

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Stevenson, Kirsten](#)
Subject: Re-Examine the police budget!
Date: Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:10:21 PM

Hi Kirsten,

And to whom ever else this might apply to.

My name is Claire Peace, I am a ward 2 resident of Hamilton, living at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] My email is [REDACTED] my number is [REDACTED]

I am desperately asking the Hamilton Police Board to Re-examine the proposed budget increase of \$16 million.

This city is aching with need; the evidence of a housing crisis, an opioid crisis, refugee increases from the climate crisis, renovictions from gentrification, economic collapse... all of these are on our DOORSTEPS. We need resources to go to housing FIRST and the needs of this city's most marginalized and oppressed.

Policing is inherently violent. Our police are not trauma informed or trained to respond with care to the needs of our most marginalized and oppressed neighbours. They are trained in violent surveillance and they perpetuate these problems. Police only serve the wealthy property owners of this city.

Even if you believe in and advocate for policing, which I do not, to increase their budget at a time when other resources are in desperate need, is irresponsible stewardship of our community resources.

Please reconsider and have the courage to move beyond the status quo that only digs us deeper into the downward spiral we're already stuck in.

Claire Peace