

## Irma Glidden

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**From:** Molly Montgomery <mollynm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 5:30 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; Manager Manager; Tony Daysog; Jim Oddie; John Knox White; Malia Vella  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment: Please reject agenda item G-6 and consider gathering input from the community regarding police dept funding

Dear City Council of Alameda and City Manager Levitt,

My name is Molly and I have been a resident of Alameda since June of 2019, and I hope to live in this community for many years to come. I'm submitting my comment on agenda item 6-G regarding the adoption of the mid-cycle budget and amendments. **I urge you to reject the Mid-Cycle Budget Resolution.** Recent protests in favor of the Black Lives Movement in the city of Alameda have shown that we are clearly are at a historical turning point in the city of Alameda, and we need to pause and take stock to give the community a chance to provide insight into the budget, especially regarding the amount of money allocated to the Alameda Police Department. Instead of approving the budget as it currently stands, the city council needs to solicit more input from the community starting tomorrow at its Town Hall meeting.

The city council must begin the process of transitioning away from funding a police department that does not serve the needs of its citizens, one that responds to people dancing in the street with the threat of arrest. Instead, the city of Alameda should divert funds to community-based safety programs that will ensure the safety of all of its residents, particularly black and brown community members. Therefore, I urge to consider the following measures:

1. Shift patrol positions - the majority of the police budget - into community support professionals. Look to other cities who have had success in dispatching community support professionals vs. armed officers.
2. Reallocate overtime funding into funds for crossing guards and other infrastructure projects to make our streets safer for walkers and bikers.
3. Sell any military equipment owned by APD to fund community investments.

This is not the time to maintain the status quo of funding the police department at its current budget levels while accepting small changes at the margins. Such reforms will not change the underlying harmful role the police in Alameda play in making black and brown residents feel afraid and unwelcome in our city. Instead, it is time to allow the residents of Alameda to envision a safer, more inclusive community by investing in programs that will benefit all its residents. **In conclusion, I urge you to reject item 6-G so that more community input can be gathered before the budget is approved.** The time for bold change is now, but it must be created carefully and deliberately. Give Alameda the time it needs to reflect and grow.

Sincerely,

Molly Montgomery

## Irma Glidden

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**From:** Savanna Cheer <savanna.cheer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 5:30 PM  
**To:** John Knox White; Malia Vella; Jim Oddie; Tony Daysog; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft; Manager  
Manager  
**Cc:** City Clerk; Lara Weisiger  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for 6/16 Council Meeting: item 6-G

Hello Council and City Manager Levitt:

My name is Savanna and I have lived in Alameda for a little over two years now. I'm submitting my comment on agenda item 6-G regarding the adoption of the mid-cycle budget and amendments. As I know you're all aware, right now our country is facing an extraordinary and long-overdue look in the mirror. Specifically, we're having an energetic and necessary conversation about public safety, harm reduction and what purpose policing plays in our society. This conversation has come to Alameda, and it's about time.

Policing in America has failed. Police departments do not deliver on their fundamental charge: keeping communities safe. Any other profession that exhibited the level of violence, bias and dysfunction that American police do would have come under wide question by now. The simultaneous societal condition that has to be addressed in discussing the broken public safety system in America, is inequality. Inequality exists because of healthcare, housing, social and education systems that were designed by, and primarily benefit, white people. Systemic racism is real and anyone debating that at this point, is just ridiculous and ignorant. Crime occurs because of inequality. Cities and towns across our country need to be asking themselves right now - how can we address conditions of inequality so that we reduce and potentially eliminate crime thus rendering policing unnecessary? Systemic change is required right now. This should be a collective effort, and we can start right here with policing and public safety in Alameda. This will mean dismantling the dangerous and harmful tradition upon which modern policing in America is built and a reimagination of what health and safety looks like in our city. We can do this and honestly - if not now, when? Our BIPOC neighbors should not have to wait a day longer.

The first and immediate step we need to take is to begin the process of *divesting* from the Alameda Police Department in favor of *investing* in our community. We have to start to reallocate APD funding to community health and safety initiatives aimed at addressing inequality, thus reducing crime. With that in mind, ***I strongly oppose passing the resolution in item 6-G regarding the mid-cycle budget.*** By locking in this budget plan for another fiscal year, you will limit our city's ability to reallocate APD funding to other much needed efforts that actually serve the needs of our community. A year is too long to wait. You, as public servants, are obligated to deliver on this new approach to public safety.

Here are three actionable places to start (credit to Grover Wehman-Brown for these great ideas):

1. Shift patrol positions - the majority of the police budget - into community support professionals. Look to other cities who have had success in dispatching community support professionals vs. armed officers.
2. Reallocate overtime funding into funds for crossing guards and other infrastructure projects to make our streets safer for walkers and bikers.
3. Sell any military equipment owned by APD to fund community investments.

You should not pass the resolution stated in item 6-G. Amendments will need to be made to the FY2020-2021 budget to begin work on ideas like those mentioned above. To determine what other possibilities there are, you should use tomorrow's special council meeting not to propose reforms that have proven to be only partially effective or not effective at all, but to hold a community conversation centered around imagination and

rethinking. What does public safety mean to Alamedans? How does this community want to be served? What programs need amplification and support and could benefit from public funds redirected from police funding?

Reform legitimizes a harmful and broken system. Reform wastes more money repeating the same efforts that have proven to be failures. Reform is a profound lack of imagination. We're past reform, it's time to transform.

Thank you,

Savanna Cheer

## Irma Glidden

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**From:** E. Fraser <elfraser@protonmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 5:33 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; Tony Daysog; Jim Oddie; John Knox White; Malia Vella; Manager Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Comment on Agenda Item 6-G

Public Comment on Agenda Item 6-G

Dear Council, Mayor, and Staff,

I am a resident of Alameda and I, like many, was deeply troubled by the systemic racism demonstrated by the May 23 detention and assault of Mr. Mali Watkins in our city and by the Alameda Police Department (APD). It provides me no comfort that Mr. Watkins was not killed by APD; the deeply ingrained racism which led to the call to dispatch, the response by the dispatcher, and finally, the response by the officers is clear to all with open eyes. A radical and immediate response was warranted. And yet, nearly a month later, what tangible action has the City or the Council taken?

Tonight, you will vote on the Mid-Cycle Budget. The proposed Mid-Cycle Budget is presumably unchanged since the racist detention of Mr. Watkins. Specifically, the APD budget has not been adjusted in a manner which would demonstrate that the City and the Council take seriously the history and presence of racism in Alameda.

A vote for this unchanged Mid-Cycle Budget is a vote for continuing the status quo. The status quo is systemic racism. And so, your vote for the Mid-Cycle Budget is a vote for systemic racism.

For this reason, I urge you to take the following steps immediately:

1. Table the budget until discussions about radically transforming policing in Alameda have (at least) started;
2. Shift APD patrol positions (the majority of the police budget) into community support professionals;
3. Shift APD overtime funding into funds for crossing guards; and
4. Sell APD's military grade equipment to fund infrastructure investments.

These steps are needed not because of what happened in Minneapolis to George Floyd, or what is happening across the country. These steps are needed because of what happened here in our city, less than a month ago.

I urge you to vote against systemic racism. I urge you to vote against the status quo. And thus, I urge you to vote against the Mid-Cycle Budget.

Sincerely,

Erin Fraser

## Irma Glidden

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**From:** Nelson Layag <nelson@layag.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 6:50 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments for 6/16 City Council Meeting

My Name is Nelson Layag, I'm a father of 3 and resident, homeowner in Alameda since 2005. I demand that the city council take immediate action to start the process of addressing the systemic and persistent issues of our policing in our community. The first step will be to reject the current mid-cycle budget resolution and take this opportunity to make the necessary cuts to the police department AND reinvest those dollars into other community services that would enhance our community. Cutting the police budget should be aligned with narrowing the focus of the police, removing police from patrolling school grounds, and eliminating participation in militarized police training. Also, while I'm aware that possible larger budget shortfalls will likely be coming in the future for the city, we should prioritize funding services over policing. The city should not only maintain the current level of funding for services but invest in such programs like: first responders trained in mental health first aid, mental healthcare, drug and alcohol treatment, youth programs in-school and after school, parks and recreation.

I also am aware there's a push for reforms in the shape of the 8 Can't Wait campaign and will be discussed at the special 6/17 council meeting. This MUST be the absolute minimum. We need more drastic policy and structural changes. This should include transparency in how we follow up on complaints against officers and changes to the policy that gives way too much power to the police chief to direct the investigation and determine the course of discipline in cases of misconduct. It was also shocking to me that there is a police policy that basically allows police to use race as a way to establish probable cause. As we've seen here in Alameda in the case of Mr. Watkins, had it not been made public by a video captured by a witness, the police would have happily kept this quiet and it would have been just another black man being manhandled for no reason except for existing in Alameda. We need higher standards for those who have been entrusted with our safety and have the ability to use deadly force.

While I appreciate some of the city council member's and mayor's proclaiming a commitment to listening more and doing your own self reflections and learning, you are in the position to take meaningful action as a FIRST step right now. The lives, health, and well being of people are at stake. Anything short is unacceptable.

Thank you.  
-Nelson Layag

## Irma Glidden

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**From:** Marguerite Jacobs <pyke6plan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:05 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 6-16-20 Public Comment Re: Item 6-G, Budget Vote

Hello Everyone, and thank you for this time.

I will try to be brief. Before the budget vote, I wanted to take a minute to bring some attention to the nationwide and worldwide protests that have been happening in response to the murder of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and a heartbreakingly long list of names of black people and people of color who have been killed or injured as a result of police brutality. I appreciate that the council has also been paying attention to this issue and plans on holding a special city council meeting tomorrow to discuss it. My decision to address the issue of police violence here instead of waiting for tomorrow's meeting is because I believe that one of the solutions begins here, with the budget. Over the past few weeks there has been a growing awareness and acceptance of the movement to defund police departments, a move that may seem alarming before closer reading, but what it boils down to is the reallocation over time of police budgets into other areas of community need, areas that we have been content to foist onto police departments for far too long, and with sometimes disastrous results. Instead of allocating resources to try and turn police into an all purpose problem patrol, we have an opportunity here to reexamine the roles that we want the police to play in our community, and whether some of them, such as welfare checks on the homeless or mentally ill, would be more successfully performed by those with more training and more time to help. I am aware that I am bringing this perspective late into the budget conversation, and I do not hold any illusions to my impact on the vote here today. I only hope that the council will see this moment in time as the opportunity that it is, and that they also examine the possibilities presented by the reallocation of police budgets as an avenue to make Alameda safer for its black community.

Thank you,

Maggie Jacobs

## Irma Glidden

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**From:** justine wolitzer <justine.wolitzer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:17 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] STOP THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

Hello Alameda City Officials:

My name is Justine Wolitzer and I have been a resident of Alameda since last year. I am loving my new home and want Alameda to be the best it can be. I am demanding that you reject the Mid-Cycle budget resolution. I feel that it is a blatant failure to represent the community's recent demands to divert funds away from the police and reinvest them into the community. \$37.5 million is an absurd annual expenditure for a department that has continuously abused power and inflicted racial trauma upon our community members. This is not to mention the \$1.9 million in expenditures for pensions. I DEMAND you to reject the current budget resolution, and allocate funding in accordance with the following 2 changes IMMEDIATELY:

1. Reduce the expenditures for the police department by 40%. Here are some proposed changes to achieve this:

- MINIMIZE the size of the police force
- REMOVE officers with high rates of excessive force misconduct
- REMOVE officers from patrolling school grounds
- WITHDRAW APD participation in police militarization programs
- REQUIRE officers to be liable for misconduct settlements and defense attorney payments
- DISCARD the use of paid administrative leave for cops under investigation
- LIMIT overtime accrual and overtime pay for weapons training

2. Divert savings to caring for underprivileged parts of our community by investing in community care programs such as, but not limited to:

- First responders trained in mental health first aid
- Youth programs that promote learning, safety, and community care
- Non-coercive drug and alcohol treatment programming
- Non-coercive mental healthcare
- Community wellness resources
- Peer support networks
- Community tutors and counselors

- Community childcare

. - Community-based grocery cooperatives, gardens, and farms.

The recent racial incidents in this nation and on this island have shown us that the system fails to protect and support Black and NBPOC community members. We see these failures represented even within the APD policy itself. For example, policy 402.3 supports using suspect description limited to a specific race or group to establish probable cause. Even when there is misconduct, there is no guarantee of discipline because policy 1020.14.1 delegates to the police chief the sole responsibility of determining the course of discipline in cases of misconduct. These policies pave the way for racial misconduct, and thus are a form of racial VIOLENCE.

I DEMAND that funds are diverted away from the police department, which perpetuates these failures with an atrocious lack of transparency and accountability, and I DEMAND that the funds are reinvested back into the parts of our community that need it the most.

Failure to reject this resolution and revise the Mid-Cycle budget update is a misrepresentation of our desires as a community, and a misuse of our tax dollars. We, the people, are watching you, our representatives, and we will take action until our needs are met.

Sincerely,  
Justine Wolitzer  
1404 Sherman St  
Alameda CA 94501



## Irma Glidden

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**From:** E. Patterson <e.j.a.patterson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:29 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council Meeting Comment (Re: The Budget)

In my lifetime, I have seen Alameda reach the national news for two things, both shameful.

The mistreatment of Mr. Watkins by the police was the most recent. The other, in 2011, was the death of Raymond Zack, who died in the Bay as our emergency response personnel did nothing to help.

Both of these events are the direct result of lack of any alternative to the police. Mr. Zack could have been saved with a professional trained in mental illness. Mr. Watkins would not have been violently apprehended if he was instead addressed by some sort of social worker trained in de-escalation. Aggressive men approaching with guns is NOT the way to help our citizens.

We must *immediately* reduce the expenditures of the police department and invest in community programs and staff that can actually help people in crisis.  
The current budget CANNOT pass!

When you have a hammer, everything starts looking like nails. When you have an overpowered police force, every citizen starts looking like a criminal.

You cannot continue to let our citizens get treated like criminals.

Sincerely,  
E. Patterson

## Irma Glidden

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**From:** Jessica O'Brien <obrienjessm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:29 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments for Council Meeting 6/16

I would like the Council to publicly read the following facts:

Alameda Police Department is scheduled to receive a budget of \$37.5 million dollars to cover a population of 78,000 people.

The Alameda Police department's budget is just shy of the \$40 million dollars spent on the entire military of South Korea, a country with a population of nearly 52 MILLION people.

Where is this money going? How much of that budget has been spent on tear gas? How much has gone for armored, tank-style vehicles? How much has gone to militarize the police force of what is essentially a small town?

I want transparency, NOW.

I want to know where that money is being spent, NOW.

I want choke and strangle holds BANNED.

I want de-escalation REQUIRED.

I want all alternatives to be exhausted before shooting, REQUIRED.

I want a BAN on shooting at moving vehicles.

I want a BAN on Use of Force Continuum.

I want reports REQUIRED when a firearm is pointed at a civilian.

I want all officers involved in the excessive force against and arrest of Mali Watkins to be placed under investigation, WITHOUT PAY, immediately.

I want the names of those officers released.

I want to see action by this city's leaders to DEFUND the police, and re-route funding to trained, unarmed social workers.

Thank you.

-Jessica O'Brien

## Irma Glidden

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**From:** will robot <willrobot@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:41 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Commentary on budget.

The police were never meant to be, nor should they become a standing army. The level at which we are funding our police and the power they are given is incredibly disproportionate to education, public health, and social services that would mitigate many of the conditions that cause us to deploy police. Armed force is a very poor response to most situations and police overreaction seems more a constant than an exception.

The police should be a public service equal to fire fighting, mail delivery, and social services and a lesser service than health and education . Their budget should reflect this.

Thank you for your time.

Hello my name is Nikki Kim and I've been organizing Alameda Youth for the past 3 weeks in response to the unjust killings and harassment of Black people in this country and in this area. We have had several marches in Alameda, sit-ins at Alameda Police Department, and a vigil recently, we are attending today's City Council meeting to re-read our statement and to share our demands of the proposed budget conversation.

These are our demands of the City of Alameda officials to end Police terror: We the people of Alameda California stand with the Black Lives Matter movement. It is evident from the video that went viral of a Black man being arrested for exercising in the street on May 23, 2020 that the Alameda Police Department is not exempt from the bias perpetrated and disproportionately against Black people, indigenous people and other people of color. From this point forward, we will not tolerate excessive force, harassment or racial profiling of any sort. Our City officials have made it clear that they are not interested in systemic change developed by local impacted youth and families, therefore, we demand the following: 1) release the names of the officers involved in the arrest of Mr. Watkins, a Black man in Alameda for exercising in the street on May 23, 2020 immediately as well as the unedited body camera footage in the video 2) Immediately place the involved officers on administrative leave pending investigation, we don't want them patrolling our streets and continuing to use excessive force against Black and Brown men in Alameda 3) de-fund the Police, provide audit of Police budget with a focus on redirecting resources toward education services, healthcare, welfare, public housing and other social services immediately. We want to reinvest in community based alternatives to 911 calls such as mental health, and intervention workers as well outside of first responders, 4) quarterly release of Police use of force and arrest by race data, we want those happening consistently and made public to all of Alameda, 5) we want independent oversight to review Police conduct and excessive use of force 6) remove all law enforcement from schools and reinvest in education services and funding for the schools themselves, 7) Police officers should be unable to turn off their body cameras while active. These are our demands and we request that you listen to these and we are open to conversation, again my name is Nikki Kim, I am a 17 year old recent high school graduate from Alameda High and I look forward to speaking with you on those demands.

## Irma Glidden

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**From:** +14154255986@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:46 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +14154255986

As a resident of Alameda, I would like to know how much of the APD budget is allocated for the purchase, storage, maintenance, and distribution of tear gas. This and all other chemical weapon are prohibited for use in warfare under the Geneva Protocol of 1925, enforced by a number of international treaties.

Message from: +14154255986, 16 Jun 2020 22:45  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## Irma Glidden

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**From:** +15108722211@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:57 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15108722211

I would like this to be read for section 6-G. I DEMAND you to reject the current budget resolution, and allocate funding in accordance with the following 2 changes IMMEDIATELY:

Reduce the expenditures for the police department by 40%. - MINIMIZE the size of the police force - REMOVE officers with high rates of excessive force misconduct - REMOVE officers from patrolling school grounds - WITHDRAW APD participation in police militarization programs - REQUIRE officers to be liable for misconduct settlements and defense attorney payments - DISCARD the use of paid administrative leave for cops under investigation - LIMIT overtime accrual and overtime pay for weapons training Divert savings to caring for underprivileged parts of our community by investing in community care programs such as, but not limited to: - First responders trained in mental health first aid - Youth programs that promote learning, safety, and community care - Non-coercive drug and alcohol treatment programming - Non-coercive mental healthcare - Community wellness resources - Peer support networks - Community tutors and counselors - Community childcare - Community-based grocery cooperatives, gardens, and farms The recent racial incidents in this nation and on this island have shown us that the system fails to protect and support Black and NBPOC community members. We see these

failures represented even within the APD policy itself. For example, policy 402.3 supports using suspect description limited to a specific race or group to establish probable cause. Even when there is misconduct, there is no guarantee of discipline because policy 1020.14.1 delegates to the police chief the sole responsibility of determining the course of discipline in cases of misconduct. These policies pave the way for racial misconduct, and thus are a form of racial VIOLENCE. I DEMAND that funds are diverted away from the police department, which perpetuates these failures with an atrocious lack of transparency and accountability, and I DEMAND that the funds are reinvested back into the parts of our community that need it the most. Failure to reject this resolution and revise the Mid-Cycle budget update is a misrepresentation of our desires as a community, and a misuse of our tax dollars. We, the people, are watching you, our representatives, and we will take action until our needs are met.

Message from: +15108722211, 16 Jun 2020 22:56

To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## Irma Glidden

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**From:** +15108722211@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:59 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15108722211

From Rachel Wellman

Message from: +15108722211, 16 Jun 2020 22:59

To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## Irma Glidden

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**From:** Jeanne Allen <jallen94501@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:11 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Police funding

My name is John A. and I have been a resident of Alameda for 4 years now. I am demanding that you reject the mid cycle budget resolution as it stands. I feel that you have not been listening to the community, especially the demands our community has been making recently. The community, similar to other communities across the country, are demanding a diversion of city funds ( funds that tax payers such as myself and every other resident of the island contributes to ) away from Police and back into the community. 37.5 million is an absurd figure for an affluent and privileged community such as Alameda, which does not have a crime problem. The police have shown time and time again, most recently with Mali Watkins, that they are not properly utilizing the enormous funds that are given to them. They are instead using their positions of power to terrorize innocent citizens.

I demand that the police budget be reduced by

- Minimizing the size of the police force
- Removing officers with high rates of excessive force misconduct
- Removing officers from schools across the city
- Withdrawing APD from police militarization programs
- Require officers to be liable for misconduct settlements and defense attorney payments
- Discard the use of paid administrative leave for police officers under investigation
- Limit overtime accrual and overtime pay for weapons

Ways to spend funds saved by reducing police

- Investing in first responders trained in mental health first aid
- Investing in youth programs that promote learning, safety, and community care
- Investing in non coercive drug and alcohol treatment programs
- Investing in mental healthcare
- Investing in dealing with the homeless crisis affecting ALL bay area cities
- Investing in community childcare
- Investing in peer support networks
- Investing in community

We need to use our tax dollars to uplift people, instead of perpetuating an endless cycle of violence.

Sincerely,

John A.

## Irma Glidden

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**From:** +15104278120@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:13 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15104278120

This comment is on agenda item 6G. Hello, My name is Danielle Mieler. I am a 12 year resident raising two young boys in this community. In light of revelations of Alameda Police conduct in the arrest of Mali Watkins, I have serious concerns about the conduct of Alameda Police in that situation and others in which members of our community have been unfairly targeted by police. I believe that Alameda can remain a safe and secure community for its residents and improve quality of life for our residents by reducing the police budget so that police focus on criminal activity and not non-criminal quality of life issues. I believe that some fundamental changes are needed to our police system in Alameda to change to the scope of responsibilities, reduce the police budget and divert funds to programs and services that benefit minority communities. Funding in programs such as education, healthcare, welfare, public housing and social services, if directed to those most in need, will pay dividends and proactively reduce crime in our community. I also ask Council conduct a comprehensive audit of the police budget and identify appropriate cuts and reinvestment in community services.

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Message from: +15104278120, 16 Jun 2020 23:12  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## Irma Glidden

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**From:** +15102277399@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:14 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15102277399

Agenda Item 6G: Hello City Council Members, I respectfully request that you not approve the current police budget and that you take this opportunity to act in the direction of decreasing funding for the police department and reallocate funding to serve our community in a more holistic and socially just way. Policing in its current form is a central structure of white supremacy as evidenced by countless acts of police brutality against our black and brown citizens around the country. The incident on May 23 indicates that Alameda is not immune to the toxic, violent, racist culture of policing. While I recognize that defunding the police may seem like a radical concept, a review of the history reveals that policing is not only a modern concept but was designed largely to control and brutalize black and brown bodies. I urge you to view the guidance offered by the 8 to abolition campaign and the defunding ideas presented by black activist leaders and make a commitment now to redefine policing in our city.

Message from: +15102277399, 16 Jun 2020 23:13  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## Irma Glidden

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**From:** Duc Nguyen <duc.alameda@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:16 PM  
**To:** Lara Weisiger  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: To be read in 6/16 Regular City Council Meeting

Would you please read this instead for 6-G (and none of the previous emails):

To the council:

I am urging you not to pass the Mid-Cycle budget resolution. I feel that the budget update is a failure to represent the community's recent calls to divert funds away from the police and reinvest them into the community. \$37.5 million is too large an annual expenditure for a department that perpetuates and reinforces the systemic racism that pervades our local and national community.

Please do not pass the budget resolution until there has been significant input from the community on how to move forward with the Police Department budget, and significant revision to the Mid-Cycle update reflecting the community's desires. The savings need to be diverted to caring for our community in a way that is directed by the community at large, not just by the smaller, privileged portion of the community that is able to log onto Zoom meetings. Please come up with intelligent and creative solutions to engage with less privileged parts of the community. Please do the work to fairly represent our needs as a community.

Thank you.

On Tue, Jun 16, 2020 at 7:58 PM Lara Weisiger <[lweisiger@alamedaca.gov](mailto:lweisiger@alamedaca.gov)> wrote:

Hi,

Your comment will be read.

Thanks,

Lara

**From:** Duc Nguyen [mailto:[duc.alameda@gmail.com](mailto:duc.alameda@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:21 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[CLERK@alamedaca.gov](mailto:CLERK@alamedaca.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: To be read in 6/16 Regular City Council Meeting

(this is for 6-G)

On Tue, Jun 16, 2020 at 7:20 PM Duc Nguyen <[duc.alameda@gmail.com](mailto:duc.alameda@gmail.com)> wrote:

To the council:

My name is Duc and I have been a resident of Alameda for 25+ years. I am urging you to reject the Mid-Cycle budget resolution. I feel that the update is a failure to represent the community's recent calls to divert funds away from the police and reinvest them into the community. \$37.5 million is too large an annual expenditure for a department that perpetuates and reinforces the systemic racism that pervades our local and national community.

Do not pass the budget resolution until there has been significant input from the community on how to move forward with the Police Department budget, and significant revision to the Mid-Cycle update reflecting the community's desires. The savings need to be diverted to caring for our community in a way that is directed by the community at large, not just by the smaller, privileged portion of the community that is able to log onto Zoom meetings. Please come up with intelligent and creative solutions to engage with the less privileged part of the community. Please do the work to fairly represent our needs as a community.

Thank you.

## Irma Glidden

---

**From:** Luis Booth <luisbooth15@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 9:01 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] STOP THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

> (This item should be addressed during the 6G section on the agenda)

> To City Council

>

> Good evening, my name Luis Booth. First of all, I appreciate the Juneteenth celebration, but I ask that we take a step back from the celebration of emancipation and take a good look at where racial issues are today. People of color are still thoroughly oppressed, and the current budget resolution does nothing to address this. In fact, I am demanding that you reject and revise the Mid-Cycle budget resolution because it is clear that it was created in negligence of the communities Recent demands to defund the police and address police brutality. While I appreciate the sentiment of discussing 8cantwait and freezing hiring in the police force, this is absolutely not enough.

>

> 8cantwait is not the topic of this meeting, but it is important to note that the bold 72% reduction claims were made based on faulty research. First of all, it was only based on 18 months of data and only 91 police departments. This is too small a sample size and time frame to make such grand claims. Additionally, cities that have implemented a number of these 8 policies have still seen horrible cases of police brutality. Hennepin County, Minnesota, had 8cantwait policies but George Floyd was still murdered. The campaignzero website has even altered their webpage (8cantwait.org) to concede to the vast amount of scrutiny and criticism that they have been under in the past 3 weeks. Campaignzero themselves have even admitted that 8cantwait fails to create any sort of valuable change to police systems.

>

> Instead, we need to:

>

> 1. Reduce the expenditures for the police department by 40%. Here are some proposed changes to achieve this:

>

> - MINIMIZE the size of the police force

>

> - REMOVE officers with high rates of excessive force misconduct

>

> - REMOVE officers from patrolling school grounds

>

> - WITHDRAW APD participation in police militarization programs

>

> - REQUIRE officers to be liable for misconduct settlements and defense attorney payments

>

> - DISCARD the use of paid administrative leave for cops under investigation

>

> . - LIMIT overtime accrual and overtime pay for weapons training

>

> 2. Divert savings to caring for underprivileged parts of our community by investing in community care programs such as, but not limited to:

>

> - First responders trained in mental health first aid

>



> - Youth programs that promote learning, safety, and community care

>

> - Non-coercive drug and alcohol treatment programming

>

> - Non-coercive mental healthcare

>

> - Community wellness resources

>

> - Peer support networks

>

> - Community tutors and counselors

>

> - Community childcare

>

> - Community-based grocery cooperatives, gardens, and farms.

>

> Additionally, the recent racial incidents in this nation and on this island have shown us that the system fails to protect and support Black and NBPoC community members. We see these failures represented even within the APD policy itself. For example, policy 402.3 supports using suspect description limited to a specific race or group to establish probable cause. Even when there is misconduct, there is no guarantee of discipline because policy 1020.14.1 delegates to the police chief the sole responsibility of determining the course of discipline in cases of misconduct. These policies pave the way for racial misconduct, and thus are a form of racial VIOLENCE.

>

> I DEMAND that funds are diverted away from the police department, which perpetuates these failures with an atrocious lack of transparency and accountability, and I DEMAND that the funds are reinvested back into the parts of our community that need it the most.

>

> Failure to reject and revise the Mid-Cycle budget update is a misrepresentation of Alameda's community desires, and a misuse of our tax dollars. If the community's needs are not reflected with policy, we must resort to increased political activism.

>

> From,

> Luis

## Irma Glidden

---

**From:** +15107018278@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:29 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15107018278

Why has Alameda Police not yet released a statement concerning the police brutality present in both Alameda, Oakland, and other neighboring cities? Why has Alameda Police chosen to remain silent while Oakland Police exploit their power and violently attack peaceful protestors, including young children and teenagers?

Message from: +15107018278, 16 Jun 2020 22:28  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## Irma Glidden

---

**From:** +15107018278@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:24 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15107018278

Finally, when will your plans to remove police officers from all AUSD schools be announced and put into action? There is no need for money to be spent on officers in public schools. There are alternatives to officers patrolling our schools every day of the week. Instead, why don't we pay our teachers living wages and invest in education services to help those in need, such as those with learning disabilities, or challenging home environments.

Message from: +15107018278, 17 Jun 2020 01:23  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## Irma Glidden

---

**From:** +15107018278@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:24 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15107018278

I'd like the first text and that most recent text to be read aloud in that order

Message from: +15107018278, 17 Jun 2020 01:23  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## Irma Glidden

---

**From:** +15105795522@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 9:21 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15105795522

I am in support of MORE policing in Alameda. Please increase funding and keep Alameda safe. I want more of our great uniformed hero's patrolling.

Message from: +15105795522, 17 Jun 2020 00:21  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## Irma Glidden

---

**From:** +15105892628@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 9:28 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15105892628

I am thankful for the Alameda Police Department and the investment they make in our community. Alameda is a safe place to live because of their work. I am favor of keeping our police department funded!

Message from: +15105892628, 17 Jun 2020 00:28  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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## Irma Glidden

---

**From:** Lara Weisiger  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:13 PM  
**To:** 'Linda Asbury'  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Police Budget Allocations

This will be read into the record:

Mayor Ezzy Ashcraft, Vice Mayor John Know White, Council members Malia Vella, Jim Oddie and Tony Daysog.

Considering the current climate of policing in Alameda and most every where in the United States, some changes will be necessary. On behalf of the West Alameda Business Association Board of Directors, we are asking for money currently in the budget for sworn Police Officers, be re-allocated to the hiring of Community officers to assist in non-crime issues in Alameda.

There are a number of issues on Webster Street that are no longer being addressed by the Police Department and they are detrimental to our district. Our directive is to keep a clean, safe and inviting environment for our merchants. This has been a very difficult time and the change in policing is making our district suffer. Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request. I am available for further conversations regarding our needs and how we can contribute to the well being of Alameda. Linda

Linda Asbury  
Executive Director  
West Alameda Business Association

**From:** Linda Asbury [mailto:[linda@westalamedabusiness.com](mailto:linda@westalamedabusiness.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:12 PM  
**To:** Lara Weisiger <[lweisiger@alamedaca.gov](mailto:lweisiger@alamedaca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Police Budget Allocations

You are the best! L

On Tue, Jun 16, 2020, 10:11 PM Lara Weisiger <[lweisiger@alamedaca.gov](mailto:lweisiger@alamedaca.gov)> wrote:

Yes.

**From:** Linda Asbury [mailto:[linda@westalamedabusiness.com](mailto:linda@westalamedabusiness.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:10 PM  
**To:** Lara Weisiger <[lweisiger@alamedaca.gov](mailto:lweisiger@alamedaca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Police Budget Allocations

Can I submit my email that I sent earlier today?

On Tue, Jun 16, 2020, 10:09 PM Lara Weisiger <[lweisiger@alamedaca.gov](mailto:lweisiger@alamedaca.gov)> wrote:

I wanted to make sure you know I was answering, no, it is not too late, you can still submit something.

**From:** Linda Asbury [mailto:[linda@westalamedabusiness.com](mailto:linda@westalamedabusiness.com)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:08 PM

**To:** Lara Weisiger <[lweisiger@alamedaca.gov](mailto:lweisiger@alamedaca.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Police Budget Allocations

Got it. Thanks.

On Tue, Jun 16, 2020, 10:07 PM Lara Weisiger <[lweisiger@alamedaca.gov](mailto:lweisiger@alamedaca.gov)> wrote:

No

**From:** Linda Asbury [mailto:[linda@westalamedabusiness.com](mailto:linda@westalamedabusiness.com)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:05 PM

**To:** Lara Weisiger <[lweisiger@alamedaca.gov](mailto:lweisiger@alamedaca.gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Police Budget Allocations

Is it too late for my email to be public comment? L

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

From: **Linda Asbury** <[linda@westalamedabusiness.com](mailto:linda@westalamedabusiness.com)>

Date: Tue, Jun 16, 2020, 12:34 PM

Subject: Police Budget Allocations

To: Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft <[mezzyashcraft@alamedaca.gov](mailto:mezzyashcraft@alamedaca.gov)>, John Knox White <[jknoxwhite@gmail.com](mailto:jknoxwhite@gmail.com)>, Jim Oddie <[joddie@alamedaca.gov](mailto:joddie@alamedaca.gov)>, Malia Vella <[mvella@alamedaca.gov](mailto:mvella@alamedaca.gov)>, <[tdaysog@alamedaca.gov](mailto:tdaysog@alamedaca.gov)>, Eric Levitt <[elevitt@alamedaca.gov](mailto:elevitt@alamedaca.gov)>, LARA WEISIGER <[LWEISIGER@alamedaca.gov](mailto:LWEISIGER@alamedaca.gov)>, PAUL ROLLERI <[prolleri@alamedaca.gov](mailto:prolleri@alamedaca.gov)>, Fireside <[sandy@thefiresidelounge.com](mailto:sandy@thefiresidelounge.com)>

Mayor Ezzy Ashcraft, Vice Mayor John Know White, Council members Malia Vella, Jim Oddie and Tony Daysog.



Considering the current climate of policing in Alameda and most every where in the United States, some changes will be necessary. On behalf of the West Alameda Business Association Board of Directors, we are asking for money currently in the budget for sworn Police Officers, be re-allocated to the hiring of Community officers to assist in non-crime issues in Alameda.

There are a number of issues on Webster Street that are no longer being addressed by the Police Department and they are detrimental to our district. Our directive is to keep a clean, safe and inviting environment for our merchants. This has been a very difficult time and the change in policing is making our district suffer. Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request. I am available for further conversations regarding our needs and how we can contribute to the well being of Alameda. Linda

Linda Asbury

Executive Director

West Alameda Business Association

[linda@westalamedabusiness.com](mailto:linda@westalamedabusiness.com)

510.523.5955

## Irma Glidden

---

**From:** +16508631195@textmagic.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:15 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SMS from +16508631195

This is a shame. We do not support defunding the police department. Don't vote in favor of decreasing the budget. Cities like Camden and Detroit are prime examples of why defunding is a FATAL decision.

Message from: +16508631195, 17 Jun 2020 01:15  
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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Text message from Ashley Mullins:

Hello City Council Members, I respectfully request that you not approve the current police budget and that you take this opportunity to act in the direction of decreasing funding for the police department and reallocate funding to serve our community in a more holistic and socially just way. Policing in its current form is a central structure of white supremacy as evidenced by countless acts of police brutality against our black and brown citizens around the country. The incident on May 23 indicates that Alameda is not immune to the toxic, violent, racist culture of policing.

While I recognize that defunding the police may seem like a radical concept, a review of the history reveals that policing is not only a modern concept but was designed largely to control and brutalize black and brown bodies. I urge you to view the guidance offered by the 8 to abolition campaign and the defunding ideas presented by black activist leaders and make a commitment now to redefine policing in our city.

## Irma Glidden

---

**From:** John Knox White  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:39 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Community statement/ zoom issues

Best,

John Knox White  
Vice Mayor, Alameda

Miss the Town Hall on Enforcement in Alameda?  
Watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5iSldYjFm8>

---

**From:** Dede Lewis <lewis.dede@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:38 PM  
**To:** City of Alameda Zoom 1 <coa-zoom-1@alamedaca.gov>; Malia Vella <MVella@alamedaca.gov>; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft <MEzzyAshcraft@alamedaca.gov>; Jim Oddie <JOddie@alamedaca.gov>; John Knox White <JknoxWhite@alamedaca.gov>; Tony Daysog <TDaysog@alamedaca.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Community statement/ zoom issues

Dear Alameda City Council-

I should have woken up my kids to help me sort out my Zoom update issue. Anyway, like so many Alamedans I am calling on you to reevaluate the midcycle budget. I echo the concerns of so many of my neighbors in terms of a systemic racism, and culture within our police department. I am calling on you to reallocate funds specifically towards mandatory de-escalation training and anti-bias training throughout the department.

As a mother and involved parent in AUSD, I am calling on the city to remove the police from our schools. As school staff is working hard to reimagine what school will look like when we return. We need you to support them and the funds that go to police on campus are a great start. We know we have a significant need for academic, social, mental health and behavioral interventions for students as they return to school. We have significant data to show police are not the appropriate ones to provide these services. We need in school community resources, councilors and restorative justice practices. I am urging you to help provide the very best for all of our kids, because they are all OUR kids.

Thank you,

Dede Lewis

## Irma Glidden

---

**From:** Amy Chu <natureamy2358@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 9:00 PM  
**To:** Lara Weisiger  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] 6G Public Comment – Rejecting the Mid-Cycle Budget Resolution

Hi Lara,

Thank you for your reply. I will raise my hand when we reach item 6G and speak my public comment. Is it possible to have this comment on record as well as speak?

Best,  
Amy

On Jun 16, 2020, at 8:56 PM, Lara Weisiger <[lweisiger@alamedaca.gov](mailto:lweisiger@alamedaca.gov)> wrote:

Hi Amy,  
We are not on the budget item yet, but you can comment or I can read you comment into the record.  
Thanks,  
Lara

---

**From:** Amy Chu [<mailto:natureamy2358@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:52 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[CLERK@alamedaca.gov](mailto:CLERK@alamedaca.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 6G Public Comment – Rejecting the Mid-Cycle Budget Resolution

Dear City Clerk Weisiger,

If you are still taking verbal public comments at this point in the meeting, please unmute me (Amy Chu). Otherwise, I ask you to acknowledge this public comment during the City Council meeting. Thank you.

---

Good evening members of the City Council,

My name is Amy Chu and I have been an Alameda resident for 20 years. I graduated from Encinal in 2018 and currently attend UC Berkeley. I was a former student representative for the School Board and Encinal School Site Council. So as a student and active resident, I urge you to listen to the demands of youth activists who have galvanized the community. I ask you to consider the many comments before me to reject the budget resolution, divert funds away from the police department, and reinvest back into community resources. Let's look at supporting our communities instead of policing them. Wellness centers and specialized first-responders are some of the many initiatives we can reinvest in.

While I understand a significant change in the budget is a comprehensive process, it is important to focus on critical changes. **Do not pass this budget resolution and back anti-racist policy changes financially.** Listen to the youth that you laud. Uplift the Black voices that you claim to support. I appreciated the discussion of re-evaluating Alameda's perception of accountability which was brought up at last Wednesday's Town Hall. This is the chance for Alameda to innovate, rethink, and restructure. As another speaker before me conveyed – simple reform measures like 8-Can't-Wait do not prove to be effective in other cities and seem more like a smokescreen of progress, rather than systemic change. I am looking forward to tomorrow's special meeting, but for today, reject this budget resolution and take action in all capacities – which includes the most fundamental change of what the city prioritizes to fund.

Thank you for your time.