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**From:** Megan Janssen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2024 1:49 PM  
**To:** Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>  
**Cc:** Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>  
**Subject:** Police Budget - 2024-2025

Hello Kirsten,

I hope this note finds you well.

I write you as a 32 year old white woman, a mother, a wife and proud Hamiltonian living in Ward 1.

Hamilton is at a pivotal moment - we are dealing with a housing crisis, rise of living costs, and a time when the most vulnerable are at highest risk. I implore the police board to take another look at the budget, and re-allocate funds to services that will support our most vulnerable communities, lifting them up, and making our city a safer, more wonderful place to call home.

Police officers are tasked with too much, and police the most vulnerable communities (homeless, those struggling with addiction and mental health issues). This should not be the work of armed law enforcement.

Please re-allocate funding so council can better support these communities - this will HELP the police service by allowing you to stop focussing on encampments and managing vulnerable populations, and focus on other things. We need to listen to our most vulnerable and support them, instead of constantly policing people. Your budget has been huge/increasing for years - and our problems are not improving with these increasing numbers.

You have the power to help. You have the responsibility and moral obligation to your fellow Hamiltonians to create a better city. I beg you to use your power for the good of our community.

Spending money on harm prevention, housing, and healthcare makes me feel safer in my home, and community. A bigger police budget does not make me feel safer.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

With care,

Megan Janssen

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