

**Bates, Tamara**

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**Subject:** FW: development charges**From:** E. Robert Ross <>**Sent:** Monday, April 29, 2024 10:52 PM**To:** Bates, Tamara <Tamara.Bates@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Kroetsch, Cameron <Cameron.Kroetsch@hamilton.ca>; Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>; Hwang, Tammy <Tammy.Hwang@hamilton.ca>; Francis, Matt <Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Danko, John-Paul <John-Paul.Danko@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca>; Tadeson, Mark <Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca>; Cassar, Craig <Craig.Cassar@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Alex <Alex.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Spadafora, Mike <Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca>; McMeekin, Ted <Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca>**Subject:** development charges**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Dear City Council and Staff:

I am writing to express my dismay at the city plan to offer development charge discounts to developers. This would encourage the further destruction of wetlands and other green space. It is common knowledge that building on unserviced land is less economical than building on serviced land and will increase our infrastructure deficit. The cost to maintain infrastructure built to service low density residential areas, has caused our infrastructure deficit, necessitating the frequent emergency repairs of existing infrastructure due to our inability to replace and repair aging existing infrastructure in a timely fashion.

Why then, would we (the taxpayers) take on the building and maintenance costs of more infrastructure?

We know that because the storm and sewage pipes are common, the volume of stormwater runoff together with human waste overwhelms the sewage treatment plant every time it rains, causing untreated sewage to run into the lake.

Besides the common pipes, we know that heavy rain events, and too much paved land cause the frequent pollution. Paved land has been rendered impermeable to rain water and adds oily residues to the storm water runoff.

Why pave over even more land, especially wetlands?

We know that due to the climate change crisis, (declared by the city), the frequency with which we will experience heavy rain events will increase.

Finally, we know that wetlands are the biggest absorbers of rain water during these events.

The city must preserve its green space, wetlands, in order to prevent augmentation of the infrastructure deficit, prevent flooding,

pollution of Lake Ontario with untreated sewage, and the destruction of our precious wetlands, and the wealth of biodiversity contained therein.

There is simply no justification for the destruction of wetlands - the key to our climate change resiliency. The citizenry of Hamilton have made it

abundantly clear that they are not in favour of extending the urban boundary and the destruction of sensitive areas of biodiversity.

Sincerely,

Wendy Leigh-Bell

E.Robert Ross

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Hamilton, Ontario