

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 06:23 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The currently proposed \$100-150 million reduction to the LAPD is insufficient to demonstrate a commitment to Los Angeles residents, especially with \$250 million promised for reinvestment that would require cuts to other departments. Instead, the People's Budget LA is much better aligned with uplifting and maintaining community health, tenets that are not only important to public health professionals, but to all people who care about serving our LA community.

Communication from Public

Name: Elissa Arana-Straker
Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 06:25 PM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I live in District 13. Please consider the People's Budget LA for the 2020-2021 fiscal year and revise the current budget accordingly. Cutting it by \$150M is not nearly enough, seeing that the LAPD budget this year is \$3.1 We want the city to 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. Los Angeles has made it clear — through both physical and digital actions— that LA must not use its money to fund the murderous LAPD. Unlike the Mayor's budget, which — even with cuts and proposed reapportionments — gives more than half of unrestricted funds to the LAPD, the Peoples Budget LA gives only 5.7% to the police. Throughout this time of mass protest, the police have reacted with extreme violence and unwarranted escalation towards peaceful protestors and our unhoused neighbors. LAPD Commander Cory Palka flashed a White Power signal on television. Chief Moore blamed the police murder of George Floyd on LA protestors. Many police officers have hurt, abused, and maimed THE COMMUNITIES THEY WERE HIRED TO *SERVE* AND *PROTECT*. This is unacceptable.
Elissa Arana-Straker

Communication from Public

Name: Alexander Powell
Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 06:16 PM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am a Los Angeles resident living in District 11 under Councilmember Mike Bonin. I am writing to urge you to adopt the People's Budget LA's recommendations for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. The currently proposed \$100-150 million reduction to the LAPD is NOT a strong enough commitment to Los Angeles residents, especially with \$250 million promised for reinvestment that would require cuts to other departments. Instead, the People's Budget LA is much better aligned with uplifting and maintaining community health, tenets that are not only important to public health professionals, but to all people who care about serving our LA community. 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%). Unlike the Mayor's budget, which — even with cuts and proposed reapportionments — gives more than half of unrestricted funds to the LAPD, the People's Budget LA allocates a tenth of the proposed amount to the police. In creating the People's Budget LA, 1,470 Angelenos were surveyed and 3,300 participants engaged in a participatory budgeting process in real time on May 24, 2020 (via Zoom and Facebook Live). In reflecting the real concerns of Angelenos, their survey determined that the top priorities for investment include housing, mental health and wellness, and public health and healthcare; and the top priorities for divestment include parking enforcement, police and policing, and the City Attorney's Office. Our demands for re-apportioning the budget are not without evidential support. LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn recently tweeted that the 5,000 released inmates from LA jails had no impact on crime rates. We ask you to question and reconsider the role of police and policing in our city, and how funds can and should be allocated towards community services that better serve our community's needs. Angelenos have made a clear referendum: the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget should reflect the best interests of its residents by prioritizing universal needs (such as housing, childcare, healthy food, clean air and water), pandemic recovery, built environment, and reimagined public safety over traditional forms of policing. 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. 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. Throughout this time of mass protest, the police have reacted with extreme violence and unwarranted escalation against peaceful protestors and our unhoused neighbors. LAPD Commander Cory Palka flashed a White Power signal on television. Chief Moore unjustly pinned the police murder of George Floyd on LA protestors. Many police officers have hurt, abused, and maimed unarmed peaceful protestors. These incidents are unacceptable and LAPD must be defunded, now. I urge you to support the People's Budget LA. Thank you for your time, Alexander Powell

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 06:17 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to urge you to adopt the People's Budget LA's recommendations for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. The currently proposed \$100-150 million reduction to the LAPD is insufficient to demonstrate a commitment to Los Angeles residents, especially with \$250 million promised for reinvestment that would require cuts to other departments. Instead, the People's Budget LA, created through the work of Black community organizers, is much better aligned with uplifting and maintaining community health, tenets that are not only important to public health professionals, but to all people who care about serving our LA community. Angelenos have made a clear referendum: the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget should reflect the best interests of its residents by prioritizing universal needs (such as housing, childcare, healthy food, clean air and water), pandemic recovery, built environment, and reimagined public safety over traditional forms of policing. 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 and affirms the lives of ALL Angelenos.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 06:21 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Subject line: Rethinking the Budget to Defund the Police and Reinvest in Public Health Dear Mayor Eric Garcetti and Council Member Herb Wesson, I am a Los Angeles resident and UCLA Fielding School of Public Health graduate student, living in District 10. I am writing to urge you to adopt the People's Budget LA's recommendations for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. The currently proposed \$100-150 million reduction to the LAPD is insufficient to demonstrate a commitment to Los Angeles residents, especially with \$250 million promised for reinvestment that would require cuts to other departments. Instead, the People's Budget LA is much better aligned with uplifting and maintaining community health, tenets that are not only important to public health professionals, but to all people who care about serving our LA community. 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%). Unlike the Mayor's budget, which — even with cuts and proposed reapportionments — gives more than half of unrestricted funds to the LAPD, the People's Budget LA allocates a tenth of the proposed amount to the police. In creating the People's Budget LA, 1,470 Angelenos were surveyed and 3,300 participants engaged in a participatory budgeting process in real time on May 24, 2020 (via Zoom and Facebook Live). In reflecting the real concerns of Angelenos, their survey determined that the top priorities for investment include housing, mental health and wellness, and public health and healthcare; and the top priorities for divestment include parking enforcement, police and policing, and the City Attorney's Office. Our demands for re-apportioning the budget are not without evidential support. LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn recently tweeted that the 5,000 released inmates from LA jails had no impact on crime rates. We ask you to question and reconsider the role of police and policing in our city, and how funds can and should be allocated towards community services that better serve our community's needs. Angelenos have made a clear referendum: the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget should reflect the best interests of its residents by prioritizing universal needs (such as housing, childcare, healthy food, clean air and water), pandemic recovery, built environment,

and reimagined public safety over traditional forms of policing. 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. 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 violent LAPD. Throughout this time of mass protest, the police have reacted with extreme violence and unwarranted escalation against peaceful protestors and our unhoused neighbors. LAPD Commander Cory Palka flashed a White Power signal on television. Chief Moore unjustly pinned the police murder of George Floyd on LA protestors. Many police officers have hurt, abused, and maimed unarmed peaceful protestors. These incidents are unacceptable and LAPD must be defunded, now. I urge you to support the People's Budget LA. Thank you for your time.

Communication from Public

Name: Samantha Smart

Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 01:26 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The proposed cuts to LAPD's budget do not go nearly far enough. The people have spoken and we don't want a community that has police as the go-to emergency responder. I would feel safer knowing I could call a social worker or mental health worker and not have someone show up with a gun. Police nationwide have shown themselves to be violent and regularly use excessive and sometime deadly force when it is completely unnecessary. We do not want reform. We want to defund the police and fund services that will ACTUALLY reduce crime. Police are not preventative. Let's stop treating them like the only option to deal with crime. Invest in housing, health and education. Listen to what the people are telling you. Defund the police.

Communication from Public

Name: Chloe Stroman

Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 01:38 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Thank you for your work on the city budget. I urge you to take up the call from Black Lives Matter and People's Budget LA for re-imagined public safety and a dramatic cut to LAPD funding. Cuts like reducing the size of the police force, demilitarization, suspending paid administrative leave for officers under investigation, withholding pensions from officers who used excessive use of force, ending qualified immunity, and capping overtime are all steps in the right direction to create public safety that works for everyone and prioritizes housing security, well-being, and public health.

Communication from Public

Name: Theodore White
Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 10:09 AM
Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, My name is Theodore White, my council member is David Ryu, as I reside in District 4. I am a taxpayer and concerned citizen. Los Angeles has a number of challenges, especially in the wake of COVID-19. We have a massive homeless population, a massive number of unemployed workers, and a bloated LAPD budget. It is unacceptable that over half (half!) of the City Budget go to the LAPD, while countless Angelinos struggle to make rent, if they even have a place to live at all. I urge you to adopt the People's Budget, and reinvest money from the LAPD into community based social programs like low-income housing, education, and mental health services. When the community thrives, we all thrive. Oh, and I don't think it acceptable for taxpayers to pay settlements in police brutality cases, that money should come from the LAPD pension fund.

Communication from Public

Name: Carolyn B.

Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 10:12 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The upcoming budget must divest funds from the LAPD and redirect them to public health, housing, community betterment initiatives, and education. The coronavirus emergency has highlighted the gaping disparities in our current public health system, and more attention and money must be directed into public health and healthcare to ensure that all Angelenos are safe and healthy. This includes mental health and wellness as well. The 14.2% increase in homelessness from 2019-2020 that is undoubtedly going to increase once eviction protections are lifted, and demonstrates how the budget for housing needs to be prioritized. The current budget for LAPD would only further the inhumane criminalization of homelessness, and has time and time again failed to solve the problem. Therefore, police funds should be used instead for housing and services to actually get people off the streets, and not into jail cells. Frankly, \$430 million is not enough for homelessness. Furthermore, community safety and betterment initiatives should receive more funding in order to refocus efforts to a community level and reduce the violence brought to neighborhoods by police. Examples of these initiatives include restorative justice programs, youth programs, and measures to prevent/intervene in domestic and gang violence cases. Finally, education is essential for the advancement and betterment of any society, and we need to stop defunding our schools and educators. It's shameful that LAPD has a seemingly limitless budget for riot gear, and our teachers need to buy their own supplies for the classroom. Funds from LAPD could be used to place nurses and counselors in schools, and provide books and supplies for students. In conclusion, the \$3 billion budget for LAPD does NOT make our city safer, and we need to divest funds from the police into public health, housing, community initiatives, and education.

Communication from Public

Name: Rose Chirillo

Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 07:55 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a citizen of Los Angeles, I have seen the many issues facing this city and learned that pretty much all of those issues are primarily rooted in a lack of funding — for education, mental health, and our unhoused community (just to name a few). It is completely unacceptable to me that we would be spending close to \$3 billion on the LAPD — an organization that has historically only targeted the victims of these very issues with an astonishing lack of accountability and human decency. Placating us with \$150 million less than the original proposed budget is NOT going to cut it. I am asking you, as a citizen of this city and as a person who wants justice for my neighbors and those less fortunate than myself, PLEASE ADOPT A PEOPLE’S BUDGET. PLEASE DEFUND THE LAPD. I’m no policy expert but how about we focus on fixing the underlying capitalist-turbo-charged humanitarian issues causing crime in our communities and see where that goes before we start funneling billions of dollars into police? I’m not alone and you know it. We will keep showing up. We will hold you responsible.

Communication from Public

Name: Chris Moy

Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 09:34 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm commenting in support of Black Lives Matter and The People's Budget. Their budget reflects what I want for my city. I'm a member of District 4 and I ask that you adopt the People's Budget. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Kimberly Anne Free

Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 09:49 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Los Angeles City Council, I am writing to express my complete support of the People's Budget, and urge you to adopt the People's Budget into law. The people of Los Angeles have spoken: we are ready to lead by example and re-imagine public safety in our city. Please divest from the LAPD, and use these funds to invest in education, housing, healthcare, and community enrichment programs. The fundamental issue is this: when people's needs are met, our communities become healthier, and we are all safer. Our system of policing is not serving the greater good of humanity, and if the words 'Equal Justice Under the Law' ring true to you, you must take action by defunding the LAPD and adopting the People's Budget. Cutting the LAPD budget by \$150-250 million is a good start, but it ends up being more of a gesture because that is a very small portion of the massive LAPD budget. Los Angelenos want BIG change that makes true systemic advancement towards racial justice a reality. This is why we support the People's Budget, and urge you to listen to the people by also supporting the People's Budget. Thank you, Kim Free

Communication from Public

Name: Eva Dubovoy

Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 10:35 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am so incredibly disgusted with how my tax dollars have been spent. You need to listen to what the residents of Los Angeles are asking for and adopt a People's Budget and DEFUND THE POLICE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah

Date Submitted: 06/14/2020 02:50 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, For a long time people have been advocating to abolish the police force. For those of us who didn't see why before, we see why now. The police are a fundamentally racist institution. They use unnecessary force too often. They do not serve or protect the public. They incited violence during peaceful protests and tortured many protestors. They kill Black men & women and are not held accountable. The LAPD is not exempt from these accusations. It is absurd and irresponsible to give them 54% of the budget. They should be defunded and dismantled immediately and replaced with unarmed responders who can help in dangerous situations rather than escalate them and criminalize those involved. Remember, the people of Los Angeles are human beings. Every single human being in Los Angeles deserves to be treated with respect, kindness and care and the best way to do that is to redistribute resources to disadvantaged communities who need them the most. We need to build up our schools, our public transportation, and our parks and recreational areas. We need to provide housing for the many many people in Los Angeles without homes. The people need a People's Budget. We do not need a police budget. Do the right thing. Defund the police. Promise us that you will dismantle the police and replace it with something better. Camden, NJ did it. Minneapolis is doing it. Los Angeles needs to do it too. Reimagine the city. Take care of your citizens. Thank you.