

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Stevenson, Kirsten](#)
Subject: Please Reconsider the Proposed Police Budget Increase
Date: Thursday, February 8, 2024 8:09:18 PM

Hello Kirsten,
I hope you're well.

I am writing this evening to ask you to please ask the Hamilton police board to re-examine the proposed \$16 million increase.

I am a graduate of Laurier University where I studied Criminology and Law & Society. From my extensive research I am confident to say that an increase to policing is ineffective in reducing crime rates. Hamilton has a serious societal problem worsened by the over militarization of police and their inflated budget taking away from social services and housing.

The issues Hamilton is facing today stems from decades of budget cuts to social services and housing, we must start to change in the other direction if we want to see the health of our communities improve.

I was born and raised in Hamilton, my grandparents were doctors and my parents were social workers and outcare health providers.

I am imploring you to please reject any increases to the policing budget and to advocate for more funding to social health services and housing.

Thankyou,
Erica Ames L-J

[REDACTED]