

## For Immediate Release

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## Upgrading of Hamilton's Public Spaces

Hamilton – February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The City of Hamilton is set to take action to combat the antisocial and illegal activity that has long-plagued certain areas in the City.

A City spokesperson said, "The situation is a dire one. Here at the City, we are exploring a menu of options, one of which includes removing obstructions that unwittingly provide cover for illegal activity. We want to increase visibility in the areas that are affected.

"Based on community concerns several areas have to be looked at and steps need to be taken so that they are viable spaces for people to enjoy. Areas are being overtaken by individuals with an alternate agenda. The City is working with our community partners to see what we can do to reengage our community spaces. Over the next few weeks we will be making some temporary changes as well as long term changes to see what can be done to maximize the positive uses of our public spaces."

The City has identified areas on Front Street in the area east of the flag pole, Queen Elizabeth Park, Court Street and City Hall as areas of extreme concern. The City has engaged extra-duty police officers, resourced additional CCTV cameras and is avidly working with the Bermuda Police Service to bring about much-needed change to the on-going trend of anti-social and illegal behavior within the boundaries of Hamilton.

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