

From: Kristin Stark

Sent: March 22, 2021 8:24 AM

To: Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>

Cc: Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: urban boundary

Hello Councilor Naan and everyone,

I am writing because I believe I was one of the few who responded to the public engagement survey about Hamilton's proposed urban boundary expansion. I don't think enough consultation has been done for this important decision. Also, it is very difficult to do this consultation over internet meetings for a number of reasons. One of which is that people have been working more during COVID and have less time for other things. I would not want a decision to be made that does not fully capture the will of the people.

Covid has taught us all that outdoor spaces are very important and land for farming is no exception. I question why we need to use this land when in my Ward (3) there are vacant buildings and underutilized spaces? I think this land should be kept for farms. I can think of a number of farmers who expand their business from traditional farming to also include inviting the public onto their land (pick your own, weddings, holiday events). This is vital to the health of one's psyche to be able to go to a farm that is within a short drive and to be able to have food grown locally, on prime agricultural land.

I am very opposed to expanding our urban boundaries and definitely opposed to making this decision with so little public consultation. I want us to have a vibrant core and even more vibrant green spaces and farming surrounding us. Not like the giant spread out concrete city that is Toronto.

Thank you for your time,

Kristin Stark