



Board of Directors Meeting

Addendum

Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

This meeting will be held by WebEx videoconference.

**The meeting can be viewed live on HCA's You Tube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/HamiltonConservation>**

6. Consent Items for Applications, Minutes and Correspondence

- 6.7 Correspondence respecting 140 Garner Road East, Ancaster, labelled 6.7 a) to 6.7 bc).

6.7(a)

From: [Laura Katz](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#); chad.collins@hamilton.ca; tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; esther.pauls@hamilton.ca; brad.clark@hamilton.ca; maria.pearson@hamilton.ca; loyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca
Subject: May 6 HCA meeting
Date: May 3, 2021 8:42:39 AM

Good morning,

I'm writing as a HCA member and am asking that HCA refuses any application that would remove, harm, danger and/or destroy even an inch of farmland, wetland and natural habitat.

Not only do I take so much enjoyment from exploring parks within the HCA, it is actually vital to our existence. That sounds extreme but it is simply the truth.

Please ensure this land is protected.

There are many many vacant properties in Hamilton that can be developed. Please focus on these areas first.

Thank you,

Laura Katz

Ward 1

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Protection of sensitive wetlands
Date: May 4, 2021 12:28:19 PM

From: ATU 107 President [mailto:
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 8:53 AM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Protection of sensitive wetlands

In a City with so many under developed and endless brownfields why in the world would we ever approve the permanent destruction of those few sensitive natural wet lands we have left.

Water fowl rely on these rare sanctuaries to feed and rest not to mention the many at risk species such as turtles, frogs, salamanders, insects and cranes whose natural habitats are disappearing at an alarming rate.

Please be part of the solution and oppose this development as there's plenty of alternative sites for this project.

Thanks respectfully Eric Tuck President Atu Local 107

Sent from my Bell Samsung device over Canada's largest network.

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Wetland and stream relocation
Date: May 3, 2021 10:38:42 AM

From: Faure, Paul [mailto:paul4@mcmaster.ca]
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 10:10 AM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Wetland and stream relocation

Dear Ms. Burnside,

Good morning. I hope this email finds you and your loved ones safe and well.

I am writing to you with the utmost urgency. I urge you and the Board to reject the proposal by Frank Silvestri to relocate a wetland and part of the headwaters of [Ancaster Creek](#) to make way for five (5) proposed warehouses on Garner Road at Highway 6. The said wetlands are an ecologically important and sensitive area critical to the environment.

This project is ill conceived and must not be allowed to move forward. This proposal contravenes foundational principles of land management and ecological conservation. Wetlands provide important ecosystem services and we must prevent their overdevelopment. Moreover, one cannot simply relocate a wetland and expect it to perform its same ecosystem services in its new location.

I urge the Hamilton Conservation Authority to reject this unprecedented relocation that contravenes existing wetland protection policies and is opposed by the HCA staff. This is a once-in-a-lifetime decision that could imperil the health of these lands forever. Please do the right thing, listen to HCA staff, and reject this ugly development of sensitive wetlands.

Sincerely yours,

Professor Paul Faure
McMaster University

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: I am opposed to relocation of the Ancaster Creek headwaters/wetland
Date: May 3, 2021 1:36:29 PM

From: Dale Brown
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 1:27 PM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Cc: Wilson, Maureen <maureen.wilson@hamilton.ca>
Subject: I am opposed to relocation of the Ancaster Creek headwaters/wetland

Dear Lisa Burnside

I wish to be recorded as opposing the relocation of the wetland & headwaters related to the Ancaster creek.

I do not believe relocation meets the HCA Vision & Mission. I think there is great potential for unintended consequences by fooling around with nature. The wetlands serve a very important purpose especially as our climate changes and the potential for significant flooding increases. The developer should be required to preserve this wetland in its current form.

Please forward my opinion to the Board.

Thank you.

Respectfully

Dale Brown
Hamilton ON

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Proposal to develop Wetlands
Date: May 3, 2021 2:44:30 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Ann Morgen
Sent: May 3, 2021 2:40 PM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Proposal to develop Wetlands

Dear Ms.Burnside.

I am a stakeholder. I am vehemently opposed to the paving over of a wetland for the purposes of building ware houses anywhere, anytime. We've all been educated to understand the importance and value of preserving Wet lands. We expect our Conservation Authority to preserve our natural areas, regardless of which government is in power.

Our wet lands should remain protected for the long term not short term gains. As long as our society is based on mindless consumerism, I understand ware houses will need to be built. BUT NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF OUR WETLANDS! or Farmland for that matter.

Look for an existing parking lot and develop that ,as the land is already ruined.

Sincerely,

Ann Wilson Morgen

From: [Charles](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: paving over our wetlands.
Date: May 3, 2021 2:56:29 PM

I am an Ancaster resident since 1958. How can our Conservation Authority have sunk so low that they want to build warehouses on a wetland? Lorna Johnston.

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Support in opposition of 140 Garner Road
Date: May 3, 2021 4:33:36 PM

From: Bianca Metz
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 3:12 PM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Support in opposition of 140 Garner Road

Dear Lisa,

As a Hamilton resident, Permaculturist, Land Steward, and mother, I am here to express my deep opposition to allowing developers to move ahead to relocate a wetland in favour of development. I am very glad to see the CA is not in support of this and I hope there are other opportunities that present themselves for these developers to use lands already associated with warehousing development because truly, Hamilton has no shortage of unused industry location.

Of course this goes against absolutely every promise the Conservation Authority is responsible for upholding, namely, the protection and conservation of our most protected and vulnerable lands and species.

I stand behind the Conservations position in opposing, any assistance I can provide to amplify this, I am happy to help.

With Warmth,

Bianca Metz
Tiny House Consultant & Sustainable Living Specialist

web | [The Giving Tree Family](#)
social | [@thegivingtree.tinyhome](#)

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Wetland relocation - 140 Garner Road
Date: May 3, 2021 4:55:45 PM

From: Sarah Gallant
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 4:43 PM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Wetland relocation - 140 Garner Road

Dear Ms. Burnside,

My name is Sarah Gallant and I would first and foremost like to thank the members of the HCA that continue to oppose the "relocation" of this wetland for the purpose of warehouse developments. I am disappointed to see that the opportunity for public input isn't being implemented as it should be in this type of development deliberation. As a result, I am hoping to contribute to these deliberations by reaching out to you.

What is being proposed via this policy draft is not sufficient when it comes to protecting our wetlands. The idea of relocating a wetland is not technically speaking a relocation because the wetland cannot be replicated in its entirety at a new location. The microfauna that exist in the present wetland may take years if not decades to reestablish in the proposed artificial wetland which will therefore result in a new wetland that is not providing ecosystem services in the same capacity as the original natural wetland. Based on the precautionary principle, this development should not be allowed to continue.

The implementation of such a policy is very counterintuitive to our wetland protection initiatives. This will generate a loophole of sorts for all developers that will result in the removal of far more than one single wetland area because an artificial wetland will be deemed as valuable as a natural wetland. This could therefore cause urban sprawl and highway construction among other things to continue to worsen because one cannot allow a single developer to relocate a wetland and not allow others to do so as well.

Relocation as it is defined by this proposed policy is not good enough when it comes to the protection of our wetlands. Such a policy poses additional risks to the water table, fisheries, and recreational uses of watersheds. Therefore this policy should not be put forward and this development should not be allowed to proceed.

I hope to see that value is placed on the environment as opposed to the economic benefit associated with this development. Such a policy development is unacceptable and will set a poor precedent for the future. Do not allow developers to continue to manipulate our natural areas simply to put money into their own pockets.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Sarah Gallant

From: [Nancy Hurst](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#); chad.collins@hamilton.ca; tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; esther.pauls@hamilton.ca; [Clark, Brad](#); maria.pearson@hamilton.ca; [Ferguson, Lloyd](#)
Subject: Wetland at 140 Garner Rd
Date: May 3, 2021 5:06:30 PM

Dear Councillors on the Board of the HCA,

As a resident of Ward 12 I am speaking up to voice my strong objection to the proposal on the May 6, 2021 agenda to destroy the existing wetland on AEGD land at 140 Garner Road. This is a "locally significant" wetland and to think that some members of the Board of the HCA are even considering this flies in the face of the purpose of a CA. I heard Cllr Ferguson state he was in favour of "sliding over" the wetland. It is not possible to 'slide over' a wetland, or a tree, or a forest. These are not movable objects. You must destroy it and dig another hole where you want it, then fill it with water. As a paying member of the HCA, I will not be donating or buying passes in future if this is how the HCA approaches wetland preservation.

According to Hamilton City Staff, Hamilton has a surplus of 60ha of AEGD land. I propose not only preserving this wetland and the employment land it sits on today but in fact using the new Provincial Changes to the Growth Act and **removing** some of the farmland from the AEGD in Ancaster to address this 60ha surplus and bring it down to zero. Paving over wetlands and class 1,2,3 soils, during a climate crisis, when supply chains during the pandemic are strained highlighting the need for food security, all for the purpose of building sprawling single level warehouses when we have a surplus of employment land is unnecessary and foolish.

Conversions of Employment Area Lands

Policy 2.2.5.10 of Growth Plan 2019 now allows lands within employment areas to be converted to a non-employment designation prior to the MCR, provided certain criteria are met. This includes a demonstrated need for the conversion, identification that the conversion would not adversely impact the employment area, and maintenance of a significant number of jobs. These policies are in contrast to the previous Growth Plan which only permitted employment area conversions to be considered as part of the MCR. Lands within a Provincially Significant Employment Zone (PSEZ) cannot be converted in advance of the MCR.

Please vote to reject this proposal and remember you are wearing your CA hat in this meeting, not your "bring low paying warehouse jobs to my community" Councillor hat.

Thank you for reading,
Nancy Hurst
Ancaster

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Garner Road at Highway 6
Date: May 3, 2021 6:29:28 PM

From: David Lord
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 6:00 PM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Garner Road at Highway 6

Hello Lisa,

I would like to have you note my objection to this development. It is bad enough to lose precious farmland, losing a natural watershed is even worse. I don't believe any replacement watershed would come close to the natural one.

If this goes through any substandard replacement watershed would be then be surrounded by warehouses serviced by transport trucks. The accompanying noise, diesel particulate and other litter would ruin any watershed wildlife and concentrate exhaust pollutants in the watershed feeding the stream. It would be a dead watershed – a pale replacement.

The current owner would have known of the restrictions of use when the property was purchased and society is under no obligation to approve any commercial project an owner wants, especially if it impacts society at large. As it is the current house of 30,000 sq ft reeks of excessive and entitlement of the owner.

Please note my objection and turn down this proposal.

Thanks you,

David Lord
Resident of Hamilton

From: [Stan McCall](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Wetlands
Date: May 3, 2021 7:49:44 PM

Jaime

On May 6 vote to preserve our wetlands. Once they are gone they can not be replaced.

Stan McCall

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Wetland and stream reallocation
Date: May 3, 2021 9:26:58 PM

Lisa Burnside
Chief Administrative Officer
Hamilton Conservation Authority

Sent from my mobile device.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Harriet Woodside
Date: May 3, 2021 at 8:22:51 PM EDT
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: **Wetland and stream reallocation**

Dear Ms. Burnside,

Once a natural resource is removed, it is lost. It's inconceivable to me that the Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) might be swayed by the self-interests of developers and not support what is in the interests of our community, natural resources and good stewardship.

I hope that the HCA will vote resoundingly in favour of maintaining the current wetland area in the headwaters of the Ancaster Creek. It is the "Conservation" Authority not the "Destruction" Authority.

Harriet Woodside

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: ancaster creek wetland
Date: May 3, 2021 9:26:47 PM

Lisa Burnside
Chief Administrative Officer
Hamilton Conservation Authority

Sent from my mobile device.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Donald Woodside
Date: May 3, 2021 at 8:31:51 PM EDT
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: ancaster creek wetland

I oppose the proposal to replace the existing wetland with an alternative and to build warehouses and parking on the site.

thank you
don woodside

From: [nature](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Regard for precious wetlands
Date: May 4, 2021 8:44:03 AM

Hi Jaime,

Please see below.

Thanks,

Reception
Hamilton Conservation Authority
Phone: 905-525-2181 ext 100

The contents of this e-mail and any attachments are intended for the named recipient(s). This e-mail may contain information that is privileged and confidential. If you have received this message in error or are not the named recipient(s), please notify the sender and permanently delete this message without reviewing, copying, forwarding, disclosing or otherwise using it or any part of it in any form whatsoever. Thank you.

-----Original Message-----

From: Don Brown
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 8:43 PM
To: nature <nature@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Regard for precious wetlands

Dear Board Members of the Hamilton Conservation Authority,

How can you possibly entertain the thought of destroying the wetland beside the big house in Ancaster. You know that your voice in such matters comes with a fiduciary responsibility to protect such wetlands. To decide otherwise would be immoral and unethical.

Furthermore, Members of the Conservation Authority who give of their substance, as I have done, to insure that protection is given to these wetlands will surely feel dismissed.

Please keep your reputations in tact. Please don't play dead to Developers. Our Planet needs you like never before. Be brave. There's more to this world than making money.

Don Brown,
Hamilton, ON. L8R 3P9

Sent from my iPad

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Ancaster wetlands
Date: May 4, 2021 7:40:19 AM

Lisa Burnside
Chief Administrative Officer
Hamilton Conservation Authority

Sent from my mobile device.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jillian Hassard
Date: May 3, 2021 at 10:00:31 PM EDT
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Ancaster wetlands

Hi there.

First of all, I hope you are well and staying safe.

Second, re:the wetlands
To those voting:

The wetlands should be protected. There is clear data proving the environmental importance of the wetlands...and to me there is no such thing as a “replacement.” The proposed replacement wetlands would take years to establish biodiversity and building anything would disrupt the complex systems working alongside each other and also create further strain on nearby systems and already threatened areas.

A replacement wetland is simply a joke.
Stop displacing nature as you displaced indigenous peoples in the name of profit and colonial/capitalist/individualist/white supremacist ideologies.

Hamilton nature lands, and particularly its waters, have been exploited and polluted enough. We should be focusing on protecting and implementing new strategies to help support Mother Nature and honour her abundance.

Enough is enough.

Sincerely,
A concerned and frustrated citizen.

From: [Sheryl Duncan](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Wetlands
Date: May 4, 2021 9:25:11 AM

Hi there,

I willing to sign a petition to save the wetlands in Ancaster.

The city has destroyed enough of our greenspace to make a profit! We have enough houses and infrastructures. We need to save this space for our children and animals that live in the area. Stop taking their homes away!!!

Thank you for your time,
Sheryl

Sent from my Bell Samsung device over Canada's largest network.

From: [Brian Walmsley](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Ancaster wetlands
Date: May 4, 2021 9:55:58 AM

Progress is not always beneficial to the public. I suggest you look very hard for a compromise. Remember the more farm land we ruin the less product to feed our grand children. FARMS ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN TO MANY WAREHOUSES.

Brian Walmsley, Ancaster

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: The expansion of
Date: May 4, 2021 12:31:25 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Jane Evans
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 10:45 AM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: The expansion of

Hello Lisa,

Why is it that the HCA has always ,it seems, to be overruled by wealthy developers who continue to push their weight around promising wonderful projects that bring in tax dollars ,expand the city without thought of the damage it is doing to the health of its' citizens ,the concerns of wildlife ? Of course ,it is hard to balance good common sense against financial gain ,jobs against the wise idea that doing damage to local ecology is in the longterm is unwise . HCA is there to protect All citizens ,but its' voice is being shouted down by those who do not seem to care about the longterm future of the community ,and the future for those whom follow us. Jane Evans .
Thanks for the privilege of airing our citizen points of view.
Sent from my iPad

From: [Eileen Booty](#)
To: [Lisa Burnside](#); [Jaime Tellier](#)
Cc: [lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca](#); [brad.clark@hamilton.ca](#); [tom.jackson@hamilton.ca](#); [Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](#); [sshaw-q@ndp.on](#)
Subject: Wetland relocation proposal in Ancaster
Date: May 4, 2021 11:09:29 AM

Hello Lisa and Jamie,

As advised by Action 13, I have included the city councillors.

I am outraged to think that this is being considered.

When are we going to learn that these natural habitats are in place for our benefit?

It has become increasingly clear in the last few years, that these natural resources are invaluable and cannot be replaced by superficial reconstruction projects.

We need WISDOM when making plans for the future not short-sighted, quick fixes.

Thank you, Eileen Booty.

From: [Jill](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#); [Lisa Burnside](#)
Cc: [lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca](#); [Chad.collins@hamilton.ca](#); [tom.jackson@hamilton.ca](#); [Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](#); [sshaw-q@ndp.on.ca](#)
Subject: Hamilton Wetland at risk
Date: May 4, 2021 11:27:51 AM

Good morning,

This Thursday, the HCA will be hearing from the owner of the Ancaster 49 million dollar mansion (<https://www.thespec.com/news/hamilton-region/2015/09/28/own-a-piece-of-ancaster-for-just-78-million.html>) on his proposal to **pave and relocate the last original wetland in the ancaster creek watershed**.

In light of the climate emergency, and in light of the critically sensitive ecosystem at risk, I'm writing to implore the HCA to reject this proposal. This is not the way forward, and contravenes existing wetland protection. This proposed development (warehouses) is completely irresponsible WHEN WE ARE AWARE OF THE LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES, and we have a moral and ethical obligation to prevent this kind of destruction. Please fight this on behalf of concerned citizens and future generations.

"In summary, future development in the headwaters of this subwatershed is of primary concern to the fisheries potential as it increases the potential for erosion downstream," concluded [the study](#). "Present natural systems (aquatic & terrestrial) must remain intact and preserved in order to keep the integrity of this historically coldwater system."

Jill Tonini
Dundas, Ontario
L9H4H1

From: [Rose Janson](#)
To: [nature](#); [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: your mandate is to protect wetlands!
Date: May 4, 2021 11:30:14 AM

Dear Board Members of the Hamilton Conservation Authority

What a surprise to learn that the Hamilton Conservation Authority is considering a request to destroy precious wetlands, in order that warehouses can be built on that site! (Garner Rd. in Ancaster)

Wetlands are so very important to conserve, for many reasons, environment, biodiversity, climate, flooding, etc. We expect you to do your job and protect these precious resources.

You and I may not miss them, but wetland loss will affect the future for our kids.

We ask you PLEASE to be bold and reject support for this destruction.

Thank you for working during these grim times, when issues can't be properly discussed.

With respect,
Rose Janson and Family

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This email has been checked for viruses by AVG.
<https://www.avg.com>

From: [Sue Carson](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#); [Lisa Burnside](#)
Cc: "Ferguson, Lloyd"; brad.clark@hamilton.ca; chad.collins@hamilton.ca; Tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; Esther.pauls@hamilton.ca; sshaw-qp@ndp.on.ca.
Subject: Hamilton Conservation Area meeting
Date: May 4, 2021 11:39:05 AM

Dear Conservation Staff and Board members,

I live in Ancaster and use the Conservation Area trails every day so feel very connected to the great work that the HCA does to maintain the beauty of this area. I purchase a membership pass every year as I know the upkeep of the land and streams is vital.

In view of the importance of wetlands it therefore is very strange that the relocation of a wetland in Ancaster – one of very few left in this area - is being considered by the board on Thursday night. (Agenda item 4.2 hearing 140 Garner Road, Ancaster.)

It seems that there has not been much time for public input into this big development. Have the dangers of flooding been fully considered for this area? Although it has not been classified a Provincial essential wet land this is because no such assessments have been undertaken for years.

I understand that staff are opposed to this relocation and if trained personnel are ignored isn't there a danger of possible flooding events happening as development takes over natural areas.

I hope that great consideration is taken over this matter on Thursday. It seems as if a longer consultation is needed by the board before paving over areas of wetland that have served our community well in the past.

yours sincerely
Sue Carson

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Letter to HCA Board of Directors for May 6 meeting
Date: May 4, 2021 2:18:54 PM
Attachments: [HCA Board of Directors - for merge.docx](#)

From: Gord McNulty
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 2:07 PM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Letter to HCA Board of Directors for May 6 meeting

Hello Lisa:

Attached is a letter that I hope can be included in the agenda for the May 6 meeting.

Thank you.

Gord

Hamilton, ON L8R 3J3

May 4, 2021

Re: Application by One Properties Real Estate Inc. for Development in a Regulated Area of Ancaster Creek at 140 Garner Road, Ancaster

Dear Chair and Members of the HCA Board of Directors:

As a longtime contributor to the Hamilton Conservation Foundation, I believe the HCA Board should give the benefit of the doubt to *conservation* as opposed to *development* for controversial wetland removal and offset proposals such as this.

Accordingly, I support the recommendation by HCA staff that the Board refuse the application for the proposed One Properties large warehouse development, involving removal of a locally significant wetland and creating a new wetland in a different location.

HCA staff are unequivocal in their report that the proposal will impact the wetland and a watercourse associated with the Ancaster Creek system. In their report, they make it clear the proposal does not comply with HCA policy to maintain and protect wetlands. This is a serious red flag, as the protection of dwindling wetland habitat in southern Ontario should be a fundamental responsibility of a conservation authority.

The HNC's policy is that a natural wetland like this should be retained in place, enhanced and restored. Preserving as many wetlands as we can is essential in helping to make the adjustments required to adapt to climate change and is consistent with the Foundation's goal of protecting our natural legacy for the future.

Offsets invariably raise concern about the time lag between the loss of biodiversity caused by a project and the purported gains from a compensatory wetland. In addition, there are serious questions about monitoring, enforcement and long-term maintenance of a compensatory wetland.

By supporting the staff recommendation, the Board can count on the strong support of a growing number of concerned citizens and conservation and environmental organizations across Ontario. I urge the Board to be a leader in preserving and protecting wetlands throughout the entire HCA watershed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Gord McNulty

From: [Amy Gowling](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#); [Lisa Burnside](#)
Cc: [lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca](#); [chad.collins@hamilton.ca](#); [Tom.jackson@hamilton.ca](#); [brad.clark@hamilton.ca](#); [Esther.pauls@hamilton.ca](#); [sshaw-qp@ndp.on.ca](#)
Subject: Protect ad Conserve
Date: May 4, 2021 2:53:55 PM

Hello,

I'm writing to voice my concern re: "relocating" and paving the Ancaster wetland. These lands are integral to the health of our community, water, and soil. We need to protect and conserve these lands.

Regards,
Amy Gowling

Sent from my iPad

From: [Adrian Hodgson](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#); [Lisa Burnside](#)
Cc: sshaw-qp@ndp.on.ca; maureen.wilson@hamilton.ca
Subject: Reject wetland development at head of Ancaster creek.
Date: May 4, 2021 3:14:17 PM

We are facing an unprecedented crisis for all Life as we have known it and have been offered just a glimpse of the creative disruption Mother Earth is capable of with the global spread of novel Zoonotic viruses like Covid.

Please hold more firmly than ever to reject this development proposal to protect this important Hamilton wetland at the head of ancaster creek.

We need to prioritize and support the fullest capacity of our water-lifesheds if we are to have any hope of a livable planet with peaceful cultures.

This Thursday, the HCA will be hearing from the owner of the Ancaster 49 million dollar mansion on his proposal to **pave and relocate the last original wetland in the ancaster creek watershed**.

Action 13 and the Hamilton 350 Committee urges the board of the Hamilton Conservation Authority to reject the development proposal coming before it on Thursday May 6 to relocate a wetland and part of the headwaters of Ancaster Creek to facilitate warehouse construction. We urge you to email the HCA board through Jaime.Tellier@conservationhamilton.ca and Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca. Please copy the five city councillors on the HCA Board - [Lloyd Ferguson](#), [Brad Clark](#), [Chad Collins](#), [Tom Jackson](#) and [Esther Pauls](#) as well as MPP Sandy Shaw at sshaw-qp@ndp.on.ca.

~Adrian Hodgson
Design Jam Permaculture

email: designjampermaculture@gmail.com
web: designjampermaculture.ca

From: [Claire Vice](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#); chad.collins@hamilton.ca; tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; brad.clark@hamilton.ca; lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca; esther.pauls@hamilton.ca
Subject: Ancaster Wetland
Date: May 4, 2021 3:20:50 PM

Dear Councillors

I am appalled to hear that many of you are on The Board of the Hamilton Conservation Authority and yet are in favour of paving over a locally significant and natural wetland on Garner Road and replacing with a "water hole" in some out of the way location. How can this be? Doesn't the word "conservation" mean something to you? This wetland is in the area that is the headwater for the Ancaster creek. It is well time to think of the environment instead of destroying it. Surely there are many other areas where concrete could be laid for warehouses.

I implore you to take action in this matter instead of just sitting back and letting any development occur anywhere without taking in account the effect on our natural environment.

Sincerely,
Claire Vice

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Policy to allow developers to move wetlands
Date: May 4, 2021 6:12:17 PM

From: Ron and Mary Sealey
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 5:52 PM
To: brad.clark@hamilton.ca; Chad.collins@hamilton.ca; tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; Pauls, Esther <Esther.pauls@hamilton.ca>; Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>; nature <nature@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Policy to allow developers to move wetlands

Dear Board members of the Hamilton Conservation Authority:

Thank you all for the work you do to conserve our natural environment for ourselves and future generations!

We are very concerned that a policy to allow developers to move wetlands is DANGEROUS. This idea is NOT consistent with the mandate of the Authority to preserve wetlands.

PLEASE oppose this development at your meetings!

Thank you!

Ron and Mary Sealey

L8B 1K3

From: [T.S. Peck](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Potential construction of massive warehouse on top of Ancaster-area wetland
Date: May 5, 2021 2:06:22 PM

See below Jaime

T. Scott Peck, B.A., DPA, MCIP, RPP, CMMIII
***Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/
Director, Watershed Planning & Engineering***
Hamilton Conservation Authority
Phone: 905-525-2181, Ext. 130

The contents of this e-mail and any attachments are intended for the named recipient(s). This e-mail may contain information that is privileged and confidential. If you have received this message in error or are not the named recipient(s), please notify the sender and permanently delete this message without reviewing, copying, forwarding, disclosing or otherwise using it or any part of it in any form whatsoever.

From: Cynthia Wheatley
Sent: May 4, 2021 5:58 PM
To: T.S. Peck <Scott.Peck@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Potential construction of massive warehouse on top of Ancaster-area wetland

Dear Mr.Peck: I just read about this proposal on the tvo.org website. It reminds me of the recent proposal to build a warehouse over top of Duffins' Creek in Pickering, which was eventually abandoned due to protests by concerned citizens. I hope the Ancaster development proposal ends up the same way.

It seems like a never-ending battle to preserve existing natural features. Why is nature always in the way? Why do developers always think they can do better than nature? I don't really believe that developers will build a better replacement wetland. I do believe, as you stated in the TVO article, that the protection of existing wetlands should come first, and that developers should learn to work around that feature. If it's true that the existing wetland is full of phragmites, perhaps the solution is to dredge them out and plant bullrushes in their place, and build the warehouse somewhere else that doesn't have a wetland on it.

I hope nature wins this one.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Wheatley
Etobicoke, ON

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Ancaster Creek Wetlands
Date: May 4, 2021 7:58:56 PM

Lisa Burnside
Chief Administrative Officer
Hamilton Conservation Authority

Sent from my mobile device.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mary Ann Frerotte
Date: May 4, 2021 at 7:35:15 PM EDT
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Cc: Lloyd Ferguson <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>, brad.clark@hamilton.ca, Chad.collins@hamilton.ca, tom.jackson@hamilton.ca, Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca, sshaw-qp@ndp.on.ca
Subject: Ancaster Creek Wetlands

Dear Conservation Hamilton,

I am concerned about the proposed wetland offsets under consideration. My readings on the subject has not swayed me from believing this is a threat to properties through flooding. We are a city perched between a great lake and an escarpment. We have a continuing battle already in handling storm water, can we really afford to mess with wetlands that work better than anything that could be engineered? . What lives in the wetlands? Are we really going to allow an individual to Pay to slay?

I know there was a loss of control when the the provincial government removed some of your powers, and I fought hard to keep the lands in your trusted expertise hands. I'd like to think that conservation is still at the forefront of all decision making. Please do not allow wetland offsets

Thank You

Mary Ann Frerotte
Dundas, ont

From: [CHRIS & THERESA CARDEY](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#); [Lisa Burnside](#)
Cc: [sshaw-q@ndp.on.ca](#); [brad.clark@hamilton.ca](#); [lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca](#); [esther.pauls@hamilton.ca](#); [chad.collins@hamilton.ca](#); [tom.jackson@cgocable.ca](#)
Subject: wetlands
Date: May 4, 2021 8:41:56 PM

I am writing to ask the HCA to reject the development proposal to relocate a wetland and part of the headwaters of Ancaster Creek to facilitate proposed warehouses and thousands of parking spaces on Garner Rd in Ancaster.

I believe this contravenes existing wetland protection policies.

Wetlands are important to wildlife for habitat, for water filtration and cleaner air for humans.

As we face a climate crisis it is more important than ever that we protect our environment.

Yours truly,
Theresa and Chris Cardey
Hamilton

From: [nature](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: "Offsetting" Policy
Date: May 5, 2021 10:07:45 AM
Attachments: [Letter to HCA BofD-MembersoftheBoard.pdf](#)

See below and attached.

Reception
Hamilton Conservation Authority
Phone: 905-525-2181 ext 100



The contents of this e-mail and any attachments are intended for the named recipient(s). This e-mail may contain information that is privileged and confidential. If you have received this message in error or are not the named recipient(s), please notify the sender and permanently delete this message without reviewing, copying, forwarding, disclosing or otherwise using it or any part of it in any form whatsoever. Thank you.

From: David Whipp
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:07 AM
To: nature <nature@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: "Offsetting" Policy

Please forward this letter to the six members of the Board for the Hamilton Conservation Authority who are not elected municipal representatives.

Thank you

David Whipp

FROM THE DESK OF

DAVID WHIPP

May 4, 2021

David Whipp
Peterborough, ON K9K 1B2

Dear Members of the Board,

As a former resident, who was born and raised in Hamilton, and who is now a frequent visitor to the area to see family and friends, I am concerned about our collective actions as humans, on the natural environment, done under the guise of “progress”. For 60 years I have watched the changes that have occurred in and around Hamilton, and which, in many cases have negatively impacted both the natural and human environments.

Your actions and decisions, as a member of the Board for the Hamilton Conservation Authority, have a real and lasting impact on the health of the area’s natural environment, and consequently, on the health of the species of plants and animals that live in those environments. As well, your actions and decisions will have an impact on the mental and physical health of the humans living in and visiting those areas, as recent studies have shown.

The adoption of an “offsetting” policy, which in part allows for the relocation of wetlands, will I fear, allow profit and development to take precedence over the natural environment, when it absolutely should not. This “offsetting” policy, if adopted by the Board, will be detrimental for the natural environment. It will lead to the further loss and destruction of the already threatened and disappearing natural areas in and around the City of Hamilton and the Township of Puslinch. As well, it will be another example that illustrates our arrogance and hubris as humans, towards nature. Shame on us! Will we never learn?

I urge you to vote against the adoption of the “offsetting” policy.

Sincerely yours,

David Whipp

CONTACT

1234 MAIN STREET | ANYTOWN, STATE ZIP | (123) 456-7890 | HELLO@EXAMPLE.COM

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: 140 Garner Road East, Wetland and Stream Relocation - Decision This Week
Date: May 5, 2021 10:53:40 AM

From: Marie Covert
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:29 AM
To: brad.clark@hamilton.ca; lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca; chad.collins@hamilton.ca;
tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; esther.pauls@hamilton.ca; Lisa Burnside
<Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>; sshaw-qp@ndp.on.ca
Subject: 140 Garner Road East, Wetland and Stream Relocation - Decision This Week

Dear Conservation Staff & Board Members,

It is with great concern that I have read of the proposal to remove a wetland and pave it over at 140 Garner Road East. This contradicts every current sensibility of an enlightened civilization which is trying to slow climate change, protect the current environment, and promote sustainability in our communities. The proposal is damaging and archaic. It needs to be defeated by everyone who is concerned about climate care and the future of the planet.

I urge the Hamilton Conservation **Authority** to reject this proposal coming before it on May 6. You are the experts with the knowledge and experience to make meaningful decisions regarding our precious ecosystems; you are not motivated by Bezos and his Big Business Buddies. Please do not allow this irreversible act to take place, without allowing time for proper assessment and consideration. Once a wetland has been destroyed, it can never be replaced. Have we not learned any lessons from the past?

In short summary, the facts are staggering: there are now only **TWO historic wetlands** in the Ancaster Creek watershed and the one under threat is the only **one still located in its original location**.

The study found that **8.0 percent** of the watershed was originally wetland and only **0.3 percent remains**.

Paving over the wetland to provide for the construction of 5 Amazon warehouses and surface parking areas for 3,000 employees is damaging in every respect.

1. The environment needs more green space – not more asphalt
2. Where will the rain water go, as it hits the pavement? No one knows. HCA admits its concerns and fear of liabilities. Please listen to one another as you decide in favour of climate care and environmental protection.
3. Everyone knows that water will find somewhere to go, whether flooding nearby areas, going underground to the escarpment where we may see torrential waterfalls that wash out roads, or into Spencer Creek which has the potential to flood lower Dundas and the Old Town.
4. No one knows the downstream results of moving the headwaters of this watershed
5. Not only does the proposal permit the paving over of a whole ecosystem, it endorses the

demise of all creatures who depend on the wetlands for their very existence. There are fisheries, waterfowl, small turtles, reptiles, song birds, and other pollinators who have always lived here. You condemn them to a slow death as you pave over their habitat and substitute it with the pollution of 3,000 cars, massive delivery trucks shuttling goods 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The devastation, which can be prevented at this point, has to be a primary talking point as you debate the merits of warehouses vs. historical wetlands.

Please side in favour of the wetlands; please honour the decisions of the HCA who have always valued wetlands; please listen to the citizenry who have raised their concerns. Hamilton City Hall and its Councillors need to demonstrate to its constituents that you believe in climate change, that you are willing to do something concrete to protect the environment, and that integrity and democracy still exist at the heart of good government.

Thank you for your time.

Marie Covert
Dundas

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Proposal to alter Ancaster wetlands
Date: May 5, 2021 11:01:01 AM

From: Richard Gelder
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:59 AM
To: lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca; brad.clark@hamilton.ca; chad.collins@hamilton.ca; esther.pauls@hamilton.ca; Tom Jackson <tom.jackson@hamilton.ca>
Cc: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>; Arlene VanderBeek <arlene.vanderbeek@hamilton.ca>
Subject: Proposal to alter Ancaster wetlands

Dear Councillors part of the Hamilton Conservation Authority:

I am copying my own Councillor, Arlene VanderBeek, as well as Lisa Burnside of the HCA so that my comments might be entered on the record of the upcoming meeting.

I am very concerned with a proposal to alter, move and reconstruct a natural occurring watershed at the Ancaster headwaters as part of a large warehouse development. I fear for the unforeseen, and foreseen, consequences of such an alteration to the natural landscape.

I do not pretend, for one second, to be an expert on the workings of natural watersheds, but have been moved to raise my voice as a result of conversations I have been having in my own community. Respectfully, I don't think any of us are fully qualified to manipulate something as delicate as a watershed as well as nature herself.

I implore you as accountable voices on the Hamilton Conservation Authority to, at minimum put a pause on this

project pending further environmental assessment, if not cancelling it outright.

Although I do not wish to see the thwarting of economic development that this warehouse project might bring, but I believe it can and ought be done in a more environmentally responsible manner, rather than for the convenience of the developer and any adjacent property he might own.

Respectfully,

Rich Gelder
Dundas, Ontario

Value kindness.

From: [James, Robert](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Cc: [Lisa Burnside](#); lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca; brad.clark@hamilton.ca; Chad.collins@hamilton.ca; tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca; sshaw-qp@ndp.on.ca
Subject: Ancaster wetlands decision
Date: May 5, 2021 11:06:40 AM

Dear Ms. Tellier,

I understand that the Conservation Authority is deciding today whether to agree to the change of use of the lands at the head of the Ancaster Creek. I am writing to add my voice to those who wish it to remain as wetlands.

This is one of the relatively few remaining wetlands in this area. And we need more, not fewer, wetlands in Southern Ontario. Like the move to build on wetlands in the Town of Pickering, this has the supposed “benefit” of building more warehouses, and theoretically adding to jobs. And all for the profit of an already-wealthy Ancaster resident. Surely we, and your Conservation Authority, can do better than this.

Please vote to reject the proposal at today’s meeting.

Thank you

Bob James

Robert James
Dundas L9H 2V2
Sent from my iPad

From: [Zoe Green](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#); [Lisa Burnside](#)
Cc: [chad.collins@hamilton.ca](#); [tom.jackson@hamilton.ca](#); [lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca](#); [ester.pauls@hamilton.ca](#); [maria.pearson@hamilton.ca](#); [brad.clark@hamilton.ca](#); [sshaw-OP@ndp.on.ca](#)
Subject: Letter to Directors, Hamilton Conservation Authority - 140 Garner Rd. E
Date: May 5, 2021 11:56:40 AM
Attachments: [HCA_20210506_140GarnerRdE_zgreen.pdf](#)

Hello Ms. Tellier, please see attached correspondence for all Directors on the Board regarding a matter before them at the Section 28 Hearing this Thursday. I have cc'd the Hamilton Councillors on this time sensitive matter but don't have a way to directly contact the citizen board members.

Thank you,
Zoe Green
Dundas L9H 3M4

To: Board of Directors, Hamilton Conservation Authority

May 4, 2021

Re: 140 Garner Road East, Ancaster

Ontario Regulation 161/06 administered by the Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) is paramount to protecting the people and property across the Hamilton CA watershed from flooding and damage. Provincial regulations like these have been in place for decades and are touted as an inter/national gold standard for watershed management and flood protection.

The Regulation serves to ensure that natural features and functions our predecessors had the foresight to protect remain to benefit our and future generations. Now, in the face of climate change and dwindling municipal budgets, is not the time to forsake these valuable natural assets.

At the Section 28 Hearing on May 6, 2021, I respectfully ask that you adhere to Ontario Regulation 161/06 and follow the recommendation of HCA's expert staff and **not issue a permit** for the warehouse development proposed at 140 Garner Road East, Ancaster.

The subject lands are located in the headwaters of the Ancaster Creek subwatershed which is part of the Spencer Creek system, a system already under stress. The wetland on site is indicative of the hydric soils and speaks to the hydrologic function and importance of the area. What happens in the headwaters of a watershed has a cumulative impact on the entire downstream system.

Attempts to interfere with the natural hydrology of these headwaters can lead to costly and unwanted impacts on those that live and own businesses downstream. At who's expense? And **would the CA be liable** if shown that it did not adhere to its own regulation and policies?

Also of note is that the subject lands were severed just months ago, in July 2020. The **Applicant attested in their official submission to the City of Hamilton** when seeking consent to sever the land that **"All natural resources will be retained and protected, and there are no proposed revisions to any flood regulation areas"**. However...

... just days later, also July 2020, materials submitted by the Applicant included the very plan before you now for consideration (Item 4.2 Schedule B, May 6, 2021 Agenda Package). **That plan clearly does NOT protect natural features and clearly requires revisions to flood regulation areas.**

It is your duty as Directors of the regulatory body responsible for administering Ontario Regulation 161/06 to uphold the applicable regulation and policies. I call on you to adhere to the HCA Code of Conduct and your commitment to the interests of HCA. You are responsible for making the right decision for the CA, the watershed and its residents, not for private interests nor acute, vociferous municipal interests.

The mandate and strategic direction of HCA is clear. This request for permit cannot in clear conscience be approved. Many Hamiltonians would lose faith in the HCA if approved and it would set a divisive and destructive precedent for our watershed.

Respectfully submitted,

Zoë Green

Downstream Resident, Dundas

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Save the wetlands
Date: May 5, 2021 12:11:58 PM

From: Kristine
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 12:00 PM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Save the wetlands

We vote NO regarding the paving over the wetlands.

John and Kristine Rogers

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Carol Town](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#); [Lisa Burnside](#); [Gord Costie](#); sshaw-gp@ndp.on.ca; lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca; brad.clark@hamilton.ca; chad.collins@hamilton.ca; tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; esther.pauls@hamilton.ca
Subject: Save existing wetlands - please read today
Date: May 5, 2021 12:12:13 PM
Attachments: [Save our Wetlands - to the Board of the HCA.docx](#)

Attention: Members of the Board for the Hamilton Conservation Authority, and HCA Staff:

On Thursday May 6th, a proposal to pave and 'relocate' the last original wetland in the Ancaster Creek watershed is being presented to the Hamilton Conservation Authority. This site, at Garner Road and Hwy 6, is owned by developer Frank Silvestra who wants to build five warehouses and extensive paved parking. Meanwhile, he proposes "building" a new wetland at the edge of his property, including along Hwy 6 which is scheduled for widening.

Here we go again. Why do we continue to allow building on land which is critical to our water ecosystems? Have we not learned anything? In a few short generations, we have paved over much of our natural heritage – a heritage that cannot easily be replaced. Why not put the warehouses on old remediated industrial lands? Or at least lands that do not contain such sensitive ecological feature. A cynic might assume it's because of developer influence and their desire for profit at all costs.

This development should not happen. It is time to put the environment right at the top of our concerns. But will the development go through?

The HCA is apparently contemplating a policy which would allow wetland 'relocations' in 'exceptional circumstances'. Who gets to decide what is exceptional? Hopefully, it is not a group including many city councillors who may have received funding from interested developers in the past or might in the future? Or how about the province? We know that warehouses have beaten wetlands in other municipalities.

Lloyd Ferguson, Hamilton City Councillor is the Chair of the Conservation Authority Board. While I understand the HCA staff are vehemently opposed to this suggestion, it is not at all clear that he does.

How can we have a Chair of a Conservation Authority who is not 100% on the side of Conservation? Please correct me if I'm wrong.

Carol Town
Hamilton

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How can we have a Chair of a Conservation Authority who is not 100% on the side of Conservation? Please correct me if I'm wrong.

Carol Town
Hamilton

37 Undermount Avenue
Hamilton

From: [David Carson](#)
To: [Lisa Burnside](#); ["Lloyd Ferguson"](#); brad.clark@hamilton.ca; ["Jackson, Tom"](#); ["Esther Pauls"](#); [Jaime Tellier](#)
Cc: SShaw-QP@ndp.on.ca
Subject: Garner Road wetland relocation
Date: May 5, 2021 12:41:00 PM

To Board Members of the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

I have learned with some alarm of this Thursday's HCA Board discussion of a proposal to permit relocation of a wetland and part of the headwaters of [Ancaster Creek](#) to make way for five proposed warehouses on Garner Road at Highway 6.

I am concerned that you are discussing this even before you have completed consultations and developed an agreed policy on so called "relocation" of wetlands.

The City of Hamilton faces significant issues relating to stormwater runoff and related sewer overflows from extreme events. Ontario's Conservation Authorities were created to protect communities from these extreme water flows as a core part of their mandate.

Pressure from developers for the HCA to override these responsibilities, and make developer friendly decisions in advance of measured policy development, must be resisted.

The idea that a wetland can be ""relocated"" must be studied in depth. Wetlands are not warehouses that can be built anywhere. Wetlands are in place that arise naturally as a result of topography and hydrology. They are home to bio-diverse flora and fauna that don't move location on the basis of a developer promise or an excavator's digging.

I ask that you look to your responsibilities as custodians of our fast disappearing natural environment and not react to uncertain developer promises of jobs.

Regards
Dave Carson
Dundas

You cannot have infinite growth on a finite planet
"it isn't a choice between a healthy economy or a healthy environment. It's about preserving the environment so we can have a healthy economy."

From: [Jo Gaudette](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#); chad.collins@hamilton.ca; tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; esther.pauls@hamilton.ca; brad.clark@hamilton.ca; maria.pearson@hamilton.ca; lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca
Subject: More information on proposed Development on Garner Road
Date: May 5, 2021 1:20:58 PM

To Whom it may concern,

It has recently been brought to my attention that there is a proposal to construct warehouses on 140 Garner Road East. I also understand that there are environmentally significant wetlands on this property, which would be destroyed if the warehouses were to be constructed.

I would like to understand what environmental analysis has been executed on the proposed change. Specifically, I would like to understand:

- If there has been a study conducted and if so what the scope was
- What the results of the study were
- What bodies were brought in to evaluate the impact of this change
- How the team is planning to handle the impact this change will have on local wildlife, Ancaster creek headwaters, etc

I feel I do not need to remind you the critically important role that wetlands play for our headwaters and wildlife, and that this (irreversible) decision should not be taken lightly.

Best Regards,

Joanna Gaudette

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed Development Headwaters of Ancaster Creek
Date: May 5, 2021 2:13:09 PM

From: Kathy Vogel
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 2:04 PM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Proposed Development Headwaters of Ancaster Creek

<https://mailchi.mp/854040f7fd8a/wetland-and-stream-relocation-decision-this-week?e=3abf045c4d>

Lisa,

I would just like to add my voice to the objectors to this development. I am not sure of the process.

Thanks Kathy

Kathy Vogel
KATHRYN VOGEL ARCHITECT INC.
181 James Street North, Suite 201
Hamilton, Ontario L8R 2K9

PHONE: 905.521.1333
FAX: 905.521.1100



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: 140 Garner Road East, Wetland and Stream Relocation - Decision This Week
Date: May 5, 2021 3:09:19 PM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

From: Margaret Tremblay
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 2:45 PM
To: brad.clark@hamilton.ca; lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca; chad.collins@hamilton.ca;
tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; esther.pauls@hamilton.ca; Lisa Burnside
<Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>; sshaw-qp@ndp.on.ca
Subject: Fwd: 140 Garner Road East, Wetland and Stream Relocation - Decision This Week

Dear Conservation staff and Board members:

I am concerned about the potential for the wetland and stream relocation in the area of 140 Garner Road, Ancaster. Ms Covert in her email, has outlined the negative ramifications for the environment and the effects on climate change. For these reasons, I am strongly disagree with proceeding with the proposed wetland and stream relocation.

I would urge careful consideration of the proposal with the goal of preserving the integrity of these wetlands and avoiding the irreversible damage that can be done by artificially relocating this wetland area and stream.

Respectfully,
Margaret Tremblay L9H 4P5
Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Marie Covert
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 10:29 AM
To: 'brad.clark@hamilton.ca'; 'lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca'; 'chad.collins@hamilton.ca';
'tom.jackson@hamilton.ca'; 'esther.pauls@hamilton.ca';
'lisa.burnside@conservationhamilton.ca'; 'sshaw-qp@ndp.on.ca'
Subject: 140 Garner Road East, Wetland and Stream Relocation - Decision This Week

Dear Conservation Staff & Board Members,

It is with great concern that I have read of the proposal to remove a wetland and pave it over at 140 Garner Road East. This contradicts every current sensibility of an enlightened civilization which is trying to slow climate change, protect the current environment, and promote sustainability in our communities. The proposal is damaging and archaic. It needs

to be defeated by everyone who is concerned about climate care and the future of the planet.

I urge the Hamilton Conservation **Authority** to reject this proposal coming before it on May 6. You are the experts with the knowledge and experience to make meaningful decisions regarding our precious ecosystems; you are not motivated by Bezos and his Big Business Buddies. Please do not allow this irreversible act to take place, without allowing time for proper assessment and consideration. Once a wetland has been destroyed, it can never be replaced. Have we not learned any lessons from the past?

In short summary, the facts are staggering: there are now only **TWO historic wetlands** in the Ancaster Creek watershed and the one under threat is the only **one still located in its original location**.

The study found that **8.0 percent** of the watershed was originally wetland and only **0.3 percent remains**.

Paving over the wetland to provide for the construction of 5 Amazon warehouses and surface parking areas for 3,000 employees is damaging in every respect.

1. The environment needs more green space – not more asphalt
2. Where will the rain water go, as it hits the pavement? No one knows. HCA admits its concerns and fear of liabilities. Please listen to one another as you decide in favour of climate care and environmental protection.
3. Everyone knows that water will find somewhere to go, whether flooding nearby areas, going underground to the escarpment where we may see torrential waterfalls that wash out roads, or into Spencer Creek which has the potential to flood lower Dundas and the Old Town.
4. No one knows the downstream results of moving the headwaters of this watershed
5. Not only does the proposal permit the paving over of a whole ecosystem, it endorses the demise of all creatures who depend on the wetlands for their very existence. There are fisheries, waterfowl, small turtles, reptiles, song birds, and other pollinators who have always lived here. You condemn them to a slow death as you pave over their habitat and substitute it with the pollution of 3,000 cars, massive delivery trucks shuttling goods 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The devastation, which can be prevented at this point, has to be a primary talking point as you debate the merits of warehouses vs. historical wetlands.

Please side in favour of the wetlands; please honour the decisions of the HCA who have always valued wetlands; please listen to the citizenry who have raised their concerns. Hamilton City Hall and its Councillors need to demonstrate to its constituents that you believe in climate change, that you are willing to do something concrete to protect the environment, and that integrity and democracy still exist at the heart of good government.

Thank you for your time.

Marie Covert
Dundas



CITIZENS AT CITY HALL

CITIZEN JOURNALISTS REPORTING FROM HAMILTON, ONTARIO



Developers want to replace the wetland in the headwaters of Ancaster Creek (left) with five warehouses and thousands of parking spaces, plus a replacement wetland (right).

Wetland and stream relocation decision this week

Developers are pushing ahead this week with relocation of a wetland and part of the headwaters of [Ancaster Creek](#) to make way for five proposed warehouses on Garner Road at Highway 6. At their Thursday evening on-line meeting, the board of the Hamilton Conservation Authority [will debate](#) the unprecedented relocation that contravenes existing wetland protection policies and is opposed by their staff.

A month ago the HCA board sharply divided over a draft revised policy that would contemplate wetland relocations in exceptional circumstances. The process began last fall after pressure from the same developers. Public consultation on the draft is scheduled over the summer, but the warehouse proponents [have apparently decided](#) to push ahead without it in hopes the HCA board will override its existing policies.

The affected property is the eastern half of a 170-acre block owned by developer Frank Silvestri. His 30,000 square-foot mansion [sits](#) on the western half and is currently for sale with an asking price of \$49 million. The [proposal](#) is to replace the wetland and creek in the centre of the property with a constructed wetland, creek and stormwater pond along the edge of the lands adjacent to Highway 6 which itself [is now scheduled](#) for a widening to four lanes.

“HCA policy direction is that wetlands and wetland buffers be maintained and protected,” stresses the [staff report](#) on the proposal. “In this regard, HCA policy does not support the removal of an existing locally significant wetland and the creation of a new wetland in a new location.”

The staff report [notes](#) the existing wetland “is considered a Core Area for the purposes of the City’s Urban Official Plan” and that this proposal has not been submitted to the city so approval by the HCA “would be premature pending a decision regarding the ultimate development proposal for the subject lands by the City of Hamilton.” A different

development plan that impacted the wetland but didn't call for its removal [was](#) earlier rejected by the HCA. Wetlands soak up carbon emissions better than trees.

A study of Ancaster Creek completed in 2008 by the HCA [indicates](#) that “historically wetlands followed much of the stream corridor until it met with present day Rousseaux Street” but that now there are only two – and only the one proposed to be relocated is where it was originally. The study found eight percent of the watershed was originally wetland, and now only 0.3 percent remains.

“In summary, future development in the headwaters of this subwatershed is of primary concern to the fisheries potential as it increases the potential for erosion downstream,” concluded [the study](#).

“Present natural systems (aquatic & terrestrial) must remain intact and preserved in order to keep the integrity of this historically coldwater system.”

After crossing Garner Road, the creek flows through the Ancaster Golf and Country Club and then over Tiffany Falls. Below the escarpment it is located west of Wilson and Main West, before flowing under Osler Drive and alongside McMaster where wetland restoration work is underway.

The existing wetland is 4.5 acres and a 30-metre wide buffer is also protected by HCA, city and provincial regulations. The developer proposal [envisions](#) the creation of a slightly larger wetland which they argue would be an

enhancement over the existing one.

They say the relocation [would allow](#) for construction of five warehouses and surface parking areas for a promised 3000 permanent employees. They estimate the total value of the project as over \$250 million.

HCA staff [warn](#) that approval of the proposal may create legal liabilities for the HCA because “as a regulatory agency with responsibility for reviewing development proposed in natural hazard prone areas and natural heritage areas, the HCA is aware the subject property contains a watercourse and a wetland and that the development as proposed will impact these features.”

The HCA board has five city councillors and six citizen volunteers. It is chaired by Ancaster councillor [Lloyd Ferguson](#) who favours the project. He [clashed](#) sharply with [Brad Clark](#) over this proposal at the last HCA board meeting. [Chad Collins](#), [Tom Jackson](#) and [Esther Pauls](#) also sit on the HCA board along with several citizens.

The opportunity for citizens to delegate at the May 6 meeting passed before the agenda was posted. However, written comments can be sent to the CAO Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca.

Find this article on the CATCH website [here](#), along with the full archive of CATCH articles.

From: [Anne Washington](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Re: Proposal for Wetlands in the Ancaster Creek Watershed
Date: May 5, 2021 4:32:43 PM

Dear Councilor Ferguson:

People elect governments and boards believing they'll make decisions that are just and fair, not only for the people they serve, but for the natural world upon which all life depends.

With increasing demand on the planet's resources, it's even more important that good decisions are made at the local level, especially when there's a call to pave land and alter waterways to accommodate construction of buildings for whatever purpose.

You have the power to make a positive difference.

The HCA is now faced with another proposal that will negatively impact, not only the wildlife that depends on the waterways of the Ancaster Creek, but also on the air that we breathe and the enjoyment and calm we all need from our diminishing areas of nature in its original state.

You will have studied the pros and cons of this latest proposal to pave over and alter the headwaters of the Ancaster Creek, which is to be debated at tomorrow night's HCA Board meeting.

With a vision of what MUST be conserved for future generations, the professional staff of HRC do not approve of this proposal.

As you are a wise man, I hope you'll take their recommendation to heart and determine that the cons outweigh the pros in this situation. I ask that you will NOT vote to approve it.

With hope, and appreciation for your dedication to the communities of Hamilton,

Anne Washington

From: [cynthia.meyer](#)
To: [Jaime.Tellier](#)
Subject: Headwaters of Ancaster Creek and Wetlands
Date: May 5, 2021 4:45:16 PM

Please help us preserve our wetlands and headwaters in Ancaster. Please do not give permission for a project that will pave over this area.

Trusting in your willingness to do the right thing,
Cynthia Meyer

Sent from my iPhone

From: Lisa Burnside
To: Jaime Tellier
Subject:
Date:

6.7(ar)

FW: 10 REASONS to urge the @Hamilton_CA Board to reject 140
Garner Road Development Project! Email
Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca and CC
lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca to make your voice heard!
#savedontpave #yourstoprotect 1/4 May 5, 2021 6:02:45 PM

From: Allyn Walsh
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 5:49 PM
To: lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca
Cc: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: 10 REASONS to urge the @Hamilton_CA Board to reject 140 Garner Road Development
Project! Email Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca and CC lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca to
make your voice heard! #savedontpave #yourstoprotect 1/4

Mr. Ferguson,
You have been hearing the uproar about this, please do the right thing and stop it.
There is huge reputational risk, not just to the city of Hamilton but to you personally, if this goes
through. People have become aware of the finite environmental resources we have and aren't foolish
enough to think a wetland can be "relocated". Nor do they believe that developers should be running
things in this province.
Thank you,
Allyn Walsh

- Relocating wetlands is against provincial, city and Conservation Authority policy.
- HCA staff are opposed to the developer application. However the HCA Board makes the decision, not the staff.
- The wetland is part of the headwaters of Ancaster Creek and the relocation will include both the wetland and the creek flowing into and out of it.

--

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Correspondence for the Board of Directors
Date: May 5, 2021 6:35:42 PM

Lisa Burnside
Chief Administrative Officer
Hamilton Conservation Authority

Sent from my mobile device.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Major Girardin, Judy"
Date: May 5, 2021 at 6:22:53 PM EDT
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Correspondence for the Board of Directors

Dear HCA Board of Directors,

My name is Judy Major-Girardin and I am a Professor in the School of the Arts at McMaster University and an advocate for wetlands. I am working with colleagues from across the campus in many different departments and faculties on an initiative to create a mosaic of wetlands that will replace parking lots on McMaster's West Campus bordering Coldwater Creek. This project is not an isolated initiative but is part of a much larger effort to restore a significant natural corridor through the valley. Efforts are underway by many groups and organizations who are trying to promote sustainability, address climate change, increase biodiversity, improve water quality, contribute to Truth and Reconciliation, and promote mental and physical health and wellbeing in our community.

The Great Lakes have lost 90% of wetlands that once surrounded their shores and we cannot afford to prioritize, industry, agricultural and urban sprawl over the small percentage of wetlands that remain intact. We need to work together to preserve and build on the natural systems that provide services of water filtration, oxygen generation, flood control, biodiversity, health benefits and beautification as these are the most sustainable, efficient, and cost-effective systems available to us. We now recognize that all things are connected, and a disturbance of the Ancaster Creek wetlands may have ramifications and negative consequences for

the watershed with unanticipated flow and warming of the unique Coldwater Creek downstream. Rather than devoting resources to moving existing wetlands, I believe we should be working to restore those that have been eliminated or depleted by development.

I urge the Board to reject the proposal for relocation of the wetland on Ancaster Creek and commit to supporting the preservation of the watershed as we work together to rebuild the health of this important natural corridor at the head of the lakes.

Judy Major-Girardin

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Development at 140 Garner Road
Date: May 5, 2021 7:07:51 AM

From: Frances Murray
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 11:07 PM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Cc: lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca; brad.clark@hamilton.ca; Chad.collins@hamilton.ca;
tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca
Subject: Development at 140 Garner Road

Please reconsider allowing the development of warehouses on a significant wetland in rural Ancaster. Wetlands cannot be re-created and moved around by clumsy human-made methods. Warehouses can easily be relocated to more suitable areas of development.

Frances Murray
Hamilton, ON L8P 3L5

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: HCA wetland and stream relocation
Date: May 5, 2021 8:04:12 PM

From: Michelle Chin
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 7:57 PM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: HCA wetland and stream relocation

Dear Ms. Burnside,

I hope that this email finds you well.

I understand that there is an HCA Board meeting on Thursday May 6th to decide on a proposal to relocate a wetland and Ancaster Creek for five warehouses and several acres of parking.

There are a number of reasons why I am opposed to this plan.

1. This undermines the city initiative to send a survey to citizens about urban sprawl. Dundas Works, a local citizens group, had a discussion last night about the urban boundary and was unanimously opposed to developing on sensitive conservation and agricultural land. I urge the developers to look within the urban boundary first for options. The City declared a climate emergency, and such a proposal demonstrates blatant disregard for the environment.
2. Relocating wetlands is against provincial, city and Conservation Authority policy. The wetland is part of the headwaters of Ancaster and the relocation would include the wetland and the creek flowing into and out of it.
3. A 2008 HCA study of Ancaster Creek watershed recommended that present natural systems remain intact and preserved, else face degradation of fisheries and downstream erosion. HCA staff are opposed to the developer application.
3. Wetlands are biodiverse natural features located by natural processes. They are not human constructs. They are ecologically productive, the single best sink for CO2 (better than trees) and provide critical habitat for many species.
4. Ancaster Creek goes over Tiffany Falls, west of Wilson Street, under the Dundas Rail Trail, alongside McMaster and into Spencer Creek just before Cootes Drive. The impacts of this proposal are significant and impact many residents.

I urge the HCS Board to vote against this proposal.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Michelle Chin
Dundas ON L9H 1X5

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: For the agenda of the Thursday, May 6 HCA Board meeting
Date: May 5, 2021 9:36:58 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Susan Wortman
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 9:29 PM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Cc: lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca; brad.clark@hamilton.ca; Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca; Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca; Cynthia Janzen; Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca
Subject: For the agenda of the Thursday, May 6 HCA Board meeting

Dear Ms Burnside,

This email comes rather late, but I only recently became aware of the agenda for the HCA Board meeting and felt compelled to write.

I understand that the Board will debate the proposed relocation of a wetland and part of Ancaster Creek on developer-owned land at Garner and Highway 6. I further understand that your staff is opposed to this proposal. I strongly concur with your staff.

I also understand that at your previous meeting a month ago, a vote was taken to put out for public consideration, a draft revised proposal to consider allowing moving wetlands in exceptional circumstances. It seems clear to me that the developers in question are trying to push ahead of this public consultation, something I find very disturbing.

I also have recently been made aware that the original severance of this property was made with assurances to City Council Committee of Adjustment in July of 2020, that "All natural resources will be retained and protected, and there are no proposed revisions to any flood regulation areas".

What is going on here? It seems that promises and commitments are being ignored with ease and alacrity. It seems to me that the supposed benefits of building five warehouses, with the supposed creation of 3000 permanent jobs (in 5 warehouses...600 people employed in each warehouse - really?) is trumping the inherent value of the natural feature of a wetland, which cannot be just replaced by digging an artificial feature and relocating a creek.

If the warehouses are so critical to Hamilton's economy, let the developers build around the existing wetland and designated buffer zone. The extra expense and complication of doing so is a cost that must be borne by those who are making the profit from it, not borne by the only remaining natural wetland in this watershed, not the land, the species, and not the flood control value of the natural Ancaster Creek watershed. Better yet, build them somewhere else, where no sacrifice of critical watershed management is needed.

This is your mandate, to control waters in your territory. An artificially constructed 'replacement' wetland and stream bed does not match the unmeasurable wisdom of the naturally created water features.

Do not cave to the demands of profit over protection of land and people.

thank you, Susan Wortman

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If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Wetland Development Proposal - Garner Road and Highway 6
Date: May 5, 2021 9:46:13 PM

From: pada venus
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 9:44 PM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Wetland Development Proposal - Garner Road and Highway 6

Dear Lisa,

As a resident of Ancaster, I am appalled by the proposal to interfere with the existing wetlands in the Ancaster Creek watershed at Garner Road and Highway 6. The development proposal to build warehouses and parking lots is regressive and contrary to conservation policy. This proposal, is not one of “exceptional circumstances” to warrant consideration of a wetland relocation. Rather, the proposal is exceptional only as it is in flagrant disregard to maintaining an ecosystem we value as a community.

Ancaster is valued for what makes it exceptional, its historical buildings, waterfalls, wetlands and forests, NOT its warehouses and parking lots. Our economic future lies in preserving what little we have left, as this attracts people to our community, to bolster employment and local business. This potential should be developed, and industrial buildings should be developed on industrial lands compatible with firm environmental protections. Wetlands should not be tampered with or “relocated”. Warehouses and parking lots can be.

Pat Venus
Ancaster

From: [Margot and Tim Carnahan](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#); [Lisa Burnside](#)
Cc: [Lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca](#); [Brad.clark@hamilton.ca](#); [Chad.collins@hamilton.ca](#); [Tom.jackson@hamilton.ca](#); [Esther.pauls@hamilton.ca](#); [SShaw-QP@ndp.on.ca](#)
Subject: Hamilton Wetland at Risk
Date: May 6, 2021 1:08:39 AM

To All Who are Concerned:

With respect to the proposed relocation of the wetlands at the head of Ancaster Creek https://conservationhamilton.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Board-Agenda-Package_21May6.pdf (Item 4.2), I support the opinion of the conservation experts, to preserve the wetland.

The HCA staff report as well as a previous report https://nature.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/2021/04/08May1_Ancaster_Part2_FINAL-1.pdf outline the reasons to maintain and preserve this ecologically significant wetland, so I will not restate them here.

The City of Hamilton recently declared a climate emergency; planning to relocate this valuable wetland contradicts the declaration, as it would intentionally damage the natural environment.

Please consider alternative locations for commercial development and preserve our valuable wetlands. At the least, allow for public delegation and input before making a decision that will effect generations forever.

Respectfully,
Margot Carnahan
Dundas, On

“In summary, future development in the headwaters of this subwatershed is of primary concern to the fisheries potential as it increases the potential for erosion downstream,” concluded [the study](#). “Present natural systems (aquatic & terrestrial) must remain intact and preserved in order to keep the integrity of this historically coldwater system. involves removal of a locally significant wetland

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Wetland slip sliding away?
Date: May 6, 2021 7:55:22 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: LOVEME
Sent: May 6, 2021 1:33 AM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>
Cc: Chad.collins@hamilton.ca; tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca; brad.clark@hamilton.ca
Subject: Wetland slip sliding away?

Hello, Ms. Burnside and Councillors.

I hope you are all well.

I hope the HCA meeting will not become a dog fight tomorrow. I hope instead that all of the members of the HCA board will be mindful of their mandate to protect and conserve the natural features of our local environment and conservation areas, and turn Mr. Silvestri's request down.

I have to wonder, by the way, if this is the same Silvestri family (of Lea Silvestri Investments) which is listed this year on the JCA Donor Wall as donating to the HCA at the Guardian level (\$5,000-10,000), and which some years earlier gave at the higher Protector level (up to a million dollars). If so, isn't this problematic? To give money to the same authority whose board members you are asking to disregard their own staff and mandate and to trash a wetland, instead of protecting it?

I note that the thesaurus defines "slide" - as in the idea of "sliding over a wetland" to another location - as Glide, move smoothly, slip, slither, among other verbs. Wetlands are complex ecosystems that develop over time; they cannot be moved at all, let alone smoothly, nor replaced with a man made one, and if the natural one were built on, there would be nothing left there to slither or slip into the reeds or mud. I feel sure there must be another place this firm can build; it might not be as cheap or easy for them to go elsewhere, but this is where I believe we have to start putting Mother Nature first in all our dealings if we are to give young men and women the confidence to bring new life into this compromised world of ours.

I wish you the best for this meeting, and trust that you board members will consider carefully the implications of this decision.

Best wishes,

Mary Love
Hamilton Mountain

p.s. I wrote this same message to Councillor Pauls earlier.

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: YOUR MANDATE IS TO PROTECT WETLANDS!
Date: May 6, 2021 10:55:23 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Rose Janson
Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 10:41 AM
To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <brad.clark@hamilton.ca>; Collins, Chad <Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca>; TOM BILLARD; esther.pauls@hamilton.ca
Subject: YOUR MANDATE IS TO PROTECT WETLANDS!

Good morning

We are shocked to hear of the proposal to pave over wetlands in Ancaster in order to put up warehouses. They can be put elsewhere!

We urge you, do not approve this. We expect you to have the integrity and courage to do what's right and protect our few remaining precious wetlands.

Sincerely,
Rose Janson and Family

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This email has been checked for viruses by AVG.
<https://www.avg.com>

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Wetlands relocation
Date: May 6, 2021 12:33:18 PM

From: dstermann

Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 12:13 PM

To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>; Brad Clark <brad.clark@hamilton.ca>;
esther pauls@hamilton.ca <esther.pauls@hamilton.ca>; Lloyd Ferguson
<lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca>; Chad Collins <Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca>; Tom Jackson
<tom.jackson@hamilton.ca>

Cc: Roger Stermann

Subject: Wetlands relocation

Dear Councillors

Yet again it is the citizens that have to educate council on the environment and the impact we have on our natural resources.

Wetlands in their CURRENT state should not be altered or relocated.

Relocating wetlands is against provincial, city and Conservation policy! HCA does not approve of this proposal.

Wetlands are natural features located by natural processes, not human constructs. Because they are so ecologically productive, they are the single best sink for carbon dioxide (better than trees), and provide critical habitat for many species. Relocating them disturbs fisheries potential and may cause for erosion downstream.

I vehemently oppose to helping a developer relocate wetlands because he had the bad fortune to have it in the middle of his sprawling property. Since when are we supposed to bail someone out on their investments? Will you bail me out on any stock purchases that tank?

The proposal is to construct five warehouses and several acres of parking on what is currently agricultural and natural lands. This will greatly increase stormwater runoff. The developers are planning to build a stormwater pond beside their relocated wetland, so all of this runoff will end up in AncasterCreek.

Please Note there has been serviced commercial lands along Hwy 6 between Twenty Rd and Dickenson Rd that have been vacant for 30 +years. They got serviced back in the 80's and sat vacant all these years. Use those lands for warehouses!

It is infuriating that this city bends over backwards to developers. There are numerous examples. We see it with the Vrancor Development along King and Queen where the developer continues to play the Planning Department and keeps submitting additional proposals rather than being upfront with residents or Planning.

Another example where developers want the City to bend to them is on Twenty Rd. They have purchased up blocks of prime agricultural land in the hopes to build houses there.

Developers made the gamble in their investment. Why should we bail them out and change our policies that protect the environment, policies created because of sound scientifically proven data.

Protect our wetlands! Protect our prime agricultural lands to secure our food supply in our precarious future.

Thank you
Doreen Stermann
Ward 1

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: relocation of wetland and headwaters of Ancaster Creek
Date: May 6, 2021 12:33:32 PM

From: margot olivieri
Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 12:28 PM
To: loyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca; Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>; brad.clark@hamilton.ca; Chad.collins@hamilton.ca; tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca
Subject: re: relocation of wetland and headwaters of Ancaster Creek

I am writing as a citizen concerned about the seemingly endless development proposals which are endangering our wetlands and watershed areas.

As you are aware, wetlands are natural, not man-made features, which are ecologically productive, the single best sink for CO₂, and provide a critical habitat for many species.

I urge the HCA to reject the development proposal coming before it on **Thursday May 6** to relocate a wetland and part of the headwaters of Ancaster Creek to facilitate warehouse construction.

The wetland is part of the headwaters of Ancaster Creek and the relocation will include both the wetland and the creek flowing into and out of it

The proposal is to construct five warehouses and several acres of parking on what is currently Esther Pauls' [Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca] agricultural and natural lands. This will greatly increase stormwater runoff. The developers are planning to build a stormwater pond beside their relocated wetland, so all of this runoff will end up in Ancaster Creek.

The developers' application is jumping ahead apparently to avoid a public consultation this summer on whether the HCA should have a policy that would contemplate wetland relocation as a "last resort".

I urge you to make a decision that honours our environment and the future of our natural surroundings over short sighted greed.

Thank you for your attention to this letter. I hope you will take the right action against this destructive and insidious proposal.

Margot Olivieri

From: [Wayne Poole](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#); [Lisa Burnside](#)
Cc: [Lloyd Ferguson](#); [Brad Clark](#); [Chad Collins](#); [Tom Jackson](#); [Esther Pauls](#)
Subject: Wetland re-location
Date: May 6, 2021 1:56:55 PM

Hello.

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen to state that I am opposed to the Silvestri application (Ancaster Creek) for the following reasons.

HCA staff do not support this application based on regulatory considerations and responsibilities and sound environmental science.

That being the case why is the HCA Board now allowing this developer to make this application? This is unreasonable and unjustified. Undue pressure is being applied in the hope that the HCA Board will override the HCA staff's previous decision.

An engineered wetland is no substitute for a natural one. As more and more wetlands are disappearing we must protect remaining ones and the ecosystems that exist within them.

I am hoping that the HCA Board will resist this latest attempt by a developer to pave over a wetland. Once gone they can never be reclaimed.

Sincerely,
Wayne Poole
Dundas