

Ruth Stellmacher

From: SALEM Manager
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:30 PM
To: Ruth Stellmacher
Subject: FW: Budget

From the manager account.

-----Original Message-----

From: Isaiah Swan <isaiahswan@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:58 PM
To: Chuck Bennett <CBennett@cityofsalem.net>; Cara Kaser <CKASER@cityofsalem.net>; Tom Andersen <TAndersen@cityofsalem.net>; Brad Nanke <BNanke@cityofsalem.net>; Jackie Leung <JLeung@cityofsalem.net>; Matthew Ausec <MAUSEC@cityofsalem.net>; Chris Hoy <CHoy@cityofsalem.net>; Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>; Jim Lewis <JLewis@cityofsalem.net>; SALEM Manager <MANAGER@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Budget

Mayor Bennett et al.,

My name is Isaiah Swan, and I am an instructional assistant at one of Salem's Title 1 elementary schools. I am once again writing in solidarity with Salem's BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ community and in insistence you take the actions delineated below immediately. The bulk of this email will be in explicit and thorough echo of pleas you've already received from many, many BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ Salem community members. Stop ignoring them.

Because I am telling you, as an educator in Salem serving our BIPOC students and their families, that Salem's police are not doing a great job.

The department is infested with hateful and unbalanced officers.

The training you claim to exist is not working.

I call on all of you to take action now. To be the leaders you were elected and appointed to be, and help us fix this city. So what does that look like?

1.) An immediate public release, on all city and individual councilperson media, and to the local media outlets, denouncing white supremacy in all its forms and actions, denouncing police brutality, and clearly stating the intent to work closely with all the minority communities of Salem to ensure that they have safe, fair, and equitable policing and justice. This release

should include a formal acknowledgement of Juneteenth as a commemorative holiday. It should include a commitment to strengthening diversity within appointed positions, and a commitment to include the LGBTQIA + community.

It should include a statement of remorse regarding the failure of this city to do more in the past for its citizens who have been victimized by police brutality and other white supremacy, and a promise to do more for them from this point forward. It should include a statement of remorse for the killing of Chase Hammer, and a promise to invest into the hiring of social workers and a creation of a separate mental health response unit, unaffiliated with the police or their corrupt union, but working alongside the police to ensure that every mental health call that comes through our emergency services is responded to first by a trained professional.

2.) A mental health response team must be created. If San Francisco, Albuquerque, Minneapolis, Los Angeles, San Diego, Dallas, Austin, St. Louis, Durham, D.C., Hartford, and Philadelphia can move forward with plans to create this new community-centric wellness response, then our small city named after the very concept of "peace" can as well. We must divest funds from the arming of our police force, and stop responding to every call with the expectation that there will be an armed standoff. I know you will balk at that last piece, and claim your officers do nothing of the sort. I invite you to spend a few days simply observing the responses from the uniformed officers on the streets, while they think that no one is watching them. I promise you, you will agree with me.

3.) Civil settlements in police brutality cases must be paid directly from the police pension. This is part of a much more involved restructuring of police union contracts, which must also happen. The police union contract must be terminated. However, in the interim, the taxpayer must no longer be fiscally responsible for the reprehensible action of bad cops. If the pension is harmed every time a bad cop harms our community, then the good cops will be much more likely to do the right thing and stand with justice, as opposed to the fraternal brotherhood of overseers.

4.) Good cops must be rewarded when they expose corruption, racism, nepotism, and abuses of power. They must be given whistleblower protection and it must become the norm to uphold morality within the ranks.

5.) And Salem police must no longer have a presence in our schools for any non-emergency reasons, as SROs or otherwise. They scare, harass, and hurt our BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ students socially, emotionally, academically, and sometimes physically, and they thoroughly contribute to our BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ students' disenfranchisement as adults. As someone who has dedicated my life to the success and wellbeing of a population consisting primarily of BIPOC and/or LGBTQIA+ students, I stand with these students and their families in affirming that Salem police have no such dedication to their success and wellbeing, serve as an active barrier

between these students and their wellbeing, and as such must no longer play any role in these students' experience of Salem's public schools.

These are items that can be done quickly. Your city is hurting. Your citizens are distrustful of their leadership, and it is because we have not seen much of it. Take decisive action and listen to the will of your people. The time for hollow words is over; it is past time for movement.

Respectfully,

Isaiah Swan

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Rylie Lawrence <rylielawrence@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:13 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Budget Allocation

Hello City Council,

I'm writing to you today in regards to the upcoming meeting and the city of Salem budget. I have lived in Salem my whole life and I would love to see more funding for local schools, after school programs and teaching children and the overall community about Black and Indigenous history. The police force is an essential part of the community but I truly think that there are major flaws in the system.

Please consider reallocating the budget into the community. 64 million dollars is a lot of money to direct to an organization that is meant to enforce the law. Instead we should be fixing the systems that create these incidences and investing into underprivileged communities.

Thank you

Rylie Lawrence

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Autumn Kennedy <autumnkennedy@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:17 PM
To: citycouncil
Cc: Chuck Bennett; Cara Kaser; Tom Andersen; Brad Nanke; Jackie Leung; Matthew Ausec; Chris Hoy; Vanessa Nordyke; Jim Lewis
Subject: To Whom It May Concern:

Hello, my name is Autumn and I am a lifelong citizen of Salem. I am writing today to voice my opinion on the budget cuts for the Salem Police Department that you are currently proposing, as I understand that there is an upcoming meeting regarding the subject. As of today, with a simple Google search, I was able to find that the Salem Police Department has a budget of \$44.2 million, which is nearly 1/3 of our states' \$128.7 million general funding budget. You MUST support the motion to defund our local police. In the midst of the current ongoing civil rights movement, I have respected the acts of our local Salem officers while they were kneeling with us, marching with us, and lighting candles at the vigil for George Floyd; however, this does not excuse other unwarranted actions that Salem officers have been taking, as well.

The obvious outlying example is the officer who went viral for being caught on camera in a livestream, telling the known and proven armed white supremacist group outside of Glamour Salon to hide either in buildings or in the parking garage to avoid being affected by the gas they were planning on spraying at peaceful protestors. This officer stated that he wanted to tell them discreetly to avoid protestors thinking they were "playing favorites", which is a blatant and obvious example of who they actually favor. In addition, while performative acts of solidarity mean a lot, your officers made little to no effort to protect peaceful protestors executing our first amendment right. Listening to police scanners, it was known that they were aware of armed counter-protestors instigators going to the capital during a protest simply to cause problems and did nothing. OSP stayed inside the capital during this despite it taking place in their district, which is another example of favoritism; a favoritism that is deeply rooted in our society. This is why reform is necessary and defunding is an integral step in that process.

Five black people have been found lynched in the past week all over the country, from Portland to Manhattan, and all of them were ruled a suicide; this is not coincidence, nor acceptable. I have faith that Salem Police can see that there is obviously an issue in our society and understand that the first step has to come locally. Police play an important role in society; I do not agree with the complete abolishment of police. The general idea of "defunding the police" is to cut off the purchases of frivolous military-grade armaments that police use to suppress dissent and allocate less-severe crimes, such as mental health crises, substance abuse, domestic violence, welfare check calls, homelessness, etc. to other agencies or nonprofits who are equipped to handle them without excessive force.

Our existing system is outdated and has been proven time and time again to benefit the white community while simultaneously not only hurting people of color, but killing them and letting the perpetrator continue to unjustly thrive in society; this is systemic racism and this system needs to be dismantled at its' core in order to rebuild a better one that actually guarantees freedom and justice for all. I appreciate your time to listen to my voice as a concerned citizen and your role in the change that inevitably needs to take place. I hope we can trust you and your significant support in this movement going forward.

Black Lives Matter.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Anna Freitas <ahfreitas93@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:19 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Public Comment - City Council Meeting 6/22
Attachments: Public Comment Salem City Council Freitas.pdf

Dear City of Salem administrators and councilors,
Please see the attached comments regarding the City of Salem budget. These comments are submitted for the meeting on June 22, 2020. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns,

Anna H. Freitas

831-334-1551
ahfreitas93@gmail.com
LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/annahfreitas

To: Councilor Cara Kaser and the Salem City Council
From: Anna H. Freitas, resident of West Salem, Oregon

Date: June 19, 2020

Re: City of Salem Budget Does Not Reflect Current Needs – Right-Size SPD to Improve Funding for Needed Programs

Dear Councilor Cara Kaser and City of Salem Councilors,

Thank you for your service to our Salem community during this important time. As a resident of Salem (Ward 1), I urge you to make some important changes in the city budget to shift funding away from police programs that risk hurting to Salemites and into programs that better prevent crime and protect our health. In 2018 the Salem Police Department (SPD) itself called for better resources for community members experiencing houselessness and substance abuse (2018 Statesman Journal article, "Salem police on front line of growing homeless crisis, urge changes"). While the City at first attempted to address these challenges through a housing first, D.A.R.E., and sobering center programs funding for all three were cut in the FY20. The Housing First program was reduced to "right-size the program to current housing supply" (p. 2 of City of Salem FY20 Budget) while funding remained the same for other SPD programs. This excuse does not stand to reason or to the expectation that our leaders have our best interests in mind, especially in light of recent SPD behavior toward demonstrators.

Rather than underfunding programs that better protect our community and prevent crime, please join the increasing number of cities reducing police budgets and implementing reforms that create safer, more just communities:

- Adopt and enforce strict policies limiting the use of deadly force, and less-than-deadly weapons like Mace and rubber bullets (which ACLU recommends should only be used defensively).
- Demilitarize the police (reduce use of SWAT teams, do not purchase military-grade equipment).
- Reduce funding for programs prone to inequity and misconduct (e.g. "broken windows" policing, policing homelessness).
- Shift funding to services for people experiencing houselessness, addiction, or re-entering free society following incarceration. These programs have both immediate and future benefits for community health and safety that are a more efficient and more equitable use of the City's funds.
- Earmark funding within the police department to increase diversity through outreach and support for applicants, and accountability through civilian review boards and transparency about misconduct.
- Increase transparency for how funding is used in police departments.

I recognize that some crucial reforms are outside of your jurisdiction. Therefore, I urge you to also resolve to support police reform on state and federal levels, including policies that place reasonable limits on police unions and on qualified immunity.

Thank you for considering these comments,
Anna H. Freitas
Resident of West Salem, Oregon
Master of Public Policy (Oregon State University, Class of 2018)

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Andrea Heywood <a.hey.ban@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 4:01 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Defund the police.

I am writing in support of defunding the police. What I mean by this is putting funds currently allocated to police services to social services, homelessness, and rehab programs throughout Salem. Our police do not need to be militarized and should be evaluated for all cost cutting measures that allow for basic support of the community. But also allows for the correct type of response which does not require an armed officer.

Thank you
Andrea Heywood
1632 Court St NE Salem

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Kirah Sinor <kirah.sinor@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 4:52 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Defund the police.

To whom it may concern,

It has come to my attention that the city will soon be voting for the proposed budget for 2021. In that proposed budget \$64 Million dollars is for the Salem PD. I, as well as many others want change.

I can only speak for myself, however i can speak of the injustices I have witnessed throughout my adolescence and my adult life. I myself and not a POC, however I have repeatedly witnessed the brutality of police.

I myself was thrown in the back of a cop car in cuffs when I was 10, because I tried to give my father a hug before they put him inside a cop car. I've watched them throw my dad against a wall, on the ground, scream at him all while he was being 100% submissive to arrest. We are not even POC. I can only IMAGINE the utter terror and absolute distain that POC face every day. Salem wants to act like there is no racism here, but there is, there is so much hate lying in the woodwork.

It's time to refresh the system. It's time to put funding in community programs, social work, schools, etc. You can't keep ignoring the people that are on the 'shit end' of the stick. The community is angry, we won't be silenced. No matter how many times you gas us, shoot us, threaten arrest, or incite violence.

We the people will not be quiet, we will not hold back, we will not stay silent.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Amanda Schippers <amanda.a.schippers@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 5:01 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Defund the police

I believe the police budget should be diverted into programs that are proven to protect all people.

I'm a Salem resident, 14th st NE

Thank you,
Amanda Schippers

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Spencer Wharton <southwest23@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 6:42 PM
To: budgetoffice@cityofsalem.net; citycouncil; Chuck Bennett; Cara Kaser; Tom Andersen; Brad Nanke; Jackie Leung; Matthew Ausec; Chris Hoy; Vanessa Nordyke; Jim Lewis; SALEM Manager
Subject: Please begin divestment from Salem Police

Dear Mayor Bennett, City Manager Powers, City Councillors, and Budget Committee Members,

My name is Spencer Wharton and I am a Salem resident. I understand that the Salem City Budget will soon be finalizing the budget for the 2020-21 fiscal year, and I urge you to oppose the increase in funding from \$62.48mil in 2019-20 to \$64.11mil in 2020-21. Rather than increasing our spending on policing, I'm urging you to meaningfully restrict it. How we spend our public funds expresses our values as a city, and I do not believe that our city should continue to over-invest scarce resources in the Salem Police Department.

Policing plays a strong role in enforcing racism and social control of communities of color through disempowerment, displacement, and repression. Black people and communities of color have been disproportionately targeted and brutalized by the police throughout American history. In Salem, especially at this time of unprecedented crisis, we must invest our scarce resources in the health and well-being of our communities rather than in expanding the scope and mandate of police.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic illustrates the inequity. The systems of policing and incarceration have no role in public health or safety; prisons and jails are vectors for the spread of COVID-19 and have always been antithetical to public health. Existing racial and economic disparities will only worsen in the wake of this ongoing crisis. We know that this virus is disproportionately affecting Black and brown communities and that this disparity is caused by racist systems that affect how and when people receive care.

Despite a decrease in crime over the past few decades, police funding across the United States has continued to increase, and the proposed 2020-21 budget for Salem continues this nonsensical trend. Additionally, Salem police have received frivolous military-grade hardware from the Department of Defense's 1033 program, such as a mine-resistant vehicle. As a Salem citizen, I am strongly opposed to the expansion and militarization of our police force, and I am calling on you to reverse it.

The funds freed by meaningfully divesting from the Salem Police Department could be spent on services that serve our community and address social issues at the root. Our neighbor to the south, Eugene, has set a fine example with their CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets) program, which has been praised as a cost-effective approach that utilizes de-escalation tactics and the skills of medical and mental health professionals. Funds currently allocated for police could also be spent to expand public housing, provide food assistance to Salem residents in need, and strengthen community mental health resources so that fewer crimes are committed in the first place. The City of Salem could tackle systemic issues from the ground up instead of relying on police.

I urge you, in this historic time of scrutiny of the police, not to merely settle for reform. Promises of police reform and additional training programs do not do enough to address the underlying issue of systemic racism that plagues policing in America. The only solution is immediate and aggressive divestment from police funding and real consideration given to alternative public safety measures. To quote Alex S. Vitale, professor of sociology and coordinator of the Policing and Social Justice Project at Brooklyn College and the author of *The End of Policing*, "The alternative is not more money for police training programs, hardware or oversight. It is to dramatically shrink their function. We must demand that local politicians develop non-police solutions to the problems poor people face. We must invest in housing, employment and healthcare in ways that directly target the problems of public safety. Instead of criminalizing homelessness, we need

publicly financed supportive housing; instead of gang units, we need community-based anti-violence programs, trauma services and jobs for young people; instead of school police we need more counselors, after-school programs, and restorative justice programs."

This moment of reckoning with our nation's history of racist policing practices is an opportunity to rethink public safety in our city and reinvest in services that more effectively benefit our residents. We know that meeting the basic needs of our communities is the only way to ensure their health and safety. This starts by divesting funding from the Salem Police Department in the upcoming 2020-21 financial year.

Thank you for your time,

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Spencer Wharton
1925 17th St. NE
Salem, OR 97302
southwest23@gmail.com
(503) 891-5176
he/him/his

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Casadevejar@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:29 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Christina Cronin-Vejar
Your Email	Casadevejar@gmail.com
Your Phone	562-810-4959
Street	4758 Ward Dr NE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97305
Message	<p>As a resident of Salem, OR for the last 10 years, I have seen some wonderful changes in the city and some challenges as well. I support revisiting the budget for the upcoming year to use funds earmarked for law enforcement to include community guided interfacing, social workers and mental health professionals to work with those citizens who live outside and need structural support/HOUSING and social supports instead of recurring arrests for violating sit/lie ordinances, property destruction, steering potential clientele away from small businesses, etc. These issues must be addressed under what is nominally referred to as "defunding" the police, but is actually providing more help to police and to the community. Thank you.</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/19/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Emilee Hanson <emileejhanson@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:54 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: City Budget

Dear Salem Council,

My name is Emilee Hanson and I'm a resident of Salem. I am writing to ask that Salem council redirect our overinflated police budget into affordable housing, education, healthcare, mental health services, addiction counseling, and other institutions that greatly reduce the rate of crime.

I'm sure you're well aware that Salem's Black and brown citizens are disproportionately affected by police violence, so for the sake of this email I will be focusing on why policing is a public health issue relevant to everyone. Not only can our Black communities attest to police violence but, our homeless, mentally ill, and drug affected citizens can attest that the police in Salem do more harm than good. There is video evidence on top of video evidence of police escalating situations for our homeless, mentally ill men and women, and of course, our Black and brown families.

We need to reimagine the system. We need a future where mental health workers respond to mental health crises, not police officers. We need a city worker to notify us that our brake light is out, not a police officer. We need better healthcare for folks struggling with addiction and mental health, not police officers. We need to stop criminalizing our most vulnerable citizens and HELP them!

Together lets reimagine what a world without police may look like:

Imagine someone is sleeping on a bench or in a park. Instead of police kicking them out, searching them for drugs, and criminalizing them, we have a city employee who checks on them. Checking if they need food, water, or a place to sleep. An hour later, they have a safe place to sleep if that is what they choose. Isn't that public safety?

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Imagine someone is behaving erratically and in harms way. Now imagine texting a number and within 5 minutes a first responder who is trained in behavioral and mental health comes, and within the hour that person is safe and getting the support they need. Isn't that public safety?

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Imagine you are experiencing a mental health crisis and you're afraid. Instead of having police barge into your home, bark questions at you, and forcibly detaining you for being suicidal or having a breakdown or panic attack, imagine a trained mental health professional comes to your door and within the hour you are in a safe place with your consent, with a plan for follow up care. Isn't that public safety?

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Imagine someone seems to be snooping into car windows on your block. Instead of police showing up and escalating the situation, imagine we attack the root of the problem. Imagine you call your neighbors or even a behavioralist or crisis interventionalist who are trained in self defense and deescalation. An hour later the conflict is resolved and the person responsible is getting the support they need. -especially noting that theft is common among the poor, who have no other choice to steal so they can eat. This can be eliminated by giving everyone equal access to education, addiction counseling, and a livable wage-

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Imagine you are experiencing intimate partner violence. Instead of police showing up and escalating the situation, you text a number and a trauma informed crisis intervention team meets you in a safe place. An hour later you are working together for a long term plan to keep you safe. Isn't that public safety?

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There are hundreds of examples I could list, but you get the idea! There's no reason our militarized police should be engaging with non-violent citizens. They're a reason our Miranda Rights state, "Whatever you can say can and will be

used against you". NOTHING we say to a police officer can help us, it can only harm us in a court of law. This isn't public safety.

Our police violence problem is only getting worse, and no other solution that salem council has proposed has helped substantially. In Eugene, there's already a similar program in place that preforms like what we imagined above. It's called CAHOOTS and It has been shown to work far better to curb crime than the mass criminalization of citizens that we have here.

Lets give it a shot, for the health and safety of our beautiful city.

Thank you,

Emilee Hanson

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Thane Wilson <longinuslives@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:18 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Defund the police

Please use some of the money going to police elsewhere. Pay teachers better. More bus routes and service on Sundays. Get medical supplies for our nurses and Emergency services personnel. Open up more homeless shelters and actually take care of Salem's massive homeless problem. There are a thousand things I could mention. And none of those include the police needing fleets of brand new dodge chargers, military style APCs, suits and suits of riot gear, military grade weapons, ect. This city has actual pressing concerns that need to be addressed. You must consider defunding the police. It has to be on the table for conversation. I would like to see public hearings on this issue as well. And I mean actually public, not virtual

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Emma Thurston <emmacthurston@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:41 PM
To: citycouncil; Chuck Bennett
Subject: Police Budget

Hi,

I'm writing to express the opinion of myself and countless others that we do NOT approve of the proposed police budget. We support re-allocating those funds for other city programs! De-militarize our police, please.

Thank you.

Emma Thurston

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Megan Hinzdel <meganhinzdel@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:48 PM
To: Chuck Bennett; citycouncil; Tom Andersen
Subject: DEFUND THE POLICE

Mayor Bennett and City Councilors,

I am a resident of Salem and I currently reside in the McKinley area. I am writing to ask you to defund the police and divert police resources to other community benefit programs. Some of the programs I would like to see in my community are increased programs for house-less individuals, more free drug rehabilitation programs, and increased mental health services provided by the city. Please reallocate funds so I can see these needed changes in Salem.

Thank you,

Megan Hinzdel
770 Wildwind Dr SE

Megan Hinzdel

This message has been sent from a cell phone. Please excuse any brevity or spelling mistakes.

Confidentiality Notice: This email may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the addressee or it appears from the context or otherwise that you have received this email in error, please notify me immediately, keep the contents confidential, and delete the message and any attachments from your system.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Sunny Maxwell <semaxwell@willamette.edu>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:12 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Defund Salem PD

Dear Mayor Bennett and City Council,

I have lived in Salem for many years, and I am now attending school at Willamette University College of Law.

As our state capital, Salem needs to lead Oregon in the right direction. Our police forces have no need of military vehicles or equipment. We must demand accountability, deescalation, and a focus on non-lethal force retraining for our officers.

Allegations of cooperation between Salem's officers and far right groups reached national news this month and are deeply troubling. Given our state's history of racism, we need to show America that we are invested in social justice and dismantling oppressive systems. There can be no greater statement than a pledge to establish programs that support, rather than police, our citizens.

Protests will continue to mount without such a pledge - without action by you, our city council. Please be a part of moving Salem, Oregon, and our nation into the new era of public safety. Reduce funding for our police departments and instead invest in mental health, schools, social programs, and other outreach efforts to prevent crime, rather than merely punish.

Respectfully,

Mx. Sunny Maxwell

My pronouns are they/them/theirs

Willamette University College of Law

JD Expected 2021

Founding Co-President, Disability Justice

OGALLA Board Member

Moot Court Board Member

573-480-0264

semaxwell@willamette.edu

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Allison Silverstein <absilverstein@willamette.edu>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:43 PM
To: budgetoffice; citycouncil; Chuck Bennett; Cara Kaser; Tom Andersen; Brad Nanke; Jackie Leung; Matthew Ausec; Chris Hoy; Vanessa Nordyke; Jim Lewis; SALEM Manager
Subject: Let's be the change. Defund the police.

Dear Mayor Bennett, City Manager Powers, City Councillors, and Budget Committee Members,

My name is Allison Silverstein and I am a Salem resident. I understand that the Salem City Budget will soon be finalizing the budget for the 2020-21 fiscal year, and I urge you to oppose the increase in funding from \$62.48mil in 2019-20 to \$64.11mil in 2020-21. Rather than increasing our spending on policing, I'm urging you to meaningfully restrict it. How we spend our public funds expresses our values as a city, and I do not believe that our city should continue to over-invest scarce resources in the Salem Police Department.

Policing plays a strong role in enforcing racism and social control of communities of color through disempowerment, displacement, and repression. Black people and communities of color have been disproportionately targeted and brutalized by the police throughout American history. In Salem, especially at this time of unprecedented crisis, we must invest our scarce resources in the health and well-being of our communities rather than in expanding the scope and mandate of police.

Despite a decrease in crime over the past few decades, police funding across the United States has continued to increase, and the propose 2020-21 budget for Salem continues this nonsensical trend. Additionally, Salem police have received frivolous military-grade hardware from the Department of Defense's 1033 program, such as a mine-resistant vehicle. As a Salem citizen, I am strongly opposed to the expansion and militarization of our police force, and I am calling on you to reverse it.

The funds freed by meaningfully defunding the Salem Police Department could be spent on services that serve our community and address social issues at the root. Our neighbor to the south, Eugene, has set a fine example with their CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets) program, which has been praised as a cost-effective approach based on de-escalation tactics and the skills of medical and mental health professionals. Funds currently allocated for police could also be spent to expand public housing, provide food assistance to Salem residents in need, and strengthen community mental health resources. The City of Salem could tackle systemic issues from the ground up instead of relying on police.

This moment of reckoning with our nation's history of racist policing practices is an opportunity to rethink public safety in this city and reinvest in services that more effectively benefit our residents. We know that meeting the basic needs of our communities is the only way to ensure their health and safety. This starts by divesting funding from the Salem Police Department in the upcoming 2020-21 financial year.

Thank you for your time,

Allison Silverstein
2145 Cottage st SE
Absilverstein@willamette.edu
(619)804-7617

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Kelli Snyder <kellisnyder111@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:10 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: City Budget

As the City Council discusses the proposed City budget this Monday I would like to express my support, for what it's worth, in defunding the police and reallocating funds.

I believe allocating funds to go towards schools, after school programs, and sports which have all proven to increase the graduation rates of BIPOC students. Are there city led options for our students?

Putting funds into social work and mental health facilities to help with homelessness.

The police system is run too thin and law enforcement officers are expected to do too much, which negatively effects their own mental well-being as well as their actions and safety. I believe putting money towards community-based models of safety, support, and prevention will take this pressure off the police and ultimately allow them to be more successful at their jobs; to serve and to protect our community.

Thank you so much for your time.

Sincerely,
Kelli Gilliland

Ruth Stellmacher

From: elizabethborrego42@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:42 PM
To: citycouncil; Cara Kaser; Tom Andersen; Brad Nanke; Jackie Leung; Matthew Ausec; Chris Hoy; Vanessa Nordyke; Jim Lewis
Subject: Defunding the Salem PD

Hello,

My name is Elizabeth and I am a resident of Salem, Oregon. I am reaching out about the City of Salem budget and the Salem Police Department.

I ask that you begin the process of defunding the Salem Police Department and reinvest in alternate forms of community safety.

Police departments have proven themselves an ineffective method of ensuring our communities remain safe. At their best, departments are comprised of minimally-trained officers who are asked to serve as the first response in almost every social situation. At their worst, they house members of the alt-right hate groups that have made a concerted effort to integrate themselves into law enforcement services nationwide (as warned of by the FBI themselves). Additionally, the culture of policing and the concept of the "blue line" has been shown to be directly toxic to the interests of communities across the country, and our community is no different. Salem is not isolated from these national problems. The differing treatment of alt-right gun-carriers versus Black Lives Matter protesters by the Salem PD only a few weeks ago has demonstrated this unequivocally.

Let us be at the forefront of reimagining community safety. Let us reinvest those resources into our schools, our mental health services, and services for members of our community who are experiencing houselessness. Let us create safety by investing in it proactively rather than punitively punishing our neighbors who are suffering. An overmilitarized catch-all response team is not the solution to many of the issues police officers are asked to handle.

To that end, please support meeting agenda items 5a through 5e at the next city council meeting. It is imperative that we remove police from Salem-Keizer schools, bring work sessions and audits to address the way police operate in our community, and review the possible implementation of 8cantwait policies. However, all of these measures are only the start of what needs to be a much deeper process.

Moving forward, please continue to reconsider the role of police in our community, and above all, I ask that you revisit the budget for the new fiscal year. Defund the Salem Police Department.

Best wishes,

Elizabeth

Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: cherrycty@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:04 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Public safety

To whom it concerns

Absolutely do not defund or get rid of our police. We need a safety net. And SPD does a great job. I don't want to have to live in fear when the bad guys realize there'll be no one coming to stop them from doing bodily harm, stealing, vandalizing, robbing, intimidating and so much more. That's not a city or state or I want to live in. I was born 60 years ago right here in Salem and have, for the most part, felt safe and protected. Don't let your citizens down. We have enough to worry about without being abandoned by the very people who are there to 'Protect & Serve'.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Lamo52@ymail.com
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:31 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Lamont Wolverton
Your Email	Lamo52@ymail.com
Your Phone	9712028735
Street	Greenacre Dr
City	SALEM
State	OR
Zip	97304
Message	I'm strongly encourage Salem City Council to fully fund the Salem Police Department. The police are our first line protection from any and all threats to our tax paying residents. Isn't the first task of City Management to protect and serve its residents?. I expect my taxes to be used in part for the protection of my family and myself. To defund these professional men and women is nothing short of ridiculous and ludicrous.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/19/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: CRYSTAL CEDILLO <crystal.cedillo1988@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 2:54 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Please, do not cut police funding

In a world where there is so much chaos, and police are needed on a daily basis cutting funds would not help. We must continue to allow them in schools, to protect our children of the future. To protect those waking down the street to those who need help due to a domestic dispute at a late hour in the night. These things happen and without that help, who is to believe they might make it out if a tough situation? We are to be protected, to be served, to be there for our police officers as they are to be for us.
We can't cut funding for an essential, its got to be for something needed upon a rare basis.

Sincerely,
A concerned mother of the area

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Tammy Baker <turtle113@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 5:55 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Defund Police- Please Dont!

Hi,
Please don't defund the police. We need them and they are doing a great job!
Thank you!
Tammy Baker

Ruth Stellmacher

From: kathleen bateman <kb8man8@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 6:10 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police in schools

Dear City Council,

I have become aware of the effort to remove police from the Salem/Keizer schools. Please, please do NOT allow this to happen. These people are essential in helping our young people recognize the police as helpful adults in their lives, individuals they can turn to with trust that is well-placed. The actions of a very few should NOT determine an overreaction and removal of all. If this is how we approach things then all teachers should be removed as well, and possibly all administrators as well. Do I need to give examples of infractions? I don't think that is necessary as so many are available!

Again, the police are a valuable and needed force for good in schools!

Thank you,

Kathleen Bateman
Salem resident and mother of many Salem school attendees

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Jason Yordy <jason00y@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:24 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: City Police

Dear City of Salem,

Please, please, keep our police force fully funded. They provide a greatly needed service to the city of Salem, to keep it safe, healthy and whole.

If there is one or two police officers that need to be dealt with, or need extra training, that is where efforts need to be put. Not by defunding the police.

Thank you for your time. We will be praying that you make the right decision.

Jason Yordy

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Eli Schenk <eli.schenk12@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:25 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Concerns about upcoming budget.

To all it may concern,

My name is Eli Schenk. I have lived around the Salem area for nearly a decade. If I am not mistaken, the proposed budget to be voted in on Monday is allocating 1/3 of the budget to the police department.

I hope that, in light of current events, you would see that the excessive allocation of funds to the police does not fix the problem of police brutality or racial discrimination. Rather, it is reallocating these funds to community support programs that oversee mental health, homelessness, drug addiction, and other problems that police are not properly trained for.

Instead of paying the police more money for doing a bad job, why not take away their funding to hold them accountable? I urge you to reconsider the proposed budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Eli Schenk.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Lesli Lucier <leslilucier@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:26 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: City of Salem Budget

Councilors,

I am a fourth generation Oregonian who has spent many years in Salem. I grew up visiting my grandparents there and lived there while attending and graduating from Willamette University. I now visit Salem frequently with my family to utilize state parks and visit our state's Capitol.

I am writing to you to urge you not to cut funding for the Salem police. There are ways in which to address the issues you hope to address other than cutting the department's funding.

Thank you for your time,

Lesli

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Amber Heath <ravenwolffe2000@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:27 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Funding Police

Hello,

I am writing to express my concern that upcoming budgets may impact the police department. We are so fortunate to have a awesome police force in our town. I hope that we do not reduce their ability to perform the many tasks that perform for our great city!

Thank you

Amber

Ruth Stellmacher

From: james taylor <taylorj1947@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:48 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police funding

Please do not cut funding for Police. Safety is the first and most important job of government. The Salem Police Dept. along with the Keizer a Police Dept. are highly regarded for their professionalism and their ability to work together. Both are led by great police chiefs. As a former Keizer City Councilor for 12 yrs I know the importance of a viable and effective police force. Don't succumb to pressure from protesters. They don't understand all the dynamics needed to run an affective organization. Work on training to increase racial awareness but don't reduce funds.

Jim Taylor

Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Jane Herb <janeherb08@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:49 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Our Police

Dear Salem City Council:

We need our Salem Police Force! Please do not defund our officers on the front lines who are protecting us and upholding the rule of law. These are the people who run into danger, while the rest of us stay away. We are incredibly lucky that there are heroes like this, and we need to continue to support them with our dollars and respect and gratitude.

I'm dismayed at the embrace of a radical ideology here in our city by some, and I would rather see us take this opportunity to study issues being raised, using rational, evidence-based information, and make improvements in a thoughtful, considered way. Diverse viewpoints must be represented in solutions to issues discovered. Making ill-considered decisions in the course of a few short days or weeks is rash and unacceptable during an emotionally-charged crisis situation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jane Herb
1187 Marigold St NE
Keizer, OR 97303

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Kayla Griffiths <kaylergriff04@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:53 AM
To: citycouncil

Hello,

I am writing you to please with you to please de-fund the police department. The money that is cut needs to be used to update the departments we already have that can take over certain parts of the police force that the police shouldn't be handling anyway. (Like social services and drug rehab centers). Make it unlawful for our police to use military equipment. Our service people are specially trained for a long time in order to adequately use that equipment, our police don't get that training and shouldn't be allowed to handle it. They've proven that they not only don't know how to use it properly, but they misuse it on purpose in order to harm the people they are supposed to protect. The police's only job should be solving crimes. De-fund the police, and better our state.

Thank you for your time,
Kayla Griffiths

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Sandie <sandiegray@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:01 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Defunding the police

Please do NOT defund our police. This is not the answer. Proper training and tracking their and monitoring their work is. I am in a profession where sadly as the world continues to fall apart I'll be finding people who don't belong in vacant houses while trying to complete my job- as much as I hope you all are safe.... I want to feel safe too and that includes having the police be available.

Sandie Gray

503.910.3452

Oregon Licensed Broker and Growth ALC CHAIR with: Keller Williams - Capital City

1900 Hines Street STE: 220

Salem, Or. 97302

sandiegray@comcast.net

Sandiegray.kwrealty.com

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Oregon Real Estate Agency Disclosure

https://www.oregon.gov/rea/licensing/Documents/Sample_Initial_Agency_Disclosure_Pamphlet.pdf

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Ruth Stellmacher

From: Brenda Stubblefield <momdomesticdiva1@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:02 AM
To: citycouncil

Dear City Council

Please do not cut any funding for our valuable police force keeping our city safe and secure !!

If anything up the budget to give more resources and help !!!

Please remember all the good they do and all the lives they save !!!

That we enjoy living in a great city because they give that opportunity to us!!

Sincerely

Brenda & Carl Stubblefield

West Salem residence !

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Andrew & Laura Marshall <themarshalls1224@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:12 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Funding for Police

Please don't cut funding for our police. We need them and support them. The majority of people know that there are cops that are bad but don't punish the good cops who want to serve and protect us.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Kymm Jennings <kymmequity@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:15 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Please don't cut Police Funding

We love our brave men and women in blue.

Sincerely, Law abiding citizens everywhere.

Kymm Jennings
Real Estate Broker
Simple Realty NW
(503) 449-8741
<http://www.thekymmgroup.com/>

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Tawnya Jones <tonkatawnya@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:29 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Funding for police department

Dear city council,

As you will be meeting to discuss the budget I wanted to share my desire to keep funding for our police department. There is so much good they do and stripping them of their funds will not solve the problems that are being spotlighted by the events of our times. Taking away the budget they use to function will create a steep and slippery slope that I believe will lead our city and state into a lawless and barbaric time. We can use creativity to solve the problems that are before us without creating new ones that would surely arise if we were to stop the police from doing what they are doing well. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tawnya Jones

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Monica Johnson <mofoxxee@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:43 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police Funding

I am a resident of Salem Oregon and I want to encourage city council to maintain police Funding. There is a lot of social pressure to defund the police right now and I believe that would be a terrible, dangerous mistake for the city of Salem.

Thank you,

Monica Johnson

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Amandanugent103@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:47 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Amanda Nugent
Your Email	Amandanugent103@gmail.com
Your Phone	8137160178
Street	990 Morningside St SE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	Please allocate money to the school district instead of to the police department....I realize changes have already been made (I.e. new building) that can't be reversed, but we CAN control how much money is being allocated to our police department in the future. And the future is now! Our children need more resources, not more sources of fear in a militarized police. Please, please listen to your citizens.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/20/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Bonnie Ball <ballfamily87@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:54 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: We Need our Police to be funded

As a concerned working citizen that owns rental property and lives in Salem. I plead with you to support our Law enforcement.

Defunding any amount of the police budget would be a detriment to our community.

Please hear our votes as productive citizens that need our police.

Ball Family

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Jamie Roberts <roberts72603@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:57 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Please don't cut police funding

To Whom It May Concern,

The police department is a much needed thing in any City. To bow at the whim of these criminals and terrorist organizations calling for the defunding of police is, in my opinion, as bad as the federal government negotiating with ISIS.

Imagine if you will, a world without cops, without 911, without anyone willing to come to the rescue. Do you see anything good from that? I don't. I see more and more criminal activity, more violence. Yes there are some not so good cops, but that's the same in any line of work. We have bad politicians, bad lawyers, bad judges. Do we judge all by the act of a few? Absolutely not! I ask that the same goes to cops. Love our men and women in blue that do their absolute best to protect and keep us safe!

Thank you for your time,
Jamie Roberts

Ruth Stellmacher

From: jancascade@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:20 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Fund the Salem Police Dept, fully

Dear Council members:

Please do not punish the good officers of the Salem PD for what happened in Minneapolis, MN. Your de funding Salem PD will leave the citizens without adequate protection. When police funding cuts occur, it is the poor who are harmed the most. Sending a social worker to a domestic dispute call places them in harms way, study the situations where police are injured or killed across the nation, not just Salem.

Please take a step back and observe the outcomes of de funding the police department in other cities before taking this drastic action in mostly safe and sane Salem, Oregon. I am not a resident, but all Oregon citizens come to Salem for legislative sessions, to visit the Capital, parks and businesses. We want to be secure in the knowledge that Salem had a well funded and staffed police department for the safety of the citizens and the many visitors.

Respectfully submitted

Jan Esler-Rowe
Milwaukie

Ruth Stellmacher

From: patt2ts1 <patt2ts1@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:26 AM
To: citycouncil

Concern for the safety of your citizens, regardless of any and all political affiliations, should be all the reason needed NOT TO CUT THE FUNDS FOR THE POLICE DEPT. IN SALEM, OR.
It would be totally irresponsible and dangerous. So city council do your job, to guard and keep the funds available to SERVE AND PROTECT YOUR CITY!

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Christiana <christianamayer@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:26 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Please don't defund the police

Dear Salem City Council:

We need our Salem Police Force!

Please do not defund our officers on the front lines who are protecting us and upholding the rule of law. These are the people who run into danger, while the rest of us stay away. We are incredibly lucky that there are heroes like this, and we need to continue to support them with our dollars and respect and gratitude.

I'm dismayed at the embrace of a radical ideology here in our city by some, and I would rather see us take this opportunity to study issues being raised, using rational, evidence-based information, and make improvements in a thoughtful, considered way. Diverse viewpoints must be represented in solutions to issues discovered. Making ill-considered decisions in the course of a few short days or weeks is rash and unacceptable during an emotionally-charged crisis situation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Christiana

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Front Street <frontstreetphoto@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:27 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police Funding

Dear members of the Salem City Council,

My wife and family and I have lived in Marion county since the early 80's. We enjoy travelling to Salem for shopping, doctor visits, state fair, and dining. We value the safety of Salem's streets and are unwilling to sacrifice that safety to appease some radical liberal agenda. Our men and women in uniform provide an incredible service to our community at large, and should be valued and esteemed. Please do not cut funding to the Salem police force. We need them now more than ever.

Sincerely,
Andy McDavid
Hubbard, OR.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: gardingr@reagan.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:34 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: I used to live in Oregon....

I left because of the stupidity of Liberalism that is rampant across this nation. Defunding the police is foremost on this stupidity train. You have a "defund the police" thing on your roster. Well, if you want lawlessness and your citizens not safe anymore...go for it. But if you do....you will bring that lawlessness to your city and your good citizens will move out. Your call.....it's in your court now. You going to vote for the police and keep your city safe? Or are you going to go the direction a lot are and going down the tubes of history.....on the wrong side.

Robert
NWCR Radio
CNM *Conservative Nation Media

Ruth Stellmacher

From: KATHY K. <orcas4@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:34 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police

City Council Members,

As a resident of Salem I strongly urge you to NOT cut funding to our police department! I realize that this is currently the "direction" and "ideology" du jour however getting on a bandwagon without using local data is absolutely poor leadership. I can tell you right now anecdotally that the crime in this city has increased while the vibrant culture is in deep decline.

I moved here in 2006 and loved this city. I have been think recently about leaving due to my perception of the degradation in the downtown and increase in crime.

People thrive when laws are enforced. The culture becomes what you allow. Your job as city leadership is to do what is best for the city to create an atmosphere for people and business to thrive. By defunding our police, especially without thorough data and discussion and only because "everyone else is doing it" is negligent at best.

I urge you to keep our police funded to the fullest extent. Maybe as leadership you spend some time in their police cars seeing what they see.

Sincerely,

Kathy Kiracofe

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Rose Walker <larositadelsur@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:43 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Policing in Salem

Dear City Councilors,

Thank you for providing a proclamation and joint statement on the recent protests and inequality in treatment of the nonviolent protesters vs. armed protesters.

However, I am concerned with the use of the phrase "peace officers" to describe Salem's police officers. When we practice peacemaking, both the means and the end must be peaceful. If we are using chemical weapons (banned in war zones), tasers, rubber bullets, and other "less than lethal" weapons against our residents, then we are only escalating violence. What we consider less than lethal, can actually be fatal to many with underlying health conditions. Additionally, peace officers should be skilled in de-escalation tactics. It is concerning that de-escalation tactics were offered for those who were protesting with assault rifles but tear gas was used on protesters who allegedly were throwing bricks or spray painting graffiti on the capitol building.

The links below provide well-researched information on the violence of the state and how police violence only increases violence by others; and when violence is used against mostly peaceful protesters, it enhances a negative perception of police officers. Additionally, there is a link to a wonderful article reimagining a nonviolent state.

I hope you will take the time to read these articles and consider how we can reimagine our police officers' role in our community if we are to truthfully refer to them as peace officers. While I am not an abolitionist by any means, I do support redirecting dollars to provide a public safety model that works toward the root causes of the issues our city faces. We already use Code Enforcement to take some of the burden off of police so that they are not responding to derelict buildings, unmaintained yards, barking dogs, etc. We can and must allow our police officers to be skilled in specific areas that require their presence while taking the burden off of them in dealing with issues related to mental health, homelessness, neighborhood disputes, and other issues for which there are skilled providers. This model would create a greater sense of public safety and begin to address the root causes of issues of crime in our communities.

1) This is a blog post by Political Violence at a Glance, which is a product of Erica Chenoweth's research, the foremost researcher of nonviolent protests. This post explains how violence by police against nonviolent protesters enhances an unfavorable image of police and increases support for protesters. <https://politicalviolenceataglance.org/2020/06/10/the-political-backlash-of-repressive-policing/>

2) This article by Vox inquires about the opportunities for building a nonviolent state: <https://www.vox.com/2020/6/17/21279950/nonviolence-king-gandhi-protesters-rioters-george-floyd>

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to listening to the discussion at the next City Council meeting.

Ward 7 resident.

--

In Gratitude,
Rose Walker, M.Div
Rev. Wonju Prajna

"All men are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one

directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be, and you can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be." -MLK, Jr.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: kathygriffith611 <kathygriffith611@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:52 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Do NOT Cut Police Funds

I do NOT want any cuts to funding our police on any level
In Any Oregon city, town, or county.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy Tablet

Ruth Stellmacher

From: katrina@adams-rib-smoke-house.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:58 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: DO NOT CUT FUNDING TO POLICE

I am very concerned as to the safety of our city, businesses and its citizens. Do not cut the funds for the Police Dept. in Salem, Oregon. It would be irresponsible and dangerous. Please City Council do your Job to guard and keep the funds available to serve and protect our city!

Sincerely,

Katrina Adams
Adam's Rib Smokehouse
503-689-1082
503-362-2194

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Heidi L Filips <hidenken@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:11 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police budget

As a resident of Salem, I urge you not to placate a small minority of people who are bent on causing mayhem under the guise of justice and reform. With the current tensions and violent outbreaks, the last thing we should do is cut the budget for the police. Please do not cut off law abiding citizens from the public assistance they could need in a time of crisis. A point that could illustrate this at one of the recent protests in this country, a baby started choking and thankfully a cop was close at hand for her to run to. They saved that babies life. So all of us, even those who think they don't, benefit from the training and presence of the police
Heidi Filips

Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Linda Snyder <unichild3@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:27 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police funding

Dear Council,

Please listen to your constituents, who are demanding that you cut funding to the police. We need to take a different approach to policing in this city, and a good start will be to allocate those funds where it is really needed: to counselors, to social programs, to responders who do not view citizens as criminals, but people in trouble.

The amount of money spent on military-style policing is obscene. We can do better. Free up that money to actually HELP people.

Thank you,

Linda Snyder
5595 Stockton Ave S
Salem, Oregon 97306

Ruth Stellmacher

From: kevin king <kevinrking@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:29 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police budget

Dear city council,

I am writing this to request that you NOT cut the Salem PD budget in any way! I know that there is a growing trend across the country of cities cutting police budgets only because the cities are folding to pressure from a small percentage of very loud/vocal radicals! Right now this city and state needs law and order more than ever! Please stand strong and support the men and women in uniform that protect us all.

Thank you,

Kevin King

Sent from Outlook

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Matt Schmit <mat.schmit@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:29 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: City Council Comment

To reduce the burden on the Police would the City of Salem consider diverting a small portion of the Police budget to a program such as Cahoots in Eugene to address non-emergency/crime problems (e.g., mental health, homelessness, drug addiction)?

Thank you,

Matt and Amy Schmit
2408 Cherry Blossom Dr NW
Ward 8

Ruth Stellmacher

From: lmorett@comcast.net
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:38 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Salem PD

I am writing in concern regarding our Salem Police Department. I understand you will be discussing the budget...I am requesting that you DO NOT cut the budget for our Salem Police Department. Our community relies heavily on our brave men and women and they depend on the resources in order to keep our city safe. We need to be sure that the chaos going on in other cities, is not influencing the decisions of our community. We are NOT Portland, Seattle, Atlanta, nor Minneapolis. Thank you.

Keeping the Faith,

Laura S. Morett
Morett Construction

Ruth Stellmacher

From: David Wendell <davidwendell@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:52 AM
To: citycouncil
Cc: Salem Police
Subject: Police Funding

I respectfully, and adamantly, request we support our police officers. This is NOT the time to reduce funding for law enforcement. They are a professional group of men and women that go above and beyond the call of duty to help Salemites. There are many constructive ways to address racism and abuse of authority, but this is not one of them.

I have no desire to be a second rate imitation of Portland. Salem has always been steady and sensible. Let's remain so.

Sincerely,

David Wendell
Salem, OR 97306

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Martin Bassett <martinbassett@afo.net>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:03 AM
To: citycouncil; Isaac Bassett; sbassett@wb.mvpa.org; David Bassett; Aliia Bassett
Subject: Funding Police

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, June 20

Our entire family of 12 citizens of Salem want to express our deep desire to see funding and training of our Salem Police increased not diminished. The entire community of Salem benefits from properly trained and funded policing activities and policies. Please resist any attempts to reduce funding or to de-fund the basic stability of law enforcement in Salem. They need more resources to adequately accomplish law enforcement and public safety. Sanctuary policies should also be abolished as it legalizes activities already statutorily deemed illegal by our nation. Safety and stability of all Salem residents and businesses should be the Council's top priority not a political agenda.

Sincerely,

Martin and Rhonna Bassett

Isaac, Courtney and Colbie Bassett

Sam, Hannah and Justus Bassett

David, Tatyana and Ellie Bassett

Aliia Bassett

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Rockie Leach <rockieleach@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:05 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police Budget

I'm writing to encourage you not to fold into the terrorist group Antifa, or the violence groups, and reduce the police budget. This is insane to even consider this, vilnizing the police and putting us in danger to appease those that hate law enforcement and our laws.

My question to you is who would we call or who will you call when you , your family, your home fall victim to the violence we have seen here in Salem and in Portland, would that be you. Also, who do we hold accountable for any harm that comes to us, our families or our properties. Would that be you and the mayor....

INCREASE the budget so we can hire more police, if anyone will apply...since we are already short handed throughout the state.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Marina Molodyh <marinamolodyh@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:09 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Please don't cut the police fund

As a resident of Marion county I am asking you not to cut Salem Oregon's police funding. I like to feel safe. Thank you

Legal Name: Maria Molodyh

God Bless & Thank you.

--

Marina Molodyh
marinamolodyh@gmail.com

Ruth Stellmacher

From: LARON SUSAN TOLLEY <lstolley7@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:17 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police budget

Salem city councilors

Please do not cut funding for the police? They are so needed in our community

Thank you

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Reva Lux <marmyluz@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:19 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Do not defund the police

To Whom it may concern,

I have lived in Salem most of my adult life and feel that there is room for improvement in the police department but there's a difference between room for improvement and defunding a good program. Most of the officers I've come in contact with over the years have been helpful and courteous. I have come in contact with others who were heavy handed in their relations with the public and I mentioned it to them at the time, in a considerate manner. I believe that there is always room for improvement and that includes myself.

Please don't scrap a good program but do continue to offer education and help to the officers who struggle more in their relationships with community members.

Thank you,
Reva Lux

2229 Breyman St NE, Salem, OR 97301
503-362-1117

Ruth Stellmacher

From: John Snow <snowman1945@att.net>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:27 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Funding

Please do not cut funding for your law enforcement officers. Our officers are vital to the community, they stand between us and the forces of evil.

Sincerely,

John

"Walk with the King and be a Blessing."

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Michelle Roell <shellroell@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:29 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police Funding

Hello,

As a life long resident of Salem, raising a family of four children, I strongly urge you to hear the vast majority of residents who completely stand behind our police department. They risk their lives to protect our community, and if anything, should receive additional funding to add more protections over their lives while serving the community.

Hear this: the LOUDEST people shouting this idiocy to defund police departments are the hypocritical minority. The majority do not agree with this nonsense. FULLY FUND OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Thank you for heading the needs and desires of the whole community, and serving the public.

Michelle Roell

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Darrin Epperly <depperly22@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:36 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Defunding the police

I beg you not to defund our police. Our city would take an even worse turn that it already has. We love our police and are so glad they keep us safe. If you want mass hysteria defund them.

Thank you,

Laurel Epperly

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Marina Molodyh <marinamolodyh@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:09 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Please don't cut the police fund

As a resident of Marion county I am asking you not to cut Salem Oregon's police funding. I like to feel safe. Thank you

Legal Name: Maria Molodyh

God Bless & Thank you.

--

Marina Molodyh
marinamolodyh@gmail.com

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Chloe Turner <679057@salemkeizer.org>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:42 AM
To: Brad Nanke; cbennet@cityofsalem.net; Chris Hoy; citycouncil; Cara Kaser; Jackie Leung; Jim Lewis; Matthew Ausec; Tom Andersen; Vanessa Nordyke
Subject: hi;) defund the police!

PLEASE READ THIS MR. BENNET AND EVERYONE ☐

hello Mayor Chuck Bennet and council,

As an active person in the community i wanted to say a simple message.

Please please please o please defund the police system! that money that goes to them could be used in so many better ways to actually better the community!

As time goes on our world needs to be taught more on how to trust one another and work together to solve problems. Especially for Gen Z we aren't THAT great at communicating and solving problems juntos(together). *BUT we are still an amazing group of peeps:D*

Anyways, that amount of money they get is silly! why isn't it going towards schools?! like honestly, take a moment and think.... the future leaders of this world are all in elementary-middle school-highschool, and we are going to need a lot of help in the future with the more problems we will encounter. Imagine, the wonderful outcomes if we were to take the excessive money that's given to the police, and give it to schools! wouldn't you agree it would be better if that money would go towards schools or other community projects to actually directly help the people. I mean imagine how much more we would be invested in our community? if i was in your place that would be no-brainer, i mean of course you would have to want the city of salem to have a really strong community with leaders in the making with an amazing education! We have to want to make the people our priority, because that's all we are, a bunch of people with amazing potential. if we were able to have opportunities as result of that budget change our mental health, cooperation, activity, and citizenship would be amazing! (at least improve 😊)

if we were to give more money to the police than yes we might be "protected" oooo but then there would still be unnecessary questioning, searching and people being bugged by police. Yes we might be more "safe" cause police are just lock-in up or questioning every person they get suspicious vibes from.

we should put that money towards schools instead so we can be informed and have an amazing education system that keeps us informed and safe because of what and how we are taught and instead of always depending on the police to fix the big problems.

thank you for listening, and I really hope that you will take this into account and make a decision that would better everyone in our community in the best way possible.

and remember all of our citizens and people in this world have concerns, difficulties, and stresses. If you ever are not sure on how to make a decision just ask the citizens. ask the people. because you are here for us.

With sincerity,
Chloe Turner
turner.ann.chloe@gmail.com
503-689-2162
a Salem student.

--
Chloe Turner

thanks you

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Nathan Dunn <Nathan.Dunn@Thrivent.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:45 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police funding

Please do not cut any funding to the Salem police department. I believe this would be detrimental to our city.

-N
NATHAN DUNN
Financial Professional
Parallel 45 Associates
"Building and protecting financial futures for Christians, the people they love, and the organizations they cherish."
103 McNary Estates Dr. N Ste. 103
Keizer, OR 97303
Direct 971-332-5042
Cell 503-551-1725
Fax 971-719-2996

Please do not use email to request, authorize, or affect the purchase or sale of any security or insurance product or service, to send fund transfer instructions, or to effect any other transactions, as we are not authorized to accept those requests in an electronic format. Any such requests, orders, or instructions that you send will not be accepted and will not be processed. If you need immediate assistance with your brokerage account, please call 800 THRIVENT, and say "Securities Brokerage Services."

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Ruth Stellmacher

From: Chloe Turner <679057@salemkeizer.org>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:50 AM
To: Brad Nanke; Chuck Bennett; Chris Hoy; citycouncil; Cara Kaser; Jackie Leung; Jim Lewis; Matthew Ausec; Tom Andersen; Vanessa Nordyke
Subject: hello! defund the police!

PLEASE READ THIS MR. BENNET AND EVERYONE ☐

hello Mayor Chuck Bennet and council,

As an active person in the community i wanted to say a simple message.

Please please please o please defund the police system! that money that goes to them could be used in so many better ways to actually better the community!

As time goes on our world needs to be taught more on how to trust one another and work together to solve problems. Especially for Gen Z we aren't THAT great at communicating and solving problems juntos(together). *BUT we are still an amazing group of peeps:D*

Anyways, that amount of money they get is silly! why isn't it going towards schools?! like honestly, take a moment and think.... the future leaders of this world are all in elementary-middle school-highschool, and we are going to need a lot of help in the future with the more problems we will encounter. Imagine, the wonderful outcomes if we were to take the excessive money that's given to the police, and give it to schools! wouldn't you agree it would be better if that money would go towards schools or other community projects to actually directly help the people. I mean imagine how much more we would be invested in our community? if i was in your place that would be no-brainer, i mean of course you would have to want the city of salem to have a really strong community with leaders in the making with an amazing education! We have to want to make the people our priority, because thats all we are, a bunch of people with amazing potential. if we were able to have opportunities as result of that budget change our mental health, cooperation, activity, and citizenship would be amazing! (at least improve 😊)

if we were to give more money to the police than yes we might be "protected" oooo but then there would still be unnecessary questioning, searching and people being bugged by police. Yes we might be more "safe" cause police are just lock-in up or questioning every person they get suspicious vibes from.

we should put that money towards schools instead so we can be informed and have an amazing education system that keeps us informed and safe because of what and how we are taught and instead of always depending on the police to fix the big problems.

thank you for listening, and I really hope that you will take this into account and make a decision that would better everyone in our community in the best way possible.

and remember all of our citizens and people in this world have concerns, difficulties, and stresses. If you ever are not sure on how to make a decision just ask the citizens. ask the people. because you are here for us.

With sincerity,

Chloe Turner

turner.ann.chloe@gmail.com

503-689-2162

a North Salem Freshman Student

--

Chloe Turner

thanks you

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Tina Herman <austina611@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:55 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Please do not cut funding to our police

Dear Salem City Council Members,

Please do not defund our officers on the front lines, those brave heroes who are protecting us.
Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Tina Herman

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Raisa Piatkoff <raisapiatkoff@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:55 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Citizens Concern

Dear City Council,

I am asking that you do not cut the funding to the police department. Salem is our state Capitol and when it suffers, the whole state suffers. When a police department is offered less funding, it is only criminals that prosper while their victims, law abiding citizens, are punished.

Please for the sake of us, and our children who roam the streets of salem,shop at the mall and defend our civic duties at the capitol,please do not cut funding from the police. Keep us ALL safe.

Sincerely,

Raisa Piatkoff

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of tamiangel06@yahoo.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 12:00 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Tamara Nguyen
Your Email	tamiangel06@yahoo.com
Street	12010 sw jaeger terrace
City	Beaverton
State	OR
Zip	97007
Message	Please defund the police. Use resources to help the community. Resources are better used for outreach programs for at risk youth, mental health services, addiction, and homelessness. Mandatory CE for all police personnel that includes holding fellow officers accountable, de-escalation, recognizing biases, and using non lethal force. Police officers are there to protect citizens not abuse them. They are not Social Service workers. Defund the police. Thank you, Tamara Nguyen

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/20/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Frank Pack <frankpack@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 12:04 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Budget

Please don't abandon the voters by defunding the police. All that will do is display your ignorance. And add to the lawlessness we have now.

I am a voting citizen of the city.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Joyce Matthey <jmatthey36@outlook.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 12:19 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Keep Funding Police

City Council Members,

Please continue funding the Police for our protection. This is one of the most important protections we have.

Carl H Matthey and Joyce Matthey

Ruth Stellmacher

From: George Katsinis <gkat6120@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:26 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: School Resource Officer

PLEASE DO NOT CUT funding for School Resource Officers within S-K Schools.

If the cuts happen, it will be a terrible short sighted mistake. This action would jeopardise execution of the most important functions of a school board: keeping out children safe, and development of a positive learning environment. My prayer is that the city council will assist the school board in fulfilling its primary functions. **PLEASE FUND SRO's.** SRO's were put in place to improve perceptions and relationships within the community and keep our kids safe. These functions have never been more important that they are today.

George

George Katsinis Jr.
gkat6120@gmail.com
[503.949.4990](tel:503.949.4990)

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George@FreedomSpendingPlans.com

LegalShield / IDShield Independent Associate

<https://www.LegalShield.com/hub/GeorgeKatsinis>

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of nbendt16@mail.wou.edu
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 12:28 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Natalie Bendt
Your Email	nbendt16@mail.wou.edu
Your Phone	503 385 3911
Street	788 Browning Ave. S
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	<p>To Salem City Council, Hello, My name is Natalie and I'm a born-and-raised Salemite. I attended Salem Public schools, Chemeketa Community College, and graduated with my BA from Western Oregon University this last June. I am an active voter and a concerned citizen. I am writing to ask the City to begin divesting from the police. I am asking that funds be redirected from the police and towards the community to solve issues like underfunded schools and underpaid teachers, addiction, and the lack of affordable housing. We should not be asking police to resolve issues they're ill-equipped and under-qualified to address. They are not drug and alcohol counselors. They are not social workers. They are not doctors, nor teachers, nor community advocates. They are just dudes with guns with their own prejudices and biases. I've seen evidence that SPD has colluded with armed white supremacists here in Salem. They did nothing on June 6th when armed white supremacists showed up at the George Floyd rally and attempted to physically intimidate and provoke attendees. They warned armed white militants outside of Glamor Salon of the curfew, advising them to get out of sight instead of doing their jobs and telling those people to LEAVE. White supremacists are being emboldened by the disinterest and collusion of the police. Our community is being endangered. PLEASE DO THE RIGHT THING. Please divest from the police. Remember : 'If you are silent in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor' - Desmond Tutu</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/20/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Jennifer Morgan <we6rock@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 12:34 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police department budget

Council persons,

Our city is a lovely and mostly peaceful place to live because we have a police department that responds to and meet the needs of our population. Should you choose to lower their budget because of the current social climate, you will put the safety and enjoyment of our city in jeopardy. Please remember the good these brave men and women do for our community and support them both financially and with your words at this time. The safety of the majority should not be put at risk over the awful behavior of a few. If anything our police department needs more support so they can recruit the best officers the country has to offer.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Morgan

Salem resident for 20 years

Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of knguyen9098@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 12:57 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Kira Nguyen-Manahan
Your Email	knguyen9098@gmail.com
Your Phone	5038100974
Street	1425 shady LN NE
City	Keizer
State	OR
Zip	97303
Message	Hello, I'm contacting you to ask that you reduce the Salem PD budget when you meet this Monday. We should defund the police and invest in our community by providing more mental health and community based services. Statistics show that the majority of police calls are mental health related and that police are ill equipped to handle many of those situations (many community members also don't trust the police). Thanks you

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/20/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Tyler Mitchell <tyler.mitchell1138@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 1:06 PM
To: citycouncil

Mayor Bennet & Council Members,

Our nation is changing. We are witnessing a movement against the militarization of our police forces. People across the nation are demanding that funds be moved away from law enforcement to support more effective social programs with better trained professionals.

As our state capital, Salem needs to lead Oregon in the right direction. Our police forces have no need of military vehicles or equipment. We must demand accountability, deescalation, and a focus on non-lethal force retraining for our officers.

Allegations of cooperation between Salem's officers and far-right groups reached national news this month and are deeply troubling. Given our state's history of racism, we need to show America that we are invested in social justice and dismantling oppressive systems. There can be no greater statement than a pledge to establish programs that support, rather than police, our citizens.

Protests will continue to mount without such a pledge - without action by you, our city council. Please be a part of moving Salem, Oregon, and our nation into the new era of public safety. Reduce funding for our police departments and instead invest in mental health, schools, social programs, and other outreach efforts to prevent crime, rather than merely punish.

The world is watching.

Thank you,
Tyler Mitchell

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Shannon Rozewski <shannonrozewski@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 1:13 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police Funding

Dear City Council Members,

As an educator who wonders daily if the lack of security at my place of work will be enough, I have had put my faith in the Salem Police Department to respond immediately to any perceived threat.

Now, while cries to defund police departments and to remove officers from schools is a popular refrain covered by the media as a social justice trope, I am concerned that my students and colleagues will be even more at risk from someone intending harm.

I am licensed to carry concealed firearms, but my district denies me my Constitutional right to self-protection and to protect others. My only defense is to hide, run, or throw a stapler.

What will I possibly tell my students if there is a threat with no police protection because of low staffing or underfunded patrols? How will I console my colleagues facing potential violence with no officer on duty? What will you tell families if your decision to defund police leads to the loss of a mother, father, or child?

Our community has long enjoyed a positive relationship with the Salem Police Department. Unfounded fears ought not create nor influence policy.

Do not defund Salem Police Department. Do not remove School Resource Officers. The entire community depends on unrestricted, equal access to protection from harm.

Sincerely,

Shannon Rozewski

Ruth Stellmacher

From: elise heil <lisee58@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 1:38 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Save the police!

Do not defund the police! Not sure what else I need to say but I am speaking on behalf of myself and family!

Elise Heil

Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Deannehicksoz@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 2:18 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Deanne hickd
Your Email	Deannehicksoz@gmail.com
Your Phone	5935811492
Message	Please consider with our new times that our police can get better training. Be guided to include the police and everyone are not just people we are a soul. If you identify us under one term and one thought maybe we can make a change. They have such a heavy load to identify in a small amount of time what kind of situation they are going to have to not control but find a solution for. That it takes many kinds of training to gain that skill. We hope with defending we can redirect training to help our public caretakers to stand with us .

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/20/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Lincoln Neet <lincolnneet@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 2:21 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Defund the police!

I plead with you to defund the police! They have failed to serve and protect and attract bullies, because of their virtual immunity to getting in trouble for the crimes they commit! They create more criminals by treating everyday nice citizens like criminals! They invoke fear in every person i know just the sight of them and i do not associate with criminals! Please either cut our taxes down or put their budget somewhere that is actually useful like education, health care(including mental health and drug addiction!), parks and recreation!

Sincerely concerned and fed up citizen

Lincoln

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of yodlynn@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 2:54 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Lynnette Yoder
Your Email	yodlynn@aol.com
Your Phone	503-910-2543
Street	4516 River Rd S
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	Please do not defund our Salem Police Department. We count on our police to help keep peace in our city and to provide safety. I appreciate our officers and the hard work and efforts that they give to us. In my opinion, defunding our police dept. would be giving in to the current pressure of the times without just cause. When our civil turmoil settles down I feel that Salem would be at a great loss without our police and left wishing that we had the resources available to get them back. Thank you for your time and consideration.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/20/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Yodfam@yahoo.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:04 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Michael Yoder
Your Email	Yodfam@yahoo.com
Your Phone	503-562-0050
Message	I understand you have been receiving pressure to defund the police department. While I'm sure your intention is not to completely defund them As they would be ludicrous. However, I urge you not to give in in the interest of placating a small group of vocal individuals when the vast majority of the population values the work of the police and has seen all the good things they do to help the community. Many of us simply do not speak out because we are tired of being harassed on social media for having a different opinion that is not simply a knee jerk reaction to an isolated incident.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/20/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Anthony Trask <anthony@fconline.tv>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:06 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Keeping the police force and it's funding

Dear Salem City Council,

As a 40 year resident of Salem and a pastor of 15 years, I cannot emphasize the need for a strong and funded police force enough.

I have worked with the police much over the years as a pastor in assisting with our homeless neighbors, crimes, abuse, helping protect victims of crimes, and turning in sex offenders.

As a resident, I have dealt often with the police with car accidents I've witnessed; shootings I've heard, assaults I've witnessed and broken up, house break-ins, incapacitated people in mental health or alcohol/drug crisis, etc...

The extreme majority wants and need the police. Our youngest and most vulnerable citizens need them the most.

Please do not cave in to the extremely small minority who wants to either dismantle or discuss the police.

Our city is a mess with lack of adequate infrastructure, homelessness, a crumbling downtown core (that had just begun to thrive), drugs, and joblessness and business shutdowns due covid-19. Please do not make it messier by reducing an already overtaxed police force.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Bo Lane <bobegods@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:22 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Do not defund the local police department

As a resident of Marion county, I appeal to the Salem City Council to not only CONTINUE to fund the police department but also INCREASE the amount of money given to the police department budget. More than ever before, we NEED our local police department.

Terry Lane
Keizer, Oregon resident

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Isaac Perez <ip28822882@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:22 PM
To: citycouncil

As a law abiding citizen do not defund police for we know what taking police away from these area will do. We need them to serve and protect still. I speak for my whole family and aunt uncles cousins and friends who are truly my friends and church members. We need them.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Jim Cruze <jamesh1952@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:24 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Defunding Police

Defunding is the worst idea anyone could ever think of doing. I believe without police, there is no government, and without government, there is no police.

Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Ladina Dougherty <ldougherty81@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:25 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Please do not defund the police

We need our police cutting the fund will not be helpful to our City or community.

Thank you
Ladina Dougherty-

Ruth Stellmacher

From: jasonctavares <jasonctavares@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:26 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Funding our much needed police.

To whom it may concern,

As a lifetime resident of the Salem area I can attest to the rapid growth and change in the community. As the city continues to grow, we need dedicated public servants and police more than ever.

The continued homeless crisis, narcotics, and rise in population dictate the responsible decision to fund and protect enforcement.

Emotionally politicized times are not cause for rash decisions. Please keep those the police protect, protected as well.

JT

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S10, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Amy McLeod <amy.d.mcleod@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:28 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: City Budget

Mr Mayor and Councilors

I am writing today because I understand the City Budget will be a topic of discussion during your Monday meeting.

I wanted to express my deep concern that the our Police budget remain in tact. We have an honorable department with dedicated people who look after the concerns of all the citizens in Salem. It is my deepest hope that what is going on in other, more metropolitan cities like Seattle, Portland, and Atlanta will not influence the decisions made for our City.

Sincerely
Amy McLeod
4054 Braden Ln SE
Salem

Ruth Stellmacher

From: sarah McConville <sarah.d.mcconville@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:32 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: DO NOT DEFUND THE POLICE

Hello,

My family and I have lived in Salem our whole lives. We have two young children and one on the way. We have been eagerly watching the news of everything going on and feel if you defund the police it will make our community worse. If you defund the police it will make our streets even more unsafe then they already are. I can't imagine what will happen when people call for help only to get little or no help because you defunded them. Our community has been getting more and more unsafe due to the drug addict homeless down town and really all around our city. We already do not feel safe and for you to defund the only resource that protects us would be destruction. Please do not defund the police.

Thank you,

Sarah McConville

Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of angelamflores@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:46 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Angela Flores
Your Email	angelamflores@gmail.com
Your Phone	5033900281
Message	Hello, I am emailing to encourage the city council to NOT decrease police funding for the City of Salem. In these times, it's clear that more training is needed for them. We want better relations and understanding between our police and people of all colors so that murders like George Floyd never happen again. That comes with training and building relationship bridges. That also includes our youth having positive interactions with police officers in schools. Also, as a small business owner in Salem, I appreciate the service provided by our police. Thank you for your consideration.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/20/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Vickie and Richard <rickrvsd@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:45 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police Funding

A strong, healthy community requires good leadership, fire protection and law enforcement to remain strong and healthy.

Please DO NOT take tax dollars away from the Salem Police Department! Rather, use part of existing funds to educate our law enforcement officers (current and future) in diversity and mental health issues.

Keep Salem strong...thank you,

Vickie Axenty
4382 Val Vista Ave NE, Salem, OR 97305

Mahalo and Aloha Ra & Va



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of angelamflores@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:47 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Angela Flores
Your Email	angelamflores@gmail.com
Your Phone	5033900281
Message	Hello, I am emailing to encourage the city council to NOT decrease police funding for the City of Salem. In these times, it's clear that more training is needed for them. We want better relations and understanding between our police and people of all colors so that murders like George Floyd never happen again. That comes with training and building relationship bridges. That also includes our youth having positive interactions with police officers in schools. Also, as a small business owner in Salem, I appreciate the service provided by our police. Thank you for your consideration.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/20/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Melissa Lang <melissaannelang@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:50 PM
To: Cara Kaser; Tom Andersen; Chuck Bennett; Brad Nanke; Jackie Leung; Matthew Ausec; Chris Hoy; Vanessa Nordyke; Jim Lewis; citycouncil
Subject: Police Reform and necessary change

City of Salem Officials,

I am writing to you to share my personal experience growing up in Salem.

I have lived in Salem my entire life, and I probably grew up in the 80's and 90's with at least one of you. The elementary school I attended was not very diverse, but I was excited to meet people who were different from me and I wanted to know all about how their experiences varied from my own. Even in school we were taught to celebrate those differences at assemblies, field-trips, talent shows, and other special events. But in my own home, my family discovered I was calling someone on the phone who wasn't white, and they discouraged me from doing so. They were reacting to how poorly people of color were treated by our community and assumed I would be treated poorly by association.

In the 90's many of my male white friends became skinheads. When I visited their homes, I would witness their parents openly sharing their hate for people of color by displaying nazi/skinhead imagery and wearing red shoelaces. I distinctly remember three of these friends' parents were police officers. Though I didn't share their beliefs, I just assumed their bias was from experience. They always treated me with respect, so why did it matter if it didn't affect me? Thankfully I cut ties with these people in 1996, grateful for the positive change in my life, but it simply wasn't enough.

My world was shattered when I recently attended Black Lives Matter protests. I assumed that because I had personally grown and progressed, having severed ties with the racism on my past, that the rest of the city had as well. I assumed that hate existed solely in the 90's, but I was wrong. Many people driving by the BLM protest showed their negativity by giving us a thumbs down, shaking their heads, flipping us off, motioning a finger in a cutting motion across their neck, and a fellow protester said they observed a motorist pointing a gun at them. Also I found it troubling to watch videos of local police officers clearly providing favoritism to armed militia over peaceful protesters during the curfew. One officer claimed ignorance to such one-sidedness, but I didn't buy it. They weren't telling protestors how to avoid being arrested. They weren't telling other citizens where to go to avoid detection. They did, however, advocate those things for the militia members -- armed men openly carrying firearms in public.

In 2006 I started working for the State Hospital. There I learned about mental health, the criminal justice system, and have worked alongside some of the most compassionate people I have ever met. I volunteered on the citizen review board for the county and have tried to do my best to make changes within my community. I get to see regularly how the hospital staff handle extremely dangerous situations, safely, without using weapons. I often have training sessions to learn how to de-escalate circumstances, learning when to let things go, and when it's imperative to confront people. These experiences have set my expectations for how the police should interact with the public. If the hospital can thwart a dangerous situation, without violent means, why can't the police that are sworn to serve & protect us? I am infuriated with the videos of the police around the country escalating violence during non-violent situations and have little faith there is a vast difference between our community and those videos.

Patients at the hospital are stuck in the criminal justice system because there isn't a way for them to receive treatment without being arrested. The community lacks adequate resources to help that segment of our population. Instead I've read police reports about the patients held in the hospital for months on end because they stole a candy bar, urinated in public, or for seemingly being mentally ill. Unfortunately our community

constantly falls short of the needs of those in the community. The state built new buildings to treat patients. They educated their staff. They needed the investment to make change. Now the hospital is being threatened with reduced funding and is feeling the pressure to manage with less money, which makes this time for change even more important. The city needs to make more investments into mental health in order for the state to be successful. The hospital has changed, but still needs the community to develop resources and methods to stop the vicious circle of locking up people that aren't obtaining medical care.

In 2020, I have seen the police fail to provide service and protection to the community if it isn't an ideal they support. During the June 6th protest they failed to provide the correct services at the capital in order to keep protesters safe from armed gunmen. The police fail to protect citizens and businesses of color in a timely manner when they are harassed by white nationalists. They can arrest people who struggle with mental health conditions when they cause a scene in public, but somehow turn a blind eye to those who strive to incite violence and fear into those who they seek to oppress? I don't like their priorities.

I've listened to the people of color in our community and discover their experiences are drastically different than mine, and have been since even before I was a kid. I've never been arrested. I've never lived in fear of being harmed by the police for simply existing. But change can't happen without funding, nor admonishing what is clearly wrong in our system. Change is extremely hard, and simply turning a blind eye, like I did in my youth, is not enough. We need to confront racism head on and make real change. I was disheartened recently to hear Mayor Bennett say "this too shall pass" in a video in regards to an officer feeling exhausted towards the protests. This is not the attitude need to have right now. Simply waiting for this to be over is not going to make change.

Listening to the nation's cries for change is important. The cries to divest in police programs and fund services that support the community in other ways must be heard. This is not a new concept here as Marion county has used specialized mental health professionals, and trained police, to respond to pertinent calls that keep people out of the forensic mental health system. This is a step in the right direction but still far from where we need to be. I urge you to listen to people from around the country, not just the local people, for the voice of change since our community is not diverse. The voices of those harmed in this city will not outweigh those of the majority of white citizens in Salem. Failing to make changes simply because there aren't enough people sending you emails similar to this one is a joke. Do what is right for the community. Systemic racism is wrong, and continuing to fund the status quo for the police, who have shown their bias to only serve the white community, is also wrong.

I urge you to reduce the funding for the local police department (such as officers in public schools) and instead invest that money into education to understand how people of color are treated, as well as for mental health programs in the community. The ignorance and stigma of having a mental health disorder is still prevalent in our society. Staffing schools with social workers and psychologists to help kids -- who otherwise would have no mental health contacts -- is one of the many changes we can make to impact the children of the future. Mental health needs to be treated as early as possible and not policed. The community needs that funding to stop criminalizing people who struggle with mental health. With less funds currently going towards the State Hospital, it is imperative that we make those investments now in the community instead of simply locking people up.

I have a long way to go in continuing my education on racism and the criminal justice system. I hope you will also continue to learn and listen to those who've been harmed by the system which oppresses them and work to make changes that will help improve the lives of everyone in the community. I don't claim to know all the answers to the problems we are facing but I can tell that there is something wrong with what has been done in the past.

Thank you for your time.

Melissa Lang

My ideas and opinions are my own.