

From: Doreen Stermann

Sent: March 22, 2021 11:36 AM

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Cc: Doreen Stermann

Subject: [****POSSIBLE SPAM]Freeze Urban Boundary /Delay the decision

Hello, I have been a resident of Ward 1 for 30 years. A Hamiltonian for close to 60!
I vehemently oppose any further expansion of our urban boundary. I request that the City delay any decision in deciding to expand the boundary.

" Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results"
Albert Einstein

We have a massive Infrastructure maintenance debt which the city has created by continuing to build outward to enlarge the tax base.

Continuing to expand is costly. IT DOES NOT PAY FOR ITSELF! Inner city wards are subsidizing urban outward expansion. The degradation of the urban infrastructure will only increase. What is the current road replacement plan? I was told by a planner it was 100 yrs! And in time the degradation of the suburbs will also be evident. Look at how long it took to rebuild Sanatorium Road. It took 60 years! The road was in a deplorable state. I have driven on worse roads in third world countries. I kid you not. And that was only one of many roads in poor condition in Hamilton. What is the rate of return on investment by continuing to build outward?

Eliminating viable farmland is not the answer. We are in a climate crisis. The city has acknowledged as much but what does that mean when carrying out our land use policies? "Put your money where your mouth is". Stop claiming one thing and acting the opposite. Local farmland will become more and more necessary as food supplies will cost more dearly and availability will become scarcer. There was a real threat of losing our food supply during this pandemic. How did that make you feel? Had overseas supplies been shut down because of widespread death in factories or farms where would we be? We must secure our local food supply! A failure in imagination of how bad it can get will get us into serious peril.

We have a massive shortfall of available housing. Cars are not the future for the younger generation. they want inner urban walkable sustainable neighbourhoods. They are not buying cars as much and prefer a reliable swift urban transit option. Singles, couples and families can not afford to buy into the housing market. Building outward is continuing to build a car-centric society. How is that acting like we have declared a climate crisis? We must provide inner city affordable housing in multiple forms. 1,2,3 bedroom apartments for singles, couples, families. It does not have to be all tall condos either. There is the Missing Middle Housing option (multi storey with commerce below).

I also see the huge shopping malls as becoming irrelevant due to the increase in on-line shopping. What will be come of these behemoths? There is opportunity there for Long Term Care facilities tor retirement residences to be built within these malls. We must use our space more efficiently. Build with commerce below/residents above. This provides developers/ store owners an instant market for their goods and provides security (eyes on the street with residents living above). This concept works in Europe why can't North American cities develop this way?

I support a motion to delay a decision being made until the pandemic is over or until we can get herd immunity and we can have a ample in-person public debate on this most serious policy decision confronting us.

Ask yourself why is Premier Ford rushing this? Is it because they know the public is too busy to get involved? Too worried with enough on their plate to just survive getting through the pandemic?

There is no need to rush or ram this through.

A freeze on making a decision is necessary.

A freeze on expanding the urban boundary is crucial to our future.

Sincerely

Doreen Stermann

Ward 1