

City Clerk

From: Marguerite Jacobs <pyke6plan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:38 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 6-17-20 Public Comment Re: Item 3-A

Hello Everyone and thank you for this time. I wanted to share some thoughts about the 8 Can't Wait initiative in theory, and potential areas of weakness in practice. I, like many of my peers, initially found Campaign Zero's call to action very promising, and circulated the graphics and watched President Barack Obama's endorsement of the reforms with interest. Very soon after however, I started to see a counter argument more and more from the organizations behind the majority of the protests (such as The Movement for Black Lives and Reclaim the Block), and from the activists who had been sustaining the cause for longer than I or anyone else sharing the 8 Can't Wait graphics had been, and I wanted to share their perspective here. The conflict, they assert, is one between the school of Reforming, and the school of Defunding. Reforms are not a strong enough incentive to end police brutality. Banning chokeholds, for instance, is good theory, but in 2014 the NYPD had already been banned from using chokeholds when they used one on Eric Garner, who died as a result. Just yesterday it was reported by Insider that the officer who shot Rayshard Brooks last Friday, had completed a de-escalation training as recently as April. New rules should theoretically dictate police behavior, but new rules without increased accountability, in practice may only be guidelines. If there are no actual long term consequences for bad cops, I have little trust that the behavior or culture will improve. I am not saying this to dissuade the city council from implementing these reforms, if I am wrong, and they work as claimed, I would be very happy to hear it. I say this because if the council is truly committed to making meaningful change in police conduct and reducing police violence on communities of color, I urge them not to stop with this initiative, but to consider taking on larger, more difficult approaches, such as reallocating police budgets to serve communities in need, or to identify and challenge the structural obstacles to police accountability.

Maggie Jacobs

City Clerk

From: Karya Lustig <karya.lustig@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:39 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] item 3A public comment

Dear city council

I'm a concerned citizen of Alameda writing to ask for police reform in our city. Like many citizens I want to make sure that Alameda continues down a path of change and reform – we should not be known, moving forward, by our racist police force. POC and especially Black people should not fear living, coming to events or working here.

I thank the council for sound budget decisions last night and for voting to wait on some police force reform related decisions until after working more with the community in today's session.

I want to voice support for changes to police training and conduct including elements outlined in 8 can't wait - but see these as a bare minimum needed in the immediate. Really, we should be striving towards the 8 to abolition goals - I voice strong need for additional changes tied to use of city funds for alternate support services. A new division should be established for the city's supportive services that would be led by a Chief Preventive Medicine Officer – this would be a public health leader that can lead the vision and implementation of such a department and facilitate the change. This new division would include:

- Police oversight commission
- Restorative justice program with a built-in adult, youth and teen/ young adult component
- Mental health emergency responders with a team of adult, youth and teen/ young adult trained specialists
- Trauma informed counselors and trainers that would mediate community concerns and situations again with a team of adult, youth and teen/young adult trained counselors and trainers.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

--

Karya Lustig

karya.lustig@gmail.com

City Clerk

From: +15107018278@textmagic.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:39 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15107018278

Release the names and identities of the officers involved in the arrest of Mali Watkins now.

Message from: +15107018278, 17 Jun 2020 17:39
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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City Clerk

From: +15107018278@textmagic.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:40 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15107018278

Also why was de escalation needed for the interaction with Mr Watkins? He was dancing. In. The. Street.

Message from: +15107018278, 17 Jun 2020 17:39
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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City Clerk

From: +14439356104@textmagic.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:43 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SMS from +14439356104

go to 8toabolition.com. actually listen to the Black Lives Matter movement. defund the police. demilitarize communities. remove police from schools. free people from jails and prisons. repeal laws that criminalize survival. invest in community self governance. provide safe housing for everyone. invest in care, not cops.

Message from: +14439356104, 17 Jun 2020 17:42
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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Irma Glidden

From: +15104961742@textmagic.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:53 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15104961742

The proposed adoption of the 8cantwait policy is a reformist initiative that does not address police brutality as a systemic problem. it is not enough to reduce police violence by just 72%. Vice Mayor's recent email stated that "the real work is around systemic change". if this is true, then the city of alameda must defund the alameda police department and reinvest in community-based alternatives to police, such as having mental health workers as first responders. investment in public safety means a real commitment to uprooting the police as an institution that excuses, justifies, and perpetuates deep harm to Black and brown communities.

Message from: +15104961742, 17 Jun 2020 17:53
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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Irma Glidden

From: Emma Freeman <emma.freegirl@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:54 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] comment for special city council meeting June 17
Attachments: 8toAbolition_V2.pdf

Hello,

I am a resident of Alameda. I respectfully ask the City Council to look beyond the dangerous half measures of the "8 Can't Wait" initiative and adopt the "8 to Abolition" initiative as outlined below and in the attached PDF.

The 8 Can't Wait campaign relies on existing methods that have already been proven not to work. It recycles tactics that rely on police judgment and decision-making rather than on building power in affected communities. The 8 to Abolition campaign, instead, advocates for defunding police authorities, decarceration, providing accessible housing, and decriminalizing Black, Brown, and poor communities.

The 8 points that must be prioritized in our community are:

1. Defund the Police
2. Demilitarize Communities
3. Remove Police From Schools
4. Free People from Prisons and Jails
5. Repeal Laws That Criminalize Survival
6. Invest in Community Self-Governance
7. Provide Safe Housing for Everyone
8. Invest in Care, Not Cops

We need to redirect funding from the police department to investing in actions that better serve everyone in the community.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide feedback.

Emma Freeman

Irma Glidden

From: Lily Kotansky <lilyscout27@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 6:12 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] 8 can't wait is incorrect thinking

Lara - I realize this will be submitted for comment, not just an email. please see amended comment here:

If you really want to do your research - PLEASE for the sake of BLACK LIVES (and BIPOC LIVES IN GENERAL) look at the 8 To Abolition website and realize 8 can't wait does NOT cut it!

this is a direct quote from website:

As police and prison abolitionists, we believe that this campaign is dangerous and irresponsible, offering a slate of reforms that have already been tried and failed, that mislead a public newly invigorated to the possibilities of police and prison abolition, and that do not reflect the needs of criminalized communities.

We honor the work of abolitionists who have come before us, and those who organize now. A better world is possible. We refuse to allow the blatant co-optation of decades of abolitionist organizing toward reformist ends that erases the work of Black feminist theorists. As the abolitionist organization Critical Resistance [recently noted](#), 8 Can't Wait will merely "improve policing's war on us." Additionally, [many abolitionists have already debunked the 8 Can't Wait campaign's claims, assumptions, and faulty science.](#)

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 17, 2020, at 6:02 PM, City Clerk <CLERK@alamedaca.gov> wrote:

Hi,
Your comment will be read.
Thanks,
Lara

From: Lily Kotansky [mailto:lilyscout27@icloud.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:56 PM
To: City Clerk <CLERK@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 8 can't wait is incorrect thinking

<https://www.8toabolition.com/>

If you really want to do your research - PLEASE for the sake of BLACK LIVES (and BIPOC LIVES IN GENERAL) look at this website and realize 8 can't wait does NOT cut it!

Please!

Thank you,
Lily

From the website:

While communities across the country mourn the loss of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, Jamel Floyd, and so many more Black victims of police murder, Campaign Zero released its [8 Can't Wait campaign](#), offering a set of eight reforms they claim would reduce police killings by 72%.

As police and prison abolitionists, we believe that this campaign is dangerous and irresponsible, offering a slate of reforms that have already been tried and failed, that mislead a public newly invigorated to the possibilities of police and prison abolition, and that do not reflect the needs of criminalized communities.

We honor the work of abolitionists who have come before us, and those who organize now.

A better world is possible. We refuse to allow the blatant co-optation of decades of abolitionist organizing toward reformist ends that erases the work of Black feminist theorists. As the abolitionist organization Critical Resistance [recently noted](#), 8 Can't Wait will merely "improve policing's war on us." Additionally, [many abolitionists have already debunked the](#) 8 Can't Wait campaign's claims, assumptions, and faulty science.

Irma Glidden

From: Jillian Blanchard <blanchard.jillian@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 5:56 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments to City Council on Agenda Item 3-A

City Council:

I support the recommendation for common sense limits on use of force and 8 can't wait, but I believe we can, and need to, do more. It is critical that we listen to the needs and concerns of the black and brown community and reform the police force to ensure that every Alamedan is protected and served by the police force.

In addition to 8can'twait, I support the following:

1. Establishing a Citizens Oversight Commission, that includes impacted residents, to provide ongoing input and to provide greater accountability of the APD from an objective third party;
2. Reducing/Reallocating APD Budget- Move more of the APD budget to community investment in: afterschool programs, community mentor programs, and our Alameda teachers! Alameda teachers should not be paid 25% as much as APD officers. Better education and programs in schools leads to greater opportunity and reduced crime in the long run. I strongly support setting aside some of the police budget to establish new community programs with the help of input from the Citizen's Oversight Commission and the community writ large;
3. Data driven review process to assess the behavior of every police officer ;
4. New Chief Medical Officer role to implement a more restorative justice model, rather than just punitive justice; and
5. Establishing a vetting process for reviewing and assessing bias among existing and future police officers and diversity training for APD officers. We need to weed out unconscious bias from those who are assigned to protect and serve.

Thank you for taking this matter seriously. I hope the council continues to work with APD and the community to make real change.

Sincerely,

Jillian Blanchard
Alameda Resident

Irma Glidden

From: April Madison <momesq2@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 6:12 PM
To: City Clerk; Lara Weisiger
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Special City Council Meeting Agenda Item 3-A

Ms. Weisiger:

If possible, I would like this statement read during tonight's meeting.

As a citizen of the City of Alameda with two Black sons, I appreciate the City Council's consideration of the "8 Can't Wait" police reform proposals. However, such short term, limited police reform only addresses use of force policies. As mentioned earlier in the staff report, Campaign Zero has put together a broader thoughtful, reasoned set of recommendations for "limiting police interactions (reducing or eliminating police violence), improving community interactions and ensuring accountability." This broader platform for long term police reform must be considered in order for meaningful change to take place.

Campaign Zero recommends:

1. ending the criminalization of minor, victimless behavior, i.e. walking while black, alleged disorderly conduct, loitering, etc. This might also include de-prioritizing and defunding enforcement police resources being used for these types of oversight.
2. community oversight - community involvement in holding officers accountable for misconduct and enforcement of policies
3. limiting use of force- "8 can't wait" is an abbreviated start
4. independent investigation and prosecution of police misconduct- prosecutors cannot fairly investigate the police; independent unbiased investigations are required

5. community presence and representation- more diversity and representation of the community, but also more meaningful involvement in the community
6. body cam regulations- rules about when cameras must be in use
7. enhanced cultural training- deprogramming- right now POST requires more training on firearm use than on de-escalation and cultural training
8. end for profit policing, i.e. incentives for tickets
9. demilitarization of local police- no funds for militarization
10. limiting union contract's interference with accountability

I encourage the Council to establish resources to address the broader issues.

April Madison-Ramsey, Esq.

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then is not an act, but a habit." -Aristotle

Date: June 17, 2020

To: Mayor Marilyn Ashcraft, City Councilmembers, City Manager Eric Levitt and City Staff

From: Karen Bey

Subject: Alameda Police Department Reforms

Watching George Floyd be murdered on national television and then watching Mali Watkins body slammed and handcuffed while dancing in the streets has caused me a tremendous amount of pain. As an African American who has lived in Alameda for over 35 years, I ask the question -- when is this hatred going to end?

I support the changes staff is recommending, and in addition, I'm adding the following comments regarding police reforms:

- While I recognize the increase in crime and burglaries in our city, profiling all people of color as criminals or burglars must stop. This belief system is one of the leading causes that have led to police brutality.
- Consider what it's like for African American men and women to jog, walk, drive, or shop in this city. Alameda citizens should be able to file a "Discrimination Complaint", and have it reviewed by an Alameda Police Reform Commission that provides oversight to ensure police reforms are being implemented.
- Begin mandatory diversity training for all police officers and department staff. I've seen these programs make a big difference, especially in organizations that lack diversity.
- De – militarize the police department. The citizens of Alameda are not the enemy.
- Listen, and treat each person with dignity and respect

Irma Glidden

From: Andrew Acosta <aacosta013@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 6:27 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] re: public comment for 8 cant wait

Against 8 Can't Wait, and for 8 to Abolition

Hello esteemed Council Members- my name is Andrew Acosta and I am an Alameda resident. I am writing in regards to the adoption of the "8 Cant Wait" proposal being weighed today, and why I disagree with this policy in favor of "8 to Abolition." While I recognize that this proposal is clearly coming from a place of good intention, the adoption of these policies would merely be performative recognition of existing policies (two of which APD is already required to use: duty to intervene and requiring to warn before shooting) that across the country have time and again failed, and especially failed our communities of color. One such policy listed in the 8 Cant Wait is "duty to intervene." Which one of four officers had the duty to intervene when APD assaulted, handcuffed and cited Mali Watkins, a Black man doing nothing other than exercising in the street next to his home? 8 Can't Wait is designed to increase opportunities of our law enforcement to further subjugate Black, Indigenous, and people of color to surveillance, policing, and incarceration, and that is not, and should not be a consideration for a city like Alameda that is viewed as a progressive trailblazer for policy across the state and nation.

I am in support of the eight tenets of abolition and would recommend that city councilors support this initiative in lieu of the inadequate steps laid forward in "8 Cant Wait," and instead support the "8 to Abolition" steps-

1. **Defund the Police-** The APD controls almost \$32 million dollars in budget every year, the single largest expenditure in our city. This money could and should be diverted into resources the community can use. We spend more money on our Police Department than 69% of other Departments.
2. **Demilitarize our Communities-** Disarm police officers and end all iterations of "quality of life" policing programs that disproportionately impact communities of color
3. **Remove Police from School-** Why are we paying for police to terrorize our students when that money could be allocated to our Teachers who are amongst the worst compensated in all of the East Bay. No SRO's!
4. **Free People from jails and prisons**
5. **Repeal laws that criminalize survival** - It is not a crime to sleep on the streets, and furthermore we should be doing more to assist and aid our most vulnerable community members in securing safe and stable housing.
6. **Invest in community self governance-** Let us have a say in how our community money is being spent! Promote neighborhood councils as representative bodies within municipal decision making. We need to also assess community needs and invest in community-based resources, including groups from tenant unions to local shop-owners and street vendors, prioritizing those from marginalized groups.
7. **Provide safe housing for everyone-** Cancel all rent without burden during the covid19 crisis (and repeal laws and policing that criminalizes survival!)
8. **Invest in care, not cops** - Allocate city funding towards healthcare infrastructure (of which shows that Alameda contributed zero towards in 2019), wellness resources, neighborhood based trauma centers, non-coercive drug and alcohol treatment programming, peer support networks, and training for healthcare professionals. Make these services available for free to low-income residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Be well.

- Andrew Acosta

Irma Glidden

From: Janet Chen <jchen56172@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 6:30 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment 6/17

Good evening City Council, my name is Janet and I have been an Alameda resident for twenty years. I am calling to reject the #8cantwait proposal in favor of defunding and abolishing the Alameda Police Department. I want funds reinvested into Alameda's Black residents and community care programs at large. I do not want further investment of city resources into APD, nor do I want "reforms" that just reinforce our country's obsession with policing as a solution to social issues.

Incremental reforms aren't working - Minneapolis police department had adopted many of the reforms suggested in #8cantwait, they also had anti-bias training and body cameras, and these methods did not sustain George Floyd's life. Even if they did, reducing police violence by 72% is not nearly enough when we could reduce it by 100%.

I'm not willing to compromise the (most likely Black) lives or safety of that remaining 28%.

According to Alameda Police Department's website, in 2019, 33% of APD's arrests and 19% of citations were on Black people even though Black people only make up 7% of our population, which has its own roots in redlining and racial segregation in Alameda. It's clear from the recent example of police detaining Mr. Watkins for being a Black man dancing in front of his home that APD is disproportionately surveilling, harassing, and hurting our Black neighbors.

We as a city need to do better by our Black community members, and defunding and abolishing the police is a place to start.

More immediately, I'm asking for the following actions:

- defund, disarm, and demilitarize the police
- remove officers with track records of excessive force misconduct
- remove officers from patrolling school grounds
- materially invest in Black community members, Black youth, Black organizations
- invest in public education and mental health resources, including first responders who are trauma informed and race informed

We have a long way to go to be doing right by our Black community members, and this is a place to start. Thank you for listening.

Irma Glidden

From: Rob Dekker <rob@verific.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 6:33 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Question for the current City Council meeting

My name is Rob Dekker.

I have been an Alameda resident for 14 years now and also an Alameda business owner for 21 years.

I have one question at this time :

In advance of this meeting, the mayor mentioned on her FaceBook page the civilian first responders program from Eugene, Oregon (called CAHOOTS), which is independent of the police, but handles some 20% of the dispatch call volume, for a fraction of the cost.

My question is what the process would be to initiate a discussion about creating such a program in Alameda.

Thank you !

Background :

<https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2020/06/theres-already-an-alternative-to-calling-the-police/>

Though CAHOOTS uses the police department's central dispatch, it is distinct from the department. Employees do not carry guns or wear uniforms; instead, they wear casual hoodies and drive vans with a dove painted on the side. CAHOOTS' methods are designed to prevent escalation, Black said. "If an officer enters that situation with power, with authority, with that uniform and a command presence, that situation is really likely to escalate."

They handle some 20% of the police call volume for, for a fraction of the cost.

Oakland is considering a program called MACRO which is based on the CAHOOTS model.

I can totally see such a program work in Alameda...

Irma Glidden

From: Amy Little <alittledance@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 6:34 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] re: question for Special City Council Meeting happening now

Hello!

If the City decides to reduce the number of police officers to redirect funds to other programs, what timeline could be realistic, legal and fair, based on Police Officer union policies and giving proper notice to current police officers? Of course proper notice is important, so that employees would have time to look for other work.

Thank you,
Amy

Irma Glidden

From: +15102824460@textmagic.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 6:35 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15102824460

I urge the city of Alameda to make a commitment to the immediate formation of a police oversight committee comprised of diverse community members, just as Oakland has done with its police commission. I also urge the city to make a commitment to anti-bias training for all police officers, which has proven effective in reducing police brutality incidents against people of color. Additionally, Alameda should remove police officers from our public schools. Lastly, please address the time line for adopting all of the Campaign Zero "8 can't wait" policies. Thank you. - Celina Kamler, Alameda resident

Message from: +15102824460, 17 Jun 2020 18:34
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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Irma Glidden

From: Jade Aganus <jadefulz@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 6:54 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Defund the APD

My name is Jade Aganus, and I grew up in Alameda. and I've had the honor of following the lead that the youth have set out for us regarding this exact issue.

I'm glad that the city council is exploring the 8CantWait campaign. These measures are good, yet they are not enough. Even with Alameda ranking high in California for the Zero Campaign, black and brown communities in Alameda continue to face police terror. The solution is to defund the police.

It keeps being mentioned that we need to maintain the police funding as proposed in last night's budget meeting just in case an emergency happens. And what I want to remind you all, city council members, is that there IS an emergency happening now. We are in the middle of two global pandemics, Covid19 and systemic racism. People have lost their jobs, people are unable to pay their rent, schools are unable to provide adequate distance learning capabilities to their students, and black people are dying and are being terrorized by police every single day. If you are wanting the police to help in these emergencies, you must not waste time with the 8 can't wait policy changes and cut the police budget. You must allocate those funds to social service programs such as public education, affordable housing, and community based programs.

I ask you all, if you're family members, if your children were sick and hurting, and they needed hundreds of thousands of dollars to help them get their care, would you sacrifice your belongings to pay for it? Would you sell your car, your house? to get the money? or would you say, as council member daysog said about the alameda police armored tank, well we already spent the money on it, we should just keep it just in case something else happens. We don't have any more time to wait while Alameda residents continue to be harassed by the police.

He also mentioned that people power is great but that ultimately you are the 5 people that make the decisions for the rest of us. meaning, that this terrorization of black people in our city is done by alameda police is done with your permission. you are responsible for this more than anyone here and with that I urge you again to not waste time with this campaign and to uphold the demands that the youth have laid out for you to defund the police.

Thank ou.

Irma Glidden

From: emily in pittsburgh <emilyinpittsburgh@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 6:57 PM
To: City Clerk; City of Alameda Zoom 1
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment from Emily Klein for APD special meeting on 6/17

From Alameda resident, Emily Klein

1. The Black Lives Matter Movement and many affiliated organizations have highlighted the problems and inadequacies with the 8 Cant Wait platform. The citizens of Alameda have marched, protested, and joined the national call to defund and demilitarize police departments, and instead fund social workers, mental health staff, housing and homelessness services, etc. How will our Mayor, City Manager, and City Council take steps to redirect the excessive funding to the APD in general and the Chief's salary specifically?
2. How are the police officers involved in the May23rd arrest of Mr. Watkins being removed, disciplined, or at the very least retrained?
How is Chief Roller being held accountable for the biased and discriminatory practices of his department?
4. If Alameda policy makers insist on limiting their change-making to the mere symbolic gestures of 8 Can't Wait reforms, how will police officers be re-trained on changes to our city's use of force policy? Tonight Chief Roller described a messaging system through which officers are informed of policy change, but it is ridiculous and dangerous to assume that police could spontaneously know how to carry out their work in accordance with new rules. Will excessive police department funding be redirected toward training police in de-escalation and peace-keeping tactics? Will a community oversight committee be formed to ensure that this work moves forward?

Irma Glidden

From: +15108722211@textmagic.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:30 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15108722211

My name is Rachel Wellman and I have lived in Alameda for 20 years, all my life. It is absurd that the police have not made a statement or apologized to Mr. Watkins. They have been completely silent about this incident as well as the movement that is happening right now. Your silence is deafening and unfortunately it tells us what you care about and what you don't care about. Our community deserves and needs better. It often feels that you see the community that you are paid to serve and protect as your enemy. We are the people you are supposed to protect. We need reform, we need major cuts in the budget, and we need to use the new funds to enrich our town by funding our schools and community organizations. To the dispatcher who spoke Ms. Brooks, we are paying attention, we have been listening and educating ourselves. If the "riots" the Alameda police helped in Oakland mean the ones where police tear gassed peaceful youth protestors then I am appalled. And to Mr. Daysog, we heard you loud and clear last night. Your condescension to our demands was heard and your lack of attention to what we need was noted. We need major changes and cuts in order to make everyone in our island feel safe. We need these changes so that not one more person is harassed, abused or murdered by the police. Thank you.

Message from: +15108722211, 17 Jun 2020 19:29

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

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Irma Glidden

From: Flutter Lash Bar <flutterlashbar@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:53 PM
To: Lara Weisiger
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Homeless situation that turned violent

Can I edit it? If so, here's the edited version.

The other day I was sitting on the steps of Alameda High with my 3 year old and husband eating a bagel. There was a green tent across the street at the church that you could tell people were wrestling or fighting in. A man opened up the tent and threw a naked woman out of the tent. She appeared to be out of it. She tried crawling back into the tent and things became violent. He started hitting her in the head. My husband and I panicked. I tried yelling and that didn't help. We had no other choice but to call the cops even though a black man was just killed by the police. We wish there had been a separate unit to call like a social worker who was skilled in mental health, domestic violence and homelessness. We waited to make sure nothing happened violently to the man by the police.

Thank you,

Julie Pruitt

On Wed, Jun 17, 2020 at 7:42 PM Lara Weisiger <lweisiger@alamedaca.gov> wrote:

Hi,

Your comment will be read.

Thanks,

Lara

From: Flutter Lash Bar [mailto:flutterlashbar@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:36 PM
To: City Clerk <CLERK@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Homeless situation that turned violent

Hi,

The other day I was sitting on the steps of Alameda High with my 3 year old and husband eating a bagel. There was a green tent across the street at the church that you could tell people were wrestling or fighting in. The next thing that happend was absolutely shocking to witness with my child. A black man opened up the tent and threw a naked woman out of the tent. She appeared to be out of it. She tried crawling back into the tent and things became violent. He started hitting her in the head. My husband and I panicked. I tried yelling and that didn't help. We had no other choice but to call the cops even though a black man was just killed by the police. We wish there had been a separate unit to call like a socail worker who was skilled in mental health, domestic violence and homelessness. We waited to make sure nothing happened violently to the man by the police.

--

Best,

Julie Pruitt

--

Best,

Julie

flutterlashbar.com

Irma Glidden

From: Laura Fries <junopregue@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:40 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments for Special City Council Meeting

Thank you Madam Mayor, Council Members, and Chief Roller for you time.

I am someone that has always respected the law and anyone that chooses to dedicate their lives to service in law enforcement.

However, listening to the many stories of harassment and injustice that have occurred in our own community of Alameda has troubled me greatly. I realize this is a complicated issue and deserves both sides to weigh in on their thoughts.

As someone who has gone through the recruitment and application process for the LAPD, I am curious as to what Alameda's recruitment and application process is like. What kind of psychological testing is done?

Are potential applicants screened for racial bias?

Is there any testing done to see how applicants respond when afraid?

Or if they seek power rather than the desire to help others?

As one of the officers who spoke earlier said, he wants to make sure he goes home to his family. I implore him and other officers to realize that some of our black citizens in our community feel the same any time they step out of their home.

Please ensure the people we hire and train are worthy of the badge. Thank you.

--

Laura Fries
Producer
612-387-5866

Irma Glidden

From: Whitney Moon <moon.whitney@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:42 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] City council meeting

Dear members of council,

My name is Whitney Moon and I have been a dispatcher at APD for 5.5 years now. You have heard several comments now from citizens calling for police reform, defunding of the police, etc. I would like to give you a different view point. From my vantage point behind the headset, I can tell you that many citizens in the city of Alameda overuse and abuse 911, nonemergency, and police services. I have received calls on 911 from your constituents who have called regarding raccoons fighting in their yard; people too afraid to knock on their neighbors door to ask them to turn down their music; people wanting the officers to pull their children out of bed to tell them to go to school; asking if there is a power outage when there is clearly a power outage; and more recently being asked by a citizen what the officers were doing about the “mob of negroes blocking traffic on central” during a peaceful protest.

I have heard several times now the perpetuation of a false narrative of what happened on 5/23 in alameda. A supposedly concerned citizen called regarding Mali Watkins saying that something was obviously wrong with him and she was afraid. I believe that phone call and the fact that the caller immediately points out the mans race says much more about her character than the character of my officers.

In the past week, citizens have been unhappy hearing No for the first time in years because we have changed our response. Before you consider police reform, please consider the fact that your citizens barely know how to function without the police as the city stands right now. Hold your constituents accountable.

Thank you for your time.

--

Whitney Moon

Irma Glidden

From: Lytia Zazzeron <lzazz@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:45 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 6/17 Special Council Meeting

Hello,

As a native to Alameda, I truly love my hometown but I look back at my childhood and think the police and community could have done better. With parents of no education, multiple minimum wage jobs and undiagnosed mental health issues we were well known to APD. What I would categorize my childhood experience is domestic violence household. Instead of support with mental health resources, after school care or community support, APD would show up, ask a couple questions then leave. The officers would talk down to my mom (English is her 2nd language) and give my sister and I no regard (as minor children). I strongly believe stronger community support would have made a difference.

We need to utilize funding to engage, enhance, enlighten and education versus criminalize our community.

I feel lucky to be raising my kids here for many reasons and would stand ever prouder to see the city take the appropriate steps to make our community stronger.

Thanks, Lytia

Irma Glidden

From: Michaelia Parker <micaheliaparker@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:46 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment

I am the crime technician for the city of Alameda, a life long resident and most importantly a black woman, with black children.

I am open to a healthy conversation about the PD and community relationships, but there are far too many options with out facts and unfortunately counsel members have contributed to feeding into the narrative of its black people, my people, against the police.

The PD is being crucified for what is perceived as the PD being silent. That has not been the PD's choice and unfortunately the public does not see that.

Sandy hook, Columbine, Aurora, they were never known until those tragic days made them from page news. That is why APD has an armored vehicle. It is an insurance policy on your lives in the event Alameda is next to be put on the map.

People assuming that reducing the police budgey will be reallocated to education. AuSD is not under the city budget.

take the time to go through scenarios with the PD and understand how policies are implemented. The PD welcomes it.

Finally, educate yourselves. It has already been stated multiple times, officers are no longer in the schools. so why keep demanding it? It's the lack of education on your part and only listening to one sided accounts or hearsay.

Thank you.

Irma Glidden

From: +15109187944@textmagic.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:46 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15109187944

Commission for change in Alameda needs to include a balance of voices, such as the Police Dispatcher. Community Education is critical. Currently too many privileged community members demand service which is ridiculous. We need to be re-educated as a collaborative effort through all civic, social, faith, recreation, non-profit, etc groups. Our expectations are an important component In envisioning our future police and community services.

Message from: +15109187944, 17 Jun 2020 19:46
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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Irma Glidden

From: Carlos <cwmoreiras@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:46 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Defund the Police, Increase Public Health

Hello City Council, Mayor and Chief Roller,

I'm writing to express my support for financially disinvesting from policing, and use the money to implement policies that could help the residents of our island during this public health crisis.

Residents of this island have been suffering harassment and worse from the Alameda Police Department for many years. Now is the time to take their money away and put it into our kids' education, public health, and financial assistance for the many homeless and unemployed residents of our island. We are in an overwhelming time of crisis, and the last thing we need is police. We need healthcare, food, and roofs over our heads.

Thank you for your time,
Carlos Williams-Moreiras

Irma Glidden

From: Indi McCCasey <ihm513@mail.harvard.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:48 PM
To: City Clerk; Jim Oddie; Tony Daysog; mezzashcraft@alamedaca.gov; Malia Vella; John Knox White
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on City Special Meeting 6/17/20

Dear Mayor Ashcraft, Vice Mayor Knox-White, and Alameda Council Members,

I am a resident of Alameda listening to the special meeting tonight online. I have been personally moved by the efforts of local young people demanding that the city undergo critical self reflection on its funding priorities and become a model for transforming the role of police and policing in our community. While I appreciate your responsiveness by holding this meeting, I am dismayed that this is happening AFTER the city council meeting last night where the council approved the mid year budget. A city's budget reveals its priorities. Currently the police department comprises 1/3 of the city's general budget expenditures for 20-21. At the same time, the May 23rd police response to Mali Watkins, an unarmed Black man who was terrorized by 5 officers for dancing in the street (and trying to respectfully deescalate the situation), highlighted concerns that many Alameda residents of color already held about police and the city's current investment in police and policing of its citizens.

Mr. Knox-White, you yourself said that this incident "has shaken my confidence in the leadership that we have at the Alameda Police Department". Councilmember Vella last night you said, "I don't want to see our police department be weaponized against people of color, against Black members of our community. I want to move away from that model and I think we can do it."

I would like to see the council follow through on these concerns by taking a tougher stance than the one currently being considered tonight. Hold the police department accountable by firing the 5 officers, dismissing Chief Rolleri, and reducing the 21-22 police department budget by 40%. I support calls for funds instead to go towards mental health services, restorative justice programs, libraries, and parks & recreation.

You have a lot of hard decisions ahead of you as you work to balance the city's budget in light of an uncertain future. Your community, especially the young people of color within it, encourage you to be bold and work to redirect city resources towards community health initiatives instead of policing.

Thank you for your time,
Indi McCCasey
1612 Sherman Ave. Alameda

[Black Lives Matter Education Resources](#)



pronouns: they/them/theirs
indimcccasey.com

Instructional Designer - [Integrated Learning Specialist Program](#)
Creative Consultant - [OUSD Visual and Performing Arts Program](#)
Teaching Faculty - [Project Zero Classroom](#)

Irma Glidden

From: Desiree' Abbott <deeray82@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:55 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments for the City Council meeting

Hello,

It is overwhelming to me how many people want to defund or abolish the police, thinking that they do not make the community safer. They seem to not understand that criminals do not always listen to what they are told even during interactions with armed law enforcement, so how much less will they listen to some social worker just asking them politely to give the nice lady's purse back after they've snatched it? We all pay through the nose to live in this beautiful, safe city, and we have the Alameda Police Department to thank for that safety. Please do not listen to the calls to defund or abolish the police, and please let Chief Rollieri keep his job. If we remove or even reduce the protection that the APD offers, we will not be able to call this city so beautiful and safe for long.

Thank you.

Irma Glidden

From: Michelle <iammichelletran@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:56 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on Special Council Meeting 6.17

Hello Council Members,

My name is Michelle Tran and I have lived and grown up in Alameda my entire life. I think that everyone has done a wonderful job commenting on the concerns about the 8 can't wait and reform measures and I'd like to state that I also share those concerns.

But I felt that perhaps I should share a more personal story about Alameda's police response. When I was a senior in high school here in Alameda, I was a mental health call. My high school, without any real options, decided to call dispatch, who sent two armed police officers to the scene.

As you can imagine, the presence of two armed police officers, while admittedly very friendly, did nothing to help with the situation. They simply sat there and waited for an ambulance with me, refusing to let me out of sight. Simply put, I was detained, as a seventeen year old high school student, who, at the time, posed no danger to herself or anyone else. I ask you, is sending two police officers to detain a stressed out high school student really our only option?

It's a pretty big escalation in my opinion to result to a police first dispatching mentality when I believe, that for mental calls and other nonviolent calls like this, someone with extensive mental health or counseling training would be able to better provide resources to the affected parties.

The presence of police officers at these scenes simply provides no comfort to those who are distressed.

Additionally, as a thought, we must also consider the language interpretation issues that may come from someone arriving with a weapon to someone who may not be able to speak English very well. Police in uniform tend to have a very strong aggressive perception and we should consider allocating funds to people and services with this consideration.

Sincerely,
Michelle Tran

Irma Glidden

From: +15104278120@textmagic.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:56 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SMS from +15104278120

Good evening Mayor Ashcraft and City Council members. My name is Danielle Mieler and I am an Alameda resident. I support your efforts to implement the 8 Can't Wait Campaign and President Obama's police reforms. However, these should be short term steps while we develop a process to thoroughly overhaul and reduce policing in Alameda. That should include an audit of the police budget to identify significant savings that can be invested in social and community services, a community based alternative to 911 for non criminal activity. We must institute a diverse citizen oversight police commission that has power to discipline officers and requires significant training anti-racist training. Thank for for continuing this important dialogue.

Message from: +15104278120, 17 Jun 2020 19:56
To: **Lara Weisiger** (+15107474802)

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Irma Glidden

From: Lilli Keinaenen <lilli@changemakercreative.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:58 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment for city council meeting

Dear Council and Chief Rolleri,

I will keep my comment short; I am white. During the week of curfew, I was outside my home, after curfew, waving around a huge 6 foot stick while standing in the street. A police car drove by, and did not even slow down. Because doing weird stuff while white is not seen as a crime. Unlike dancing, walking, shopping, sleeping while black.

The bias is obvious.

Best regards,
Lilli Keinaenen

Irma Glidden

From: Nicola Kim <nickim973@ausdg.us>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:58 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] my suggestions

Hello.

Why take money from the libraries in future budgets to allocate more money for the cops? Maybe your policemen should try reading a book for once in their lives. After all, the library is only across the street. I suggest your officers educate themselves and brush up on some literature before they let their egos get the best of them.

Here are some suggestions for Anti Racist readings that should be made mandatory for all officers before APD is dismantled and defunded:

The Fire Next Time by James Baldwin.
Sister Outsider by Audre Lorde.
Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates.
The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander.
Prisons are Obsolete by Angela Davis.
White Rage by Carol Anderson.
Parable of the Sower by Octavia Butler.
So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo.
How to Be Anti Racist by Ibram X. Kendi.

Thank you.

--

***Sent
from an Alameda Unified School District student account***

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Irma Glidden

From: Cleo Kirkland <cleosiekirkland@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 8:00 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Questions - Cleo Kirkland

Hi Mayor and council members,

Thank you for doing this meeting. It must be difficult to hear some of the feedback, but not every city is doing this so much appreciated. I've heard a lot of great ideas sitting on this call, and I just wondered...how do you plan to document all of these ideas (grouped together), so we can all see where you stand on each idea? I've seen some of these zooms live sessions in other cities around the country, and it just seems like citizens voice their concerns and each council member gets 10 minutes to rebuttal...and that's it.

Just curious how we can all follow up on everyone's ideas.

Best of luck,
Cleo

Irma Glidden

From: E. Fraser <elfraser@protonmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 8:06 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment for Meeting

Dear Council,

I am a resident of Alameda.

I watched the meeting last night as 90% of the comments urged you, the council, to table or reject the budget. Then, the City Manager went off script and told Council member Odie exactly how to listen to constituents: the city manager told you that you could amend the budget on the spot.

But rather than listen to your constituents, you passed the budget and patted yourselves on the back for some non-committal quote unquote commitments.

So my question for you tonight is, will you listen to Alameda residents tonight? Or at any time in the future? You have set the precedent for ignoring the people of Alameda; I challenge you to change tack tonight. I challenge you to follow the 8 to abolition guidelines. I challenge you to refuse to negotiate with any police unions when their contract expires. I challenge you to do better.

Sincerely,

Erin Fraser

Irma Glidden

From: Amy Chu <amchu24@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 8:10 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 3A Public Comment

Good evening members of the City Council,

My name is Amy Chu. Thank you for holding this special city council meeting. I believe these are pivotal discussions to listen and implement community ideas. Although, as a side note, this event needs to be this fully accessible, especially to the youth. I would like to see this meeting publicized on different platforms of social media – your official instagram page being a priority.

That being said, I would like to echo the sentiments before me to prioritize divesting from the police and investing back into community resources. 8 Cant Wait is ill-researched and a performative measure that has not proven to be effective. Samuel Sinyangwe, a Co-Founder of Campaign Zero, admitted that the campaign was rushed and not a representative of his research and analysis. The updated 8 Can't Wait website actually highlights their updated values of immediate harm reduction, comprehensive community safety, and abolition. Under these values include initiatives to demilitarize, discuss police union contracts, and yes, to fully defund the police.

Instead of spending time, energy, and money on minimal initiatives, I ask you to take much bigger steps and learn from San Francisco, Minneapolis, and the many cities that have committed to divestment. While I note these are bigger cities with different environments, the momentum in Alameda is just as important. This is a historical movement. Please use this time wisely.

Irma Glidden

From: Jyothi Marbin <jyothi.marbin@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 8:15 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments for special city council meeting tonight

Hi my name is Jyothi Marbin, and I am an Alameda resident, a physician and mother to 2 students in Alameda schools. I am also a foster parent to a Black young man. Police violence is a public health problem. It needs to be addressed on a systemic level. Defunding the police and redirecting the funds to mental health, health care, child care and preventive programs are essential to supporting our Black and Brown residents. I support the need for a diverse Citizens Oversight commission that centers the voices of marginalized community members.