

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Letter to Council

From: Joshua Weresch
Sent: November 20, 2023 3:45 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
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To the mayor and councillors of Hamilton, Ontario's council:

Hope this finds you well. I write as a resident in Ward 8, a life-long resident in Hamilton, with my wife and 4 children. I write as a life-long Christian.

It has come to my attention that Councillors Maureen and Alex Wilson have requested one-time community safety funding for security cameras for Jewish synagogues and the Jewish Family Services in Wards 1 and 13, respectively. I am grateful to hear of their concern for the safety and protection of Jews in Hamilton and I hope that Council will pass these motions with unanimity. I am concerned, however, that the protection of mosques and of Islamic social and cultural institutions was not also offered, hope that community consultations with mosques and cultural institutions were held, and would ask that the mayor or councillors move a motion to extend the same amount of one-time community safety funding to mosques and those religious institutions, funding which the mosques and institutions are, of course, free to accept or reject. The Mountain and downtown mosques, the Islamic schools in the city, their faithful and students are equally at risk and need support, care, and safety, too.

Thank you for your time and attention in these regards. I hope that equal dignity will be supported, unanimously.

Respectfully,

Joshua Weresch