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Pilon, Janet

Subject: PLEASE reject the MZO planned to expand Hamilton's urban boundary!

From: Jess McQueen

Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 3:29 AM

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

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Growing up in Hamilton almost 50 years ago, my family had very little money. But my parents were very clear that eating well was a priority, so every Saturday, my mother and I would take a bus downtown to the Hamilton Farmer's Market and we would buy what seemed like a ton of fresh produce, grown on Ontario farms. We always had fresh LOCAL fruits and vegetables around the house, even when money was tight.

Now it's so much harder to get local produce because so much of our wonderful farmland has been PAVED OVER to make way for ugly strip malls, townhouses, and parking lots.

Surely you can see what a tragedy this is? (especially in light of the tariffs Trump is toying with--we need to protect our farmland to become more self-sufficient!). This part of Canada has some of the best farmland and we are *killing* it--once it's paved over, it's gone. We need to protect our precious environment rather than cave to greedy developers.

My heart breaks when I drive down the QEW and see areas that were once farms, vineyards, and greenspaces that have disappeared. We can't let this continue.

Please, PLEASE reject this MZO. It will be a terrible step in the wrong direction.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Jessica MacQueen