

Subject: Pedestrian Safety on Main & King St.

From: Jeanette Eby

Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 10:10 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Cc: Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Pedestrian Safety on Main & King St.

To Hamilton City Council,

I am writing this in support of Councillor Maureen Wilson and Councillor Nrinder Nann's motion calling for interventions to improve safety on Main St. and King St. I fully agree that our roadways need to be built for safety FIRST, and be conducive to community well-being and not for speed. Roads need to be safe for all of us - pedestrians, cyclists, public transit riders and drivers. The deaths and injuries caused by vehicles this year especially, and in years past, are unacceptable.

I am a Ward 2 resident and have navigated the streets of Hamilton as a cyclist, pedestrian, and driver. I actively avoid King and Main St. as a cyclist and am constantly concerned for the pedestrians who use these streets to walk to amenities and services that they need. I have been hit on my bike on Cannon St. and experienced many "near misses" as a cyclist and pedestrian.

I have also worked for Good Shepherd in Hamilton for the past 12 years. One of the buildings I work at is located right at Main and Locke in Ward 1, and safety for our tenants at this building has been an ongoing concern. Many have mobility challenges and their only option to get where they need to is to walk along Main St. or get into a DARTS vehicle or taxi right at that intersection. The other building is close to Main and Wentworth, with similar concerns for those who are walking on Main and King and crossing busy intersections.

I hope Council will take steps to move forward with the immediate measures that can enhance safety, such as expanding pedestrian space, closing lanes, and addressing the synchronized traffic lights. I support the longer term proposal to convert Main St. to two-way and have a complete streets design with safety for all users as the number one goal. It is time that Hamilton designs its streets for safe use for all, and for community health.

Thank you. Sincerely,

Jeanette Eby
Ward 2 Resident