

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** Freeze Hamilton's Urban Boundary

**From:** Mary Anne Peters

**Sent:** March 28, 2021 8:48 AM

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**Subject:** Freeze Hamilton's Urban Boundary

Hello,

I am a resident of Ward 13 and I am writing today in advance of March 29th's City Council meeting and vote on whether to expand the urban boundary. I strongly believe that Hamilton must freeze its urban boundary to be able to respond to the climate emergency and create a liveable future city.

Please follow the example of Halton Region and delay Hamilton's Official Review Plans. Now is not the time to make critical decisions about the future of land use planning because COVID restrictions make it difficult for full and adequate citizens consultation. Hamilton's Strategic Plan makes a commitment to community engagement and participation: "Citizens are consulted and involved in making the decisions that impact them." COVID has also made it difficult for many people to focus on much beyond surviving the immediate challenges.

While COVID is a threat to our immediate survival, climate change is a bigger threat, as the City of Hamilton recognized when it declared a climate emergency. Land use planning is the most important tool the city has to respond to this threat. Despite the Ford government's affinity for urban sprawl, Hamilton should stay the course with its smart intensification plan.

Yours sincerely,  
Mary Anne Peters  
Dundas, ON