

From: Ryan LaFlamme
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2022 10:28 AM
To: Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca>
Subject: Correspondence for Inclusion in Wednesday's GIC agenda

To members of council:

I write to you to express my opposition and to ask that you do not commit the city any further to a Commonwealth Games bid. I agree with many other citizens that the Commonwealth Games bid is a colossal waste of city staff time and city budget. Given the litany of structural, public safety, health and welfare issues plaguing this city, not to mention the massive deficit in capital funds for repairs, this is no way a priority or a reasonable decision from any perspective.

Additionally, this is in no way a decision that should be made by a government on the eve of an election. There are huge implications across much of the city for this type of undertaking, and should be left to those that will be here over the course of said process to listen and engage with Hamiltonians, not ram through a literal earth moving decision at the 11th hour.

Those decision makers who will not have to live with the results of these decisions also raise great concern, as it is possible once freed from any legal conflicts, they will seek personal reward as "consultants" or other paid positions with the Games they in fact approved. It calls to question whose interest is this in? The people of the city who rely on their elected representatives to do what's best, or their own?

For these and many other reasons, I submit this is not the prudent, ethical or reasonable path for city council to undertake on behalf of the people of Hamilton. To quote another submission, "If it truly is in the best interests of Hamiltonians to be involved in the Games, proponents should make their case [to the public] and let voters decide."

Thank you.