Pilon, Janet

Subject: NO BOUNDARY EXPANSION

From: Robyn Hansen

Sent: March 28, 2021 7:24 PM

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<u>TLDR:</u> NO BOUNDARY EXPANSION under the new Provincial planning methods and delay any further land needs planning until after public in-person consultations occur

Good evening,

In recent days, I have learned that the councillors of the City of Hamilton are deciding on March 29, 2021, if Hamilton should expand its urban boundary by developing the Greenbelt under the new provincial planning methods. As a Hamilton citizen I am hopeful that the councillors will advocate against boundary expansion. With global warming on the rise, it critical that we preserve what is left of our beautiful and resourceful natural land. We need to maintain the lots that are currently zoned for agricultural use as we need to ensure that local-grown food is available for generations to come. We have learned in this pandemic how important having access to local-grown food is, as we cannot always rely on other countries to provide this safely and timely. We need to make sure we keep natural areas, like forests, healthy so that the trees can work to diminish the carbon dioxide levels in the environment. The provincial government is trying to make it seem that Hamilton will have an enormous demand for single-family dwellings in the near future – however the demand RIGHT NOW is for action against climate change! Destroying farmland and land that has not yet been developed will not be helpful to any Ontarians in the long run. We cannot enjoy life if the environment is in shambles. If people are looking to move to Hamilton for new job opportunities, that is great, but the development needs to be where those jobs are located. Developers need to create residences that are close to these jobs so that commuting is reduced/eliminated. Destroying the Greenbelt is not the answer to this! I hope that you support the futures of your constituents and the future of the environment by voting against the expansion of Hamilton's urban boundary expansion. At the very least, please delay any land needs planning until public in-person consultations can occur safely.

Sincerely,

Robyn Hansen

I am a Ward 15 constituent.