From: Jack Derricourt Sent: April 4, 2025 10:28 AM To: <u>clerk@hamilton.ca</u> Subject: Letter of Delegation for the April 9 GIC meeting

Dear city counsellors,

I am writing to you today to tell you how crucial the Hamilton Bike Share program is to Hamilton's present and its future. Times are tough all around, but an affordable, easyto-use bike sharing system in the city is beneficial to all sorts of road users and folks that call Hamilton home. We should not be cutting funding to this incredible resource, but doubling down on our support for it.

The Bike Share program is one of the biggest reasons I moved to Hamilton. Ontario cities don't have a lot of bike infrastructure in general, let alone public bike share networks. As more and more people in Canada want to travel by bicycle, this feels very short-sighted. Cities in Quebec and British Columbia are embracing bikes as a great way to get people moving through their cities — and Hamilton should be applauded for doing the same. When my partner and I were considering where we should move next, and where she could continue her work in social housing, Hamilton's Bike share Program and the network of bike lanes in the city told us that this was a city that would welcome us and keep me safe as I biked around daily. That sense of safety and the ringing endorsement of bikes as a way for people to get around affordably are real feathers in Hamilton's cap, and they'll continue to attract newcomers.

As a monthly subscriber to the program, I use Bike Share daily to run errands at the many great local businesses in the city, attend community events, and explore all the amazing recreational destinations Hamilton has to offer. My partner and I are a one car household, so having a bike sharing system I can jump on and jump off to get around is incredibly useful. I know that I'm not the only one in that situation, as I see all sorts of folks grabbing bikes from my local hub (at King William and Victoria) daily to go about their daily tasks as well.

More and more Hamiltonians are trying to to get greener, or save money on gas, or add more physical exercise into their routine. The Bike Share bikes are an affordable, accessible way to make this happen. It solves so many problems for us all by reducing the number of cars on the road each day, reducing the amount of pollution in our air, and offering visitors during events like Supercrawl or the Around the Bay race an easy, cheap way to travel around Hamilton.

Please, endorse and continue to fund this wonderful program. Hamilton deserves a healthy Bike Share network.

Sincerely,

Jack Derricourt Ward 3