

From: Lyn Folkes
Sent: April 29, 2026 6:09 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Re: Mon 4th Public Works meeting

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments.

Dear Clerk,

I would like to comment on the construction being planned for the Safari Rd. wetland which is to be discussed at the Public Works meeting on Monday May 4th, 2026.

This wetland is a sensitive natural area, important in many ways. It's critical that the marsh's function remain intact during and after the construction process to control flooding and protect resident birds and animals, some extremely rare in the Hamilton area.

This marsh has a high number of visitors who are attracted by the wildlife, and it is a Hamilton "Hot Spot" for bird diversity and rare sensitive species. I was at this marsh very early this spring and found the largest flock of Purple Finches that I've ever seen in our area. Ecologically, this is a uniquely rich, very healthy wetland. It's home to birds many people have never even heard of, like Bitterns, Rails and Gallinules.

So please take special care during the road construction planning and work by disturbing the marsh as little as possible and closely monitoring erosion control measures, measures to make sure there's no contamination of the wetland water, etc. The timing of the work will be vitally important to breeding species in the marsh as well. Loud noise and other disturbances should be avoided during the breeding season for any and all sensitive wildlife species.

I assume the Hamilton Naturalists Club, the annual Flamborough bird counts (in which I've taken part) and the City of Hamilton (maybe in the BAP as well?) all have information on this highly sensitive habitat, which could inform workers on how to take special care during the road rebuilding.

The Safari Road Marsh is a very important natural area that deserves extra careful protection efforts.

Thank you,

Lyn Folkes

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