



# ACORN - Municipal Candidates Survey - 2022

<p><b>Name:</b> Andrea Horwath</p>	<p><b>Ward:</b> Mayor</p>	<p><b>Are you a landlord / own rental property in Hamilton?</b>  Yes</p> <p><b>*If yes* Will you be declaring a conflict of interest on tenant issues if elected?</b>  I will confer with the city clerk and legal department and ensure that I am compliant with the law.</p>	<p><b>Have you attended an ACORN event (online town hall, direct action, tenant meeting, press conference, chapter meeting, fundraiser) between 2018 - August 2022?</b>  Yes</p>
<p><b>Municipal Election Priorities</b></p>	<p><b>Campaign Asks</b></p>	<p><b>If elected, would you commit to working towards this item? (yes/no)</b></p>	<p><b>Rationale for response (optional)</b></p>
<p><b>Housing - Healthy Homes and tenant protection from renoviction</b></p>	<p>Develop and implement a city wide landlord licensing program to protect tenants from substandard housing conditions and restrict renoviction.</p>	<p>Yes - I am committed to working to protect tenants from substandard housing conditions and restrict renoviction. Landlord licensing is only one potential solution, I</p>	

		will learn the lessons from the pilot project and determine the most effective way forward. I will find solutions to address units in a state of disrepair and to protect tenancies. I will work with housing advocates and other municipal governments to push the provincial government for the restoration of real rent control including vacancy decontrol.	
	Improvements to the Tenant Defense Fund (funding, expansion of issues covered, tenant outreach and support).	Yes	I commit that we will continue to improve this program that is already in place.
	Create a robust proactive tenant education program to inform tenants of their rights when a building is sold and track reports of tenant displacement.	Yes, by partnering with other community resources such as the Hamilton Legal Clinic and the Housing Help Centre, just to name two.	
	End financial incentives to developers / landlords who have a history of displacing Hamilton tenants.	I will undertake to deliver transparency and accountability in all municipal funding.	
<b>Housing - Demoviction</b>	Create a city wide rental replacement and tenant assistance policy to protect	Yes	I look forward to learning more about your work on this proposal particularly specifics

	tenants from demoviction and prevent loss of affordable housing based on the strong policy from Burnby, BC.		about preventing tenant displacement and protecting Hamilton's existing inventory of market affordable rentals.
<b>Housing - Definition of affordable housing</b>	We need the City of Hamilton's affordable housing definition to prioritize housing for ODSP & OW recipients, fixed income seniors and low wage workers - target low to moderate incomes (\$30,000 individuals / \$60,000 households and under).	Yes	I agree and will get to work on ensuring that the definition is clear and encompassing.
<b>Housing - Affordable housing on public land</b>	Ensure rent control in all market rentals created.	Yes	As you know I advocated strongly for rent control in my former role as leader of the Ontario NDP.
	Keep public land in public control.	Yes	
	100% affordable housing on public land targeting low to moderate incomes (\$30,000 individuals / \$60,000 households and under).	I support building mixed income communities that provide true affordable housing and support diverse communities.	
<b>Housing - Affordable housing on private land</b>	The City of Hamilton create a bold inclusionary zoning policy that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A set aside rate of minimum 40% affordable housing in all</li> </ul>	I commit to implementing inclusionary zoning in a way that helps us meet current and future affordability targets, keeping units affordable long term, and including accessible units with a clear definition of	

	<p>new condo &amp; apartment developments where IZ can be used</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Affordable units built with IZ policies be kept affordable forever</li> <li>● Require targets for accessible housing</li> <li>● Target incomes of \$30,000 or less for affordability. We need affordable housing for Hamiltonians - ODSP/OW recipients, low wage workers and fixed income seniors</li> <li>● IZ policy apply to minimum amount of units as set out in the provincial policy (10 units or more).</li> </ul>	affordability.	
<b>Internet For All</b>	Investigate a city owned and controlled municipal broadband program to ensure low income Hamiltonians have access to affordable home internet.	Yes	This is a Federal and Provincial responsibility (again one I fought for in my previous role), but if elected, I would be open to exploring creative local solutions.
	Expand free public WiFi to more of Hamilton's parks.	Yes	
	Free Wi-Fi access on HSR	Yes	

	buses, bus terminals and the LRT.		
<b>Coming - Extreme Heat in Hamilton apartments</b>	ACORN Hamilton is currently organizing on the issue of extreme heat in apartments. We will be releasing our demands in front of City Hall - September 7th @ noon.	I support tenants' demands to have maximum temperature regulations.	
<b>Additional platform demands</b>	No encampment evictions	I believe that encampments are symptoms of failures in our mental health, addictions, income support and affordable housing systems. These must be addressed. In the interim we must at the very least ensure alternate housing solutions and supports are in place for people.	
	Expansion of public transit throughout the city	Yes	
	Affordable public transit for low-income users	Yes	I believe that affordable accessible transit is a public good and a social service as well as a requirement to fight climate change while we build a modern city for the future. I will ensure our new transit plan meets these parameters while ensuring the system better connects working people to good jobs.

	Freeze Hamilton's Urban Boundary (already voted on by Hamilton City Council)	Yes	
	City wide sidewalk snow removal	Yes	We absolutely need to make progress on this, and I commit to doing so.
	Increase support for Hamilton's homeless	Yes	I support a robust public health approach to addressing homelessness, including supports for mental health and addictions, affordable supportive housing, and a housing first approach to helping people get back on their feet. I have long advocated for better income supports and will continue to do so.
<b>Ward Specific Ward 5 Candidates Only</b>			
<b>Community and park space in Riverdale</b>	ACORN is calling on the Ward 5 Councillor to commit to working with tenants in the neighborhood and the Hamilton School Board to improve the vital green and community space outside Dominic Agostino Riverdale Community Centre.		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Daily garbage clean up in the summer</li> <li>● More garbage cans and recycling bins</li> <li>● Fix and/or replace the existing picnic tables and benches, and add new seating for families throughout the park</li> <li>● Expand the playground</li> <li>● Install drinking fountains</li> <li>● More trees planted around the park perimeter to provide more shade during the hot summer months.</li> <li>● Consult the community on fixing or replacing the broken cricket court</li> <li>● Enforce property standards to the adjacent apartment building who has allowed the fencing to degrade causing dangerous conditions next to the park</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Redevelopment of Eastgate Square</b></p>	<p>The redevelopment should include community benefits - affordable housing, green</p>		

	space and transit.		
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