

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Save the Greenbelt Meeting, Sept 14, Ancaster Fair Grounds

From: Leigh, William

Sent: September 14, 2023 4:23 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Cc: Sshaw-QP@ndp.on.ca

Subject: Save the Greenbelt Meeting, Sept 14, Ancaster Fair Grounds

Dear Sir or Madame:

We wish to add our voices to those expressing opposition to the provincial government's plan to meet its housing targets through the development of several tracts of land that are currently protected within the Greenbelt. Each of the municipalities impacted by the plan, including Hamilton, have submitted plans for housing growth within existing urban boundaries, utilizing space that is already supported by infrastructure and which is in need of renewal. Given this, the province's rejection of these plans in favor of expanding urban boundaries through the development of protected Greenbelt land makes no sense, unless the goal is to benefit the small group of developers who stand to make billions if the lands are released.

Two consecutive summers of record-breaking heat waves, wildfires, and violent storms are a clear indication that among other things, we need to stop paving over farm- and forestland in the interest of urban expansion. We can accomplish what needs to be done without encroaching on protected lands, and in a way that utilizes and rejuvenates existing infrastructure within our city.

We implore the province to reverse its decision to remove lands from the Greenbelt for urban expansion.

Sincerely,

William and Jo-Anne Leigh