

Communication from Public

Name: Ian Schiffer

Date Submitted: 03/07/2022 04:54 PM

Council File No: 21-1476

Comments for Public Posting: PATHE casts certain communities and social movements under suspicion of “extremism”. A PATHE questionnaire obtained through a records request asks “Do you have a religious community affiliation?” and “Do you have a political or other community affiliation?” and “Do you have animosity towards any religious, community or political group?”. PATHE and CVE frameworks more broadly are a threat to political organizing and can be weaponized against movements for justice. This effort to expand PATHE coincides with the Biden administration’s recently released Domestic Terrorism Strategy, which criminalizes political activity, criticism of US policies, criticism of law enforcement, religious affiliations as indicators of “Domestic Violent Extremism.” The intent of the expansion of policing paradigms like Countering Violent Extremism is to neutralize political activity and repress movements, as well as any attempts to self-sustain communities and build autonomy. City Council must reject this money from the Department of Homeland Security that will be used to target dissent.

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Comments for Public Posting: I'm deeply concerned about the proposed Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention Grant for LAPD. I urge you all to reject the TVTP Grant on the City Council Agenda and refuse the money from the Department of Homeland Security. The LAPD is seeking to use this money to fund the expansion of its PATHE program, which will create a 500-person team of teachers, counselors, clergy, and law enforcement to surveil and target youth and other community members. Though the LAPD claims that PATHE is a program meant to prevent school shootings or "domestic terrorism", it does nothing to address white supremacy. It instead reinforces and continues the white supremacist targeting of Black, Muslim, Indigenous, and Immigrant youth. I urge you to vote against this grant.