

Bates, Tamara

Subject: FW: AEGD developer charges

From: Steve Chalastra < >
Sent: Sunday, April 28, 2024 4:52 PM
To: Steve Chalastra < >
Subject: AEGD developer charges

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Dear Councillors,

As a mostly progressive council, I assume you are all aware of the significance of wetlands in general and the Garner Marsh in particular.

It is the last original wetland in the headwaters and surrounded by valuable farmland that produces much of our local fruits and vegetables.

Like all wetlands, it acts as a regulator to help minimize flooding as well as being a sanctuary for all types of birds, amphibians, reptiles, and insects.

And yet the encroachment of the AEGD into the marsh and surrounding farmland is one more step in the destruction of these incredibly important natural habitats. As if the Ford government hasn't already done enough by eviscerating the OWES system and our conservation areas.

What do you value most, this irreplaceable feature we're so lucky to have or yet more warehouses and concrete parking lots for the benefit of companies like Amazon that fly in goods at the expense of the environment (air freight creates almost 50 times more greenhouse gases than lake shipping for every ton-mile), destroying our local bricks-and-mortar commercial infrastructure in the process?

To add insult to injury, it beggars belief that you would even consider discounting development charges to subsidize this sort of destruction.

If warehouses are to be built, surely it would be more sensible to locate them in Hamilton's industrial port lands where residential housing would be problematic?

Sincerely,
Steve Chalastra