

Communication from Public

Name: Reuven Nathanson

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 04:04 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We've seen how effective not having Police response available in the Fairfax District was 2 weeks ago. We saw property damage, personal injury, and threats to the populous. This is not the time to talk about cutting the Police budget. It is time to remove employees that shown they can't adhere to policy.

Communication from Public

Name: Julia Bianco

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 04:22 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to encourage the council to consider adopting the People's Budget. The People's Budget takes away the excessive funding given to the LAPD and redistributes it to programs that will better serve the community. As was apparent at the council budget meeting held on Monday, and through the protests that have been happening daily in our city, there is strong support for taking money away from the police department and giving it back to the people. I urge the council to consider the desires of the people they represent.

Communication from Public

Name: Dani

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 05:01 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello Council Members, I am here to add my voice to the opinion of many that the LAPD needs to be defunded. Policing divests from community interests, specifically Black and under-resourced communities. Adding harm and taking away opportunities for growth by creating community fear and stifling government investment. With most of the 2020-21 budget allocated to police, oppression of disadvantaged communities will be perpetuated. A 150 million dollar cut towards police is not enough. And is a mere token of the important defunding and reallocating this budget needs. Police are not equip to take on all the situations they are called to. And calling the police often is just masking a symptom of systemic unrest, than aiding in treatment and care. For all communities in LA to truly prosper, funds needs to be allocated to mental health care and rehabilitation, housing and homelessness aid, universal aid and crisis management, built environments, and reimagined community safety. Power needs to be taken away from police. Funding being spread out can create more community support. For example, if someone needs mental health support and are in danger, the police should not be called to the scene, but a mental health professional who can care and analyze the situation. There are ways for public safety to be reimagined without policing's defensive mentalities that often lead to violence and abuse.

Communication from Public

Name: Pamela Brown

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 03:19 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Defunding the LAPD is the WRONG action to take. Our police already do what is being asked in terms of de-escalation, etc. Please don't cave to pressure that is misguided in being placed on our LAPD! Use this as an opportunity to educate the public on the great job the LAPD do and what the true statistics are on Officer Involved shootings, etc. NO defunding! NO!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 02:26 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Catherine and I am a constituent living in Council District 7. We believe that our council members have a serious conflict of interest in continually accepting money from the Los Angeles Police Protective League (LAPPL), which you have allowed from 2017-2020. I am writing to demand that you invest your LAPPL money in bail out funds, mutual aid, and organizations that benefit the black community in this pivotal time of tragedy and change. Moving forward, it is your utmost duty to take a stand with your fellow community members and refuse donations and endorsements from the police union. We urge you to commit to a future in which senseless acts of police violence no longer go unheard, and we hope you honor George Floyd's legacy to see justice alongside us. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Haley Castello

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 02:15 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We need to defund the police and start making our priorities humane. We need more funding in our education system (teachers deserve more pay and we need to incorporate ethnic studies in our K-12 public schools), our housing needs to be more affordable and there needs to be more classes educating renters about their rights and what we can do to gain more rights, if the city is going to allow mass gentrification then there needs to be a balance and care for our renters and local businesses, we need more funding in public transportation, mental healthcare, healthcare overall, and in our local businesses. Please stop putting money in our police departments and military, there should be no reason our police has access to extra tanks and gear when our medical professionals didn't have enough for masks. Make it make sense, check yourself.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 03:01 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Spend less of our budget on the police and more of it on helping our communities. Education and community services are the things that will make our communities safer, healthier, and happier.

Communication from Public

Name: Suki

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 12:26 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The people of Los Angeles are demanding that you defund the vicious and dangerous LAPD and reinvest in the communities that need it most. We have seen in broad daylight the atrocities that LAPD has committed against the citizens of LA and we're SICK OF IT. We are all learning how to jump through the draconian hoops of the bureaucracy you hide behind and we aren't going ANYWHERE. Limiting the amount of time/callers able to participate in public comment is cowardly. Defund the LAPD, demand the firing of Chief Moore, DO YOUR JOB. Black lives matter. I yield my time, fuck you.

Communication from Public

Name: Deborah Z

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 01:29 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a law abiding citizen, I am greatly concerned, shocked, and appalled with the proposed city budget cut of \$150 million from the LAPD! Where did the common sense go? As is, we watched violent mobs loot and burn our city for a week! We watched innocent people become victims of mobs violence! You think cutting the budget is going to help? The community is outraged by this non-sense! Since this announcement came out, everyone is trying to buy all the guns they can to protect themselves, since there will not be enough police force to protect the community! Perhaps Mayor Garcetti should step down from his post, if he can easily be pressured by 1000 protestors gathering in front of his house to make non-sense decisions to make this city a haven for violent mobs. Stop demoralizing the police force and law enforcement. We don't want LA to become the city with the highest crime record in the history. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!!! Perhaps Mayor Garcetti and other government officials who would like to defund LAPD, should pay out of their own rich pocket the \$150 million dollars to the initiates that are in need of additional funds. Perhaps these officials should get rid of their own personal security service and pay the money to those in need. DO NOT, DO NOT, DO NOT, cut the LAPD budget. We do not live in lala land. We need law enforcement. And we need more of it.

Communication from Public

Name: Justin Telles

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 12:34 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The city of LA does not, by any stretch of the imagination, stand to benefit from an increase in funding to police forces or other law enforcement efforts. What we need is more funding for services that provide support to people who are in situations that lead to crime. Time and time again research, reporting, and municipal reflection has clearly demonstrated that an increase in state force resources is met with increased resistance and violence. The most effective and efficient way to prevent crime is to educate, train, and support people before it becomes a reasonable option of a desperate person with no promising alternatives. The LAPD does not need more funding, it needs more high quality training, accountability, and oversight for its officers.

Communication from Public

Name: Leslie

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 09:40 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: In congruence to what is happening all over our city, the country, and the world it is time to consider breaking down the walls of systemic racism. We are all aware of it and have not come to the grips of reality to actively face it until Covid turned up. We need to develop a People's Budget. We are in the midst of a health pandemic with severe economic consequences. Over 50% of Angelenos are unemployed and that percentage will continue to increase if funds are not appropriately allocated to assist Angelenos. I am urging you to publicly support the People's Budget. The Mayor's budget proposal has been slightly changed to allocate funds from the Police budget to the community. IT IS NOT ENOUGH. We need investment into the community and health-centered services. If this city is for the people and wants to develop "economically" we must begin with how to assist our people in our community. This begins with our houseless folx that continues to increase similarly. Develop a People's Budget! Public opinion is with me. Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: caitlin engel
Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 11:08 AM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: pls keep me posted on LA city budget

Communication from Public

Name: Seo Yun

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 10:58 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello. My name is Seo Yun and I'm a resident of Los Angeles. Together, we can make history. I strongly urge the council members who are meeting today to reject the Mayor's proposed budget and instead support the Healthy LA and People's Budget's coalitions which will reallocate the funds back to our community. We need care, not more cops. During this pandemic why are we prioritizing profit over people? Police do not need more funding but our community members desperately do. Unfortunately, the City's proposed budget does not reflect the priorities and values of Los Angeles residents. Prioritize your constituents who are suffering under historically racist systems and need more relief. I support the People's Budget LA in demanding the defunding of police, and the HealthyLA Coalition in calling for the funding of needed housing programs.

Communication from Public

Name: Anthony Quattrocchi

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 11:02 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Anthony Quattrocchi and I live in Los Angeles I strongly support the Healthy LA and People's Budget's coalitions. Include a personal sentence about why this is important to you so it doesn't sound redundant since people are using this script. 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. I am asking for the city council to reject the mayor's budget and to pass a budget that shows Black Lives Matter and are valued in Los Angeles.

Communication from Public

Name: Ariel Morrison Wrye

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 11:04 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to urge the city council to defund the police. The initial shift of resources away from the police budget is not enough. We want a massive diversion of funds from LAPD and for the city to prioritize universal needs (such as housing, childcare, healthy food, public transportation, and restorative justice and diversion programs). All social service functions currently being carried out by police should be handled by responsive community based organizations that are truly committed to public safety and wellbeing. You need to engage directly with communities, especially Black and Indigenous communities — the most at risk of police brutality and murder — to create a budget that serves ALL Angelenos.

Communication from Public

Name: Rachel Weintraub

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 08:39 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of Los Angeles, I strongly request that the city budget be significantly changed to move unrestricted funds away from the LAPD in order to prioritize universal needs like mental healthcare, housing, clean air/water, and education. I do appreciate the change that has already been made to the budget, but it's minuscule relative to the overall LAPD budget. Please make this change toward a budget that serves all Angelenos, particularly Black and Indigenous communities (the most at risk of police brutality).

Communication from Public

Name: Christopher Anderson

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 09:44 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We must DEFUND THE POLICE. We must invest in the community. Demilitarize Defund De-escalate Proper tactics and training with community investment.

Communication from Public

Name: Kira
Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 07:20 PM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Defund the police

Communication from Public

Name: Siona van Dijk
Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 07:22 PM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident of DTLA. I am writing to voice my support for the BLM proposal to Defund the Police and for Los Angeles to adopt a People's Budget

Communication from Public

Name: Marissa Dow

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 05:59 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing as an angry, disappointed, and disregarded resident of Los Angeles. The Los Angeles Police Department has famously and without consequence killed and mistreated hundreds of the people, especially black people, that they were sworn to protect because of an intentionally flawed system built from the ground up to systematically destroy and fear instead of value black lives, or the lives of anyone willing to stand up for them. Simply cutting the budget increase that was initially planned for fiscal year 2020-2021 is not enough. I am calling along with thousands of others to completely DEFUND the LAPD and start from scratch with a new system that actually protects and serves rather lining the pockets of inhumane police officers with bonuses for shooting the citizens that are perversely forced to fund their own destruction through taxes. The American justice system is supposed to be about preserving freedom and every single one of you who works in public service is supposed to be that -- A SERVANT. The LAPD has failed epically in their duties to the public and they need to be completely defunded, not rewarded for this, and rebuilt from the ground up. The police department backed by the governor's office, the district attorney's office and all of the local state government are culpable for the injustices we are seeing today and you have NO CHOICE but to defund and there will be public unrest and more tragic deaths until this is done, with their blood on all of your hands.

Communication from Public

Name: Jason Richards

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 05:59 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Los Angeles must adopt a People's Budget. Spending on Police is absolutely out of control in the country and Los Angeles is no different. More than 10,000 people were engaged in the drafting of the People's Budget. This includes 1,470 Angelenos who took our survey, 3,300 participants who engaged in our participatory budgeting process in real time on May 24, 2020 (via Zoom and Facebook Live), and 10,000 viewers who have watched the session after-the-fact. The top priorities for investment include housing, mental health and wellness, and public health and healthcare. The top priorities for divestment include parking enforcement, police and policing, and the City Attorney's Office. The People's Budget allocates just 5.7% of general funds to law enforcement and policing – just about one-tenth of the 54% given to the LAPD in the Mayor's proposed budget. The People's Budget allocates the largest amount of money to Universal Aid and Crisis Management (44.25%), followed by Built Environment (25.80%), then Reimagined Community Safety (24.22%), and finally Law Enforcement and Police (5.72%).



The People's Budget

Los Angeles 2020-2021

PEOPLES  BUDGET  LA
peoplesbudgetla.com



INTRODUCTION

The People's Budget LA Coalition has undertaken an urgent public process of participatory budgeting to solicit input of Angelenos on their priorities for the city and how they would like public resources to be spent. This project emerged rapidly and in direct response to the secretive, undemocratic process and draconian spending plan introduced by Mayor Eric Garcetti, and left unchallenged by City Council.

This report details our findings and presents a People's Budget alternative to the Mayor's proposed 2020-21 budget. **Our document and data both reveal a clear referendum: invest in universal needs (e.g., housing security, public health/health care, mental health and wellness, etc.) and divest from traditional forms of policing.**

Here's a summary of our methodology and results:

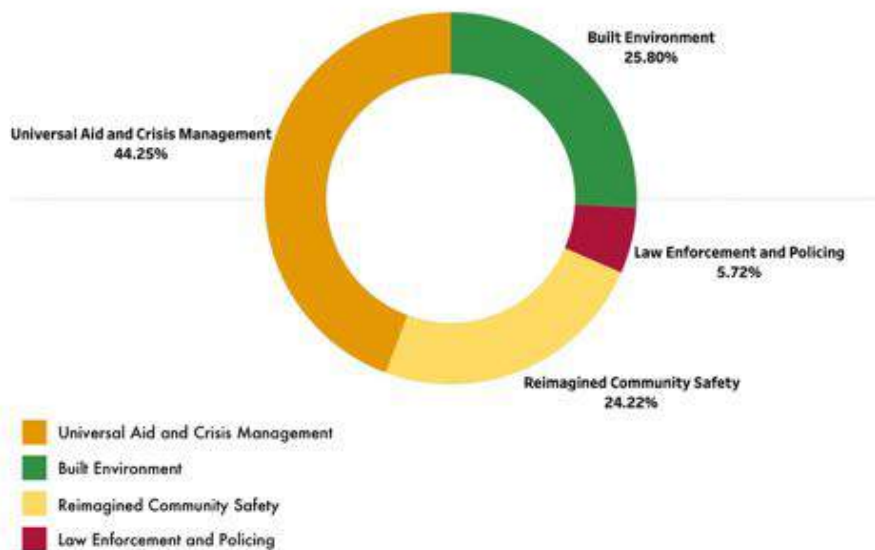
- More than 10,000 people were engaged in the drafting of the People's Budget. This includes 1,470 Angelenos who took our survey, 3,300 participants who engaged in our participatory budgeting process in real time on May 24, 2020 (via Zoom and Facebook Live), and 10,000 viewers who have watched the session after-the-fact.
- The top priorities for investment include housing, mental health and wellness, and public health and healthcare.
- The top priorities for divestment include parking enforcement, police and policing, and the City Attorney's Office.
- The People's Budget allocates just 5.7% of general funds to law enforcement and policing - just about one-tenth of the 54% given to the LAPD in the Mayor's proposed budget.
- The People's Budget allocates the largest amount of money to Universal Aid and Crisis Management (44.25%), followed by Built Environment (25.80%), then Reimagined Community Safety (24.22%), and finally Law Enforcement and Police (5.72%).

We implore the Los Angeles City Council to take action and adopt a budget that aligns with the priorities of the people who they have been elected to represent.

THE PEOPLE'S BUDGET

THE PEOPLE'S BUDGET

The People's Budget Priorities



SPENDING AREAS

UNIVERSAL AID AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT

The Universal Aid and Crisis Management funding category supports the basic needs of Angelenos like housing, food, healthcare, economic assistance and emergency relief. Both survey participants and those participating in our participatory budgeting session emphasized universal aid and crisis management as their top priority, with a particular focus on housing.

This funding area includes funding for long-term housing, renter support and emergency housing, food assistance, support for those seeking work, support for small businesses, providing public health care, offering youth development programs and supporting youth centers, fighting the impacts of climate change and ensuring our city's environment is protected. This area also includes emergency preparedness for natural disasters like earthquakes and fire as well as the public health disasters.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Built Environment funding category focuses on our city's physical infrastructure like public transportation, libraries, parks, public works and the fire department. Based on our survey results, these are essential public goods for Angelenos.

REIMAGINED COMMUNITY SAFETY

Participants were also committed to reimagining community safety and building and resourcing restorative justice practices that enable strong communities without law enforcement presence or intervention. The Reimagined Community Safety funding category supports a community-led safety model including investing in mental health and harm reduction approaches. Rather than funding police that bring violence and harm into our communities, Reimagined Community Safety invests in communities themselves to determine what they need and to offer them support in executing those programs.

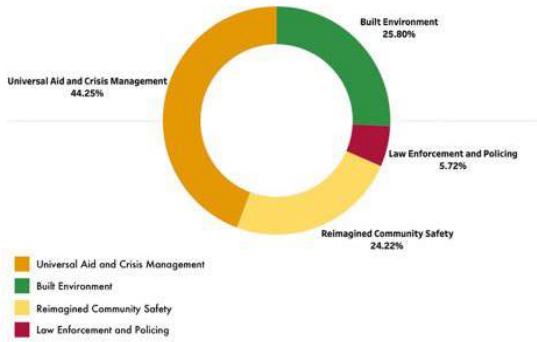
Specific initiatives that could be included in this category are family counseling, restorative justice programs, reparations to victims and their families, community-led crisis response programs, gang prevention/intervention/recovery without police involvement, and domestic violence prevention/intervention/recovery without police involvement. This category also includes building stronger connections among neighbors through investing in community-led events.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The law enforcement category included all traditional approaches, including police, City Attorney, and traffic enforcement. Across all demographics of survey respondents, this was ranked as the lowest priority for spending.

COMPARISON WITH THE MAYOR'S BUDGET

The People's Budget

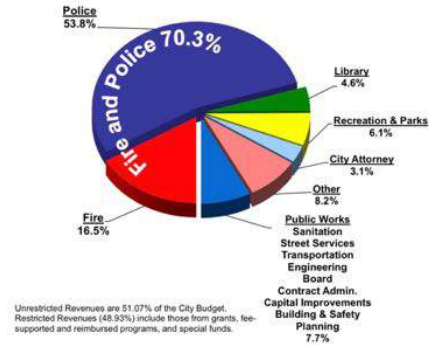


The People's Budget Allocations

Universal Aid and Crisis Management	44.25%
Built Environment	25.80%
Reimagined Community Safety	24.22%
Law Enforcement and Policing	5.72%

The Mayor's Budget

2020-21 PROPOSED BUDGET
UNRESTRICTED REVENUES (\$5.4 Billion)



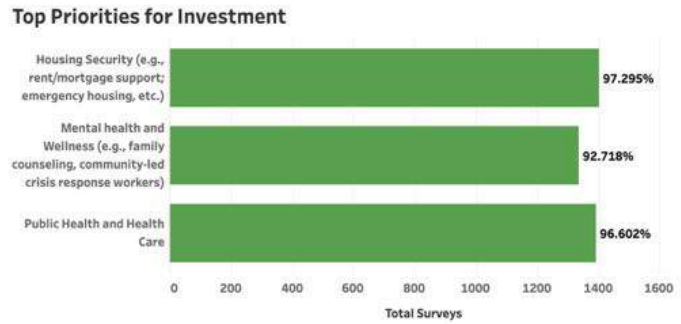
The Mayor's Budget Allocations

Police	53.8%
Fire	16.5%
Other	8.2%
Public Works	7.7%
Recreation & Parks	6.1%
Library	4.6%
City Attorney	3.1%

TOP PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT

Top areas where People’s Budget survey respondents wanted to see **investment** are:

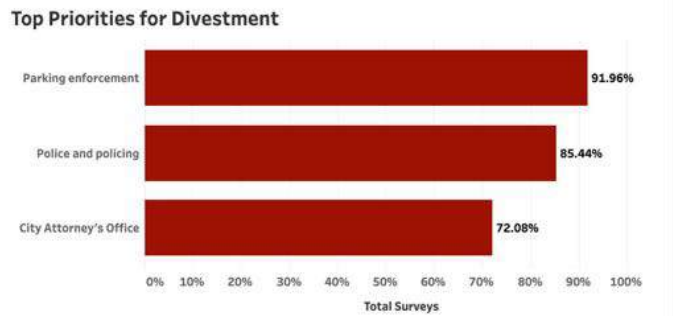
- **Housing Security**
Ensuring people have housing and can stay in housing
- **Mental Health and Wellness**
Supporting mental health needs with counseling and community-led crisis response
- **Public Health and Healthcare**
Offering public healthcare and ensuring everyone can stay healthy



TOP PRIORITIES FOR DIVESTMENT

Top areas where People’s Budget survey respondents wanted to see **divestment** are:

- **Parking Enforcement**
- **Police and Policing**
- **City Attorney’s Office**



PROCESS AND METHODOLOGY

A survey was sent out by dozens of community organizations, with city-wide presence and representing neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles. The survey was also posted on more than 100 social media accounts and People’s Budget LA’s website. Responses were only accepted from residents of the City of Los Angeles who could identify their area of residence on an interactive map. Beyond the solicitation of survey responses, the coalition held a two-hour, online participatory budgeting session on Sunday, May 24, 2020 to share information about the city budgeting process and to gather public input. More than 10,000 people have viewed the session so far.

**1470 Angelenos responded to the survey and we are continuing to collect results
3300 participants engaged in the participatory budgeting session in real time and an additional 10,000 viewers watched the session after-the-fact.**

Survey responses included constituents from all 15 council districts. The survey data is available for exploration in a Tableau dashboard (linked at PeoplesBudgetLA.com)

ADOPT A PEOPLE’S BUDGET

We believe that the government should be responsive to the needs, priorities, and demands of the people. There is clearly a wide chasm between the budget proposed by the Mayor (and directly or indirectly endorsed by the City Council) and the one envisioned by Los Angeles residents. The City Charter enables Council to pass or revise the Mayor’s budget proposal or submit a new budget for implementation. In a democracy, the Council should listen to the will of the people and pass a People’s Budget that centers the priorities that Angelenos have listed as central to them by June 1, 2020.

ABOUT THE PEOPLE’S BUDGET LA COALITION

The People’s Budget LA is a coalition convened by Black Lives Matter-Los Angeles. The coalition includes community organizations, faith leaders, parents, teachers, students, nonprofit leaders, and individuals from across Los Angeles.

Organizations who have signed onto the People’s Budget LA initiative include:

Africa Town Coalition
Black Lives Matter-Los Angeles
Community Coalition
Crenshaw Subway Coalition
Dignity and Power NOW
Ground Game LA

The Justice Collaborative
Ktown for All
LA Defensa
LA Voice
Labor/Community Strategy Center
Los Angeles Community Action Network

People’s City Council
Stop LAPD Spying
Street Watch LA/DSA
Students Deserve
Sunrise Movement LA
White People 4 Black Lives

Communication from Public

Name: Keri Picolla

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 08:48 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Budgets are moral documents. They show what our priorities and commitments are as a city, as a state, as a nation and as a society. And the mayor's budget as it stands shows exactly where LA's priorities lie... by continuing to militarize our police department and placing Angeleno's lives and livelihoods at the mercy of this corruption. I encourage you to consider the People's Budget LA for the 2020-2021 fiscal year and revise the current budget accordingly. Over the past two weeks, our city has shown its overwhelming support for defunding the LAPD. It has made clear — through both physical and digital actions— that LA must not use its money to fund the murderous LAPD. The city should prioritize universal needs (such as housing, childcare, healthy food, clear air and water), pandemic recovery, built environment, and reimagined public safety over the police department. You need to engage directly with communities, especially Black and Indigenous communities — the most at risk of police brutality and murder — to create a budget that serves ALL Angelenos. It is your moral duty, as our representatives to not only consider this but to take action and support the People's Budget. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica Miller

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 08:53 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The proposed cuts to the LAPD budget need to be SLASHED even more. You know like how cops are slashing tires at protests?? Like that. Invest in our communities, and not by gentrifying them, but by supporting smaller business owners and home owners and helping residents buy homes. That's where our money should be going. I am absolutely disgusted with how much money LAPD is allocated. We need officers to actually serve and protect us, not kill us. LAPD can be the example, and influence the country. Instead they're getting defensive because they're being called out. DEFUND THE POLICE. DEFUND THE POLICE. DEFUND THE POLICE.

Communication from Public

Name: Daniel Monick

Date Submitted: 06/10/2020 12:38 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a twenty year citizen of Los Angeles and a constituent of Mitch O'Farrel, I 100 percent support defunding the police department. Instead of saying "Oh they need the money because now they are so much more than police, they are social workers, and mental health experts..." etc etc, use the money to fund actual social workers and mental health experts, and education and resources for the black community and other communities of color. The amount of money given to the police department is failing this city. The police are militarized and terrorize the black community. Sincerely Dan Monick

Communication from Public

Name: Daina Rama
Date Submitted: 06/09/2020 12:27 PM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: DEFUND THE LAPD. The LAPD Police have been stretched far too thin for far too long and the residents of LA have suffered because of it.

Communication from Public

Name: Katrina
Date Submitted: 06/09/2020 01:18 PM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: It is too little to late. DEFUND THE POLICE

Communication from Public

Name: Caitlin Randolph

Date Submitted: 06/08/2020 12:00 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Care - not cops. Re-allocate city funding for police to other social services. There is NEVER a need for a police officer to show up when somebody reports somebody who is homeless. Cops DO NOT help lower income communities struggling with drugs and addictions. There is a better way. You can make that happen.

Communication from Public

Name: GAIL DEMARIO
Date Submitted: 06/08/2020 12:58 PM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: WE LIVE IN CANOGA PARK (W. SAN FERNANDO VALLEY) WHERE THE RESPONSE TIME FOR POLICE IS DISMAL. WE ARE ALREADY TREATED LIKE ORPHANS OF THE CITY OF L.A. & IT CERTAINLY WON'T HELP MATTERS TO CUT THE POLICE BUDGET. NOR, BY THE WAY, WILL IT HELP TO REMOVE PROTECTIONS AGAINST LAWSUITS AGAINST OFFICERS. THE WEST VALLEY IS AN UPPER MIDDLE CLASS TO UPPER CLASS AREA (ALONG WITH POCKETS OF LOW-INCOMES). WE PAY ENORMOUS TAXES FOR POLICE SERVICE. WE ARE AND HAVE BEEN UNDERSERVED. TWO MEN KICKED DOWN THE DOOR OF MY HOME, CAME IN & SHOVED A SHOTGUN INTO THE MOUTH OF A FRIEND WHILE MY 15 YR OLD DAUGHTER HID UNDER HER BED. AFTER 15 MINS., THEY REALIZED THEY HAD THE WRONG HOUSE & LEFT. MY NEIGHBOR CALLED POLICE, MY DAUGHTER CALLED POLICE & MY FRIEND CALLED POLICE. THEY ARRIVED AFTER 25 MINS. IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD WE'VE BEEN PLAGUED BY GROUPS OF BLACK MEN & WOMEN WHO RENT CARS, DRIVE THE NEIGHBORHOOD, KNOCK ON DOORS UNTIL THEY FIND AN EMPTY HOME, THEN ROB IT. WE'VE HAD OUR MAILBOXES VANDALIZED, BROKEN, KNOCKED DOWN ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS. I HAVE RELATIVES WHO HAD BUSINESSES IN WATTS THAT WERE BURNED DOWN DURING THE WATTS RIOTS. OTHER RELATIVES LOST THEIR BUSINESSES DURING THE RODNEY KING RIOTS. THEY HAD TO BE SELF-INSURED AND CARRY THEIR OWN CREDIT DUE TO THE HIGH RISK OF DOING BUSINESS IN THOSE NEIGHBORHOODS. THERE WEREN'T ENOUGH POLICE THEN. THE NATIONAL GUARD CAME IN TO QUELL THE RIOTS. DID MY RELATIVES GET ANY COMPENSATION FOR THEIR LOSSES? NO. IS THERE ANY COMPENSATION FOR THE PEOPLE WHO'VE LOST THEIR BUSINESSES DURING THESE RIOTS? NO. YOU'RE GOING TO CUT THE POLICE BUDGET AND KEEP THE GUARD FROM HELPING. APPEASEMENT DOESN'T WORK. IT DIDN'T WORK FOR ENGLAND IN WWII, IT'S NEVER WORKED IN L A, AND

IT'S NOT GOING TO WORK NOW. PROMISING RIOTERS THAT YOU'LL CUT THE POLICE BUDGET, OR IN SOME CASES, DO AWAY WITH POLICE MIGHT JUST BE THE STUPIDEST, MOST INSIPID, WEAK RESPONSE I'VE EVER HEARD. THESE ARE NOT PEACEFUL PROTESTERS. I SAW A MAN TORTURING A PUPPY WHILE THE CROWD LOOKED ON DANCING AND JUMPING AROUND GLEEFULLY. THE RIOTERS, LOOTERS AND TORTURERS NEED TO BE PUNISHED. CAUGHT AND PUNISHED. THAT TAKES LOTS OF POLICE. IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU AND ALL OF L A CITY GOVT START THINKING ABOUT THE MAJORITY OF ANGELENOS RATHER THAN CONSTANTLY FOCUSING ON AND GIVING IN TO THE MINORITY. IT'S TIME OUR NEEDS WERE MET. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THIS, MY EMAIL IS LISTED. LET ME KNOW AND I'LL ARRANGE TO MEET WITH THE MAYOR AND THE ENTIRE BUDGET COMMITTEE.