
From: Terra Lightfoot [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:21 PM
To: Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>; Ward 2 <ward2@hamilton.ca>
Subject: Police Services Budget

Hi Kirsten,

As a concerned citizen I am hopeful that this is the year the Police budget will forfeit their surplus back into the community that so deeply needs more support. Any surplus should be redistributed into community services to help with the housing crisis, hunger crisis, and homeless community.

Restarting construction on community housing at James and Strachan would be a very small example of a way to use the surplus to house families and people living rough.

As a Hamiltonian with a career that sees me travelling on a global scale, I know what many other cities look like as you first arrive. I also know that when people roll into Hamilton, the first thing they often see are people presumably experiencing homelessness at the corner of Main St and Dundurn when they exit the highway. I am not proud that as a city, we are not able to provide supports for these folks with such a huge SURPLUS in city budget. Why can't we help these people get what they need so our entire city can thrive?

The definition of surplus is "an amount of something left over when requirements have been met"... so the police budget, having its requirements met, should forfeit the rest to the community they serve.

Thank you for your time
Terra Lightfoot