

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Calderon <cdcalderon11@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:03 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Do Not Defund the Police

Dear Council Members:

I know times are heavy and intense right now and the calls for action are loud. I do not condone the systemic racism of people of color and believe this is a wake up call for many. I however, do NOT agree with the movement to defund the police. I worry for the safety of our community without a sustainable budget for our police. I do believe there is room to entertain ways to improve the department. I believe, a reasonable approach is to have a reform committee then an action plan put in place before any major reallocating of resources were to happen. If we can spend millions down the drain on a wasted bridge project we can spend to support the officers who have sworn to protect our communities citizens.

Thank you for your service,

Chrystal Calderon

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Matt Porter <matt@outwardchurch.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:23 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Do not Defund Police

Hi, I'm the pastor at Outward Church. I just wanted to make my voice heard that I do not believe that it is in the community's best interest to defund our police.

Thanks!

Matt Porter

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Kim Freeman <kimf77175@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:24 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Schools and Our Police

I Have Grandsons still in school....

3 all in High school and we All think Taking our Resource Officers and Security and The Great Men in Blue

You Are Asking for More problems than the schools Already Have.

Please Do Not Take Away Every Kids last hopes of Staying safe at Schools.

Kim Freeman.
503-569-0454

Ruth Stellmacher

From: April <adlputnam@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:36 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police budget

Members of the Council,

Please consider the safety of your constituents when addressing the issue of police funding in the city of Salem.

Residents recently voted to raise their taxes substantially to fund the new home for the police department. Do you not think those same citizens voted for that because they wanted to have all the resources possible to provide our police all that they need?

There are people of all walks of life, all backgrounds, all nationalities, all religions, all races, all orientations etc. are are "bad actors."

Bunching all police in the category of those who are officers of the law who are "bad actors" is irrational and down right irresponsible.

Businesses are already leaving Salem and the state of Oregon for numerous reasons. Do we need to drive more tax dollars out of our community?

Hold those "bad actors" accountable in all areas of our lives. Bad cops. Bad teachers. Bad public employees. Bad people!

Don't punish all for the wrong doings of a very small minority!

Please do not ruin our community!

Sincerely,
Stephen & April Putnam
2128 Western Heights Loop NW
Salem, Oregon 97304

Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Stephanie Moll <smoll.murraybrownre@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:46 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Funding necessary for police - please do not cut

Dear Council Members,

It has been brought to my attention there may be consideration of reducing/cutting the budget to city police. Please do not listen to the voices of a few loud exceptions compared to the thousands of quiet citizens that respect law enforcement, appreciate having them as a resource when needed and understand the majority of our officers do an excellent job serving our community and visitors every day.

Respectfully,
Stephanie Moll

--

Stephanie Moll, ABR, GRI

Murray Brown Real Estate

Principal Broker

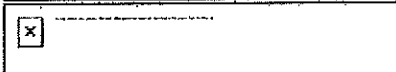
Licensed in the State of Oregon

4375 Turner Rd SE, Salem, OR 97317

541.992.3173 Cell

SMoll.MurrayBrownRE@gmail.com

[Initial Agency Disclosure Pamphlet](#)



Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of pkknif@yahoo.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:50 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Pamela Kniffin
Your Email	pkknif@yahoo.com
Your Phone	503-580-8648
Street	3773 Cheviot Way S
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	I want to express my support of our Salem Police Department. They have always been professional when I had any dealings with them. I would not want to live in a community where the number of police was reduced and times increased to reach our homes in an emergency because of reduced funding for the police. Please know I strongly disagree with reducing the police budget at all. Not one cent.

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Ruth Stellmacher

From: Susantrask3 <susantrask3@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:05 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Please don't refund the police!

Dear Salem City Council,

I am writing you to request that you do not defund the Salem Police Department. They are much needed in our community. And my family will not stay in Salem if we do not have an active police force. Crime would be insane and drug and alcohol problems will be out of control.

I have felt safe in our community knowing that the amazing police men and women of Salem are available when I have a crisis.

I have never felt threatened or intimidated by our police force. Even when I was being pulled over for a minor traffic violation.

If people could police themselves then a police force wouldn't have been needed from the start. Unfortunately people are people and need police to enforce safety and sanity.

Thank you for your time,

Susan Trask
3975 Crestview Dr S
Salem OR 97302

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Franciegilmer@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 5:03 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Frances Gilmer
Your Email	Franciegilmer@gmail.com
Your Phone	5035079771
Street	115 Kevin Way SE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97306
Message	Please do not reduce the police budget Thank you a concerned and long term resident of Sakem

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

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Chris <chrismcruze@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 5:17 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Defunding Police

I'm so thankful for police officers & this country would be an awful catastrophe without them.
I support police officers!!

Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Ben Wilt <benjamincedartree@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 5:25 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: City Council Public Comment for 6/22 Mtg

First, I want to state that it is inappropriate for city council to hear 19 public comments and refuse to discuss them. My ward representative stated that they were unsure where the comments to defund police came from, so know this comment comes from ward 1, in the NEN neighborhood. If Council fails to discuss the issue of police funding they are failing their constituents. We elect you to represent us, and our public comments are how we tell you what we want for our city.

Before the killing of George Floyd, and the subsequent calls for the abolishment of American policing, I had no idea that our city spends 1/3 of its general fund on policing, budgeted at 48 million dollars.

Before I saw the use of CN gas DURING A PANDEMIC, and the blatant coordination of Salem police with armed white supremacist groups, I had a more positive view of where our tax money was going.

Before I had researched working examples of separately dispatched agencies, I didn't know the efficacy and financial sensibility of using non-police forces to respond to mental health crises and other non-violent calls. As an example, Cahoots in Eugene responds to 20% of dispatches with a \$2 million budget, compared to the \$68 million police budget. That is an 8.5x more efficient use of tax dollars. They also estimate an additional \$6 Million in health service costs are saved per annum.

In light of this, I demand that City council issues a cut of no less than 1/4 of the Salem Police Department's Budget for the upcoming fiscal year. With part of this \$12 Million fund, Council must work to house every homeless individual in Salem, both a public health, safety, and business concern that has long beleaguered us. Council must allocate funds for the development of a separate dispatch agency, with the support of local nonprofits, to respond to non-violent, mental health, and other minor calls through unarmed, de-escalation techniques. Remaining funds should be used for public art, traffic calming devices, or other community enrichment that makes our neighborhoods safer.

American policing, in many larger cities, has shown itself past reform in the last few weeks. I don't know that City of Salem's police is, but it has shown that there is a toxic underbelly out of citizen oversight, and not in line with our city's values of acceptance of all peoples and peace. It is past time that we dedicate funding to services that actually promote the safety of our most vulnerable, rather than simply penalizing their existence.

Council, listen to your constituents. We know public safety starts when community needs are met. The police are not trained or equipped to solve all of our needs as a community, and you need to direct our tax money to the services they never should have been tasked with in the first place.

Thank you for your discussion,
Benjamin Wilt

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Terry & Andi Sanders <terryandisanders@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 5:39 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Vote NO to cut funding for police

Please and thank you
Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Don Wyant <wyantcompanies@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 5:40 PM
To: citycouncil
Cc: Stacey Ann Wollman
Subject: Defunding Salem Police

I'm a business owner in Salem. I employ people in really estate, food service, manufacturing, communications and other businesses. I'm getting very tired of the effects of the Salem City Council's apparent inability to deal with so many issues including homeless, high taxes, and hostile business atmosphere all affecting people's jobs and quality of life.

But highest on my list is public safety. We need more police presence, not less. Don't fall into the misconception that city's like Portland,, Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles have succumbed too.

We expect more from you and will do whatever it takes to make sure our city remains safe. Monkey around with social services and mental health and whatever experiment you need to try, but leave the police budget I'm place and every consider increasing their autonomy to handle crises and corresponding budget.

Thank you for your consideration of an alternative, but majority opinion.

Don Wyant Jr

Ruth Stellmacher

From: David Sponable <David.Sponable@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 5:48 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: NO to defunding the police

City of Salem city council,

Please do not cut funds to the Police in our city. I'm born and raised here and have been a part of this great city for 39 years. Our police are doing a great job. Please do not let a couple of loud unelected voices make policy decisions for us.

Thanks,
David Sponable
503-508-4945

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Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Steve.gilmer2@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 5:50 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Steve Gilmer
Your Email	Steve.gilmer2@gmail.com
Your Phone	503-899-8046
Street	115 Kevin Way SE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97306
Message	Please do not reduce the police budget. We have work to do, but this would solve nothing. We need protection. A concerned life long resident.

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Ruth Stellmacher

From: Allan Pederson <adp.usmc@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 5:57 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police

Do not cut the funding for the Police! Are you looking to destroy your town?

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Edward Chartrand <edchartrand125@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 6:06 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Refunding of police

Please do not defund police weather find them enough to be trained appropriately and have appropriate evaluations before becoming police officers. I'm a nobody in fact a homeless guy in Springfield Oregon. I know without police we would be in big trouble. I do ask that police not confuse homeless with looters and criminals yes some are but not all. I am homeless if you check my record it's bad . Please don't confuse that either. I'm clean and sober attempting with the help of God and a good church to help homeless unite in bettering our situation and build real resources that would make that possible. Thank you for hearing me. Means a lot.

Edward Chartrand

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Holway Images <holwayimages@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 6:07 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police Defunding

To whom it may concern,

I want you to know my family DOES NOT want the Police Department defunded. Our community needs them and we absolutely ARE NOT in favor of defunding them. Please pay attention to what the majority of people want. We want and need our Police Department fully funded.

If you look at all the chaos that is happening in Atlanta and other cities across the country, you can expect the same will happen in our beautiful town of Salem should our Police Department be defunded. Please, don't play a part in destroying our city by passing this.

Paul Holway

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 6:13 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Marie
Zip	97304
Message	I am a salem resident. I am asking as our representative to please deny the budget proposal giving about 1/3 of our resources to the police department. They have more than enough funding already, and our community and future generations could use it more.

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

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Kise Bond <kise.bond@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 6:16 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police budget

Hello,

I am writing because I hope you all will consider cutting the police budget. This money would be better spent on our community. It should not be the job of the police to help with mental illness, homelessness, or many other jobs they seem to have taken on. This should be left to those who have the proper training and This way the police can work on crime. Thank you

Colton and Kise Bond
4760 Rising St SE
Salem, OR 97302

Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Clyde Burns <clyde_3feathers@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 6:28 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police Department Funding

Do not reduce the Police Department's Funding.
Without the protection of the department, the average tax paying citizen
will have no recourse in an emergency..

Thank You
Clyde Burns

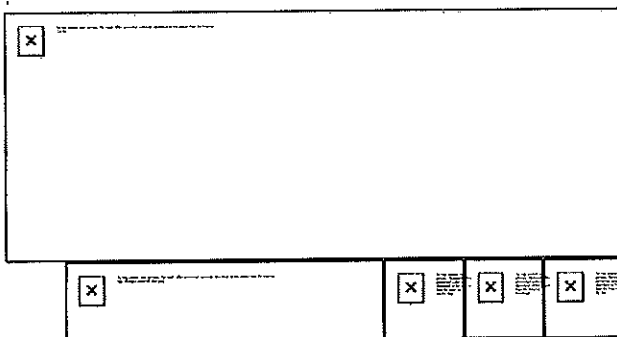
Ruth Stellmacher

From: Shelly Samson - The ALDRICH Team <ssamson@integrityagents.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 6:37 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: DO NOT DEFUND POLICE

I am writing to respectfully ask for you to not even consider defunding the Salem police department.

The police force in Salem needs every dollar allotted to them to continue to protect our community, provide a competitive wage to the officers who literally risk their lives every day they put on that uniform.

Do not punish the good to over react to the bad officers that represent a very small percentage of the officers who do an amazing job. There are crooks and horiffic individuals in every career. We need to be sure we are accuratley screening officers before and DURING their service. Life circimstances change as do individuals. True colors come out over time and colors of ones integrity changes as life unfolds.



Ruth Stellmacher

From: Sid Van dyke <sid.vandyke@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 6:44 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: DO NOT DEFUND THE POLICE

Dear Salem City Council,

Defunding the Salem Police Department or even reducing their budget is a reckless and senseless decision. I can't believe these are even options. I acknowledge that mistakes have been made but you can't such a small amount of mistakes cancel out all the good they do. Example: if you take the officers out of the schools and God forbid there happens to be a school shooting then that is on you. You as council members who made that decision will be held responsible. Everyone makes mistakes and some of those mistakes are life changing horrible no excuses kind of mistakes. I beg you please, don't make another mistake because of someone else's mistake. Thank you.

Sidney D. Van Dyke
(503)871-2548

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of jenfs07@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 6:49 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Jennifer Isringhausen
Your Email	jenfs07@gmail.com
Your Phone	9713416091
Street	208 Boone Road Southeast
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97306
Message	<p>Mayor Bennet & Council Members, What a world we live in today. It is with a heavy heart that I write this message, and hope that it finds you all well. As a nation, we are witnessing the movement of that takes away the militarization of police and putting funding towards programs that can cause positive change in our communities. As our state capital, Salem must lead Oregon in the right direction. After personally witnessing our local police show favor to known "Proud boys" and white supremacists, I have no words for how disappointed and horrifying it was to listen to a less than heartfelt apology with no plan to change or punish those actions. 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. 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. Our schools are struggling. Our mental health awareness and treatment plans are struggling. Our foster care system, court system and family services are struggling. Our communities deserve better. Our communities deserve to feel safe and heard. This programs, along with many others, deserve the opportunity to be funded properly over the terror and scare tactics that our local police are implementing. Thank you.</p>

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Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of mrs_saldivar@yahoo.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:01 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Jennifer Saldivar
Your Email	mrs_saldivar@yahoo.com
Your Phone	5033026531
Street	4723 Nighthawk Ct
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97305
Message	<p>I am asking that you do not cut the funding to the police department. Salem is our state Capitol and can be an example to the rest of the state. Our police officers have been an inspiring example of what can happen when the police reach out to the community WHILE also protecting the community from those who wish to do it harm. When a police department is offered less funding, it is only criminals that prosper while their victims, law abiding citizens, are punished. I have regularly protested at the Capitol in recent years and been nothing but impressed by the composure and professionalism of our police officers. Please provide the needed funding so that our officers can continue to protect the lives and rights of our families, our children and our city! Sincerely, Jennifer Saldivar</p>

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

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Denise Varieur <denvar01@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:09 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police & Firefighter funding

I ask that we keep this funding. I feel that need these people in our community. They are essential workers and have earned our respect. Please hear and listen to my plea.

Thank you,
Denise Varieur
Concerned Citizen

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Taj DeSouza-GrosJacques <tajdgyeah@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:15 PM
To: Brad Nanke; Chuck Bennett; Chris Hoy; citycouncil; Cara Kaser; Jackie Leung; Jim Lewis; Matthew Ausec; Tom Andersen; Vanessa Nordyke
Subject: To Whom It May Concern:

Hello, my name is Taj 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, 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.

Taj DeSouza-GrosJacques

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Debra Holway <jdholway@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:40 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Do not defund the police department

Dear City Council,

As a 69 year old resident of the city of Salem I want to express what a vital role the police department plays in the health and safety of our community. Please do not defund the police department. As a senior citizen, my wife and I rely on our local police to provide law and order and safety for those in need. We've seen, even in Portland, the chaos that can happen when law and order aren't enforced.

Thank you for listening to the tax paying citizens of the wonderful city of Salem.

Jerry Holway

"Pray not because you need something, but because you have a lot to thank GOD for."

May you have more Love, Joy and Laughter.....

.....Deb ;)

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Craig@SalemDreamCenter.org
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:50 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Craig Oviatt
Your Email	Craig@SalemDreamCenter.org
Your Phone	5035607063
Street	814 Van Buren Dr NW
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97304
Message	<p>Dear City Council, I'm messaging you in respect to the Salem Police Department. I'm co-founder and Executive Director of the Salem Dream Center, a Salem nonprofit that since 2004 has worked with at risk youth and families living in generational poverty. The Salem Police Department have been, and continues to be a positive partner, helping us to empower and equip children, youth, teens and young adults. They attend our Saturday programs, partner with us in teen programs and more. They set an amazing example of how community policing should be done. They are relational, respectful and fair. I know there are police agencies who sadly don't interact with the community in a positive manor. There are others that set a terrible example, and deserve the negative attention they are now receiving. Salem is not one of those. Since SPD began partnering with us in our programs some six years ago, we have had dozens of minority teens/young adults pursue or plan to pursue careers in law enforcement. That is a true testament to the Salem Police Department. I encourage you to support the Salem Police Department aggressively and passionately. Their record clearly demonstrates that they deserve praise, not unjust negative attention simply because other departments have failed their community. Respectfully, Craig Oviatt Salem Dream Center Education • Mentorship • Food Security</p>

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Ruth Stellmacher

From: Olivia Altemus <oliviaaltemus@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:56 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Funding for Police

Hello,

I am emailing asking that you would please consider not cutting funds for the police. The police are vital to keeping our community safe, especially during these uncertain times.

Thank you,

Olivia Altemus

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of s.black4477@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:00 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Sharlee Blackwell
Your Email	s.black4477@gmail.com
Your Phone	5038815137
Street	3321 Ratcliff LN SE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	I urge you all to be on the right side. The proclamation read today 6/20 at the rally supports moving budget from the police to other departments that protect and serve all of our community. Start by pulling your cops from the SRO program with SKSD. Mandatory bias and anti-racist training for all city employees. Investing in a CAHOOTS type program like they have in Eugene.

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

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Madison Munro <munro2000@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:31 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Defunding Salem Police / Relocating Funds Towards the Community

Hello,

I am a Salem/Keizer citizen as well as a student at Willamette University. I am emailing to implore Salem City Council not to invest more funds into the police department. It is imperative that instead these funds go towards the community. In ways that support child development and the betterment of this city's most vulnerable citizens. Funds might instead go towards the school districts art and theatre programs or the Boys and Girls club, focusing on places where students and young people are able to be supported and feel a sense of belonging. Additionally, addressing Salem's increased homeless population, focusing on rehabilitation, rather than sweeping them from city sidewalks. Regardless, it is my belief that investing in police will not better our community, but have a wildly adverse affect on citizens especially citizens of color. Please, invest in the people of Salem, not its police force.

Thank you,
Madison Munro

Ruth Stellmacher

From: john cochran <jcvector2003@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:31 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police funding

Mayor Bennett and councillors:

My wife and I live on the edge of Salem and we are very concerned for our safety if the police force is cut back and underfunded.

We already are reluctant to shop downtown or bring our grandchildren because of the unaddressed homeless situation and sanitation issues.

In our opinion a reduced police presence will contribute to deteriorating public safety and public health.

Please don't reduce police funding.

Thank you,

John and Beverly Cochran

4751 Rawhide Court NE Salem 97305

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of mskgallardo@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 1:53 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Melissa Gallardo
Your Email	mskgallardo@gmail.com
Your Phone	5039312675
Street	755 16th St. NE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97301
Message	Hello, I'm writing to voice my support of defunding the police and reallocating funds toward services that actually keep all Salem residents safe. Thank you for listening, Melissa Gallardo

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/21/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of holtgrjm@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 3:56 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Jon Holtgreffe
Your Email	holtgrjm@gmail.com
Your Phone	5415256541
Street	1096 Cascade DR NW
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97304
Message	Hello, As a citizen of Salem highly concerned about the behavior of the police in recent weeks, particularly conspiring with white supremacists while firing tear gas at protestors. I urge the council to look at curtailing the funding for the police department i favor of funding social support programs. Additionally, I would like to see tear gas forbidden, a strong limitation on police use of force, and the immediate investigation of white supremacist ties, and the removal of the current police chief after hid unacceptable 'defense' of that last action.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/21/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Yodfam@yahoo.com
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 5:23 AM
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 6/21/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of foodnotbombs42@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 6:12 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Garrett Kahn
Your Email	foodnotbombs42@gmail.com
Your Phone	9714440660
Street	4109 McKay Dr
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	<p>The city of Salem's response to the BLM movement is laughable, shows the complete lack of understanding that the mayor and council have around today's movements that have exploded recently thanks to systematic abuse of the disenfranchised as well as the lower and middle classes. Jerry Moore is incompetent. Chuck Bennet is incompetent. They should both resign immediately. Defund Salem PD and invest in our crumbling and embarrassingly underfunded schools. I used to appreciate Nordyke and Andersons positions. But you have both outed yourselves as shallow, out of depth, neoliberals that don't actually give a shit about the people you are supposed to represent. We need young people in local government that actually understand the issues that plague NORMAL EVERYDAY people. You should all resign and let the people that this all effects get the work done.</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/21/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of pkknif@yahoo.com
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 6:46 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Pamela Kniffin
Your Email	pkknif@yahoo.com
Your Phone	503-580-8648
Street	3773 Cheviot Way S
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	I want to express my support of our Salem Police Department. They have always been professional when I had any dealings with them. I would not want to live in a community where the number of police was reduced and times increased to reach our homes in an emergency because of reduced funding for the police. Please know I strongly disagree with reducing the police budget at all. Not one cent.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/21/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of shawnaceja@yahoo.com
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:34 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	shawna toney
Your Email	shawnaceja@yahoo.com
Street	4082 Watson Ave NE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97305
Message	PLEASE DO NOT DEFUND OR REPURPOSE THE FUNDS FOR OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT. LAST WEEK MY DAUGHTER AND I SAW PROTESTERS OUT AT SALEM KEIZER PUBLIC SCHOOL ON LANCASTER ASKING FOR THE REMOVAL OF POLICE IN SCHOOL. THIS SCARED MY DAUGHTER SO MUCH SHE IS ASKING TO BE HOMESCHOOLED IF OUR POLICE ARE REMOVED. WHEN WE RETURNED HOME MY SONS SAID THE SAME THING. WE JUST VOTED ON BETTER SECURITY FOR OUR SCHOOLS TO KEEP THEM SAFE, THIS IS A COMPLETE VIOLATION OF WHAT THE VOTERS VOTED ON IF THE POLICE OFFICERS ARE REMOVED. THANK YOU FOR YOU TIME!

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/21/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Crystal Pokorny <crystalpokorny@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 12:11 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police

I understand the council meets tomorrow.

Let me be very clear: I do not want the police budget cut.

I operate a business inside Salem.

We need their help from time to time and I would really hate to see them stretched any thinner than they are.

In fact, you need to incentivize good police officers. Who would even want to join the police force with what is going on today?

Crystal Pokorny
Salem Oregon

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Justin W <justin.wanner@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 12:32 PM
To: Chuck Bennett
Subject: City Safety Budget

My name is Justin Wanner and I am a resident of Salem, OR.

I am contacting you again in regards to the allocation of funds to the Salem Police Department. I really want to drive home the importance of distributing those funds to life-affirming resources. We are constantly bombarded with facts about lack of funds for education, affordable housing, mental-health counseling, and substance-abuse treatment. Studies have shown the importance of these social services, but we still do nothing about providing the funds to support them. With that said, this budget discussion for safety is a great way to redistribute the funds we give to the police department. Use that money to fund social services that promote deescalation and safety.

I have also recently heard that Salem PD do not have body cams but have recently built a new police station. This is unacceptable. With the amount of money we have been funneling into the police, we should already have these safety measures in place. And it disgusts me that they put our tax dollars into a new station rather than into providing the force with cameras to keep the public safe.

A stronger police force only creates more violence. We do not need military gear for the people who are supposed to keep the public safe.

Please, be part of the change for a better future. One that focuses on healing and not on violence.

With great sincerity,

Justin Wanner.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Sunny Maxwell <semaxwell@willamette.edu>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 12:40 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Defund Salem PD

Dear Mayor Bennett and City Councilors,

I am a resident of Salem and I currently reside in the Four Corners 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,

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: tanyajwagner1@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 12:57 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Police budget

City Councilors,

I am a resident of Salem and I currently reside in the northeast area. I am writing to ask you to 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, as well as more options for affordable childcare and after school programs for our youth. Please reallocate funds so I can see these needed changes in Salem.

Thank you,
Tanya Wagner
4747 Marcey Ct Ne
Salem, 97305

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Evlalia Makaroff <emxoxo.loveu@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 1:18 PM
To: citycouncil

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,
Evlalia Makaroff

Ruth Stellmacher

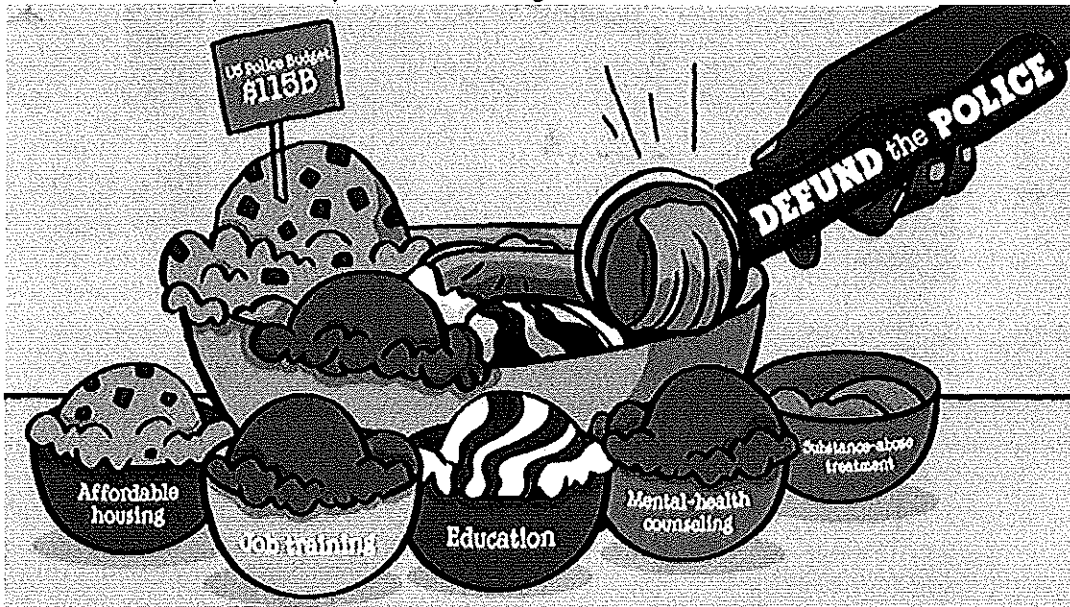
From: Jared Richert <jaredrichert13@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 1:28 PM
To: citycouncil; Cara Kaser; Brad Nanke; Chris Hoy; Jackie Leung; Matthew Ausec; Tom Andersen; Jim Lewis
Subject: Are you going to do your part in police reform for Salem?

Hi there, my name is Jared Richert.

I recently sent you an email demanding that we reduce the budget for the Salem Police Department, but I have not received a response. I understand that this city's proposed budget will be voted on this Monday, June 22nd, and I would like to know that my voice as a resident of Salem has been heard.

I don't believe law enforcement is properly trained or educated to handle many of the situations for which they are called, and especially in regard to people experiencing homelessness. Many people think more police training will solve this issue, but I believe instead there should be a network of specialized responders for various situations. A person showing up in a uniform, carrying a gun, does not help when someone is contemplating suicide, or when someone is sleeping on the sidewalk downtown, or when citizens are exercising their 1st amendment right. We need to divest from law enforcement and invest in community-driven organizations to help people out of poverty, make sure children are given the same opportunities regardless of what school district they're in, and provide everyone access to mental health professionals.

Although I wouldn't ordinarily be sharing a piece of media from a company, images reach people better than words alone. Ben & Jerry's recently shared this image which I think illustrates what we need to be doing excellently.



I look forward to your response.
Thank you.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Autumn Knights <autumnfaith00@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 3:14 PM
To: citycouncil; Cara Kaser; Tom Andersen; Jackie Leung; Brad Nanke; Matthew Ausec; Chris Hoy; Vanessa Nordyke; Jim Lewis
Subject: An Important Message

Dear Salem Council,

My name is Autumn Knights and I'm a lifelong resident of Salem. I am writing to ask that Salem council please 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.

Salem's Black, brown, homeless, and mentally ill citizens can all agree that we need to reimagine the system. 95% of crime is non-violent, so why do our police need so much funding? Why are our prisons full of non-violent PEOPLE?

We need to stop criminalizing non-violent citizens and address the root of the issues.

Crime isn't random. People don't rob, steal, and commit crime for the hell of it. They do it because of their circumstances. If we had proper help and resources for those affected by addiction, mental health issues, for those who had a poor homelife and poor education, cops would become basically obsolete, just like they have in most wealthy neighborhoods!

Where there's proper education, there is less crime. Where there's addiction centers there is less crime, etc etc I could go down the list. I wonder why this is even a debate. Giving the police more funding, more training, more body cams DOESN'T WORK! We see this time and time again. Cities that invest in their communities see results!

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 let's 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?

--

Imagine someone is behaving erratically and in a harmful 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?

--

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?

--

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 interventionist 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-

--

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?

--

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. There's 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 in any substantial way. 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.

We need to begin defunding the police, for the health and safety of our beautiful city and it's inhabitants.
Thank you,
Autumn Knights

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Aiylat@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 4:31 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Aiyla Thomas
Your Email	Aiylat@gmail.com
Your Phone	5593035088
Street	3640 Liberty Rd S
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	<p>Dear City Council Members, My name is Aiyla Thomas and I've lived in Salem with my husband for the past 6 years. After moving here from out of state and having worked in the education system, I worked for the Salem-Keizer School District for 2 years. I quit due to lack of resources, and safety in Special-Ed classrooms for staff and all students (gen-Ed included). I am calling for the defunding of the Salem Police department and demanding that their new budget be reallocated. There are many other areas in our city that need funding and the police almost always receive the most or more than necessary. I am asking that you reallocate the Salem PD's funding and invest it into any and all areas listed below: -Any funding possible into our local education system and Youth programs! Oregon as a whole has one of the worst education systems in the country and I've witnessed it first hand as an employee. Police officers should not be on campuses anywhere as they offer little to no safety and make many BIPOC students feel unsafe. -Healthcare - Mental healthcare and social workers as first responders to keep the community safe -Food Security - Better public transportation (busses to run later, to all areas of the city, 7 days a week) - Housing - Homeless housing and resources I am also asking that our city: -Discontinue any general funds or funding from taxpayers that would pay for settlements due to police murders, misconduct, and negligence. -Terminate contracts with Salem PD and Salem-Keizer School District. Many BIPOC students do not feel safe around police. When I switched from being in the classroom full time to subbing, I was at an elementary school that had an event in the library for students that had earned it. A campus police officer shared about his job and also had a q&a time. At one point this officer started badmouthing firefighters. He said that firefighters don't do much and don't have dangerous jobs unlike police officers who put their lives on the line every day. How disrespectful of him to be spreading misinformation like that to children. Police have no business on campuses unless called for an emergency. We need multiple competent councilors on campuses first and foremost, not police. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Aiyla Thomas</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/21/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: LOUISE MILLER <DUNCAN0525@msn.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 4:55 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Against Defunding of Police

I strongly urge you all to consider not defunding the police. It is wrong to include all the police because of a few. Clearly there is an agenda that we all are not clearly seeing but why does Salem have to be joining in that same group? We may have a few who don't follow rules as they should, but we should be looking at those people and correct issues in that way. Defunding the police just lets criminals know that they win and tax paying citizens have no say so.

Please consider not defunding our police. We need them, they help keep things in order.

Kind Regards

Louise Miller
(503) 798-1580
<https://spitfireweezie.mycoseva.com/>

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Sarah Bordelon <4djunx@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 5:38 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: City budget

Greetings,

I am a Salem resident and I support agenda items 5.a through 5.e in regards to police reform. 1/3 of our budget should NOT go to a group with no external oversight, trained and rewarded to see citizens as the enemy. We can do better.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Paul Smith <ib34everett@outlook.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 6:14 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: RE: police funding.

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

For our council to consider: I was born and raised here starting in 1962. Have seen our city grow so much. Now with the growth, the citizens passed a budget for a new police facility to bring us up to todays standards. With all that is going on nation wide , I don't want to see Salem join the destructive likes of Portland ,Seattle and California!. You now are looking at an opportunity to make Salem a beacon of success to actually bring in additional officers to serve our community. In the 70's, firemen use to volunteer for parks and recreation. days when neighbors gathered. Do what is right for the citizens. Do not reduce funding for our Police!

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Aaron and Jami <ajcerda@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 7:12 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Police funding

Hello,

I am writing to ask that you not "defund" the police. I am in favor of training and new procedures, however if money is taken away, those things cannot happen. If training and new procedures cannot happen then an even greater problem will be created. Please work with the police and not against them or the city will suffer even more.

Jami Cerda
Salem, OR

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Kelly Smith <lipstickthatmakessense9@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 7:26 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Funding for police

To whom it may concern,

I want to state my support for the Salem Police Department and let it be known that I believe it a fatal mistake to reduce their funding. I am aware that there is a call all around this country to defund police and believe it to be a serious mistake and a disaster waiting to happen. Be aware that good, honest officers will not continue to work for your city if you take away their ability to maintain law and order and you the council will be held accountable for those officers leaving.

Be wise and do not listen to those loud voices, listen to the honest, law abiding citizens in this city.

Sincerely,

Kelly Smith

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of wepj@mac.com
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 7:50 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	William Purnell
Your Email	wepj@mac.com
Your Phone	5033630060
Street	4744 Independence Drive SE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	Dear City Council, I write in support of our Salem police department. Public safety is the first order of good government. Please do not defund the Salem Police. Please do not divert police funding.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/21/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of gapurnell@mac.com
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 8:23 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Guenndolyn Purnell
Your Email	gapurnell@mac.com
Your Phone	5033630060
Street	4744 Independence Dr SE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	Dear Salem City Council, Please DO NOT decrease or divert in any way the budget for City of Salem Police.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/21/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: davette phillips <phillipsdavette@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 8:25 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Police funding

Please don't cut funding to our police department!

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Kit Abrahamson <kit.abrahamson@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 8:27 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Salem Police budget

To the Salem City Council:

I am writing to ask you to drastically reduce the Salem Police Department budget, and use those funds to for other community support services. If you need a blueprint to follow, Portland has already taken steps to reduce their police budget. In this difficult time when money is short because of the pandemic, I would think that cost savings measures would be welcome.

According to Alex Vitale, author of The End of Policing, it is much more effective and efficient to use public funds to support social work teams like CAHOOTS in Eugene, address the root causes of homelessness, and fund school counselors instead of School Resource Officers. Reforms are not enough; many have been tried and were not effective unless enacted with collaborating social supports. It's become increasingly clear that there is a nationwide problem with police culture in that they have a warrior mentality and see the public as enemies instead of the people they are hired to protect. We need to have fewer police and make big changes to challenge this warrior mentality.

Additionally, I was dismayed to see reports of police coddling armed protesters with friendly warnings to get off the streets so that they would not be affected by curfew. These officers should face serious consequences for their racist actions, and the Police Department should take steps to terminate repeat offenders. It's obvious that further diversity and inclusion training will not have an impact on officers with an "us vs them" mentality. Officers with a racist outlook will continue to lash out physically and violate the civil rights of members of our communities, no matter how many times Salem pays to put them through such training, incurring lawsuits against the city and state. It is deeply concerning that the police are blatantly applying the law unevenly towards the people who pay their salaries.

For all these reasons and more, it is clear to me that our tax dollars are not best spent on maintaining police budgets as they stand. We can get better outcomes by directing funds to other departments of the city and organizations who will support us, and disinvesting in a militarized police force that attacks our citizens.

Sincerely,

Kit Abrahamson

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Dorothy Castaneda <jeannecass@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 8:48 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Police

Please listen to the vast majority of Oregonians, not just a few disgruntled People. Do not defining the police, it would create sheer chaos. Thank you Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of aaliyah.ceja82@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 8:48 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Aaliyah Toney
Your Email	aaliyah.ceja82@gmail.com
Street	4082 Watson NE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97305
Message	DO NOT DEFEND THE POLICE. I DO NOT WANT THE POLICE TO BE TAKEN OUT OF MY SCHOOL. I'm currently a student at mckay high School. I feel safe with security guards and police officers at are school. I understand what is going on in the world right now. So I'm begging you do not defend the police OR take police officers out of are school. They are here to protect us. Thank you have a good day.. 😊

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/21/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Shea Weiner <shea.weiner@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:21 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Defund the Police

City council,

My name is Shea Weiner, I am a resident of Salem, OR. I am emailing you to demand that you vote to defund the police in tomorrow's budget proposal. Our police department should not be using excessive force on our citizens, there is absolutely no need for rubber bullets that are being used incorrectly. <https://youtu.be/Ejf572xg02M> In this video you will see a recording of an Oregon Sheriff punching a man in the face multiple times because the man was being loud. He was not violent, he did not resist. He used his voice. Which is his FIRST amendment right. And what did he get?? Assaulted by a man in uniform, who will not be held accountable for his actions because he has the power to slap a charge on that man and call it resisting arrest or self defense and get away with it. This is unacceptable. I am your constituent and I am demanding that you defund the police. We need to take note from San Francisco. We need trained professionals, not a bunch of people with anger issues and prejudice in positions of power who think they are above the law. We need less officers, and those officers need to be trained and educated better. They should also regularly see a therapist to make sure they are not allowing power to go to their heads and be used in the wrong way. We deserve to feel safe in our own community. not be terrorized by police officers and sheriffs who decide to favor white supremacists or allow them to try and start fights at a peaceful protest. They need to have the proper training and mental health checks to insure the safety of the people who live here. We want change. Listen.

Thank you,
Shea Weiner

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Leah Fish <leahfish47@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:17 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Budget cuts for police in Salem

Attn: City Council of Salem, Oregon

As I have heard from news circulating several places that the council will be discussing budget cuts for our police department at the next meeting, I would like to submit my opinion on the matter.

I am a widowed senior citizen and I find comfort in assuming that if I call 911 for a police emergency that someone would come in response to my call in a timely matter.

Please consider not cutting costs in the budget for police officers. I am hoping the council considers input from the department itself and does not attempt to make serious reductions on their own accord. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Leah Rae Fish
Salem, Oregon

Sent from my iPad

Ruth Stellmacher

From: CR Rodriguez <nelsonandcarla@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:22 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: *URGENT: A concerned citizen's plea

Dear City Council Members,

It has come to my attention that you will be discussing police funding for our city. I want to make sure that you understand that our family appreciates and respects law enforcement officers and the job they do.

This is NOT the time to cut funding, but rather increase it! Our police need more support, training & recognition of the difficult job that they do for our community!

I implore you to carefully consider the ramifications of your vote, then use common sense. You represent us. We do NOT agree with cutting ANY police funding.

Thank you for your time,
Nelson & Carla Rodriguez

Ruth Stellmacher

From: ELIZABETH VEYSEY <e.veysey@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:32 PM
To: Chuck Bennett; citycouncil; Cara Kaser; Tom Andersen; Vanessa Nordyke; Jim Lewis; Jackie Leung; Matthew Ausec; Chris Hoy; Brad Nanke; Human Rights; CityRecorder
Subject: divesting/defunding the Salem PD

Hello,

I read recently in the Statesman that the council will be addressing demands of a few to divest/defund the Salem PD. I am in my 60s and have raised 4 children in Salem and now have several grandchildren here. I have been active in the community and firmly believe that one of the major things that increases the welfare of our city is maintaining and supporting our Police force.

I took some time to research some of the statistics for the City of Salem. Below are statistics provided by the FBI.

Date & Last Updated: This data reflects the 2018 calendar year and was released from the FBI in September, 2019; this is the most current data available.

Key Findings

- Salem crime rates are 78% higher than the national average
- Violent crimes in Salem are 10% higher than the national average
- In Salem you have a 1 in 22 chance of becoming a victim of crime
- Salem is safer than 16% of the cities in the United States
- Year over year crime in Salem has increased by 6%

Statistic	Reported Incidents	Salem /100k people	Oregon /100k people	National /100k people
<u>Total crime</u>	7,889	4,586	3,180	2,580
Murder	5	2.9	2.0	5.0
Rape	56	32.6	47.1	42.6
Robbery	177	102.9	60.8	86.2
Assault	481	279.6	175.6	246.8
Violent crime	719	418	286	381

Burglary	934	543.0	389.1	376.0
Theft	5,338	3,103.1	2,109.9	1,594.6
Vehicle theft	898	522.0	395.1	228.9
Property crime	7,170	4,168	2,894	2,200

These are very, very disconcerting statistics. This is our reality. Even if the PD is defunded/divested this will still be our reality. I have several immigrant neighbors that have expressed to me great concern with defunding the PD. They have spoken of a fear for themselves and their children and grandchildren. They come from countries where they experienced lawlessness in their communities and are thankful for our city having the police force we do. They have said that the police here provide a sense of safety and security. The key role of the police is to prevent criminal activity in our city and society. This is done through detecting criminal behavior, investigating crime and stopping those that want to threaten us.

Currently the societal unrest and anti-police rhetoric we see, could lead one to believe that these are the voices of the many. In truth, they are the voices of a few. The many are like myself and my neighbors, loving our city and community but fearful of bad decisions that will compromise our safety and belief in our leadership.

Take a few minutes, look at the statistics of our city. By divesting the PD, which calls will you be willing to let go unanswered? Which crimes are you willing to let happen? If you think that your city residents are good with these statistics and good with a decision to decrease our safety and security, well, you should think again. Because we are NOT good with this decision.

Please be leaders for the whole community and not those that shout the loudest.

Thank-you

E. Veysey

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Sandy Poot <skpoot@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:39 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Police

Please keep our police funded.
THANK YOU MUCH

Ruth Stellmacher

From: +15035079634@tmomail.net
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:55 PM
To: CityRecorder; 5035079634@tmomail.net
Attachments: text_0.txt

As a citizen of the state of Oregon and resident of the city of Salem, I am seriously concerned for a proposed move by the Salem City Counsel wanting to move to defund our police department. We are in the midst of building a state of the art unit at a cost of over 45 million dollars. Please explain how after raising our tax plus federal funds appropriated to build this much needed structure as you put it, now you want to defund the police department. Should we not also defund the entire city of Salem. Imagine the savings to the tax payers. We could return those tax back to the Tax paying citizens of the great city of Salem. Now food for thought should you go ahead with this un thoughtful decision, what do you think would be ANTIFA'S next move. Well in case this has gone over your head. They would just thank you for being so generous for allowing them to move right in like they have in Seattle. Is this what you really want, mob rule, lawlessness, increase in murder, rape, robberies, elderly abuse, brutality of all kinds. You would not be safe driving anywhere in town. Destroying small businesses establishments, and the livelihood of people who have worked many years to make an honest living just so these thugs can come in and destroy those who have worked hard and honestly to support their families. Do you really think that defunding the police department would really appease these rioters. The one thing that is going to happen the silent majority is going to take matters into our hands and we are taking our arms to protect ourselves, our city if you won't, and I can guarantee you that in Salem and the surrounding area there are more guns in the hands law abiding citizens that are willing to take arms to protect our simple way of life and livelihood. We would rather see you do what is right and put these thoughts of defunding for the sake of the pledge you took when were sworn into office to protect the great citizens of the City Salem.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Byron Kimball <byronkimball@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:25 PM
To: CityRecorder
Cc: Matthew Ausec
Subject: Defund the police

Hi,

I am in support of the City of Salem defunding the Salem police department and/or reallocating funds towards other essential services. I urge my councilor to support alternative means of building our community. The police have demanded far too high a share of our City's budget for far too long, with little to show for it in making residents, especially those who are Black, disabled, transgender and/or otherwise disadvantaged, truly feel safe as residents of the City of Salem.

With all due respect,

Byron Kimball
Ward 5

Ruth Stellmacher


From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of faharimusicllc@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:27 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Julianne
Your Email	faharimusicllc@gmail.com
Your Phone	5038498686
Street	583 Tryon Street
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97301
Message	It is my sincerest hope that you all will consider divesting police funding into our community. Thank you!

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/21/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Naomi <naycast@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:42 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Salem Police

I'm emailing you asking you to NOT defund our police. Our city needs our police, every one of them. They are what keeps us safe and bring about order. We need them in our schools, and in our communities. Please think about what you are doing before jumping on the bandwagon just because other places are doing it. I'm shocked at how so many are giving in to the agenda just because some are screaming loud. It doesn't mean they are right. We love our police and back our blue  %!

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely, a concerned citizen

Naomi Quesada
Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Dave2 <davenff5@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 11:00 PM
To: CityRecorder
Cc: citycouncil
Subject: SALEM POLICE SUPPORT —

Be it known, we don't want to 'defund' the police —

WE WANT OUR SALEM POLICE FULLY FUNDED — appropriately, for the good of our Salem community!

Thanks so very much for your prompt and careful attention to our serious concerns,

Dave Neff

Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Amonghumanity@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 11:09 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Jennifer Cogan
Your Email	Amonghumanity@gmail.com
Message	<p>City of Salem Council, It is my understanding that you will be reviewing the city budget, and with that decision, I implore you to consider the safety and well being of Salem citizens. With regards to the City of Salem Police Department, I ask that you consider several points of interest. This week I was able to meet with members and students of the Salem Keizer School District. There were students there that were detained from elementary school - yes, a nine year old! - to early high school for reasons ranging from music tastes, having a nail filer, and for a small single alternation. In the case of the alternation, the student in question was not spoken to by the staff of the school, she was not suspended, and she did not go to detention. Rather, this student was sent to a juvenile detention facility without any questions. This student is/was a person of color, and the white child who began the entire interaction was not given any consequences. In the last few weeks, several peaceful protests were broken up with the use of tear gas and flash bombs on innocent civilians - tear gas is a tactic that is no longer used in war, and instead is used on innocent people in a peaceful protest. If protesting is not protected by the first amendment, I'd like to move forward with my next point - This week I have seen a truck with a Swastika flag on the back of it with no license plate - the City of Salem police department were called and showed very little interest in this case even though this symbol has a history of being affiliated with the Nazi Party, and white supremacy. During a time of incredible hate crime and police brutality toward people of color and minorities, I would like to see more concern for hateful icons like these. Yet members of the Salem Police Department have shown alliance with white supremacists as an officer from this very department was filmed and made viral nationally, speaking to a member from a white supremacist group - one of which was Patriot Front - (that was standing in front of a business at night with a gun) telling them how to avoid the city wide curfew. This showed preference to these men over the protestors or even other members of the city. Lastly - I myself had a 2,000 insurance check stolen from my mail, forged, and cashed by someone last winter. When this happened, I had a photo from the insurance company of the check, along with the account and routing number. Even with all this evidence, police didn't do anything except to make a file despite this being a crime of mail theft, financial theft, and forgery. On top of this, we as a society are lacking in health care, and social services. There was a time when the police were not called on behalf of every social issue - and there are people that need help that cannot be handled with military force. The funds that have been used for a military force that is doing more harm than good could be used to rehabilitate a society that needs its help. City of Salem City Council, I implore you to make the right decision and take funding from the Police Department - Officers that have no more than a year of training - and bring it to services that can truly help us to heal. This can be an incredible example for all of Oregon, and for our country. Thank you.</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/21/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Jenny Cogan <amonghumanity@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 11:22 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Regarding the budget review

City of Salem Council,

It is my understanding that you will be reviewing the city budget, and with that decision, I implore you to consider the safety and well being of Salem citizens. With regards to the City of Salem Police Department, I ask that you consider several points of interest.

This week I was able to meet with members and students of the Salem Keizer School District. There were students there that were detained from elementary school - yes, a nine year old! - to early high school for reasons ranging from music tastes, having a nail filer, and for a small single altercation. In the case of the altercation, the student in question was not spoken to by the staff of the school, she was not suspended, and she did not go to detention. Rather, this student was sent to a juvenile detention facility without any questions. This student is/was a person of color, and the white child who began the entire interaction was not given any consequences.

In the last few weeks, several peaceful protests were broken up with the use of tear gas and flash bangs on innocent civilians - tear gas is a tactic that is no longer used in war, and instead is used on innocent people in a peaceful protest. If protesting is not protected by the first amendment, I'd like to move forward with my next point -

This week I have seen a truck with a Swastika flag on the back of it with no license plate - the City of Salem police department were called and showed very little interest in this case even though this symbol has a history of being affiliated with the Nazi Party, and white supremacy. During a time of incredible hate crime and police brutality toward people of color and minorities, I would like to see more concern for hateful icons like these.

Yet members of the Salem Police Department have shown alliance with white supremacists as an officer from this very department was filmed and made viral nationally, speaking to a member from a white supremacist group - one of which was Patriot Front - (that was standing in front of a business at night with a gun) telling them how to avoid the city wide curfew. This showed preference to these men over the protestors , or even other members of the city.

Lastly - I myself had a 2,000 insurance check stolen from my mail, forged, and cashed by someone last winter. When this happened, I had a photo from the insurance company of the check, along with the account and routing number. Even with all this evidence, police didn't do anything except to make a file despite this being a crime of mail theft, financial theft, and forgery.

On top of this, we as a society are lacking in health care, and social services. There was a time when the police were not called on behalf of every social issue - and there are people that need help that cannot be handled with military force. The funds that have been used for a military force that is doing more harm than good could be used to rehabilitate a society that needs its help.

City of Salem City Council, I implore you to make the right decision and take funding from the Police Department - Officers that have no more than a year of training - and bring it to services that can truly help us to heal. This can be an incredible example for all of Oregon, and for our country. Thank you.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: David Hodges <davidhodges1949@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 2:29 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: defund police?

Good evening! I thank you all for your service and I am sure that you have taken an oath to uphold the law and the Oregon and US Constitution. There is much talk these days about defunding city and local police. This seems to go along with promoting chaos and societal breakdown. We have just witnessed this happening in areas nearby. We have not seen the final outcome of this increasing exponentially as an entire society would fall prey to this mob mentality. As a parent we train our young children to behave, to be respectful, kind, and obedient so that they can get along at school and succeed in a positive learning environment. We know that no learning would take place if chaos and fighting were going on all day. Children need consequences for bad behavior as do young to older adults out in society. Swift correction and punishment are the deterrents for changing and halting behavior that breaks down a society. That is why we need a fully funded police department and not some social justice response that will not fix anything. Please be responsible in the policy that will maintain a peaceful city that responsible people and families will want to inhabit instead of fleeing from. Thank you for your consideration.

Julie Hodges
Salem OR

Ruth Stellmacher

From: CHRISTINE MCCOY <andrewsmama06@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 3:13 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Fund the Police!

Dear City of Salem Council

Please don't cut funding for our wonderful Salem Police Department! Thank you!

-Christy McCoy

Ruth Stellmacher

From: pattiwoods@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 6:11 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: police funding/do not cut please

Dear members of the City Council,

Watching all the slanted headlines, just this morning, we are very concerned about the actions the council might take on your budget vote. Please DO NOT cut the budget for the Salem Police. Are city has suffered enough. Thank you, Patti & Leo Woods

www.pws.shaklee.com/pattiwoods
503-362-4599

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Info
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 6:28 AM
To: Ruth Stellmacher
Subject: FW: Contact a City Department
Attachments: Contact a City Department

Ruth –

I get to staff the info@ email box. Here are two that should be considered part of the record for tonight.

- Courtney | 503-540-2426

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net <noreply@cityofsalem.net> **On Behalf Of** Chava522@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:01 PM
To: Info <info@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Contact a City Department

Your Name	Heather Goldberg
Your Email	Chava522@gmail.com
Message	I'm writing to support defunding the police department.

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

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Sharon Buller <sharonbuller@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 7:04 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Police

Sent from my iPhone

Subject: Police

We do NOT want to 'defund' the police!!

WE WANT THE SALEM POLICE FULLY FUNDED.....Appropriately, For the GOOD of the Salem Community!!

Thank you for your careful attention to our concern.

Sharon Buller

Sent from my iPhone

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Shawna Young <shawnayoung.cr@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 7:59 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: police reform

I am asking you NOT to defund OR reform our police in Salem. This will make our town unsafe. Our town is so safe and a great place to live. There are plenty of other agencies available already to take part you can utilize. As a tax payer and citizen of this town DO NOT make cuts or reform.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Stacey Castor <castor.stacey@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:08 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Fwd: Please Defund our PD

Hello,

I am forwarding this message as I did not see it in the public commentary for today's meeting. My apologies for those receiving this twice.

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

From: Stacey Castor <castor.stacey@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Jun 18, 2020 at 12:14 PM
Subject: Please Defund our PD
To:
Cc: <cbennett@cityofsalem.net>, <ckaser@cityofsalem.net>, <tandersen@cityofsalem.net>, <bnanke@cityofsalem.net>, <jleung@cityofsalem.net>, <mausec@cityofsalem.net>, <choy@cityofsalem.net>, <vnordyke@cityofsalem.net>, <jlewis@cityofsalem.net>

Dear Mayor Bennett and City Councilors –

My name is Stacey Vieyra-Braendle, and I am a Salem resident residing in Ward 2, an occupational therapy doctoral student who hopes to serve our Salem community upon becoming a practitioner, a mixed Latina and woman of color, and someone with a vested interest in seeing our communities become safer, for all of us.

It is my understanding that the City Council will be voting on our city budget this Monday, and that at the previous City Council meeting, budget discussions occurred without any recognition or acknowledgement of the community statements submitted. I do hope that, this time, that is not the case, and that you elevate and recognize the voices of your constituents, as is your duty.

I am writing to ask that our city move towards abolishing our police department, with a big step towards that being **defunding the police**. Imagine what our city would be like if we had millions more dollars to spend on housing, food, education, and other beneficial community programs? We can do this and keep our communities safer by **significantly reducing our policing budget**.

Our country is in the midst of a movement – a movement where we are finally recognizing the racism that is systemic to our institutions; a movement where we are recognizing that we must take ACTION to ensure that our Black community members and their lives matter and are safe. We are finally acknowledging that policing as we know it today is deeply rooted in systemic racism and is beyond reform. We have a unique opportunity to center the voices of our Black

brothers and sisters, who have not only known intellectually that the police do not equitably keep all citizens safe, but have felt that, have lived that, have been traumatized by that.

I deeply believe that defunding our police department will be a step towards truly achieving safe communities here in Salem, securing the health and wellbeing of our whole community, and living up to our name of peace.

Thank you for your consideration,

--

Stacey Vieyra-Braendle, MT-BC, OTS
Cell: (480)529-4506

--

Stacey Vieyra-Braendle, MT-BC
Cell: (480)529-4506

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Robert Braendle <robert.braendle@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:24 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Budget request

Mayor Bennett and City Councilors,

I am a life-long resident of Salem and I currently reside in Ward 2. I am writing to ask you to defund the police and divert police resources to other community benefit programs. Please save lives and invest in more effective resources for increasing Salem's wellbeing.

Robert Braendle
3183 D st ne, Salem, Or 97301

Ruth Stellmacher

From: budgetoffice
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:44 AM
To: Amy Johnson; Ruth Stellmacher
Subject: FW: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)

From: Spencer Wharton <southwest23@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 6:44 PM
To: budgetoffice <Budgetoffice@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Re: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)

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,

--

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

Ruth Stellmacher

From: budgetoffice
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:44 AM
To: Ruth Stellmacher; Amy Johnson
Subject: FW: Let's be the change. Defund the police.

From: Allison Silverstein <absilverstein@willamette.edu>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:43 PM
To: budgetoffice <Budgetoffice@cityofsalem.net>; citycouncil <citycouncil@cityofsalem.net>; 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: 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: Chris Hoy
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:59 AM
To: Ruth Stellmacher
Subject: Fwd: KEEPING POLICE FUNDING AT CURRENT LEVEL

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Pamela Blake <pamelablake1872@hotmail.com>
Date: June 22, 2020 at 9:56:59 AM PDT
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>
Subject: KEEPING POLICE FUNDING AT CURRENT LEVEL

Hello,

I'm writing again to implore you to keep the police budget intact.
SPD is already understaffed for the number of people in Salem, and reducing their budget will strain the department further.
I understand people are angry about police brutality, but Salem doesn't have a bad police problem.
And removing SRO's from the schools my children attend will leave all our children vulnerable.

I hope you will base your decisions on facts, and not cower to a vocal minority.

Thanks for your time,

Pamela Blake
Ward 6

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of roses.karly@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:21 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact the City of Salem
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Karly Rose Foster
Your Email	roses.karly@gmail.com
Your Phone	5034284989
Street	2295 B Street Northeast
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97301
Message	<p>Hello, I am an educator with the Salem-Keizer School District and work for the Indian Education program, serving a diaspora of Native American youth and their families within the Salem-Keizer Public School District. I have growing concerns with our district's current School Resource Officer and student security and surveillance system. Did you know that SROs are allowed to make arrest on school grounds, without parental presence and without the constitutional rights of students? This happened to me as a child when I was only 12 years old. I was handcuffed, finger-printed and mugshot in front of my principals, teachers and peers for something that happened at a friend's house over the weekend. I would continue to be labeled as a "bad" student and be over-disciplined in school, even though I was a straight-A student and in the TAG program! This label followed me into high school and the same SRO that arrested me as a child, would follow and target me and arrest me at my place of work for sidewalk chalk, charging me with graffiti and vandalism... That officer would also continue to follow my friends throughout school and charge some with a measure 11 crimes of which they would spend 7 years incarcerated and charged with adult felonies (at the age of 17) that continues to haunt their lives, 11 years later... This is my personal story with the school-to-prison pipeline and unfortunately as an adult now serving youth in our school systems I see nothing has changed. Did you know that this last school year in Salem-Keizer School District, Latinx students with disabilities were 38.4 percent of the student body but made up 62.5 percent of expulsions, nearly DOUBLE their enrollment? This come from an over-policing and misunderstanding of some of our most vulnerable and marginalized students. Why are police in schools in the first place? If a situation arises where a police officer needs to be called, then they can be, and a civilian police officer will be held to police standards like notifying parents and reading students their rights - a liberty we see missing in our SRO system. Nowhere else in our society do police act as a "resource" to an institution except for schools - not in stores, not in public buildings (aside from government), not at public spaces like parks, etc. Why must they have dominant control over our education system? If it is mandatory to send our students to receive education, it should be a safe space where the fear of school-to-prison pipeline does not exist and children and families of color specifically are not re-traumatized by the presence of a police officer. The families I serve in this school district do not want millions of dollars spent on policing their children. They want better mental health services, they want positive after-school programs, they wants tutors, guidance counselors, scholarships for higher education. They have told me so and also publicly shared on our parent surveys during the SIA feedback community outreach. We need to abolish the current system of SROs in our school district.</p>

Reallocate those funds into where the people want them. The school district has a plethora of information from the SIA surveys taken this year as to where the funds are needed, and these voices are from the people in YOUR CITY. I full-heartedly support the agenda items 5A through 5E calling for a Reconsidering and reallocation of police funds to other areas that can better handle issues within our schools, performance audit for Salem PD (that is not internal!!!!), implementing 8cantwait policies, and a formation of community commission to discuss policing in our schools. As a servant to our students and families within the Salem-Keizer School District, whose work every day forces me to grapple with our city's societal issues, I implore you to make these changes. It will make our city safer for ALL people and you will have a more successful and thriving next generation of civil leaders. Thank you for your time. -Karly Rose

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/22/2020.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Bethany Wilt <bethany.wilt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:27 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Ward 2 call for defunding of city of salem police department

Good morning,

My name is Bethany Wilt. I am a Salem resident living in Ward 2. I am sending this email due to my concern regarding the delegation of public funds to city of Salem PD. I care about my community and want to ensure that this topic is discussed within our city council. I feel strongly that funds need to be reallocated to areas to improve our community.

Why defund the police? 1/3 of our general fund, 48 million dollars for the next budget cycle, Coordination with White supremacists, using respiratory irritants against citizens during a pandemic, more sworn officers than needed, militarized force, police unqualified to handle all social problems. We can do better for public safety.

Where do the funds get reallocated? I'm suggesting a minimum of 1/4 of the budget goes to non-police public safety to start. We could house every person experiencing homelessness for 5-8 million annually, start another agency based on the Cahoots model (1/34 of Eugene police's budget, responds to 1/5 of calls that would otherwise go to police) for 2-3 Million, invest in affordable housing, and have millions left over for other public safety measures.. (public art, traffic calming measures, community investment)

The police force- if history has shown us anything, reforms don't make much difference. Implicit bias, de escalation, and use of force training is important, but unless it's in the framework of a culture of public service, it doesn't do anything. I'd love to see a number of officers disarmed, in a non enforcement role.

Please enhance our community by pulling these funds from salem pd and redirecting them to the areas that will help our community flourish.

Bethany Wilt

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Leah DeVito <devito.lf@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:42 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Defund City Police

I'm calling on our elected city council members to reimagine public safety. Police officers have been wrongfully tasked with responding to all of society's problems. Inflating their budget in hopes that it will give them the tools needed to be a solve-all public service is irresponsible. We must make a change. Cut the city of Salem's police budget by at least 1/4. That would be a start to meaningful change.

Reinvest those funds to address the neglected roots of our public safety. Spend those millions to mitigate the housing crisis, create trained and appropriate services/crisis responders for mental health and addiction, and build a robust public education system. We need to strengthen our community. That isn't possible with the current allocation of funds.

As a resident of Ward 1 in Salem, I implore the council to lead our city into an equitable future. A community where health and safety are vibrantly enjoyed by EVERY citizen. You must make the budget a catalyst for that future.

Leah DeVito

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Sandy <sandyy@wolife.org>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:48 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Please do not defund our police department.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#) Please do not defund our police department, as it make our city less safe.

Thank you,
Sandy Young

Ruth Stellmacher

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Bomeister6000@icloud.com
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:49 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Debra Doran
Your Email	Bomeister6000@icloud.com
Your Phone	503-390-5229
Street	822 Boone RD SE #108
City	Salem
Zip	97306
Message	<p>This is a follow up for the voice mail I just left. I do not believe that defunding the police or any law enforcement agencies will have a positive effect for any individuals or the city as a whole. The only group of people who will benefit from less law enforcement are the criminals. Also the people who are on the fence between doing right and wrong might not have any input from a relationship with law enforcement if you take law enforcement officers out of the schools. Common sense has proven evil thrives when good is absent. I have never seen or heard of less law enforcement reducing crime. Just look at the shootings in New York with less law enforcement or no law enforcement in "Chad" section of Seattle this weekend. People were shot and and one person died due to the Mayor & Governor have tied law enforcement hands. People who have money and can afford private security detail might like less law enforcement. The majority of us are barely making it working, paying our city & state taxes so we do not have the options or the money for hiring private protection for ourselves. Bottom line: if I wanted to live in a country, city without or less law enforcement, I would move to a third world country. Thank you, Debra Doran</p>

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Ruth Stellmacher

From: Camille Zepeda <camnash77@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:50 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Re: Police department

Dear Sir:

Please do NOT Defund Salem Police Department in order to keep Safety and Order In Salem especially for Seniors citizens who are so depending on Public Help and Protection Thank you
Camille Z

Sent from my iPhone