

February 15, 2012

Attention Chair and Members of the General Issues Committee

**Re: Accessible Transportation Services Master Plan – Eligibility and Registration Policy  
Revision for Accessible Transportation Services (PW03128(c)) (City Wide) (Item 7.2)**

Dear Committee Members:

I am here today to present signed petitions in support of the City Council direction from Public Works Meeting April 2010:

(a) That the General Manager of Public Works be authorized and directed to:

(i) expend \$500,000, on an ongoing basis, in previously approved Provincial Gas Tax funds from Account 53330, to increase the 2010 budgeted DARTS trips by 17,000 trips, annualized, from 426,000 to 443,000 trips, in response to growth in demand driving a sustained unacceptable number of unaccommodated trip requests;

(ii) expand the previously approved 2010 ATS fleet capital replacement by four (4) vehicles, increasing overall fleet from 66 to 70, at a cost of \$749,700 inclusive of vehicle make-ready contingency, funded from Provincial Gas Tax Reserve 112204, to provide sufficient fleet to implement accommodation measures under Recommendation (a) to Report PW03128c;

(b) That the General Manager of Public Works be authorized and directed to bring forward a multi-year Accessible Transportation Services (ATS) service enhancement and budget plan for consideration of the revised Eligibility and Registration Policy, as identified within Report PW03128c, over and above annual maintenance budget increase requirements, for the consideration of Council as part of the 2011 budget process;

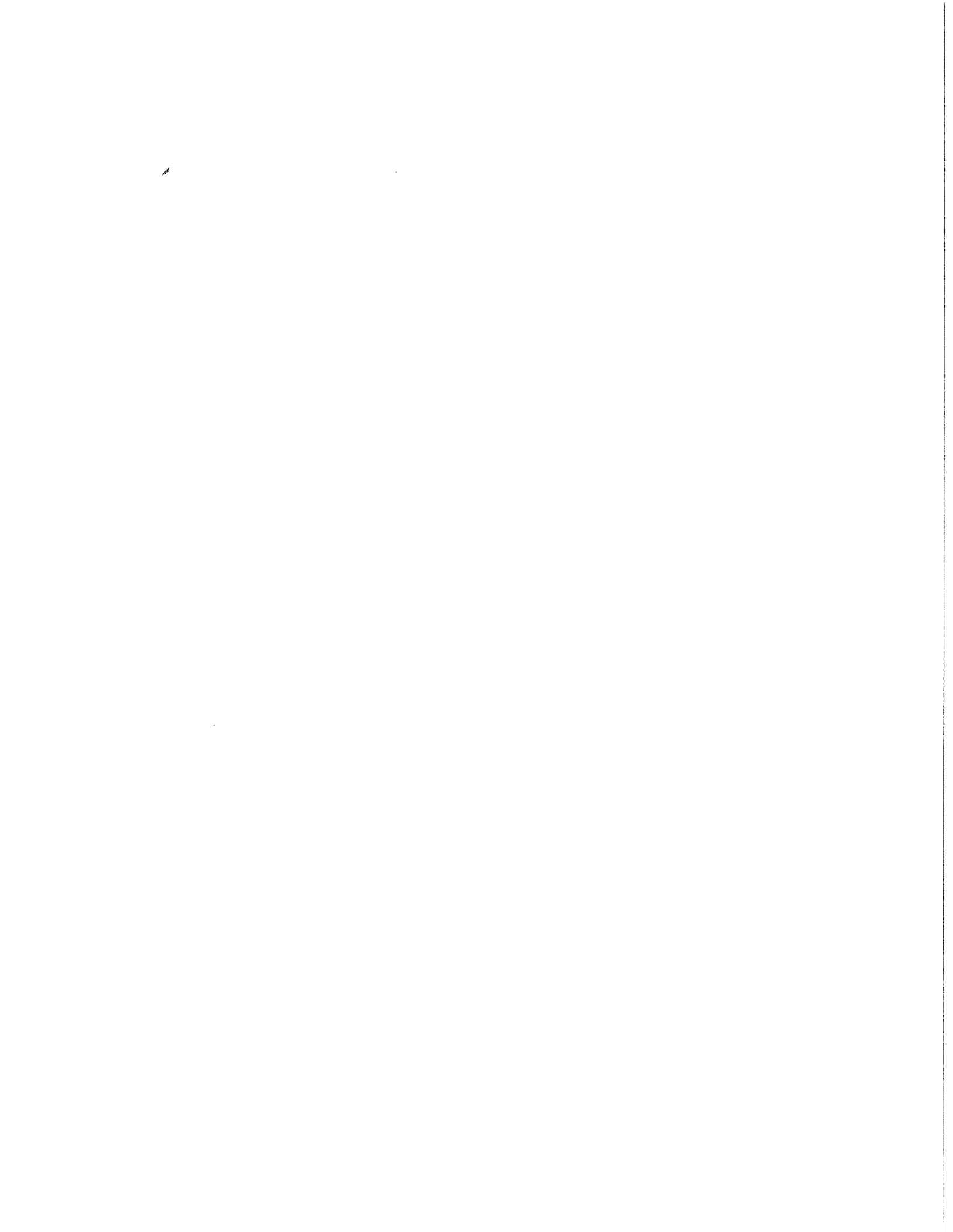
(c) That the General Manager of Public Works be authorized and directed to carry out consultation with community stakeholders to examine and develop cost mitigation opportunities, through community partnerships, **Public Works Committee April 19, 2010 Minutes**

(d) That the General Manager of Public Works be authorized and directed to hire a contract Project Manager for a 24-month period to lead the recommended community consultation and strategic implementation, to be funded from Capital Account 5300483400;

(e) That the Executive Summary of the final report of the study "Implementation of New Eligibility Policy at Accessible Transportation Services" carried out by Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates, attached as Appendix A to Report PW03128c, be received.

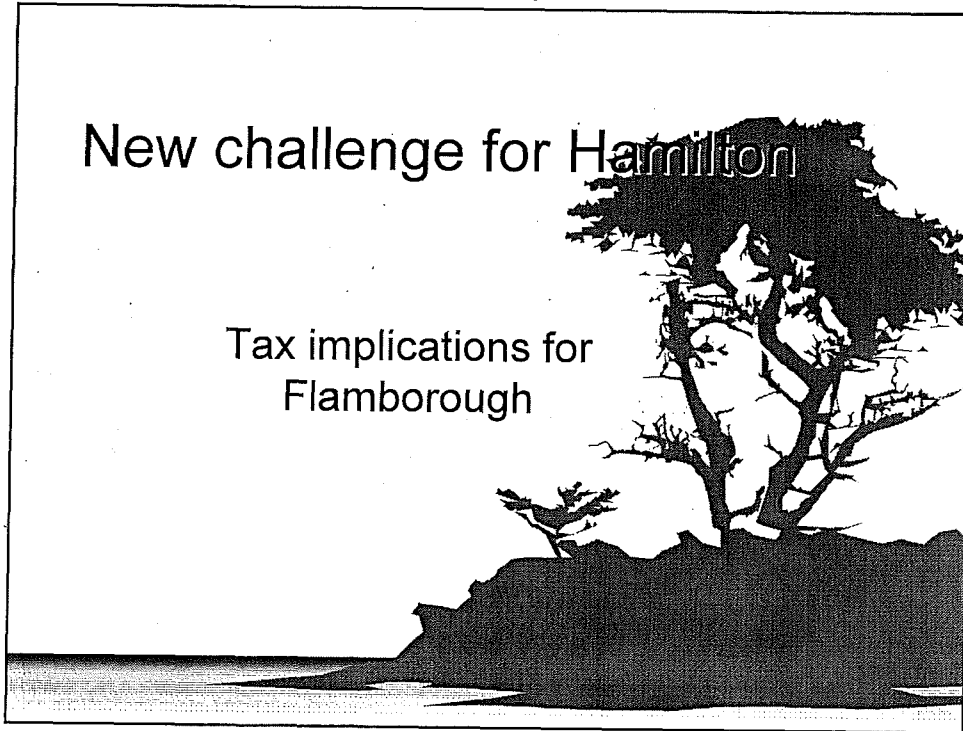
**The time has come to finish the work that we started in 2003 that will ensure a fair and equitable transit system for all citizens in Hamilton.**

Sincerely,



# New challenge for Hamilton

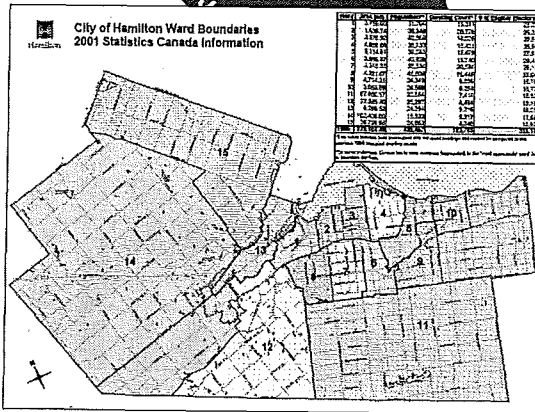
## Tax implications for Flamborough



Flamborough is largest Ward  
population 45000 dwellings 15000

- 1 Hamilton
  - 2 Devonport
  - 3 West of Hamilton
  - 4 East Hamilton
  - 5 Flamborough
  - 6 East Hamilton
  - 7 Dundas West
  - 8 West Hamilton
  - 9 Middlebrook
  - 10 Stone Creek
  - 11 Westdale
  - 12 Ancaster
  - 13 Hamilton
  - 14 Flamborough
  - 15 Ancaster
- 139.9 k } 13
- 139.2 k } 2

Flamborough area within city



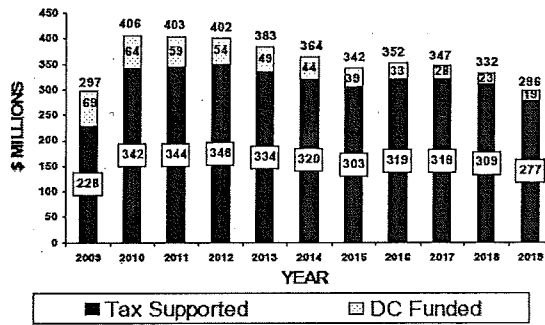
New solutions for Flamborough are required to insure a fair return for our tax dollars

# Hamilton Debt is out of control



## Debt Forecast 2009-2019

PROJECTED OUTSTANDING DEBT - TAX



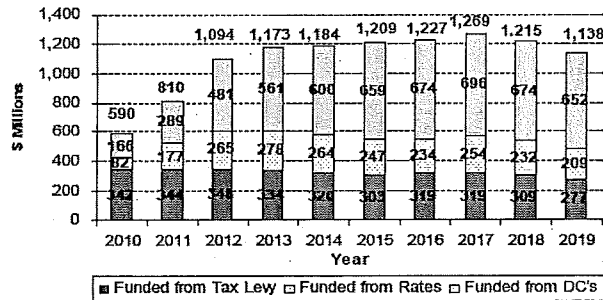
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# Outstanding Debt



## Consolidated Outstanding Debt Forecast

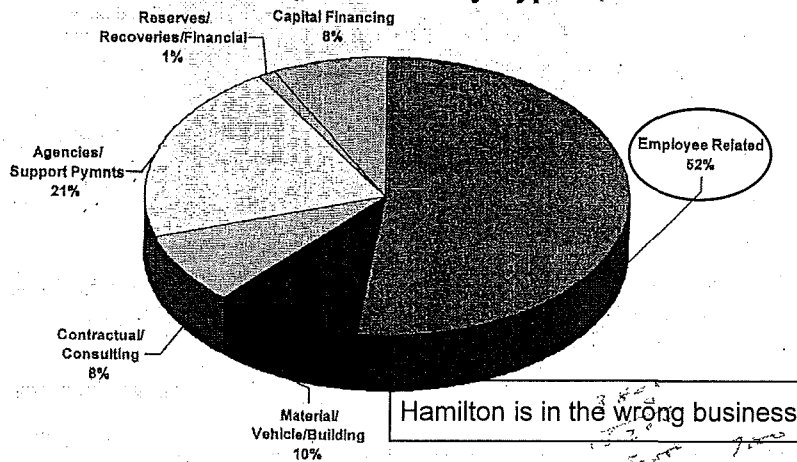
Projected Outstanding Debt - Tax & Rate



City's Debt Limit is approx. \$2.1 Billion. Based on Annual Repayment Limit (ARL) of \$221 M (25% of revenues)

# Hamilton Employee Related budget is out of control

2012 Gross Tax Expenditures by Type - \$1.25 billion

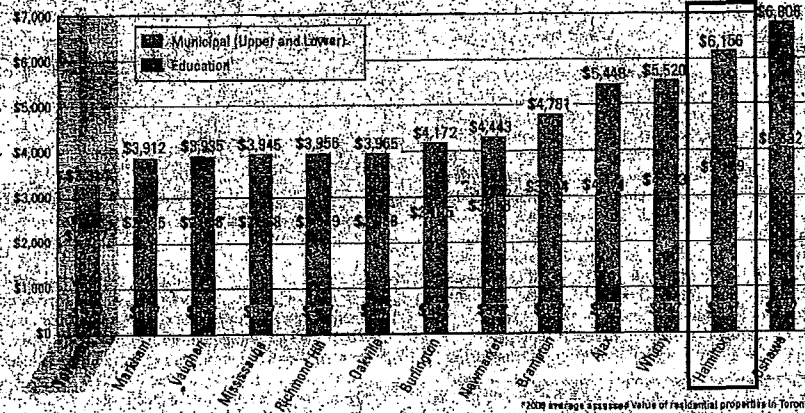


## CITY OF HAMILTON 2012 TAX OPERATING BUDGET By Cost Category

Tax	2011 Budget	2011 Projected Actual	2012 Preliminary Budget	2012 Preliminary / 2011 Budget \$	%
EMPLOYEE RELATED COST	629,571,908	623,924,352	647,533,489	17,961,581	2.9%
MATERIAL AND SUPPLY	55,542,961	57,072,676	62,481,855	6,918,694	12.5%
VEHICLE EXPENSES	33,462,540	34,638,226	35,768,405	2,366,865	7.1%
BUILDING AND GROUND	27,064,796	28,141,242	27,824,174	759,378	2.8%
CONSULTING	973,680	1,472,604	1,013,970	40,280	4.1%
CONTRACTUAL	99,154,619	100,492,154	103,110,797	3,956,178	4.0%
AGENCIES and SUPPORT PAYMENTS	288,442,599	278,807,627	266,694,586	(21,748,011)	(7.5)%
RESERVES / RECOVERIES	(10,007,774)	(7,542,787)	(18,918,489)	(8,910,715)	(89.0)%
COST ALLOCATIONS	(5,545,270)	(4,842,832)	(5,186,799)	358,471	6.5%
FINANCIAL	36,158,847	34,761,932	36,048,240	(110,607)	(0.3)%
CAPITAL FINANCING (F)	94,343,510	84,121,475	98,011,490	3,667,980	3.9%
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0	51,200	3,258	3,258	100.0%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>1,249,102,416</b>	<b>1,231,087,768</b>	<b>1,254,365,778</b>	<b>5,263,362</b>	<b>0.4%</b>
FEES AND GENERAL	(172,106,131)	(174,196,296)	(175,328,201)	(3,222,070)	(1.8)%
TAX AND RATES	(25,147,020)	(27,185,510)	(26,858,300)	(1,511,280)	(6.0)%
GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES	(311,823,189)	(307,990,449)	(308,916,352)	2,706,837	0.9%
RESERVES	(51,191,968)	(39,645,275)	(30,165,056)	21,006,912	41.0%
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>(580,088,309)</b>	<b>(549,017,530)</b>	<b>(541,087,909)</b>	<b>18,980,399</b>	<b>3.4%</b>
<b>NET LEVY</b>	<b>689,034,107</b>	<b>682,070,237</b>	<b>713,277,869</b>	<b>24,243,761</b>	<b>3.5%</b>

## Toronto residential property tax remains the lowest in the GTA

2009 Property Taxes Paid on a Residential Property assessed at \$307,680\*



## No growth in Hamilton since 2001

2006 Statistics Canada Census for the City of Hamilton

The City of Hamilton experienced a positive growth rate of 2.91% in 2006 from 2001, somewhat lower, in comparison to the Ontario's growth rate of 6.6%, which exceeded that of the Canada's national average growth rate of 5.4%.

Both the communities of Glanbrook and Ancaster showed a significant percentage population change for a combined increase in total population of some 8,806 individuals. Generally, all Communities contributed to the growth of the City with the exception of the community of Hamilton showing a slight decline in its overall population but remaining consistent at 329,820.

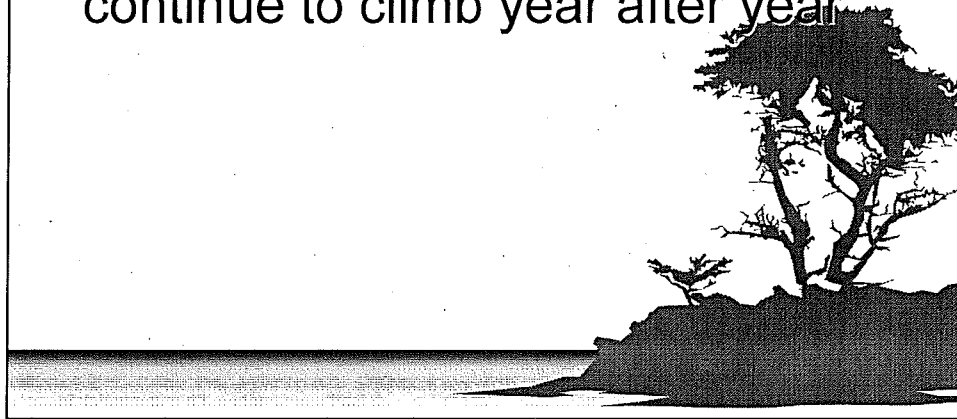
The percentage of unit change for the City of Hamilton averaged 5.55%, with Glanbrook leading in proportional dwelling unit change since 2001.

Community	2006 Population	2001 Population	Population Change	Percentage Population Change	2006 Dwelling Counts	2001 Dwelling Counts	Dwelling Change	Percentage Dwelling Unit Change	Area (sq. km.)
Hamilton	329,820	331,121	-1,301	-0.39%	142,559	138,093	4,466	3.23%	122.47
Stoney Creek	62,292	57,327	4,965	8.66%	22,294	20,103	2,191	10.90%	100.23
Glanbrook	15,293	12,145	3,148	25.92%	5,939	4,491	1,448	32.24%	203.66
Ancaster	33,232	27,485	5,747	20.91%	11,088	9,240	1,848	20.00%	176.58
Dundas	24,702	24,394	308	1.26%	9,680	9,316	364	3.91%	23.32
Framborough	39,220	37,796	1,424	3.77%	13,362	12,911	451	3.49%	490.86
City of Hamilton	504,599	490,268	14,281	2.91%	204,922	194,154	10,768	5.55%	1,117.11

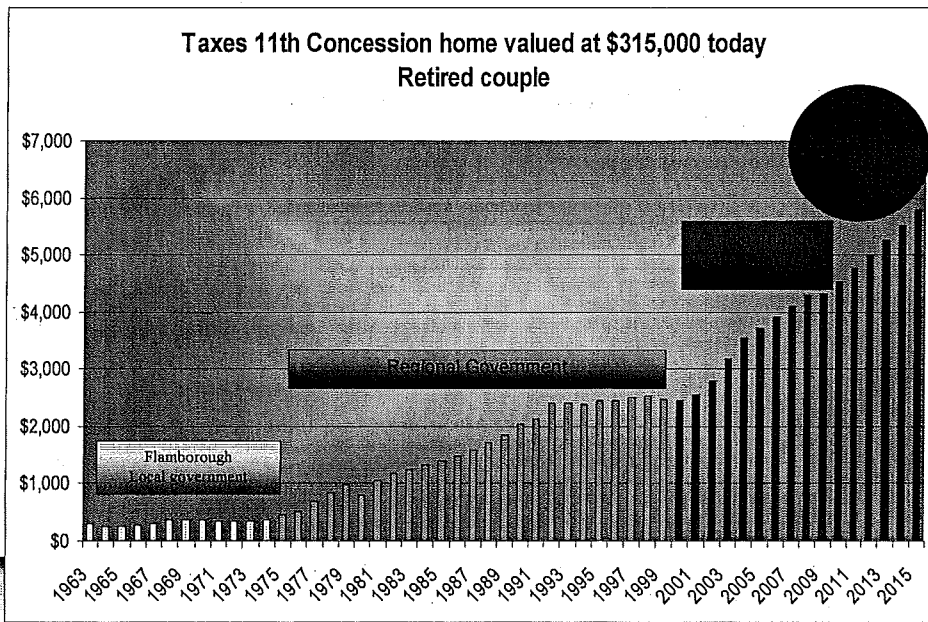
Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 and 2006 Census

Note: Population and Dwelling Counts have been aggregated to Community from Census tract data.

Flamborough's taxes will  
continue to climb year after year

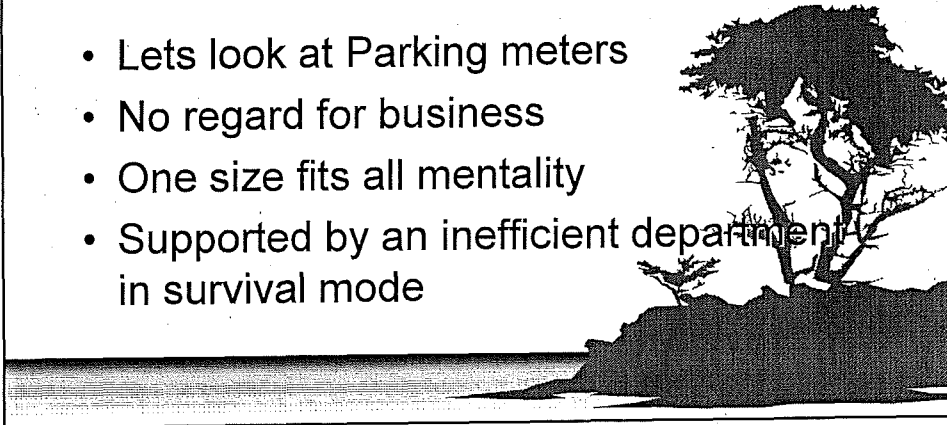


### Flamborough's skyrocket taxes since 2000



## City council does not listen to taxpayers

- Lets look at Parking meters
- No regard for business
- One size fits all mentality
- Supported by an inefficient department in survival mode



Waterdown hourly revenue is \$5.18 & Stoney Creek \$10.39

**SUBJECT: Financial Update on Paid Parking in Waterdown & Stoney Creek (PED11104(a)) (Wards 9 & 15)**

### Information:

The annual revenues expected from paid parking in Waterdown are \$48,000.00 and \$128,000.00 in Stoney Creek. However, actual revenues are \$17,766.94 in Waterdown and \$35,645.53 in Stoney Creek.

Staff conclude that the reduced revenues can be attributed to several factors including;

- non-acceptance of paid parking by the community,

- budget estimates were based on paid parking both on and off-street, and with Council's decision to retain free parking in the off-street lots, more motorists are parking in the municipal carparks where there is no charge, rather than paying to park on the street; and,

- the net loss of 12 meters in Waterdown (Mill Street Heritage District).

Notwithstanding the fact that the meters in these areas are underperforming financially, the revenue picture has improved somewhat since the last staff report (PED11104) to the Planning Committee on June 7, 2011. Staff anticipates that the resistance to paid parking will continue to subside over time and that revenues will increase slightly. However, until such time as paid parking is implemented in the adjacent municipal carparks, staff are of the opinion that the original budget forecasts cannot be obtained.

Committee should also be aware that on November 16, 2011, City Council approved pre-Christmas free parking within the Waterdown BIA resulting in an estimated reduction of \$1,700 in revenues.



**CITY OF HAMILTON  
2012 PRELIMINARY  
GROSS AND NET OPERATING BUDGET**

Appendix 1-2

	Gross Expenditures			Gross Revenues			Net Operating Budget		
	2011 Budget	2011 Preliminary Budget	% Change	2011 Budget	2011 Preliminary Budget	% Change	2011 Budget	2011 Preliminary Budget	2012 Preliminary vs 2011 Finalized
<b>PLANNING &amp; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>									
Building Services	9,449,365	9,710,168	2.0%	(8,419,735)	(8,768,225)	(4.1)%	1,029,630	841,941	(85,689) (8.3)%
Economic Development	6,610,835	4,932,181	4.4%	(1,168,830)	(1,240,028)	(7.0)%	4,442,005	5,682,145	210,139 3.9%
GM, Finance & Support Services	1,017,780	1,007,049	(1.1)%	0	0	0.0%	1,017,780	1,007,049	(10,731) (1.1)%
Growth Management	3,678,340	3,718,894	1.3%	(4,049,858)	(4,038,035)	0.3%	(378,518)	(318,142)	57,424 15.3%
Parking & By-law Services	22,859,010	24,030,263	6.5%	(17,491,380)	(19,358,857)	(10.1)%	5,068,730	4,773,628	(285,101) (5.6)%
Planning	5,091,034	5,265,877	3.8%	(3,650,180)	(3,021,678)	0.6%	2,640,824	2,281,888	(221,674) 10.6%
Strategic Services/Special Projects	1,456,230	1,428,243	(1.9)%	(35,723)	(1,502)	95.6%	1,419,527	1,427,743	8,218 0.6%
Totals Hamilton	2,221,229	1,862,868	(12.1)%	(756,650)	(752,857)	0.4%	1,423,579	1,199,016	(226,563) (15.9)%
<b>TOTAL PLANNING &amp; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>\$2,018,814</b>	<b>\$4,036,181</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>(15,842,144)</b>	<b>(17,078,443)</b>	<b>(8.8)%</b>	<b>17,077,319</b>	<b>18,984,349</b>	<b>(121,211) (0.7)%</b>

## 98% of Flamborough wants out of Hamilton

In July and August of 2008, the CFF conducted a survey throughout the communities within Flamborough. That "Flamborough Satisfaction Survey" made it abundantly clear that after nearly 8 years of amalgamation, 98% of Flamborough is still dissatisfied with being part of Hamilton and would like to separate from the mega city. The results of that survey are shown in the chart below:

TOTAL SURVEY ENTRIES		DISSATISFIED & WANT SEPARATION	
<b>1280</b>		<b>98%</b>	
<b>Question #1: "Are you satisfied with Flamborough being part of Hamilton?"</b>			
YES	(satisfied)	21 signatures	1.64%
NO	(dissatisfied)	1256 signatures	98.13%
N/A	(undecided)	3 signatures	0.23%
		<b>1280 signatures</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Question #2: "Are you in favour of Flamborough separating from Hamilton?"</b>			
YES	(separate)	1248 signatures	97.50%
NO	(don't separate)	27 signatures	2.11%
N/A	(undecided)	5 signatures	0.39%
		<b>1280 signatures</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## Lawsuit Budget

- Due to the support that Hamilton City Council is giving Terry Whitehead in free legal help at the taxpayers expense in the slander lawsuit against him, the City is potentially opening itself to another lawsuit

## Mayor's promise

- We want to remind the mayor about his election promise to review and outline amalgamation costs as they pertain to Hamilton

**You're invited to view: 22 Daymond Drive**



**Prestigious Aberfoyle Creek ~ Phase III**  
(Open House each Sunday, 1 pm till 5:00pm)

22 Daymond Drive features 6,400 sq ft of liveable space (3900 sq ft on main floor w/2500 sq ft on walkout on lower level). It boasts a 3 car garage that sits on a professionally landscaped 7/8 acre lot. This is a must see custom walkout bungalow built with pride and painstaking attention to detail.

**Interior Highlights:**

- Breath-taking Kitchen w/ granite counter tops throughout
- Large Master Ensuite w/ "Californian style" Master Bedroom walk-in closet
- Unique ceramic, Marble and Hardwood floor coverings on main floor
- Custom Designed Fireplace in Great Room and Kitchen
- Circular staircase with custom balusters and iron rod pickets
- Basement designed to be mould and allergy resistant
- Upgraded insulation throughout the house
- Energy efficient and four individual zone control furnace and air exchanger
- Additional 100 amp electrical sub-panel

**Exterior Highlights:**

- Designer landscape rock retaining walls front and rear yard
- Interlocking stone walkway and patio
- House designed for low maintenance

**Directions: Google!**  
22 Daymond Dr. Puslinch Ont.

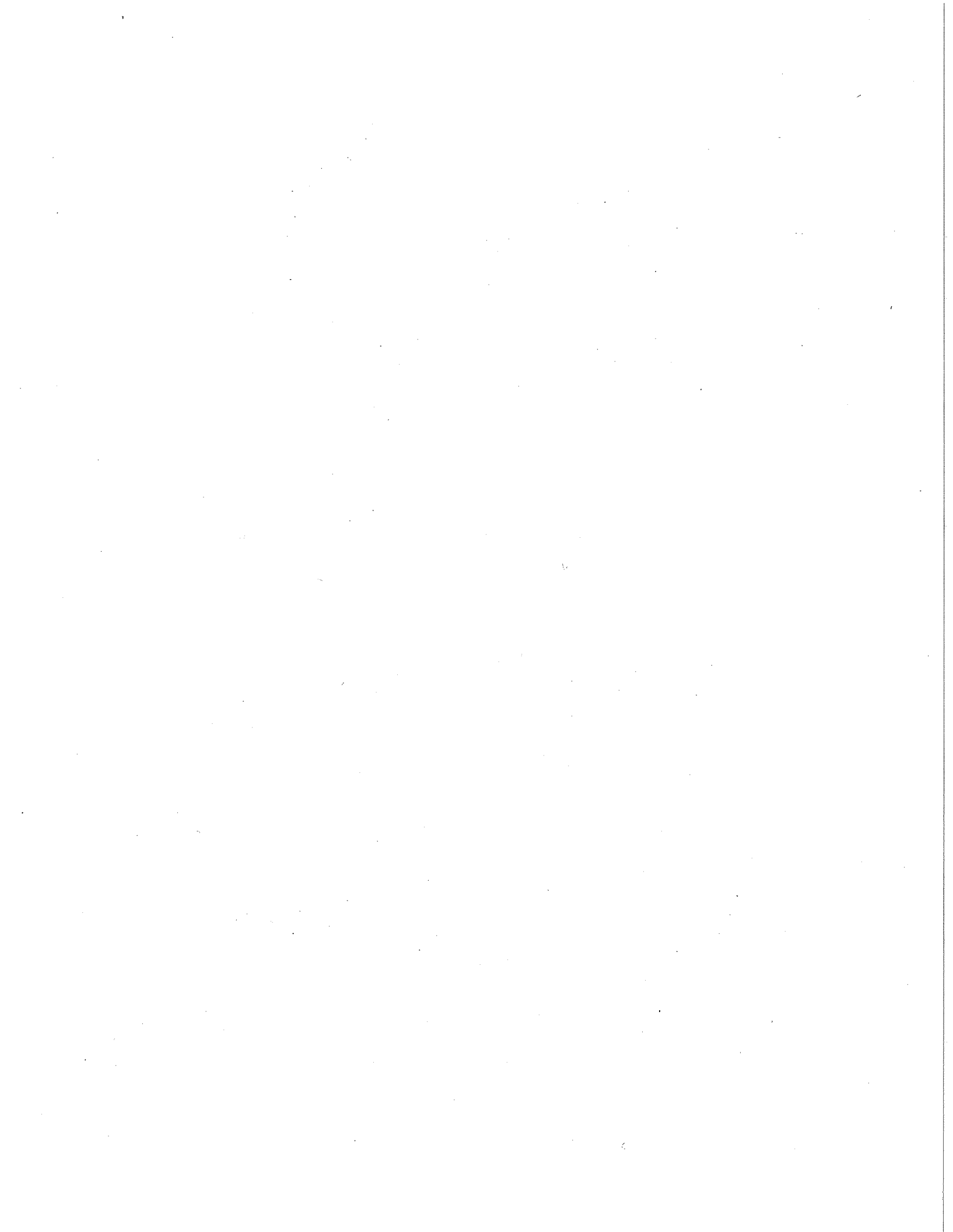
- Aberfoyle Creek Phase III
- Heading South: Take Brock Rd. (old Hwy 6) three streets south of Maltby Road and turn right onto Daymond Dr.
- Heading North: Take Brock Rd. four lights past the 401 and turn left onto Daymond

**TRC Design/Build**

Custom Homes  
Roman Sarachman P.Eng  
Jason Sarachman  
Bc.Eng MBA CMA  
RomanTRC@sympatico.ca  
For evening appointments  
call 905-978-0601



**Fairness for Flamborough**



February 15, 2012

THE GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, Councillors, Ladies and Gentlemen, good afternoon and thank you for giving me ~~the opportunity of~~ a few minutes of your time.

This report prepared by the City Staff says that the Municipal Government is the most accessible and accountable level of Government.

Based on that assurance, I am submitting a few comments for your consideration.

1. The same report claims a typical Ontario taxpayer in Ontario pays only 10% of his total taxes to municipal government. In my case, I pay 25%. Ever since amalgamation, it keeps getting bigger and bigger.
2. When deliberating tax rates it is very important to recognize the impact of the large differences in tax assessments. In Ward 4, City Centre, the average assessment is 132300 while in Ward 15, Flamborough, the average assessment is 351500. Consequently, a tax increase of 73 in City Centre, Ward 3 becomes 195 in Flamborough, just short of 3 times more than what the Ward 3 taxpayer pays.
3. Parking Service has announced that revenues from the 61 meters in Waterdown for the 12 months ended June30/11 totalled only 17656 and this was gross revenues before deducting a dime for expenses. These revenues were 64% below the forecast of 4800 which was based on 20% occupancy. Actual occupancy must have been only 7 or 8%.  
17656 gross revenues for the year translate into an average of 1471 gross per month or 330 per week or 55 per day before any expenses.  
The Waterdown meters are open for business 66 hours per 6 day week. To provide the needed supervision I understand the meters are manned by two people each day, one person on each of 2 shifts for the 66 hours. The 55 gross income per day must cover the above costs and as the meters are shared with Ancaster, the cost of the enforcers driving twice per day to Ancaster and back, approximately 100 kms. There are other expenses, cost of cash pick up and custody, overhead, etc., which appears to go well beyond the gross revenues of 55 daily. It is evident the meters are producing only a trickle of funds, hardly enough to cover the cost of the pick-up.

The City reports the meter revenues have not met expectations because the Community has not accepted them. The fact is the Community does not need them, they do nothing for the Community - why should they be accepted. It is a disgrace that they have been imposed on our businesses and services when they



are already hard pressed to meet the competition from the neighbouring free parking Big Box stores.

The meters, I believe are losing money which is being covered from taxes. Mr. Chairman I challenge this Council to prove I am wrong. Show me the numbers. I ask for your response.

4. I note you have commenced a Service delivery review. This is a progressive step and the best news in the budget. This is not a substitute for the amalgamation review promised by Mayor Bratina in his election campaign. When will this be done?

The review should compare the cost per household of a range of core services before and after amalgamation in Flamborough as well as a comparative analyses of taxation per household and size of bureaucracy. This is well within the powers of municipal government and could be done for little cost by engaging the McMaster Dean of Political Science or Economics to do as a class project.

5. Once again, the expense driver in this budget is employee compensation – big government needs big bureaucracy. 91% of the tax levy is for employee related costs. Is this in line with comparable cities? The draft budget has a tax write-off of 9.4 million. Usually, this would be offset by reserves. Please clarify. Corporate pension benefits are up 18.6%. Does this include a special payment to the substantially underfunded pension plans? What is the plan to fund these pension plans?

S. Haworth  
31 Acredale Drive, P. O. Box 83  
Carlisle, Ontario  
L0R 1H0





**GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2012**

**WATERDOWN PARKING METERS**

**Introduction**

I first would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to speak here today.

My name is Andy MacLaren and I live at 37 Mill Street North in Waterdown.

I am the chair of the Flamborough Citizens Coalition responsible for the petition of 1688 signatures asking for the removal of the Waterdown parking meters which was presented to council in March, 2011 by councilor Partridge.

I am also chair of the Waterdown/Mill Street Heritage Committee, which was formed February, 2011. Our objective is to protect the historical attributes in the Waterdown core and heritage properties throughout Flamborough.

I am here today representing both committees in our efforts to have the Waterdown parking meters removed.

I have had a chance to review the financial report prepared by staff and as expected revenues are very low, I would like to go over a few points.

1. The expected revenues were \$48,000.00 for 20% usage. - Actual revenues: \$17,766.94.

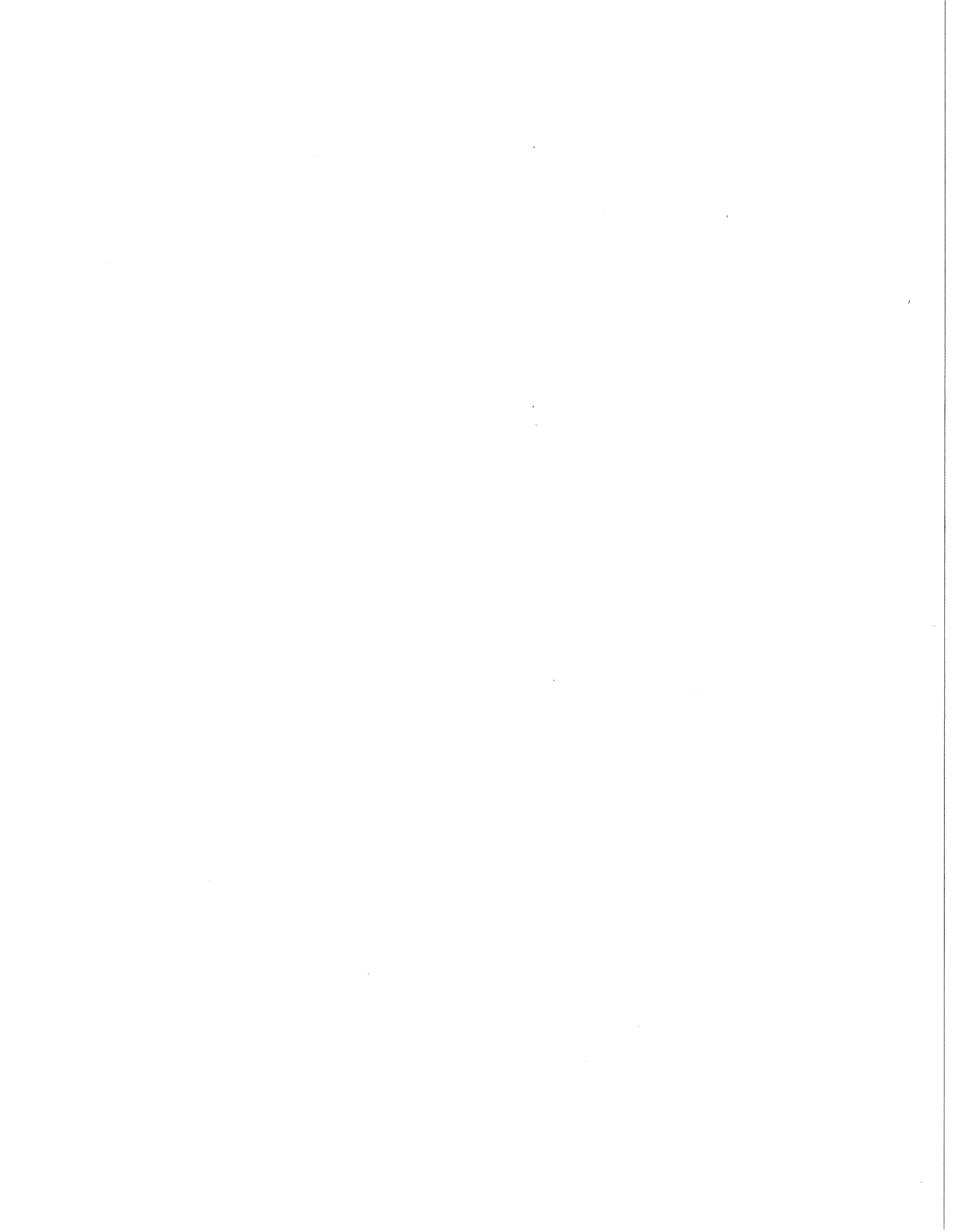
However, there are no expenses mentioned in this report. There would be hourly wages, benefits, vehicle costs, insurance and gas. Even if no one has been hired, 2 employees would have to be pulled from another department in the city to cover the area. There would be a 30- 40 minute round trip from Waterdown to other areas of the city.

2. Staff concludes that reduced revenues can be attributed to several factors:

- non-acceptance of paid parking by the community
- budget estimates were based on both "on" and "off" street paid parking
- free parking at municipal lots (which amounts to 16 parking spaces)

*Quote:* Motorists are parking in the municipal car park where there is no charge rather than paying to park on the street.

The meters are forcing people off of the street as the City Staff Reports states, regarding the municipal lot but this is happening ten fold across the businesses in the Waterdown core.



Businesses in Waterdown have large lots with plenty of free parking which are being filled up by people that do not want to pay for the street parking .

The Waterdown BIA area consists of approximately 240 stores. Of that number, 53 stores are located in the parking meter affected area.

There are many businesses with private lots. These private lots account for 683 FREE parking spaces in the core. This does not include the municipal lots or on-street parking on side streets.

Even the new building at Main & Dundas streets have 5 meters out front but 23 free spaces at the rear of the building.

It also does not even touch all of the acres of free parking a short walk all the way up Hamilton Street - like: Sobey's plaza, Fortino's plaza, Weeks of Waterdown, Bulk Barn plaza and the Goodness Me plaza.

Plus not to mention the free parking in the big box "metropolis" 2 km west on Dundas Street.

It is extremely unfair to these businesses in the Waterdown core because it is very difficult to police their own lots to make sure their lots are being used by their customers and not the customers of some other business. This was never a problem until the meters arrived.

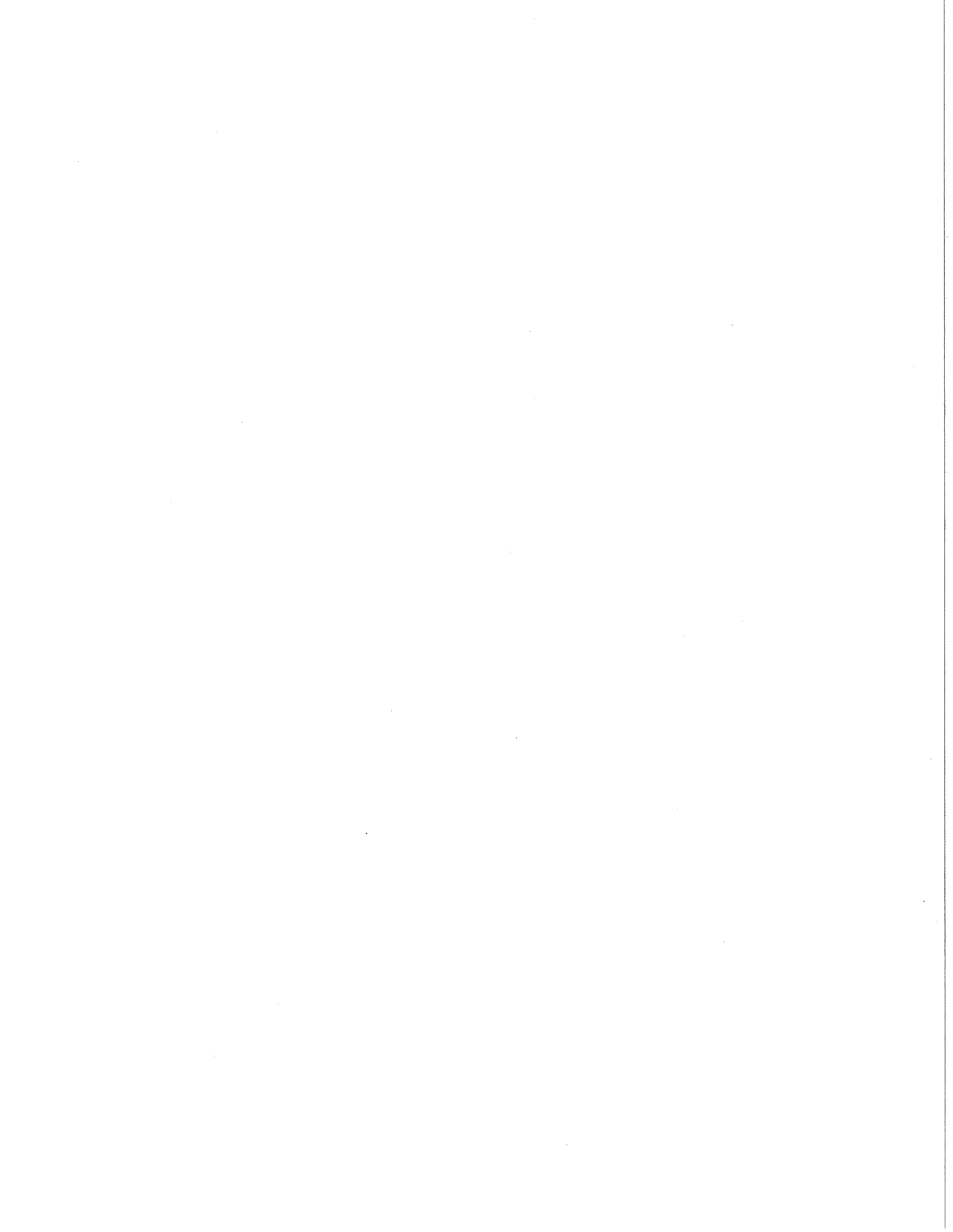
IS IT FAIR that downtown Hamilton has parking meters? Maybe not. HOWEVER they are needed to control traffic and allow parking for customers. There are also some financial benefits to the City.

IS IT FAIR that downtown Waterdown has parking meters? Absolutely NOT :

1. It has caused a nightmare for businesses to monitor their own lots.
2. It gives the impression that nothing is open as the streets are empty.
3. The servicing of these meters out weigh any revenue advantages.
4. Customers are being forced off the street to use free private lots.
5. Ratio of paid versus free parking is 61 to 683.

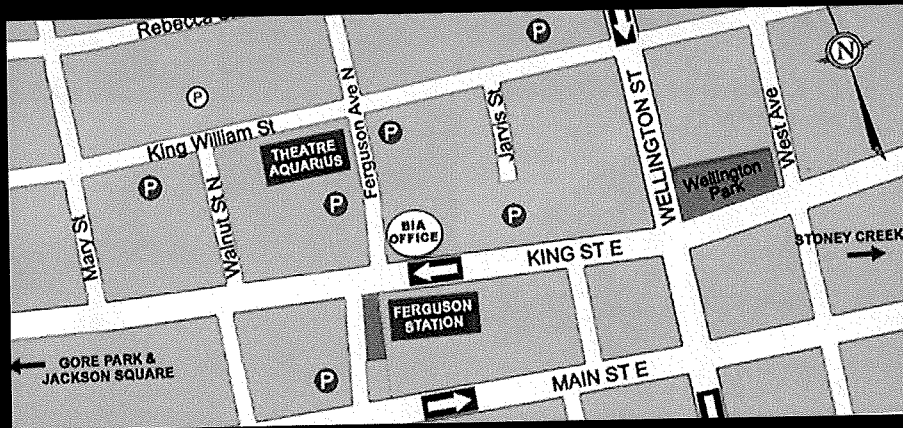
In closing, on behalf of the Flamborough Citizens Coalition and The Waterdown /Mill Street Heritage Committee, we are asking this council to remove the parking meters from Waterdown as they are doing more harm than good.

Thank you.





Hamilton's International Village includes Main Street East, King Street East and King William Street, from Mary Street to West Avenue, in Downtown Hamilton



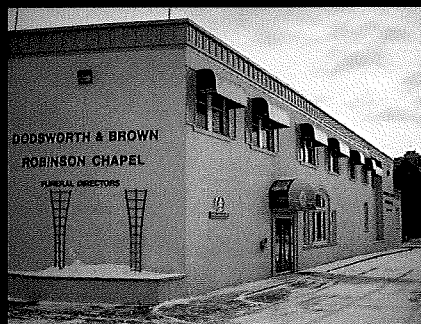
There are over 125 retail commercial businesses in International Village which accounts for 260,000 sq.ft. of retail space in Hamilton....



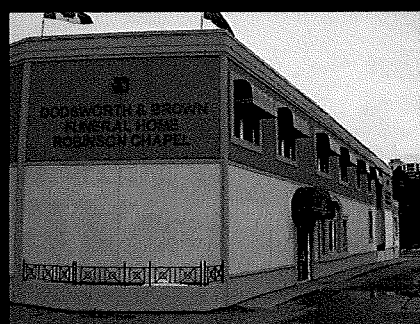
...the value of commercial building permits between 2005-2010 was over \$8.5 million.

The total investment of CPIG - facade improvement grants between 2002 to 2010 was \$717,150 and 61 buildings have participated in the CPIG program.

BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE

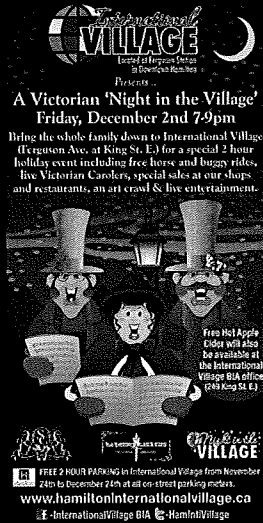


AFTER



In 2011 International Village BIA took advantage of over \$27,000 in grants provided to us by the City of Hamilton through the Community Improvement Plan, Parking Revenue Sharing Program and the Christmas Grant.

By providing grants to our BIA the City of Hamilton helped to fund the following events in 2011:



**INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE**  
Largest of Festivals, Events  
& Celebrations

Presents  
**A Victorian 'Night in the Village'**  
Friday, December 2nd 7-9pm

Bring the whole family down to International Village (Ferguson Ave. at King St. E.) for a special 2 hour holiday event including free horse and buggy rides, live Victorian Carolers, special sales at our shops and restaurants, an art crawl & live entertainment.

Free Hot Apple Cider will also be available at the International Village BIA office (108 King St. E.)

**INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE**  
Largest of Festivals, Events & Celebrations

**FREE 2 HOUR PARKING** in International Village from November 24th to December 24th at all on-street parking meters.  
[www.hamiltoninternationalvillage.ca](http://www.hamiltoninternationalvillage.ca)  
#InternationalVillage BIA #HamIntVillage

*Music in the*  
**VILLAGE**

*Night in the*  
**VILLAGE**

New Banners  
designed and hung  
in place.





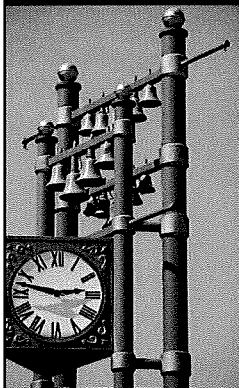
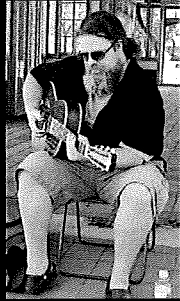
## Addition of L.E.D. lights at Ferguson Station Pavilion



## Grants also help to fund our Graffiti Removal Program



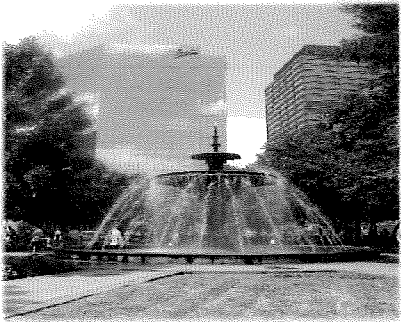
City grants help us to beautify, maintain and promote International Village so that we can continue to grow and celebrate our community.



Thank You!



from






2012 Budget as it affects  
The Downtown Hamilton BIA

Presentation to Hamilton City Council  
February 15, 2012 by Downtown Hamilton BIA

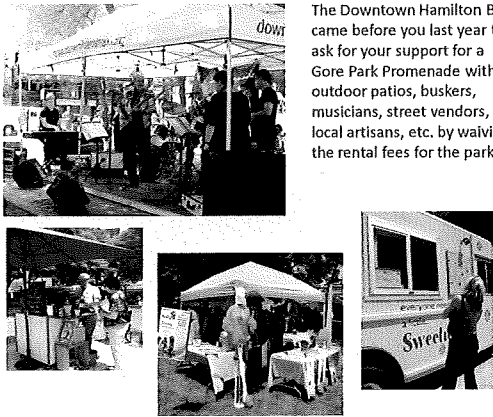
The Downtown Hamilton Business Improvement Area is made up of 485 businesses and 179 property owners that are located between MacNab and Mary, and from Hunter to Rebecca. The Board is made up of 11 elected volunteers as well as our council rep Jason Farr.

We are here today to show you how various city funded programs were translated into activities in our commercial district and to thank you.

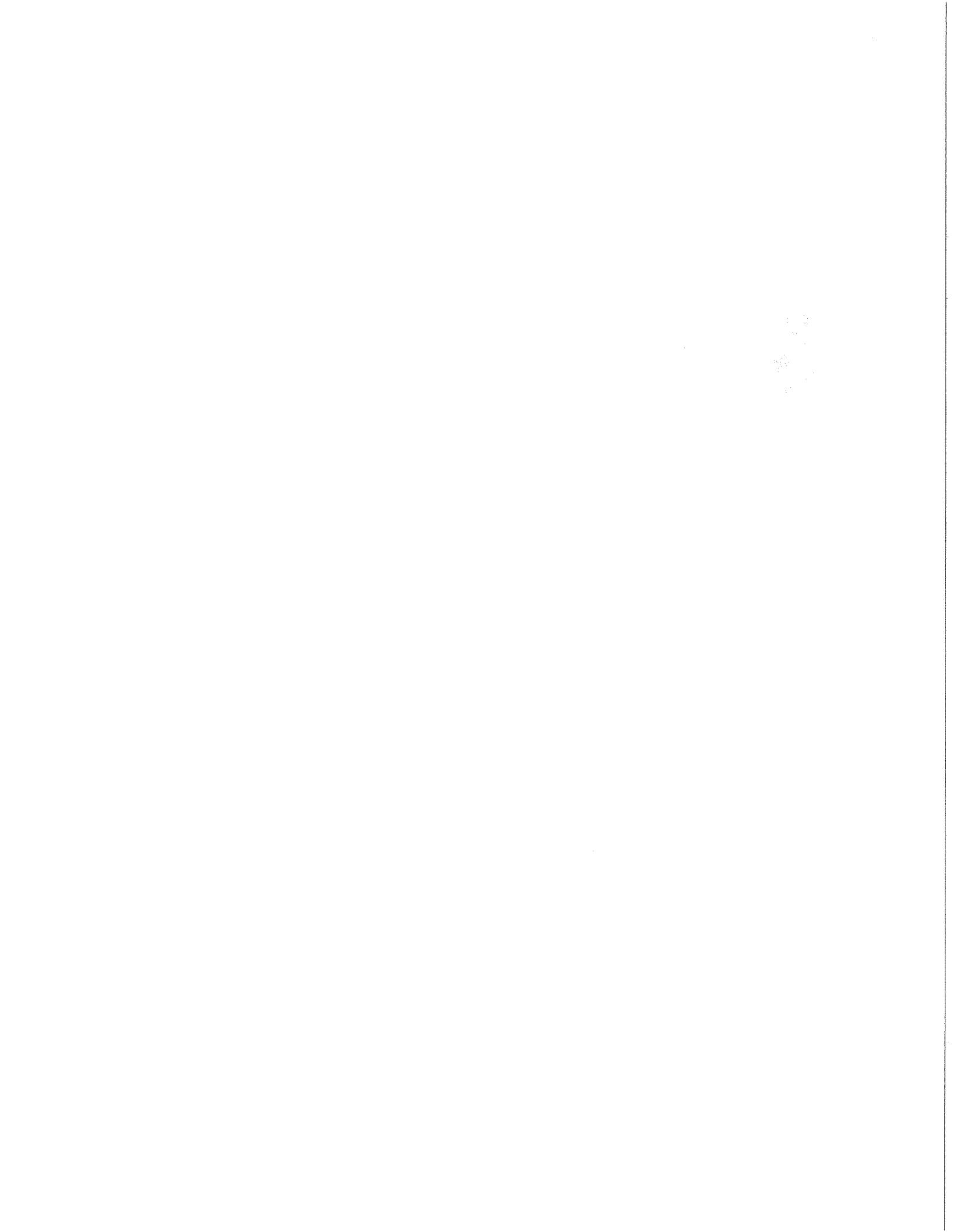


City initiatives include...

\* Commercial Property Improvement Program \* Community Improvement Programs  
\* Parking Revenue Sharing Program \* Christmas Grants \* Capital Improvements



The Downtown Hamilton BIA came before you last year to ask for your support for a Gore Park Promenade with outdoor patios, buskers, musicians, street vendors, local artisans, etc. by waiving the rental fees for the park.



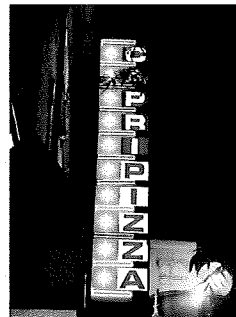


The Downtown BIA used the Parking Revenue Sharing Program to partially fund this \$40,000 initiative. It brought in over 30 local musical acts, 40 vendors including local businesses, artisans, local not for profit and charitable groups as well as the Small Business Enterprise Centre's "Summer Business Entrepreneurs". Overwhelming positive response from local businesses and the public. City survey completed last summer showed over 95% in favour of the closure of South leg of King and the continuation of the Promenade which we will be working with the City to implement as a pilot program this summer.

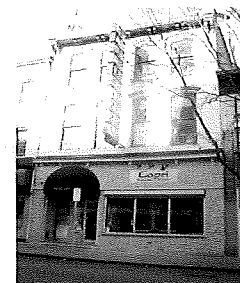
We used the City's Community Improvement Program to fund our Clean Streets Summer Program that removes graffiti, cleans up the area and plants containers



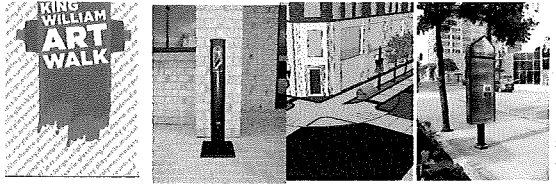
The BIA partnered with the City of Hamilton, and CHML to help organize the "Official Light Up Ceremony on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> along with our Christmas in Gore Park activities which brought families to Gore Park to enjoy the Christmas seasonal displays and a visit with Santa. A Christmas grant was obtained through the city to help cover some of the costs of this program.



The City's Commercial Property Improvement Program has brought a renewed sense of pride to downtown properties by providing funds for façade improvements.

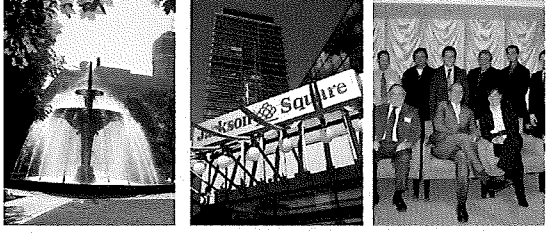






There are so many other ways you have supported Downtown. From assisting with the development of the King William Art Walk, the installation of cigarette containers, poster kiosks and most recently the completion of the streetscape improvements on KING WILLIAM.

THANK YOU



Future plans for the BIA include investigating the technology to pipe music into the Gore district

Erecting a digital sign outside front door of Jackson Square with information on Things to Do Downtown

Council should recognize the Downtown BIA team of 60 volunteers and board members providing over 785 volunteer hours & working on community pride building initiatives.

