

From: [Ashley Gregory](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [John Knox White](#); [Trish Spencer](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Malia Vella](#); [Manager Manager](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In Support of GBI
Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 3:37:26 PM

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council Members,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of the proposed GBI program, on the agenda as item 7-B. Alameda has the exciting opportunity to join a handful of cities that are implementing such programs. I have included a couple of resources below for your reference from the University of Pennsylvania Center for Guaranteed Income Research and Mayors for Guaranteed Income.

Historically, communities of color, in particular, have been systematically economically abandoned and exploited. The policies of the United States government have taken land, resources, and generational wealth from these communities for generations, including of course, the very foundations of this country.

For example, when the GI Bill benefitted my English-descended immigrant grandfather but not African American soldiers after the Second World War. Or when Japanese Americans did not get their land or homes back after being forced into internment camps. GBI programs create opportunities for people who have been hardest hit by these decades-long policies to get real relief from the worries of making ends meet.

I urge you to be a part of turning the tide of history and fund the GBI program in Alameda!

Sincerely,

Ashley Gregory

<https://www.penncgir.org/resources>

<https://www.mayorsforagi.org>

From: [Ashley Lorden](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Malia Vella](#); [John Knox White](#); [Trish Spencer](#); [Manager Manager](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Guaranteed Basic Income program
Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 1:33:54 PM

Hello,

I'm writing to applaud your consideration of item 7-B on this evening's agenda, a Guaranteed Basic Income pilot program. Providing a funding source for residents to meet basic needs is consistent with our community's values, resources, and goals. I hope you will support this program!

Ashley Lorden

From: [Transform Alameda](#)
To: [Malia Vella](#); [John Knox White](#); [Trish Spencer](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#); [Manager Manager](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter of support for Item 7-B
Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 9:58:52 AM
Attachments: [We sent you safe versions of your files.msg](#)
[TA GBI Support Letter - May 2022.pdf](#)

Mimecast Attachment Protection has deemed this file to be safe, but always exercise caution when opening files.

Hello:

Attached is a letter of support from Transform Alameda for the GBI program to be heard at tonight's meeting.

Thank you,

--



[Web](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)

TRANSFORM ALAMEDA

Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft
Vice Mayor Malia Vella
Council Member Tony Daysog
Council Member John Knox White
Council Member Trish Herrera Spencer

Re: May 17, 2020 Council Meeting - Item 7-B; Support for Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

Transform Alameda is a coalition of Alameda residents working together with our community to build a racially just future through local education, policy work, and action. We are writing to **strongly support Council action to develop a Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) Pilot Program and to appropriate \$4,600,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the program.**

Income inequality and disproportionate access to basic services is a nationwide issue, and in the high cost-of-living Bay Area, the challenges are often more acute. According to the [Family Needs Calculator](#), a family of four in Alameda County needs to make over \$120,000 just to meet basic needs. COVID-19 has exacerbated economic and racial inequality. One of the best investments the City can make is in our residents themselves. Staff's proposed GBI Pilot Program would do just that by providing lower-income Alamedans with the financial stability they need as they emerge from the economic devastation of the pandemic. A GBI Program also provides an opportunity to begin to repair the wrongs of systemic racism that has created and perpetuated inequality along racial lines in our community for decades.

Since the passage of ARPA by Congress, Transform Alameda has advocated for the City to use these once-in-a-generation funds to develop a GBI Pilot Program, and we commend staff for their thoughtful and visionary GBI proposal. **In adopting this program, the Council has the opportunity to position Alameda as a national leader in providing economic stability for all, and emerging from the pandemic as a stronger, more equitable city.**

We believe that staff's framework for the program and proposed next steps are appropriate, and we encourage the Council to move forward as suggested. In particular, we note that Community Financial Resources (CFR), an Oakland-based organization that staff recommends considering as a financial partner for the program, has indicated to us that they may have philanthropic funds available to support administrative costs for a GBI pilot in Alameda County.

In closing, Transform Alameda commends staff and Council's leadership in moving forward with this transformative program, and we stand ready to assist with implementation, from forging partnerships to publicizing program availability.

Sincerely,

Transform Alameda and the undersigned members

Amanda Cooper
Ann L. Rhodes
Brett Webb
Carly Stadum-Liang
Is Sullivan
Jackie Zipkin
Jenice Anderson
Jennifer Rakowski
Laura Cutrona
Marilyn Rothman
Megan Comfort
Michele Holmes
Sarah Jo Neubauer
Savanna Cheer

Cc: Lara Weisiger, City Clerk

From: [Jeff Lewis](#)
To: [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [City Clerk](#); [John Knox White](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on agenda item 2022-1921
Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:50:57 AM

Hello,

I am a resident of Alameda. I am glad to see that our city is considering an experiment in providing universal basic income to resident households. I strongly support this effort and urge all of city council to vote in favor of this item. I am excited by the exploration of concepts to reimagine our society and our economy. I also think that the use of an experiment to see how implementation of universal basic income would effect our local residents before larger scale efforts is a wise step. An understanding of our local program could help to inform state and federal efforts as well. I am happy to have my tax money spent on this program.

In the presentation documents, I notice that 20% of program budget is allocated to administration and 20% is allocated to research. While I understand the need to have staff to administer the program and analyze results, these allocations seem very high. One of the benefits of universal basic income as opposed to traditional public assistance programs is the relatively low administrative costs of such programs. In theory, they largely consist of just direct depositing money into people's bank accounts. While I can understand some initial costs, 20% of this budget approaches one million dollars, which seems a little steep given that, for most of this program, administration should be just servicing automated direct deposits for a little over 100 accounts. Reducing administrative costs could increase the number of people this is helping. The 20% allocation for research is also close to one million dollars which, again, seems somewhat high. While I understand the need to do quality data collection and analysis for the program, I think the allocation of more budget toward increasing the number of households would increase sample size. Increased sample size of course makes it easier to detect statistical patterns and draw solid conclusions from data analysis, potentially resulting in better research.

In short, I strongly support the experiment in universal basic income and I also suggest revisiting the budget allocations for this program.

Thank you,

Jeff Lewis

Sent from ProtonMail for iOS

From: [Matt Wheeland](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Malia Vella](#); [John Knox White](#); [Trish Spencer](#); [Manager Manager](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment on guaranteed basic income proposal
Date: Monday, May 16, 2022 5:10:46 PM

Hello:

I am writing in today to voice my strong support for the proposal currently in front of the city council to develop a Guaranteed Basic Income program for the city of Alameda.

As has been shown in cities around the country and around the world, GBI programs offer significant benefits to the community – not just the recipients – by improving financial security, GBI programs also increase food access and food security, improve mental and physical well-being, and allow people to best determine their most pressing needs.

I strongly support our joining Mayors for a Guaranteed Income, and urge the council to support this proposal to direct staff to create a proposal.

Thanks,
Matt Wheeland
1205 Post

From: [David Foote](#)
To: [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [John Knox White](#); [Malia Vella](#); [Trish Spencer](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Lara Weisiger](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 1000% opposition to Alameda Guaranteed Basic Income Program
Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 2:12:41 PM

Yesterday May 9, 2022, I saw a report of CBS Bay Area News that the city of Alameda is about to consider establishment of a guaranteed basic income program.

I oppose this proposal completely. It would be like putting a "Homeless Wanted" sign at every entrance to Alameda.

Welfare issues and the many other serious problems being confronted by homeless people now flooding California dictate first, a comprehensive and honest confrontation of the homeless problem at state level. Despite a statewide homeless problem that has been festering for years, the state is still dithering on this issue. Municipalities lack the necessary scale to effectively tackle such far-reaching challenges locally on a piecemeal basis. Homeless individuals will gravitate to cities providing the highest benefits, being bounced around in a cruel game of whack-a-mole.

As civic leaders in Alameda, you should DEMAND comprehensive action from our state government, and under no circumstances create a guaranteed income programs for anyone in Alameda.

Thank you.

David Foote
theinfoguy@aol.com
2534 Lincoln Ave
Alameda CA 94501