

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Encampment on Beach

From: Elke Taylor
Sent: July 21, 2021 10:13 PM
To: Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>
Cc: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Encampment on Beach

What an eyesore the beach area at Van Wagners Beach (between Confederation Park and Wild Waterworks) has become. Several weeks ago, tents were erected on the beach by homeless people. The beach is now littered with garbage, left behind clothing, various other items and shopping carts.

I am unable to take my granddaughter to this beach as I have done in the past. I do not feel safe when these drugged up people stagger past me. I have found needles in the sand. I have seen people high on drugs in the parking lot where my car and others are parked. Will my car be broken into?

People go to the beach to enjoy themselves, but now they see all this litter and people high on drugs wandering about. I have also seen these people washing clothes in the lake – what else do they use the lake for? Some of the same people are regularly begging on Centennial. One cannot drive down Centennial without being exposed to this.

I hope you will do something to remedy this. This situation is deplorable and just not acceptable. It will certainly not enhance Hamilton's reputation when tourists come to this beach.

I also contacted (by phone) the Hamilton Police Department on King Street in Stoney Creek on July 15 and informed the officer I talked to about the situation. I was advised to also contact Hamilton City, which I did (by phone) on July 16. I left my name, telephone number and email.

I hope to hear from you.

Elke Taylor