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Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 11:58 AM
To: Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca; Tadeson, Mark <Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca>
Subject: 2026 Budget

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Hello,

As we approach the final day for amendments to the 2026 budget, I would like to once again ask that we prioritize services that solve (or help) problems that affect Hamiltonians.

There is growing concern that cuts to climate initiatives are on the table. I know you are already aware that the city has communicated that we are in a climate emergency - we must be doing everything we can to fight this crisis. Investing in this crisis now means we are trying to mitigate what will be spent in the future to address an even greater problem. Maybe use the money we waste on Hamilton's mounted police unit to help with climate funding? Just a thought.

This logic also applies to housing - probably the biggest crisis affecting our city. I have been on the record that we need to stop funding police enforcement of our most vulnerable neighbours. ~\$600,000 was allocated to police to break up encampments and hire more officers to deal with a problem they are not qualified or equipped for. The result? Those displaced folks are set back in their road to stable accommodations, and may fall victim to drugs/brutal weather conditions that further stress our support systems. Very recently, we've seen that Central public library has been overwhelmed because we are not getting to the root of the problem.

Please continue to fund climate initiatives and prioritize a care-centred approach to housing instead of enforcement.

Daniel Quaglia

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