

Bates, Tamara

Subject: FW: City of Hamilton Development Charges

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From: Richard Johnson < >

Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 11:38 AM

To: Bates, Tamara <Tamara.Bates@hamilton.ca>

Cc: maureen.wilson@hamilton.ca; Kroetsch, Cameron <Cameron.Kroetsch@hamilton.ca>; Hwang, Tammy <Tammy.Hwang@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca>; Tadeson, Mark <Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Alex <Alex.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Spadafora, Mike <Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca>

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Good day Ms. Bates and City Councillors:

I hope that you and your families are well. My name is Rick Johnson and I reside in Ward 11 in the Village of Mount Hope. It is my understanding that your committee will be meeting on Thursday, Feb. 22 fro discuss the subject of City development charges and specifically for developers who want to build monstrous and unsightly warehouses on prime farmland and wetlands in the City of Hamilton. It is common knowledge that the City of Hamilton has offered significant financial discounts to land developers in the past to encourage development. I want to go on record right with you as adamantly opposing any further discounts on development charges for any reason at any time for land developers. This practice has to stop now and in fact, I would fully support raising the rate of development charges to these same groups. No Hamilton taxpayer should be responsible for any financial shortfall in development charges revenue due to discounts handed out by the City to any developer! I want no part of paying for the enormous profits that accrue to developers especially when they have received City of Hamilton development charge discounts.

Let me be more than clear, please. **NO MORE DEVELOPMENT CHARGE DISCOUNTS** for any reason at any time to any developer seeking such and in fact, I do support **AN INCREASE IN DEVELOPMENT CHARGES** to developers doing business with the City of Hamilton. It is bad enough that industrial sprawl threatens our farmland and wetlands around the Hamilton Airport. I do not want to be on the hook for any part of this practice in my residential city taxes. The whole City approval of approximately \$500,000,000 which we cannot afford for roadways around the Airport was ludicrously and astronomically over the top given the nature of the financial times that we find ourselves in. We don't need any more sweetheart deals for developers to compound these financial issues. When you team that up with approved budget items like \$60,000,000 for bike lanes, we are making financial commitments which will put us in the red for far too many years placing unacceptable stress on the backs of residential owners! To wrap up - **NO DEVELOPMENT CHARGE DISCOUNTS** for land developers!

Thank you for receiving my comments on this matter and I look forward to your committee fully supporting my position on this issue. Homeowners are saturated by financial demands already and don't need any further demands on their ability to pay!

Sincerely,

Rick Johnson

Mount Hope, Ontario