

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Keeping Funding Climate Forward Efforts

From: Jackson Hudecki

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 12:29 PM

To: Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Keeping Funding Climate Forward Efforts

Hello Mayor Horwath,

As voting draws near, please ensure that you continue to support efforts in climate change mitigation, whether through the Office of Climate Change Initiatives, the Climate Change Reserve, or maintain and improving cycling and transit in the City of Hamilton. All of it helps!

We need all eyes, ears, brains and funds on these projects as possible, and your leadership goes a long way.

With great thanks,

Jackson Hudecki

President

Hamilton Naturalists' Club

www.hamiltonnature.org

Pilon, Janet

Subject: 2026 budget and the environment

From: Karly Doehring

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 12:58 PM

To: Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca; Ward 4 <ward4@hamilton.ca>

Cc: contactus@environmenthamilton.com

Subject: 2026 budget and the environment

Hello,

I'm emailing to voice my concerns about proposed cuts to environment and climate action. These are directions the city has needed to take for a long time and finally did with more funding and establishing the climate action office.

Cuts now set back future generations and the wellness of this community.

Please don't cow down to budget cuts and pressures by punishing a budding program and funding other programs that have the ability to make an impacts projects to make subsidized and city housing more environmentally friendly has impacts reaching generations and sets up vulnerable people with stability during heat events and rising electricity and water costs.

I do not support cuts to the environment and climate action in the 2026 Budget.

Karly Doehring

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Budget Vote, February 13th

-----Original Message-----

From: Rose Janson

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 1:01 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Budget Vote, February 13th

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

We write to say that we do not support cuts to the environment and climate action in the 2026 Budget. We are proud that with the OCCl office, Hamilton is on side with cities of the future. Please do not step backwards, making ill-conceived cuts to the budget to appease some voters.

If we don't invest now, the costs will be great, for citizens and for public services. It would be very wasteful to discontinue so many hard-fought projects and programmes that are just beginning to combat the biggest crisis we all face.

Please show foresight and wisdom-

Rose Janson and Family

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Upcoming 2026 Budget

From: Joanne Palangio

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 1:38 PM

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: Upcoming 2026 Budget

Dear Mayor Horwath and Hamilton City Councillors,

As residents and tax payers in Ward 14, we recognize the cost saving measures that may need to be applied to the upcoming budget in these uncertain economic conditions, however, we want to voice our concerns that cuts not be made to the OCCI.

We support climate change initiatives by the OCCI, bike lanes for the allowance of safe riding and the continuation of the bike share program.

Thank you,
Joanne and Ron Palangio

5.2 (e)

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Budget - hold the line on OCCI & active transport

From: Emil Gadjanski

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 1:52 PM

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: Budget - hold the line on OCCI & active transport

Councillor,

I am urging you to follow the evidence and save taxpayer money by maintaining (or increasing) funding to the OCCI and all active transport initiatives.

It is well established that investing in climate change projects can save the city money over time, while simultaneously providing collateral benefits and cost savings to our healthcare, infrastructure, and social services sectors. Similarly, we need to continue to invest in active transport and transit expansion which reduce pollution (saving taxpayers healthcare costs and improving health outcomes), make roads less congested and safer for all users, including drivers, and have proven to generate more revenue for businesses than vehicular traffic.

I urge you to seriously consider your commitment to saving taxpayers and the city money by investing in these services.

Thank you for your consideration,

Emil Gadjanski
Dundas (Ward 13)

5.2 (f)

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Supporting Climate, Bike Lane and other Environmental funding

From: Marian H

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 2:51 PM

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: Supporting Climate, Bike Lane and other Environmental funding

My husband has lived and worked in the Hamilton area for his entire life. This region has excellent green space, outdoor recreation areas, and environmentally sensitive areas that are critical to offset the massive industrial areas and building also found in this region. We need to continue to protect the lands that have been set aside for future generations. Green space keeps people's health and mental health safe as well.

There is massive housing already available in this region, green space is not infinite and we need to keep what we have.

As a person considering moving to your area due to the vast amount of parks and green space, I support climate and trees that maintain the many valleys where housing isn't viable. Bike lanes reduce emissions and provide exercise and mental health benefits.

Battery operated vehicles take precious land and resources from the north that are not infinite and most people can't afford new vehicles to get on board with this next wave.

Ontario's premier is still trying to take over conservation area lands to build more housing that isn't appropriate to the growth areas needed. The Hamilton Region Conservation Area is one that Hamilton can be proud to own with the extent of land available to all.

The waterfalls continue to bring in tourism from all over Ontario and the US. People bring visitors from all over the world to view these amazing spots.

Water is the most critical resource known to man and Hamilton has access to it. It is critical to keep our water and surrounding area clear, clean and healthy. We have seen what happens when water is polluted by errors in the past, learn and grow from this.

Please continue to support the Conservation lands and green space that is secured for future generations.

Land is not infinite, it can be destroyed and never can go back to the way it was.

Thank you, please protect Hamilton and areas.

Marian Harschnitz

Pilon, Janet

Subject: GIC Friday

From: Susan Wortman

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 3:49:24 PM

To: Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>

Cc: clerk@hamilton.ca <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: GIC Friday

Dear Mayor, Horwath, and Councillors,

I understand you're about to have a second round of opportunities to impact the budget tomorrow at General Issues Committee.

I further understand there may be proposals made to cut critical climate initiatives from the budget.

I deeply hope this is not the case! The financial savings would be relatively small and the climate impacts relatively large.

We have in the past committed to have climate measures such as bike lanes, improved transit, protection of biodiversity and increased urban tree canopy. These things must be protected.

Please don't sacrifice our future safety in this budget process.

Thank you very much, Susan Wortman, Ward One.

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Safe Cycling Infrastructure

From: Kris Gadjanski

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 5:05 PM

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>; CWA HamBur Volunteer Coordinator <cwahamilton@gmail.com>

Subject: Safe Cycling Infrastructure

I am alarmed that cuts to safe bicycle infrastructure are being considered in this round of budget deliberations. Doing so would be costly in terms of both dollars and harm, and glaringly contradictory to the City's Vision Zero framework of continually improving road safety for all users - drivers, pedestrians and cyclists alike.

Not only do I cycle myself, I live across from an elementary school to which many students and their families cycle. I see vulnerable road users in precarious situations daily as there are no safe, separated bike lanes nearby.

I also volunteer with our local chapter of Cycling Without Age (CWA - which operates under the umbrella of New Hope Community Bikes). This program liberates shut in seniors by taking them for no-cost rides on city streets throughout Hamilton, Dundas, and along the Waterfront Trail on a pedal electric Trishaw. The program can, of course, only use routes along which a majority of safe bicycle infrastructure exists. The transformation in outlook, joy, and social engagement among those who experience it is palpable.

Our Pilots (who pedal the Trishaws) and Bike Buddies (who ride alongside the Trishaw on bikes for safety) depend on safe cycling infrastructure. CWA volunteers are mostly seniors themselves and travel to and from CWA sites on bicycle. Our local CWA chapter has 100 returning volunteers (with more expressing interest), and 4 Trishaws operating at numerous sites throughout the city

I urge you to consider the harm to vulnerable road users across the city, including children, seniors, disabled individuals and those who benefit from the CWA programs, when making the tough monetary decisions in front of you.

Respectfully,
Kris Gadjanski (Ward 13)

Pilon, Janet

Subject: 2026 Budget : Special Meeting Thursday Feb. 19th, 2026

From: KK Z

Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 12:07 PM

To: Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; Ward 13 <ward13@hamilton.ca>; Ward 1 Office <ward1@hamilton.ca>; Ward 2 <ward2@hamilton.ca>; Office of Ward 3 City Councillor Nrinder Nann <ward3@hamilton.ca>; Ward 4 <ward4@hamilton.ca>; Francis, Matt <Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca>; Tadeson, Mark <Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca>; Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Spadafora, Mike <Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Cassar, Craig <Craig.Cassar@hamilton.ca>; McMeekin, Ted <Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca>; Ward 8 Office <ward8@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>

Cc: clerk@hamilton.ca; Pilon, Janet <Janet.Pilon@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Re: 2026 Budget : Special Meeting Thursday Feb. 19th, 2026

Mayor & Council

The City of Hamilton is on an unsustainable path and if you were listening to G.M. Zegarac's speaking at Friday's budget meeting you should realize the financial future is bleak. **The city can no longer afford what people have become accustomed to. A paradigm shift is needed in expectations including from citizens, the Mayor, Council and all city staff.**

1. Downgrading of the city credit rating will impact the cost of borrowing. Remember that debt payment and interest becomes an operating expense. Although debt may be within legislative guidelines, is this sustainable? **NO, it is not.**

When will the piggy bank run out? Will the obligatory reserves be used for LRT? Is the LRT an investment or a financial black hole? Is the LRT a depression like type of employment initiative where labour and construction companies are the only beneficiaries and Hamiltonians are left holding the bag?

2. Municipal inflation versus CPI and why it is important to understand what is driving this surge in prices. As Counsellor Kroetsch pointed out, municipal inflation is higher than the CPI. The CPI is not a good measure of inflation/currency debasement. We are witnessing the vast amounts of debt/money brought into existence (QE) since the Great Financial Crisis is coming home to roost as that money is now chasing hard assets and commodities driving up prices. This has a direct impact on the costs of new and repairing of existing infrastructure assets. Many of you, I am sure, have done quite nicely with your investment portfolios and your "paper wealth" has risen substantially. Unfortunately most Hamiltonians have not benefited from this Greenspan/Bernake "wealth effect". The so-called trickle down effect is abysmal and the wealth gap is greater. Councillor Jackson, it is not interest rate hikes that has driven this cost of living crisis, it is the debt/money issuance since the GFC. Municipal inflation may be a reality but it is not a justification to tax property owners more. This only drives businesses and residents away.

3. Continuous and functional improvement. There is no need to dwell on this, but the Barton-Tiffany project is an example of the need to improve systems, competencies, etc. Last February, Council approved a motion to start a functional improvement program. To date I have not heard one word about its status? For years I have tried to obtain a complete organizational chart showing management structure, FTE's including contractors, students and consultants and all equipment. I have to assume one does not exist. Asking this question of you: how can you ask pertinent

questions and strive for excellence without an organizational chart. What is the role of Human Resources in driving functional improvement? What is the role of the Mayor and Council in pushing this through?

4. Where is the province and feds in all of this? Why are they downloading onto municipalities? Interest on provincial debt will be \$16 billion dollars this fiscal year. Federal interest on debt will be \$55 billion for a total interest on debt of \$71 billion. Think about that....how many City of Hamilton's would this run for a year....**in just interest alone**. Is this sustainable or even payable?

Without getting into politics, if you want support from the Province and the Feds then you must stop enabling them by doing their job. Councillor Clark has pointed this out numerous times. Put the brakes on and call in the local MPPs and MPs to a closed door meeting and negotiate a commitment. Carney will have to issue more debt/money or cut federal expenses....there are no other choices.

5. Blaming a 90% residential tax rate for Hamilton's revenue stream woes. This may have some merit, but quite frankly it is a cop out. Live within your means (as Hamiltonians are having to do) and do the things that attract private investment. Lowering taxes is a start.

6. Some specifics:

a. Police budget and FTE requests. 20 detectives for intimate partner abuse support. Perhaps it would be prudent to start with hiring 10 this year and work the bugs out? What is being done to determine the root cause of 10% of front line officers off of work and get them back to work? Hiring practices? Training? Support mechanism? Is it necessary to add more downtown beat cops this year?

b. HSR expansion. I believe it was a mistake last year to increase bus service. I understand it is a long term plan based on growth projections. However things have changed. I believe it is time to put that on hold and re-evaluate the need and at the same time evaluate what impact did last year's expansion have. Specifically on private investment dollars coming into the city. Providing 20 minute service vs 30 minute service or shortening trip times is great but comes with a cost. Did ridership increase and how is that measured? When I hear that government should not work like a private business...there may be some merit to this, but when it comes to transit that is absurd.

c. Climate change and environmental stewardship. Top up the Climate Change department to \$2.5 billion and save the taxpayers the \$800,000 left over. And every spend on projects should have a measurable benefit. What impact has the conversion of one way streets to two way have on air quality? There is a trade off for everything.

In conclusion, this Council has increased property tax by over 20% in four years while using reserves and issuing debt. Moving forward something needs to change. The tax lever needs to stop being used. **The city can no longer afford what people have become accustomed to. A paradigm shift is needed in expectations including from citizens, the Mayor, Council and all city staff.**

Perhaps some of you will come to your senses and use this as your major platform in October? For now what is done is done and it will be left up to the next Mayor and Council to clean up the mess.

Sincerely,
K. Zivanovich

FIGURE 15

City of Hamilton 2023 to 2027 Reserve Projections

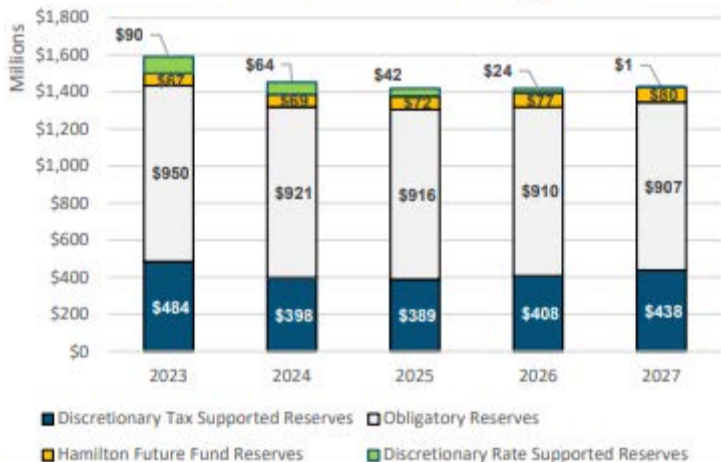
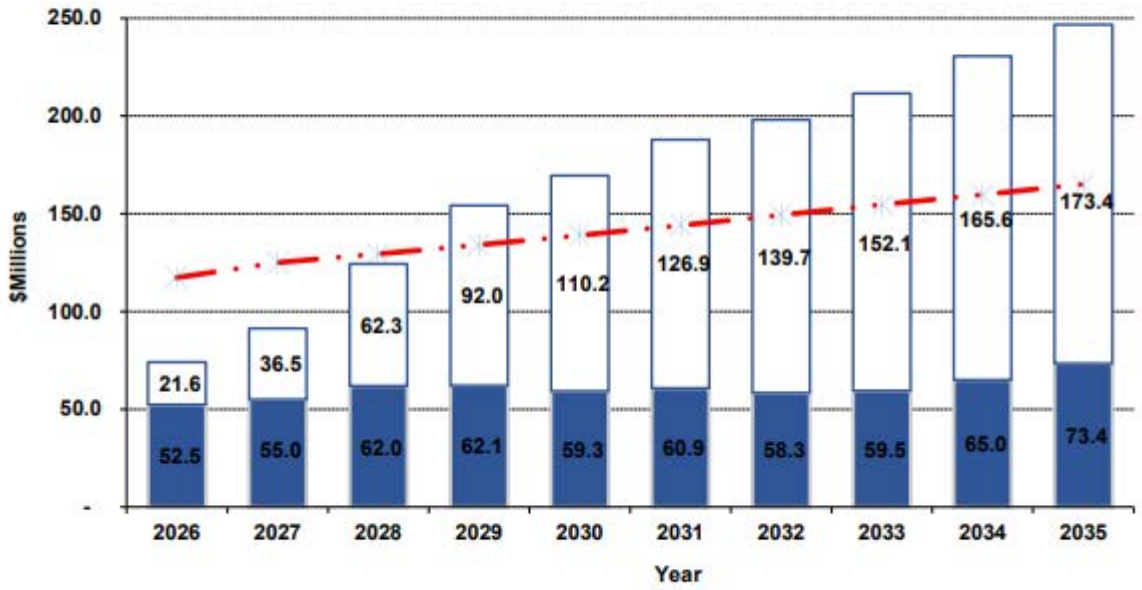


FIGURE 6**Tax & Rate Supported Outstanding Debt Projection**

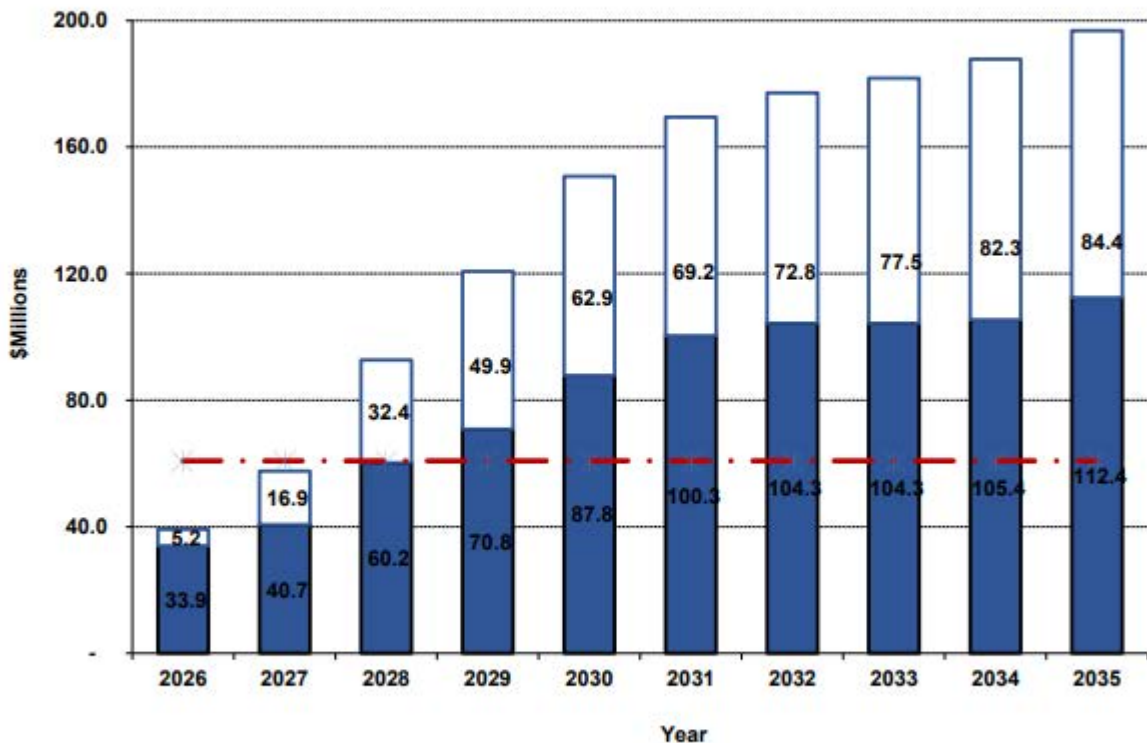
* Rate debt based on the 2025 Rate Budget Financing Plan

FIGURE 7

Total Tax and Rate Debt Charges vs. Council Approved Limit



■ Tax Funded □ Rate Funded

FIGURE 8**Total DC Funded Debt Charges
vs. Council Approved Limit**

■ Tax DC □ Rate DC - - - Council DC Limit

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Cuts to the Office of Climate Change Initiatives

From: Marko Buha

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 10:57 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: Cuts to the Office of Climate Change Initiatives

Dear Mayor, Councillors, and Clerk,

I am a resident of Ward 15. I write to oppose the proposed cuts to the Office of Climate Change Initiatives. I do not see the value in cutting funding to the office during a climate crisis when the only benefit is around 4 coffees (\$9) of tax savings per year per property.

Thank you,
Marko Buha

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Vote NO to cutting the Climate Reserve

From: Dave Carson

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 9:45 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: Vote NO to cutting the Climate Reserve

Vote NO to the motion *That the 2026 Capital Levy BE REDUCED by \$2.5 million, reflecting the deferral of capital project 3302348302 climate change action plan to the 2027 budget process.*

A proper action would be to increase the reserve. Climate change is here. Climate chaos is coming.

The era of procrastination, of half-measures, of soothing and baffling expedients, of delays, is coming to its close.

In its place we are entering a period of consequences.

Regards

Dave Carson

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Vote no to defunding the Climate Office Reserve

From: Nancy Chater

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 8:09 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: Vote no to defunding the Climate Office Reserve

Hello Mayor, Councillors and Clerk,

I am writing to urge you to vote NO to defunding the Climate Office reserve. I am a resident of Ward 2, with Councillor Kroetsch.

This is regarding:

Motion 9.7: "[Build Budget Better](#)" calls for the removal of the annual allocation of \$2.5 million to the City's Climate Change Reserve from the 2026 Budget.

That the 2026 Capital Levy BE REDUCED by \$2.5 million, reflecting the deferral of capital project 3302348302 climate change action plan to the 2027 budget process;

Removing \$2.5 million from Hamilton's almost \$3 Billion budget would only result in a meager reduction in our property taxes of around **\$9 per year, per property**.

Motion 9.7: "[Build Budget Better](#)" calls for the removal of the annual allocation of \$2.5 million to the City's Climate Change Reserve from the 2026 Budget.

That the 2026 Capital Levy BE REDUCED by \$2.5 million, reflecting the deferral of capital project 3302348302 climate change action plan to the 2027 budget process;

Removing \$2.5 million from Hamilton's almost \$3 Billion budget would only result in a meager reduction in our property taxes of around **\$9 per year, pe**and ask them to vote NO to defunding the Climate Office reserve.

*Promote our Watershed Stewardship Program to further strengthen landowner education and restoration efforts on private lands and to align with the heightened public focus on **climate change**.*

Thank you,

Nancy Chater

Ward 2

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Urgent — Budget meeting & vote 13 Feb. — Please Vote NO to defunding the Climate Change Reserve

From: Howard Cole

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 10:18 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: Urgent — Budget meeting & vote 13 Feb. — Please Vote NO to defunding the Climate Change Reserve

Dear Mayor Horwath, Councillors, and City Clerk,

As a concerned resident of Ward 12, I am writing today in advance of Friday's budget meeting and vote to urge you to **vote NO on any motions that would defund or reduce the City's Climate Change Reserve**.

Some proposed budget amendments may target the Climate Change Reserve and other climate action initiatives in the name of "fiscal restraint." I strongly oppose these cuts and believe they would be a harmful step backward for Hamilton's environmental leadership and long-term community well-being.

The Climate Change Reserve plays a **critical role** in funding projects and programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, build resilience to extreme weather, and support equitable climate solutions. It complements the work of the Office of Climate Change Initiatives (OCCI), which is responsible for advancing Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy — a strategy adopted by Council in response to the climate emergency that Hamilton declared in 2019.

At a time when we are already experiencing climate-related impacts locally and nationally, withdrawing financial support for proven climate programs makes our city more vulnerable to avoidable costs and risks. Investments funded through this reserve help protect homes, local ecosystems, public health, and our local economy, and they often unlock additional funding from senior levels of government.

Hamilton's climate leadership — including the creation and ongoing work of OCCI and the Climate Change Reserve — reflects years of community advocacy and careful planning by City staff and Council. I respectfully ask you to **defend that progress by voting against any motion that would defund or diminish the Climate Change Reserve**.

Thank you for your service and for your careful consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Howard Cole

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Hamilton Bike Lanes and City Budget

From: CWA HamBur Volunteer Coordinator <cwahamilton@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 5:15 PM

To: Hwang, Tammy <Tammy.Hwang@hamilton.ca>; Ward 13 <ward13@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca; Ward 2 <ward2@hamilton.ca>

[REDACTED]

Subject: Hamilton Bike Lanes and City Budget

It has been brought to my attention that there might be cuts to the biking infrastructure during the current budget talks. As the parent of a Ward 1 resident living in West Hamilton, I see on a daily basis bicycle lanes being used by McMaster University students and staff commuting to and from the University particularly this past year with the inclusion of the Hamilton Bike Share program in student fees. I appreciate the fact that these bike lanes have been maintained over the course of this brutal, snowing winter and are also a safe alternative for pedestrian traffic where many sidewalks are not. As a recreational cyclist I also use the bike lanes throughout the City to access cycling trails.

I am also the CoFounder and volunteer for Cycling Without Age, (Hamilton chapter) which offers bike rides on a trishaw to people who cannot ride for a variety of health and physical reasons. One of our trishaws regularly uses the bike lanes in the north end to access the waterfront trail. We give rides to seniors from Good shepherd homes, the Welcome Inn and Shalom Village. We also participate in Open Streets and use the bike lanes to safely transport our trishaws. This past season a new trishaw was purchased with a grant from the Hamilton Community Foundation for Dundas. We took passengers from St. Joseph's Villa (day program and residents), Amica residents as well as community members utilizing the bike lanes along Hatt St. and Creighton. We are expanding our programme this year to further meet the needs of the community particularly seniors who will now have the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors beyond their front door.

Bike Buddies, who attend the Trishaw on bikes for safety, a second set of brains and socialization for passengers, depend on safe cycling infrastructure. These volunteers are mostly seniors themselves. Our local CWA chapter has 85 returning volunteers (with more expressing interest), and 4 Trishaws running throughout the week. Last year in Hamilton over 1200 passengers received rides from our program. It is the gift that gives back, to our precious passengers, their families, the volunteers, the city, our social fabric. Our rides restore "the right to the wind in their hair" for these shut in seniors.

But this programme can only be safe if the Trishaws and bikes have safe infrastructure to carry on this vital work. Our safety, and these seniors safety, should not be compromised as a budget line.

I urge you to consider this when making the tough monetary decisions in front of you.
Thank you for all you continue to do for the city.

--

Nancy Gray -CWA Ham/Bur Co Founder and Program Coordinator

Board Member - CWA Canada since Dec 2023

Val Clements - CWA Ham/Bur - Site Coordinator

W:www.cwahamilton.ca

<https://www.newhopecommunitybikes.com/>

W: www.cwaburlington.ca

Facebook: www.cwahamilton.ca/fb

Instagram: www.cwahamilton.ca/insta

905 399 4965

E: cwahamilton@gmail.com

To book a ride -cwahbpassenger@gmail.com

Pilon, Janet

Subject: PROTECT CLIMATE RESERVE FUND!

From: Lyn Folkes

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 12:44 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: PROTECT CLIMATE RESERVE FUND!

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

Why are we reading that Councillors Spadafora and Francis -- who are both Board Members of the Hamilton Conservation Authority -- are asking to eliminate the 2.5 million reserve funding for new climate change initiatives planned for 2026? Is this a prank or something?

They can't be serious.

Anyone on the HCA Board should align their decisions with the 2025-2029 Strategic Plan which promises to, "promote our Watershed Stewardship Program to further strengthen landowner education and restoration efforts on private lands, AND TO ALIGN WITH THE HEIGHTENED PUBLIC FOCUS ON CLIMATE CHANGE."

Please ignore this absurd request for delays on climate action from councillors who, again, must not understand their responsibility to the residents of Hamilton concerning the global climate emergency, its associated threats and serious risks to the public. Any delay on climate action today would be completely irresponsible.

We want to see full funding of climate initiatives in 2026 - WITHOUT DELAY! Otherwise, what was the point of spending so much time, money and effort on the BAP? We need to put it in motion now -- not wait another year. For what? So our climate problems can worsen and cost us even more to tackle later? It makes absolutely no sense to delay.

Delaying climate initiatives today would be very counterproductive. We need to ADDRESS SERIOUSLY THREATENING CLIMATE MATTERS ASAP. Waiting longer will only cost us more at a later date, and Canada as a whole is badly lagging behind international climate action efforts already.

Hamilton must do its part so please do not touch the climate reserve fund.

If this request is supposed to be an attempt at fiscal responsibility, the increase in annual taxes per household for the climate reserve fund is so small that it isn't worth the damage costs that a delay would cause. In fact, we'd gladly pay double the climate tax increase to see more climate initiatives started this year. We look forward to seeing a lot more climate action on the ground in our city as soon as possible!

PLEASE LEAVE THE WHOLE 2.5 MILLION IN THE CLIMATE RESERVE FUND - it's the tax spending we're most happy to see happening today! It has taken too long already, so please don't delay any climate action in Hamilton.

Thank you - we're truly excited about seeing climate initiatives funded in our neighbourhoods in 2026!

With serious urgency for a calmer climate future, Lyn Folkes¹, Rick Folkes, Jim Folkes, Naomi Folkes, Brian Folkes, Ward 8 Hamilton

5.2 (p)

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Hamilton needs more climate action, not less!

From: brenda ginn

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 9:30 PM

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: Re: Hamilton needs more climate action, not less!

Dear Mayor, Councillors and City Clerk:

I am a lifelong city resident--now living in Ward 2-- and I oppose the proposed cuts you are considering to any of our city's programs which aim to save the environment.

Stop submitting motions to cut fungus and staffing fun predictable defined to promote and protect biodiversity, tree canopy, and home retroflts, for example.

Expand them-- don't cut them!

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,
Brenda Ginn

5.2 (q)

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Friday February 13th GIC Budget Meeting Motion 9.7 "Build Budget Better"

From: Robert Iszkula

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 10:06 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; McMeeKin, Ted <Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca>; Spadafora, Mike <Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Alex <Alex.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Cassar, Craig <Craig.Cassar@hamilton.ca>; Tadeson, Mark <Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca>; Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Cooper, Rob <Rob.Cooper@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Francis, Matt <Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca>; Hwang, Tammy <Tammy.Hwang@hamilton.ca>; Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>; Kroetsch, Cameron <Cameron.Kroetsch@hamilton.ca>; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Friday February 13th GIC Budget Meeting Motion 9.7 "Build Budget Better"

Dear Councilors & Mayor,

It is my opinion that Motion 9.7 is misguided and a step in the wrong direction. I urge you to turn this motion down and vote NO to to defunding the Climate Office reserve.

Thank you,

Robert Iszkula

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Please Don't Defund Hamilton's Climate Change Reserve - VOTE NO!

From: Megan Janssen-McBride

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 8:45 PM

To: Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: Please Don't Defund Hamilton's Climate Change Reserve - VOTE NO!

Removing \$2.5 million from Hamilton's almost \$3 Billion budget would only result in a meager reduction in our property taxes of around **\$9 per year, per property**.

I am writing to you to request that you vote NO to defunding the Climate Office reserve.

Please take care - and thank you for taking this into consideration.

All best wishes,

Megan (Ward 1)

Megan Janssen MEd. ([pronouns:she,her](#)) | Undergraduate Advisor

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Vote NO

From:

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 10:24 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Kroetsch, Cameron <Cameron.Kroetsch@hamilton.ca>; Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Vote NO

As a resident of Ward 14, I strongly request that you vote NO to defunding the Climate Office reserve.

It is impossible to support Hamilton Conservation and protect our watersheds while reducing the climate defense budget.

Victoria Koch
Resident Ward 14

Pilon, Janet

Subject: defunding climate action reserve

From: Eleanor Kokotich
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 9:06 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: defunding climate action reserve

NO to defunding climate action reserve. Would only save \$9 tax per property.

thanks.

5.2 (u)

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Ward 4 - DO not vote for motion 9.7

From: David Krysko

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 9:20 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: Ward 4 - DO not vote for motion 9.7

Dear Councillors, the Mayor and Clerk,

Motion 9.7: “Build Budget Better” calls for the removal of the annual allocation of \$2.5 million to the City’s Climate Change Reserve from the 2026 Budget.

Removing \$2.5 million from Hamilton’s almost \$3 Billion budget would only result in a meager reduction in our property taxes of around \$9 per year, per property.

Promote our Watershed Stewardship Program to further strengthen landowner education and restoration efforts on private lands and to align with the heightened public focus on climate change.

Please protect what we and our children need. We are all tired of short sighted politics and social media thinking.

Respectfully, Dave.

5.2 (v)

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Comment on motion 9.7 for Friday February 13 budget meeting

From: Mary Love

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 12:10 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: Comment on motion 9.7 for Friday February 13 budget meeting

Well, sometimes it's no fun being right! Just as I feared in my letter to you all yesterday, a last minute motion to defund reserves of the Office of Climate Change Initiatives for 2026 has been added to the budget agenda. This is not good process. It remains to be seen if the motion will be ruled inadmissible, as many budget motions were last year.

Motion 9.7: "Build Budget Better" (which sounds like one of the Province's bills) calls for the removal of the annual allocation of \$2.5 million to the City's Climate Change Reserve from the 2026 Budget. I consider this an outright attack on climate change initiatives for our city.

Removing \$2.5 million from Hamilton's almost \$3 Billion budget would only result in a meager reduction in our property taxes of around **\$9 per year, per property**.

I understand that many people's attention has been drawn to the cost of living, the tariffs and other economic challenges.

Nonetheless, climate change/breakdown remains an existential threat to humanity, and so should dealing with it remain a priority for **everyone** on Hamilton's City Council.

Those struggling most with the cost of living are also those vulnerable Hamiltonians most at risk from the ongoing and accelerating effects of the climate crisis. They are also (whether the unhoused, low income tenants, or the working poor) those whom you will harm the most by any stalling on climate resilience progress such as the stalling which motion 9.7 regrettably represents.

I also want to draw your attention to some of the wording in the Hamilton Conservation Authority's 2025-2029 Strategic Plan which promises to:

*Promote our Watershed Stewardship Program to further strengthen landowner education and restoration efforts on private lands and to **align with the heightened public focus on climate change.***

Again, the fact that important economic issues and chaotic disruption have temporarily taken the general public's focus off climate change *in no way* absolves you all, including the six of you who also sit on the HCA Board, from your duty of care to the citizens of Hamilton in protecting our local watersheds in our current precarious climate situation.

Isn't it up to you as leaders to see the big picture: to explain to your constituents that the work of the OCCI is vital to their and their descendants' well-being; and to keep pressing forward in coordinated, non-partisan, and adequately funded support for climate change resiliency initiatives for the longterm?

You might be surprised to find out just how much focus climate change has regained by the time the civic election comes around this fall. How bad will the spring and summer wildfires be? How bad will the children's asthma get? Will our city suffer climate-related flooding before then because too much land has been taken and covered by impervious surfaces?

In the meantime, I am counting on my counsellor and every other counsellor and the mayor to reject motion 9.7 in favour of prudent, clear-eyed support for climate change initiatives in Hamilton.

Yours truly,

Mary Love
Ward 7

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Budget agenda

From: Hilary Lyttle

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 8:50 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: Budget agenda

To Whom It May Concern,

As a Hamiltonian and member of the Ward 3 community I urge you to vote NO to defunding the Climate Office reserve.

Not acting on climate change in a large and meaningful way each year is reckless and irresponsible. Furthermore defunding this initiative would only reduce property taxes by a mere \$9 per year.

Thank you,
Hilary Lyttle

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Build Budget Better motion

From: Lyn Mallay

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 9:52 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca>; Cooper, Rob <Rob.Cooper@hamilton.ca>; Tadeson, Mark <Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Alex <Alex.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Cassar, Craig <Craig.Cassar@hamilton.ca>; McMeekin, Ted <Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Spadafora, Mike <Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Build Budget Better motion

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I have been looking all day for any new motions fearing that Councillors would follow through with their veiled threats to cut bike lane infrastructure and climate initiatives and low and behold here it is. Unfortunately posted far too late for me to make the deadline for the meeting agenda but I am submitting this email regardless.

I am deeply saddened to see that Councillor's Spadafora and Francis are seeking to kick the Climate Change Office funding down the road.

If you vote to support this reduction this year, you can trust that someone will try to pull the same maneuver next year and the year after that.

While we can all agree that affordability is a top concern, we also must agree that climate change is also equally concerning, if not more so. We cannot afford to not take action when it comes to the responsive initiatives that have come from the Climate Change Office.

Please vote against this motion.

Lyn Mallay

Pilon, Janet

Subject: No cuts to environmental projects

From: cynthia meyer

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 6:41 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>

Subject: No cuts to environmental projects

dear Mayor and Office Clerk,

Please do not cut environmental projects. It would be false economy to save the small expenditures the city makes on the environment projects to save money on the budget.

It will cause bigger problems and costs down the road.

Esther Paul's advice to cyclists : walk or ride the bus, is an insult to cyclists. I am grateful they do not add to the car pollution.

Thank you for considering my opinion.

Cynthia

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Please keep Hamilton's Climate Change Reserve funds in the 2026 budget

From: David Mivasair

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 10:13 PM

To: Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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>

Cc: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Please keep Hamilton's Climate Change Reserve funds in the 2026 budget

Hello Mayor Horwath and Council,

Please keep Hamilton's Climate Change Reserve allocation in the 2026 budget.

David Mivasair

Pilon, Janet

Subject: 'Shocked' and 'disappointed:' Councillors grill staff on how Hamilton outdoor shelter debacle played out | CBC News

From: peter morgan

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 7:33 AM

To: Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; Tadeson, Mark <Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca>; Francis, Matt <Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca>; Pigott, Mary Louise <MaryLouise.Pigott@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Alex <Alex.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Councillor Alex Wilson <ward13@substack.com>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Kroetsch, Cameron <Cameron.Kroetsch@hamilton.ca>; Cassar, Craig <Craig.Cassar@hamilton.ca>; Office of Ward 3 City Councillor Nrinder Nann <ward3@hamilton.ca>; Hwang, Tammy <Tammy.Hwang@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>

Subject: 'Shocked' and 'disappointed:' Councillors grill staff on how Hamilton outdoor shelter debacle played out | CBC News

Politicians:

Time to take a collective bow, for another PAID FOR BY HAMILTON TAXPAYERSDEBACLE..... DOH...DOH!!!!!! Keep pointing fingers, saying " oh we must/will do better." Bottom line- The BUCK STOPS AT ANDREA!!!!!!!!!! October is coming!!!!!!

'Shocked' and 'disappointed:' Councillors grill staff on how Hamilton outdoor shelter debacle played out | CBC News

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/outdoor-shelter-9.7087161>

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Budget for Climate Change Initiatives Reserve Funding

From: Lilly N

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 8:54 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: Budget for Climate Change Initiatives Reserve Funding

Dear Mayor and Council,

The devastation caused by climate change is still ongoing and we must keep working to reduce our CO2 emissions at the municipal level.

Hamilton can benefit from grants by having a funded Climate Action plan in place. Let's think long-term and keep funding our Office of Climate Change Initiatives with the \$2.5M reserve funding it needs.

Thank you,

Lilly Noble

5.2 (ac)

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Urgent for budget meeting February 13 building a better budget

From: Ginny Pearce

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 10:18 PM

To: Wilson, Alex <Alex.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; McMeekin, Ted <Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca>; Cassar, Craig <Craig.Cassar@hamilton.ca>; Spadafora, Mike <Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Urgent for budget meeting February 13 building a better budget

I wish to voice my opposition to the motion submitted by Counselor, Mike Spadafora, and seconded by Counsellor Esther Paul's entitled "building a better budget item 9.7"

I disagree with their suggestion to defer the funds for the office of climate change initiatives to the budget of 2027. I see this as a shortsighted poor choice when Hamilton residents need investments in healthy environment for water air and soil. These things are not to be taken lightly they are not extra they are not frills. They are foundational to our health and well-being.

It was a long long road to actually have the office of climate change initiatives implemented, This is not the time this is not the action to help Hamilton.

I urge you as my counsellor and counsellors on either side of ward 13 To vote in opposition to the aforementioned mentioned motion on the budget for 2026.

Peace

Ginny Pearce

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Vote NO on Motion 9.7 – Protect Hamilton’s Climate Change Reserve

From: Andrea Phair

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 10:01 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: Vote NO on Motion 9.7 – Protect Hamilton’s Climate Change Reserve

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

I am writing to urge you to vote NO on Motion 9.7, “Build Budget Better,” which would remove the \$2.5 million annual allocation to the City’s Climate Change Reserve from the 2026 Budget.

Reducing Hamilton’s nearly \$3 billion budget by \$2.5 million would amount to only about \$9 per property per year in tax savings, while significantly undermining our community’s climate commitments and long-term resilience.

Deferring the Climate Change Action Plan capital project to 2027 sends the wrong message at a time when climate impacts are intensifying and residents expect leadership and action.

I respectfully ask you to protect the Climate Change Reserve and ensure Hamilton continues investing in climate mitigation, adaptation, and watershed protection.

Please vote NO on Motion 9.7.

Sincerely,
Andrea Phair
Ward 1 resident

5.2 (ae)

Dear Mayor and Council:

I note that before last year's budget, there were several motions that were introduced inappropriately and had to be withdrawn. I am writing out of concern that there may be last minute motions by some members of Council. If that happens, I wish to express my outrage that the rights of Hamilton Citizens are being trampled by this short circuiting of the budget process.

I hope this will not happen. If it does, please recognize my opposition to any motions that will impair our environment, including cutting funding for bike lanes or the Climate Change Office and Reserve funds, the biodiversity action plan and other funds that support the environment that we all live in. Maintaining or increasing our local biodiversity especially our wetlands and forests, planting trees in areas that are lacking shade, providing safe housing with protection from excessive heat, are all actions that benefit Hamiltonians and need to be funded!

Sincerely,

James S. Quinn

P.S. After writing my message above, I just learned that Councillor Spadafora just submitted a motion calling for the reserve budget for the Office of Climate Change Initiatives be deferred to 2027. What does this man not realize about the urgency for climate action? Global climate change is based on the physics of human ignorance. It does not take a pause for us to wake up and take action. To have the ridiculous motion seconded by Councillor Francis who is a member of the Hamilton Conservation Authority board is even more outrageous. Why do we have such an unaware councillor on the HCA board? What a waste of a position. He should be removed from the board immediately!

Pilon, Janet

Subject: 9.2 Build Budget Better

From: Dominic Rivers

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 10:10 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>

Cc: 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>; Cooper, Rob <Rob.Cooper@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@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: 9.2 Build Budget Better

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I am a resident on Rowntree Drive in Ward 7. I have never written to my councillor before and don't particularly enjoy having to do so but I cannot leave this one. My neighbour brought tomorrow's GIC meeting to my attention and shared that my own Councillor, Esther Pauls, will very likely vote in favour of item 9.2 having stated that she often receives emails from residents questioning why we have so many bike lanes. Well, Ms. Pauls I want you to understand that this resident of your ward is now taking the time to write to you to suggest you think long and hard about the long-term impacts of voting in favour of a motion that all but eliminates funding for the very important initiatives of the Office of Climate Change Initiatives. While we may be considering affordability today, my future grandchildren can't afford you to defund this office.

In this spirit i have taken the liberty of amending Councillor Spadafora and Councillor Francis' motion for you

WHEREAS, in her Mayoral Directive to Staff on October 7, 2025, directing the City Manager and City Treasurer to prepare the 2026 Budgets (Rate Supported and Tax Supported) Mayor Andrea Horwath referenced that:

- (a) “the ongoing economic uncertainty caused by U.S. tariffs, together with continued affordability challenges faced by Hamiltonians makes it clear that the 2026 Budgets must respond to the needs of our community”
- (b) “feedback from residents throughout the year, reinforced during Budget Engagement sessions, as well as input from members of Council and the priorities outlined in the 2026 Outlook report of September 11, 2025, underscore the need to prioritize affordability...”

WHEREAS, in March 2019, Hamilton City Council declared a climate change emergency (SOURCE: [Hamilton declares a climate change emergency | CBC News](#))

WHEREAS, in August of 2025 Hamilton City Council approved a recommendation to update HAmilton's community-wide Climate Action Strategy to speed up efforts to reduce carbon emissions and better protect the community from extreme weather (SOURCE: [City to create faster and bolder Climate Action Strategy | City of Hamilton](#))

WHEREAS, the Mayor's directive explicitly stated that the 2026 budget was not to reduce services that residents rely on

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton purports to be the "Best place to raise a child and age successfully"

WHERE AS, despite the grandstanding of certain Councillor's and their ilk there are many people who actually give a darn about the future of this city and the ability to live out the City's mission

WHEREAS, Councillor Spadafora himself has declared repeatedly he is not the smartest man in the room

WHEREAS, why would we follow the lead and trust the judgement of the man who openly admits he is likely not intelligent enough to make such decisions on behalf of an entire city

WHEREAS, I could go on but I think I've made my point by now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) Council stand up to the bullying tactics of Councillors who seek soundbites more often than sound practice and,

(b) Council stand committed to FULLY funding the Office of Climate Change Initiatives because despite financial pressures, we can't afford not to.

I appreciate your time and reflection.

Sincerely,

Dominic Rivers

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Climate Office reserves

From: Sandra and Fort Roberto

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 8:53 AM

To: Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>;
clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Climate Office reserves

Please vote NO to defunding the Climate Office reserve. Don't follow the example of Donald Trump.

Regards,

Fort Roberto

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Regarding Motion 9.7: "Build Budget Better"

From: Gillian Shepherd

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 10:19 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: Regarding Motion 9.7: "Build Budget Better"

Dear Councillors and Mayor,

I respectfully urge you to reject Motion 9.7 and vote against defunding the Climate Office reserve. I believe this motion is misguided and a step in the wrong direction.

Thank you
Gillian Shepherd

5.2 (ai)

Pilon, Janet

Subject: General Issues Committee Budget Comment

From: Paris Skye

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 9:21 PM

To: Cooper, Rob <Rob.Cooper@hamilton.ca>; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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>; clerk@hamilton.ca; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@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>; Spadafora, Mike <Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca>; McMeekin, Ted <Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca>

Subject: General Issues Committee Budget Comment

Dear city councillors and Mayor Horwath,

I want to forward my opposition of the motion to defer the budget for Climate Change Reserve Budget as someone in Ward 8. The meeting on February 13th needs to result in the Climate Change Reserve budget staying in place, and have motions to be expanded; not deferred to 2027.

It is incredibly important to me that the climate change reserve budget stays in place, and should be expanded to better serve Hamilton, to make the city a better place that it could be. It is imperative that the meeting on Friday, February 13th, 2026 ends in favour of keeping the 2.5 million budget.

The budget is of serious importance in the current times of climate change in order to support citizens with safe, connected, and maintained bike lanes, good reliable transit, and the climate protections like expanded tree cover and biodiversity for the health and well being of Hamiltonians and our environment as a whole.

Sincerely,
Paris Skye
Ward 8

5.2 (aj)

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Concerns regarding Hamilton's Annual Budget meeting points

From: Laura Michelle Spring

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 3:06 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: Concerns regarding Hamilton's Annual Budget meeting points

Hello,

I have previously been distressed with the previous city councils manipulation of data by the redirection of HSR lines from the core in order to support the current proposed route of the LRT (a transit system type that has both proven unreliable in other cities in Canada, and that is not as suited to Hamilton itself, and was only accepted with that deliberate manipulation). (I support our Hamilton Street Railway whole-heartedly, the LRT as it stands though I support very little.)

Now as we strive after that fool's errand, and continue sinking money in it and other projects, I understand that some of you want to cut money from budgets that help protect our citizens health and well being instead, just to announce "savings" and to appease the few who either: think that climate issues should be dismissed and roll pollution reduction and heat mitigation in with that disdain; or actually are amongst those that pollute the worst and/or would save cash not having to be cleaner and safer. It's not savings if we have to fix, mitigate, clean-up, or heal all that is effected by not abating or eliminating pollution and other problems.

I do not support any potential budget cuts to climate initiatives or environmental programs!

The paltry amount that you would be saving us on our tax bills is not worth any degradation to programs already not supported enough.

We should instead be working towards supporting our industries and such in reducing their effects on our citizens, our city, and our environment. Things like returning to capturing waste gases that are currently either released into the environment or burned off, and either selling or utilizing them for needs; and utilizing waste heat in energy production, and other projects that need heat (water heating, building heating, snow removal, accelerating and increasing our range of municipal composting and such, and more examples found around the world!

Run your finger along vehicles, housing, and even garden vegetables and fruits, and the closer that you get to some of our industries, the darker it will be quicker. I do support industry, trickle involved, the supporting industries' jobs, and the triple-down effect that while paying manufacturing jobs have on our broader local business communities. But I do think we can all work together to do better.

But we should at least be able to manage to not cut what greener initiatives we are already working on or what we already have supported and/or succeeding!!!

I believe in and advocate support for: protecting Hamilton's environment, climate protection and action, expanding cycling and transit, and increasing tree cover and biodiversity and protecting the flora and fauna that we already have in our city!

Sincerely,

Laura M. Spring
Resident of Ward 4

(She who is also annoyed at how many buses or round-about-routes I will soon need for all of my medical/dental/etc appointments, and nearly all shopping and other trips, under the new HSR re-routing design to glorify the LRT. But that's a different day's fight. LMS)

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Environmental CUTS????

From: ksweber

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 6:58 PM

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: Environmental CUTS????

Hello. I live in Ward 13. I understand that budget talks are going on right now, for the city of Hamilton.

My family and I feel very strongly that Hamilton has worked hard to get away from the reputation of being a dirty, non-environmentally friendly city. We, as citizens of this beautiful city, need to continue to protect what we have. The Hamilton Conservation Authority, with the gorgeous Dundas Valley, the RBG, the Bruce Trail, our upcoming LRT, our bike lanes, our biodiversity in the city, protecting green areas.....many areas where we shine as a city!

Please do NOT cut budget items related to the environment. With climate change creating crazy weather changes, we need to care for our NATURAL ENVIRONMENT in Hamilton, and initiatives such as bike lanes, to maintain a city that is enticing to move to!

The Globe and Mail's 100 places to live in Canada had Hamilton as #24!!!! What an honour! I know that during Covid many Torontonians, and other urban dwellers from afar, discovered the many wonderful outdoor places in Hamilton. I KNOW that the HCA made a lot more money than they normally did, as so many folks came to hike on our wonderful trails

I am happy to maintain my tax rate, if it means keeping a budget that protects the environment.

Thanks very much.....

Kathy Weber

5.2 (a)

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Please vote NO on Motion 9.7

From: Heather Yoell

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 9:45 AM

To: Tadeson, Mark <Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca>; Hwang, Tammy <Tammy.Hwang@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca;
Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Alex <Alex.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Maureen
<Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; McMeekin, Ted
<Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca>; Kroetsch, Cameron <Cameron.Kroetsch@hamilton.ca>; Spadafora, Mike
<Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca>; Cooper, Rob <Rob.Cooper@hamilton.ca>; Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca>;
Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Francis, Matt <Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom
<Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Cassar, Craig <Craig.Cassar@hamilton.ca>; Office of the Mayor
<Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Please vote NO on Motion 9.7

Dear Mayor Horwath, City Councillors, and City Clerk,

Please VOTE NO to Councillors Spadafora and Francis's terrible motion to defund reserves of the Office of Climate Change Initiatives for 2026. It's shocking that this motion is coming from councillors who sit on the board of the HCA. Such wilful short-sightedness!

This motion would prevent the OCCI from applying for money from external sources, and thus would lose our city outside funding. What a way to shoot off our own feet!

Please vote NO on motion 9.7.

Sincerely,
Heather Yoell
Dundas (Ward 13)

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Feb 13 Budget -Maintain Climate/environmental protections

From: Brittany Zigmond

Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 11:40 PM

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: Feb 13 Budget -Maintain Climate/environmental protections

The motion to reduce the climate change action plan capital budget by \$2.5M for 2026 is truly terrible!

I live in ward 12 but this impacts all of Hamilton.

As City Council continues the budget process they should understand that we want the budget to support the environment, biodiversity, climate change initiatives, and sustainability across Hamilton.

The Biodiversity Action plan needs funding to have meaning. Otherwise it is left meaningless as a waste of time and resources, despite that it holds immense value, but only when it's funded accordingly. The budget should also continue to support Green Ventures' Rain Ready program.

Environmental action is vital to ensure clean drinking water, healthy land to grow crops, and clean air to breath. If you can't go a day without water and air, then you should find sustainable environment action plans accordingly to reflect the value they have every minute of all of our lives. The climate change budget should be increased not decreased.

Brittany N. Zigmond
B.A. (Hons), J.D.

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Defunding OCCI reserves

From: Kathleen Livingston

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 10:37 AM

To: Kroetsch, Cameron <Cameron.Kroetsch@hamilton.ca>

Cc: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Defunding OCCI reserves

Good morning, Cameron,

As a resident of Ward 2, I strongly oppose the motion to defund the reserve fund of the OCCI. Recognizing your position on environmental protection, I will look forward to your vote to defeat the motion.

Yours truly,
Kathleen Livingston

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Vote NO to defunding the Climate Office reserve!

From: Elaine Atkins

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 12:00 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: Vote NO to defunding the Climate Office reserve!

To all of you to whom I have sent this message:

I just received word that you will be voting this afternoon to make this cut to the 2026 budget.

Consider this: It is bad enough that the federal government, for whom I voted, is MIA on the environment. Worse still are the steps taken by the Ford government, for whom I did not vote, to put our environment and species at risk with a number of omnibus bills over recent weeks (and they are MIA from Queen's Park), most specifically on a local level, to impact our Hamilton Conservation Area.

This morning's email alert only adds to a feeling of helplessness in the face of all of these onslaughts, and to have it happen at the municipal level, where we can have the most impact, is alarming. This is nothing short of a slippery slope, pushing responsibility to a new council, failing to stand up against our most important existential crisis, when we should be acting even more proactively.

I trust that you will act responsibly on this.

Nothing else will matter in Hamilton, or the province, or our world, if we do not do what we can to mitigate climate change.

Respectfully,
Elaine Atkins
Ward 12

Pilon, Janet

Subject: defunding climate change

From: Ian Branston

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 11:20 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: defunding climate change

Good Morning:

Climate change is one the greatest existential threats of our times. Defunding the City of Hamilton's climate change committee is short term thinking that will harm future generations.

Regards

Ian Branston

Ward 4

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Keep Addressing Climate Change

From: Lynn Gates

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 10:56 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: Keep Addressing Climate Change

Dear Mayor.

I am both sad and angry that I need to write to you concerning the potential removal of funds to address the climate crisis we are currently experiencing. To reduce capital expenditure in this vital area makes no economic sense and would also reduce our ability to receive provincial and federal grants.

Both Councillors who have proposed this motion represent the City of Hamilton on local Conservation Authorities (CAs), and should be ashamed to do so. Given the conflict of values toward addressing the climate crisis, a key strategic priority for CAs, they should resign immediately and be replaced by more knowledgeable Councillors, capable of attending more than a third of meetings managed by the current representatives.

Establishment of the Climate Change Fund was a serious process that had public input and was supported by Council. A last minute motion to delay or reduce the use of these funds is unacceptable.

Lynn Gates
Ward 1

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Build Budget Better

From: David Lloyd

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 11:08 AM

To: Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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>; clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Build Budget Better

Dear Council and Madam Mayor,

I caution you in supporting the motion to defer this year's Climate Office reserve funding to 2027. To leverage external sources of funding, an application needs to demonstrate that the City has an interest in the project by having partial funding already in place. If Hamilton does not approve the annual OCCI funding, that office will not be able to apply for outside funding and projects would either stop or taxpayers would be paying for them.

I support the OCCI, and I emphatically support that office's ability to leverage outside sources of funding for important climate initiatives. Removing the reserve funding will impact that ability.

Furthermore, Councillors Spadafora and Francis sit on the Board of the HCA, an organization whose mandate focuses on tackling the climate emergency through water management. This motion seems like a careless kick of sand in the face to that organization.

Regrettably, the source of this motion does not come as a surprise, since the 2025 HCA board minutes reveal that of last year's 12 HCA board meetings, Councillor Spadafora only attended three and Councillor Francis only attended five, demonstrating that they are not committed to the cause.

I believe that any Councillor who sits on a CA board and votes to support this motion should step down from their position on that board.

Sincerely

David Lloyd Williams

Ward 12

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Say NO to defunding the reserves of the Office of Climate Change Initiatives

From: Yasmin Peeran

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2026 11:50 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@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: Say NO to defunding the reserves of the Office of Climate Change Initiatives

Dear City of Hamilton Councillors, Honorable Mayor and Clerk,

I am a resident of Ward 2 and am very upset to hear about the last minute addition to today's meeting agenda of defunding the reserves of the Office of Climate Change Initiatives. I encourage you all to vote NO on this as our city needs to pay attention to the evolving threats of climate change.

Climate change is here to stay and the sooner we all get on board with that fact, the better able we will be to prepare for and mitigate the risks and harms associated with it. It makes no sense at all to defund a reserve that is trying to address the city's future needs. I understand that immediate needs also need to be met, but that should not be at the cost of our future because then what is it all for?

I am currently an environmental steward and we are looking for ways to support existing projects/programs that are trying to improve our environment, clean up environmental messes and mitigate future risk. But the city also needs to be paying attention to these things and cannot shirk their environmental responsibilities.

I hope to hear that this motion fails in this afternoon's meeting.

Warm Regards,

Yasmin Peeran