

From: Connie Barry
Sent: June 14, 2023 10:07 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Comments on Stormwater Funding Structure

Dear Legislative Coordinator June 13, 2023
General Issues Committee

RE: Stormwater Funding Structure Review

I wish to express my support for the City initiating a dedicated Stormwater Funding system. This will provide a reliable and fair source of funding for municipal studies, projects and maintenance to better manage stormwater in the City's urban limits. This will also ensure that the City of Hamilton aligns its stormwater funding alongside other progressive municipalities across Ontario, Canada and the US.

A couple of key comments as you move to implementation for your consideration:

1. Stormwater Rates will need to be set so that they best reflect the stormwater services being provided now and in the future. Given that virtually 100% of the stormwater management needs are within the urban limits, it is strongly suggested that rural properties be exempted from the charge. This perspective is based on the fact that rural properties do not contribute added drainage to waterways nor do they require major conveyance systems (only roadside ditches which are not actively maintained and are part of roadway maintenance).
2. The implementation of a stormwater rate should come with a corresponding reduction in property taxes akin to the amount currently being dedicated to stormwater projects.

Thank you for this opportunity and good luck with the process to establishing a stormwater funding structure.

Connie Barry