

4.10 (c)

From: Zoe Kazakos
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:03 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: NO SPRAWL!

Clerk City Clerk,

I am a resident of the Crown Point neighbourhood in Hamilton. My name is Zoe Kazakos and I, along with many other Hamilton members strongly strongly disagree to the urban sprawl.

As I'm sure you know the land surrounding Hamilton and is prime agricultural land. And while importing food from other parts of the world may not seem like a big deal to you right now, it most certainly is and should be for all of us Canadians. As the world continues to deal with the environmental effects of our current way of life, and the financial repercussions of a harrowing pandemic - food security is of even more importance.

Having rich soil, and growing land in an area that produces exceptional produce should be PROTECTED! Dipping into nearby land for urban sprawl, for big buildings, for massive development projects puts such a massive strain on the natural environment and causes so many fallout problems to the water system, it affects and in many cases destroys the natural habitat for both the critters and the natural growth.

I could speak about this for days and days and months and hours, because it is so important to me and my family, my friends, my neighbours and my community. Hamilton continues to speak out against the sprawl with the loudest voice we have - in the hopes that our community leaders, our politicians and our councillors will listen and move forward accordingly.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Zoe Kazakos

4.10 (d)

From: Tom Ciancone

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:05 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Urban infrastructure and boundary expansion

Clerk City Clerk,

I am a long-time resident and native of Hamilton now living in Ward 11.

In recent weeks, I have been following the debate in the Hamilton Spectator about urban boundary expansion. After considering the various arguments, I have come to believe, for reasons concerning infrastructure and environment, that urban expansion is not necessary at this time. Using the existing properties within the city would be preferable.

Why expand urban boundaries at this time? Now that the LRT is going ahead, why not concentrate on building housing, businesses and improved infrastructure around it, making it viable and successful? Say, after a period of 20 years, re-evaluate where we are at and decide then if we need further expansion.

Let's give increasing density and improving transit a shot.

Thanks,

Tom Ciancone

4.10 (e)

From: Jessie Cardarelli

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:06 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Urban boundary

Clerk City Clerk,

My name is Jessie and I have been a resident of Hamilton for 11 years. I fell in love with this city, my neighbourhood and love this community. However the city is constantly making poor and short sighted decision that do not benefit its residents. Urban sprawl is not good for anyone and the people who need housing are not moving to the suburbs. Go once I hope to see the city embrace an opportunity to redevelop the space we have and move forward with a long term vision of a better city for not just us but the next generations as well.

Thank you,

Jessie Cardarelli

4.10 (f)

From: Andra Zommers

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:17 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: [****POSSIBLE SPAM]Stop sprawl in Hamilton

Clerk City Clerk,

Hello my name is Andra Zommers and I live in Ward 2 in Hamilton, Ontario.

I am protesting urban sprawl in Hamilton because our city NEEDS affordable housing WITHIN ITS CORE, not further out in the suburbs. We need urban development that is targeted for households working within the city who may or may not have access to a vehicle and who (no doubt) cannot continue to afford gas prices as they climb - and you can't avoid driving and gasoline prices living in suburban developments. Unless there are robust plans for further public transit infrastructure and density planning for the long-term to go along with the suburban development, the truth is this is NOT a solution to the housing crisis now, nor the city's growth plans for the future.

Our housing crisis is in the city's CORE. The empty and under-utilized spaces that we have in abundance are found in the city's CORE. Our citizens have voiced their desire to protect our farmlands and our Mayor is in support of this position. The province needs to understand that housing and climate solutions will not be achieved by short-sighted strokes of basic suburban sprawl. Build better.

No urban sprawl, protect Hamilton's farmlands and farmers.

Sincerely,

Andra

4.10 (g)

From: Cc Benz

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:25 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: [****POSSIBLE SPAM]NO TO SPRAWL

Clerk City Clerk,

My name is Cc and as one of thousands of low income households & many other hamiltonians, I am vehemently against urbanization of farmland and further expansion onto our native lands outside of Hamilton. Not only are you ruining existing nature, farmland and housing in your plan but you're encroaching on even more land that doesn't belong to you. This needs to be put to a stop.

Cc Benz

4.10 (h)

From: Elizabeth Kata

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:27 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Hamilton Sprawl

Clerk City Clerk,

I have lived in Hamilton all my life. I currently live on Hamilton Mountain and work downtown. I see the homeless all around now - they are panhandling on Upper James and it seems like every intersection downtown.

There are many brownstones and schools that are not being used - please use these spaces to help the homeless. Have contractors and builders build affordable housing but maximum 5 stories everywhere.

Save our farmland- we cannot build more farmland for food production, and importation will cost us way too much. Encourage farmers and perhaps grow plots for city dwellers.

We should be building only on areas that is not suitable for farming - like a bit further north - build transportation to the city hubs, and encourage working from home.

Sprawling into food producing farmlands is not the answer. We will pay more in taxes to service these areas and will definately pay far more for food in the future.

Thank You

E. Kata

4.10 (i)

From: Norman Brown

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:29 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Stop Urban Sprawl

Clerk City Clerk,

The age of urban sprawl with its low density, residential subdivision has passed. Rural development is inefficient, costly and environmentally destructive; requires roads, hydro, sewers, water, schools etc. If you are genuinely concerned about the taxpayer stopping the spread is the obvious, best policy.

Norman L. Brown

From: Doris Clayton

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:29 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: [****POSSIBLE SPAM]Say no to urban sprawl

Clerk City Clerk,

Paving farmland is a short sighted and unsustainable process. If the last 22 months has taught us anything it's that we need to be more self sufficient and not rely on other countries for food. Once farmland is gone, it's gone forever. Building homes outside the urban boundary won't help solve the housing crisis and will only benefit developers. If we don't consider alternatives now we are only kicking the can down the road. Farmland is a nonrenewable resource. What will the strategy be when it's gone?

Doris Clayton

4.10 (k)

From: Melissa Deutsch
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:32 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: [****POSSIBLE SPAM]Urban Boundary Expansion

Clerk City Clerk,

Hi,

My name is Melissa and I am a mother of two and a lifelong resident of Hamilton. My grandmother was born and raised by her mother, on a farm in Beamsville. I spent every weekend there as a child and watched the landscape change over the years. It's nearly unrecognizable to me now. What was once farmland tended by families over generations has turned into Mc and Mega mansions, with driveways big enough for several (dozen?) cars. I know that Hamilton needs more housing. That is without question. But large single-family homes on land that could be used to feed Hamilton families are not the answer. We need more urban homes, with easy access to transit and amenities. Walkable, liveable communities. That needs to come first, before expansion.

Please say no to expanding the urban boundary and prove to Hamiltonians that you are putting the needs of the people over the needs of developers and land speculators.

Sincerely,

Melissa Deutsch

4.10 (I)

From: Carole Docherty
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:38 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Vote for Option 2: No Urban Boundary Expansion

I am writing to urge Hamilton City Council and the General Issues Committee to adopt the No Urban Boundary Expansion Scenario (total assessed land need of 0 ha between 2021 and 2051). In order to protect what remains of our “white belt” farmland and natural heritage, and meet Hamilton’s 2050 climate obligations, you must reject trojan horse plans for “phased” settlement area boundary expansion, and direct staff to accommodate the entire projected demand for homes and workplaces, including single- and semi-detached homes, within the existing settlement area boundary.

Firstly, through simple and purposeful bylaw changes, most of the tens of thousands of post-war lots already set to be redeveloped as “McMansions” over the next 30 years can be used to create more modestly-sized (e.g., semi-detached) homes rather than just one larger one. This untapped potential is discounted in the present 30-year Land Needs Assessments, even though governments from California and Oregon to New Zealand are already reforming zoning to unleash it.

Second, the large area of unused “Designated Greenfield Area” that was sacrificed to sprawl in previous Municipal Comprehensive Review processes (roughly 4500 acres as of 2019) should be developed at the densities (90-100 people and jobs per hectare) typical of ground-related “residential” neighborhoods in southern Ontario that we know allow most residents to get by largely car-free. The current Assessment plans for densities even lower than the 80 pjh legally required by the Province prior to the summer of 2020.

This summer, the City’s approved process showed 90% of residents (16,636 of the total 18,387 who responded) want No Urban Boundary Expansion. The only way for Hamilton Council to respect this decision, or even to keep its future options open, is to formally adopt the No Urban Boundary Expansion Scenario (0 ha) on November 9th.

4.10 (m)

From: Andrew Smith

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:41 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: General Issues Committee / Council re: urban boundary expansion

Please kindly enter my email below onto the record regarding this issue which is to be discussed at committee tomorrow. Thanks, Andrew

Dear General Issues Committee Members and City Council Staff:

I have been a resident of Hamilton for 19 years since doing my studies here at McMaster University. My family and I love our City. It is our belief that we need to move ahead with a reasonable boundary expansion to accommodate growth coming to our City for the following reasons.

First:

I believe in the blessing of having extended families close by. Being near to aunts, uncles, cousins and grandparents is an enormous benefit to children.

Families with small kids want a home with a backyard where their kids can play in a safe environment – I have three kids and I know this to be the case.

Without affordable units available for young families you are denying the next generation the benefit of living close to their family. I have three young kids.

I want to live in Hamilton long term and I want my kids to be able to afford a home in Hamilton when the time comes, but with the trajectory this City is on it is hard to see this as being possible.

Second:

I find it highly ironic to see signs in my neighbourhood in front of single-family houses which were built on farmland telling us how we ought to 'Save our Farmland'. People are happy to live on farms that were developed in the 1970s and 1980s but they would deny the next generation this opportunity. It is the height of privilege to enjoy a single-family home on a large lot yet deny that opportunity to others.

Third:

It is an error in reasoning to think that we can save farmland by denying an urban boundary expansion in Hamilton. New residents are coming to this province and if they don't come to Hamilton then another municipality will step up to accommodate them in the unit types that are in demand. These units will be built on farmland somewhere else in our province (no saving farmland) and Hamilton will lose the benefit of new families and new workers who will contribute to our great City.

Fourth:

How much money has the City already spent on:

1. Constructing infrastructure that was intended to service Elfrida i.e. the tunnel trunk sewer from the escarpment up Hwy 56 towards Binbrook.

4.10 (m)

2. The planning studies and sub-watershed study which were to support the development of Elfrida.

Based on my reading of the council reports pertaining to these items, infrastructure costs are in the 10s of millions, while the millions have already been spent on the studies. Will these become throw-away costs if the City chooses not to expand? Can taxpayers really consider this to be good management of our dollars? This is not to say we cannot change course, but you must have a VERY GOOD REASON to go against past council decisions to approve this funding and waste so many of our tax dollars in this way.

Fifth:

It is entirely foolish to throw away the recommendations of the City's expert staff in favour of surveys from Hamilton residents who do not understand the issues at hand.

It is amazing to me that the local development industry and City planning staff who are the most knowledgeable on these issues were in agreement as to the best way forward. This is rare but positive but this council seems to be intent on throwing away the positives and making poor decisions based on what appears immediately politically expedient.

Best Regards,

Andrew & Nadine Smith (Petra, Daniel & Fanny)

4.10 (n)

From: Heather Connell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:45 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: [****POSSIBLE SPAM]Urban expansion

Clerk City Clerk,

My name is Heather Connell and I live in ward 6 and I am against the urban expansion which will encroach on our farming lands. You simply must find another way to accommodate our growing population. We have little green and farmland left and it's disappointing that you are even considering this option. I will not vote for anyone who chooses this option.

Heather Connell

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4.10 (o)

From: Natasia Taylor

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:50 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: [****POSSIBLE SPAM]A vote for NO urban boundary expansion is a vote for Hamilton's youth

Clerk City Clerk,

Hi there !

I'm a 20 year old female student & lifetime Hamiltonian. I think preserving farmland and green spaces is a critical part of maintaining a well balanced city. As someone who will have to live with the consequences of sprawl, I believe investing in a more dense, accessible city is key. I firsthand have seen the amount of empty plots and abandoned buildings throughout the city. Optimizing these plots should take priority over paving farmland and making more subdivisions. We have all the space we could need, we just need to use it correctly. Not to mention the extensive environmental impacts! We need to plan for our future- a future that WILL be disrupted by climate change.

Also- the cost of living in Hamilton is high enough, many of us can't afford for it to rise more as a result of sprawl. Staying in your hometown close to friends and family shouldn't be a luxury few can afford.

Thank you for your time,

Natasia Taylor

4.10 (p)

From: Kathy Garneau

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 12:55 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: [****POSSIBLE SPAM]No Urban Boundary Expansion

Clerk City Clerk,

Hamilton's ward 1 has been my home for more than 20 years. I have run a small theatre here and raised my children. I am writing to urge you to protect our farmland in the upcoming vote on Nov 9th. Please vote the most environmentally and fiscally choice - No Urban Boundary Expansion.

Building new homes on farmland takes away from our ability to grow food. It increases our carbon footprint because more people have to drive greater distances to work and shop.

Homes built on farms make quick money for speculators and developers, but the taxpayers will be on the hook for the rest of time.

As a politician you have a lot of say in the future of Hamiltonians for generations to come. By voting in favour of "No Urban Boundary Expansion" you can make our future greener and more prosperous.

Kathy Garneau

4.10 (q)

From: Danielle Hitchcock

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 1:03 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Stop Sprawl

Clerk City Clerk,

My name is Danielle Hitchcock and I'm writing on behalf of myself, my husband, Willis Welsh and my children. We are residents of ward 14 in Hamilton.

The city needs to listen to the over 90% people in Hamilton who have voted NO I'm favour of more sprawl. It's time to protect our city and the future. We should not be bending to developers when there are so many areas of the city we could already revitalize.

Please, listen to Hamiltonians. Say no to sprawl.

Thanks for your time, Danielle and Willis

Danielle Hitchcock

4.10 (r)

From: Richard Talbot

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 1:26 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Get with it, think about it!

Clerk City Clerk,

My name is Richard Talbot,

I live in ward one, please keep the boundaries intact, and No Sprawl.

Logically, Sprawl is not only expensive, it's irresponsible in terms of the future use of growing our food locally, it will add more vehicles on the road... and only serves a few "ambitious developers".

Don't feel bullied by Ford, stand up and be strong. Last time I checked we still live in a Democracy.

Sincerely,

Richard Talbot

4.10 (s)

From: Kara Jongeling

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 1:27 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: No Sprawl

Clerk City Clerk,

Hi! I am a Ward 2 resident born and raised in Hamilton. I have lived on the mountain most of my life and seeing the farmland shrink since my childhood has become more and more alarming, especially as development continues even though we have so much vacant space throughout the city that is not being utilized. Farmland is precious and cannot be taken back once paved over. On top of that, your citizens do NOT want a boundary expansion because that means higher taxes.

Kara Jongeling

4.10 (t)

From: Chris Pate

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 2:04 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Urban Sprawl

Clerk City Clerk,

Hello,

Please stop urban sprawl! We only have so much farmland in Ontario and once it's gone we are dependant on others. Please build UP not OUT every farm taken away is food out of someone's mouth weather it's Hamilton or other region. It will hit low income the hardest!

Please please consider saving green space and farmland.

Chris Pate

4.10 (u)

From: Doreen Stermann

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 2:13 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: [****POSSIBLE SPAM]No to urban sprawl

Clerk City Clerk,

Hello Council, Mr Mayor, Honourable Premier, MPPs,

As a resident of Ward 1 in Hamilton. I vehemently oppose any further expansion into our limited prime agricultural lands. Why?

1. We have a climate emergency. Expansion leads to more automobiles...more emissions.
2. Canada has only 5% prime arable land and we in Hamilton are blessed to have only a small remaining percentage of that.
3. Covid should have taught us that food security was at risk. Delivery of food from abroad was at risk. Why jeopardize our security by removing valuable farm land? Food INSECURITY leads to chaos in very short order.
4. I am tired of subsidizing urban expansion! We can't afford to maintain our current infrastructure so why put us further into debt.
5. Developers who purchased this land as speculation took a risk their investment would pay out. I am not paying taxes to bail out a land speculator. I don't see my council paying me for any losses risk I incurred in the stock market!
6. We have plenty of vacant, inefficiently used urban spaces already. Stop pandering to lazy developers that only want a quick easy return on their \$.
7. Missing middle housing, is what's needed. If you travel to European cities you notice how they built their cities... 6 stories with shops on the first floor and residential above, walkable neighbourhoods, with exceptional cycling and bus and lrt infrastructure.

As a taxpayer I'm sick and I'm tired of my council not putting principals of climate change and living 8-80 in practice. Is this just a motherhood statement meant to appease us taxpayers?

For those councillors who complain about calls from constituents about the amount of traffic they get in their ward ..one guess on why that's happening! Urban expansion!

Do not ignore the voices of taxpayers that sent in a resounding # of survey responses where 90% said keep the urban boundary as is.

We can't keep doing the same old same old and think we'll get different results.

Be bold. Be on the side of protecting our environment and mitigate the climate crisis we are in. Say no to urban expansion and keep our urban boundary as is.

4.10 (u)

Sincerely

Doreen Stermann

Ward 1

4.10 (v)

From: veronika siwak

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 2:15 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Against urban sprawl

Clerk City Clerk,

Dear Maureen Wilson,

I am a new citizen of Hamilton. I moved here from Windsor and was immediately taken aback by the immense natural beauty of this city. A city like Windsor was bulldozed over and is now a drab community lifeless compared to Hamilton. Increasing urban development boundaries will only take away from long term Hamilton wealth. We do not have a lack of housing areas here. Just down my street I see a street of boarded up houses waiting to be renovated for student housing. I see multiple empty, abandoned buildings around me. We need less single family homes and more apartment buildings. Don't take away what Hamilton is known for. Don't take away what Canada is known for, for the sake of a quick buck.

Sincerely,

A concerned Hamiltonian

veronika siwak

4.10 (w)

From: Gail Lorimer

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 2:34 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: [****POSSIBLE SPAM]No sprawl in Hamilton

Clerk City Clerk,

I am Gail Lorimer in Ward 1 of Hamilton.

I am against sprawl in Hamilton because:

- it will cover useful farmland
- that is bad for the climate
- Hamilton already has difficulties maintaining the infrastructure it has now, so adding to that is wrong
- intensification makes more sense, such as four-storey duplexes.
- intensification will renew and beautify disused urban spaces such as sites where big box stores with huge parking lots used to exist

Please vote against urban sprawl!

Best wishes

Gail Lorimer

4.10 (x)

From: Joanne Patak

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 2:35 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: [****POSSIBLE SPAM]Urban Sprawl

Clerk City Clerk,

Hi there. I moved to Hamilton in 2000 with my husband of the time. And even when I divorced that same year, I decided I could never leave this amazing city every again.

And what makes it so amazing is the incredible greenspace we have everywhere.

Please, do not allow Politics and/or new home builders to sway you from protecting these spaces. All of them! There is so much room for growth within the city. Let's be progressive and build homes for those who need it, right within our amazing city.

Thank you!

Joanne Patak

4.10 (y)

From: Sheila McEwen

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 2:38 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Please Stop Urban Sprawl

Clerk City Clerk,

I'm Sheila McEwen and live in Dundas. I appreciate the luxury of having a single-detached home near protected green spaces and understand others' desire for their own green haven. I also understand that green space is more than a beautiful vista. Green space is wildlife habitat, arable land, stormwater buffer, oxygen production, noise suppression, air quality mitigation, a natural gymnasium, and a spiritual refuge. I've struggled to add my voice, feeling a hypocrite because I am surrounded by a green neighbourhood others can't afford. Still, I believe there are many viable solutions for appealing residential infilling within the built area of Hamilton. Like fellow boomers, in a few years I will move into a condo apartment and hope to find one closer to the inner city. I'd love my future home to be part of Environment Hamilton's infill vision.

Sheila McEwen

4.10 (z)

From: pat kozowyk

Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 2:48 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: save farmland

Clerk City Clerk,

Our household wishes to let you know that we oppose urban sprawl.

Our award winning farm (Premier's regional award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence 2013), is firmly based in the importance of our healthy environment. Urban sprawl is damaging to our community on so many levels, including our shared environment.

We need creative solutions to housing and community spaces (within existing urban areas), not large homes on large lots in the place of farmland and the natural areas that provide buffers that help us cope with climate change.

I am sure you have already heard from residents re:creative solutions for our community. There are many examples, especially addressing affordability.

If you choose the same old path of urban sprawl, you are choosing food insecurity, flooding, higher temperatures, higher taxes, higher carbon emissions, and a death knell to biodiversity.

We cannot afford any of those consequences. Please advocate for no urban sprawl, as it benefits of all of us, especially the young, as it is their future that is in your hands.

Thank you

Pat Kozowyk

Ernst von der Kall