

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Mailbox, Clerks](#)
Subject: Fwd: Motion Improving Local Democracy by Strengthening City Decision-Making (ADM-05-24)
Date: Friday, March 22, 2024 6:19:09 PM

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Pls accept this email as my delegation for the upcoming Special Council Meeting regarding the motion memo 'Improving Local Democracy by Strengthening City Decision Making'.

Deborah Arbour-Ruse

Special Council Meeting - Motion memo Improving Local Democracy by Strengthening City Decision-Making

Begin forwarded message:

[REDACTED]
Date: March 20, 2024 at 4:23:31 PM EDT
To: "Galbraith, Kelvin" <kelvin.galbraith@burlington.ca>, Lisa Kearns <Lisa.Kearns@burlington.ca>, "Nisan, Rory" <rori.nisan@burlington.ca>, "Stolte, Shawna" <shawna.stolte@burlington.ca>, "Sharman, Paul" <paul.sharman@burlington.ca>, "Bentivegna, Angelo" <angelo.bentivegna@burlington.ca>, "Commisso, Tim" <Tim.Commisso@burlington.ca>, Marianne Meed Ward <marianne.meedward@burlington.ca>
Subject: Motion Improving Local Democracy by Strengthening City Decision-Making (ADM-05-24)

To the Mayor, Councillors and City Manager,

Having listened to discussions surrounding the issue of Big Mayor Powers in Burlington, and specifically the motion tabled in yesterday's council meeting, please accept this email as notice that i do not, nor have I ever, agreed with Mayor Meed Ward taking on the Big Mayor Powers, which were optional from the beginning. I support a vote by Council as soon as possible to rescind these powers on the basis that they are wholly and completely undemocratic.

Also, as this email shows, constituents have not ceased contacting or communicating our concerns, as the Mayor has said.

As to Councillor Sharman's statement that he wants to delay this motion "to encourage the community to come and speak to us", I take great issue. Many, many delegates including myself have had the distinct reaction from council, and

especially of certain Councillors, of not hearing their delegation or engaging whatsoever, rather appearing to be bored by them, resulting in the notion that there's no point to delegating any more. Which does not mean we are not engaged and aware of the issues.

As noted by councillor Nisan, *“this motion was given the standard notice required for council motions, and met the deadline that was set by the clerk for being received at counsel.”*

Therefore there is no reason to further delay this motion.

Deborah Arbour-Ruse
Ward 2