

**From:** Jen Baker

**Sent:** Thursday, February 6, 2025 11:32 AM

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**Subject:** motions at the GIC meeting tomorrow

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Hello Mayor and Councillors,

I've noticed that tomorrow's GIC meeting agenda contains two motions about climate initiatives, one for Electric Maintenance Vehicles and one for the Climate Change Initiative. I urge you to not support these motions which go against commitments made to address the climate crisis.

Hamilton Naturalists' Club (HNC) is concerned about both of these motions which would take away funding from the much needed climate initiatives which are needed to make improvements to community health.

Council has declared a climate emergency so this is a time when more funds need to be spent, not less. The Climate Change Office is working to address the emergency and is making important strides. Council has also adopted the Biodiversity Action Plan, again showing its commitment to making Hamilton a healthy and resilient community. If we do not address the climate and biodiversity crises, we will not meet the city's goal of being the best place to raise a child as the city will not be able to withstand the increasingly frequent storms which are a result of a rapidly changing climate.

Council should be commended for establishing a climate office and for adopting the first collaboratively developed Biodiversity Action Plan. It is important that activities that meet these commitments are supported. The climate office receives less than 1% of the budget. This should be increased, not decreased.

HNC understands that Council has a lot of priorities to consider when making budget decisions but reducing the climate budget is not the way to save money. We ask you once again to not support motions 9.5 and 9.6.

Sincerely,  
Jen Baker  
General Manager  
Hamilton Naturalists' Club

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