I urge Council to develop & pursue a comprehensive, 'Made-In-Hamilton' plan for growing the Greenbelt in our community by adding this plan to the City's Community Energy & Emissions Plan. This means ensuring that the entirety of our city's urban river valleys are recognized and protected, and it means that all remaining prime farmland located in the 'whitebelt' lands wedged between urban Hamilton and the Greenbelt, is brought into the Greenbelt and protected. The vision for a 'Made in Hamilton' plan is to grow the Greenbelt in a meaningful way and center on three key elements: whitebelt farmland; urban river valleys; and all wetlands, coldwater streams and headwaters areas. I applaud Council for declaring a Climate Emergency back in 2019 & urge you to continue your good intentions with an action plan that moves Hamilton towards meeting the targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework as outlined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Thank you.

Joanna Sargent