

**From:** Hitchcock, David  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 10:57 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** proposed growth plans

Dear mayor and councillors,

I completed the online survey about Hamilton's plans for growth in the next few decades. I was extremely frustrated that I was not given the option to oppose any extension of the urban boundary.

I live in Westdale, in a detached house on a lot that is 30 feet wide and 100 feet deep. That is plenty big enough. There are all sorts of homes similar to mine that are currently rented by absentee landlords to groups of students. There are around six proposals for development of high-rise apartment buildings along Main Street West, west of Leland Street, that would provide much more suitable accommodation for McMaster students. Homes on my block are already being converted from student houses to owner-occupied homes. Westdale is a wonderful neighbourhood to raise a family, and conversion of student houses back to owner-occupied homes where children live would provide a lot of accommodation for young families. Multiply this scenario across the city and there is no need for expansion of the urban boundary.

I urge you to send a message to the provincial government to allow cities to make their own decisions about their urban boundary and growth plans, taking into account the need to preserve farmland, the benefits in many respects of compact cities, and the massive effort required to get greenhouse emissions down by 60% in the next nine years and then to zero by 2050.

No to sprawl!

David Hitchcock

Hamilton