

From: A Guthro

Date: Thu, Jan 29, 2026, 7:33 a.m.

Subject: HPL Budget request

To: <mayor@hamilton.ca>

Cc: Councillor Maureen Wilson, Ward 1 Hamilton <ward1wilson@gmail.com>

I read in The Hamilton Spectator that the Hamilton Public Library has requested a 5.25% increase in their budget this year. I know your directive is to keep the budget increase to 4.25%.

I'm writing because I think you should let the Library have their increase. It's an organization that never asks for much, and does incredibly well with what they are allocated every year. It is the only service the City offers that is truly available to everybody, regardless of wealth or social status. From my experience at the Library, they promote literacy, give people an opportunity to learn new skills, socialize and participate in free entertainment, and currently are used as warming centers.

There are other areas where the city could reduce costs or services to reach your budget goal. Please let the Library continue to do their good work.

Sincerely,

Alex Guthro