

**From:** Lyn Folkes

**Sent:** January 21, 2025 11:41 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Office of the Mayor <[Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca)>; Wilson, Maureen <[Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; Kroetsch, Cameron <[Cameron.Kroetsch@hamilton.ca](mailto:Cameron.Kroetsch@hamilton.ca)>; Nann, Nrinder <[Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca)>; Hwang, Tammy <[Tammy.Hwang@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tammy.Hwang@hamilton.ca)>; Francis, Matt <[Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca](mailto:Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Danko, John-Paul <[John-Paul.Danko@hamilton.ca](mailto:John-Paul.Danko@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Beattie, Jeff <[Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca)>; Tadeson, Mark <[Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca)>; Cassar, Craig <[Craig.Cassar@hamilton.ca](mailto:Craig.Cassar@hamilton.ca)>; Wilson, Alex <[Alex.Wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Alex.Wilson@hamilton.ca)>; Spadafora, Mike <[Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca](mailto:Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca)>; McMeekin, Ted <[Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca](mailto:Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Fully Fund the BAP & a Million Trees, please!

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

Dear Mayor and Council,

I live in Hamilton's Ward 8 and am so excited about the new BAP and the "Million Trees for Hamilton" plan I've been hearing about! Please fully fund the BAP with 5 new city positions, and approve the Million Trees plan.

My Ward 8 has the lowest percentage of trees in the entire city. I have personally purchased and planted trees on the school property across the street from my home because the children desperately need more shade from the hot sun today. There are hardly any trees on their playground other than the few I've helped get planted! I also watered them using my private water supply because the school staff didn't plan for that during dry spells. Thanks to my help, the trees survived and are doing well. Some shade a few elementary classes so the children can learn better in a cooler room - they have no A/C.

There is plenty of extra room for many more tree 'clusters' in our park which is joined to the school property. The city has planted a few lines of trees but some have died. We need more nature in our park!

I had also assumed that the BAP was a done deal and would be supported for sure. It is also desperately needed during this global climate emergency which is bringing extreme cold temperatures and dryness currently.

Global warming isn't a smooth ride - the transition includes a long period of temperature, precipitation and other weather disaster extremes before we settle into a new consistently hotter climate. I researched the progression of climate change during my Master's degree at the University of Waterloo, and so, I know this to be true.

Also, I have been asking that the city stop wasting taxes on plastic flower pots and annuals on boulevards for years now. These things are not necessities -- instead, during this climate emergency, we need to protect our water quality & quantity, clean air, biodiversity, prime farmland and mental health. Planting lots of trees quickly would go a long way to help, and so would implementing a fully supported staff for the BAP!

The BAP and the Million Trees plans are two of the most important ways our tax dollars should be spent today. My family and I support both 100%.

Thank you, sincerely,  
Rick & Lyn Folkes and family  
Ward 8 Hamilton - WE NEED MORE TREES! :)