Open Letter

To :- Mayor Eisenberger, City of Hamilton,
Members of Council

Re - "the Stadium"

Monday August 8th

c/c Mr.R.Young
Mr.S.Mitchell
Mr.I.Troop

Dear Mayor Eisenberger,Councilors,

Today Mr.Young has indicated that Confederation Park is a preferred option to West Harbour for the Tiger Cats and has withdrawn from discussion.

Objection from many was against an East Mountain site that Mr.Young accepted as part of the facilitation process in good faith in order to come to a quick resolution of issue. Objection is that East Mountain was "urban sprawl", "greenfield development",etc.I believe that today's announcement removes this option,so if there is still to be a stadium,then it is at West Harbour or Confederation Park

As you know from my brief presentation to you February 17th and letter of July 7th including presentation (www.sustainablecity.ca/hamilton ), I have preferred Confederation Park location to East Mountain.

From a sustainability option to redevelop and transform Hamilton,I believe that Confederation Park has more possible benefits by far than West Harbour,and have proposed that West Harbour be redeveloped with a Velodrome. I see this as a win/win where we have two waterfront parks,about 5 mins apart by transit.( one quieter,one more robust)

Unfortunately,our community is so bitterly divided that either West Harbour or East Mountain location will never be a good compromise for either side for a stadium,so Confederation Park will be compromise for both the Mayor and Mr.Young.

In case it is not obvious, the following are some of the additional benefits I see from my proposal for Confederation Park,when fully developed, versus West Harbour :-

- Will create a "greentech/cleantech" industrial park area,serviced by port(very important in a global economy)
- Will showcase renewable energy ( will reduce pollution and waste heat)
- Will anchor a long term LRT sytem that is suitable for goods and people movement,( creating a world market unit)
- Will provide more residential and commercial space ( therefore more tax revenue,way more land available)
- Will create an attractive Gateway for Hamilton ( unfortunately with Harbour "Improvements",view of area has got worse)
- Will provide a solution to some of our flooding problems (we filled in Windemere Basin,the City's East "sump",part of problem?)
- Will provide alternate water purification
- Will improve air quality
- Will create more industrial "green jobs", (the best type of tax base,we desperately need decrease residential/industrial ratio)
- Will have carbon capture designed in.
- Will keep more of our Grads here.
- Will use our educational institutions to drive innovation.
Will be less expensive for new infrastructure (almost sitting on top of water treatment plant) vs about 6 KM.
-Will provide a tourist attraction for USA (Hamilton / Scourge Aquarium)
-Will provide easily for larger crowds, large events for younger set
-Will provide fun option of high speed water transport for athletes.
-Will provide sufficient parking for complete access (Para Pan, and electric vehicles)
-Will allow West Harbour to be better developed, (less crowded, better views for residents) great world class cycling centre
-Will have good transit and road access for industrial, residential, commercial.
-Will show a positive alternate to urban sprawl
-Will provide us with a world class "Sustainable City" model that we can help other countries by sharing our expertise.
-Will be the start of a transformation of Hamilton that everyone can see from rail transit or QEW.
-Will show that we in Hamilton and our Province can meet todays challenges, and enjoy doing it.
-Will show that we are once again "The Ambitious City"

Perhaps you should look again at www.sustainablecity.ca/hamilton and see what I see, if not give me a call to explain.

If the above is not "City Building", would appreciate if you would explain to me, and community, what is. Naturally the above assumes that Mr. Young is still willing to be a part of this, it boggles my mind how casual some are in comments in taking this institution, and this opportunity for granted. The fact that the fully developed complex also houses a "green" stadium is simply an additional benefit.

Please consider the above, which I believe is the best option and decide for Confederation Park for stadium and West Harbour for Velodrome, and let's get on with building it together.

Sincerely, Peter O'Hagan