

**[Draft] FW: Adequate Police Budget Funding**

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From

**From:** Alex Drohomyrecky  
**Sent:** Monday, December 9, 2024 8:45:18 AM  
**To:** Stevenson, Kirsten <[Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca)>  
**Cc:** Spadafora, Mike <[Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca](mailto:Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** Adequate Police Budget Funding

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Kirsten:

Policing is the most important service the city provides in my opinion, I am happy to pay my taxes to maintain an adequately funded, well maintained, effective police force and I hope I never have to use their services.

I repeat; policing is our most important service and in my opinion most seniors like myself would support that.

Alex Drohomyrecky  
Ancaster, Ontario

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**[Draft] FW: Adequate Police Budget Funding**

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From

From: **Spadafora, Mike** <[Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca](mailto:Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca)>  
Date: Mon, 9 Dec 2024 at 18:42  
Subject: Re: Adequate Police Budget Funding  
To: Alex Drohomyrecky [REDACTED]

Hi Alex,

I am with you! We need to support our police force.

Chief Bergen continues to be a great leader and fiscally responsible with a 5.7 percent increase for 2025.

Take care.

Thank you,

**Mike Spadafora**  
Councillor ~ Ward 14 | West Mountain

**Hamilton City Hall**

71 Main Street West, 2nd Floor  
Hamilton ON L8P 4Y5

**Phone:** (905) 546-2712

**E-Mail:** [mike.spadafora@hamilton.ca](mailto:mike.spadafora@hamilton.ca)

**Website:** [www.mikespadafora.com](http://www.mikespadafora.com)

iMatr Canada: [www.imatr.org](http://www.imatr.org)

**Subscribe to our Monthly E-Newsletter:** <http://eepurl.com/ikkuM1>



**Hamilton**

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**Sent:** Monday, December 9, 2024 8:45:18 AM  
**To:** Stevenson, Kirsten <[Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca)>  
**Cc:** Spadafora, Mike <[Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca](mailto:Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** Adequate Police Budget Funding

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Kirsten:

Policing is the most important service the city provides in my opinion, I am happy to pay my taxes to maintain an adequately funded, well maintained, effective police force and I hope I never have to use their services.

I repeat; policing is our most important service and in my opinion most seniors like myself would support that.

Alex Drohomyrecky  
Ancaster

**[Draft] FW: Police Budget (revised)**

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From

**From:** Pam Summers  
**Sent:** Monday, December 9, 2024 4:51:53 p.m.  
**To:** Stevenson, Kirsten <[Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** Fw: Police Budget (revised)

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

I am writing today as resident of the Stinson Community for 30 years. To say our community has gone through significant changes over the past 4 years is an understatement.

As both Mayor Howarth, Councillor Nann are fully aware of the community challenges with the saturation of social services in our area and all the stressor that were already present in Stinson.

In an unprecedented decision made by those at City Hall (with absolutely NO community consultation) a decision was made to increase the beds in our community by 123.

There is absolutely NO other community in our city with this high concentration as in our 4 blocks.

Therefore, as a preventative measure and safety for the housed, unhoused, and shelter staff. I am requesting that increased car patrols, and Action Unit be deployed to the Stinson community. Extending from the downtown core East to Wentworth St and King St to Stinson.

Thank you to Sgt. Gurman, all the officers that have respond frequently to support Stinson. Their nonjudgemental professional support, compassion, concern for both the housed and unhoused has not gone unnoticed, and has been greatly appreciated.

Thanks

**[Draft] FW: Police budget**

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From

Hi Kirsten

I am writing this email prior to the police budget meeting.

I reside in the Stinson area very close to ALL the shelters & Bishop Park.

As mayor Horwath and counsellor Nann are fully aware of all the added stress these have caused for the Stinson area, I am requesting increased foot patrol, Action Unit, car patrol from the downtown area into Stinson which should focus on the neighbourhoods where the shelters, encampments are situated as we need to start feeling safe in our own neighbourhood just like the downtown core.

I support the police increased budget and NEVER defund such a vital community service that keeps all of the citizens of Hamilton safe.

Deborah Francis  
Sent from my iPhone

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**[Draft] FW: Please Accept this Police Budget Input**

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From

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**From:** Jules Lieff  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 11, 2024 11:25 PM  
**To:** Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>  
**Subject:** Please Accept this Police Budget Input  
**Importance:** High

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Dear Kirsten Stevenson,

**I hope you can accept this police budget input letter, although I know I am past the deadline.  
I never get sick, but somehow caught a terrible flu bug, and only realized I did not send this to you!**

**My apologies.**

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a concerned citizen and business owner in Hamilton.

In the four years we have been operating our business in Hamilton, we have seen a steady increase in crime and general lawlessness in our immediate community, and many communities around us.

In many of our phone calls and emails to the Hamilton Police services, we came to learn, that the community patrol officer numbers was increased from TWO officers to six...  
This is simply not even close to enough, to cover so many crime-ridden areas.

I have read in the news that although shootings have increased, the number of homicides have decreased...  
but should we really be thankful that the criminals who obtain guns have bad aim?  
Or, should we look more towards getting guns off the streets, and criminals incarcerated?

On a daily basis, we are seeing a multitude of problems uncovered at Hamilton's "encampments"... from arson to organized rising drug enterprises, and even murders.

We need safer communities, and it isn't happening with the current City Council ... I, and many of my community advocates and peers - feel that the police services is our only hope.

**We need safe communities, which will not happen without more proactive policing and strategic community placed officers.**

Give them what they need to make the communities safer.  
When communities are safer, they become thriving, desirable places for people to work and live.

The Hamilton Police Services are asking for a 5.7% increase, which I truly believe is a modest increase - considering the increase in crime, increase in the city population size and geographical boundary.

Jules Lief (she, her)  
Founder,  
Fit Organix Inc.  
Hamilton, Ontario

**[Draft] FW: Does our Opinion REALLY Matter?**

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From

Sorry know I missed 9th.....but just don't think our say really matters.

Sending this attachment..this is what is being allowed in city Parks...McQuesten Park which is our survey...the one Tent Resident in our Park has a Patio Heater, most likely propane.....plus seems to drive a very nice truck.....homeless?????

Yes these people need help.....but not by making our Parks and Neighbourhoods unsafe.

Maybe I should get a tent ....but I'm sure it wouldn't be long before someone would be forcing to move.

Something has to help to keep our areas safe and to provide places for these Homeless but not at our expense.

Thank you just my thoughts and only mine.

<https://hamiltonpolice.on.ca/news/arrest-made-after-discovery-of-tunnels-in-gage-park/>

Lynne DeSantis



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[Draft] FW: Police budget increase

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From

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**From:** Icybulski  
**Sent:** Friday, December 13, 2024 2:04 PM  
**To:** Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>  
**Subject:** Police budget increase

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

To whom it may concern

We are both sending this email in solidarity with our neighbors [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]. I have lived here for 40 yrs and the last five years almost it's been unbearable mainly the homeless and all the issues that comes with it like violence, being watched when you leave your home, open drug use and trafficking, theft the list is endless. We are 65 yrs old and we're held hostage in our homes which we pay for monthly. We couldn't sleep for work. We were constantly awoken with security alerts with some homeless person on our property at all hours of the night. I don't want to dwell on this aspect of it because it was the Hamilton Police who came daily and repeatedly until this stopped completely. Yes they do come back but so do they when we send emails and pictures. So yes we are 100 per cent in favor of the increase for the police. We need to feel protected and safe for everyone in this amazing city.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Laura and Rick Icybulski  
[REDACTED]

Regards  
Laura Cybulski

## Stevenson, Kirsten

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**From:** Aron Fortino [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 15, 2024 10:49 AM  
**To:** Stevenson, Kirsten  
**Subject:** 2025 Police Budget Increase of 5.7%

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Hello Good morning,

First of all, I want to thank all the police officers in our community for showing care and concern during these challenging times of homelessness, rising gun violence, Addictions and Mental Health and the list goes on.

I approve of the 5.7% increase in funding. One recommendation if I may ask. I take public transit and need to commute through the downtown core to connect to buses at McNab street between 7-7:15am it would be nice if there was some officers on foot with the security guards at the bus terminal.

In the morning hours even being a male I've encountered persons with Mental health scream in peoples face, demand money, and even walk into traffic which can cause injury to the person experiencing mental health.

Thank you for all you do!

Take GOOD CARE,  
Aron

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Emily Walsh](#)  
**To:** [Stevenson, Kirsten](#)  
**Subject:** 2025 Police Budget - Letter of Support  
**Date:** Friday, December 13, 2024 4:02:23 PM  
**Attachments:** [2025 HPS Budget - Letter of Support.pdf](#)

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**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Hi Kirsten,

Please see the attached letter of support for the HPS 2025 Budget.

All the best,

**Emily Walsh**

Executive Director

Downtown Hamilton Business Improvement Area

20 Hughson Street South, Suite 104

Hamilton, Ontario L8N 2A1

Office: (905) 523-1646

[www.downtownhamilton.org](http://www.downtownhamilton.org)



**To:** Hamilton Police Service Board

**Attention:** Kirsten Stevenson, Administrative Director

**Re:** Proposed 2025 Police Budget

Dear Ms. Stevenson,

On behalf of the Downtown Hamilton Business Improvement Area (BIA), I am writing to express our support for the proposed 2025 Hamilton Police Service budget and to emphasize the importance of maintaining and expanding police presence in downtown Hamilton through programs like the Core Patrol initiative.

The Core Patrol program has been instrumental in addressing safety concerns in our downtown core. As a hub for businesses, cultural activities, and community events, the downtown core relies on visible and accessible policing to ensure the safety of residents, visitors, and business owners alike.

Community-oriented policing initiatives, like the Core Patrol program, enable officers to build meaningful relationships with local stakeholders, maintain open lines of communication, and align policing strategies with community needs. This collaborative approach strengthens connections, fosters trust, and enhances safety while building a sense of security in the downtown core.

The benefits of community policing also extend to the downtown business environment. By embedding officers in the heart of the community, businesses gain direct points of contact with police personnel, developing partnerships that are critical in addressing both immediate and long-term safety challenges. These efforts not only improve public safety but also encourage economic growth by making downtown Hamilton a more attractive place for businesses, customers, and investors.

We urge the Hamilton Police Service Board to continue prioritizing funding for initiatives like the Core Patrol program and to consider further increasing resources dedicated to downtown Hamilton. These efforts are essential to supporting economic growth, attracting new investments, and reinforcing a sense of security for all stakeholders in the downtown core.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication to public safety. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with the Hamilton Police Service to ensure a thriving and secure downtown Hamilton.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Emily Walsh'.

Emily Walsh

Executive Director

Downtown Hamilton BIA

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DOWNTOWN HAMILTON BIA

• [info@downtownhamilton.org](mailto:info@downtownhamilton.org) | tel 905 523 1646 •  
• 104-20 Hughson St. S. Hamilton, ON L8N 2A1 | [downtownhamilton.org](http://downtownhamilton.org) •

**From:** [Caitlin Craven](#)  
**To:** [Stevenson, Kirsten](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Letter for public feedback  
**Date:** Sunday, December 15, 2024 1:53:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [Letter to Police Services Board re Budget Proposal.pdf](#)

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**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Please find attached a letter regarding the Police Services Board proposed budget increase for 2025.

Thank you,  
Caitlin

Caitlin Craven (she/her)  
Executive Director  
Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion  
[REDACTED] | E: [ccraven@hcci.ca](mailto:ccraven@hcci.ca)  
423 King St E Hamilton, ON L8N1C5  
[www.hcci.ca](http://www.hcci.ca)

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**From:** Caitlin Craven  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 15, 2024 13:51  
**To:** [kirsten.stevenson@hamilton.ca](mailto:kirsten.stevenson@hamilton.ca)  
**Cc:** HCCI Governing Council <[board@hcci.ca](mailto:board@hcci.ca)>  
**Subject:** Letter for public feedback

Please find attached a letter regarding the Police Services Board proposed budget increase for 2025.

Thank you,  
Caitlin

Caitlin Craven (she/her)  
Executive Director  
Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion  
T: 905-297-4694 | E: [ccraven@hcci.ca](mailto:ccraven@hcci.ca)  
423 King St E Hamilton, ON L8N1C5  
[www.hcci.ca](http://www.hcci.ca)



December 15, 2024

To the Hamilton Police Services Board,

The Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion is concerned about the proposed increase to the Hamilton Police Services Budget proposed for 2025 and encourage the Board to vote against this increase. We are concerned for the following reasons:

- 1) The Hamilton Police Services consistently asks for budget increases each year in amounts that exceed the increases afforded other services in the city. Underfunded services that support housing, mental health, supports for survivors of sexual violence, addressing discrimination and racism, and increasing food security are more important areas of investment for our city to build truly inclusive and safe communities.
- 2) We have not seen adequate and meaningful reports-back from HPS that any of the previous budget increases have resulted in better outcomes for the community. Policing solutions to social crises have been and continue to be proposed, but they also continue to be shown to be ineffective in actually addressing community needs and, importantly, exacerbate harms and violence to those already most marginalized in our communities.
- 3) There has been an inadequate and dismissive approach to community feedback on this and previous budget increase requests. The HPS Budget Committee initially provided a deadline for public comment on a 5.7% increase without releasing any budget details. Subsequently, the Board extended the deadline for public comment until more details had been released. However, those details have shown that the budget increase that HPS is asking for is not actually 5.7% but over 10% if you include the proposed use of reserve funds and the HPS is claiming they need at least 8.32% increase to maintain status quo. This lack of transparency and clarity in what is actually being proposed for public comment makes it impossible to hold the HPS Budget Committee accountable in a meaningful way as community.
- 4) The proposed budget includes staffing and other cost increases related to Race-Based Data collection and Intimate Partner Violence; however, there needs to be greater clarity to community about why these pieces of work require additional funding that are not already part of HPS work. For examples, the budget document says HPS needs to develop an IPV Unit “To bring awareness to the rising issue, assist victims and offer support to those in abusive relationships”. For the Hamilton



community this raises the question of a) why this work has not already been integrated into HPS current operations, considering the well-known scope of IPV and the years-long campaigns around this issues and b) whether city funding might more effectively address this issue by supporting community services that support survivors in trauma-informed and survivor-centric ways.

We hope that you will take these considerations seriously during your deliberations on the proposed budget increase.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caitlin Craven". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Caitlin Craven, Executive Director  
Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion



E: [ccraven@hcci.ca](mailto:ccraven@hcci.ca)

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Stevenson, Kirsten](#)  
**Subject:** Police Budget  
**Date:** Monday, December 9, 2024 2:06:40 PM

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**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Our opinion concerning the proposed 5.7% increase for the 2025 Hamilton Police Service Boards Budget meeting on November 26, 2024. It has become increasingly clear to us that Hamilton is becoming a more dangerous city to live in. Crime is up. Stealing vehicles, home invasions, targeted killings, assaults on women and men, bold, brazen and unlawful incidents have become everyday occurrences.

Food, gas and home ownership, very difficult for many. Hope in a reasonable affordable life is increasing fading away.

We could freeze wages for police as a good faith measure for one year. Any budget increase should be used to hire more officers, equip the services required for keeping citizens safer in our city. . Get rid of this notion we are a Sanctuary City. No more.

Specific units in service to address the most urgent crimes.

Yours in good faith and thanks for your services,

Bill and Bonnie Campbell

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Stevenson, Kirsten](#)  
**Subject:** Police Budget  
**Date:** Monday, December 9, 2024 3:04:24 PM

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**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

To : City of Hamilton  
RE: 2025 Police Budget

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing this email to show my FULL SUPPORT for the requested 5.7% police budget increase. As a parent, resident and small business owner in the City, I have serious concerns with any attempt to reduce, defund or cut back on the police budget or the activities of the Hamilton Police Services (HPS).

I've witnessed first hand the destruction that is caused but lack of funds available to our HPS to properly support our city. As the owner of Sasso Pizza Market & Bar, and previous owner of La Piazza Allegra Italian Restaurant at 180 James Street South, I watched as my establishment downtown was run out of the core due to the uncontrollable drug abuse culture, violence and theft that was a daily occurrence.

As a citizen of Hamilton, born, raised and educated here I feel that any reduction to the police services budget would only result in further decay of our downtown core, strengthen the minority in defunding the police and put all citizens in danger. In addition to the negative impact any budget reduction would have to the citizens of Hamilton, I would also point out that as a past chair of Tourism Hamilton the image of our city has always been a challenge. The notion of an underfunded police budget would only make any tourism sales mission or image of Hamilton negative and the likelihood of attracting out of town visitors even more difficult. This has a direct negative impact on numerous business sectors including: accommodations, transportation, hospitality and facilities.

Should you require any further information dont hesitate to contact me directly,  
Mark Farrugia  
Sasso Pizza Market & Bar  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Stevenson, Kirsten](#)  
**Subject:** Police Budget Support Submission  
**Date:** Monday, December 9, 2024 7:38:32 PM

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External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Hello

As a citizen of Hamilton for 50 years I don't recall a time when I thought of safety as being my top concern but unfortunately it now is. Changes in laws at the federal level and municipal policies such as the encampment protocol have made many of our parks, trails, and once quiet neighbourhoods become unsafe. Due to these new government policies I feel the police will need more resources and a much bigger presence in our community especially the downtown core. As a taxpayer i am concerned that without an increase of police resources and enforcement many businesses, developers, and events that bring millions of tax dollars into this city will disappear. For these reasons I support any increase to the police budget that will go to protecting the current and future tax base.

Thanks  
Darcy Field  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Stevenson, Kirsten](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: 2025 Police Budget- BINBROOK  
**Date:** Thursday, December 12, 2024 4:53:14 PM  
**Importance:** High

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**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Kristen,

The email did not go through.

See below.

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Nicole Obeng

On 2024-12-09, 8:01 a.m. Nicole Obeng [REDACTED] wrote:

Good Morning Kristen,

My family and I live in Binbrook. We along with many of our community are pleaing for more police presence in Binbrook.

A suggestion from many, is to have an office open up in the Agriculture Centre to have a Police officer present at all times.

We need a police car visibly driving through the streets to stop distructive teens and also the theft. The amount of cars being stolen in Binbrook is crazy and to have a police officer stationed here at ALL TIMES in our town would help prevent that!

Binbrook is growing rapidly and we as a whole would like to feel more safe in our homes. In our community.

Please bring a pernament police presence to Binbrook!

Regards,  
Nicole Obeng

**From:** Rick H  
**To:** [Stevenson, Kirsten](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Police Budget  
**Date:** Friday, December 13, 2024 2:28:35 PM

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**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Good Afternoon,

I totally support the Police budget increase. If it were not for the Police I think I would have lost my mind. The last going on over 4 years now have been a nightmare on [REDACTED] with the homeless. Every since they opened the needle exchange (The Hub) it's been hell living on this Street. I have lived here since 1997, I'm 65 years old and have had to put up with open drug use violence, thefts, damage to property. I have gone weeks not getting a full night's sleep because had to watch the property or woke up because of fighting screaming all hours of the night. I have complained to everyone I was told to contact and it was only the Police who were able to settle things down. The homeless took over this Street for 4 years and when we see the police it's such a sense of relief. I don't think most people realize what it's like when you have homeless drug addicts living across the street from your front door. Most people see them when they drive by as they are going to work or driving back home to their safe neighborhood. Try being here 24/7. I feel the police deserve whatever is necessary to keep protecting us and making our community a safe place for all.

Regards,  
Rick

[REDACTED]