

Communication from Public

Name:

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Comments for Public Posting: The people of Los Angeles know without a doubt that our current system does not serve or protect us. If we are going to enact real, tangible change, we have to start with how we allocate our fiscal resources. Even if the city does re-allocate \$150 million from the LAPD budget to black and brown communities, BILLIONS of dollars would still be going to the police. 600+ murders later, why hasn't LAPD money already been used for effective and mandatory de-escalation training? We are still in the middle of the COVID pandemic, why are healthcare professionals struggling to get safety equipment, but police have enough money to show up at peaceful protests en masse with face masks and rubber bullets? LA residents deserve access to mental health care from educated professionals BEFORE a crisis happens, not retroactively from trigger happy police. Why aren't we investing more money into the Department of Mental Health, and expanding their services? I recognize that being a police officer is a difficult job, but you know who else has a difficult job? Teachers. And they aren't getting a fraction of the funding the police are. Why are we giving so much money to the police, when our people need healthcare, housing, jobs, clean air and water, education, and community resources? Overfunding the LAPD does absolutely nothing to improve the quality of life of our residents. The LAPD are not equipped to solve or effectively address the aforementioned issues. We need to put sufficient funding into the state departments and organizations that can. I implore you to familiarize yourself with the People's Budget, and prioritize care over cops. Thank you.