

From: Vivien Underdown

Sent: Friday, February 25, 2022 8:48 AM

To: Office of Ward 3 City Councillor Nrinder Nann <ward3@hamilton.ca>; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Publicly Fund Hamilton Bike Share

Dear Mayor Eisenberger, Councillor Nann, and City Clerk,

I'm emailing to request that you vote **in favour** of publicly funding Hamilton Bike Share. As a born and raised Hamiltonian, the emergence of Bike Share is one of the reasons I am proud of this City.

It has been a central mode of transportation for me over a number of years. I'm asking you to vote in favour, for the following reasons:

1. It is a main feature that I consider when choosing where to live. When I moved away from Hamilton for University, the bike share and cycling infrastructure in Montreal was eye opening. When SoBi launched in Hamilton, it made me feel proud and contributed to my return to this City. It is now a central mode of transportation for me.

2. When I was low-income, it was essential to my participation in this City. For a number of years after university, I was considered low-income as I worked through various precarious jobs and internships trying to land stable and fulfilling employment. Bike Share offered an affordable way to travel across the City to enjoy our beautiful parks, visit friends/family, enjoy new restaurants and support local businesses.

3. We are in a climate crisis, and it helps me choose to not own a car. Alternative modes of transportation are critical. Bike Share has been essential for me, and I use Communauto car share when I need a car.

4. Owning a bike is a risky option. I got a bike when I first moved to Ward 3. It was locked in my backyard, and was stolen. My apartment doesn't have enough space to store a bike indoors. I work a non-profit job and can't afford to continuously buy new bikes. Bike Share offers me a stress-free, accessible alternative.

5. Owning a car is not even an option. Let's assume the environment wasn't big enough of a reason, owning a car isn't feasible anymore. For one, there is not enough parking. And most importantly, the cost of living in this City is out of control. I am even seriously considering leaving the non-profit sector to work at a bank just so I can live a decent life. I am even more seriously considering where I might need to move to in order to build the life I want to live.

I am 30 and choosing where I may want to make and raise a family.

Will that be Hamilton?

Please vote in favour of creating a Hamilton where young people can live, work and play.

Sincerely,

Vivien Underdown
Ward 3 Resident