February 8, 2012

His Worship Bob Bratina  
Mayor  
City of Hamilton  
71 Main Street West – 2nd Floor  
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor Bratina:

Thank you for your correspondence of December 19, 2011, also addressed to the Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Ontario Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation, outlining Hamilton City Council’s resolutions regarding infrastructure funding for municipal infrastructure.

In Budget 2011, our government committed to work with provinces, territories, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and other stakeholders to develop a long-term plan for public infrastructure that extends beyond the expiry of the Building Canada plan in 2014.

To fulfill this commitment, the Government of Canada launched a three-phased, federally-led engagement process on November 30, 2011, through which we will work with our key partners—provinces, territories, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities—and other key stakeholders to take stock of accomplishments to date, identify gaps and strategic priorities, and confirm the principles of the next infrastructure agenda.

As the Government of Canada develops this new plan, it will continue to deliver significant infrastructure investments through the $33-billion Building Canada Plan, including the Gas Tax Fund which has been made permanent at $2 billion per year. Finally, I am pleased to note that under the Green Infrastructure Fund, the Government of Canada has committed $100 million in funding for the Woodward Avenue Wastewater Treatment Plant.
I look forward to working with the City of Hamilton on this initiative and other important projects. Through strong partnerships with provinces, territories, municipalities and other stakeholders, the Government of Canada is leading the way in investing in public infrastructure.

Yours sincerely,

Denis Lebel, P.C., M.P.

cc. The Honourable Bob Chiarelli, M.P.P.
Minister of Infrastructure and of Transportation

The Honourable Ted McMeekin, M.P.P.
Ancaster/Dundas/Flamborough/Westdale

Ms. Andrea Horwath, M.P.P.
Hamilton Centre

Mr. Tim Hudak, M.P.P.
Niagara West-Glanbrook

Ms. Monique Taylor, M.P.P.
Hamilton Mountain

Mr. Paul Miller, M.P.P.
Hamilton East-Stoney Creek

Mr. David Sweet, M.P.
Ancaster/Dundas/Flamborough/Westdale

Mr. Dean Allison, M.P.
Niagara West-Glanbrook

Mr. David Christopherson, M.P.
Hamilton Centre

Mr. Wayne Marston, M.P.
Hamilton Heat-Stoney Creek

Ms. Chris Charlton, M.P.
Hamilton Mountain
December 19, 2011

The Honourable D. Lebel, M.P.
Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

The Honourable B. Chiarelli, M.P.P.
Minister of Infrastructure
3rd Floor, Ferguson Block
77 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8

Dear Mr. Ministers:

City Council, at its meeting held on December 14, 2011, approved Item 3 of General Issues Committee Report 11-034(a), which reads as follows:

3. The Municipal Infrastructure Deficit

WHEREAS the City of Hamilton, as per municipalities across the country, owns a diverse portfolio of infrastructure assets that provide a diverse number of municipal services to our citizens;

AND WHEREAS the City of Hamilton, as per municipalities across the country, has a significant infrastructure deficit that is expanding ever larger on an annual basis due to the lack of available funds;

AND WHEREAS the 2007 FCM – McGill University Municipal Infrastructure Survey established the municipal infrastructure deficit to be $123.6 billion across the nation in 2007;

AND WHEREAS Canada's future prosperity, economic development, international competitiveness, and overall quality of life is at stake if the infrastructure deficit remains unaddressed.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That the Minister of Infrastructure for Ontario and the Minister of Infrastructure Canada establish plans to eliminate the municipal infrastructure deficit through the provision of long term funding strategies and annual fund allocations dedicated to municipal infrastructure;
(b) That the funding allocation from senior levels of government be distributed on a needs-based model, which takes into consideration age/condition of infrastructure for older urban municipalities and/or on a per capital basis;

(c) That this resolution be forwarded to AMO, FCM, local MP's and MPP's and municipalities in Canada with a population of over 250,000 for their support.

Your consideration of Council's request is greatly appreciated.

Yours truly

Bob Bratina
Mayor

C.c. See list attached
c.c. David Sweet, M.P., Ancaster/Dundas/Flamborough/Westdale
Dean Allison, M.P., Niagara West-Glanbrook
David Christopherson, M.P., Hamilton Centre
Wayne Marston, M.P., Hamilton Heat-Stoney Creek
Chris Charlton, M.P., Hamilton Mountain
Ted McMeekin, M.P.P., Ancaster/Dundas/Flamborough/Westdale
Andrea Horwath, M.P.P., Hamilton Centre
Tim Hudak, M.P.P., Niagara West-Glanbrook
Monique Taylor, M.P.P., Hamilton Mountain
Paul Miller, M.P.P., Hamilton East-Stoney Creek

Mayor Susan Fennell, City of Brampton
Mayor Carl Zehr, City of Kitchener
Mayor Joe Fontana, City of London
Mayor Hazel McCallion, City of Mississauga
Mayor Jim Watson, City of Ottawa
Mayor Rob Ford, City of Toronto
Mayor Eddie Francis, City of Windsor

Mayor Naheed Nenshi, City of Calgary
Mayor Stephen Mandel, City of Edmonton
Maire Marc Bureau, Ville de Gatineau
Mayor Peter J. Kelly, Halifax Regional Municipality
Maire Gilles Vaillancourt, City of Laval
Mayor Donald J. Atchison, City of Saskatoon
Mayor Dianne Watts, City of Surrey
Mayor Gregor Roberson, City of Vancouver
Mayor Sam Katz, City of Winnipeg
Mairesse Caroline St.-Hilaire, City of Longueuil
Maire Gerald Tremblay, City of Montreal
Maire Regis Labeaume, Quebec City

Regional Chair Gary Burroughs, Region of Niagara
Regional Chair Gary Carr, Region of Halton
Regional Chair Emil Kolbi, Region of Peel
Regional Chair Ken Selling, Region of Waterloo
Regional Chair and CEO Bill Fisch, Region of York
Regional Chair Roger Anderson, Region of Durham