

Safety and Home security in Burlington 2026

We Invested in Policing—and We Are Beginning to See Results

When residents became increasingly concerned about auto theft, home break-ins, organized property crime and other threats to community safety, Halton did not stand still.

As a member of Halton Regional Council, I supported substantial additional investment in the Halton Regional Police Service.

The Police tax-supported budget increased from approximately **\$204 million in 2024 to \$233 million in 2025—an increase of 14.3% in one year.**

We followed that with another **8.3% increase for 2026**, bringing the Police budget to approximately **\$252 million.**

Together, those decisions increased annual funding for Halton Regional Police by almost **\$49 million in two years—approximately 24% above the 2024 level.**

Those were significant investments of taxpayers' money, and residents are entitled to expect results.

We are beginning to see them.

In 2025:

- Auto theft declined **20.1%.**
- Break-and-enter declined **10.8%.**
- Theft under \$5,000 declined **5.5%.**
- Overall crime declined.
- Both violent and property crime declined.
- The overall crime clearance rate improved to **35.4%.**
- The violent-crime clearance rate reached **78.1%.**

Auto theft provides an especially important example. After increasing dramatically and reaching 1,701 incidents in 2023, thefts declined to 1,402 in 2024 and **1,120 in 2025—a reduction of approximately one-third from the peak.**

That is encouraging.

But it is not a reason for complacency.

Property crime remains higher than it was several years ago. Some categories of crime increased in 2025. And individual incidents of home invasion, break-and-enter, auto theft and violent crime understandably have an enormous impact on how safe residents feel in their own neighbourhoods.

I will therefore continue to support providing Halton Regional Police with the resources necessary to protect a growing Region.

But after two years of very substantial budget increases, **my focus must increasingly be on measurable results.**

For every additional investment in policing, I want to know:

- **Are response times improving?**
- **Are we preventing more crimes?**
- **Are we catching more offenders?**
- **Are auto theft and break-ins continuing to decline?**
- **Are officers spending more time in our neighbourhoods?**
- **And most importantly, do residents actually feel safer?**

Technology should also help us get more policing from every tax dollar. Halton Police is already using artificial intelligence to handle appropriate non-emergency calls, freeing human communicators to concentrate on emergencies. We should continue looking for responsible applications of technology that put police officers and civilian professionals where they provide the greatest public-safety value.

My position is therefore straightforward:

We have invested substantially in our police service. The early results are encouraging. Now we must make sure those investments translate into sustained reductions in crime, greater police visibility, improved enforcement and safer neighbourhoods.

Halton is one of Canada's safest large communities. I intend to help keep it that way.

But our standard should be higher than a ranking.

Residents should be safe—and they should feel safe—in their homes, on their streets and throughout their community.