

From: donna deneault

Sent: April 30, 2026 9:54 AM

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Cc: donna deneault

Subject: Public Works 9.2 - May 4 Safari Road wetland complex

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To: Hamilton City Council

Re: Hyde-Rockton-Beverly Provincially Significant Wetland Complex

We highly urge you to vote for **Option #2** - permanent closure of this small section of the road where species at risk have been identified.

The capital cost to raise 2.5 km of Safari Road is estimated to be between: \$8.1 M - \$9.3M when Hamilton already has a \$5.2 billion infrastructure deficit.

Hamilton Naturalists' Club's comments: *"Hamilton has implemented a Biodiversity Action Plan which identifies 4 key threats to biodiversity. One of these is fragmentation of natural areas, particularly by roads. An Action that the City has committed to is 3.1 which will "Investigate, identify and prioritize wildlife corridors particularly where roads bisect Core Areas identified within the Natural Heritage System and respond by investigating appropriate best management practices and tools." In Action 7.5 the City committed to "Consider the Biodiversity Action Plan when initiating City projects and studies, looking for opportunities for mitigation of key threats to local biodiversity."*

We believe that Safari Road should be removed from the Truck Routes Network, which designates it as a full-time truck route. This designation is driving Staff's preferred alternative which is to raise up and widen the road but we believe the integrity of the wetland should not be compromised to provide a faster route for trucks and cars when there are parallel roads that can and have been used since the road was closed several years ago.

Safari Road is also part of the Cycling Master Plan and therefore Complete Streets Guidelines require that if the road is raised, it is also widened to add a shoulder on each side. We support

adding cycling infrastructure on parallel roads but this should not be used as a justification to raise and widen Safari Road which will negatively impact this wetland complex.

Residents and businesses have by now adapted to the long time closure and we believe keeping Safari Road closed would 1) honour the City's commitment to biodiversity, 2) stop the fragmentation of habitat by roads, 3) cut down on salt in the wetland complex, and 4) save taxpayers the costs of re-engineering, re-building, and maintaining this road.

Once again, we highly urge you to vote for Option 2: permanent closure of this small section of the road where species at risk have been identified.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donna Deneault