in Ward 13, where I own a home and pay property taxes. I am writing to express my concern about the haste city council may be in to approve urban sprawl throughout Elfrida.

I am asking you, the mayor and city councillors to pause the decision making/planning until in person consultations have occurred. Not all citizens are comfortable with webinars and zoom meetings and many citizens have no idea what is happening regarding these important decisions. In person town halls and information sessions are needed so ideas can be exchanged and knowledge gained. These are important decisions that need to be decided with due process, not in this manner during a pandemic.

There are more effective use of our resources and ways to support the growth of our cities. Urban sprawl is costly, and our tax dollars are needed for our crumbling infrastructure, as this is where people live and work. Population density within our urban boundaries can be increased at a much lower cost than suburban infrastructure needs, such as emergency services, public transportation, schools, roads, utilities, etc.

As elected leaders you also have a obligation to ensure that integrity of our climate footprint is accurately measured, listening to the science. A move to increase urban sprawl into precious lands, and to ignore the needed infrastructures of housing, and means for walkability, public transportation and cycling within the city does not address both the needs of our citizens and the impact on climate.

I am asking all of you to **not accept** the motion to move forward with the GRIDS 2/MCR report without further stakeholder, in person consultation.

Sincerely,  
Agnes Bongers