To Hamilton Mayor Fred Eisenberger and City Councillors

I wish to express full support for the Airport Employment Growth District Secondary Plan. It is a key component of expanding our economy. In recent years the rates of unemployment and welfare have become alarmingly high in Hamilton. Longterm unemployment is the leading cause of poverty and welfare. The Airport Employment district will provide the opportunity to work, reduce residential taxes and lower the poverty rate.

To provide direct access to our largest market which is in the USA. (80% of our trade) the Mid Penn Highway should be reinstated by the Province and fast tracked. I believe it could become as important to this area as Hwy 401 or the Welland Canal. The Province’s suggestion of extra lanes on the Q.E. would be of little help and would destroy more of the already sparse amount of Tender Fruitland that we have left.

To provide affordable mid ranged priced housing for employees of the Airport District the Twenty Road Area needs to become part of the Places to Grow Plan. This Housing would be best provided on the Twenty Road Lands which are strategically located between the Airport Employment Growth District and the Red Hill Employment District. The Twenty Road to Dickenson Road Area presents the best opportunity for employees of these two employment areas and their families to have a live, work, play lifestyle. The Twenty Road Area will be surrounded on 3 sides with planned Urban Development. From this area Employees could ride their bicycles or take a 10 minute bus ride to work leaving very little carbon imprint. This area also contains Turner Park(The New Library, YMCA, Skateboard Park)and The Nebo Rail Trail. Residents would make use of the City Services already provided plus have access to the multiple public and private services in the adjacent urban area bordering it. The Twenty Road is also close to the Upper James/Rymal Community Node. This strategic community node is at the cross roads of the Upper James Primary Corridor and the Rymal Road Secondary Corridor. This Node will also be bisected by the proposed LRT line along Upper James Corridor joining Hamilton City Center to The Airport. The Twenty Road Area residents would provide essential ridership for this proposed LRT making it more cost effective.

The following is a short explanation of how something as simple and obvious as The Twenty Road Area (Hole in the Donut) became a missed opportunity for this city due to political posturing and back door planning. The Provincial McGuinty Government used it’s majority status to cancel the Mid Penn Hwy and also to enforce its control over local planning. During my last 6 years of closely observing the proceedings at Hamilton City Hall, I often observed the power and influence of The Present Provincial Majority
Government and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing unduly affecting the decision making of some councillors and city planners. During the “Places to Grow Discussions I observed that the province forced Hamilton City Council to pick between either Elfrida or The Twenty Road Area rather than using logic to accommodate both groups and not cause yet another serious division within this city. After picking Elfrida, Hamilton City Council and the Province further ignored the Twenty Road Area and extended the eastern boundary of Elfrida further eastward by approximately 460 acres. City Council then followed the Provincial Governments lead and passed the 5 year review law. This law is undemocratic, since Council had already given Preferred Development Status to Elfrida which predetermined and prejudices the 5 year review process. The Twenty Road Group was then denied the right to free speech to protest this decision after they had formally requested to do so. Hamilton City Hall and the Province of Ontario needs to find a way to allow the Twenty Road Area to become the site for affordable housing for the families of employees who work at the Airport Employment District on one side and the Red Hill Employment District on the other side. This would provide a logical work, play site for families of employees as well as restore trust that everyone is being treated fairly and equally at Hamilton City Hall and by the Provincial, Liberal, Majority Government.

Sincerely

[Signature]

Dr. Tom Nugent DVM

cc.