

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Ancaster Greenbelt meeting.

From: Coreen Skeba

Sent: September 14, 2023 4:37 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; craig.cassar@hamilton.casshaw-gp; donna.skelly@pc.ola.org; Office of the Mayor
<Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Ancaster Greenbelt meeting.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this email to show a perspective on the Ancaster greenbelt from a younger family who in fact lives in the neighbourhood.

It is disheartening to see how this scenario is being handled by citizens who are NOT even a part of this community. I was unable to make the last meeting, and unfortunately I am uncomfortable attending the meeting that is being held this evening due to the behaviour of people who are opposed to the greenbelt changes. I really wanted to attend on behalf of many many families who are in fact a part of the Ancaster community, but from what I have heard and seen on the news and what had transpired at the last meeting, I won't even be able to be heard over the "riot like" opposing views of people from downtown hamilton, Waterdown, burlington etc. It is BEYOND frustrating knowing that people who are not even affected by this community are acting in a bullish manner and scaring ancaster residents away to the point that we are not able to have our opinions heard!

Please know that I speak for many families in the area, and I am not a landowner. I am a mother of two young children who attend a catholic school here. I live on a street with other young families and growing children. MANY young families who are a part of this community would love to see this greenbelt be opened up to other opportunities for homes, play grounds, skate parks etc.

Ancaster has been growing over the years and attracting many young families, but unfortunately we are lacking some recreational structures that support the demographic. Many parks throughout "Old Ancaster" are very outdated and do not appeal to a large enough age group to have them being beneficial. The Ancaster outdoor pool has been booked solid for the last two years. In order to even book a spot for an outdoor pool during the summer was over a one month wait. There was also a petition that went around back in 2017 begging for a skate park for the younger youth who live here, but nothing ever came of it.

As I drive down book rd and shaver on a daily basis, it is a shame to watch all of that land (that can not even be used as farmland) just sit there and go to waste. Those lands can help build homes to those who both need it and want to come to Ancaster. Those lands can help build a vibrant community and supply more outdoor recreational facilities that will help bring families together and grow. It is a shame that I have lived here for over 10 years and watched this area transition so slowly, but always felt as though it was left unfinished.

These parcels are not proper farmland, and we're never supposed to be in the Greenbelt to begin with. Many families are hoping that the Council listens to the Ancaster Residents (as opposed to citizens who do not even live here) and make the right decision by moving forward with this greenbelt change so that Ancaster stands a chance of being exactly the kind of community all of these families have been looking for!

I'm tired of having to drive to Waterdown so my kids can play at the skatepark, I'm tired of going into Brantford so they can use the pump tracks with their bikes, I'm tired of going to everyone else's communities as a family to go swimming. Lets keep our families in Ancaster where they belong!

I have been unable to find any website where I can vote on what structures these families would LOVE to see built. My vote is to add updated parks, splash pad, outdoor pool, or a skatepark!

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Coreen S.