

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Emily Singer

**Date Submitted:** 06/20/2020 11:18 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I urge you to defund, and ultimately abolish, the Los Angeles Police Department. Over half of the unrestricted General Fund is currently allocated to LAPD, but we know police do not make our communities “safer.” More resources and services do. I am urging the City Council and the Mayor to disinvest from the police and instead adopt a People’s Budget. The proposal to cut \$150 million from the LAPD budget is a small step in the right direction, but I am writing to urge you to disinvest from policing altogether and use the obscene amount of resources currently allocated to the police to increase funding for low-income housing; services for unhoused Angelenos; mental health services; rent cancellation; more funding for public schools; and investments directly benefiting Black communities. In solidarity with Black Lives Matter Los Angeles, I urge you to consider: “We want human-centered services. We do not want more police.” Thank you for your time and consideration.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Angela Sorury

**Date Submitted:** 06/21/2020 11:22 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Los Angeles's proposed police budget for 2021 is \$1.8 billion — more than half of the city's total spending for the year. This number is astronomical and due to recent events, it is clear that our police force does not bear the best interests of the people of the great state of California. I implore you reduce the budget for LA's police force to 25% which is 450 million. The other 1.35 billion dollars should be allocated to social services like education, public health, housing, and youth services. Additionally a specialized response unit should be developed of trained social workers who can respond to certain kinds of emergencies, including ones that involve substance abuse, domestic violence, homelessness or mental health thus reducing the burden of the police force and giving proper help and support to individuals who crimes do not need the attention of abusive cops. If our government stands as the parental caretakers of our society, a police force that abuses and murders its residents, is no better than an abusive drunk who beats his wife and children. As a society, we agree to live amongst one another to create and foster a better world, for ALL people in it. Our police force is abusing their power by disproportionately targeting and inflicting violence towards Black Americans. As a proud U.S. citizen, I am thoroughly disgusted with our nation. These injustices have been tolerated for too long and I will not stand by and watch while my fellow Americans are murdered at the hands of their own nation, a nation sworn to protect us. Do the Right Thing. Defund the Police. Endorse programs that will benefit people of color in our community. Endorse mixed income housing projects so that we can end neighborhood segregation and gentrification. Hold police accountable for their actions and give justice to the families who have lost loved ones at the hands of police brutality. Deep down in your heart and soul, you know this is the just thing to do. Make it happen or we will do it for you. That is a promise.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Diane Valencia

**Date Submitted:** 06/21/2020 09:01 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Council, My name is Diane Valencia and I am a youth trainer with the Southeast Asian Community Alliance in Chinatown Los Angeles. As an organization, we work with many extremely low income working class families and have been fighting for better & more affordable housing. For Item#1 on the Mayor's Proposed Budget and Item #2 Report on finding \$100 - \$150 Million in funding from LAPD to reallocate to communities of color---I am writing because we strongly support the People's Budget LA and the call to Defund the Police and reallocate those resources to community services, alternatives to policing, and investments directly benefiting Black communities and all struggling communities of color. Alongside many other communities we strongly support the HEALTHY LA platform. Many of our youth & our families are at risk & need your support to protect each other. Many of our families have lost jobs & income making it hard to keep up with rent. Many small businesses & restaurants in Chinatown have had significant drop in business & been struggling long or all together have been closed shut business from the impact of covid economic distress. Rent is a struggle for Chinatown both residential and commercial. Not just for our community in Chinatown, but all across Los Angeles. The City's proposed budget does not reflect the priorities and values of Los Angeles residents. In this time of global pandemic and the fight to end systemic racism, the city budget should reflect the values and needs of the people you serve. The police don't need more funding, your constituents who are suffering under these racist systems do. I support the People's Budget LA in calling for the defunding of police, and the HealthyLA Coalition in calling for the prioritize funding of housing. We want funds to be invested in housing solutions such as the creation of more affordable housing for extremely low and very low income families & preservation of existing affordable housing. The pandemic has made life even more so difficult, since many of our families we work with lost their jobs. Our communities still face the deepest inequities and will be most impacted by eviction and displacement if we don't invest in housing solutions and protect their worker rights and wages. I am asking you to defund LAPD and have resources redirected to much needed affordable housing, fully funded Right to Counsel

and Eviction Defense and fully funded Office of Wage Standards and Day Laborer Centers. The cost of funding these programs is miniscule compared to the 3 billion dollar police budget. \$150 million is not enough! Please fund programs that will truly help people, instead of criminalize them. Here are some messages of what our SEACA youth members have to say to you and our community together as a whole to prioritize care especially in this time of covid crisis & escalation of violence against people fighting racism: I have lived in Los Angeles for all my life and growing up in LA has shown me that as a student I have a voice to speak out on problems such as the #blacklivesmatter movement. By defunding the police that money could be invested in services for black youth instead. There are neighborhoods I have lived in, passed by on the way home from school, stayed over the night for a sleepover and I see how affected they are whenever a police car drives by. Police on campus harms black students where the money to pay police could have went to nurses and counselors that help with our mental and physical being.~Marie Mendoza, age 16 Too much of the cities budget goes to the police. By taking from the LAPD budget and giving it to transportation and housing we could have free transportation for all and less people on the streets. Both of these actions will allow the crime rates to go down and we could have a safer city. ~Jaden Murray, age 17 The police should be defunded because there are more important things that should be getting that money. Like protective gear for hospital workers or putting the money towards schools in minority neighborhoods. There are better things to put the money towards that don't include harassing people fighting for equality. ~Tiffany Allen, age 16 The police need to be defunded and the money put back into our communities. Why do we have to be searched in schools anyways? We're children, not criminals and they keep taking away our school supplies and markers! We want that money to go towards improving our education, so that we have a future other than jail!~Cindy Lei, age 16 A ten year old girl who wasn't even in the protest got pepper sprayed by a cop, and yet politicians still won't defund the police and fund schools. What if that was your daughter? ~Angelique Hurtado, age 14 We should defund police because we need to focus on things that deserve the money such as a child's education. We have more important things to worry about than people who abuse their power.~Danna Carrera, age 15

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Shanna Oskin

**Date Submitted:** 06/21/2020 09:29 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Every day there's a new story of LAPD violence against Angelenos. The LAPD are firing teargas and rubber bullets indiscriminately into protesters and press who are exercising their first amendment rights. They're callously murdering citizens like Andres Guardado and Terron Boone. It is unquestionably clear that the LAPD are culturally unequipped to protect and serve. They are not fit for duty and should be defunded immediately in order to keep our city safe. I support the People's Budget LA and I urge you to as well. We must not flinch in the face of the LAPD's attempt to bully and terrorize Los Angeles into letting them continue their brutality unchecked.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jessica Judd

**Date Submitted:** 06/15/2020 12:41 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Jessica Judd. I am a writer, a mother, a LA resident, and an active community volunteer. I vote in every election. I want to speak on Item #3. I want to thank the community leaders from BLMLA and the other organizations that presented the People's Budget to the council prior to this meeting and for their insight, passion, and skills. The people of Los Angeles and of the nation have demonstrated over the last few weeks that the mayor's budget does not reflect our values. We as a city and a nation need healing in this moment and only real action can provide that healing. We need less policing and more crisis relief. We definitely do not need to grow the LAPD. We need a commitment to make these changes. The Minneapolis City Council has made that commitment. We need yours. After watching the aggressive use of force on protestors over the last few weeks, I join the many voices calling for the immediate ban on shooting projectiles into crowds such as rubber bullets and tear gas canisters. We can redirect at least half of the police budget to create safer and more humane communities. We absolutely do not need an armed response in situations where a therapist, a social worker, or a drug treatment specialist would be a more effective and humane response. We need a budget that prioritizes housing and the homelessness needs of LA residents. I spent much of the last 15 years working with young people and their families in LA, many of whom had experienced homelessness and had finally obtained permanent housing and supportive services. I have seen firsthand the effectiveness of housing and services. We need to include more funding and resources : 1.) Mental Health Interventions 2.) Making more permanent affordable housing from the existing housing stock 3.) Eviction Defense 4.) Building more affordable housing 5.) Supportive Housing 6.) Tenant Protections We don't need to police the homeless and mentally ill, we need to house them and provide services. As more people face an economic emergency because of Covid-19, we will need to spend more to prevent people from becoming homeless and treat mental illness. Our communities were already facing a devastating housing and homelessness crisis before Covid-19. It will only get worse as we move forward. We need to prioritize our communities who are suffering under a historically racist system. Being homeless is not a crime. Being mentally ill is not a crime.

Being poor is not a crime. Being black is not a crime. We need to divest from the bloated police budget and reinvest in programs that make our city safe and just. I believe you are the team that can push for this change. Thank you.

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:** Amanda Gavlick  
**Date Submitted:** 06/09/2020 01:59 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0692  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Defund the Police!!!!



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Rocio Alvarado  
**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 07:34 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Rocio, I'm a resident of district 9. Budgets can be made by grounding the LAPD's ASD. Here in South LA, the helicopters are constantly conducting surveillance over neighborhoods full of families. The constant patrolling is traumatic, wasteful and wildly expensive. By 2020 estimates, it costs \$1,200 per hour to fly an LAPD helicopter—without accounting for the pilot's salary. On average, an LAPD helicopter burns the equivalent of two car tanks of gas per hour. I know you're all looking at places to cut our fiscal budget. I again urge you to FUND LAFD, FUND emergency crisis teams, FUND DCA. Defund the LAPD, and you can start by grounding this ridiculous helicopter surveillance.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Shawn

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 07:39 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Defund the police further; cutting it by \$150M is not nearly enough. The City Council should adopt the People's Budget. \$5+ million on firearms, \$11+ million on "field" equipment, \$4+ million on uniforms, and \$10+ million on transports that are paid out of OUR pockets. Meanwhile LAUSD school teachers spend an estimated \$479 per year to supply their own classrooms due to budget shortfalls according to Marketplace totaling nearly \$12 million. If cops had to pay out of their own pocket for supplies, they would still make over \$40k more annually than teachers. So if we currently spend roughly \$33 million for LAPD equipment and teachers spend \$12 million for class supplies, how about we cut that by 36% so teachers don't need to pay for things out of their own pocket on a salary that is (currently) unfortunately less than half of a police officer's salary? Again, the City Council should adopt the People's Budget. This is just one example on how to better utilize those funds. If you are unsure of how to properly achieve the goals of the People's Budget, please get outside help from the People's Budget coalition. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 06:13 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** While I appreciate that you are all CONSIDERING divesting up to \$150 Million from the LAPD, I want to stress that this is not nearly enough money being divested from the police department. The people of LA want the People's Budget adopted. You all need to take bold steps to make that vision a reality. People's Budget LA TODAY!!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Julie Pearson

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 02:23 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** While I'm heartened that the Council is discussing how to allocate \$100-150 million from the LAPD budget to other necessary initiatives, I'd like to express how woefully inadequate this step is in addressing the massive problem we have before us. Councilman Wesson's proposal to replace police with other types of responders in non-violent situations is an excellent start and I STRONGLY hope the council is on board with taking swift action to make this a reality. I've recently been alarmed to learn how much money the LAPD spends on helicopter surveillance and would suggest cutting that budget in order to fund the new initiative as well as support and services for Angelenos. As you've been hearing from countless others, this is a critical moment to DEFUND THE LAPD and strengthen our communities with other resources. The people of Los Angeles are watching you, and in the future, we will only vote for representatives who are working FOR the people. Thank you for your time.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** AM Notowitz

**Date Submitted:** 06/08/2020 03:18 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please see attachment for my comments related to budget cuts for LAPD. We work with officers on a regular basis and are familiar both with the way inadequate budget has crippled the department and with the failings of the department, so our perspective is valuable.

I was horrified to hear about the brutal police tactics that resulted in George Floyd's death. Better training, intensive and consistent review of use of force, and reasonable policy change could prevent police related deaths in all counties. That said, I am also disappointed that Los Angeles county is considering reducing police funding. That will only undermine the goal of improving the police force. As a forensic media expert, my husband works with police frequently and can clearly see the way the already insufficient police budget cripples the department's ability to protect and serve the public. A violent hate crime that took place in front of a synagogue was reported, and it took the police department 2 months to follow up on it. Because of the sensitivity of the matter and the potential for more innocent citizens to be harmed while going to their place of worship, this matter clearly needed immediate attention. However, the police officers said that they were severely understaffed and only had the time and staff to focus on violent crimes. Hate crimes or credible threats of hate crimes that occur near places of worship will never be responded to if the budget is cut further. This means that there will be no one to enforce people's right to attend their places of worship.

The police are using antiquated technology that hampers the department's ability to cooperate with experts to process evidence. For example, police officers expected my husband to submit a CD with evidence because they were not able to deal with a flash drive.

Another aspect of public safety that will suffer greatly from police budget cuts is assistance for mental health patients in crisis. The sad reality is that there are many children and adults in this city whose families need police assistance to bring them in for psychiatric evaluation and care when they are in crisis. Any family who cares for a family member with severe psychiatric issues knows that transporting a patient in crisis and ensuring the family's safety, is impossible without police.

Finally and most importantly, if the city is aiming to reinvest in communities of color, logic says that cutting the police budget will severely undermine efforts to build these communities. If these communities do not have a sense of safety and officers who can ensure this safety, how will these communities grow? Since police are already not available to investigate hate crimes immediately, how does it help to leave communities of color vulnerable to such attacks

or threats with no means for giving them immediate, appropriate attention? Only the police can do that. Aren't places of worship important elements of communities of color? Aren't they the focus of many families? How will it help these communities to have no officers available to investigate a threat to the place that provides for their spiritual needs, such as the one described above that occurred in front of a synagogue? Leaving places of worship vulnerable will never be helpful in building communities of color. Even if something appears to be a minor threat, these minor threats demoralize and intimidate the public. There can be no freedom to attend places of worship if people feel their safety is threatened by attending. If these threats continue unchecked, this will be detrimental to communities of color. The only department who can handle such threats immediately is the police department. There should be more money allocated to this rather than less. What if the businesses that people of color worked hard to build are threatened or destroyed, the way many were during the recent riots? Are we going to keep telling businesses in communities of color to rely on their insurance to restore their losses and ignore the psychological trauma that occurs



when these attacks on businesses are allowed to continue? How does it feel to a person in a community of color, or any community, when police are not available to investigate the destruction of their source of livelihood? Furthermore, I am very skeptical that any program the city would start with the money cut from the LAPD budget would help communities of color more than the police department cuts would be detrimental to them. I am appalled to see that I have seen no specific plans for this reinvestment. Is the city really investing in communities of color, or will most of this money go into planning for something that they were not really prepared to do? Would it go to salaries for people who spend years planning these programs that few, if any, citizens ever benefit from? Even an extremely efficient investment in communities of color will have no lasting effect if there is no one to protect these investments. Has the city actually spoken to owners of businesses in communities of color? The business owners I know say that they wish police would actually respond to their reports about people who rob or vandalize their places of business. Is the city even in touch with what they actually need? It sounds like they would like more support and cooperation from the

police department, which will never happen if the budget is reduced. Therefore, a better investment would be to make sure that the LAPD is more prepared to protect all of its residents. If the problem is police brutality and racial bias, there needs to be more money allocated into reviewing force used by officers and training them to use only force that is necessary to neutralize a threat. These reviews should openly analyze whether certain officers have a bias against certain races.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Zoe Brown

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 09:12 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** DEFUND THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT. If any governmental program should top \$1B (much less, \$3B! shameless!), it should be SNAP and child care and education and ending homelessness (child homelessness in LA County is a crisis  
– <https://schoolonwheels.org/homelessness-in-america/#:~:text=Los%20Angeles%20has%20the%20highest,are%2065%2C484%20students%20without%20homes>)

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Collin

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 08:55 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm writing in support of the demands from Black Lives Matter - Los Angeles and the People's Budget LA. I urge you all to adopt their goal for reimagining a better Los Angeles and invest in our communities. \$150 Million is a start, but it's not enough. We need a concerted effort to divest LAPDs budget and reallocate it into services that will serve our city better in the long run. This means setting goals in our budget that specifically function to reduce police spending for the long term - not a one time reallocation, but a continual process of defunding and reinvesting. It was nice to see council member Wesson's and council president Martinez's announcement, however we need a timeline on this motion and we need to see that this funding is directly coming out of the police budget in a major way. Anything less than total commitment will only cause us to regress back to where we are today. Look ahead to what Los Angeles can be, take that step with us, we have the power to make that happen.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mickie Torres-Gil

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 09:16 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Several of you have committed yourself to finding ways to reimagine public safety within Los Angeles. This must be done, through the very least, by defunding the police - more than the \$100-\$150 million proposed by the mayor (the increase that was already awarded to LAPD this year). The LAPD is clearly mismanaging and abusing funds. You know that not only is the People's Budget logical and manageable, but necessary - your constituents are demanding it. Commit to the change that LA needs. Commit to more budget cuts to the LAPD and reinvest these funds towards the areas of our city that need it. Commit to the people of the city and not the LAPD or the LAPPL. I urge you to reimagine public safety, starting with support of the People's Budget.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Colleen Evanson

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:26 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** The Black Lives Matter advocates have been telling you what you need to do for years, they even presented their data directly to you in the form of the People's Budget and 100-150 million isn't enough to undo the years of neglect, especially when the LAPD budget is around 3 BILLION. The one size fits all solution of having police act as social workers is not working. We need to re-imagine the police and again 150 million isn't going to do it. The disenfranchised communities need more resources than the crumbs the LAPD is willing to toss them. It feels more like paying lip service to this movement rather than real lasting action or change.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lauren Cucarola

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:28 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** This cut doesn't go far enough. I am asking the Budget and Finance Committee to make a far more substantial cut to the LAPD, such as that reflected in the People's Budget LA survey results. The motion to divert calls and service provision away from the LAPD is an important first step, but we need to reimagine public safety to a greater extent. I encourage City Council to work closely with BLMLA and People's Budget LA to truly defund the police.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Pearl C. Hsiung  
**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:40 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing as a constituent of District 13. Although a \$150 million cut out of \$3.1 billion dollar budget is JUST SCRAP for the people of Los Angeles, it is NOT ENOUGH. However, I want to suggest some ways to reduce the LAPD budget is to reduce firearms ammunitions by \$1 million. OTHERWISE WHO WOULD THE LAPD BE USING THIS MUNITIONS ON? US, the public, and obviously disproportionately ON BLACK AND BROWN PEOPLE OF LA, whose MONEY THIS BELONGS TO. Reduce funding for overtime, replacement vehicles, technology and reduce hiring from 501 to 251 officers and civilian hiring from 145 to ZERO positions. Also, CANCEL the Through Your Eyes program. This funding should go to arts programs like the Department of Cultural Affairs, art and cultural programs that actually support THRIVING & LIVING and not KILLING & DYING. These are tangible but ultimately NOT ENOUGH as we have to defund the LAPD and ultimately abolish it in order to REINVEST in a reimagined PUBLIC SAFETY and PROGRAMS that SUPPORT and fulfill COMMUNITY mental & physical healthcare, built environments, housing our unhoused, parks and green spaces. We need to spread our financial and energetic wealth of LA to all our peoples and neighborhoods.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Patti Kilroy

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:40 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, I am a constituent in District 14 and am writing to ask that the City Council take more drastic steps to defund the LAPD. \$150 million is not enough from a budget in the billions. While I appreciate the vital first steps by some of our councilmembers to divest from the police, but it is on our City Council to sustain this change and realize it in the long term. Living in Little Tokyo next to Skid Row, I see every day a community of unhoused folks that could really use the help - why isn't our money going toward them? Please listen to the people and to BLM-LA - BLM especially is walking you through what you need to do. All you need to do is listen and use your power for good.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alie Kadlac

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:10 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly support the People's Budget call to Defund LAPD and reallocate those resources to community services, alternatives to policing, and investments directly benefiting Black communities. I also support Healthy LA's platform and call to invest in much needed affordable housing, tenant protections, and protections for workers and their wages. Decades of racist policies, land use planning and disinvestment from LA's Black communities continue to have devastating effects today. Black residents are over-represented in the homeless population, and continue to experience higher rates of unemployment. Black and Latinx communities still face the deepest inequities and will be most impacted by eviction and displacement if we don't invest in housing solutions and protect their worker rights and wages. I am asking you to defund LAPD and also invest in much needed affordable housing, renewed funding for the LA Justice Fund to protect immigrants and immigrant communities, fully funded Right to Counsel and Eviction Defense and fully funded Office of Wage Standards and Day Laborer Centers. The cost of funding these programs is minuscule compared to the 3 billion dollar police budget. \$150 million is not enough! Please fund programs that will truly help people, instead of criminalize them. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Grace Cotangco  
**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:12 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I support the motion to divest up to \$150 million from the forthcoming LAPD budget and redirecting those funds towards efforts to 'reimagine public safety' and providing resources back to low-income and BIPOC communities. The committee should recognize, however that this budget decrease is only the beginning. The people of Los Angeles want to see long-term change, and the LAPD budget must progressively SHRINK in the years to come.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Allie Kiekhofer  
**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:15 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-0692  
**Comments for Public Posting:** \$100-\$150 million is a start but not even close enough to the amount of funding we need diverted from police and reinvested in communities. You need to push much harder and go much further to dismantle LAPD on a fundamental level.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Samantha Smart

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 09:59 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Samantha Smart and while I do support this motion to cut \$100-150 million in funding for the LAPD, I do not believe it goes far enough. I believe at least \$500 million should be cut, with more cut each year until we effectively reroute emergency services into more competent hands than the murderous LAPD. However, I am not convinced any of you have the courage to do more than the bare minimum in cuts, since all of your pockets are lined with money from police unions, so in the meantime, consider taking these measly cuts out of the exorbitant helicopter budget. No other city has as many helicopters as we do, and they do little to actually prevent crime, but rather just increase tools for which cops can racially discriminate and target Black neighborhoods. Or how about that printer budget? Or overtime? Ridiculous. Do your jobs. Defund LAPD.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lisa Wu

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 09:59 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to show support for existing motions to cut funds from the LAPD budget, but also to urge for further action. This cut alone is not enough. Despite having access to a ballooning budget year after year, the LAPD has not become more effective at keeping the public safe. It is clear that their methods are, at best, wasteful and inefficient, such as when it comes to expenditures like the \$10.2 million spent on a fleet of electric vehicles that were hardly utilized. But at worst, their massive budget allows them to implement procedures that are invasive, predatory and enforce harmful racial biases that cannot be unlearned by simple training courses when they are integral to the function of policing itself. A great concrete example of this is the LAPD Air Support Division, which currently operates 19 helicopters. These helicopters are largely flown in areas determined to be more likely to produce crime using predictive policing theories. What this means is that poor predominantly Black and brown communities are often more subject to intrusive and unfair surveillance. This is what your budget enables the LAPD to do. As shown by their callous and violent response to recent peaceful protest, an increased police presence does not mean increased safety in most communities. Even if enough cuts were made to prevent the costly and unnecessary purchases listed above, giving the LAPD more money to have more officers on the ground under the guise of "community policing" is also not going to fix any problems. There are many lessons to be learned from police departments like Camden's, where their re-imagining of policing did not include addressing their access to invasive surveillance or their broken-windows approach. Dismantling the department did not stop police harassment and abuse from occurring; in fact, complaints about excessive force increased. Please keep these facts in mind when considering further cuts to the budget and push for a more radical imagining of public safety.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Charley Casler

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:22 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Charley Casler and I strongly support the People's Budget call to Defund LAPD and reallocate those resources to community services, alternatives to policing, and investments directly benefiting Black communities. I also support Healthy LA's platform and call to invest in much needed affordable housing, tenant protections, and protections for workers and their wages. Decades of racist policies, land use planning and disinvestment from LA's Black communities continue to have devastating effects today. Black residents are overrepresented in the homeless population, and continue to experience higher rates of unemployment. Black and Latinx communities still face the deepest inequities and will be most impacted by eviction and displacement if we don't invest in housing solutions and protect their worker rights and wages. I am asking you to defund LAPD and also invest in much needed affordable housing, renewed funding for the LA Justice Fund to protect immigrants and immigrant communities, fully funded Right to Counsel and Eviction Defense and fully funded Office of Wage Standards and Day Laborer Centers. The cost of funding these programs is miniscule compared to the 3 billion dollar police budget. \$150 million is not enough! Please fund programs that will truly help people, instead of criminalize them. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Julianna Kufeldt

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:24 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello Councilmembers, I am commenting on items 2. You have heard many people urging you to defund the police and adopt the people's budget- in which I am in support of. And item 2 adding money back into the LAPD is exactly what the people of Los Angeles DO NOT want! The resources need to go into social work, therapists, harm reduction specialists. We all know that defunding the police is not the end to systemic racism - but it will end the continual deaths and injuries of black and brown people. And we need educated people who are committed and continually trained and monitored to help the people of this city. We need to start looking to experts, educators and thinkers to start examining and working on the problems that the LAPD is responsible for. The LAPD responds to way too many aspects of daily life where they have little to no training. We can no longer accept a society that operates in this manner. We deserve better and we can do better! i yield my time, fuck you. Julianna Kufeldt



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Miko

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:25 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Item 2: Cutting LAPD by \$100-150 million This cut doesn't go far enough. I am asking the Budget and Finance Committee to make a far more substantial cut to the LAPD, such as that reflected in the People's Budget LA survey results. The police have made lethal the endemic racism in our criminal justice system. Implicit biases, racial prejudice, and complete lack of appropriate training has led to disproportionate killings of our minority citizens, particularly the black and latino communities. The city council's budget completely ignores the constituents on the streets demanding change. It is irresponsible for this council to prop up the police department which have time and time again shown that they are not what we need on the streets. We need better social services, we need better education, we need better infrastructure.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Zoe Nissen

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 09:21 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Zoë Nissen, I live in CD13 (Historic Filipinotown, 90026), and I strongly support the People's Budget call to Defund LAPD and reallocate those resources to community services, alternatives to policing, and investments directly benefiting Black communities. I also support Healthy LA's platform and call to invest in much needed affordable housing, tenant protections, and protections for workers and their wages. Decades of racist policies, land use planning and disinvestment from LA's Black communities continue to have devastating effects today. Black residents are overrepresented in the homeless population, and continue to experience higher rates of unemployment. Black and Latinx communities still face the deepest inequities and will be most impacted by eviction and displacement if we don't invest in housing solutions and protect their worker rights and wages. I am asking you to defund LAPD and also invest in much needed affordable housing, renewed funding for the LA Justice Fund to protect immigrants and immigrant communities, fully funded Right to Counsel and Eviction Defense and fully funded Office of Wage Standards and Day Laborer Centers. The cost of funding these programs is miniscule compared to the 3 billion dollar police budget. \$150 million is not enough! Please fund programs that will truly help people, instead of criminalize them. I also ask you to NOT implement the "Through Our Eyes" program, which essentially acts as surveillance for Black & Brown youth. Do not endanger our children by exposing them to propaganda. Defund the police, and instead fund housing, education, mental health resources, and services to CARE for Angelenos.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Thomas L Smith

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 01:38 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Tom Smith, I am a Los Angeles resident living in Echo Park. I am writing in support of passing The People's Budget as presented by BLM-LA. Right now there are two literal tent cities in either direction from my house. The park at Echo Park lake must be home to at least 100 people right now. Despite constantly being harassed by the police, these people are still homeless! Think of all the good that could come from using from defunding LAPD and using that money get really help our homeless population. Once the mass evictions from COVID-19 start, this already massive problem is going to become an all-out crisis.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Malia Schilling

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 01:10 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Chief Moore's comments on this budget item today (6/22) reflect a huge deflection and misunderstanding of what the thousands of Angelenos who want to defund the police are asking for. Defunding the police does not mean that people won't be able to call 911 - it means that we do not want LAPD answering that call, but rather workers who are trained in intervening and helping when members of the community are in crisis. It is ridiculous that LAPD is filling in civilian roles with sworn officers (who cost \$40,000 more than civilians and are not trained for the tasks they need to perform). City Council and Mayor Garcetti must pass a budget that allocates most of the \$3 billion currently given to LAPD to services that Angelenos actually want and need. I support and affirm the demands of the People's Budget.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Giselle Vega

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 01:13 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** The communities in Los Angeles can benefit far more from reallocated funds than the police officers in the county. Why should we cut education/arts etc. and increase the police budget?? THE PEOPLE don't need their police force driving new shiny cars THE PEOPLE NEED FUNDS TO BETTER THE COMMUNITIES. Please please do good by the people in this city. Think of all of the people who have lost jobs because of COVID-19 and how much a couple million will improve the cities affected the most with food drives, job fairs etc. DEFUND THE POLICE.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 12:46 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I support the People's Budget and radical re-allocation of funding away from LAPD towards programs that direct impact safety: housing, health services, youth programs. A 150 million dollar cut form the police is simply not enough, and we can do much better.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Daniel Gaines

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 12:30 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am calling on City Council to adopt the People's Budget, to reject item 20, and to fully fund the LA Justice Fund to support our immigrant communities, especially now under the effects of the pandemic. We have seen a concise, powerful, heartfelt presentation by the People's Budget and BLMLA at last Monday's City Council Meeting. As you may know, they were able to get roughly 25,000 respondents, in less than a month, numbers comparable to a NATIONAL exit poll survey done by CNN. These surveys show that people want investment in resources, not 'crime prevention' because of how often crime prevention actually means giving young people of color needless criminal records as well as the harm and death of Black people and other people of color. I understand that we need people to respond to violent crimes, which occur in a city and country that have consistently underfunded housing and other services essential for survival. But police are in our schools, our libraries, and our streets responding to things they do not need to respond to. They are there with armed weapons responding to non-violent incidents, and yet all too often their guns still seem to go off, people end up dying, and no one ends up prosecuted. Police violence needs to be featured center stage in our need for gun control, since not only are they one of the major perpetrators of gun violence, they are by and large not held accountable. Not only will continued funding of the police at the current level lead to completely needless violence, but secondarily by repeating past mistakes it will further erode our already shaky trust in the law and in our local government. I am skeptical that given its long history of violent and discriminatory practices, including the countless videos we have seen over these past few weeks, that LAPD can ever truly be reformed. This is not to mention the 609 killings in LA County by police in the last 7 years, for which no officers were prosecuted. The only reason we do not all know the names of those individuals like we know George Floyd is because they weren't caught on camera. If we can divest the LAPD budget into unarmed, non-police workers to respond to all incidents where guns are not involved, as police in England and various other countries do, that will be a start. And, perhaps most importantly, if we can divest the LAPD budget into resources that keep us housed, fed, and give us jobs, that will decrease the need for crime, and that will be a great place to start.

Although I do appreciate the recent cuts you have signed off on, if we continue to treat only the symptoms of a broken system with policing—which this budget absolutely still does by allocating so much more discretionary spending to police instead of housing and other services—then we will only perpetuate the problems and suffering in our city. We must treat the cause, the broken system itself, including the ignorance of elected officials who make the decisions. It is not too late to choose compassion over ignorance; choose to side with the people and adopt People's Budget today!



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jeff Leeds Cohn

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:54 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** The proposed \$150 million budget cut to LAPD is not nearly enough. I am outraged that our police are acting as "therapists, drug treatment counselors, social workers and EMTs". Police do not make LA safer and broadening their responsibilities is misguided and dangerous. I am calling on city council to do the right thing and help us to reimagine public safety for our city. We must defund the LAPD and redirect those funds into programs that actually reduce crime and help the community like education, community-based drug and mental health treatment and other social programs. Please listen to your constituents and adopt the people's budget. We will not tolerate the status quo any longer.  
Jeff Cohn District 13, 90026

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Leily

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:54 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** In regards to ITEM 2, \$100-150 million cut, to LAPD is not enough. You are still leaving the majority of our budget for law enforcement. As Dr. Abdullah shared in her BLM/People's Budget LA testimony, your choices in this moment show us clearly who you serve – the people, the police, or your ambitions. PARTICULARLY in regards to my Council Member PAUL KORETZ, it is clear who you serve and it is not the people. You have shown no interest in substantive racial justice in Los Angeles. Your transparent and empty posts about George Floyd are meaningless when you uphold inequality in this city.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:57 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly support the People's Budget call to Defund LAPD and reallocate those resources to community services, alternatives to policing, and investments directly benefiting Black communities. I also support Healthy LA's platform and call to invest in much needed affordable housing, tenant protections, and protections for workers and their wages. Decades of racist policies, land use planning and disinvestment from LA's Black communities continue to have devastating effects today. Black residents are overrepresented in the homeless population, and continue to experience higher rates of unemployment. Black and Latinx communities still face the deepest inequities and will be most impacted by eviction and displacement if we don't invest in housing solutions and protect their worker rights and wages. I am asking you to defund LAPD and also invest in much needed affordable housing, renewed funding for the LA Justice Fund to protect immigrants and immigrant communities, fully funded Right to Counsel and Eviction Defense and fully funded Office of Wage Standards and Day Laborer Centers. The cost of funding these programs is miniscule compared to the 3 billion dollar police budget. \$150 million is not enough! Please fund programs that will truly help people, instead of criminalize them. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alexandra Romanoff

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:35 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Zan Romanoff, and I strongly support the People's Budget call to Defund LAPD and reallocate those resources to community services, alternatives to policing, and investments directly benefiting Black communities. I also support Healthy LA's platform and call to invest in much needed affordable housing, tenant protections, and protections for workers and their wages. I am asking you to defund LAPD, and also invest in much needed affordable housing, renewed funding for the LA Justice Fund to protect immigrants and immigrant communities, fully funded Right to Counsel and Eviction Defense and fully funded Office of Wage Standards and Day Laborer Centers. The cost of funding these programs is miniscule compared to the 3 billion dollar police budget. \$150 million is not enough! Please fund programs that will truly help people, instead of criminalize them. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Rabeya Sen

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:47 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Honorable Budget and Finance Committee Members for LA City Council, On behalf of Esperanza Community Housing Corporation (Esperanza) and as proud members of both the Healthy LA Coalition and immigrant-rights advocates calling for the renewal of the LA Justice Fund, we are writing to say that we strongly support the People's Budget call to Defund LAPD and reallocate those resources to community services, alternatives to policing, and investments directly benefiting Black communities. We also support Healthy LA's platform and call to invest in much needed affordable housing, tenant protections, and protections for workers and their wages. Decades of racist policies, land use planning and disinvestment from LA's Black communities continue to have devastating effects today. Black residents are overrepresented in the homeless population, and continue to experience higher rates of unemployment. Black and Latinx communities still face the deepest inequities and will be most impacted by eviction and displacement if we don't invest in housing solutions and protect their worker rights and wages. So, again, we are asking you to defund LAPD and also invest in much needed affordable housing, renewed and full funding for the LA Justice Fund to protect immigrants and immigrant communities (please do not cut any money from this line item), a fully-funded Right to Counsel and Eviction Defense, and a fully-funded Office of Wage Standards and Day Laborer Centers. The cost of funding these programs is miniscule compared to the 3 billion dollar police budget. \$150 million is not enough! Please fund programs that will truly help people, instead of criminalize them. Thank you. Rabeya

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Leah Mireles

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 12:01 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am a Los Angeles resident and I am not in support of this proposal. A \$100-\$150 million cut to LAPD's budget is NOT adequate to address the pervasive violence and injustices that the police have inflicted upon marginalized communities in this county, which includes people of color, people experiencing homelessness, and/or people who are LGBTQ+. \$150 MILLION IS NOT ENOUGH. I fervently ask the committee to accept the People's Budget as outlined by Black Lives Matter LA and other community organizations. To echo a caller from today's meeting, if you do so, you will have our support - and if you do not, we will have your seats. Adopt a People's Budget NOW.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lara M Pranger

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 12:02 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing in support of the People's Budget and radical re-allocation of funding away from LAPD towards programs that direct impact safety: housing, health services, youth programs. A 150 million dollar cut form the police is simply not enough, and we can do much better.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Andra Moldav

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 12:17 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Andra Moldav. I am a resident of West Hollywood and I am submitting this comment in support of passing The People's Budget as presented by BLM to this council. There are so many crises happening simultaneously that we need money for right now. This weekend the Arctic reached 100 degrees. We are going to have the hottest summer on record, again. We are entering a period of drought, again. We are in the throes of a monumental public health crisis, a housing crisis, and unemployment crisis, all happening inside a centuries' old system of destructive, oppressive racism. We need to make our city drought resilient, food resilient, housing resilient. We need well-funded public health care, strong public transportation, supportive housing and an education system that dismantles the systemic racism that's kept everyone down for generations. More policing is not going to give us any of these things. Investing that money in communities will. I request that you commit to creating a Los Angeles that works for all of us by passing the People's Budget immediately.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Laura Adery

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 12:13 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** This budget cut doesn't go far enough. I am asking the Budget and Finance Committee to make a far more substantial cut to the LAPD, such as that reflected in the People's Budget LA survey results. This is what the people resoundingly want. Remember that you work for the community- we will remember your choices and will celebrate you greatly if you join with us to defund the police. Thank you

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Amy Tannenbaum

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 12:13 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Amy Tanennbaum and I strongly support the Healthy LA Coalition in calling for the City Council to invest \$300 million of the CARES Act Funding, to buy housing in areas where low income residents are vulnerable to displacement driven by Wall Street speculators. By selling that land to Land Trusts and nonprofits, it can be permanently preserved as affordable housing and the proceeds can be invested in new land purchases to remove housing from the speculative market, benefitting existing residents in the long-run and creating permanently affordable housing. Thank you for your leadership on this.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Melissa Chalsma

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:07 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am in support of the PeoplesBudgetLA and a radical re-imaging of how we allocate funding towards public safety. Now is the time to act boldly. \$150 million is not enough—More must be done. I believe in a Los Angeles that is a safe, just, and thriving city for ALL. And I support Measure A!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Samantha Spaccasi

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:10 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Samantha Spaccasi and I strongly support the People's Budget call to Defund LAPD and reallocate those resources to community services, alternatives to policing, and investments directly benefiting Black communities. I also support Healthy LA's platform and call to invest in much needed affordable housing, tenant protections, and protections for workers and their wages. Decades of racist policies, land use planning and disinvestment from LA's Black communities continue to have devastating effects today. Black residents are overrepresented in the homeless population, and continue to experience higher rates of unemployment. Black and Latinx communities still face the deepest inequities and will be most impacted by eviction and displacement if we don't invest in housing solutions and protect their worker rights and wages. I am asking you to defund LAPD and also invest in much needed affordable housing, renewed funding for the LA Justice Fund to protect immigrants and immigrant communities, fully funded Right to Counsel and Eviction Defense and fully funded Office of Wage Standards and Day Laborer Centers. The cost of funding these programs is miniscule compared to the 3 billion dollar police budget. \$150 million is not enough! Please fund programs that will truly help people, instead of criminalize them. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sarah Bowers

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:10 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** The proposed budget cut to LAPD is no where near enough. The People's Budget LA had made it pretty simple - people don't want to fund the police. Not even \$100,000. I'm not sure how much simpler we can make it for you as city representatives - defund the police. Now. One caller said the People's Budget did not reflect that of the Latinox community and other communities of color. I myself am white, and thus don't want to co-opt what black, indigenous, and people of color want. I also want to point out that the survey respondents, as described in BLM-LA's presentation, is pretty split half and half between white respondents and respondents of color. I wish the survey would get more respondents who are of color, but as far as a survey of 24,000+ people, having half of those respondents reflect people of minority is pretty amazing. Even with 50% respondents being of color, only 1% of all respondents wanted more funding for police. 99% of respondents want budget in basically everything but the police. Defund the police.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Meghan Czerwinski  
**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:00 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-0692  
**Comments for Public Posting:** DEFUND THE POLICE FOR CRYING OUT LOUD Adopt the PEOPLES BUDGET Reallocate the funds to : Food and housing security, public health, health care, education, and enviornmental justice. Thank you, I yield my time.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jade Cobb-Dozier

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:02 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am requesting that city council heed the work of the people's budget LA. You've heard their proposal, you've seen the research and now it is your responsibility to act. The current cut of \$150 mil is not enough but adopting the people's budget would reallocate necessary funding for the people of LA into areas that better suited for the health of our community, such as housing security, public health/health care, mental health and wellness, grassroots organizations working within the community.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mia Logg

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:42 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing in support of Item 2 of the agenda, and asking for further reductions taken from LAPD and diverted toward other services NOW. Please consider the obscene amount of overtime that is taken by police and investigate the validity of that. Take away overtime from these people that are NOT a needed service to the community.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Claire Steakley

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:36 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** \$150 million is only 5% of Garcetti's proposed increased LAPD budget. You need to cut much more of that and redirect it to programs that actually help our community that Garcetti's budget will cut for the LAPD. The LAPD ran out of money recently and are now having the LA Country Sheriffs shoot up peaceful protesters instead. I do not want to live in a city that spends billions of dollars across multiple budgets attacking its residents and telling them they are not welcome here, which is exactly what the LA Country Sheriffs did yesterday from a helicopter. The fact that at every protest I've been to MULTIPLE LAPD choppers are following us every step of the way is pathetic at the least and strongly indicative of a fascist, militarized dictatorship ruling this city. This committee and the LA City Council have shown time and time again that they do not serve the people of Los Angeles. They are only interested in power and money and slaughtering the people who pay them. Defund your racist attack dogs immediately or face the consequences.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Anne McGrath

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:47 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** The motion to divert calls and service provision away from the LAPD is an important first step, but we need to reimagine public safety to a greater extent. I encourage City Council to work closely with BLMLA and People's Budget LA to truly defund the police.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:49 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Item 2: Cutting LAPD by \$100-150 million This cut doesn't go far enough. I am asking the Budget and Finance Committee to make a far more substantial cut to the LAPD, such as that reflected in the People's Budget LA survey results. Item 20: Giving \$100k to "Community Safety Partnership" Funds for the community should be given to grassroots and community organizations, not to LAPD for its propaganda campaigns. General Public Comment: The motion to divert calls and service provision away from the LAPD is an important first step, but we need to reimagine public safety to a greater extent. I encourage City Council to work closely with BLMLA and People's Budget LA to truly defund the police.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** alex l carcieri

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:27 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is alex carcieri and I strongly support the People's Budget call to Defund LAPD and reallocate those resources to community services, alternatives to policing, and investments directly benefiting Black communities. I also support Healthy LA's platform and call to invest in much needed affordable housing, tenant protections, and protections for workers and their wages. Decades of racist policies, land use planning and disinvestment from LA's Black communities continue to have devastating effects today. Black residents are overrepresented in the homeless population, and continue to experience higher rates of unemployment. Black and Latinx communities still face the deepest inequities and will be most impacted by eviction and displacement if we don't invest in housing solutions and protect their worker rights and wages. I am asking you to defund LAPD and also invest in much needed affordable housing, renewed funding for the LA Justice Fund to protect immigrants and immigrant communities, fully funded Right to Counsel and Eviction Defense and fully funded Office of Wage Standards and Day Laborer Centers. The cost of funding these programs is miniscule compared to the 3 billion dollar police budget. \$150 million is not enough! Please fund programs that will truly help people, instead of criminalize them. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sonya Mendoza

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:14 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Sonya Mendoza and I am a resident of CD13. I would like to urge the city council to completely defund the LAPD and adopt a people's budget that invests in the health and well being of the Black residents of LA and other communities that have been terrorized by the LAPD. LA City Council has an opportunity to reimagine what safety looks like for its residents by putting money from the LAPD budget into programs and services that would materially benefit the people who work and live here. Please do the right thing and defund the LAPD!!!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Froma Burack

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:21 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** When folks all across the country are calling to Defund Police, they truly mean just that. Both historically and today, the police have demonstrated their extreme brutality, particularly towards Black and Brown residents in the US, and their total immunity from the law. The Supreme Court allows police to use lethal force for misdemeanors and racially profile. Police departments all over the country have blood on their hands. By extension, you do, too. I encourage, in fact, urge, City Council to work closely with BLM-LA and People's Budget LA to truly defund the police. I am asking for the following demands regarding Item 2 and Item 20 - Budget and Finance Committee need to make a far more substantial cut to the LAPD, such as that reflected in the People's Budget LA survey results. AND Giving the funds allocated to "Community Safety Partnership" to grassroots and community organizations. Do the right thing. Honor Breonna, George, Eric, Trayvon, Tamir Rice, who would be graduating from high school this year. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Philip Fier

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 11:22 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** When folks all across the country are calling to Defund Police, they truly mean just that. Both historically and today, the police have demonstrated their extreme brutality, particularly towards Black and Brown residents in the US, and their total immunity from the law. The Supreme Court allows police to use lethal force for misdemeanors and racially profile. Police departments all over the country have blood on their hands. I encourage, in fact, urge, City Council to work closely with BLM-LA and People's Budget LA to truly defund the police. I am asking for the following demands regarding Item 2 and Item 20 - Budget and Finance Committee need to make a far more substantial cut to the LAPD, such as that reflected in the People's Budget LA survey results. AND Giving the funds allocated to "Community Safety Partnership" to grassroots and community organizations. Do the right thing. Honor Breonna, George, Eric, Trayvon, Tamir Rice, who would be graduating from high school this year. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sofie Fier

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:44 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I appreciate Mayor Garcetti's cut to the LAPD budget. That being said, the budget cut is not nearly enough. When Americans all across the country are calling to Defund Police, they truly mean just that. Historically and today, the police have demonstrated their brutality, particularly towards Black and Brown residents in the US, and opportunism of their complete immunity under the guise of "protecting and serving." Instead of investing in police to "prevent" crime, why not re-invest in schools, where children will feel motivated and supported? Why not invest in mental health services so hundreds of mentally ill residents don't have to die at the hands of people who should be protecting them? I encourage, in fact, urge, City Council to work closely with BLM-LA and People's Budget LA to truly defund the police. I am asking for the following demands: - Item 2: Budget and Finance Committee to make a far more substantial cut to the LAPD, such as that reflected in the People's Budget LA survey results. - Item 20: Giving \$100k to "Community Safety Partnership" Funds for the community should be given to grassroots and community organizations



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Katrina Matheson

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:44 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** The 688 page LAPD Budget Request indicated that the LAPD had launched or expected to launch this coming fiscal year programs including youth engagement, homeless outreach and education, and even a non-emergency response system to field non-violent calls, including related to mental health. Those social services are important, but why are we allowing critical social functions to fall under the auspices of the police? The LAPD budget is 94% salary. We are literally paying police union salaries, including time and a half overtime, for police with possibly only a HS diploma to run youth programs, homeless outreach and wellness checks. The average salary of a youth worker or social worker is 1/3 an average police officer's salary. This is not only socially irresponsible but financially so. The police union has stated that any defunding of the police will automatically reduce response times. This is disingenuous fear-mongering that proves that the current police union leadership has no interest in protecting and serving citizens. Their program budget is \$1.8B (total departmental budget including police use of other municipal resources like utilities, etc. rises to \$3B). Meanwhile, Emergency Management spending during a pandemic is only \$3m! During the last Budget and Finance committee, I heard Aram Sahakian, the head of Emergency Management - who's department is facing furloughs and forced retirements - say that his skeletal team is literally working around the clock. Meanwhile, the LAPD has a fleet of leased Teslas and replaces their computers every year. Are we really prioritizing wisely? If we were really concerned about reducing crime, we would act urgently to house every single person living on the street. The estimated cost to solve homelessness for every Angeleno is \$640,000,000. This represents only 20% of the LAPD budget. Did you hear that? If we reduced the LAPD budget by 20% we could permanently solve homelessness in the city of Los Angeles. As you can see there are many financially conservative reasons to defund the police, which don't even take into account the terrible track record of misbehavior and violence perpetrated by the LAPD. In 2017, LA paid more than \$200 million in legal settlements. In what other kind of industry would legal settlements routinely total more than 10% of your entire program budget? In any other kind of work there would have been mass firings for such irresponsible

behavior. Defund the police now and invest in the community.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** DEFUND YOU COWARDS

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 01:55 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm writing in support of Black Lives Matter, The People's Budget LA, and all of the grassroots organizations which have been calling to DEFUND the police. As you KNOW, \$150 million is NOT defunding. It's a laughable attempt at appeasing people, who YOU know know better than to be placated by your pathetic attempt to safe face. To committee member Lee specifically I would like to say, we are NOT asking for "arbitrary" cuts, pull your head out of your ass.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Madeleine Kim

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 02:06 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Madeleine Kim and I strongly support the People's Budget call to Defund LAPD and reallocate those resources to community services, alternatives to policing, and investments directly benefiting Black communities. I also support Healthy LA's platform and call to invest in much needed affordable housing, tenant protections, and protections for workers and their wages. Decades of racist policies, land use planning and disinvestment from LA's Black communities continue to have devastating effects today. Black residents are overrepresented in the homeless population, and continue to experience higher rates of unemployment. Black and Latinx communities still face the deepest inequities and will be most impacted by eviction and displacement if we don't invest in housing solutions and protect their worker rights and wages. I am asking you to defund LAPD and also invest in much needed affordable housing, renewed funding for the LA Justice Fund to protect immigrants and immigrant communities, fully funded Right to Counsel and Eviction Defense and fully funded Office of Wage Standards and Day Laborer Centers. The cost of funding these programs is miniscule compared to the 3 billion dollar police budget. \$150 million is not enough! Please fund programs that will truly help people, instead of criminalize them. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Gavi Klein

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 04:11 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** The cut of \$100-150 million from the LAPD budget is not enough. It is a testament to how bloated the LAPD budget is that this barely makes a dent in their allocated funding. The Budget and Finance Committee must make a far more substantial cut to the LAPD, such as those proposed by the People's Budget LA survey results.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alexandra

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 04:47 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** To whom it may concern: I support The People's Budget by Black Lives Matter Los Angeles. There are many crises facing our city, state and country. We are in the midst of a major global crisis in the form of a virus. We are also facing climate change, overpopulation, overfishing and many other major issues. Racism and police brutality should not be another issue on the list. Please reallocate money away from the police departments and into community programs: We need a living wage and affordable housing. We need to house the homeless and feed the hungry. We need to help those with addiction get clean and stay clean. There are better ways to spend our tax dollars. Thank you for your time.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Richard Wood

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 05:23 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** The City needs to invest in areas other than law enforcement. The law enforcement heavy budget should be revised to Shift funding away from the police and to emphasize community development in economically depressed areas, more funding for education, improved environmental sustainability, transportation infrastructure, and workforce development.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kimberly Morgan

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 08:03 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** I support The People's Budget. The \$150 million dollar proposed cut to the police is insufficient to support the health and welfare of BIPOC. We need bold steps now.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Gabriel Womark

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 10:01 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** We need more drastic cuts to the LAPD budget and we need to adopt the budget proposed by People's Budget LA. The proposed budget cut for LAPD does not go far enough. The majority of the budget will still be allocated for police after the cut. Based on the tent-cities propping up all over town (there are some great folks on the corner near Beverly Blvd and Juanita you could talk to), it seems like giving even more money to the police just to continue displacing these people isn't going to solve the problem. We need to adopt the People's Budget, and invest in our communities instead of our police and prisons. We have a housing crisis to fix. We have to help kids stay in school during this pandemic. We have infrastructure problems to fix. Moreover, the criminal justice system and its various constitutive institutions are inherently racist. The concept of criminality and the loss of freedoms that come with that criminality were used as a sort of replacement for slavery in the 13th amendment. I quote the amendment directly: "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, EXCEPT AS A PUNISHMENT FOR CRIME whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction". Slavery is essentially the punishment for a crime. Now one could say that I'm overlooking the fact that the guilty party "shall have been duly convicted" but obviously the notion of being duly convicted depends on the integrity of the people doing the convicting. We need to reduce spending on police. We need to invest in our communities instead. Please, please adopt the budget proposed by the people.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Michelle Bisnoff, Chair, Brentwood Community Council

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 07:05 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** The City has 900,000 sf of surplus property for use as affordable housing; they simply need to release it en masse for development of 100% affordable housing units. Here is link to the list of property:  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RHBsrS9m\\_IvgeHmWvXqzcoXmF1xl5nlE/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RHBsrS9m_IvgeHmWvXqzcoXmF1xl5nlE/view?usp=sharing).  
The County controls the Department of Mental Health; they have \$39M set aside for capital improvements to mental health care facilities and mental health treatment beds, but none of them are assigned to communities of color in the City of Los Angeles. Here is a link to that capital budget list: [http://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/dmh/159597\\_MHSA\\_CF\\_Component.pdf](http://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/dmh/159597_MHSA_CF_Component.pdf)  
The County receives \$1.6 trillion in property tax revenue and \$1B in sales tax revenue for supportive services, so it appears that the budget priorities that need change actually require the City and the County to use resources more wisely and strategically.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Joe Stringer

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 05:45 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Joe Stringer and I strongly support the People's Budget call to Defund LAPD and reallocate those resources to community services, alternatives to policing, and investments directly benefiting Black communities. I also support Healthy LA's platform and call to invest in much needed affordable housing, tenant protections, and protections for workers and their wages. Decades of racist policies, land use planning and disinvestment from LA's Black communities continue to have devastating effects today. Black residents are overrepresented in the homeless population, and continue to experience higher rates of unemployment. Black and Latinx communities still face the deepest inequities and will be most impacted by eviction and displacement if we don't invest in housing solutions and protect their worker rights and wages. I am asking you to defund LAPD and also invest in much needed affordable housing, renewed funding for the LA Justice Fund to protect immigrants and immigrant communities, fully funded Right to Counsel and Eviction Defense and fully funded Office of Wage Standards and Day Laborer Centers. The cost of funding these programs is miniscule compared to the 3 billion dollar police budget. \$150 million is not enough! Please fund programs that will truly help people, instead of criminalize them. Thank you.

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 05:46 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please see uploaded document for comments.



June 22, 2020

Council President Nury Martinez  
Los Angeles City Council  
200 N Spring St  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

To Council President Nury Martinez,

JACCC would like to submit the following for public comments in regards to Item Numbers [20-0692](#) and [20-0600-S39](#). My name is Patricia Wyatt and I am the President/CEO of the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center (JACCC). JACCC Founded in 1971, Japanese American Cultural & Community Center is one of the largest ethnic arts and cultural centers of its kind in the United States.

I am submitting this letter on behalf of JACCC to express our concern for the current distribution of funds in the Mayor's Budget; and to reiterate our concern about the disenfranchisement of Council District 14 stakeholders:

- 1) We urge the City Council to move funds away from LAPD towards essential, community-identified priorities, such as housing (HCID), unemployment (EDD), and the arts (DCA).
- 2) We oppose the defunding of DCA and Exhibit H, and urge you to increase funding for DCA and public arts—which are second-wave services in recovery efforts and healing after the COVID-19 and social unrest.
- 3) We reiterate our concern that Councilmember Huizer is not attending City Council meetings or voting, which leaves CD14—Little Tokyo, Downtown Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, Echo Park, and Northeast LA—without fair and equitable representation in the City Council.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Patricia Wyatt  
President/CEO  
pwyatt@jaccc.org

CC: Councilmember Huizar, Katie Kiefer, Councilmember Krekorian

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Laurie Gral

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/2020 02:19 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0692

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Laurie Gral and I strongly support the People's Budget call to Defund LAPD and reallocate those resources to community services, alternatives to policing, and investments directly benefiting Black communities. I also support Healthy LA's platform and call to invest in much needed affordable housing, tenant protections, and protections for workers and their wages. Decades of racist policies, land use planning and disinvestment from LA's Black communities continue to have devastating effects today. Black residents are overrepresented in the homeless population, and continue to experience higher rates of unemployment. Black and Latinx communities still face the deepest inequities and will be most impacted by eviction and displacement if we don't invest in housing solutions and protect their worker rights and wages. I am asking you to defund LAPD and also invest in much needed affordable housing, renewed funding for the LA Justice Fund to protect immigrants and immigrant communities, fully funded Right to Counsel and Eviction Defense and fully funded Office of Wage Standards and Day Laborer Centers. The cost of funding these programs is miniscule compared to the 3 billion dollar police budget. \$150 million is not enough! Please fund programs that will truly help people, instead of criminalize them. Thank you.