

Written submission dated Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

to the General Issues Committee for Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Issues with encampment at the Delta Parkette and personal thought on Gage Park

Since, January 2024, I have sent at least 5 complaints ( once it got too much to avoid ) to the unsheltered staff and the office of Ward 3 about the encamped at the Delta Parkette. When it was suggested to me that I call the Hamilton Police Service too, I contacted them regarding the Parkette.

We all know those at the Parkette are trespassing on that property. We all know that it is not a feasible property for any kind of encampment. So my question is, if it is illegal for the tents and people to be there, why are they still there. If the City is waiting for the Police to evacuate the Parkette, I was informed by the Police that there are only 2 officers for the entire City to force the encamped to vacate that property. Is there no other way, as was accomplished in front of City Hall.

Never seen before, we have seen a major increase in bike thefts, (expensive bikes being repainted in these alleyways and probably resold) people doing drugs in the alleyways close to the Parkette ( 2 alleyways on Grosvenor Avenue South leading to Balmoral on one side and Ottawa Street on the other). These have been reported to the Police, without any consequences for those committing these acts of theft and drugs.

The Dollarama, I am sure the Office of Ward 3 and the Police have heard, have had to deal with the encamped stealing and bad behaviour.

I read in Nrinder Nann's newsletter about the pop up in Gage Park with the main issue being the encamped, tents, bad behaviour, theft etc. I have not walked in Gage Park since I heard about the tents and where they are located.

The City must be looking not only to the people who live in the tents, but to how it is affecting the people in the surrounding areas. Solutions to these many issues are of utmost importance. One thought is to make sure the distribution of the tents ( if that is the way it has to be) are not all in Ward 2 and 3, to distribute to parks or City property in Ward 4, 5 and others.

Dina D'Ermo

