$133 Million is Nowhere Near Enough

1 message

From: Sarah Bowers <sarah.a.bowers@gmail.com>
To: Clerk.BudgetandFinanceCommittee@lacity.org, paul.Krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.price@lacity.org, paul.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.bonin@lacity.org
At: Tue, Jun 23, 2020 at 3:43 PM

Dear LA Budget and Finance Committee:

If you are truly representatives of the people of Los Angeles, why are you voting to cut the LAPD budget by only $133 million? We the people have made it clear that Mayor Garcetti’s proposed cut of $150 million is nowhere near enough - why would $133 million be?

We don’t need police reform. We need to dramatically alter paradigms behind public safety, and that means defunding the police more than a fraction of its overall budget. A $133 million cut is an insult to the community members that have given you this job, and we’ll now vote to take that job away from you.

Sincerely,
Sarah Bowers
Hi all,

Your work on the budget isn't done! Continue reappropriating the LAPD's funds! What you’ve approved is a good first step, but it is not nearly enough. This isn’t the end of the conversation. Their budget is still bloated with things they don’t need like helicopters and military grade gear. We need that money in other places.

Also— to those who voted against the measure to cut the LAPD funding, who also support “team policing” or “community policing," WE DO NOT WANT THAT. That kind of policing leads to a further integration of policing into our communities and does not do anything to help incarceration rates. What BLM and the People’s Budget are fighting for is an end to systemic and institutional racism, which includes mass incarceration and the unnecessary and rampant locking up of BIPOC on petty and nonviolent charges. Community policing leads to MORE arrests of those types and is just another tool of white supremacy. It’s a side-step and a distraction and we will not forget our goal.

Sincerely,
Gabrielle Carroll
District 4