

From: [Carson, Katie](#)
To: [Kolar, Loren](#)
Subject: FW: Board of Health Report - Public Beach Signage and Water Testing
Date: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 11:03:26 AM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

From: Lakewood Beach Community Council <LakewoodBeachCC@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 26, 2022 10:34 AM
To: DL - Council Only <dlcouncilonly@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Board of Health Report - Public Beach Signage and Water Testing

Dear Honourable Mayor & Council,

Further to our correspondence dated March 17th regarding the public beach in our community, we now see that Staff was provided with direction "to prepare an evaluation of the beach area ... to determine if it can be classified as a public beach, with a report back to a future Board of Health meeting"

It appears to us that Council wishes to find out what the municipality **has** to do before you decide on what **should** be done in the interests of Public Health & Safety.

Hence, for your information, a quick Google search for the definition of a Public Beach in the *Operational Approaches for Recreational Water Guideline, 2018* is as follows:

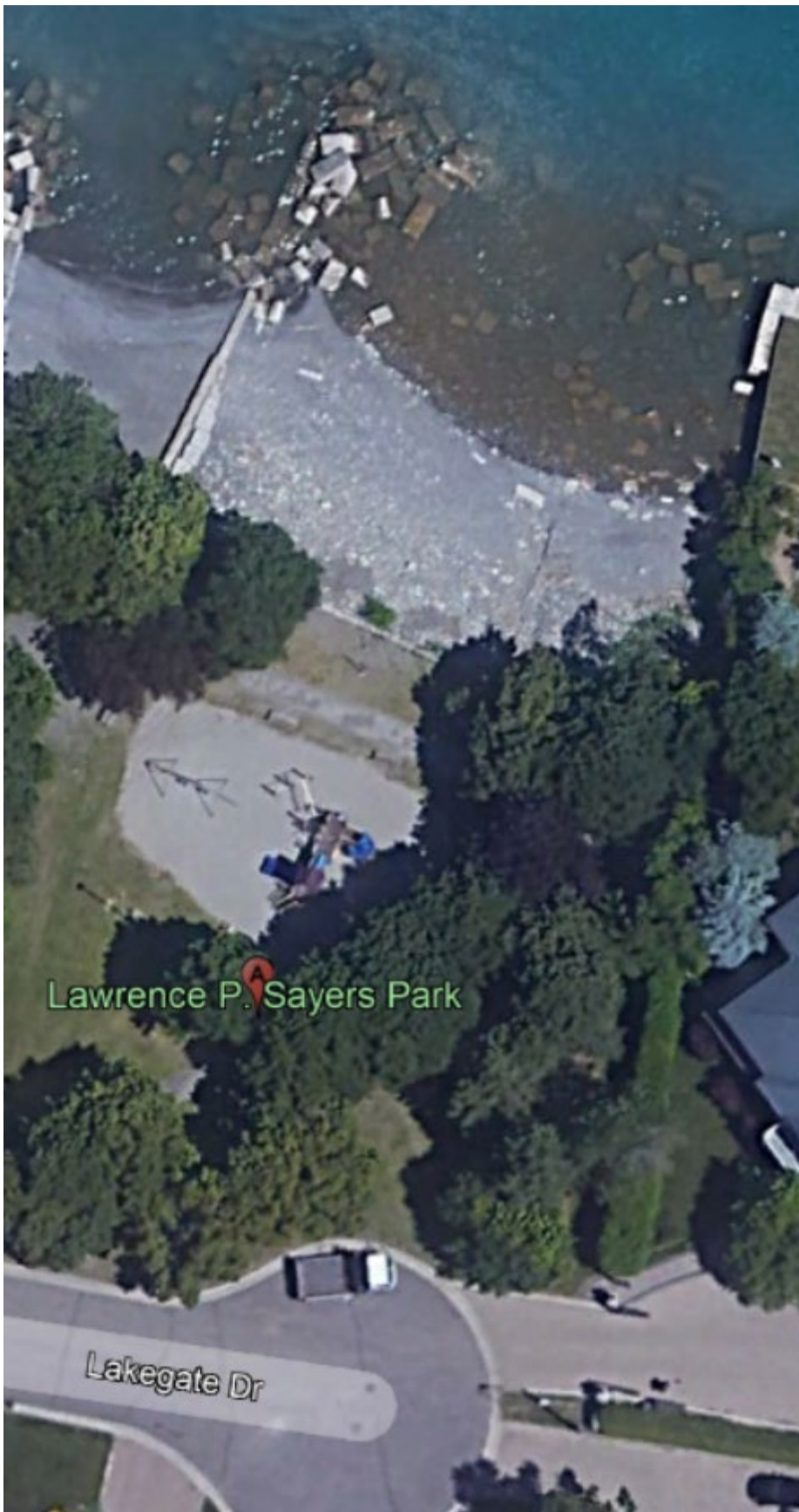
Public Beach: includes any public bathing area owned/operated by a municipality to which the general public has access, and where there is reason to believe that there is recreational use of the water (e.g., beach signage, sectioned off swimming area, water safety/rescue equipment, lifeguard chairs, etc.), which may result in waterborne illness or injury as determined by the local medical officer of health.

While we appreciate this matter has finally gotten your attention, do we really need to waste City resources / Staff's time /Council's time on an exercise that a quick google search can provide?

Bush beach (our name for it) **is clearly a Public Beach**. It is located on municipally owned property and it has 2 mostly paved/groomed access points from the Waterfront Trail (as per pic below) with City of Hamilton posted signage that access is restricted after 11 p.m. There is, and always has been, recreational use by many citizens in the area. ***The water quality should be tested.***



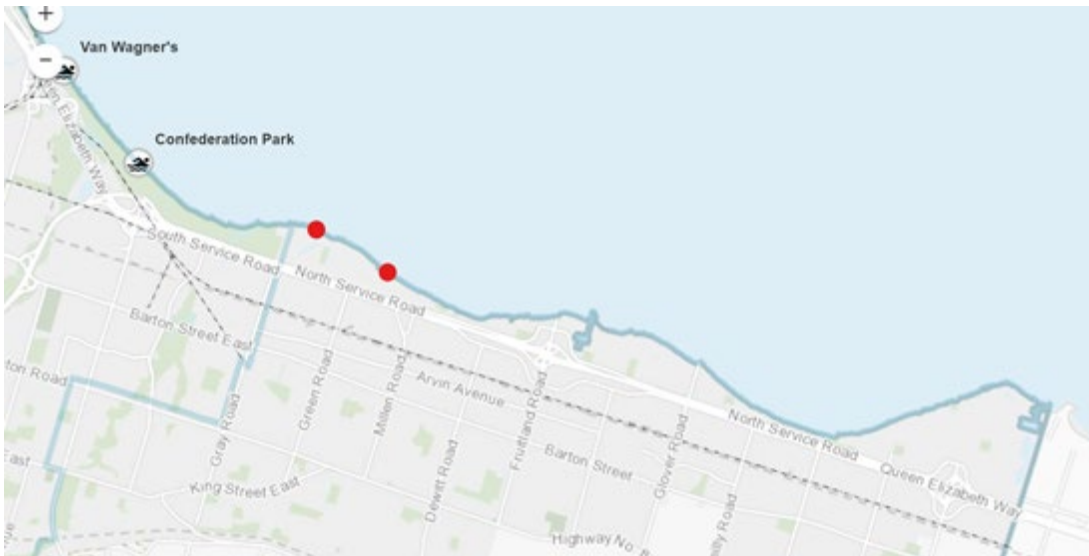
In addition, it has also occurred to us the **public** beach at the **public** Lawrence P Sayers parkette on Lakegate should also be tested. (see pic)



Although our previous email stated the beach at Fifty Point Conservation beach is tested, we

should clarify that this testing does not appear to be conducted by the City of Hamilton. It is the Township of Grimsby which does the testing of that beach.

Hence, there is a significant stretch of Lake Ontario that is not currently tested by the City of Hamilton. For your ease, the pic below is the 2 spots where testing occurs within the old Hamilton boundaries, and the red dots are the 2 public beaches in our community that are not currently tested. Lawrence P Sayers parkette's beach is located ~ 2.15 km from the Confed Park testing location and Bush beach is located ~ 3 km from the Confed Park testing location. As you can see, there are no City of Hamilton testing locations at all in the former Stoney Creek/Fruitland/Winona lakefront strip.



In our opinion, a Staff Report is not needed on whether these beaches "can be classified as public beaches" and such a report is a waste of resources.

In our respectful submission, we have provided you with enough information to address the community's concerns & Council should provide direction to Staff for at least 1 of these 2 public beaches to be added to the list of beaches that are tested for water quality; if not both.

Kind regards,

Viv / Anna / Nancy

Lakewood Beach Community Council

From: Lakewood Beach Community Council

Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2022 2:38:12 PM

To: loren.kolar@hamilton.ca <loren.kolar@hamilton.ca>

Cc: Hamilton Council <dlcouncilonly@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Board of Health ? INFORMATION ? Report on Public Beach Signage

Dear Mayor & Council,

Generally Information Reports are to receive and not discussed. We trust Council will make an exception in this case.

To begin with, we've previously pointed out that Hamilton doesn't have only 7 public beaches. It has 8; granted the 8th one in Ward 10 is mostly under water in the Spring and prior to new developments was a little hidden gem. With the developments between Green Rd and Millen, this public beach is now however well used. Just this past summer there was a lot of inquiries about whether the water quality was okay due to some residents noticing the postings at Confed but further east, it wasn't until a few days later signs were posted at Fifty Conservation. In the middle of the 2 beaches, there's another pubic beach which NEVER gets tested and attempts to get it tested or find out why it isn't tested have fallen on deaf ears. (see pic below for location).

Hence, we are formally requesting Board of Health direct that our community beach be added to the list of beaches to be tested.

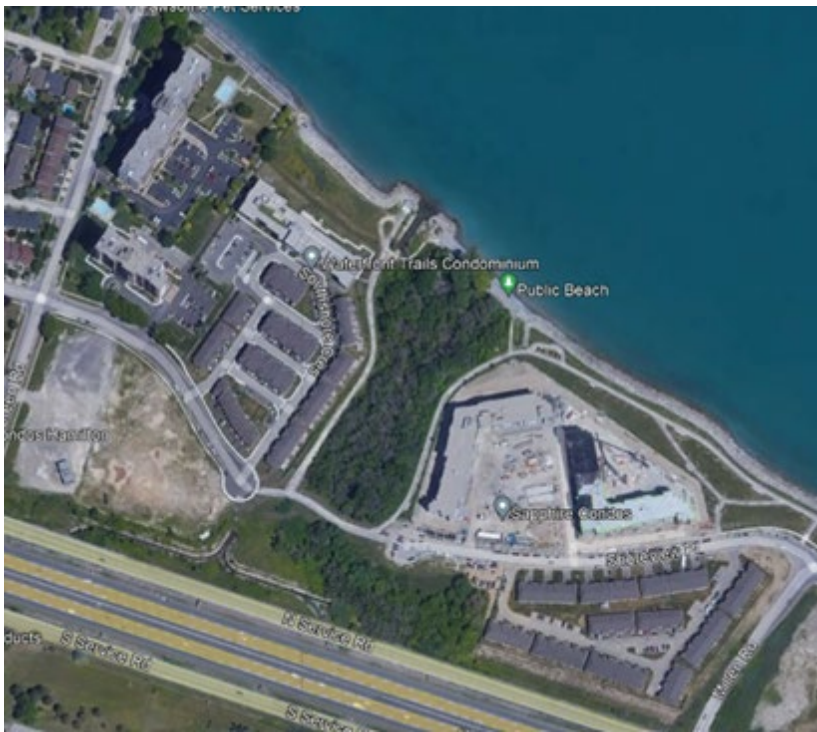
Secondly, not all of us who walk (with and without our dogs usually first thing in the morning) and not all of our children who head to the beaches (#8 and at Confed) have access or will think to check the city's website on **a daily basis**

Respectfully, in our opinion it is the city's responsibility to ensure everyone's health is your top priority & that anyone about to go for a dip or let their dog drink the water know at the time whether it's safe or not.

As such, we are asking for the Postings at our beaches to continue in the same manner as previous years.

Kindest regards,

Viv / Anna/ Nancy
Lakewood Beach Community Council



P.S. If there's a naming contest for this beach please let us know. We believe New Horizons has referred to it as Ethel? beach in their sales materials but it would be fun if the residents got to choose a name. Graduation Beach seems fitting based on the historical usage.