

**Bates, Tamara**

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**Subject:** FW: \$71M in City-granted DC exemptions passed on to taxpayers

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**From:** Elizabeth Knight < >

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 1, 2024 9:25 AM

**Subject:** \$71M in City-granted DC exemptions passed on to taxpayers

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Dear Councillors, Mayor and Clerk,

Please add to the Audit and Finance meeting agenda, my objection to continuing the City's practice of giving industrial developers a 37% exemption on development charges.

The staff report says the City budgeted \$93.3M in losses between the Province's and the City's DC exemptions. Now that the Province is considering a reversal, the report says there will be a "positive impact" if the City goes ahead with City-granted DC exemptions to the tune of **\$71M?**

Councillors who vote for a DC bylaw for Hamilton which includes industrial developer DC exemptions of any kind are voting to transfer a portion of that total lost revenue straight to taxpayers. Therefore, as a Hamilton taxpayer, I do not support a 37% exemption, nor a gradual phase out of that exemption over 10 years for industrial development on greenfields. Let industrial developers build on already contaminated areas and provide them a grant to remediate the land. This would be a net win for Hamilton.

Don't fall for the fear mongering narrative of billion dollar multinational corporations who threaten that they will build elsewhere. They won't. They will stay, they will build and either they will pay the DCs or taxpayers will.

Thank you

Elizabeth Knight