

From: [PF-Mailbox-01](#)
To: [Norio, Ann-Marie](#); [Trennum, Matthew](#)
Subject: FW: Hard Urban Boundaries
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 1:11:18 PM

From: HACEN
Sent: Saturday, 11 December 2021 13:10:58 (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: nini.malhi@peelregion.ca; lina.bigionle@york.ca; Clerks; dchausse@haldimandcounty.on.ca; clerk@regionofwaterloo.ca
Subject: Re: Hard Urban Boundaries

Dear Regional Chair and Regional Councilors,

On November 19th 2021, Hamilton City Council decided by a strong majority not to extend their urban boundary, as had been recommended by their Planning Department. They took this decision because they did not want to extend urban sprawl, increase long term servicing costs, lose valuable farmland and because they did not want to act in a manner that would increase the per capita carbon emissions of the city. They, therefore, instructed their Planning Department to develop a plan that would accommodate the Provincial Government's projected increases of population within the existing urban boundary.

Facing a climate crisis that is becoming ever more expensively devastating and deadly, Hamilton has made a wise and responsible decision. It is a decision [That Halton Action for Climate Emergency Now \(HACEN\)](#) urged both Hamilton City Council and Halton Regional Council to take, even though we knew doing so would displease the Provincial Government.

It is clear that all sections of society, but especially governments, cannot continue with 'business as usual,' but must respond with brave, new, creative policies and actions. Consequently, we must express our strong disagreement with the detrimental policies of the Provincial Government as regards the environment. Municipalities are best placed to demonstrate this disagreement, particularly when, as was the case with Hamilton, they have a public survey which showed a strong majority of the city's residents supported them.

HACEN, therefore, is urging Regional Councils to indicate, by a majority vote, that they are unwilling to extend their Region's urban boundary and will, therefore, undertake to provide additional housing to meet the province's projected population increase, within the existing urban boundary. Such a position would be strengthened, like Hamilton, with a resident's survey indicating support for the Region's position. However, it might be more difficult to conduct a survey covering multi municipalities, rather than just one, as was the case with Hamilton.

Now is the time for brave, bold, critical and creative action. Please show leadership and commitment to a better future by moving your Region in a responsible and sustainable direction.

Sincere regards,

Mervyn Russell

On behalf of

