

Communication from Public

Name: Vanessa Bailey
Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 08:11 AM
Council File No: 20-0769
Comments for Public Posting: I'm Vanessa Bailey, a South Central Resident CD 10 and business owner CD 8. Thank you for the motion to divert calls and service provision away from the LAPD. This is an important step. Now we need to reimagine public safety. I encourage the LA city Council to work closely with BLACK LIVES MATTER LA The People's Budget LA to truly put the people first. Invest in Housing for the houseless, good jobs, Mental healthcare, healthy food and educational enrichment. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: James Mckinnie
Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 08:13 AM
Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: We need experts in fields like mental health, youth care, and housing be the ones we dispatch for non-violent crises. It is absolutely urgent that before the budget goes into effect on July 1 that the community's needs are heard, understood, and addressed. As it is, too many mental health calls result in tragedy, too many calls related to unhoused people result in their harassment at a minimum, and so on. In these situations, someone with years of expertise and training should be on the front line, not the police. Like many of my fellow citizens have been saying, we need care not cops.

Communication from Public

Name: Andy Carazo

Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 08:13 AM

Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: Speaking to Motion 1 - (Wesson - Martinez - Harris-Dawson - Price - Blumenfield - O'Farrell) - I would ask this motion be passed and we the people see alternatives to policing and robust community engagement in developing such alternatives.

Communication from Public

Name: Alexandra Tangalos
Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 08:33 AM
Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident of District 10 and I am in full support of this motion. Nonviolent (as distinct from noncriminal) calls for service do not and should not require a police response. Our homelessness crisis is desperately urgent and needs immediate funding. We also need to be providing rent relief to the thousands of unemployed Angelenos slated to become homeless when the eviction moratorium expires. This is where we should be spending our money, not on a corrupt and violent police force.

Communication from Public

Name: Brendan O'Brien

Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 08:36 AM

Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: I'm writing in support of item No. 1 from today's Ad Hoc on Police Reform meeting. I believe that it is the interest of the residents of LA to minimize the role of LAPD in the city at-large by diverting non-violent calls towards professionals that are best qualified to handle them. However, I believe that in order for this action to be effective, this lessening of responsibility should be coupled with defunding the police. Additionally, I believe that the Police should play as small a role as possible in reimagining community safety. The responsibility of reimagining community safety should fall on organizations who have already started the work, such as BLM - LA. Ultimately, if the city council believes in what it is proposing, then the end goals need to be to adopt The People's Budget and abolish the LAPD.

Communication from Public

Name: Lauren E Cucarola
Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 08:59 AM
Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: I support the Wesson - Martinez - Harris-Dawson - Price - Blumenfield - O'Farrell Motion 1, but it must go further towards dismantling our corrupt police system in favor of community-based crisis responses and redirecting funds towards programs that improve the quality of life for all Angelenos. The money for this amendment needs to come from the police budget, and we need to pay fewer police officers and use their salaries to pay social workers and community care workers better wages. I urge the committee to questions what violent crime means, and also to seriously consider decriminalizing drug and property crimes, because these are crimes of survival not malice. The council needs to work with BLMLA, LACAN, LATU, Streetwatch and other on the ground orgs in developing these community responses. Police don't make communities safe resources do. Be more afraid of the people than the police unions, be bold and make history, defund the police, fund communities, pass the peoples budget.

Communication from Public

Name: Samantha Smart
Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 08:59 AM
Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Samantha Smart and I strongly support an alternative emergency response option for distress calls. I urge you to create this option in a way that removes the authority from police to decide what is violent and what is non-violent. I realize this is a tricky matter, but I believe community distrust of police is so high, and I myself do not trust police to decide what is non-violent. I believe they will classify things as violent to make themselves more relevant. Also, many tragic instances we've seen are when non-violent calls are mistaken for violent, for example a racist person calling 911 because they mistakenly believe a young black person has a gun when in fact they are just walking with their hands in their pockets. I also demand that the funds for this non-emergency response program come from the LAPD budget. If we are routing calls away from them and lightening their load it only makes sense that they will need fewer officers and funds. I am very happy to see this step in the right direction and I will be closely watching it's development. I hope you do the right thing and truly create a safer option for all then dialing 911, which often ends in tragedy.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 08:50 AM

Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident of CD13 and strongly support the development of an unarmed model of crisis response. When I was a kid, my best friend's dad was having a bad mental health episode and the police were called. Instead of providing him care or support, the police shot and killed him in front of his family on his own doorstep. This happened because there was nobody else to call except for the police - I want to live in a city where there is someone else to call. As a first step, LA must work with community organizations, mental health professionals, and existing city employees like social workers, to develop a mental health crisis intervention program. These alternatives to police should be well-resourced with well-paid and well-trained employees.

Communication from Public

Name: Carly
Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 01:15 AM
Council File No: 20-0769
Comments for Public Posting: Please vote to approve the motion on item 1. Create an unarmed crisis response team. We want to see more alternatives to armed police and investment in community and divestment from police.
Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: Abigail Coleman
Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 08:02 AM
Council File No: 20-0769
Comments for Public Posting: Definitely do this! We need somewhere to call to help our unhoused neighbors in crisis. We don't want them arrested.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 07:33 AM

Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: AGAINST the motion! LAHSA can't even do the job they have now. 70% of project room key is empty because they can't do outreach. They will fail at this too! This motion is ridiculous for those who really know what's going on. It's not feasible! Basically, this is just a way to give LAHSA more money to do nothing.

Communication from Public

Name: Rebecca Rice

Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 09:30 AM

Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: I am a constituent in District 5. It is very important that we seek alternatives to policing. Funds that have gone to traditionally armed police must be used to fund these alternatives. Public safety needs to reflect the needs of the community, including mental health, healthcare, housing, youth programs, education, and mediation. Our current model is not working to protect everyone, especially women and BIPOC communities. Reform is a failure; reimagine what community safety can be.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 09:19 AM

Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: I support this motion, but I want to urge the Council to make sure these calls still get through via 911. That is the number we all know & that is the number people will still call in an emergency.

Communication from Public

Name: Shanna Oskin

Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 09:20 AM

Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: Pass the motion to to develop an unarmed model of crisis response. The LAPD is not fit to respond to non-violent calls, since they only seem to know how to respond WITH violence. Frankly, I don't think they should even be part of the work to develop the model given that they have demonstrated a complete inability to provide care to the community.

Communication from Public

Name: Claire L Phillips
Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 09:21 AM
Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: I am tired of hearing every week of police killings of my students in the streets of Los Angeles and elsewhere. What has been done to prosecute those police officers everywhere who battered and bludgeoned hard working people during a pandemic? Why should tax payers fund the law suits when police are sued for blinding peaceful protestors? How dare you use tear gas on our communities? How dare you lie about it? How dare Chief Moore accuse Los Angelenos of killing George Floyd? Not one of you understand how impossible the housing situation is? How impossible access to health care is? People are starving everywhere, and cops get \$200,000 a year with overtime to kill, maim, and terrorize BIPOC and frankly all those who are not rich and white. This ends now. Your exploitation of kind working people ends now. We do not accept a corrupt, militarized police. Pass the PeoplesBudget of Los Angeles. This protest is not ending anytime soon. We are in the majority. You represent a minority.

Communication from Public

Name: Terra Ase

Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 11:21 AM

Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: Hello I am writing to express that we need to defund the police, we need to divest and reinvest in our communities to reimagine public safety. I demand that you pass the Wesson/Martinez/Harris-Dawson motion.

Communication from Public

Name: Kris Chau
Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 11:15 AM
Council File No: 20-0769
Comments for Public Posting: Please Adopt the PEOPLES BUDGET Please have Trained Social Workers, Unarmed Mediators and Medical Professionals answer calls regarding Homelessness, Drugs, Domestic Violence, Neighborhood Discourse, any and all Non-Violent emergencies. DEFUND the POLICE who target Black and Brown Folks who are victims of systemic racism and deserve the care and response of Medical Workers, Mediators, and Social Workers.

Communication from Public

Name: Mellie Nolen

Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 12:30 PM

Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: I appreciate the increased support for diverting LAPD away from non-violent emergencies - addiction crises, mental health crises, etc. However, this simply isn't enough. We need to defund the LAPD in full, and we need to fully invest in a people's budget. We need to reimagine public safety. Furthermore, we do not need to offer funding to "improve police relations with the youth"; this effort is propaganda and once again prevents funding from its deserved recipients, the community. Also, Koretz is a disgusting neoliberal white supremacist who continues to peddle the false claim that the constituents from his district do not support the defunding of police. As the people's budget survey results overwhelmingly demonstrates, this is patently false. He is a liar and an embarrassment to the council.

Communication from Public

Name: Joseph Octaviani

Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 09:50 AM

Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: The late MLK once said “Budgets are moral documents”. The morals of this council, and of the city of LA have been exposed. It doesn’t reside on the side of the people but on corporations and a militant police force. It’s sad that WE THE PEOPLE fund this yet have little control over it. Not for long. More people are waking up and realizing this. You guys don’t have long until your immoral actions catch up with you. Defund the police. Adopt the people’s budget. The time for change is now.

Communication from Public

Name: Stephanie Hirsch

Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 09:59 AM

Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: Stef Hirsch, resident of CD5, writing in support of the item (20-0769 on today's Ad Hoc Police Reform Committee on 06/24/2020) and measures to reimagine community safety and reassign nonviolent service calls to trained professionals and experts and away from armed police and in that spirit the Council should also embrace and adopt the Peoples' Budget. It was nice of you to meet so early this morning because the members of this body clearly think it is such an urgent issue despite not coalescing this Ad Hoc Police Reform Committee anytime before in the last 14 months. I want to applaud the chair for their comments about needing "meet the moment" but I do not understand the air of levity in the room this morning given that people continue to die and be killed by these so-called officers of the law. My heart broke when I saw the first photos of Andres Guardado because that was clearly the face of a child despite his short 18 years on earth before LASD took away his life. We mourn the more than 600 of names lost who have become (and are so much more than) hashtags that have not received justice and been ignored by this body up until this moment. I'm curious what imaginary world this council lives in? Because thousands Angelenos are pouring into the street (our streets) defying authoritarian curfew during a global pandemic in Defense of Black Lives. Meanwhile while exercising our First Amendment rights protestors were subject to unwarranted force, illegal mass arrests, all incidents captured by witnesses and shared publicly. But instead of doing what is necessary and right motions are being entertained and circulated like the one yesterday to "honor" the dead with a pretty light show at city hall in this purely performative and self congratulatory manner. The reform proposals (banning choke holds, increasing body cameras) are of the same nature and do not answer the demands of the people. Can you really not hear us; we need you to Defund the Police. My councilperson Koretz is especially guilty of this gross performance of allyship with his recent votes to oppose redirecting a mere millions out of the billions of dollars the Mayor had allocated to LAPD. In a recent twitter post you said "the voice of the people had been heard" and you bragged about putting forward a strong motion condemning the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis Police Department. You described the officers who stood by while Derek Chauvin crushed the life

out of a man in broad daylight unflinchingly and called for charges to be brought against them for that "worst kind of complicity". But you have the audacity to balk at these righteous calls to "defund" these racist and historically violent police institution and in your newsletter you applaud the LAPD's alleged commitment to being "at the forefront of adopting measures [for transparency]". I have called and written before to ask you the question Melina Abdulla asked of this body when presenting the Peoples' Budget "Whose Are You" but it is obvious to whom Mr. Koretz belongs to. Stephanie Hirsch (They / Them)

Communication from Public

Name: Kristina Canizares
Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 09:16 PM
Council File No: 20-0769

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to strongly endorse this effort by the Ad Hoc committee to redefine the way that we fund and provide crisis response in Los Angeles. We have criminalized too many behaviors that are not actually criminal by having armed police officers respond. Because all disturbances are funneled through 911 the police respond to situations where their presence escalates conflict, creates fear, and results in conflict and death of people who are already vulnerable. It is almost universally accepted that crime rates go up because of wealth disparity, drug addiction, mental health crisis, and the despair of poverty. Re-allocating funds from policing to social services that seek to address these underlying causes is a human, humane, compassionate response that respects the lives and well-being of all Angelinos. We don't need all those helicopters that are always circling over my house. They aren't making anyone safer. We don't need police "cleaning up" homeless encampments. We don't need to incarcerate people who are mentally ill. These are choices that we have made, and we can un-make them and make Los Angeles an example of what it looks like to value all of its inhabitants instead of a city known for police murders and an astronomical rate of homelessness. Please, let's make different decisions.