

From: Mary Love [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 11:48 AM
To: Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>
Cc: clerk@hamilton.ca; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Kroetsch, Cameron <Cameron.Kroetsch@hamilton.ca>; Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>; Hwang, Tammy <Tammy.Hwang@hamilton.ca>; Francis, Matt <Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Cooper, Rob <Rob.Cooper@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca>; Tadeson, Mark <Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca>; Cassar, Craig <Craig.Cassar@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Alex <Alex.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Spadafora, Mike <Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca>; McMeekin, Ted <Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca>
Subject: For the February 13 budget meeting agenda

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments.

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I am re-sending my letter from last week with some additions so that my concerns are on the record for your final budget meeting.

Last year, a number of motions that hadn't been vetted by staff were ruled out of order during the corresponding meeting. It was an embarrassment and a waste of Council time.

There were only half a dozen motions listed for Friday's meeting at close of business day yesterday. As a taxpayer and as a citizen, I really hope there aren't going to be any last minute, undigested, reactionary "walk-on" motions on Friday. Citizens and councillors alike should have due process, namely the opportunity to address concerns about specific motions in time for their "voice" to be heard at the final budget meeting.

In terms of budgeting, I hope everyone around the horseshoe knows that a billion is a thousand millions, and for context one **million** seconds = 11 days vs one **billion** seconds = 32 years. So most cuts will have very little effect on the actual taxes we pay and may afflict more harm than good, as in your recent decision not to reappoint the city's poet, or any thoughts on cutting climate initiatives.

There have been indications in the run up to Friday the 13th's meeting that certain councillors were gunning for defunding climate adaptation, including slowing down the implementation of more bike infrastructure and questioning the need for retaining let alone enlarging the comparatively very small staff of the Office of Climate Change Initiatives.

So, not knowing whether these misguided feelings of hostility towards climate change initiatives will translate into last minute motions, I want it on record that I consider any such motions to be irresponsible and against the fiduciary duty you all have to protect Hamiltonians, especially the vulnerable, from the current and coming effects of the climate crisis.

In terms of process, in my opinion, any last minute motions would appear to be trying to blindside opposing councillors and the public; hardly the transparency and accountability you say you're striving to achieve.

Why is the necessity for climate initiatives not really up for debate? Because every scientific indicator tells us the crisis will worsen overtime. We're seeing its first floor, so to speak. Future generations need us to act now to mitigate.

The all-important jet stream, discombobulated by oceans that humans' inaction has over-warmed, is not staying put, leading to what ostriches and outright climate deniers disingenuously call "freaky weather". (The unstable jet stream alone should terrify you into taking what action you can locally.) It's not "freaky weather"! It's climate breakdown! And it's here to stay for the foreseeable future—if we get one!

I expect all of you who serve Hamilton citizens, it's families, societies, and businesses, not to stay put in your safe and privileged lanes but to get out there and dare to learn that the climate crisis will be with humanity for **at least** another century. The peril is just as real as getting too near the yellow line in a transit station. Disasters can pass through at any time!

I expect you all to respect decisions City Council has already made and not try to melt them away with uninformed, hostile budget motions against the Office of Climate Change Initiatives. Instead I expect leadership from all of you: stop being prejudiced out of ignorance or partisanship against climate change initiatives, roll your sleeves up, dare to face the crisis, and work together to keep it at bay as much as you can. That starts now!

What do all your constituents deserve? Non-partisan support for Hamilton's bid to be a city that over the long, long haul ahead manages to avoid the worst flooding, drought, heat, and cold effects of the existential peril of a distressed, upheaved climate.

It's now that you lay the basis of success or failure in this solemn sacred duty to protect your citizenry and our corner of the planet, not to mention your own loved ones.

I want to thank sincerely those of you around the horseshoe who continue to show climate and environmental wisdom, cooperation, and leadership.

Those of you who cast doubt on the need for the OCCI, more and better bike lanes, including during winter, a biodiversity plan, green building standards and the like, betray a lack of knowledge, humility (willingness to shed your blinkers and engage with the crisis) and collegiality (with those who already voted in the last term to support the OCCI) that is truly shocking.

Your constituents don't have time for this nonsense! Please wake up and smell the crisis and put more, not less emphasis and funding into climate initiatives!

And work together for the benefit of and survival of Hamilton's children waiting to be born into a decarbonized, more just world where everyone is housed, fed, and protected from climate disasters to the best of our city's ability!

Most sincerely,

Mary Love

Ward 7 resident

Sent from my iPhone