

What is area rating?

Area rating is a method used to assign specific program costs. You pay for the services you get; you don't pay for the services you don't get. Currently the former suburban municipalities of Glanbrook, Stoney Creek, Dundas, Ancaster and Flamborough are area rated for fire, transit, recreation, sidewalks and street lighting. This means these former municipalities only pay for these services that they receive whereas the former city of Hamilton gets charged for all services because they receive all services.

Without area rating, all those in rural settings such as Fruitland, Winona, Hannon, Elfrida and Mount Hope will be taxed for services regardless of the type of service they receive.

For example: If you live in an area that receives trans- cab (or little transit) without area rating you will now be taxed for full time transit without a guarantee that a full time serviced bus will be in your area.