

Communication from Public

Name: Victor Huerta

Date Submitted: 06/08/2020 12:52 PM

Council File No: 20-0600-S39

Comments for Public Posting: In light of the Mayor's recent rollback of 150 million dollars from LAPD's budget, I strongly oppose returning any of this funding in the form of the Through Our Eyes program. Because the department's budget is already over half of the City's budget, they need to figure out how to implement this program without receiving additional funding. The \$100,000 slated for LAPD to receive should be diverted to departments that actually serve LA communities wel. Moreover, I hope the Committee won't stop here with diversion of funds. A 5% cut of LAPD's budget is not nearly close to what the public is requesting. The People's Budget directs less than 6% of the budget to the police. I hope that LA follows the lead of Minneapolis and begins diverting LAPD's budget to community programs and resources.

Communication from Public

Name: Phil Graziadei

Date Submitted: 06/08/2020 01:02 PM

Council File No: 20-0600-S39

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing as a resident of Los Angeles's fourth district for the past fifteen years. Regarding the City Council Budget and Finance Committee's posted agenda for the 8 June 2020 meeting, I urge all members of the committee to reject the additional funding to the LAPD's outreach programs (item 11, file no. 20-0600-S39), which amount to little more than a police public relations campaign. Any redirection of funds toward LAPD-backed programs is a slap in the face to a public the department has routinely brutalized. This tone-deaf motion begs broader questions about the committee's approach to revising the budget. While the new proposal for cuts announced by the mayor and council president Martinez is a step in the right direction, the reduction, which amounts to little more than no increase, does not demonstrate the requisite commitment to change this moment demands. You have an opportunity to make further strides over the course of this month with the following two actions: 1.) I urge all of you to take the lead of your committee member Bonin and endorse his letter condemning recent police violence and demanding investigation. Los Angeles appreciates his moral action. The council must hold the LAPD accountable. 2.) Partner with communities directly affected by overpolicing to determine cuts and reallocation of funds. These should include Black Lives Matter Los Angeles and advocacy groups focusing on issues that affect the unsheltered, mental health, and education.

Communication from Public

Name: Erika Soliz

Date Submitted: 06/08/2020 12:47 PM

Council File No: 20-0600-S39

Comments for Public Posting: WE NEED DEFUNDING OF THE LAPD AND REFORM IMMEDIATELY. THE RESTRUCTURING OF 150 MILLION DOLLARS IS NOT ENOUGH AND YOU ALL CANNOT CONSIDER YOURSELVES EFFECTIVE LEADERS IF YOU CANNOT SERVE THE PEOPLE OF LOS ANGELES. PERIOD. THE SYSTEMIC RACISM THAT THE POLICE ARE FOUNDED OFF OF NEEDS TO BE COMPLETELY IRRADICATED AND REPLACED. WE NEED TO GIVE THE POLICE LESS RESPONSIBILITY IN THE COMMUNITY SO THEY STOP OPPRESSING, TORMENTING, PROFILING, AND KILLING US. DEFUND THE POLICE NOW! MAKE AN EXAMPLE OUT OF LOS ANGELES. LEAD THE WAY FOR FUTURE CITIES ACROSS THIS COUNTY AND CHANGE THE NATION.

Communication from Public

Name: Maura Murphy-Barrosse

Date Submitted: 06/08/2020 02:24 PM

Council File No: 20-0600-S39

Comments for Public Posting: RE 6/8/20 Budget and Finance Committee meeting. I support People's Budget LA and their suggestions for reallocating resources and prioritizing the financing of proactive community care over punitive policing. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Zachary

Date Submitted: 06/08/2020 02:13 PM

Council File No: 20-0600-S39

Comments for Public Posting: This message is regarding the police budget, duties, and performance. The LAPD have been burdened with having to solve too many of Los Angeles many societal problems. This has led to a power imbalance and budget inflation that is disproportionately hurting and killing black Americans. The proposed \$150 million dollar reduction on the police budget is less than half a percent of the overall police budget of \$3.2 billion. We need to divert more funds away from the LAPD into programs that actually serve the community, such as: housing security, homeless support, mental health, public health and wellness, the homeowner fund, and the department of cultural affairs.

Communication from Public

Name: MP

Date Submitted: 06/08/2020 01:25 PM

Council File No: 20-0600-S39

Comments for Public Posting: Policing is no longer a community need because it does more harm to the community than it upholds safety and protection. I propose the Through our eyes program funding be halted and redistribute those funds to organizations that have a reputable expertise in racial, social, and climate justice programs. We need to educate our youth and the future generation how to be heartfelt leaders by leaders that practice anti-racism, compassion, and respect in human lives. I no longer support policing as an act of safety, I no longer support policing as a solution for social unrest. I do support the funding be used to reimagine community safety that works primarily in black communities, because we must recognize the historical trauma and disadvantage place in black communities first before we start building a equitable place for all lives. I support that social unrest issues be addressed by supporting social care programs that give folks access to livable wages, healthy food, clean air and water, natural open spaces, and fund existing non profits that are already building programs that are creating youth leaders in our communities . For those reason, I am an in opposition to council file 20-0600-S39 and propose a distribution to existing non-profits with youth leadership programs in racial, social, and climate justice.

Communication from Public

Name: N.A.
Date Submitted: 06/08/2020 03:55 PM
Council File No: 20-0600-S39

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to urge the Budget and Finance Committee to not only not provide \$100,000 funding to expand the Los Angeles (LAPD)'s Through our Eyes program partnership, but to defund and dismantle LAPD as a whole. In a time where large swathes of Los Angeles, the US, and the world as a whole are gathering together to look honestly at the state of race relations, and the governmental machinations that preserve them in a state of continual violence (namely, police departments borne out a history of slave patrol), the Budget and Finance Committee must respond to reflect what the public demands. In funding LAPD programming like Through Our Eyes, the Budget and Finance Committee would be tasking an inherently biased and morally corrupted organization to amend the damage it's incurred on the taxpayer's dime. We will not continue to pay into this program, or into our own genocide. There is no future for police here; if you fail to recognize this fact, and prolong the LAPD's dismantlement you will all be voted out in the process. This will not go away as a budgeting concern, just as police brutality will not end until policing ends. If you are short on ideas for "reimagining" public safety, I ask that you invest time and effort into reaching out to the communities that are most heavily impacted by police terrorization. There are no shortage of well-researched possible solutions, from mental health programming to recreation infrastructure. We can and will do better-with or without you; take your choice. Lastly, in another item, Committee members mentioned the depletion of the emergency funding saved over the span of 8 years due to COVID-19 response spending. For the entirety of this country's history, black people have lived in a continual state of emergency. We are hardest hit by COVID-19, but our basic safety and basic needs have always been threatened, both by police, and by City Council Members like members of this committee that ignore and further disparities in urban planning, education, public health programming, etc. Now is a pivotal moment to restore emergency funds by gradually redirecting 100% of funding from the LAPD to our COVID-19 response, and response to other emergencies experienced by black people and people of color.

Communication from Public

Name: Jeff

Date Submitted: 06/08/2020 04:31 PM

Council File No: 20-0600-S39

Comments for Public Posting: DEFUND THE POLICE. Divest, AT MINIMUM, \$1.5 billion from the police budget toward mental health services, education, housing services, community programs. Invest in public health services and models. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/08/2020 04:31 PM

Council File No: 20-0600-S39

Comments for Public Posting: Los Angeles needs to do more, especially in education. We need to DEFUND THE POLICE and REMOVE POLICE from schools. We need to provide healthy, QUALITY food to our students. We need to educate students on the TRUE history of our city, of our county, of our state, and of our nation. Too often within LAUSD, schools hire/keep inadequate teachers that do not teach using Universal Design of Learning, have empathy toward their students, and do not teach with a curriculum that highlights communities of color. We need to hold our teachers accountable and address issues of racism NOW. According to LAUSD's 2019-2020 Fingertip Facts, 89.5% of students within LAUSD are students of color. We need more teachers of color, we need more staff of color and we need financial SUPPORT to do so. Bring back our nurses, librarians, counselors, psychologists, and social workers. Reallocate funds. INVEST in the future. Invest in housing, invest in schools, and invest in the people of LA. We demand change and we demand receipts.