

Dear City Council,

In solidarity with my fellow Baltimoreans I call that the City Council move swiftly to make substantial changes to the proposed FY2022 budget to include:

- Defund the Baltimore City Police Department.
 - We demand that 100 million dollars be cut from BPD's budget. The constant growth of BPD's budget has not correlated into a decrease in crime or harm and has only fed surveillance and police violence in Black and brown communities.
- Create a Community Wellness trust fund.
 - We demand a \$30 million dollar investment into reimaging public safety trust fund to be governed through a participatory budgeting process. Baltimoreans are more than capable of identifying what public safety without increased police presence or surveillance tools looks like for them.
- Invest in Black communities.
 - We demand that \$70 million dollars be allocated to support quality, affordable housing, high-quality public education, universal healthcare, jobs, a universal basic income, and community programs.
- Remove police entirely from responses to mental health distress, substance use, sex work, homelessness, and other quality-of-life issues.
 - We demand Baltimore create an alternative to 911 that does not dispatch police to connect people in crisis with the mental health, housing, treatment and/or harm reduction resources they need to live with dignity.

Thank you,

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