

## City Clerk

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**From:** Joseph Cutrona <joseph.cutrona@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:59 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: 5-A Public Comment

I do not support 5-A.

While I don't dismiss that our Black neighbors face a different reality than white residents, passing resolution 5-A feels like an un-democratic shortcut to address a real problem of systemic racism. Resolution 5-A is an egregious overreach by the City Government to circumvent the process outlined by the city charter. The *Whereas* statements making the case for a public health crisis in Alameda largely cite national or county statistics and largely fails to address the "crisis" in Alameda. How can we address what is being deemed as a public health crisis without data quantifying outcomes for the Black community in The City of Alameda?

Separately a number of the resolutions are vague and gloss over the burden this will place on the City Government and Small Business Owners. Examples:

- 3-A: How will the government be providing healthcare to all Alamedans? What is the cost associated with that declaration?
- 8: Is it practical for a non-police body to review all cases of physical contact by the police force?
- 10: How will requiring Anti-Racisim training impact small & minority owned businesses ability to do business with the city?

While I agree with a number of proposed resolutions like optimizing & reallocating a portion of the police budget to more efficient and impactful services, I do not support attempting to rush this work under a public health declaration because we can. This problem should be addressed by either an advisory committee or put on the ballot.

Regards.

## City Clerk

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**From:** Elaine Santos <E.L.Santos@LIVE.COM>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:00 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Racism a Public Health Emergency.

I am here today asking you, councilmembers, to approve the resolution Declaring Racism a Public Health Emergency.

The violence, mistreatment, and surveillance of Black people by the police in Alameda and around the nation is funded by our tax dollars, and we say no more.

This resolution clearly names racism as the problem, provides a path to repair, and begins to outline how we will shift funds from policing into health, housing, and community transformation that supports the health, safety and wellbeing of Black, Indigenous, and all People of Color, who are too often targeted by police violence, and are disproportionately harmed, abused or killed by unequal treatment and access to opportunity in education, healthcare, and housing. Shifting funding from policing to program services of healthcare, housing, and non-police responses to community needs will increase the safety and quality of life of all Alameda residents.

There are many calls for health-related, mental-health or other services where police are not needed. We need to look at Alameda Police Data and other agencies to see what our community's greatest needs are.

I ask that you take a stand against racism to set an example in Alameda. This is going to feel disruptive for many Alamedans who have lived in a white-island fantasy bubble. Alameda has a racist history and a racist image. I was raised in Alameda (I have been here for 36 years) and have come into contact with the racism of the Alameda police and people (whether unconscious or not). Alameda has grown and changed through the years and it is time to put actions behind our values.

If we believe Alameda is a safe, happy place for everyone - let's make it that way through funding programs that better support the people in need.

This does not have to happen overnight but we need to get started. I believe we should educate ourselves on the issues in Alameda, create a collective vision of what we would like it to become, and strategize the best way to reach our goals.

Thank you,  
Elaine Santos, M.A., NBC-HWC  
Encinal & Versailles

## City Clerk

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**From:** Rich Sherratt <rsherratt@ertecsystems.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:00 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Council Resolution (July 14, 2020)

Please read my email for the record during the City Council meeting tonight.

Thank you,

Richard Sherratt

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**From:** Lara Weisiger <lweisiger@alamedaca.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 9:42 AM  
**To:** Rich Sherratt <rsherratt@ertecsystems.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Council Resolution (July 14, 2020)

Hi Rich,

Your email will be provided included in the meeting record. If you want to comment live during the meeting, you can attend via Zoom. Please be sure to have the most current version of Zoom and register here: [https://alamedaca.gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_OFuphYnIT4ytwGLnyBy0ZQ](https://alamedaca.gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OFuphYnIT4ytwGLnyBy0ZQ)

If you want a comment read during the meeting, please email ([clerk@alamedaca.gov](mailto:clerk@alamedaca.gov)), text (510-747-4802) or leave a voicemail (510-747-4802) after 6:00 p.m. tomorrow.

Respectfully,

Lara

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**From:** Rich Sherratt [<mailto:rsherratt@ertecsystems.com>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 1:29 PM  
**To:** Jim Oddie <[JOddie@alamedaca.gov](mailto:JOddie@alamedaca.gov)>; Tony Daysog <[TDaysog@alamedaca.gov](mailto:TDaysog@alamedaca.gov)>; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft <[MEzzyAshcraft@alamedaca.gov](mailto:MEzzyAshcraft@alamedaca.gov)>; Malia Vella <[MVella@alamedaca.gov](mailto:MVella@alamedaca.gov)>; John Knox White <[JKnoxWhite@alamedaca.gov](mailto:JKnoxWhite@alamedaca.gov)>  
**Cc:** City Clerk <[CLERK@alamedaca.gov](mailto:CLERK@alamedaca.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Council Resolution (July 14, 2020)

Dear Madame Mayor and Members of the Alameda City Council,

I am appalled at the ill-conceived resolution on your agenda for July 14, 2020. It is a knee-jerk, politically-motivated resolution which insults Alameda residents and crucifies a dedicated government workforce in our City—for no apparent reason.

If you, the City Council members, feel you do not already adhere to the principles of racial and economic justice, then this resolution might ease your collective conscience. However, many people in our City, who already volunteer at religious and/or community-based non-profits and organizations, are greatly offended by your insinuation that residents of our City are not working toward racial and economic equality.

Alameda is fortunate to have dedicated law enforcement. You have no idea of the overall impact of your unfounded proposal to cut 42% of the APD, which is currently understaffed. Your “pie-in-the-sky” idea of cutting the traffic division and replacing it with non-sworn personnel is ridiculous. In your one-sided resolution you announce to the world, “no more traffic stops for speeding, running stop signs and DUIs.” Are you prepared for the chaos that will take place?

Since it appears you may have short memories, several months ago this Council asked the Police Department to increase monitoring of traffic violations around our schools and high traffic areas. Now you want to defund the APD, eliminate the traffic division, and imperil the safety of our children and citizens?

What is the hurry to defund the APD? Alameda is a great place to live. Please do not destroy our community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard Sherratt

Former Alameda Vice Mayor and Council Member

## City Clerk

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**From:** Rosemary Jordan <luxembourg4ever@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:00 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** Jyothi Marbin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support For Agenda Item 5-A, Consider Adoption of Resolution (2020-8165) Declaring Racism a Public Health Emergency

To Alameda City Council via Alameda City Clerk:

From Rosemary Jordan:

I am writing to express my support for the Resolution Declaring Racism a Public Health Emergency. I would like to urge Council to adopt this Resolution immediately.

As a Public Health professional, I support the American Public Health Association's call for Racial Healing - a healing and heart-centered approach to get rid of the false belief that any people are superior to others based on physical attributes. In addition to a Healing-centered Truth & Reconciliation effort that I consider equally urgent for our community to initiate, I believe we need to take swift action to learn, assess and change how our City government operates to combat the systems of anti-blackness and white supremacy that have been woven into our operating norms and reinforced in ways that have been suppressed and denied for too long.

I believe that the Resolution goes a long way toward the actions we need to take and that each element should be assigned a specific timetable for completion to ensure accountability.

Thank You.

Rosemary Jordan

## City Clerk

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**From:** Chung, Eleanor <Eleanor.Chung@ucsf.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:03 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: 7/14/20 Resolution -- comment

thank you!

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**From:** Chung, Eleanor <Eleanor.Chung@ucsf.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:25 PM  
**To:** clerk@alamedaca.gov <clerk@alamedaca.gov>  
**Subject:** 7/14/20 Resolution -- comment

Hello,

I am a pediatrician at UCSF/SF General Hospital and an Alameda resident. I strongly support the resolution to declare racism a public health emergency in Alameda (and in all states), because structural racism has long infected our most vulnerable populations, now with even more more blatant inequalities exposed through COVID19. Childhood and intergenerational trauma can cause serious, irreversible neurobiological damage to our youth, who then go on to develop chronic heart and lung disease, hypertension, and other high-risk medical conditions in adulthood. I support redirecting these funds to initiatives designed to support community health and wellness.

Specifically, I strongly support re-designing how we promote and protect community wellness, by translocating 50-70% of police department funding into specialized mental health workers and resources, promotion of civic engagement, and investment in equitable housing and education initiatives.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Eleanor

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Eleanor Chung, MD  
UCSF Department of Pediatrics  
Associate Medical Director of Specialty Care, Children's Health Center  
San Francisco General Hospital  
Ph. (628) 206-5676  
Fax (628) 206-7506  
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Dear [The Other America: Letters for Black Lives](#) (in 30+ languages)  
[ACLU "Know Your Rights" graphics and videos \(in 10 languages\)](#)  
[Creating sanctuary spaces: toolkits & resources](#) (Everyone Belongs Here)

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## City Clerk

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**From:** Lara Weisiger  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:05 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] apd budget cut?

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**From:** Jim Oddie  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 10:31 PM  
**To:** Lara Weisiger <lweisiger@alamedaca.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] apd budget cut?

This one needs to be read into the record.

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**From:** Michael Steinrok <[michael.steinrok@gmail.com](mailto:michael.steinrok@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 9:01 PM  
**To:** Jim Oddie  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] apd budget cut?

An open letter to the city council of Alameda.

To the Council members of the city of Alameda. I received information that you were planning to cut the budget of the Alameda Police Department by 42%. I have to ask you are you seriously considering this? Alameda is a great City. The chief a Native Son of Alameda is one of the most Progressive responsible Chief I have ever had the pleasure to meet. I am a graduate of the Alameda Citizen Police Academy class number 33. This I attended a year-and-a-half ago. I have volunteered on several occasions to help with traffic control and anything that Alameda Police Department has requested of me. It has been a great joy to be a part of that department as a civilian.

That said, I think it would be foolhardy to cut the budget in any amount to this department. If the people AKA The Rats who live on the other side of the bridges got wind that your city was defenseless I pity the people who are innocent and have nothing to do with the current climate of this country. I wonder who you would call if there were no police and your home was being invaded , your car being stolen. Who are you going to call if your head is being bashed in by your so-called Neighbors in the other City? If you cut the budget the programs that are there to help the citizens learn about this Police Department and indeed the officers who will most likely leave this department won't be there. You cannot rely on unarmed volunteers.

The men and women who serve this country and your city deserve better. They deserve a secure budget and your support. Do not give in to the nameless rabble who are clamoring to defund and demilitarize the police. The criminals, the Thugs and even the cartels are waiting. If things go south if you cut the budget if you gut the police department you will have nobody to blame but yourselves, when the city falls. I stand with the men and women in blue in this city and the city that I now live in San Jose.

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You must be the change you wish to see in the world...Ghandi

## City Clerk

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**From:** Lara Weisiger  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:05 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Item 5-A; defunding our Alameda Police Department

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**From:** Jim Oddie  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:23 PM  
**To:** Lara Weisiger <lweisiger@alamedaca.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Item 5-A; defunding our Alameda Police Department

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**From:** [caseboats@aol.com](mailto:caseboats@aol.com) <[caseboats@aol.com](mailto:caseboats@aol.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:20 PM  
**To:** Tony Daysog; Jim Oddie; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft; Malia Vella; John Knox White; [svinterlude@mindspring.com](mailto:svinterlude@mindspring.com)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Item 5-A; defunding our Alameda Police Department

Dear Madam Mayor and Council:

Common sense.

Use common sense in making a decision to defund our excellent Police Department. You know the majority are absolutely first-class, evoting their energy, and occasionally their lives to protect the citizens of Alameda.

Compare this to Black Lives Matter, an admitted Marxist group that is set-out to destabilize America. You, council members, are being conned. Remember, you represent all of Alameda.

Use common sense.

Thank you,

Dave R. Case, a 40-year resident of Alameda.



## City Clerk

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**From:** Lara Weisiger  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:05 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] So you are leaders of the MOB?  
**Attachments:** council meeting.pdf

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**From:** Jim Oddie  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:53 PM  
**To:** Lara Weisiger <lweisiger@alamedaca.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] So you are leaders of the MOB?

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**From:** wjdole <[wjole@gmail.com](mailto:wjdole@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:11 PM  
**To:** Jim Oddie; Tony Daysog; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft; Malia Vella; John Knox White  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] So you are leaders of the MOB?

Alameda Council members;

You will ruin Alameda! **DON" T YOU LIVE HERE?**  
Your racism fears are NOT supported by factual data!

WHERE AS: Racism is NOT a law enforcement issue in Alameda!  
You manipulate the statistics! 30% arrests in Alameda are black? How many arrests are out of town residents? You quoted 7% blacks in Alameda, 11% Alameda County, and 6.5% California.  
WHAT ABOUT OAKLAND? Four Bridges and a tunnel exit Alameda to WHERE? Uh , OAKLAND!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Know what color is a problem? BLUE "progressives"!  
Anyone can Google factual information! Here's some!

Oakland has a crime rate of almost 20 violent crimes per 1,000 residents in 2013, about five times the state average and over double San Francisco's rate of 8.47 violent crimes per 1,000 people, the San Francisco Chronicle reported. **This makes Oakland the most crime-ridden city in California, according to the FBI. Nov 12, 2014**

The ethnic composition of the population of Oakland, CA is composed of 124k White Alone residents (29%), 114k Hispanic or Latino residents (26.5%), 97.6k Black or African American Alone residents (22.7%), 65.2k Asian Alone residents (15.2%), 22.3k Two or More Races residents (5.19%), 2.98k Native Hawaiian & Other ...

TODAY 2020? Knowing Oakland's history and now cutting OPD by \$14 million you don't think cutting APD the same amount will impact Alameda?  
INSANE! What are you thinking? Oakland has 750 officers and we have 75?

More factual data!

<https://www.bestplaces.net/crime/?city1=50653000&city2=50600562>

BTW you want to outsource traffic stops to civilians? Vehicle stops are the most dangerous situations for police as supported by statistics!

Civilians have no legal State authority to enforce vehicle code violations!

<https://ucr.fbi.gov/leoka/2018/tables/table-83.xls>

Warren Dole

62 yr resident

## City Clerk

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**From:** Kate Richardson <katemrichardson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:05 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council Meeting - public comment

Dear City Council Members,

I am a mother, lawyer, and resident of Alameda. I am writing to voice my strong support for Vice Mayor Knox White and Councilmember Oddie's co-sponsored Resolution Declaring Racism a Public Health Emergency.

In line with this resolution, I also strongly support a further reduction - beyond 42% - to the police budget and a reallocation of those funds to mental health, community wellness, and housing support programs, services, and initiatives. As we know, data shows that non-serious, low-level offenses constitute more than 80% of arrests. We need to divert those valuable resources and allocate funds to community-embedded support services in order to ensure that folks are housed, healthy, and stable. We do not need to fill our jails with more people who have committed low-level, non-violent offenses. We must align our budget with efforts to decarcerate and provide services that allow our communities to thrive.

Finally, this resolution calls for a staff member to work as a city racial justice / equity officer. While a step in the right direction, I urge you to commit to founding a new Department of Health and Wellness centered around racial justice and equity.

Many thanks for your consideration to this urgent and important resolution.

Sincerely,

Kate Crowley Richardson

## City Clerk

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**From:** Sadie Kane <sadiekane160@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:09 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Police

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sadie Kane** <[sadiekane160@gmail.com](mailto:sadiekane160@gmail.com)>  
Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2020  
Subject: Police  
To: [clerk@alamedaca.gov](mailto:clerk@alamedaca.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sadie Kane** <[sadiekane160@gmail.com](mailto:sadiekane160@gmail.com)>  
Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2020  
Subject: Police  
To: "[clerk@alamedaca.gov](mailto:clerk@alamedaca.gov)" <[clerk@alamedaca.gov](mailto:clerk@alamedaca.gov)>

Councilmembers and Mayor,

I am deeply concerned about the current resolution to defund or modify the role of police officers in Alameda. First of all, I don't understand the emergency public crisis and what is driving the urgency to make these changes right now? Why have the standard procedures in scheduling council meetings been steamrolled if not for political reasons? Why are we jumping on the national bandwagon to defund our police? Opportunity perhaps? Alameda is not Minneapolis, Portland, New York City, and is not experiencing extreme issues to cause this dangerous and drastic move.

Proponents might argue that the recent arrest of Mali Watkins for dancing in the street is enough to reimagine policing and hire a mobile crisis intervention team like Cahoots. However, police accompany Cahoots team members on 85% of their calls and would have needed them here. So rather than reducing police funding, it will actually cost taxpayers more.

The second incident council-members will cite as an immediate issue, concerns the black family who had a ALM (all lives matter) painted on their car. The news media, mayor and counsel got behind this issue as a hate crime and rightfully supported the family. One fact that was not prominently discussed was that there was a second family who also had ALM painted on their car. This family was white and did not receive the recognition or support as the previous family. Was this actually a hate crime or just an act of vandalism?

Before passing any resolution the city council needs to thoroughly investigate all options

and present their findings to the community. Something as serious as defunding or reducing our police should be presented as a vote and not at the whims of the council and the mayor.  
S Kane

## City Clerk

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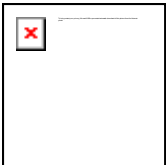
**From:** Ryan Soule <ryansoulephotography@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:10 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** Lara Weisiger  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Comment by Ryan Soule for Special City Council Meeting

Hello,

The following is to be read in regards to discussions that will be taking place at tonight's Special City Council Meeting. Thank you for taking the time to read this. My name is Ryan Soule and I am a lifelong Alameda resident. Like many I have been completely disgusted by the actions of the police across our country and unfortunately also in my hometown. I am writing now to voice my concern over the huge portion of Alameda's budget that is spent on the Police Department. It is absolutely absurd that so much is spent on the Police and so little is spent on our education, our libraries and our parks. We absolutely need to follow other cities and start abolishing our police department that is so deeply rooted in racism. And we need to start putting more funds into services and agencies that actually help. Let's make Alameda safe for all residents. Black and brown lives will always matter on this island and will always matter worldwide. DEFUND ALAMEDA POLICE.

Thank you.

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**Ryan Soule**

Owner, Ryan Soule Photography  
510-821-2467 | [ryansoulephotography@gmail.com](mailto:ryansoulephotography@gmail.com)  
[www.ryansoulephotography.com](http://www.ryansoulephotography.com)  
1419 Grand St. Alameda CA 94501



## City Clerk

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**From:** Archana Nagraj <archie@destinyarts.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:11 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] statement in support of declaring racism a public health emergency

To Whom it May Concern

I am the Executive Director of Destiny Arts Center, a 32 year old non-profit organization that uses the arts to inspire and ignite social change for the arts. I see firsthand how racism has affected our BIPOC youth and their families. While my organization is dedicated to providing high quality arts programming to BIPOC youth, we understand that this need exists because of the long term, entrenched disadvantages faced by youth and their families as a result of institutional racism. I absolutely encourage you to declare that racism is a public health emergency, and help us address the true work of dismantling racist infrastructure and finally allowing ALL youth to have an equal chance to succeed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,  
Archana Nagraj, MPH, MSW

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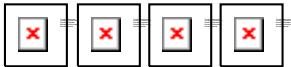
**Archana Nagraj**

**Executive Director**

*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

970 Grace Avenue, Oakland CA 94608

P 510.597.1619 x101



## City Clerk

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**From:** Mackenzie Common <mackenzieacommon@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:12 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Citizen comment

Let's talk about how the Mali Watkins incident wasn't race-based. If Mali simply cooperated with the police they wouldn't have had to arrest him. Just because a person is black in alameda doesn't mean that APD is out to get them. Without the police there would be more robberies, burglaries, aggravated assaults, domestic violence, property crimes etc. have you ever read the alameda journal police blotter? For those of you that are against the cops, try reading the newspaper.. CRIME EXISTS because people commit crimes. If crime didn't exist, I wouldn't be supporting the police BUT it DOES. If you are for Reforming the police, reallocating their funds or whatever you want to call this then think about which social workers and even citizens would want to handle some of the duties that cops are responsible for. Danger to themselves, danger to others and gravely disabled, how would social workers be prepared if there's any sort of physical altercation with this specific population. Bottom line, the city council is moving hastily to defund 42% of our police department and I'm just not for it.

They put their new procedures ahead for APD to implement but there hasn't even been any immediate research done beforehand. Why not put it on the ballot for the WHOLE alameda community to decide? In this forum you got 99% of defund police yay sayers. However I'm 99% sure those that aren't here to voice their opinion are actually the silent majority that want to keep the police intact.



## City Clerk

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**From:** Jenny Lum <j.lumacademy@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:13 PM  
**To:** Lara Weisiger; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Citizen comment

This council does not care about Asian people. Recently, several members of our Asian community have been targeted by criminals and robbed at gunpoint in our town. In response, instead of confronting these horrible violent crimes, our Council chooses to push to defund our police which removes more officers from the street, therefore enabling more of these occurrences to happen. We don't have enough police presence as it is, these criminals will never be caught. But it seems that our quiet voices aren't spoken for and we are forced to endure painful consequences.

Why do we have to define crime as black and white? How about we call criminals what they are, criminals. What a concept.

I'm tired of our community being at the receiving end of these irresponsible decisions. Do what's right Council and take care of your 31% population of Asian constituents. Vote no to this defunding proposal and protect us.

Thank you.

July 14, 2020

To: The Alameda City Council  
From: Robert Farrar, resident, homeowner  
Subject: Agenda 5-A 2020-8165

Police are human, they work long hours. They have families and actually have lives outside of work. They are our neighbors. The vast majority of our country's law enforcement heroes honor their uniforms each day by saving countless lives and keeping our neighborhoods free from drugs, theft, and violence.

Yet in recent weeks the men and women in blue have faced attacks from rioters and hostility from leftwing pundits and politicians. Radical Democrats in both congress and city halls across our country have echoed calls to defund or even abolish police forces.

I understand the City Council is looking into defunding or redirecting up to 42% of the Alameda Police Department's budget. Have you looked at the calls for service in the last year with so many positions open and calls not being answered? There seems to be more calls and less response. I have a better idea, why not redirect budgets from other departments, up to 5% each and redirect these monies to the Police Department? With the extra money, the City could fill the police officer vacancies and hire social workers to ride with the police. These social workers could make contact with people and give them advise and information as to where they could go and obtain additional help.

The City Council should go in the right direction. The City Council should obtain cameras and have them placed on each bridge and tunnel. Additional cameras should be placed at large parking lots for the ferry terminals. There should be large signs at all entrances to Alameda

stating the citizens support the police and that any and all laws will be enforced. We need to curtail crime, not give a free pass to criminals to come onto this fine island city and wreak havoc!

In conclusion, I would like a show of hands at the zoom meeting of each City Council member and any other city employees at this meeting, that in the last year, have gone on a ride-along with Alameda Police on a Friday or Saturday night up to 2:00 a.m. when the bars close? I would also like to know if any City Council members have been on a ride-along with Alameda County Social Services to see what they can and can't do?

## City Clerk

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**From:** Joyce Boyd <joyceboyd@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:59 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Declaring Racism a Public Health Emergency

Hello City Council

I oppose this measure because of the following section of the resolution.

6. The Alameda City Council commits to identifying up to 42% of the City Police Department budget to reallocate towards programs that support public health, wellness and resilience and can respond to emergency calls for which the Police are not necessary as identified by Alameda's Chief of Police.

The police chief does not support this nor is it a well thought out plan. Address racism and police changes well, not badly.

Joyce Boyd

## City Clerk

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**From:** Alameda POA <thealamedapoa@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:55 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Comment: Agenda 5-A (7/14/20)

Honorable Mayor Ezzy Ashcraft, members of the Alameda City Council, and City Staff-

My name is Alan Kuboyama and I represent the members of the Alameda Police Officers Association. On behalf of our non-sworn and sworn members, we want to express our support for a community-led process to identify how we can improve the delivery of police services. We care about our community and we know we get our legitimacy through them. They must be the centerpiece of this process.

We understand people have concerns about our profession and the police culture. We can always do more to grow as an organization and as professionals. But we can only do this by engaging and working with everyone.

We are committed to identifying the needs of our community. We have begun this process by conducting outreach to various stakeholders. We will continue until we have met with all Alamedans. We would also like to invite everyone to stop by and get to know us. You may find we share many of the same interests.

This is a critical time for all of us. Let's come together as one community and work towards a common goal.

## City Clerk

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**From:** Christine Mitchell <christine@humanimpact.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:15 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Declare Racism a Public Health Emergency

To the Alameda City Council:

My name is Dr. Christine Mitchell. I am a researcher with the Health Instead of Punishment Program at Human Impact Partners, a national public health non-profit based out of Oakland, and I am a co-author on the 2018 American Public Health Association policy statement on police violence. I am writing tonight in support of the resolution in front of the Alameda City Council, to name racism as a public health emergency.

From a public health perspective, a substantial body of research assesses the ways that racism harms health, including by being associated with cardiovascular disease, coronary artery calcification, high blood pressure, lower birth weight, cognitive impairment, poor sleep, mortality, and visceral fat. Knowing this, it becomes incumbent upon our society to move beyond identifying the problem and begin exploring ways in which to address racism as a public health emergency.

Alameda has the opportunity to act on addressing racism in the city tonight, by voting in favor of the resolution before the city council to name racism as a public health emergency and by committing resources to anti-racism work amongst the council and in the community. One important part of supporting anti-racism efforts in the city is by defunding the Alameda Police Department by at least 42% -- keeping in mind that many cities across the country are defunding the police by 50% of the current budget or more.

Policing is linked to racism in its very roots of US history, beginning with slave patrols in the South and social control of immigrants in the North. Many of the practices and policies that are still enacted by police today are founded in that racist history. Over 1000 people are killed by police each year, with Black and Indigenous people being 2 to 3 times more likely to be killed by law enforcement than White people. Even in the absence of physical violence, stops by police have been associated with adverse mental health outcomes, including symptoms of anxiety, depression and posttraumatic stress disorder. And, again, data show that police disproportionately stop Black residents.

Alameda has the opportunity tonight to join city councils across the country in considering how to divest from policing and invest in community-based and community-led efforts for mental healthcare, housing, education, and transportation. Tonight, I hope the city council will make the choice to invest in health, not punishment.

with gratitude,  
Christine Mitchell, ScD MDiv

--

Christine Mitchell, ScD, MDiv

she / her / hers ([What's this?](#))

Health Instead of Punishment Research Associate • Human Impact Partners  
510.452.9442, ext. 113 • [christine@humanimpact.org](mailto:christine@humanimpact.org)  
304 12th St. • Suite 2B • Oakland, CA • 94607

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

## City Clerk

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**From:** Michael Hancock <hookset@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:20 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Regarding resolution declaring racism a public health emergency

Subject: Regarding resolution declaring racism a public health emergency

I am a long time Alameda homeowner and tax paying citizen. I want to express my sincere support this resolution for July 14 2020 meeting.

Michael Hancock  
3437 Oleander Avenue  
94502

## City Clerk

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**From:** Anna S <annabasketballgirl23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:22 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City council meeting opinion

The first thing the council will tell you when you question defunding our police is that they want to allocate money to other community based ways of protection. They say we are going to move funds to CAHOOTS, a crisis negotiation team for welfare calls. Did you know that on the CAHOOTS website 85% of calls needed a police officer present? So cops would still be going to the same welfare calls. I don't disagree with the idea of bringing more support in. I disagree with removing funding from police for this program. In order to work, we would need extra funding not less.

I want to share an example of what happened when a local city defunded their police. In 2008 Vallejo police department cut their department in half due to city bankruptcy. Crime spiked and you had overworked, understaffed officers handling a vast amount of dangerous calls. What resulted was also spike in police officer shootings. Since 2009, Vallejo police have fatally killed 20 people, an extraordinarily high amount. You can't put tired cops on the street in dangerous situations without enough support. And vast studies show the more cops present the less likely use of force will incur.

If you further cut our police budget, crime will continue to spike, our police will be overworked and our citizens hurt from this decision.

I plan to sue this city if anything happens to my family. Choose the right decision for the people.



## City Clerk

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**From:** Lara Weisiger  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:22 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Tonight social City council meeting

**From:** John Platt [mailto:johntplatt@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:09 PM  
**To:** Eric Levitt <elevitt@alamedaca.gov>; Jim Oddie <JOddie@alamedaca.gov>; John Knox White <JKnoxWhite@alamedaca.gov>; Lara Weisiger <lweisiger@alamedaca.gov>; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft <MEzzyAshcraft@alamedaca.gov>; Tony Daysog <TDaysog@alamedaca.gov>; mvelia@alameda.gov  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tonight social City council meeting

If you would be so kind as to read this tonight it would be greatly appreciated

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and City Council,

I do believe systematic racism is a public health emergency. I am not a lawyer and do not understand the legal ramifications of stating a public health emergency, but all citizens of Alameda need to be treated with respect and equally. This is the only correct standard for Alameda.

I do fully support the committee that is being formed to analyze systemic racism and working on coming up with actionable items by the end of this month.

I listened to the ZOOM meeting hosted by our Mayor with the Mayor of Eugene Oregon and the head of the Eugene Cahoots program. They stated that their program just got a raise to \$900,000, provides a van 24/7 with a mental health professional and a medic to help people in distress. There is a second part time van also. Their police budget is 60 million for a bigger city.(It is unfortunate that Alameda had to payover \$900,000 to our former City Manager due to the unwise actions of Council members Vella and Oddie. It would have paid for a year of this program.) I believe money should be taken from our police budget and the details worked out immediately to institute such a program. I believe the community and the police would wholeheartedly support this kind of service and let the police deal with crime.

Without solid analysis and a business plan I can not support redirecting up to 42% of the police budget to unspecified programs.

A friend of mine went hiking in the Oakland Hills the other day. On her way home in Oakland she was hit by an uninsured driver who did not have a license on her. In Oakland all you can do is fill out a report online. I never want to see Alameda sink to that level of police service.

I also hope Alameda will follow San Francisco's example and make it illegal to use 911 as a tool for harassing people of color.

It is imperative that we address the historic and ongoing racism that has oppressed our Black neighbors. What I ask is that we start to take immediate action, redirect funds to do the most good to serve our community ,but do it with a thought out plan that our city can rally around.

Thank you for working on solving this critical problem for our community.  
John Platt

## City Clerk

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**From:** Desiree' Abbott <deeray82@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:29 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] For public comment, if that's happening this evening.

Greetings, elected officials,

I am not writing to make an emotional plea. I am writing to urge you to think about all angles before you make a decision on this resolution. There has been an abundance of knee-jerk, highly emotional reactions to recent events in our city and the country as a whole, causing and sometimes exacerbating horrific divisions among an already-deeply-divided people. I have seen some attempts at using data to support these knee-jerk reactions, but they have fallen flat and been unable to satisfactorily account for the wild proposed solutions. For example - and I do not know the answer to these questions, though I would be very interested to - it has been said that we had a disproportionately high amount of black people, relative to our city's population, arrested in Alameda last year. But I ask you: did they all live here? If we narrow to only Alameda residents who were arrested, does that change the outcome of the story? Again, I don't know, and if you don't either then it's probably something worth investigating and then taking into account, regardless of how it unfolds.

Change is coming. Anyone with a couple of brain cells could tell you that. I can't fight it, and maybe I shouldn't even try. But what I can do is urge you, my elected officials, to seek the truth and to make your decisions based on unbiased data and hard facts. Do the math. BE. IMPARTIAL. Check your emotions at the door, and then work together with the Alameda Police Department to help keep our city safe.

Thank you very much,  
Desiree' Abbott

## City Clerk

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**From:** Brittany Benvenuto <bvenven24@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:41 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]

I'm extremely upset at the proposed decisions this council is trying to implement.

We currently have 70 police officers, soon to be 66 due to those who are retiring. However we have 111 firefighters. Our firefighters are paid more, have more days off and a far less amount of work. Why are we so fiercely wanting to defund our police and not our fire department? If the money is so important to our community, this doesn't make sense.

I will tell you why this is. Our Council is happily in bed with our fire department. The fire department union subsidized getting many of our council members elected so obviously our council is not going to touch the fire department. This is also why we constantly hear praise in the paper about Alameda fire. It's taboo to question our fire department's budget.

It is obvious to me that this plan is all political. Because if our council really cared about moving money into our community, you would take money from the source less needed. Are you saying there are more fires on the island than crimes? This is ridiculous.

We just had a homicide on Webster this week, add another murder to this year's long list. We still have another half of the year to go and it's scary.

I really hope our community sees this injustice so clearly like I do. It's sad when our council cares more about politics than keeping their citizens safe.

## Irma Glidden

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**From:** Tina <tinaanagnos@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:41 PM  
**To:** Lara Weisiger  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Special Meeting Agenda 5A

I am a resident in Alameda. Your recent actions towards the police department are alarming and concerning. I rely on our police department for speedy, thorough, and safe responses to our city's many needs. Your decisions to freeze hiring, sell emergency equipment, and manipulate their responses to calls conflicts with decades of case law, studies, and experience and is frankly, terrifying. I urge you, as changes are made, to seek qualified, experienced input. You are the arm of the citizens of Alameda, but you ARE NOT experienced in law enforcement.

Please include my letter in your ongoing discussions regarding this extremely important topic.

Sincerely,

Tina Anagnos  
44 Basinside Way, Alameda, CA 94502

## City Clerk

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**From:** Whitney Moon <moon.whitney@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:47 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Council meeting 7/14

Dear esteemed members of council and honorable Mayor Ezzy Ashcraft,

The city of Alameda, and undeniably the entire country, have been in a state of unrest since the murder of George Floyd at the hands of the Minneapolis Police Department nearly two months ago. I am not writing in tonight to rehash what has been said at previous council meetings surrounding systemic racism, the incident on Central Ave., or George Floyd's murder, but instead to emphasize a single point: change is necessary. Without change, there is no progress. Without progress, cycles of history repeat themselves.

Though I support change in certain policing practices such as altering the police department's response to social issues, I do not support those changes being made without considering what the long term effects would be for the safety of the city. Years of policy changes have resulted in cuts in fundings for social services, resulting in law enforcement being continuously tasked with responding to events that should never have been their responsibility to begin with. Rather than placing blame for shortcomings, I believe it is instead a more worthy task to discuss ways in which City Council, Mayor Ezzy Ashcraft, and the Police Department can work collaboratively, create partnerships, listen to the needs of the community, and let officers return to the jobs they signed up for: ensuring people's safety.

While many individuals over the past few weeks have either called or written in to previous council meetings emphasizing the importance of keeping Alameda safe, I would argue that Alameda is safe *because* of our police department, not in spite of it.

As an employee of the police department, I would like to get to know you better. Should any of you ever want to know what a day in the life of a dispatcher is like, I would be happy to have you sit in dispatch with me so that we can learn about each other's roles within the city, but more importantly - as people.

Thank you for your time,

--

Whitney Moon

## City Clerk

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**From:** Laura Rose <revlaura@fccalameda.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:21 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment for City Council Meeting

Public Comment for City Council Meeting Tonight

To the attention of the Alameda City Clerk,

I would like to voice my full support for the resolution Declaring Racism to be a Public Health Emergency. As the pastor of a church that is committed to advocating for justice, inclusion and wellness for all people, I believe this declaration conveys the kind of "life and death" urgency required to empower the City Staff to take the actions necessary to address the systemic and interpersonal injustice and violence repeatedly committed against our African American sisters and brothers and other people of color. This declaration will also send a clear and strong message to all Alamedans that racist language and actions will not be tolerated in our city. In addition, I want to voice my support for the reduction of funding for the police department (50% if possible) so that these funds can be redirected to the mental health and social service needs within our community. I strongly urge you to vote yes to pass this declaration and to do all you can to take the kind of urgent actions a health emergency demands.

Thank you, Rev. Laura Rose, senior pastor of First Congregational Church of Alameda

### **Rev. Laura Rose**

*Senior Pastor*

First Congregational Church Alameda

United Church of Christ

510-522-6012 x 101

[www.fccalameda.org](http://www.fccalameda.org)

***No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,  
YOU are welcome here!***

*Please note that I generally do not answer non-urgent emails on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays.*

## City Clerk

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**From:** Rene A <renepsalms37123@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:59 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tonight's Meeting

Dear City Council:

Thank-you to Vice Mayor John White for always responding to concerns I've expressed through email.

I've lived in the city of Alameda for almost 35 years. I don't feel safe anymore even as a person of color when the idea of defunding the police is portrayed as a good thing. Across the nation, the police have been forced to step back and watch as groups destroy businesses, terrorize and control the streets, follow people into stores, and take over restaurants (Seattle, Portland, Chicago, Atlanta, Washington DC). Lawlessness in the name of protesting has been allowed. People who want to see good change feel vulnerable, on their own, and left to defend themselves. Defunding empowers crime, hurts businesses, the community's economy, and its residents. Citizens will be left to protect themselves.

I find it ironic that there is not one African- American City Council member to weigh in on and vote about the consequences of defunding, when in fact there are many from the African- American community opposed to this idea. The very life of Alameda, the stability, and safety of 78,096 residents is left in your hands.

Please help change the narrative to residents helping each other rather than destroying aspects of our community. The APD contributes to the stability and health of Alameda. We need the APD. Encourage the residents of Alameda to give of their time locally to others, be a mentor, and volunteer at organizations like the women's shelter to really see change. Homes are broken on the familial level, fatherlessness is high, and schools can't make up the gap for everyone. We've got to reach out and help one another starting on the individual level.

Your decisions determine the life of Alameda. Choose life. We want healing, peace, safety, stability and change just like everyone else. Defunding will destroy this community.

Thank-you,  
Alameda Resident

## City Clerk

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**From:** Duc Nguyen <duc.alameda@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:03 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment on 7/14 agenda item 5-A

Dear City Council and all others present,

I support the resolution to declare racism a public health emergency. Alameda has the opportunity to join as a leader in this movement. It's time for everyone to stop being complicit, and to start fighting against racism.

Thank you,  
Duc Nguyen



## City Clerk

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**From:** Debra Mendoza <dmendozaconsulting@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:08 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Comment

Greetings City Council and Mayor,

As a voting community member of the city of Alameda, I ask you to represent me, and people like me. I am a mother, a survivor, a victim of crime, and a freedom fighter, and I urge you to defund the police by 50%. Police do not make us safer.

Racism IS a health emergency. The racial disparities that exist in the juvenile and criminal justice system are undeniable, and to make steps towards racial equity and dismantling systemic oppression we need to defund the police. As former public school teacher for Oakland Unified School District, then Juvenile Probation Officer for Alameda County for ten years, now community based service provider and legal advocate to end mass incarceration, again, I urge you to defund the police department by 50%.

We cannot buy into the “get tough on crime” rhetoric or propaganda about violent crime- we are not talking abolition, we are talking defund. This is not about shutting down the police force. This is about reallocating services, not into pre-existing city programs and departments, but investing into public health services that serve long term public safety, like treatment, public health and violence prevention. Believe me, working in prisons and jails for over two decades with hundreds of people who face the criminal justice system as well as working as a peace officer and extension of the Court, I am very well aware of violent crimes that occur in our community and region. As I stated earlier, I am also a victim of violent crime with the state of California. This however, does not detract from the need to defund the police. When we invest in community, youth, families on the front end, we become safer in the long run.

Defunding the police means creating solutions to crisis such as domestic disturbances, incorrigible youth, mental health crisis and more that do not require a peace officer with a gun to respond. Of course, there are situations where that is appropriate at this point in time. That does not mean that we cannot critically reexamine the way we spend our tax payer money so we can all be safer - not by policing our way to safety, but by creating conditions in our community that eliminate the need for crime- where people are housed, their health taken care of, and provided with resources to prevent and reduce violence.

What an exciting time to live and and to know that you can be part of shifting and transforming the way communities enforce and police, and protect the people that live and hopefully thrive here. WE THE PEOPLE URGE YOU TO DEFUND THE POLICE DEPARTMENT BY 50% AS A MEANS TO ADDRESS SYSTEMIC RACISM AS WELL AS CREATE A HEALTHIER, SAFER COMMUNITY, THROUGH WHATEVER MEANS NECESSARY, IF THAT ALSO MEANS PUTTING ON THE BALLOT THIS NOVEMBER AND ALLOWING THE VOTERS IN ALAMEDA TO DETERMINE IF WE SHOULD HAVE A CITIZEN LED POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION, DO IT. IF IT MEANS DECLARING RACISM A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY, DO THAT AS WELL! IN SUPPORT OF BLACK LIVES MATTER.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION,

DEBRA MENDOZA

[DMendozaConsulting](#)

420 Third Street Suite 200

Oakland, CA 94607

Mobile/Text 510-333-2731

Fax 510-763-8013

Stay connected!



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## City Clerk

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**From:** Kevin B. McCarty <kmccarty@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:11 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Message in support of resolution

Dear Alameda City Council:

This is a message in support of the resolution to declare racism in Alameda as a public health emergency. This resolution is of particular importance during a pandemic that has been shown to affect people of color at much higher rates. It is also of great import while our own community, like those across the country, experiences police actions also unfairly targeting those individuals. I write this message as a City of Alameda resident and homeowner.

Sincerely,  
Kevin McCarty

--

Kevin B. McCarty  
<[kmccarty@gmail.com](mailto:kmccarty@gmail.com)>

## City Clerk

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**From:** Andrea Carlise <andreacarlise@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:12 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for Resolution to Declare that Racism as a Public Health Emergency

Dear Clerk --

Please read this comment during tonight's City Council meeting:

As a long time resident of Alameda, I write in strong support of the resolution declaring racism to be a public health emergency. Structural racism is embedded in our government institutions and disadvantages our most vulnerable populations. Blatant inequalities disproportionately affecting black, indigenous and people of color have been laid bare by COVID19. We are facing a moment of reckoning caused by the police brutality that is forcing our nation to confront hundreds of years of racial injustice. I support redirecting police funding to initiatives designed to support community health and wellness and to ensure our citizens are treated with compassion and understanding. I strongly support re-designing how we promote and protect community wellness, by reallocating a portion of police department funding to specialized mental health workers and investment in additional equitable housing and education initiatives. Now is the time for our city to seize this opportunity to infuse an anti-racist agenda in all our agencies and be a leader in turning the tide to support justice and peace.

Thank you for your consideration and dedication to our community.

Best regards, Andrea Carlise

## City Clerk

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**From:** Jennifer Taggart <nyffer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:15 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] comment on Resolution Declaring Racism a Public Health Emergency

I have been a resident of Alameda for almost 10 years. I strongly urge the Alameda City Council to adopt the resolution declaring racism to be a public health emergency, especially the part of the resolution involving unbundling police services and cutting the police budget accordingly.

That Black people in Alameda are arrested at highly a disproportionate rate in Alameda is simply not right. Restructuring crisis intervention, intervention involving unhoused people, and traffic safety stops so that these areas do not fall under the umbrella of the police department is a good start in solving this problem. Developing an annual report on racism in Alameda is another good start, as racism touches so many aspects of life on this island for BIPOC.

Over the past few months, it has become clear to many white people such as myself that the reason for unequal life outcomes for BIPOC is persistent systemic racism perpetuated by white people, including liberal whites. We need to make changes now toward making our island a place where everyone is treated equally.

Jennifer Taggart  
Alameda Resident

## City Clerk

---

**From:** Carly Stadum-Liang <carly.stadum@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:16 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for measure declaring racism as a public health threat

Hello,

I am writing to voice my strong support for the City Council's resolution to declare racism as a public health threat. Racism, both at the individual and systemic levels, impacts the physical, mental, emotional, and psychological well-being of all its victims. If we care about the well-being of our fellow Alamedans of color, we need to recognize the harm that racism does to their health. Only once we start listening can we understand the damage that racism inflicts at all levels and then start finding effective solutions.

Thank you,

Carly Stadum-Liang  
Bay Farm

## City Clerk

---

**From:** +15108283813@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:22 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15108283813

My name is Mary An and I am proud to say I live in Alameda. However I believe with the city Council is attempting to do the police is outrageous and inconsiderate For the citizens of Alameda. If you make major changes to our police force it should be left up to the people in Alameda to fold on the procedure or the change. You cannot act unilaterally and something that affects every citizen in the city. I would be willing to go door to door to get you removed if necessary.

Message from: +15108283813, 14 Jul 2020 19:22  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## City Clerk

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**From:** Mackenzie Chung <kenziemchung@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:24 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Citizen comment

How about this? Our city councilmembers make it a priority to back up our police department and go for ride-alongs alternating Fridays and Saturdays for the next six months BEFORE making any rash decision to cut 42% of funding. There are so many people that hate on cops nowadays because of the national liberal “narrative” that’s all for defunding police departments and police institutions as a whole. I agree there are some bad apples in a population however as a POC, I feel like it’s my responsibility to see both sides of the equation especially when the vocal discussion seems to be lopsided. News stations have it out to dehumanize and to broadcast cops “behaving badly”. Can’t we in Alameda just let cops do their job??? We are sandwiched between Oakland and San Leandro, meanwhile crime has been relatively under control however people come from other cities and commit crimes here then return to their home cities. Yes that’s right, they do. Without law enforcement this city wouldn’t be much different compared to Oakland. Yes, you may ask what’s wrong with Oakland. Well for starters it has been reported as the 10th most dangerous city in the entire US. If you don’t like how APD handles business, you’re welcome to leave.

Because Police do GOOD for communities which has been proven in Vallejo of all cities! That happens!?!  
YEAH! Imagine a world without cops.. wait a minute, no I don’t want to. I’ve already seen enough rioting and looting.. last but not least, let’s keep that armored vehicle for the safety of all citizens and for emergencies. I also support Daysog because it’s a good idea to keep an armored vehicle. “**Better to have, and not need, than to need, and not have.**”



## City Clerk

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**From:** AlamedaRent <alamedarent@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:35 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Item 5A

I and my family are Alameda residents.

We live in Alameda city for the safety. We need protection esp since Cal law has become more & more lenient on crimes.

Last year a few serious robberies on Webster resulted in death. Many auto theft incidents. There are increasing burglaries.

And with new cannabis businesses in Alameda, our need for police force is higher than ever.

We strongly oppose any defunding police.

We propose an increase of police funding by 10% to ensure our community will remain safe!!!

Have a good week!  
Best Regards,  
Frances Mak

## City Clerk

---

**From:** +15109282596@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:41 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15109282596

Hello, I and my family are Alameda residents. We live in Alameda city for the safety. We need protection esp since Cal law has become more & more lenient on crimes. Last year a few serious robberies on Webster resulted in death. Many auto theft incidents. There are increasing burglaries. And with new cannibas businesses in Alameda, our need for police force is higher than ever. We strongly oppose any defunding police. We propose an increase of police funding by 10% to ensure our community will remain safe!!!

Message from: +15109282596, 14 Jul 2020 19:40  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## City Clerk

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**From:** +14153352906@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:43 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +14153352906

I and my family are Alameda residents. We live in Alameda city for the safety. We need protection esp since Cal law has become more & more lenient on crimes. Last year a few serious robberies on Webster resulted in death. Many auto theft incidents. There are increasing burglaries. And with new cannibas businesses in Alameda, our need for police force is higher than ever. We strongly oppose any defunding police. We propose an increase of police funding by 10% to ensure our community will remain safe!!! "

Message from: +14153352906, 14 Jul 2020 19:42  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## City Clerk

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**From:** +15102820234@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:43 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15102820234

I and my family are Alameda residents. We live in Alameda city for the safety. We need protection esp since Cal law has become more & more lenient on crimes. Last year a few serious robberies on Webster resulted in death. Many auto theft incidents. There are increasing burglaries. And with new cannibas businesses in Alameda, our need for police force is higher than ever. We strongly oppose any defunding police. We propose an increase of police funding by 10% to ensure our community will remain safe!!! "

Message from: +15102820234, 14 Jul 2020 19:43  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## City Clerk

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**From:** Jessica Zeng <jessicayz928@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:44 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Oppose defunding police

Hello,

I and my family are Alameda residents.

We live in Alameda city for the safety. We need protection esp since Cal law has become more & more lenient on crimes.

Last year a few serious robberies on Webster resulted in death. Many auto theft incidents. There are increasing burglaries.

And with new cannabis businesses in Alameda, our need for police force is higher than ever.

We strongly oppose any defunding police.

We propose an increase of police funding by 10% to ensure our community will remain safe!!!

Best Regards,  
Jessica Zeng

## City Clerk

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**From:** Horace Ho <qzuo2012@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:45 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]

Hello, I and my family are Alameda residents.

We live in Alameda city for the safety. We need protection esp since Cal law has become more & more lenient on crimes.

Last year a few serious robberies on Webster resulted in death. Many auto theft incidents. There are increasing burglaries.

And with new cannibas businesses in Alameda, our need for police force is higher than ever.

We strongly oppose any defunding police.

We propose an increase of police funding by 10% to ensure our community will remain safe!!!

## City Clerk

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**From:** xiaoli chen <xiaolichen80@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:03 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No on Police Defunding

Dear Officer,

I and my family are Alameda residents.

We live in Alameda city for the safety. We need protection esp since Cal law has become more & more lenient on crimes.

Last year a few serious robberies on Webster resulted in death. Many auto theft incidents. There are increasing burglaries.

And with new cannibas businesses in Alameda, our need for police force is higher than ever.

We strongly oppose any defunding police.

We propose an increase of police funding by 10% to ensure our community will remain safe!!! "

Regards,  
Xiaoli

## City Clerk

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**From:** +15104171187@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:29 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15104171187

Hello, my family are Alameda residents. We live in Alameda city for the safety. We need protection esp since Cal law has become more & more lenient on crimes. Last year a few serious robberies on Webster resulted in death. Many auto theft incidents. There are increasing burglaries. And with new cannibas businesses in Alameda, our need for police force is higher than ever. We strongly oppose any defunding police. We propose an increase of police funding by 10% to ensure our community will remain safe!!!

Message from: +15104171187, 14 Jul 2020 20:28  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## City Clerk

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**From:** Therese Hall <theresemhall@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:48 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Special Mtg Council July14 Item 5A

Dear Council members,

Please provide the findings of fact that support a special Council Meeting to declare a State of Emergency.

Therese Hall

## City Clerk

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**From:** Kristan LaVietes <kristan.lavietes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:48 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Commentary for declaration on declaring racism a public health emergency in Alameda

I am grateful our council has put forward this proposal. I hope it leads to real action in making our city a safer, healthier, and more welcoming place. We have a long way to go and no time to waste. As an Alameda resident raising a young family here, I urge you to pass this resolution and keep focus on addressing racism in Alameda.

--

Kristan LaVietes  
3273 Adams St.

## City Clerk

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**From:** Michaelia B. <michaelia247@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:50 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment

After reading the proposed resolution declaring Racism as a Public Health Emergency, I am concerned about a few items that may pose a threat to public safety as resident and employee in the city of alameda. In an effort to find a balance where all members of the community feel secure in town and receive the desired level of service, I am interested in a collaborative outline to be created by all involved city departments this change will impact and then presented to the community for feedback.

I would like to know how these proposed reductions would impact critical items under the public safety budget like response times, number of officers on patrol at any given time, the time dedicated to cases, the processing of DNA, Rape kits, access to public safety databases, processing of sex registrants, text to 911 capabilities, training, and other services public safety officials and citizens rely on. All of which i believe comes at a cost under the public safety budget.

Addressing those who are in crisis is a team effort, while all calls do not require police presence. What infrastructure is already in place that will address these concerns? What does the response to a person acting erratic at 2 pm in the afternoon look like compared to the same call at 2 am?

## City Clerk

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**From:** Lily Kotansky <lilyscout27@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:52 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 7.14 meeting

Listen to the black, indigenous and people of color of alameda. defund the police.  
what we really want is action, not more words and empty promises like this resolution. black lives matter.

## City Clerk

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**From:** Guilherme Issao Fujiwara <issaofujiwara@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:16 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments for Special Council Meeting 7/14

I would like to thank the Council for putting forth this resolution declaring Systemic Racism a public Health emergency and express my full support.

I am happy to see our city rethink what is the appropriate application of policing resources with the well being of Black people as a major goal.

That said, I recall the preparatory comments by the Vice Mayor: Black folks do not have the privilege to wait for a long-winded process before action takes place.

With that thought in mind, I would like to express my disappointment with the fact that this well intentioned resolution doesn't go far enough. Without defining clear budget cut goals as we rethink the role of police, I am afraid that we are allowing a directionally positive resolution to be diluted by long winded processes. Please recognize that long-winded processes are a key pillar holding up systemic racism, and we must embrace an uncomfortable level of bias towards action to dismantle it.

Thank you,  
Issao Fujiwara  
Alameda Resident

## City Clerk

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**From:** Rhea Boyd <rheaboydmd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:30 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for resolution to declare racism a public health issue

Hi,

I know I am past the deadline. But I wanted to express my complete support for Alameda declaring racism a public health issue and reducing funding for the police by at least 50%.

I am a pediatrician and I write and teach nationally on the health effects of racism. I also have a focus on the public health implications of police violence.

The recommendations outlined in the resolution are important and I am in full support of them, in their entirety.

Thank you,  
Rhea

## City Clerk

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**From:** Zac Oransky <zacoransky@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:20 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public comment on item 5-A

### **My name is Zac, I am a white, fourth generation Alamedan and I would like to voice my support for this resolution**

I have lived here for the majority of my 28 years here on this Earth—growing up going to Edison, Lincoln and leaving the island for high school & college. I will be forever grateful for the hundreds of friendships I made playing baseball and basketball on this island all throughout my youth and adolescence, and it's something that I still cherish because those friendships still thrive today. My friends were white, black, brown—it really didn't matter to us nor was it something that I ever thought critically about, as ultimately they were all just my friends. It wasn't until the past five years or so that I truly began to question my position on this earth. Then I started to listen and observe more to my friends of color, hearing about how drastically different their experiences were to mine ESPECIALLY in what I thought was perfect little Alameda.

A black teammate of my mine told me a story in a recent conversation. He told me about how he'd been unnecessarily pulled over SO many times by the APD throughout his 30 years of playing baseball here, that he now avoids driving through Alameda entirely with the single exception of taking his kids to and from school.

That is the reality of our city, and something that I've never had to think about, let alone consider happening to me. And that's really just a drop in the bucket, that I feel many of my white Alamedans have never thought or even considered. We are NOT all treated equal, and it's time for everyone to be introspective and learn how racism is real, in this country and on this island city. I am the 4th generation of my family to be here, and I want to be generation that inflicts immense change on our society. So please consider and, vote yes on this resolution.

## City Clerk

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**From:** Sarah Jo Neubauer <sarahjneubauer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:22 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please read: public comment on item 5-A: Please Declare Racism a Public Health Emergency.

Dear Clerk,

I was not aware I should send my letter to you - my apologies. Please include this my letter on the public comment / city record for this evening's special city council meeting.

Thank you so much,  
Sarah Jo Neubauer

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Sarah Jo Neubauer <[sarahjneubauer@gmail.com](mailto:sarahjneubauer@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Mon, Jul 13, 2020 at 11:21 PM  
**Subject:** Please Declare Racism a Public Health Emergency.  
**To:** <[mezyashcraft@alamedaca.gov](mailto:mezyashcraft@alamedaca.gov)>  
**Cc:** <[jknoxwhite@alamedaca.gov](mailto:jknoxwhite@alamedaca.gov)>, <[mvella@alamedaca.gov](mailto:mvella@alamedaca.gov)>, <[joddie@alamedaca.gov](mailto:joddie@alamedaca.gov)>

July 13, 2020

Dear Madame Mayor,

As a woman, do you feel safe in Alameda?

A few months ago, I commented to a Bay Area friend I am grateful for feeling safe walking out my door in Alameda. Now, I realize in hindsight, my White Privilege and White Supremacy allows for this comfort.

AND that is not necessarily the experience for our BIPOC friends and neighbors in Alameda.

I am writing today to ask you, and councilmembers to approve the resolution before you to: **Declare Racism a Public Health Emergency.**

Did you know: one-third of people arrested in the City of Alameda are Black? Even though Black people only comprise 7% of the City's population, 11.2% of the population in Alameda County, and 6.5% in California?

The **violence, mistreatment, and surveillance of Black people by the police in Alameda is funded by my tax dollars, and your tax dollars.** Today, you have the opportunity to stand up and say: NO MORE. You have the opportunity to begin to invest Alameda's tax dollars into anti-racist public health policies and programming, and to help us transform our community into a place where all Alameda residents experience more safety and less surveillance.



This resolution clearly names racism as the problem, provides a path to repair, and begins to outline how we will **shift funds from policing into health, housing, and community transformation that supports the health, safety and wellbeing of Black, Indigenous, and all People of Color, who are too often targeted by police violence, and are disproportionately harmed, abused or killed by unequal treatment and access to opportunity in education, healthcare, and housing.** Shifting funding from policing to program services of healthcare, housing, and non-police responses to community needs will increase the safety and quality of life of all Alameda residents.

We are at the precipice to enact sustainable change to systemic and structural racism. The community of Alameda needs you to approve this resolution, Mayor. **Our island community can be at the beginning of this national wave of change – and signal that Alameda cares about every resident's health, safety and well-being.**

I'll be attending the 7/14 special city council meeting to listen to your comments and your vote.

In Community,

Sarah Jo Neubauer

415-404-5746

[sarahjneubauer@gmail.com](mailto:sarahjneubauer@gmail.com)