

From: Finn
Sent: March 18, 2025 12:46 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: A letter to the General Issues Committee for the April 9th vote on Bike Share Funding

My name is Finnian Olmsted, I am a Ward 7 resident who grew up in Hamilton. I am currently attending McMaster for Honours Environment & Society.

McMaster is a world-class university, one of the largest employers in the City, and our student population of 30,000+ brings tremendous business to Hamilton. As one of the few remaining bike share systems in Canada, Hamilton Bike Share plays a crucial role in connecting the McMaster community with the city at large. Supporting and sustaining this system not only strengthens that connection but also helps Hamilton Bike Share thrive — delivering benefits to neighbourhoods across the city and helping put Hamilton on that map as a leader in sustainable urban mobility.

I find great utility in bike share despite living on the mountain where the program is not yet available. When I drive, it is the fastest way to get from my car to campus. It is by far the best way to get around campus, Westdale, and the entire service area any time of day. It connects people in Hamilton from one place to another far faster than the HSR, far cheaper than driving, while being completely carbon neutral and promoting active transit.

I think the City of Hamilton should keep funding Bike Share because it is affordable, practical, and an asset to all Hamilton residents, not just those living in Wards where the program operates. I implore you to continue funding Bike Share. The reason that it is so easy to use and so affordable is because it is a public service, and the privatization of it would utterly ruin the system.

Please vote YES to continue funding the program and its expansion on April 9th.

Thank you,
Finnian Olmsted, Ward 7, McMaster Student.