



Municipal Affairs Committee

Date: Wednesday, September 11th, 2024

Time: 12:30PM - 1:30PM

Location: Boardroom and Microsoft Teams

Presentation: [Slides](#)

Attendance: Kerry Yang, Logan McLean, Elorah Bennett, Simon Batusic, Jax Weafer, Olivia Dodd, Rachel Black

Absent:

Agenda

1. Check-ins
2. Updates (year-plan/clubsfest)
3. Explore Hamilton video campaign
4. Pre-budget submission priorities and timeline
5. Hamilton Youth Summit (Tuesday October 22nd)
6. Authors for policy paper
7. Next Meeting in 2 weeks!

Meeting Minutes

1. Explore Hamilton video campaign brainstorm
 - Waterfall while weather is nice
 - Tiffany (closest to Mac, taller than Sherman)
 - Sherman (prettier and fuller than Tiffany)
 - Gage Park Greenhouse in the winter
 - Ottawa Street tour/shop hopping
 - Jax knows people!
 - City Hall tour
 - Cafe hop-around: Mulberry, SYNONYM
 - Farmer's market tour (each BIA)

- Dalewood Community Centre for sport/recreation
- Tigercats? Max?

2. Pre-budget submission priorities and recommendations

- **Priority: Housing**

- Recommendation: Establish landlord licensing program permanently in all wards...
- Affordability and availability, not enough housing for students around campuses, expanding outwards
- Very tied to transit, transit allows students to live further from campus
- Student-oriented apartment-style homes are more common but less well-known/in demand, commute is longer, **safety and security** are concerns
- Deserted buildings and lots that are left empty (can be used for housing), i.e. near Innovation Park
- Fix shortage by leveraging those **deserted places**, linking transit, and build up
- Empty homes and buildings due to developers with financial issues/priorities
- Landlord accountability, lack of avenues to address, lack of tenant rights awareness, pushing penalties for landlords
- Recommendation: develop **reporting system** for landlord abuses, accessible, easy to navigate, **hotline for consultation** (already exists in the city) to empower tenants to speak up
- Lots of “small” illegal things that tenants deem “not worth” reporting, acting in fear of denying lease renewal or rent increase
- Recommendation: Bylaw for heating limit of 26 degree (ACORN), cooling bylaw already exists
- Recommendation: Bylaws/regulations for turnaround time for fixing AC/heating and associated costs
 - Moulton, Bates, Matthew, Wallingford
- Goal is to prevent landlords from taking action tenants
- Goal is to empower students to advocating for their tenant rights

- **Priority: Transit**

- Bike lanes
 - McMaster
 - Have to bike on sidewalk
 - Faster speed limits
 - Westdale
 - Main Street
 - Have to bike on sidewalk
 - Faster speed limits
 - James Street
 - Ainslie Wood is a good model
 - King St (connected to university and connected to Westdale)
 - 10 Bay, Nations, and campuses in downtown
- Remove access to motor vehicle required to apply to Hamilton/Ontario jobs
- HSR reliability
 - Running more frequently (1, 5, 10, and 51)
 - Buses going past stops when full
 - Increased student population year to year
 - More buses specifically between McMaster and bus hub (more affordable option)
 - Real-time tracking
 - Not for submission, advocacy to HSR
 - Encourage Transit, partnership?
 - Can't call tracking number
- PMTSA
 - Research if it's worth it to include with current timelines of LRT (may drown out other priorities)

- **Priority: Student Job Opportunities in the City**

- Recommendation: Remove access to motor vehicle required to apply to Hamilton/Ontario jobs
- OscarPlus is a university resource
- Increase opportunities for students

- **Priority: Food Insecurity**