

CITY OF HAMILTON

NOTICE OF MOTION

Council Date: November 13, 2024

MOVED BY MAYOR A. HORWATH.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR

Ensuring Public Safety and the Preservation of Hamilton’s Built Environment

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton is committed to ensuring public safety and the preservation of its built environment;

WHEREAS, the significant deterioration of built structures can pose serious risks to the safety, integrity, and livability of Hamilton’s neighbourhoods; and

WHEREAS, timely and comprehensive responses by the City of Hamilton to deteriorating built structures are essential for maintaining the public’s safety, trust and confidence;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to conduct a thorough review of the recent building collapses in downtown Hamilton, including:
 - (i) a complete history and timeline of all City interactions relating to the physical state of these buildings (e.g., inspections, designations, by-law infractions/penalties, permits, etc.)
 - (ii) an analysis of the causes leading to the collapse of these properties;
- (b) That staff be directed to compile an inventory of buildings and structures across the City of Hamilton that have been subject to property standards, by-law enforcement, building code violations, or other safety-related concerns;
- (c) That staff be directed to undertake a review of current enforcement processes related to building structure safety and property standards, identify potential gaps, and report back with findings and proposed changes to ensure timely enforcement of by-laws and regulations, with the aim of achieving better outcomes and increasing accountability;
- (d) That staff be directed to provide recommendations for updates to City policies and by-laws, including but not limited to the Property Standards By-law; and
- (e) That staff be directed to provide a preliminary report with the relevant findings and possible interim recommendations to a General Issues Committee meeting in Q1 2025.