

# CITY OF HAMILTON

## MOTION

General Issues Committee: February 4, 2026

**MOVED BY COUNCILLOR N. NANN.....**

**SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR.....**

### **A City Plan to Re-invigorate Barton Village and the Adjacent Corridor**

WHEREAS, Barton Street in Ward 3 thrived as a working-class hub for immigrants drawn by steel mills in the early 20th century and evolved into a diverse commercial district established in 1816;

WHEREAS, the area has suffered waves of decline and has not had the benefit of a coordinated revitalization strategy and today has a high concentration of empty and vacant store fronts, abandoned or stalled development projects, and a significant amount of dumping and garbage that all negatively impact the appearance of the corridor and reducing the sense of pride and safety in the local community;

WHEREAS, the Barton Village BIA and local community have been working diligently to foster the area as a hub for art, culture and have successfully attracted new businesses and development while supporting existing businesses and leading to a stronger sense of community that attracts visitors and residents into the area;

WHEREAS, the condition of the public realm and perception by residents of a lack of safety in this part of the City continues to impede the BIA's progress to make this a destination within the City;

WHEREAS, adjacent residents continually feel left behind as issues remain unaddressed for years, or do not reach resolution, and have led to a general sense of inequity in comparison to other BIA corridors across the City of Hamilton;

WHEREAS, investment in the Barton Village BIA result in positive economic impacts for the City of Hamilton;

WHEREAS, effective and successful city building is a core function of municipalities, and the 2022-2026 Term of Council Priorities emphasized the need to address the most pressing needs and biggest opportunities, including ensuring our neighbourhoods are cared for and vibrant in support of our vision to be the best place to raise a child and age successfully; and

WHEREAS, a City-led and community-informed integrated assessment and plan of action is needed to guide the future state and renewal of the Barton corridor to be a safe and thriving area in our city for future generations to benefit from.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff convene the appropriate City of Hamilton Departments, including but not limited to Municipal Licensing and Enforcement, Building Division, Economic Development, Waste Management, Waste Enforcement, Housing Services, and Public Health meet in Q1 2026 to commence an audit of the BIA corridor to determine a short-term, mid-term and long-term plan of action; including:
  - (i) Immediate enforcement of existing bylaws to deal with incomplete development projects, derelict and vacant buildings;
  - (ii) Opportunities to address illegal waste, waste accumulation, and beautification of the public realm prior to the upcoming capital works of the Barton Street Reconstruction project;
  - (iii) More public art and mural opportunities; and,
  - (iv) Robust outreach housing and health services
- (b) That the General Manager, Planning and Economic Development and General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities convene with community stakeholders to carry out an assessment of needs and opportunities, including the Barton Village BIA, Hamilton Public Library Barton Branch, and community service providers;
- (c) That staff in Planning and Economic Development work with Barton Village BIA to identify grants, funding applications, and improvements to support business start ups that would assist in the betterment of the corridor;
- (d) That the General Manager, Planning and Economic Development provide a report back to General Issues Committee in Q3 2026 outlining the steps taken as well as future plans to invigorate the Barton Village BIA; and
- (e) That the General Manager, Planning and Economic Development ensure that any additional funding needed be incorporated into the 2027 budget ask.