

## Communication from Public

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**Comments for Public Posting:** As a stakeholder in Council District 12, I request the honorable Councilmembers consider the harm and danger to millions of residents for defunding and decreasing police services. I am sympathetic to the cries of the disadvantaged communities of color however, it should not be at the risk of the lives of residents outside of those communities, with people of color. It is unfair to defund the police for communities who have good relationships with their police. We have seen an increase in crime in Los Angeles recently, due to the elimination of certain LAPD services. In our Council District, we do not have problems with LAPD. My suggestion is that the LAPD funds be defunded from the districts where it is not wanted and leave LAPD in full service to the communities who have good relationships with LAPD. Restructuring clerical and non-violent duties makes sense in all communities. I was born and raised in Los Angeles. As a Black woman, born and raised in Los Angeles, I have been a victim of systemic racism for the majority of my professional career. Systemic racism exists. Police officers aren't the enemy, bad police officers are the problem. Remove the bad officers with a history of racism and brutality, and replace with those competent and capable of serving and protecting all people. The People's Budget did not take into consideration Emergency protocols for the entire city. In the event of our common disasters such as wildfires and earthquakes, police protect geographical areas from being robbed and looted, and see to our safety during and after these disasters. I survived the 1971 and 1994 earthquakes and have witnessed the fine work done by LAPD officers during devastating wildfires. You cannot correct a problem in some districts while endangering other districts. Our taxes and property taxes are very high. We should not have to worry about our safety. Defunding the LAPD and services is going to result in people outside of disadvantaged areas being seriously injured or killed. Please do not defund the LAPD. Thank you for your consideration of all positions on this matter. Keren Waters