

April 29 Planning agenda item 8.1 for Hamilton Drive Luxury Estate Houses
Dear Planning Committee,

Below is a screengrab from the City's social media last week praising Hamilton's efforts to increase forest canopy, and highlighting the importance of woodlots. Forestry staff's efforts are truly laudable and Council is to be commended for approving Hamilton's Urban Forest Strategy to increase our tree canopy to 40%. However, there appears to be a disconnect. This is Arbor Week and Planning staff recommend you **approve** a plan to send 632 urban trees to the chipper (56 of them with heritage status) to build 17 luxury estate houses on an Ancaster forest.

Please vote against this application. Hamiltonians are experiencing the effects of an affordable housing crisis, the climate crisis, and biodiversity crisis.

Who exactly would benefit from this proposal billed by Elite Developments as "Rosewood - Estate Homes on oversized lots"? I believe the only winners would be Elite Developments - and the out of town millionaire buyers these luxury homes would attract.

Hamiltonians need affordable homes, built more densely in already urbanized areas, for Hamiltonians. Not nature-busting luxury houses for the elite.

Thank you for your time.
Ethan Patterson

