

**From:** Shannon Graszat

**Sent:** August 6, 2020 8:20 AM

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**Subject:** Commonwealth Games Bid

Hello Mayor Eisenberger, Councillors and all others in favour of the Commonwealth Games Bid,

I am writing to you today as a Ward 2 constituent and asking that this be included in Monday's Agenda as correspondence.

I was extremely disheartened to see that Hamilton has decided to go ahead with the Commonwealth Games bid. Not only do I believe that this is gross negligence on the part of the City, I believe there are many better ways we can spend the money, including a current situation that my Ward 2 councillor Jason Farr(cc'ed) recently commented on, which is the homeless encampments currently within our City. This is a prime example of a few problems (homelessness, affordable housing) that the City could instead divert funds to instead of a very short event that will have little to no positive impact on our City and it's residents. I strongly urge you to reconsider your bid as we look to recover from Covid deficits, and as we see no other cities putting forward bids at this time because of their forward thinking to the larger picture of where we currently stand.

In addition to this, I could name dozens of other better ways to spend the money that would instead benefit our residents(Infrastructure, social housing, fixing potholes, etc). I urge you to strongly consider voting NO to an event that will likely cost us hundreds of millions of dollars and very surely to go over budget at that. Historically it has been shown that the burden of these games will impact the taxpayers negatively.

To even consider this during this pandemic is dangerous and I implore you to vote NO in regards to Hamilton bidding on hosting the Commonwealth Games.

Thank you.

Shannon Graszat