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From: Kasia Chodyka [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 9:05 AM
To: Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>
Subject: Police Budget

Hello,

I live in the Durand neighborhood. I want to express my concern about the large increase the Police services are requesting to their budget. I'm very concerned that in these difficult economic times, when many people are struggling to afford the basics and the city and province are cutting public services, that our tax dollars would go to a very large increase to the police budget that appears to be largely going to salary increases. We all have to make sacrifices when faced with trying economic circumstances, and the police, like any other publicly funded institution, should be no different. Furthermore, I believe many Hamiltonians want to see their tax dollars be used more efficiently and directly towards citizens who are needing their basic needs met. This money could go much further when put into housing, food security, EMS and other public services. Past experience tells us that funding these types of services decreases crime, while increasing police salaries and buying newer weapons doesn't.

Thank you for your time,

Kasia Chodyka
[REDACTED]