

From: Christine Seketa
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 11:43 AM
To: Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca>
Subject: Hamilton 2023 Budget Delegation and Letter of Submission

2023 City of Hamilton Budget (Submission From 14 For Progress)

Dear Mayor & Councillors,

Congratulations on your election win and inauguration. We look forward to working with you to ensure Hamilton is one of the best cities in Canada. As you start public deliberations on the 2023 budget, on behalf of Ward 14 constituents, we would like to highlight four items that are of significant concern for ward residents. We want to bring these issues forward during the budget deliberation to ensure they are prioritized in your discussions and decisions.

- 1. Affordable Housing** - The housing crunch in Hamilton is affecting a wide section of residents, a number in search of transitional housing, social housing, rent-geared-to-income housing, “affordable” market rent housing, market rental housing, and home ownership. We would like to see more money invested in City Housing to renovate empty units in Ward 14 and across our City. As the discussion of urban sprawl persists, we encourage Council to be financially prudent in maximizing revenue from multi-residential buildings within the urban boundary instead of sprawling into our Greenbelt.
- 2. Park Enhancements** - The parks in Ward 14 need continued nurturing; for example, Gilkson Park and the path through Mountview Park needs new lights so children and families can access the park and basketball courts at night. Carpenter Park needs new water fountains, and for larger parks such as Shawanigan residents are requesting more animation and public use such as community gardens and farmers markets.
- 3. Street Safety Enhancements** – For families, like mine, seniors, and parents, street safety is a major concern. There have been some installations of speed cushions in the Gilkson neighbourhood on Garrow Drive and Cranbrook; however, there are more neighbourhood streets that need safety enhancements.

We want Council to fund the recommendations in the 2021 Complete Streets Review this term.
- 4. After-School Programs on the Mountain** - On the West Mountain, there are minimal after-school programs that support children, youth, and young adults. As such, families, youth, and young adults have to travel downtown to access supports such as aftercare, employment support and homework support.

5. **Bike Lanes** - As a resident of Ward 14, we are seeking more active transportation modes to connect with other parts of the City and within the Ward. Of particular interest to us are protected bike lanes on Scenic Road, Bendemere, and Limeridge Road West, and a protected intersection at the corner of Upper Paradise and Mohawk Rd to ensure Ward 14 residents are safe.

Thank you for your time, and we hope to see budgetary commitments made to these issues in your February 2023 meeting, as we will be back to address Council on these crucial issues.

Sincerely,
Christine Seketa