

From: Ellen Dong
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 10:10 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item 3.6



[External Email]

Hello,

My name is Ellen Dong and I am a resident of San Jose. I am writing to demand that funding is reallocated from SJPd to social and public programming that takes place in our communities. It is unethical to cut budget towards education, libraries, parks, housing, and transportation while funneling \$5M into improving the San Jose golf courses. It is also an outrage that over 30% of city funding goes towards the Police Department. The system in place is broken – at the expense of your citizens' safety and well-being. We need a new criminal justice structure, inclusive of a robust task force of mental health professionals and social works.

We stand with the calls of those across the country and demand that the City Council defund and disband the SJPd similarly to Minneapolis. We demand a budget that adequately and effectively meets the needs of at-risk San Jose residents during this trying and uncertain time, when livelihoods are on the line. We demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, rather than empowers police.

In the meantime, it is important to BAN the use of rubber bullets, tear gas, and other means of excessive force as a method of crowd control. The city must recognize that protestors are exercising their first amendment right and should not be met with police violence.

I see that the city council hopes to create a process that includes the community and it starts here, by listening to your community. It is your duty to represent your constituents. I am urging you to completely revise the San Jose city budget for 2020-2021 fiscal. Public opinion is with me.

Sincerely,
Ellen Dong

From: Celeste Afanador
Date: June 9, 2020 at 11:37:20 AM PDT
To: councilmeeting@sanjoseca.gov
Subject: Agenda Item 3.6

Hello,

My name is Celeste Afanador and I am a resident of San Jose. I am writing to demand that funding is reallocated from SJPd to social and public program programming that takes place in our communities. It is unethical to cut budget towards education, libraries, parks, housing, and transportation while funneling \$5 Million into improving the San Jose golf courses. It is also an outrage that over 30% of city funding goes towards the Police Department. The system in place is broken- at the expense of your citizen's safety and well-being. We need a new criminal justice structure, inclusive of a robust task force of mental health professionals and social workers.

We stand with the calls of those across the country and demand that the City Council defund and disband the SJPd similarly to Minneapolis. We demand a budget that adequately and effectively meets the needs of at-risk San Jose residents during this trying and uncertain time, when livelihoods are on the line. We demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, rather than empowers police.

In the meantime, it is important to ban the use of rubber bullets, tear gas and other means of excessive force as a method of crowd control. The city must recognize that protestors are exercising their first amendment right and should not be met with police violence.

I see that the city council hopes to create a process that includes the community and it starts here, by listening to your community. It is your duty to represent your constituents. I am urging you to completely revise the San Jose city budget for 2020-2021 fiscal year. Public opinion is with me.

Please also read the following posts/screenshots attached below and specifically, the posts in which one police officer shares his experience and perspective while being in law enforcement (which are shown in the screenshots with the black background, here is the link to his whole article: <https://medium.com/@OfcrACab/confessions-of-a-former-bastard-cop-bb14d17bc759>)

Regards, Celeste Afanador



Your Story 14h



Defunding the police
does not mean stripping
a department entirely
of its budget,
or abolishing it altogether.
It's just about
scaling police budgets
back and reallocating
those resources
to other agencies.

@henahiddles



Seen by 72



Facebook



Highlight



More



Your Story 14h



People are wanting
investment in
community services
— education,
medical access... You
can call it 'defunding,'
' but it's just about directing
or balancing the budget
in a different way.

@henahiddles



Seen by 69



Facebook



Highlight



More



Your Story 13h



eroyFranklin

SOME FOLKS ARE
SLEEPING ON
BENCHES IN THE
PARK.

IMAGINE...

...A CITY EMPLOYEE COMES BY
& CHECKS IN TO SEE IF THEY
NEED A PLACE TO SLEEP,
FOOD, WATER, OR HEALTH
CARE.

AN HOUR LATER, THOSE WHO
WANT A DIFFERENT PLACE TO
SLEEP HAVE ONE.

isn't that public safety?

eroyFranklin #defundthepolice #defundspd There are
better ways to care for the safety of our community....



Seen by 68



Facebook



Highlight



More



Your Story 13h



eroy Franklin

SOMEONE IS
BEHAVING
ERRATICALLY & IN
HARM'S WAY.

IMAGINE...

...TEXTING A NUMBER & AN
UNARMED URGENT RESPONDER
TRAINED IN BEHAVIORAL AND
MENTAL HEALTH COMES
WITHIN 5 MINUTES.

AN HOUR LATER THAT PERSON
IS SAFE & GETTING THE
SUPPORT THEY NEED.

isn't that public safety?

eroy Franklin #defundthepolice #defundspd There are
better ways to care for the safety of our community....



Seen by 66



Facebook



Highlight



More



Your Story 13h



eroyfranklin



SOMEONE IS
SELLING DRUGS TO
YOUTH WHO ARE
OVER DOSING.

IMAGINE...

...BEING CONNECTED TO A
SUBSTANCE USE SERVICE THAT
INTERVENES IN HARMFUL
DRUG TRANSACTIONS.

YOUTH ARE SUPPORTED IN
HEALTHY OUTCOMES & THE
SELLER TAKES
ACCOUNTABILITY FOR HARM.

isn't that public safety?

eroyfranklin #defundthepolice #defundspd There are
better ways to care for the safety of our community....



Seen by 65



Facebook



Highlight



More



Your Story 13h



eroy Franklin

INCIDENTS OF GUN
VIOLENCE ARE
RISING IN THE
NEIGHBORHOOD.

IMAGINE...

... A TRAUMA INFORMED CRISIS
INTERVENTION TEAM WORKS
WITH COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS
TO DISARM AND DEESCALATE
CONFLICTS.

PEOPLE DOING HARM ARE
CONNECTED TO SERVICES
THAT ADDRESS THE
UNDERLYING PROBLEM.

isn't that public safety?

eroy Franklin #defundthepolice #defundspd There are
better ways to care for the safety of our community....



Seen by 64



Facebook



Highlight



More



Your Story 13h



The concept is simple: When cities start investing in community services, they reduce the need to call police in instances when police officers' specific skill set isn't required. If someone is dealing with a mental health crisis, or someone has a substance abuse disorder, we are calling other entities that are better equipped to help them.

@henahiddles



Seen by 60



Facebook



Highlight



More



Your Story 13h



When people get the specific help they need earlier, they're less likely to end up in the kind of dangerous situation police might be called to defuse — situations that often turn deadly for those individuals.

@henahiddles



Seen by 59



Facebook



Highlight



More

Instead of wasting time with minor tweaks, I recommend exploring the following ideas:

- No more qualified immunity. Police officers should be personally liable for all decisions they make in the line of duty.
- No more civil asset forfeiture. Did you know that every year, citizens like you lose more cash and property to unaccountable civil asset forfeiture than to *all burglaries combined*? The police can steal your stuff without charging you with a crime and it makes some police departments very rich.
- Break the power of police unions. Police unions make it nearly impossible to fire bad cops and incentivize protecting them to protect the power of the union. A police union is not a labor



the union. A police union is not a labor union; police officers are powerful state agents, not exploited workers.

- Require malpractice insurance. Doctors must pay for insurance in case they botch a surgery, police officers should do the same for botching a police raid or other use of force. If human decency won't motivate police to respect human life, perhaps hitting their wallet might.
- Defund, demilitarize, and disarm cops. Thousands of police departments own assault rifles, armored personnel carriers, and stuff you'd see in a warzone. Police officers have grants and huge budgets to spend on guns, ammo, body armor, and combat training. 99% of calls for service require no armed response, yet **when all you have is a gun, every problem feels like target practice.** Cities are



require no armed response, yet **when all you have is a gun, every problem feels like target practice.** Cities are not safer when unaccountable bullies have a monopoly on state violence and the equipment to execute that monopoly.

One final idea: **consider abolishing the police.**

I know what you're thinking, "What? We need the police! They protect us!" As someone who did it for nearly a decade, I need you to understand that by and large, police protection is marginal, incidental. It's an illusion created by decades of copaganda designed to fool you into thinking these brave men and women are holding back the barbarians at the gates.

I alluded to this above: the vast majority of calls for service I handled were theft



I alluded to this above: the vast majority of calls for service I handled were theft reports, burglary reports, domestic arguments that hadn't escalated into violence, loud parties, (houseless) people loitering, traffic collisions, very minor drug possession, and arguments between neighbors. Mostly the mundane ups and downs of life in the community, with little inherent danger. And, like I mentioned, the vast majority of crimes I responded to (even violent ones) had already happened; my unaccountable license to kill was irrelevant.

What I mainly provided was an “objective” third party with the authority to document property damage, ask people to chill out or disperse, or counsel people not to beat each other up. A trained counselor or conflict resolution specialist would be ten times more effective than someone with a



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

From: Maria Solis

Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 4:06 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Agenda 3.6

[External Email]

Hello,

My name is Maria Solis and I am a resident of San Jose. I am writing to demand that funding is reallocated from SJPd to social and public programming that takes place in our communities. It is unethical to cut budget towards education, libraries, parks, housing, and transportation while funneling \$5M into improving the San Jose golf courses. It is also an outrage that over 30 % of city funding goes to the Police Department. The system in place is broken - at the expense of your citizens 'safety and well-being.' We need a new criminal justice structure, inclusive of a robust task force of mental health professionals and social workers.

We stand with the calls of those across the country and demand that the City Council defund and disband the SJPd similarly to Minneapolis. We demand a budget that adequately and effectively meets the needs of at-risk San Jose residents during this trying and uncertain time, when livelihoods are on the line. We demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, rather than empowers police.

In the meantime, it is important to ban the use of rubber bullets, tear gas and other means of excessive force as a method of crowd control. Tear gas is an abortifacient that can cause miscarriages, blindness and respiratory problems and is extremely hurtful to children and the elderly. It is banned in International Warfare and yet it is being used on citizens in the middle of a respiratory pandemic. This is not only irresponsible, but inhumane.

The city must recognize that protestors are exercising their first amendment right and should not be met with police violence. I see that the city council hopes to create a process that includes the community and it starts here, by listening to your community. It is your duty to represent your constituents. I am urging you to completely revise the San Jose city budget for 2020-2021 fiscal year. Public opinion is with me.

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Blair Beekman. June 9, 2020. sj city council. Item 3.6.

b. beekman

Thu 6/11/2020 4:51 PM

Dear community of San Jose, and city govt.,

After many years now, this November ballot, will have a measure, asking for the IPA, to be able to review. SJPd use of force issues.

In a recent, Rules & Open Govt. meeting, there was a public hearing, attempting to clarify, what is the public request process, of SJPd body cam footage.

And we have probably all seen, interesting city govt. ideas and progressive practices, with budget & policies, during this time of Covid-19, and protest.

In respecting, an understandable, initial fear of violence, and of the unknown, Friday May 28, in San Jose,

Police responses to protest, and in how to perceive, the threat level of violence, will have to be reviewed.

The SJPd use, of flash grenades, tear gas, rubber bullets, and the overall preparation, with new technical equipment, leading up to, a now Covid-19 era, will have to be reviewed.

As will the police practices, around the country, in the past few years.

Including knee holds, choke hold practices, and other use of force issues.

To work to defund & demilitarize the police, makes a clear, decent picture,

And offers, an important direction, and understanding, in how to work towards new ideas, of a community whole.

It is along the lines, of how I ask, to look for more peaceful, minimal use practices, to define technology needs, for a city.

And what can be ways, for good civil rights, civil protections, open communication, and the community meeting process.

To help define, what is positive, co-operative, and less harmful, for a community future, and for this earth.

sincerely,
blair beekman

Blair Beekman. June 9, 2020. sj.city council. Item 3.6.

b. beekman

Thu 6/11/2020 4:50 PM

Dear community of San Jose, and city govt.,

A thank you, to the many things, the mayor and the city govt. of San Jose, will be offering to work on, with police policy and accountability, at this time.

How do we ask, the city govt. of San Jose, to better open up a garden, of good, everyday community ideas, studies, and years of experience, that already has been nurtured and grown.

And for important new ideas, to have a place to grow, in the next few years.

A thank you, to Minneapolis, as they are currently offering, a pressure relief valve, so we can all work on, policing and community ideas, in the next year.

Can the decent ideas, of equity, and deficit-reduction, simply want to be, a more important focus, in how to consider, the issues & tiers, of a now, Covid-19, sj city budget.

Can good civil rights practices, learn to walk hand-in-hand, in the future of community technology, surveillance, and data collection.

And are we ready to commit, to local community energy, and solar power, as positive and sustainable.

These are some of the ideas, to help the individual community process, at this time.

And, of genuine, positive, sustainability, and continual, open, democratic practices,

After years, of study & good practices, the city govt. of San Jose, and the community, should want to be open, and know how to develop, good ideas, from all parts of the community.

I hope we can all take to heart, each idea, that we will be hearing, at this time.

Good structured guidelines, and to continually look for, and learn, better democratic practices, in terms of everyday people,

can very much help the efforts, of govt. bureacracy and community,

And that can make for, a more accessible, easier process, with shorter amounts of time, and less harm, to move forward with needed change.

sincerely,
blair beekman

From: Lauren Slayton
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:18 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Letter for City Council Meeting-Agenda item 3.1 20-713

To be included in regards to agenda item 3.1 on 6/12: Discussion and Actions Related to Police Use of Force and Crowd Control Measures:

We the people, your constituents, demand a better future. You were elected to serve us, to be the voice of the ones you serve. When does that begin and end? Election day? When times are tough? You are human, we do not expect you to have superhuman abilities or powers. We know you get tired, your back gets pushed up against walls, you have personal experiences and ambitions that inform your decisions. But beyond all of that, you are being called upon to listen to your community. The 2020-2021 city budget must be completely overhauled to reflect the changes your citizens demand. Sam Liccardo's op-ed piece shows he is not listening to us, that he is not the progressive leader this innovative city deserves and that he seeks to increase the misery that a police state brings.

Divest the outrageously exorbitant budget allocated to the SJPd and invest it back into community services that aim to support and rehabilitate the people of San Jose: education, homelessness prevention/intervention, free mental health services, highly trained mental health and crisis counselors to be deployed in community instead of police, affordable housing, job skills training, and free community events that promote arts, cultural appreciation, literacy, animal welfare and personal growth. We don't want reform, we want a new system that strips power from those who abuse it. The SJPd as we know it must end and a new system, created by the people for the protection and betterment of the people, must be the singular priority of San Jose City Council. There is no manual update, no training session proposal, no lip service from SJPd and Chief Garcia that will be considered or accepted by the people of San Jose. Our tax dollars will not be misappropriated anymore, we demand plans to defund the police.

Additionally, you MUST denounce and ban all chemical and military grade weapons in our community. Never again should the people of San Jose sacrifice their bodily safety to exercise their 1st amendment rights. Tear gas and rubber bullets are unethical and cruel tools of oppression. You demand peace from your citizens by inflicting violence, this has been proven ineffective and hypocritical. Your names are attached to the crimes that have already been committed against the people of San Jose, the choice to change that narrative is yours. You have had plenty of time to rest while you sheltered in place, you can fight for your voters or against us. We too are rested and ready, our eyes are on you.

I hope you will help us make history and a legacy you can be proud of.

Sincerely,
Lauren Slayton
District 3

From: Kyle Jiesi Wang
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:06 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item 6 for City Council Meeting on 06.12.2020

To whom it may concern:

I am Kyle Wang, a resident of San Jose. I am writing you because I am deeply, deeply disappointed with the City Council's current efforts — if they could even be called "efforts" at all — to stop the police-sanctioned destruction of our City's Brown and Black communities. And the memo for this meeting simply does not go far enough. It is not only unethical but *shameful* for the city to cut the budget towards education, libraries, parks, housing, and transportation while funneling \$5M to improving San Jose Golf Courses. It is worse, even, that the city continues to allocate nearly 30% of its budget to the police department, despite consistent evidence that the police is actively *worsening* the conditions of the very communities they are meant to protect.

I am sure you have read many such messages by now from various individuals affiliated with Black Lives Matter, and so if you continue to pursue the same measures as before — to continue directing *more* funding toward the police at the expense of community programs, to continue offering *more* financial support to an institution which was founded on the criminalization of Black bodies — you are no longer simply ignorant, but actively, willfully, and viciously racist. I will merely echo their demand for a budget which supports community wellbeing that **explicitly** defunds the police and **redirects** funding to health programs, school districts, and other social services.

Moreover, the fact that the police force has been given free reign to use tear gas during a **global pandemic**, in which the disease in question has already been known to **devastate** the respiratory system, is a startling revelation of where your priorities currently lie. Clearly, you have little respect for the lives of your own constituents — otherwise this agenda item on the use of police force would not even be up for discussion. After all, it is your **responsibility** to your constituents to protect them, especially during times like these. And you can start by respecting **their constitutional right to peaceful, public assembly**.

I would like to end by urging you, yet again, to revise the public budget for fiscal year 2020-21 to **defund** the police department and **reinvest** in our local communities. Public opinion is with me — and, if you refuse, I'm willing to wager you'll fall on the wrong side of history.

Sincerely,
Kyle

From: lanib
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 10:58 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda item 3.1

My name is Lani Ballard. I am a member of SURJ and a district 2 voter. In recent years I have been aware that people of color have a different reality than my own (a white woman) which can often result in different treatment by our police. Systemic racism cannot continue. All of our community needs to feel safe not just some.

Therefore I demand that any officer involved in a police shooting, excessive force, corruption or discrimination be terminated. In addition I would support a cut in funding to our police with reallocated funds going to community-led alternatives to policing as well as to our Black community and underfunded community programs.

From: Kyle Jiesi Wang
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:07 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item 5: City Council Meeting on 06.12.20

To whom it may concern:

I am Kyle Wang, a resident of San Jose. I am writing you because I am deeply, deeply disappointed with the City Council's current efforts — if they could even be called "efforts" at all — to stop the police-sanctioned destruction of our City's Brown and Black communities. And the memo for this meeting simply does not go far enough. It is not only unethical but *shameful* for the city to cut the budget towards education, libraries, parks, housing, and transportation while funneling \$5M to improving San Jose Golf Courses. It is worse, even, that the city continues to allocate nearly 30% of its budget to the police department, despite consistent evidence that the police is actively *worsening* the conditions of the very communities they are meant to protect.

I am sure you have read many such messages by now from various individuals affiliated with Black Lives Matter, and so if you continue to pursue the same measures as before — to continue directing *more* funding toward the police at the expense of community programs, to continue offering *more* financial support to an institution which was founded on the criminalization of Black bodies — you are no longer simply ignorant, but actively, willfully, and viciously racist. I will merely echo their demand for a budget which supports community wellbeing that **explicitly** defunds the police and **redirects** funding to health programs, school districts, and other social services.

Moreover, the fact that the police force has been given free reign to use tear gas during a **global pandemic**, in which the disease in question has already been known to **devastate** the respiratory system, is a startling revelation of where your priorities currently lie. Clearly, you have little respect for the lives of your own constituents — otherwise this agenda item on the use of police force would not even be up for discussion. After all, it is your **responsibility** to your constituents to protect them, especially during times like these. And you can start by respecting **their constitutional right to peaceful, public assembly**.

I would like to end by urging you, yet again, to revise the public budget for fiscal year 2020-21 to **defund** the police department and **reinvest** in our local communities. Public opinion is with me — and, if you refuse, I'm willing to wager you'll fall on the wrong side of history.

Sincerely,
Kyle

From: kathryn hedges

Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 12:37 AM

To: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Ray Montgomery <RevRay@pactsj.org>

Subject: Agenda Item 3.1

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

I am a resident of Downtown San Jose who has attended some of the protests before, during, and after the curfew and the use of proactive crowd control measures. As a member of PACT who attended two of the public conversations about use of force in Santa Clara County, I was appalled to hear that SJPd had attacked Derrick Sunderlin. I saw them shooting rubber bullets and tear gas into crowds, and I saw the agony on David Baca's face as he was transferred to a gurney by the EMTs.

All of this happened at least an hour before SJPd pushed the crowds away from City Hall and into the downtown business district where they took out their frustration setting dumpster and trash fires. There was no riot when the riot police arrived, and on later days, it was clear that SJPd was setting up its lines of battle before protesters even assembled.

Research has shown that this tactic greatly increases the probability that a protest will escalate to a riot. <https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/de-escalation-keeps-protesters-and-police-safer-heres-why-departments-respond-with-force-anyway/>

The police created a riot situation by declaring groups of students kneeling and chanting to be an "illegal assembly" because others half a block away had sprayed messages and graffiti on property near City Hall. This legally entitled them to disperse the crowd by "sublethal methods" that, nevertheless, caused various levels of bodily harm.

I believe that the definition of "significant numbers" of officers in riot gear should not be a fixed number ("two dozen or more") but proportional to the size of the gathering. For example, it would be extremely intimidating if PACT held a press conference with 15-20 participants and 23 riot cops kettled them against the Rotunda.

Health authorities have already denounced the use of chemical/irritant agents and so-called non-lethal projectiles on civilians in the US. In particular, tear gas and pepper spray use encourages the spread of COVID-19 by causing coughing, removal of masks, and close personal contact as people perform first aid on victims. The projectiles cause death in up to 3% of victims and serious injury in 15%. This is not acceptable.

I saw SJPd throwing flash-bang devices into crowds, where they could injure participants as well as causing panic and distress. My ears are still ringing from these explosive devices, over a week later, and I was probably half a block away.

I have heard that many of the "riot cops" are not regular SJPd officers but special volunteers. I am concerned that they may be too excited at the chance to play with the cool riot control toys and there is not enough accountability for amateurs using potentially deadly riot control weapons.

Earlier this week, I watched the interview with our Independent Police Auditor, Shivaun Nurre. I agree that although our program was ground-breaking in 1993, it needs to be updated. I agree that future changes should no longer require Charter Amendments.

However, I believe that the changes to police policies described earlier are just a short-term measure to mitigate the current situation with protests and not a long-term solution. It is clear that the entire culture of SJPd is tainted and that our previous efforts with dialogues and training have not changed these officers' hearts.

We also need to stop using police to respond to calls about homeless people or people publicly exhibiting symptoms of mental illness or intoxication, unless there is a serious threat such as firearms, assault by motor vehicle, or flammable/explosive material. (Police in various cities have shot mentally ill people brandishing tree branches, palm fronds, pocket knives, and water bottles. Do I want to get whacked with a tree branch? No, but I can get out of range easily.)

If someone is just weird or grungy or has a shopping cart full of junk, it is inhumane to use the police to tell them to move or to confiscate their stuff. They need help from someone who can get them housing or at least shelter. Police are only going to antagonize the homeless or mentally ill person and create a reason for arrest. Then this turns into a cycle of failing to appear for the citation and being arrested for having a warrant for failure to appear.

There needs to be a mobile team that can help people get shelter, services, detox, etc. and solve the problem instead of just criminalizing homelessness, mental illness, or drug dependency. The team also needs to be able to distinguish between mental illness,

intoxication, and the effects of traumatic brain injury or developmental disability. There should be appropriate referrals for the latter two as well.

There also needs to be a domestic violence crisis team. I understand that these calls can be dangerous, but often the presence of police is what escalates a situation or provokes revenge later. The DV crisis team needs to be able to take the victim(s) to a safe house, not just take the abuser to jail and then let them out to abuse even worse after the humiliation of the arrest.

All of these programs will cost money, but if we aren't using SJPD to respond to those calls, that funding can cover the new programs.

I am going to try to call in to public comment, but it is easier for me to make my points clearly and with nuance in writing.

Kind regards,

Kathryn Hedges

From: Kate Jackson
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 1:49 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item 3.1

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo,

My name is Kate Jackson and I am a high school student and resident of San Jose. I am writing to address some major concerns regarding your response to recent protests against police brutality.

First, although I applaud any efforts against systemic racism, I found your proposition to implement various reforms within SJPd to be entirely insufficient in addressing the current crisis. Reforms such as additional independent police auditors, diversity training, psychological screenings, and more selective recruitment have existed in America for decades to no avail. By repeatedly carrying out disturbing acts of brutality on camera, police have shown us that no amount of accountability can stop these blatant acts of racism so long as they have the backing of the system. Implementing ineffective reforms is a form of complacency which allows violence to continue and more Black lives to be lost, as we await substantive change. This is unacceptable.

Instead I ask that you reconsider the idea of defunding the police which you have already dismissed in recent weeks. To many the catchphrase "defund the police" incites images of chaos and lawlessness. However, such extreme interpretations reflect a general uninterest in the potential value of this proposition to reimagine the way we do policing in San Jose. Understand that I am not asking you to stop funding the police completely, but rather redirect substantial funds into SJ programs that directly support Black lives and the needs of our community: mental health, addiction recovery, housing, education, and bridge programs for recidivism prevention.

Thanks,
Kate Jackson

From: Shirani Pathak, LCSW

Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 2:01 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; mayoremail@sanjose.gov <mayoremail@sanjose.gov>; jim.shannon@sanjose.gov <jim.shannon@sanjose.gov>; sam.liccardo@sanjose.gov <sam.liccardo@sanjose.gov>

Subject: City Council Meeting, Agenda Item 3.6 Letter From the Public

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo, Council Member Khamis, and fellow City Council Members,

My name is Shirani Pathak and I am a resident of District 10 in San Jose. I am also a trauma-informed social worker and have been serving the community of San Jose for the past decade.

Residents of San Jose, especially Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color (BIPOC), already experience a myriad of traumas day in and day out, simply because of the color of our skin. The heavy police presence that disproportionately targets us due to the systemic racism, oppression, and other socioeconomic disparities, does not help communities of color—it keeps us in a state of persistent traumatic stress. It impacts children’s abilities to pay attention in school, it feeds into the school to prison pipeline, and it robs our city of the talent that lives within these amazing human beings.

Yet, funding to schools, libraries, parks, social services, prevention programs, and housing are constantly being cut, to increase funding to police and to improve the lives of the wealthy (which by design is the oppressive system this country was built upon).

City officials and police officers in San Jose are making anywhere from upwards of \$150k-\$400k per year, while I, as a Master’s level licensed clinical social worker—someone who can actually help make lasting and permanent change to the communities of San Jose—am lucky to earn \$80k-\$85k/year, which as you know, is below the poverty line for Santa Clara County. Do those numbers make sense to you? Because they sure do not to me.

I am here to demand that funding is reallocated from SJPd to social and public programming that takes place in our communities. It is unethical to cut budget towards education, libraries, parks, housing, and transportation while funneling \$5M into improving the San Jose golf courses.

It is also an outrage that over 30% of city funding goes towards the Police Department. The SJPd has seen a rise in overtime pay which, more often than not, is paid out to officers responsible for harassing the unhoused, and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color.

I stand with others across the country and demand that the City Council defund and disband the SJPd, as the Minneapolis City Council vowed to do with theirs. Since it is clear that Mayor Liccardo and the City Councilmembers are confused about what “defunding the police” means, here is an excerpt from a Rolling Stones article quoting Lynda Garcia, policing campaign director at the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights:

“Defunding the police does not mean stripping a department entirely of its budget, or abolishing it altogether. It’s just about scaling police budgets back and reallocating those resources to other agencies, says Lynda Garcia, policing campaign director at the Leadership Conference on Civil and

Human Rights. “A lot of what we advocate for is investment in community services — education, medical access... You can call it ‘defunding,’ but **it’s just about directing or balancing the budget in a different way.**”

The concept is simple: **When cities start investing in community services, they reduce the need to call police in instances when police officers’ specific skill set isn’t required.** “If someone is dealing with a mental health crisis, or someone has a substance abuse disorder, we are calling other entities that are better equipped to help these folks,” Garcia says.

When people get the specific help they need earlier, they’re less likely to end up in the kind of dangerous situation police might be called to defuse — situations that often turn deadly for those individuals.

(from <https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-news/defund-the-police-1007254>)

I demand a city budget that adequately and effectively meets the needs of at-risk San Jose residents.

I demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, rather than empowers police.

Additionally, it is important to ban the use of rubber bullets, tear gas and other means of excessive force as a method of crowd control.

In 1925, the Geneva Protocol prohibited the use of poisonous gas (tear gas was included) in warfare and in 1993 the Chemical Weapon Convention outlawed the use of riot control agents in warfare; so why in 2020 is San Jose Police using tear gas to attack its own citizens, the citizens it swore to protect?

Not to mention, through its use of rubber bullets and projectiles, SJPD’s own anti-bias trainer, Mr. Derrick Sanderlin, was shot and injured by SJPD in his attempt to deescalate the same San Jose police officers he had been training.

SJPD have also taken the lives of at least 14 civilians in recent years as a result of officer-involved shootings. How is this okay? And how does this not add to the budget crisis, since tax dollars then need to go to settlements for these officer-involved shootings?

By reducing funding for SJPD and allocating that money to other appropriate community-based programs, many of the challenges we see in San Jose due to heavy police presence and police brutality would be resolved, and San Jose would be able to begin the healing and restoration our city and our communities need.

Lastly, please remember, that all city officials, including Mayor Liccardo, Police Chief Eddie Garcia, the rest of SJPD, and Councilmembers are paid through San Jose tax payer dollars. This means you work for us, the citizens of San Jose. I urge you to do right by the people who elected you and appointed you, and revise the San Jose city budget for 2020-2021 fiscal year to reflect the demands of your community.

Sincerely,

Shirani Pathak
District 10

From: Armen Gabrielian
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 2:05 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Police reform proposals

[External Email]

The following are my proposals for reforming the police. I hope Mayor Liccardo and the San Jose City Council will consider them.

1. No carrying of these huge guns in public. Give back all military-style weapons.
2. No beating of people of any kind.
3. No tear gas and no rubber bullets (which actually contain metal inside).
4. No choke holds or neck holds.
5. No barging into people's homes without knocking.

Perhaps, these proposals can be considered during the Zoom meeting today, June 12, 2020

Sent from my iPhone

From: Grace Talice Lee

Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 7:43 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Agenda Item 3.1 Discussion and Actions Related to Police Use of Force and Crowd Control Measures

[External Email]

To

the City Council,

My name is Grace, I live in the Burbank area of San Jose and am a constituent from District 6.

I *urge you* to demilitarize the police to the fullest extent of your power and influence. The riot gear, tear gas, and rubber bullets that were designed and purchased to protect *civilians* from *terrorists* should not be used on the civilians themselves– especially when we are exercising our constitutional right to peaceful protest!

It is so distressing to see videos of people living their American right to peaceful protest, only to get mowed down by a police motorcycle or hit by a rubber bullet. And that's just as a *viewer*. I imagine the civilian survivors of these tragic events have to deal with this trauma for a long time to come. The police, on the other hand, have shown no sign of remorse. Please pressure the police chief Eddie Garcia to fire the ones who are abusing their power.

I trust you will hear the public outcry and act in your constituents' interests. Regardless– we are watching. We are getting informed. We are ready to protest, participate, and vote.

Grace Lee

From: Rosemarie Grantham
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 8:07 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item 3.6

[External Email]

HOLLLLLAAAA,

My name is Rosemarie Grantham, I am a resident of San Jose. This memo doesn't go nearly far enough in making sure our communities are free of Police violence. The SJPd shot a SJ musician IN THE EYE JESUS FUCKING CHRIST. I demand funding is reallocated from SJPd to social and public programming that takes place in our community. Give the funding to our libraries, our park, HOUSING FOR CHRIST'S SAKE. And transportation, whenever we're not afraid of dying by being around people again, but it should be funded before then. Why TF is \$5 million going to golf courses? Turn that land into housing, it would benefit more people. Why does 30% of funding go to the police department? And now you want to do MORE TRAINING? SJPd shot the guy who was doing bias training with the police. You cannot re-form a system built on violence. We need a new criminal justice structure, inclusive of a robust task force of mental health professionals and social workers. Also it needs to be 40% women. Shit just goes to hell in a handbasket when you have a system full of men protected by hierarchy, getting away with shit.

We stand with the calls of those across the country and demand that the City Council defund and disband the SJPd similarly to Minneapolis, with a concurrent investment in Black and brown communities. INVEST IN ESSJ! Our greatest resource is our people, why wouldn't we invest in our people? We demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, rather than one that gives police way wayway to much power.

For now, you gotta ban the use of rubber bullets, tear gas, and other means of excessive force as a method of crowd control. We are not having it. The city must recognize the protestors are exercising their first amendment right and should not be met with police violence.

We are out here in these streets during a PANDEMIC telling you we want to defund the police. We are goddam DONE with police violence. Y'all tried training, y'all tried bias training, y'all tried reform, AND WE STILL GET PEOPLE GASSED AND SHOT.

I see the city council hopes to create a process that includes the community and it starts here, by listening to your community. It is your duty to represent your constituents. I am urging you to completely revise the San Jose city budget for fiscal year 2020-2021. Public opinion is with me.

From: Kristen

Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 8:24 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Comment - Item 3.6 - Discussion and Actions Related to Police Use of Force and Crowd Control Measures

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Council Members,

At a time when tensions are high and people are exercising their first amendment rights to speak out against police brutality, I would assume the SJPD would be on its best behavior. I thought to myself, this couldn't happen here. However, I am ashamed to say I was proven naive by the countless examples of excessive use of force, specifically use of weapons that were unwarranted by severity of the situation and disturbingly aggressive behavior of our PD that escalated tensions rather than calm them. The actions of Jarred Yuen and the officer who shot Derrick Sanderson are examples and only a small fraction of the many accounts of this behavior the past two weeks.

I understand that the police need to be able to do their jobs, especially when there is looting, destruction and rioting. However, clearly officers are unable to make sound judgement in the field with their current training. It was especially disturbing to hear a prior impartial external auditor calling for major police management reform. This shows either complete disregard for training and protocol set forth by Chief Garcia or a huge lapse in understanding of protocol by his team. Either option is unacceptable and negligent.

Officers have shot rubber bullets and tear gas without fixed targets into a crowd. They have used batons on women who did not provoke them. You heard these accounts during the last meeting on Tuesday. If you are unfamiliar with the ramifications of use of these items for crowd control, please visit this website to hear first hand accounts of civilian injury from the past two weeks:

<https://www.sanjoseinside.com/news/hundreds-of-rubber-bullets-later-san-jose-starts-to-reckon-with-human-toll-of-tactics/>

The misuse of these types of weapons on protestors is frankly inhumane. Rubber bullets have been proven to be inaccurate and have potential for permanent injury. Tear gas has been banned in war and should be unacceptable for use on civilians. **The use of these weapons is absolutely inappropriate for crowd control.**

I understand that if we totally deweaponize the police we are making them ineffective in dangerous situations. These types of riot guns are an important tool that gives officers an alternative to lethal force. For example, I have heard of their use with rubber bullets in disarming suspects with knives, or their use with a different type of round to punch a hole through a door so tear gas could be used on a barricaded and armed suspect. These are appropriate uses that I wouldn't want to prevent with an all out ban.

I urge you to be reasonable. Please ban use of these weapons for crowd control. If you determine they must still be used, please limit their use to a certified/specialized officer who can exercise sound judgement in these situations and be evaluated and held accountable for its use in the event it is determined it is required.

Thank you for your valuable time and consideration,

Kristen Middleton
San Jose Resident, District 3

From: Alberto Ribas-Casasayas
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 8:36 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: City Council meeting agenda item 20-713

[External Email]

Mayor Liccardo and representatives,

My name is Alberto Ribas. I have lived in the U.S. since 2000, I am a professor at Santa Clara University, a naturalized citizen since 2018, and a resident of San Jose. I am appalled at the scenes of violence caused by the SJPD police department, the unprovoked aggressions by many of its officials that have been captured on camera, and Chief García's recklessness. It is distressing to know that peace in the city is in the hands of thugs like Jared Yuen. A police department with tanks and full military gear is more fit to a dictatorial state than to the values that this country purports to stand for.

The attack suffered by your own community liaison Derrick Sanderlin at the hands of your uniformed thugs is an apt illustration of the state of the city. Regarding the multiple instances of unprovoked violence against black people, I find it requires a special kind of cruelty to provoke, mock, and attack people that are expressing their pain at decades of structural violence against them and who are carrying the most weight of the Covid crisis.

I have never had trouble with law enforcement, and I am fully aware that this is due mostly to the color of my skin. Even so, I must say your police force, like that of so many other American cities, commands no respect, only fear and disgust. If I should run into an incident on the street, I'd hesitate to call your guys out of the credible fear that they'd only make the situation worse. Seeing your patrol cars and hearing your helicopter in the evening turn my stomach upside down.

The recently announced reforms on SJPD Twitter account are not going to work for the same reason that there's been, for years, six community services positions that were unfilled at SJPD. These reforms are going to be met with the same indifference and lack of enforcement and supervision.

It is imperative that we reallocate funding from the San Jose Police Department to educational, social and public health programming that takes place in our communities, carried through by professionals trained in their respective areas of expertise. I join the calls of those across the country to defund the police. We demand a budget that adequately and effectively meets the needs of at-risk San Jose residents during this trying and uncertain time, when livelihoods are on the line. We demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, rather than continue empowering a gang of unsupervised brutes with military grade equipment.

It is your duty to represent your constituents. I am urging you to completely revise the San Jose city budget for 2020-2021 fiscal year, and to fire immediately all police elements responsible for violence against city residents.

I am taking note of every single city, county, and state official that fails to take responsibility for the current state of things and to take positive, concrete steps towards supporting those more impacted by the pandemic crisis and state sanctioned violence, and I will vote against them, regardless of party affiliation.

Sincerely,

Alberto Ribas-Casasayas
Associate Professor of Spanish
Latin American Studies Minor Program Director
Santa Clara University

From: Laurana Wang
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 8:38 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item 3.6

[External Email]

Hello,

My name is Laurana Wang and I am a resident of the East Foothills community in San Jose. I am writing in solidarity with so many other residents of San Jose who strongly wish to see divestment from and defunding of the San Jose Police Department.

I have previously written directly to my councilperson with a similar list of sentiments, many of which will be reiterated in this e-mail.

I am appalled and disgusted to see "(1) Reveal whether the safety of KIP design or composition has substantially improved since the time of the studies referenced in this memorandum, below" listed as a "step" to be considered. This is a flagrant illustration of just how systemic the council's pro-police bias is. The studies referenced by many when citing the dangers of KIPs are outdated and limited, this is a sad fact that we must acknowledge in taking the results of these studies with a grain of scientific salt. **However**, the reason these studies are outdated and limited is because there is a massive chokehold on the number of reliable, repeatable scientific studies that analyze police behaviors, especially when it comes to the use of excessive force.

Additionally, I have seen the argument that "purchasing rubber bullets (KIPs)/other crowd control agents doesn't actually constitute a significant portion of SJPD's budget, so calm down" made even by members of the City Council in response to these demands. Reform has to start from somewhere. Banning KIPs is a place to start, and arguing that "this is a minor issue" **without identifying a "more major issue" to address first instead** is counter-productive and illustrative of a bad faith argument that only serves to hinder progressive change. Therefore, "describing the approximate number of rounds discharged in crowds over the past week" will not change the fact that KIPs **should not be used** in the first place, and only distracts from the issues. "How many human rights violations should we allow before drawing the line?" is a ridiculous question. One single human rights violation is already too many. And if the number of rounds fired is already small or "statistically negligible", then that makes the job of reducing that number to zero even simpler!

I do not care to see further transparency from the San Jose Police Department in order to "contextualize the actions of officers" who were recorded on video assaulting protestors. Conversely, I am extremely interested in seeing further transparency from SJPD as well as

the City Council on **what precisely is preventing the redistribution of the \$440 million allocated to the SJPd in San Jose's 2020 budget**. I understand that budget reconciliation is difficult and complicated and not necessarily a matter of simply magic-wandering funds from one recipient to another. Be transparent about these facts.

I am also interested in increased transparency regarding the Independent Police Auditor (IPA). I would like to have concrete assurance that the IPA is completely independent from SJPd influence and interests. I approve of the motion to expand the IPA's authority in exerting oversight over the SJPd.

In closing, I must strongly emphasize two facts:

1. Policing is a reactive solution, not a proactive solution. It is our job as a community and your job as leaders of that community to invest in proactive solutions to improve public safety and lower crime.
2. Investing in police is the opposite of investing in the community. The police do not represent the community. In fact, they are [often trained to do the exact opposite](#).

Thank you for your time. I hope you will take what I and so many others have said into consideration.

Sincerely,
Laurana Wang

From: Stephen Do

Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 8:58 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: 3.1 Discussion and Actions Related to Police Use of Force and Crowd Control Measures

[External Email]

To

whom it may concern,

I am emailing to voice my concerns over the excessive use of police force and the incredulous amount of funding we allocate to the police department annually. I wish for the City of San Jose to **Defund the Police**. This is by no means a call to abolish the police department, but an urgent plea to instead allocate the funds to bolstering community resources. As the system stands right now, a police officer is required to work as a marriage counselor, a mental health crisis professional, a conflict negotiator, a social worker, a child advocate, a traffic safety expert, and a sexual assault specialist.

It is near impossible to fulfill all these roles as a police officer with the amount of training they have. Please invest money into individual programs that have licensed professionals who are well-equipped to deal with these matters.

From my own personal experience as an Emergency Scribe, I've seen police officers take in mentally ill persons under 5150 hold. I've seen these vulnerable persons wait in the ER for over 24 hours without being seen by a psychologist. Moreover, they were brought in by the police officers and just left there. Why can't we, say, invest in psychologists or social workers who can help these people out?

I hope you make the right decision when deciding on the annual budget this next week. I will be watching, and so will many other San Jose citizens. We have the power to vote for politicians that represent us and our beliefs, and we know full well we also have the power to vote them out. Please listen to what we are fighting for.

Thank you,
Stephen Do

From: Cameron Bigger
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 9:01 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Written comment Re: Agenda Item 3.6, #7

[External Email]

I strongly believe the creation of a minority-led, independent, police auditing coalition would be a good starting point for our city government to show they're taking tangible steps within better developing a trustworthy & mutually-beneficial relationship between law enforcement and our marginalized communities. I think greater transparency and accountability for those in power will always lead to a better world. Thank you.

From: Jonathan Berkowitz Berkowitz
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 9:10 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Legislation idea to end police brutal violence against the black community

[External Email]

Dear Staff,

I believe the time has come for a change in paradigm. With National support so squarely behind real reform of policing activity, the momentum exists to demand legislation that will **fundamentally change the character of the police department.**

Many initiatives that have been put forward, such as banning choke holds, demilitarization, ending 'for profit' policing, redirecting police funding, increased body cameras, creation of a National Database to track police offenders, reforming qualified immunity...

These are all fine ideas, and I support their implementation.

However,...

These ideas have one thing in common- they are designed to put controls on police behavior, and make it easier to prosecute police officers AFTER THE FACT- **after they have committed felonious acts of violence.**

These ideas add rules, but don't change the game.

But what can we do to change the officers themselves? How can we mold their outlook, and attitude- to make it so they are not willing to brutalize and murder the people they are charged with protecting?

An initiative that is truly 'out of the box' comes from an examination of our assumptions, and then breaking from those assumptions.

In this case the assumption is that it is impossible to change people's behavior through legislation.

Dr. King said "Morality cannot be legislated, but behavior can be regulated. Judicial decrees may not change the heart, but they can restrain the heartless".

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/85071-morality-cannot-be-legislated-but-behavior-can-be-regulated-judicial>

Oddly enough, the same sentiment was echoed on June 9th by former FBI Director, and Fox News contributor, Christopher Swecker, who, in response to Senators Booker and Harris's Justice in Policing Act said, "Judgment is hard to legislate, and attitude, and

professionalism, and all the things that go along with being a good police officer, you can't really legislate that,"

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/former-fbi-official-police-reform-bills>

I reject this assumption, and disagree with both Dr. King, and Director Swecker.

I believe you can 'Legislate the Heart', and the following details my legislative initiative for doing so.

My original program idea was a requirement for officer candidates to perform 6 months of full- time volunteer work within black communities, combined with a 'home stay' program with host families- similar to a student exchange program.

My rational was that a candidate who lived with a minority family, while performing volunteer work in the community, would develop a sense of connection with that community and its people. It would instill the officer candidate a sense of empathy, and urge to protect- not brutalize and murder.

A lengthy period of service and immersion into the black community would also discourage candidates whose primary attraction to law enforcement is the opportunity to bully, and inflict violence.

After a lengthy conversation with a lawyer at a local NAACP chapter in Los Angeles, I have since updated my recommendations.

Her reaction to the idea of a homestay was that it would not be accepted by the black community. It was her position that people would be absolutely terrified by the idea of an officer candidate living in their home, and would not participate.

I have therefore begun to refocus my idea to **mandating officer candidates to perform 3-500 hours of volunteer work within the black community, prior to beginning their academy training.**

I envision a pilot program with a creation of an office that would act as liaison between the police department, and local volunteer opportunities, who would place candidates, and oversee their progress.

Some have mentioned that 3-500 hours may be an excessive period of time, but I disagree.

Once they enter the academy, officers in training will be subjected to military style training, and taught methods to employ lethal force. The training atmosphere will be aggressive in nature, and focused on enforcement, and domination.

Potential officers, especially those who have had no interaction with the black community, or black people in general, and who have, perhaps, grown up in an environment surrounded by racial intolerance, **must not have their first exposure to the black**

community, armed to the teeth, with a mind that is fearful, ignorant, and recently filled with aggressive tactics to subdue, and control.

It is imperative that officers spend as much time in the black community as possible, unarmed, and in a role of service, and assistance. They must bond, and **recognize the essential humanity of the black community** before they are thrust into a role that provides them the power over life and death.

I have compiled a list of hundreds of volunteer opportunities including...

- SROs
- Homeless Shelters
- Food Banks
- School Literacy Programs
- Senior Centers
- Inner City Hospitals

A **mandatory** program like this would change hearts, minds, and attitudes and go a long way to end this untenable situation of police violence against the black community.

"More you can establish connection and trust, the more the people know the police officer, they come from the community, they reflect the community, the better it is for keeping folks safe."

-Senator Corey Booker on Morning Joe
June 5th, 2020

I am hoping to build support for this idea, and look forward to beginning a dialogue. If you feel the idea has merit please share with your colleagues.

I look forward to setting up a time next week for a discussion:)

Sincerely,
Jonathan Berkowitz

From: Hing Potter
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 9:07 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Item 3.6 from 6/9/2020 (San Jose, CA Fiscal Budget)

[External Email]

Hello,

My name is Hing Potter, and I am a resident of San Jose. I am writing because this memo does not go far enough to ensure our communities are free of police violence. I demand that San Jose PD be defunded and monies be reallocated to public and social programming that takes place within our community.

It is unethical to cut funding to libraries, education, housing, health and transportation while funneling \$5 million to improve San Jose golf courses. It is also an outrage that 30% of public funding goes to San Jose PD. This current system is broken at the expense of San Jose citizens ' safety and well-being. We need a new criminal justice structure, inclusive of a robust task force of mental healthcare professionals and social workers. I demand that the city revisit and revise the fiscal 2020-2021 budget to reflect these changes.

The City of San Jose budget should adequately and effectively meet the needs of Black and Brown communities and other at-risk populations, especially at this current trying time. I demand a budget that prioritizes community wellbeing over police militarization and empowerment. In the meantime, I demand that the San Jose PD cease the use of rubber bullets, tear gas and other forms of excessive force as methods of crowd control. This city must recognize that protesters are exercising their First Amendment Rights and should not be met with police violence.

I see the City Council hopes to create a process that includes the community, and it starts here, by listening to people in the community.

Thank you,

Hing Potter, M.Ed. (*he/him/his*)

From: Shannon Loucks
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 9:44 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Item 3.6

[External Email]

Hello,

My name is Shannon. I am writing because this memo doesn't go nearly far enough in making sure our communities are free from police violence. I demand funding be relocated for SJPd to public programming with the community. It is unethical to take funds away from educations, libraries, parks, house and transportation and puts it in the hands of police. This does not improve the city it in fact does the oppose. We need a new criminal justice structure, inclusive of a robust task force of mental health professionals and social workers.

WE stand with the calls of those across the country and demand that the City Council defund and disband the SJPd similarly to Minneapolis, with a concurrent investment in black and brow communities. WE demand a budget that adequately and effectively meets the need of a at-risk Sa Jose residents during this trying and uncertain time, when livelihoods are on the line. WE demand a budge that support community well being.

The use of rubber bullets, tear gas and other meds of excessive forces as a means for crowd control needs to END NOW. Protestors are exercising their first amendment right and should not be met with police violence.

I see that the city county hopes to create a process that includes that community and it starts here. Today is the day to take the first step toward that.

Thank you
Shannon Loucks

From: Alessa Baldonado
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 9:28 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Public Comment (Item 3.1, 20-713)

[External Email]

To

whom it may concern,

My name is Alessa Baldonado, and I am a resident of San Jose, District 3. I am writing to continue to urge the city council to cut funding from the SJ Police Department and reallocate said funds into areas of community support.

It disheartened me to hear Mayor Liccardo's statements regarding the matter of putting city funding away from policing and into communities. If you listen to what the communities most affected by police violence are saying, you will find that they overwhelmingly wish to see city funding go to areas of greater need, such as education, housing, and support during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I also demand a complete ban on the use of rubber bullets, tear gas, and other tools used by police against the protestors. These items have caused countless people pain and suffering at times when all they were doing was exercising their first amendment right to gather and speak out against injustice in our community.

San Jose does not need more police officers or police resources. Doing so will only add to the unrest and violence that is perpetuated by police against our most vulnerable residents, especially during this time of uncertainty. As a concerned citizen, I demand that the city council take the words of their constituents seriously and defund the police department. Thank you.

--

Alessa Baldonado
(they/them)

From: David Pilsk
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 9:56 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Item 3.6 from 6/9/2020

[External Email]

Hello,

My name is David Pilsk, and I am a resident of San Jose. I am writing because we need to free our public from harsh police brutality. Our money would be better spent if it went to communities, social and public programming. Poverty and inequality causes violence and unrest. To divert funds from communities and place those funds in policing those communities, is unethical and unproductive. Instead of furthering the unrest and adding fuel to the fire, San Jose should be putting resources into creating a more equal and just city.

Defunding the police is about adequately using our funds to root out the cause of violence. Continuing to fund and over-fund the San Jose Police Department will further the inequalities that exist in our city. Creating a strong police force does not deter criminality, the very nature of allocating funds in that manner furthers the environment for unrest in the city.

Money should be put towards people, not police and military action against the people. The city cannot exist without its people, and the people cannot continue to survive under the oppressive rule of a militarized police force. Defund the San Jose Police Department, today! Please consider revising the 2020-2021 San Jose city budget.

--

David Pilsk

From: Elizabeth Sudano
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 10:03 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item 3.1 for 6/12/2020 Meeting

[External Email]

Hello,

My name is Elizabeth Sudano. I live and vote in San Jose. I am writing as a member of SURJ and I want to amplify the demands of the people of color and really all the people of our community calling for a better, safer future for all of us. Below is what we ask for.

It is unacceptable that the police department be granted a larger sum of money from the general budget during the COVID-19 budget shortfall, all while community programs such as Parks and Rec and Libraries are being cut.

We demand an immediate reduction of police funding by 50% including reduced field patrol, closing the METRO (VERGE and VSET) program, and the Street Crimes Unit, closing the Covert Response Unit within Investigations.

We demand termination of police officers for any involvement in police shootings, excessive force, corruption, sexual abuse, physical abuse, domestic abuse, or discrimination.

We demand that the City eliminate the Mayor's Youth Gang Task Force, as law enforcement uses the task force to covertly surveil on black and brown youth.

We demand that \$19 million from the CARES ACT go to renters on the brink of eviction rather than the police department.

We demand that you reallocate the fund cut from policing to community-led "alternatives to policing," the Black community, the underserved community, and underfunded community programs.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Sudano

From: Jennifer Wada
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 10:01 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda item 3.6

[External Email]

Hello, my name is Jennifer Wada and I am a resident in San Jose. I am writing today because I am shocked and disgusted by the police violence that was used on peaceful protesters over the last couple weeks. It is clear that they were misusing rubber bullets and harming citizens who posed no threat. During a dangerous pandemic SJPd was not wearing face masks and needlessly used tear gas, which is known to increase the spread of COVID-19. This is irresponsible. It needs to stop. I demand that funding is reallocated from SJPd towards social and public programming that takes place in our communities. Let's reinvest in education, mental health professionals, social services, and other programs that will help reduce crime in our city. It is clear that our police force has been abusing their power and needs to be retrained. As things are now, I do not feel safe or protected by them. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Bill Nguyen

Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 10:24 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Singh, Kanwalroop ; Jasjit Mundh ; Nicholas Cotter

Subject: *For 6/12 meeting and 6/15 hearing* Letter from Asian-American lawyers and law students: Fire Yuen and defund the SJPd.

Dear San José City Clerk:

Attached is a letter from 17 Asian-American legal organizations and 156 Asian-American law students and lawyers from San José and the greater Bay Area. We are demanding that the City of San José fire Jared Yuen and demilitarize and defund the San José Police Department.

This correspondence is relevant to both (1) the San José City Council's meeting on the use-of-force proposals at 11:30 A.M. today and (2) the final public hearing on the city's budget at 1:30 P.M. on Monday, June 15. Please circulate the letter to council members and add it to the agenda for both events. Thank you so much.

Sincerely,
Bill Nguyen

June 12, 2020

To Mayor Sam Liccardo, San José Police Chief Eddie Garcia, San José City Council, and Jared Yuen:

We write to you as Asian-American law students and lawyers from San José and the Bay Area more broadly. We condemn the gross misconduct of San José Police Department (SJPD) Officer Jared Yuen #4362 at San José City Hall on May 29, 2020.

During a demonstration against the routine slaughter of Black people at the hands of the police, Yuen stood clad in riot gear before a group of protestors, cradling a projectile launcher and licking his lips.¹ Cameras caught him yelling “let’s get this motherfucker” and “shut up, bitch” at a woman.² They also caught him in the act of shooting his projectile launcher into an unarmed crowd.³ News reports indicate that Yuen may have shot Black community activist Derrick Sanderlin, who has trained SJPD officers on implicit bias for years.⁴ Because of this wanton violence, Sanderlin had to have surgery and may not be able to have children.⁵

In short, Yuen did not protect or de-escalate, nor did he seek to. Instead, and without provocation, he launched an attack and incited a peaceful protest to violence. Yuen’s lip licking suggests that he was thrilled at the prospect of abusing his power. We, on the other hand, are outraged. We are outraged that rather than condemning his actions and acting swiftly to remove him from the SJPD, San José Police Chief Eddie Garcia placed Yuen on desk duty and excused him, claiming, “He’s a good kid and a good cop.”⁶

¹ Kristi Sturgill, *Viral Twitter video shows San Jose police officer barking at a protester, ‘Shut up, b —’*, L.A. TIMES, June 1, 2020, <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-06-01/viral-twitter-video-captures-san-jose-police-officer-barking-at-a-protester-to-shut-up-bitch>. The FBI has also uploaded to YouTube the relevant clips of Yuen’s misconduct: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YCR4iC3jeC8>.

² *Id.*

³ Kate Larsen, *Man who helped injured officer in viral video later shot with rubber bullet during SJ protest*, ABC 7 NEWS, June 2, 2020, <https://abc7news.com/police-officer-taunts-protesters-san-jose-taunting-george-floyd-curfew-protest/6226298/>.

⁴ Dan Noyes, *Man who trains San Jose police about bias severely injured by riot gun during George Floyd protest*, ABC 7 NEWS, June 6, 2020, <https://abc7news.com/san-jose-police-george-floyd-protest-bay-area-shot-by-during/6234212/>.

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ Robert Salonga, *‘Let’s get this motherf—ker’: San Jose officer benched after viral protest comments*, SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS, May 31, 2020, <https://www.mercurynews.com/2020/05/31/lets-get-this-motherf-ker-san-jose-officers-viral-protest-comments-draw-wide-condemnation/>.

While Yuen continues to sit on desk duty, we ask that he reflect on the enormity of his misconduct and the debts that, as an Asian American, he owes to the Black community. The reason Yuen and other Asian-American SJPD officers make over \$200,000 a year⁷ in taxpayer money is that, decades ago, Black organizers fought for anti-discrimination laws and immigration reforms that allowed their families to come and build wealth here.⁸ We ask that Yuen and all other Asian-American SJPD officers summon and honor the memory of those whom the SJPD's brutality has killed: Jenny Vasquez, Anthony Nunez, Phillip Watkins, Jacob Dominguez, Antonio Guzman Lopez, Bich Cau Thi Tran, and many others.⁹ We ask that Yuen and all other Asian-American SJPD officers commit to challenging their anti-Blackness—that they devote their time to acting in solidarity with the Black community and other marginalized communities that disproportionately experience police brutality. We ask that they stand with us in demanding justice for the Black people whom the police have murdered across the country and the decades. Above all, we ask that they take off their riot gear, put down their projectile launchers, and march alongside us in the streets.

Having studied and practiced the law, we understand that justice for Black people and other victims of police brutality cannot be achieved through changing the behavior of a single police officer—or through reforms disconnected from systemic transformation. For this reason, in advance of the San José City Council's public hearing on June 15, 2020, on proposed capital/operating budgets, we demand the following from the City of San José and from the SJPD:

1. **Fire Yuen immediately.** His sadistic behavior on May 29 is evidence that he is unfit to serve the people of San José.
2. **Reject the proposals in City Council File #20-673 to review and revise the SJPD's use-of-force policy.** The proposals in the memorandum attached to File #20-673, entitled "Discussion and Actions Related to Police Use of Force and Crowd Control Measures," are a futile attempt at addressing the problem of racialized police violence.¹⁰ The proposals

⁷ See *Jared Yuen: Police Officer (2019)*, TRANSPARENT CALIFORNIA, <https://transparentcalifornia.com/salaries/2019/san-jose/jared-yuen/> (last visited June 7, 2020).

⁸ See Deepti Hajela, *Civil Rights and Immigration History Connected*, AP NEWS, Aug. 26, 2013, <https://apnews.com/5b3a2295a46c4a408f04f7adf50b315f>; Rebekah Barber, *How the Civil Rights Movement Opened the Door to Immigrants of Color*, FACING SOUTH, Feb. 3, 2017, <https://www.facingsouth.org/2017/02/how-civil-rights-movement-opened-door-immigrants-color>.

⁹ SV De-Bug, Facebook (June 4, 2020, approx. 3 P.M.), <https://www.facebook.com/sv.debug/photos/a.1087925051391310/1462672943916517/?type=3&theater>.

¹⁰ Memorandum from Sam Liccardo et al. to San José City Council (June 5, 2020), <https://sanjose.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=8592183&GUID=1FBE9A4B-57F5-4B0B-9511-0F42E40CC2AB>.

call for reviewing and revising the SJPd's use-of-force and crowd-control policy. They call, in other words, for expanding the administrative apparatus of the SJPd—for investing more resources into monitoring and justifying it. But spending so much time and money on reviewing the SJPd's handbook will only divert us from shrinking the police's function in our community. Rather than discussing, for example, whether “the safety of Kinetic Impact Projectile (KIP) design or composition has substantially improved,” the San José City Council must order that KIPs be banned and the SJPd be demilitarized completely.¹¹

The San José City Council's discussion of these proposals on June 9, 2020, confirmed their pitfalls. At the meeting, Jason Dwyer of the SJPd Special Operations Division maintained that the “threshold” for use of force was a “violent crowd of several hundred people who were attacking officers.”¹² Dwyer further claimed that officers had been the targets of “assaults with deadly weapons by [protestors] throwing full plastic bottles of water and/or milk.”¹³ Alongside this unsubstantiated allusion to hundreds of assailants and the elevation of plastic bottles to the level of deadly weapons, Dwyer framed the initially peaceful protest as “rioting,” eliding the instigating violence of officers like Jared Yuen.¹⁴ Given the chance to take accountability in a public forum, Dwyer instead mischaracterized and omitted facts to justify the SJPd's use of force. The proposed police reforms, which largely just ask the SJPd to justify its use of force in more elaborate terms, will produce the same result.

3. **Demilitarize the SJPd.** The SJPd should halt the purchase and use of—and should ultimately liquidate—militarized equipment like the BearCat, mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles, Humvees, battering rams, riot guns, projectile launchers, kinetic-impact projectiles, flash grenades, tear gas, and firearms.¹⁵
4. **Defund the SJPd.** The City of San José is slated to increase the proportion of its annual budget allocated to the SJPd: from 40.4% to 43.8%.¹⁶ This is unacceptable. Instead, the

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² City of San José, *JUN 9, 2020 | City Council*, YOUTUBE (June 9, 2020), at 59:44, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHVbNHf_kw.

¹³ *Id.* at 51:30.

¹⁴ *Id.* at 52:34.

¹⁵ These demands are inspired by the Oakland police-oversight board's recent objections to the Oakland Police Department's militarization. See Lisa Fernandez, *Oakland police oversight board wants stricter rules on militarized equipment*, FOX KTVU, Feb. 12, 2020, <https://www.ktvu.com/news/oakland-police-oversight-board-wants-stricter-rules-on-militarized-equipment>.

¹⁶ See OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER, CITY OF SAN JOSÉ PROPOSED 2020–2021 OPERATING BUDGET III - 4 (2020), <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showdocument?id=58414>.

City of San José should scale back the SJPD's budget by a fixed percentage per year. Concrete steps for defunding the SJPD include (1) suspending the use of paid administrative leave for officers under investigation, (2) withholding pensions from and refusing to rehire officers involved in the use of excessive force, (3) requiring officers to be personally liable for misconduct settlements, (4) capping overtime accrual, and (5) halting overtime pay for military exercises.¹⁷

The act of defunding the police has picked up national attention since the murder of George Floyd.¹⁸ Many 2021 electoral candidates in New York City have called on the city council to reduce the New York Police Department's operating budget by one billion dollars over the next four years.¹⁹ Likewise, on June 3, 2020, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti slashed \$100–150 million from a proposed Los Angeles Police Department budget hike in support of defunding the police.²⁰ Most prominently, on June 7, 2020, a veto-proof majority of the Minneapolis City Council vowed to dismantle the Minneapolis Police Department and build an alternative model of community safety.²¹ We expect the City of San José to follow in these cities' footsteps and significantly reduce the SJPD's current budget, with the ultimate goal of disbanding the SJPD.

5. **Redirect funding from the SJPD to other community resources.** The City of San José should redirect funding for the SJPD to social services, public housing, K–12 education, and mental-health resources for vulnerable communities in San José—especially low-income Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and Asian communities. In Minneapolis, groups like Reclaim the Block and the Black Visions Collective have convinced the city council to

¹⁷ These demands are inspired by Critical Resistance's analysis of how to limit the abuse of power in police departments. See CRITICAL RESISTANCE, REFORMIST REFORMS VS. ABOLITIONIST STEPS IN POLICING, https://static1.squarespace.com/static/59ead8f9692ebec25b72f17f/t/5b65cd58758d46d34254f22c/1533398363539/C_R_NoCops_reform_vs_abolition_CRside.pdf.

¹⁸ Matthew Yglesias, *Growing Calls to "Defund the Police," Explained*, VOX, June 3, 2020, <https://www.vox.com/2020/6/3/21276824/defund-police-divest-explainer>.

¹⁹ Janos Marton, *New York City 2021 Candidates Demand Immediate Cuts of NYPD Budget*, MEDIUM, June 1, 2020, <https://medium.com/@janosforda/new-york-city-2021-candidates-demand-immediate-cuts-to-nypd-budget-d523354e79c>.

²⁰ Jack Brewster, *LA Mayor Slashes LAPD Budget As Calls to 'Defund Police' Slowly Pick Up Steam*, FORBES, (June 4, 2020, <https://www.forbes.com/sites/jackbrewster/2020/06/04/la-mayor-slashes-lapd-budget-as-calls-to-defund-police-slowly-pick-up-steam/#11838f3d1ba3>).

²¹ Sam Levin, *Minneapolis lawmakers vow to disband police department in historic move*, THE GUARDIAN, June 7, 2020, <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/jun/07/minneapolis-city-council-defund-police-george-floyd>.

shift \$1.1 million from the police budget to violence-prevention efforts in 2019.²² We expect no less from the City of San José.

Finally, we—the undersigned Asian-American law students and lawyers of San José and the greater Bay Area—assert and believe this unequivocally: Black lives matter.

Sincerely,

Asian Law Alliance

Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Asian Law Caucus

Asian American Criminal Trial Lawyers Association

Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California

San José Nikkei Resisters

Asian Pacific American Law Students Association at McGeorge School of Law

Asian Pacific American Law Students Association at UC Hastings College of the Law

Asian Pacific American Law Students Association at Berkeley Law

Asian Pacific American Law Students Association at Golden Gate University School of Law

Asian and Pacific Islander Law Students Association Board at Stanford Law School

Pilipinx American Law Society at Berkeley Law

Filipino American Law Society at Santa Clara Law

Pilipinx American Law Society at UC Hastings College of the Law

South Asian Law Student Association at Berkeley Law

South Asian Law Students Association at UCLA School of Law

Vietnamese American Law Students at Santa Clara Law

ACLU NorCal SCU Club

Bill Nguyen, Berkeley Law ‘20 & San José Resident

Jasjit Mundh, Berkeley Law ‘21 & San José Resident

Anjanaye Jariwala, Berkeley Law ‘22 & San José Resident

Tiffany Le, Berkeley Law ‘22 & San José Resident

Deepa Kollipara, Berkeley Law, ‘20 & San José Resident

Alex Mabanta, Ph.D. Candidate in Jurisprudence and Social Policy, Berkeley Law ‘25 & San José Resident

Nikita Yogeshwarun, Berkeley Law ‘20 & San José Resident

Nicole Yuvienco, Santa Clara Law ‘22 & San José Resident

Michelle Truong, Santa Clara Law ‘22 & San José Resident

Sarah delos Santos, Berkeley Law ‘19, CA Bar #328793, & San José Resident

²² Tessa Stuart, *A Practical Guide to Defunding the Police*, ROLLING STONE, June 3, 2020, <https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-news/defund-the-police-1007254/>.

Jessica Jiaying Yu, Washington University in St. Louis School of Law '21 & San José Resident
Nicholas Cotter, Berkeley Law '20 & San José Resident
Emily Chen, Santa Clara Law '22 & San José Resident
Megan Pham, UC Hastings College of the Law '22 & San José Resident
Mitchell Barraza, UC Hastings College of the Law '21 & San José Resident
Ashley Ta, UC Hastings College of the Law '21 & San José Resident
Ann Kim, Berkeley Law '22 & San José Resident
Kevin Chen, Berkeley Law '22 & San José Resident
Ammad Rafiqi, Kashmiri-American Attorney & San José Resident
Kanwalroop Kaur Singh, UCLA School of Law '20 & Milpitas Resident
Tarlochan Singh Rakhra, Berkeley Law '20
Raja Krishna, Berkeley Law '21
Iman Shah, Berkeley Law '22
Samson Lim, Berkeley Law '21
Michael Obuchi Berkeley Law '22
Najia Humayun, Berkeley Law '22
Victoria Sun, Berkeley Law '22
Elizabeth Cheng, Berkeley Law '21
Thien Chau, CA Bar #330315
Alex Mesher, Berkeley Law '22
Idrian Mollaneda, Berkeley Law '21
Ayyan Zubair, Berkeley Law '21
Angeli Patel, Berkeley Law '20
Richelle Gernan, UC Hastings College of the Law '21
Joshua Laroya, UC Hastings College of the Law '22
Shreya Santhanam, Berkeley Law '21
Yongbin Chang, Berkeley Law '22
Henna Kaur Kaushal, Berkeley Law '20
Samantha Chariz Hamilton, Berkeley Law '20
Aditi Ghatlia, Berkeley Law '22
Henry W. Leung, Berkeley Law '21
Tyler Takemoto, Berkeley Law '22
Melody Wong, Berkeley Law '21
Yegina Whang, Berkeley Law '22
Janine Yim, Berkeley Law '20
Kaela Shiigi, Berkeley Law '20
Michelle Lee, Berkeley Law '20
Christina Angelica Avalos, UCLA Law '19
Kiki Tapiero, Berkeley Law '20
Saffa Khan, Berkeley Law '20

Sana Mayat, Berkeley Law '20
Heejin Hwang, UCLA School of Law '19
Suhayla Ahmed, Berkeley Law '22
Rianna Modi, Berkeley Law '22
Veronica Bognot, Berkeley Law '21
Ryan Sun, Berkeley Law '20
Tian Kisch, Berkeley Law '22
Stacy Lee, UCLA School of Law '20
Ping Liu, Berkeley Law '20
Blaine Valencia, Berkeley Law '22
Sydney Royer, Berkeley Law '20
Cecilia Le, University of Oregon School of Law '21
Alexander Tablan, Berkeley Law '22
Michelle Zhou, Berkeley Law '21
Diann Jayakoddy, Santa Clara Law '22
Riddhi Adhikari, Berkeley Law '20
Shalaka Phadnis, UCLA Law '19
Min Jung Han, Berkeley Law '22
Olivia Gee, Berkeley Law '20
Griffin Brunk, Berkeley Law '21
Hannah K. Song, Stanford Law School '21
Noor-ul-ain Hasan, Berkeley Law '20
Kavya Parthiban, UCLA Law '22
Leonardo Kim, Santa Clara Law '22
Anisha Mohin, Columbia Law '20
Grace Dahlstrom, Berkeley Law, '22
Nadia Kale, Berkeley Law '20
Damanjit Singh Gill, PhD student UCLA Anthropology
Melanie Kim, Berkeley Law, '21
Laylaa Abdul-Khabir, UCLA Law, '19
Pallavi Kondapalli, Berkeley Law, '20
Saroop Kaur Sandhu, Berkeley Law '21
Chris Vu, Santa Clara Law '21
Ashley Quan, UC Hastings College of the Law '21
Anisa Noorassa, Berkeley Law '21
Tiffany Gutierrez, UC Hastings College of the Law '22
Molly Lao, Berkeley Law '21
Pawanpreet K. Dhaliwal, Esq., Berkeley Law '15
Dana Yeo, Berkeley Law '21
Ayesha Rasheed, Berkeley Law '20

Justin Lam, Berkeley Law '21
Nerissa Bondoc, Berkeley Law '21
Nahlee Lin, Berkeley Law '22
Muhtadi Choudhury, Berkeley Law '21
Ludia Kwon, Berkeley Law '20
Allen Sin, UC Hastings College of the Law '22
Gina Hong, UCLA School of Law '18
James Tenrai, Berkeley Law '22
Angela Luh, Berkeley Law '21
Sairah Budhwani, UCLA School of Law '19
Julia Choi, Berkeley Law, '22
Andrea Marie Foster, UC Hastings College of the Law '22
Matthew Richardson, UC Hastings College of the Law '20
Lillian Sun, Columbia Law '20
Snehee Khandeshi, Berkeley Law '21
Alexander Scott, UCLA Law '19
Ravinder Dhaliwal, Pepperdine Caruso School of Law '20
Arman Sharif, Berkeley Law '22
Taylor Tang, Golden Gate Law '20
Yong Ra, Santa Clara Law '20
Kony Kim, Berkeley Law '12, Jurisprudence & Social Policy '16, CA Bar #305415
Efrain Delgado, Civic Engagement Community Organizer, Asian Law Alliance
Judith Le, Berkeley Law '12
Sarah Cho, UCLA School of Law '19, CA Bar #328747
Amy Tao, UC Hastings '22
Seema N. Patel, Berkeley Law '06
Christopher Ho, Legal Aid at Work
Alison Chan, Golden Gate Law '21
Pooja Shivaprasad, Berkeley Law '21
Bethany Wang Balchunas, Berkeley Law '21
Jina J. Kim, Berkeley Law '21
Justine Oh, Santa Clara Law '19
Deborah Choi, Berkeley Law '20
Tsu Li Liew, Santa Clara Law '21
Yuri Han, UCLA Law '20
Bernadette Rabuy, UCLA School of Law '19 & South San Francisco Resident
Emily Zia, Berkeley Law '16, former Berkeley Law APALSA Co-President
Chang-kon (Daniel) Kim, UC Hastings College of the Law '21
Fernando Cervantes, Berkeley Law '20
Joanna Kong, UCLA Law '12

Evan Takuya Kratzer, Stanford Law School '20
Patrick Lai, Santa Clara Law '12
Stephanie Hou, Stanford Law School '21
Amanda Almeda, Berkeley Law, '20
Gregory Okada, UC Hastings '22
Catherine Nguyen, UC Hastings College of the Law '21
Andy Lee, San Jose Resident
Clara Choi, Berkeley Law '20
Anna Wang, Stanford Law School (Berkeley Law '01)
Gilbert Choi, Berkeley Law '20
Norjmoo Battulga, Golden Gate University School of Law '20
Khanh Tran, UCLA Law '13
Sandra Allen Kang, Stanford Law School '22
Jasmine Virk, UCLA School of Law '22
Peter Su, Emeryville Resident
Stella Kang, Berkeley Law '10
Heather Matsumoto Hoekstra, Berkeley Law '10
Jonah Chew, Attorney
Jesse Hsieh, Attorney
Emi Young, Attorney
Susie Ra, Attorney
Nicole C. Sasaki, Attorney
Ken Wang, Attorney
Aya Machida Winston, UCLA Law '10
Alan S. Yee, Attorney
Tram Nguyen, Santa Clara Law '22