

## Sandy Shaw

MPP, Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas

Emergency & Community Services Committee Hamilton City Hall 71 Main St. W. L8P 4Y5

February 2nd 2022

Mayor Eisenberger and Council,

I am writing to offer my enthusiastic support for the project proposed by *The Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters*. We are facing a housing crisis across Ontario. In Hamilton, the number of residents living rough and in encampments continues to grow and service providers are overwhelmed. The cold winter temperatures and the omicron variant have complicated this dangerous situation.

The HATS project offers a safer, more dignified solution with wraparound supports which can be implemented almost immediately. A similar project in Waterloo Region is in its seventh month and is showing early success, meaning there is a local model to learn from. I want to emphasize that this is not the permanent solution we need in order to end houselessness. However, this is a collaborative temporary solution for our communities while we work towards a fully funded housing strategy.

I urge the City of Hamilton to offer the support necessary to move this critical project forward. I commend my colleagues and our compassionate Hamilton community members who are behind this effort and I offer my sincere hope for their success.

Sincerely,

Sandy Shaw

MPP Hamilton West—Ancaster—Dundas Critic, Environment, Conservation and Parks

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