

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Mayor Horwath's Veto

From: Steve Collura

Sent: March 31, 2024 1:03 PM

To: Thorne, Jason <Jason.Thorne@hamilton.ca>; Robichaud, Steve <Steve.Robichaud@hamilton.ca>; Toman, Charlie <Charlie.Toman@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; Ward 1 Office <ward1@hamilton.ca>; Ward 2 <ward2@hamilton.ca>; Office of Ward 3 City Councillor Nrinder Nann <ward3@hamilton.ca>; Ward 4 <ward4@hamilton.ca>; Francis, Matt <Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Ward 8 Office <ward8@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca>; Tadeson, Mark <Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca>; Ward 12 Office <ward12@hamilton.ca>; Ward 13 <ward13@hamilton.ca>; Spadafora, Mike <Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca>; McMeekin, Ted <Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Mayor Horwath's Veto

Every issue that is put before our City Council is an important issue to someone in this city.

The result of every Council vote has the potential to impact a Hamiltonian's life, for better or for worse.

But no matter the issue before Council, they are all subjected to the same democratic process.

A process enshrined in equal representation, transparency, accountability, and civic engagement - a process that safeguards against tyranny and oppression - a process that fosters a healthy community.

When you bestow upon one individual the power to veto a democratic vote, you disregard and disrespect the very process that this great city and country were built on.

I fear Mayor Horwath's mayoral veto regarding Stoney Creek housing, if not refused by council, will be the dawn of a dark age for municipal politics in Hamilton.

I am asking all members of Council to please think of the larger implications of these powers and to please refuse this veto.

This week, the mayor is using these powers to impose a building in a location the Stoney Creek community is telling her they do not want it. Next week, she may use these powers to impose something unwanted on your constituents.

The Doug-Ford-given "super mayor" powers are an insult to every man and woman who have served our country and paid the ultimate price to protect our democracy and freedoms.

How ironic it is that you, Mayor Horwath, have chosen to exercise your veto powers to bulldoze, of all places, Veteran's Lane.

The veto power is dangerous, irresponsible, and inarguably un-Canadian.

I am ashamed and embarrassed to live in a city with a mayor who can't see this veto power for what it is. %

Steve Collura He/Him/His