

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** Take our Climate Emergency and farmland protection seriously - Option 2

**From:** Alana

**Sent:** August 11, 2021 7:02 PM

**To:** GRIDS 2 and MCR <[grids2-mcr@hamilton.ca](mailto:grids2-mcr@hamilton.ca)>

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I cannot stress strongly enough that I want the city to undertake a rigorous evaluation of the 'No Boundary Expansion' VS the 'Ambitious Density Scenario' using a **climate lens**. There is no excuse for ignoring the dire warnings just released by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change - the panel of the world's leading climate scientists. We have been clearly warned that urgent action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is required to avert ever-increasing climate disaster. Based on the IPCC's warnings, now is the worst possible time to be sprawling Hamilton out into rural farmland. Urban sprawl fuels climate change. We must protect farmland and greenspace.

The current evaluation framework city planning staff have proposed to assess the 'No Urban Boundary Expansion' option against the 'Ambitious Density Scenario' is far from rigorous. It puts the evaluation of climate crisis impacts on par with all other evaluation themes. Climate crisis impacts are inarguably the priority and should be in a stand-alone category. Climate should be the lens for all of the other 9! There needs to be a comparison of greenhouse gas emissions driving decisions. Emissions from land use will impact us for up to 1,000 years.

Sincerely,

A. Didur