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From: wendy leigh-bell

Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 10:30 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: The urban boundary

Clerk City Clerk,

To the council and provincial officials:

Born in Hamilton, I am a resident of ward 1, together with my husband, formerly our two children now grown up, for the past 30 years. The city currently has what is known as an infrastructure deficit - that is, we lack the money to do the necessary upkeep of existing infrastructure and instead respond to emergencies such as broken water mains instead of updating the whole line. When the city expands into further low density suburban development it does not get the money back in property taxes and development fees to both build and maintain the new roads, expanded transit, Fire, EMS stations etc. Thus, the infrastructure deficit continues to grow. Studies done in Calgary and Ottawa have shown that the ultimate cost to the taxpayers of every new suburban house is from hundreds to thousands PER house. Further, the folk who live in these houses require at least one car per household as public transit tends not to serve them well. They commute further to their jobs. Is th is helping to curb the climate crisis? These are not affordable houses. These are not houses built to high standards of energy conservation. They are going to be built on environmentally sensitive land that is critical for the growing of food, for the absorption of water and flood control. All while we have all sorts of available land within the current boundaries.

The majority of Hamiltonians who said No to the boundary expansion are well aware of the connections the Developers have to the Conservative Party with their generous donations, and their speculative buying up of prime agricultural land. Both municipal and provincial officials would do well to remember this with elections in the offing.

Thank you for your attention in this matter,

Sincerely,

Wendy Leigh-Bell and E. Robert Ross

wendy leigh-bell

Hamilton, Ontario