

From: Becky Ellis

Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 9:52 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Urban Boundary Expansion - letter for city council

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

To Hamilton City Councillors,

I am writing to implore you to reject urban boundary expansions. As an animal geographer who studies pollinator health, agriculture, and biodiversity loss, I can confidently state that we are experiencing extreme threats to biodiversity in Southern Ontario, and globally. Many scientists feel we are in the midst of a 6th mass extinction event, one that will be made far worse by the dynamics of climate change. Cities provide places in which some, but not all, non-human nature can flourish. There are many species of plants and animals that cannot thrive in cities, especially new developments. Urban sprawl and unchecked development fragments and harms ecosystems. In order to protect biodiversity in and around Hamilton, it is imperative to hold strong on urban boundaries and to resist their expansion. Cities can and should be denser, with thriving public green spaces, and wild areas and farmland in peri-urban and rural areas should be protected.

Thank-you,

Becky Ellis,