

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: aschwa1228@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alexander Schwartz <aschwa1228@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:26 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: City budgetary proposal

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a constituent to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

I support the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,

Alexander Schwartz

4201 Falls Rd Apt 17 Baltimore, MD 21211-1602 aschwa1228@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: ntbundy@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Eleanor Bundy
<ntbundy@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:02 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: City Budget Proposal

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Bundy

713 Homestead St Baltimore, MD 21218-3534 ntbundy@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Emily Gruber <egruber91@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:18 AM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Citizen budget comment

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Dear Budget & Appropriations Committee of Baltimore City,

My name is Emily Gruber and I am a Baltimore resident in District 1. I am writing to provide public comment on the upcoming FY2021 budget discussions.

In the midst of this pandemic and public outcry against police brutality, it feels especially inappropriate to propose an increase to the BPD budget to \$545 million for FY 2021. I urge you to reallocate a meaningful portion of the BPD budget toward education and social services. As you know, funding is the ultimate show of prioritization, and we are currently prioritizing police presence over schools. Historically, the city government has spent far more on police than on public health, homeless services, youth services, and other vital agencies. This while the Baltimore Police Department disproportionately targets nonwhite residents—from traffic stops to the use of lethal force.

Our police department is overfunded and at the same time not successfully decreasing crime in Baltimore. An effective strategy for decreasing crime is to invest in communities -- in human services, the social safety net, and racial and economic justice. I am writing to insist that the upcoming budget hearings for FY 2021 reflect the voices and needs of Baltimore's citizens. I am asking that city officials give intense care, attention and effort towards sustainable, long-term change.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to seeing the budget for FY2021.

Thank you,
Emily Gruber
1813 Gough St, Baltimore, MD 21231
Egruber91@gmail.com
914-420-8750

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: cailinbarker2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cailin Yasunaga <cailinbarker2@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 1:53 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Charles Village resident request - to be submitted for public testimony

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a constituent in Charles Village to ask that you vote NO on the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding, and I hope you will push for a significant reduction in the police budget.

The BPD is long overdue to not receive more funding. Instead, that money should be allocated to Black-led causes in Black communities who have been so historically (and presently) disadvantaged. It is time to shift the power. Changes must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,
Ms. Cailin Yasunaga
3113 Abell Ave Baltimore, MD 21218-3412 cailinbarker2@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: jawil006@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of James Williams <jawil006@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 3:47 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Changing Priorities; stop the funding to BPD

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of numerous community organizations as well as a constituent to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

I live in this city, and I have lived being black. Both of these facts have shown me that policing is not today, nor will be tomorrow, the answer of making a safer and brighter city. We have attempted the same formula of racist policing for over 10 years, increasing funding over and over again to the BPD, with nothing to show for it. Academically, study after study has shown the brokenness of policing in this country. Personally, you have watched Baltimore Residents lose hope in the idea of justice at the hands of the oppressive police. This city has watched a corrupt gun task force work with impunity. We watched the murder of Freddie Grey and the lack of accountability. We are watching the creation of a private policing force by John Hopkins. We have watched the murder of Tyrone West. We have watched the attempted murder and unlawful jailing of Keith Davis Jr- and from all this that we have watched, we know the truth: more policing will not work. I ask for the budget to be cut, and for you to trust your citizens. I ask that you don't keep funding the bullets that fill the streets with death. I ask you don't fund the policing structure that only successfully closes around 50% of cases. The BPD is destroying lives, and destroying the idea that this city can ever be just. I ask that you decrease funding to the BPD to give our city a chance, to give people hope, to bring together two Baltimores, and to attempt to stop the lineage of racism that plagues this city.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,
James Williams
2425 Maryland Ave Baltimore, MD 21218-5017 jawil006@mail.goucher.edu

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Marlowe Simek <margaret.m.simek@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:56 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Call to Defund the Baltimore Police Department

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Dear Ms. Currin,

My name is Margaret Simek, and I am a Baltimore resident. In the midst of this pandemic and public outcry against police brutality, it feels especially inappropriate to propose an increase to the BPD budget to \$545 million. I urge you to ethically reallocate this increase, as well as a meaningful portion of the remaining BPD budget, towards social services and education. Investment in programs such as the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Baltimore Children and Youth Fund, Safe Streets Baltimore, the Office of Employment and Development, or the Department of Health, shows our commitment to communities and the vision that all Baltimore residents deserve to thrive. Historically, the city government has spent far more on police than on public health, homeless services, youth services, and other vital agencies. This while the Baltimore Police Department disproportionately targets nonwhite residents—from traffic stops to the use of lethal force.

It's time to staunch the expansion of the BPD's mandate into homeless services, schools, youth services, mental health, and other social services where an armed police force simply doesn't belong. It's time to protect investments in human services, the social safety net, and racial and economic justice. I am writing to insist that the upcoming BBMR budget hearings for FY 2021 reflect the voices and needs of Baltimore's citizens. I am asking that city officials give intense care, attention and effort towards sustainable, long-term change.

Thank You,
Margaret

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Pat Cassidy <patrick.john.cassidy@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 2:47 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Budget Testimony - BPD Funding

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

As a concerned Baltimore City citizen, I am writing to demand the following in regards to the city's budget:

1. Immediate divestment from the Baltimore Police Department
2. 50% of BPD's 2020 Operating Budget be invested in Baltimore's Black communities.

It is essential that the Budget and Appropriations Committee listens to the requests of many city residents in our demands to divest from the BPD so as to use that funding to support other necessary needs such as education, housing, workforce development, etc. Please heed these calls and take action to support these changes.

Thank you,
Pat Cassidy

2406 Halcyon Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21214
203-848-5773

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Megan Lawless <mlawless9@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 4:27 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: budget testimony

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Dear City Council,

The council needs to drastically reduce the budget for BPD as well as all law enforcement and criminal justice departments in Baltimore, with the exception of the OPD.

The Kirwin Commission showed that BCPSS needs more funding. Baltimore youth deserve much better from the city. This is an opportunity to invest in strong schools and in our children's future. Furthermore, we need to support various social supports for our families and communities.

Large investments in policing in Baltimore have not made Baltimore safer or stronger. It's time to invest in our youth, families, and communities.

Sincerely,
Megan

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Jeneffer Haslam <jhaslam@stattorney.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:29 AM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council); Camille Blake Fall
Subject: Re: Budget Presentation

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Good Morning Marguerite,

I hope this email finds you well. I will be assisting in the slide show presentation tomorrow for the states attorney and was hoping for some guidance on how o do this?

Thank you and stay safe.

Jeneffer Haslam

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Camille Blake Fall <cblakefall@stattorney.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:26:57 AM
To: Jeneffer Haslam <jhaslam@stattorney.org>; Marguerite.Currin@baltimorecity.gov
<Marguerite.Currin@baltimorecity.gov>
Subject: Re: Budget Presentation

Good morning,

I'm not sure how the slide presentation works exactly remotely, but Marguerite Curran (the City Council's Legal Counsel and cc'd here) should be able to give you direct guidance.

Thanks,
Camille

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 11, 2020, at 7:57 AM, Jeneffer Haslam <jhaslam@stattorney.org> wrote:

Good Morning,

What do I need to do for Friday? Do we have clarity on how I am to have access to the slides etc?

Thanks.

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Camille Blake Fall <cblakefall@stattorney.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:27 AM
To: Jeneffer Haslam; Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Re: Budget Presentation

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Good morning,

I'm not sure how the slide presentation works exactly remotely, but Marguerite Curran (the City Council's Legal Counsel and cc'd here) should be able to give you direct guidance.

Thanks,
Camille

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 11, 2020, at 7:57 AM, Jeneffer Haslam <jhaslam@stattorney.org> wrote:

Good Morning,

What do I need to do for Friday? Do we have clarity on how I am to have access to the slides etc?

Thanks.

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Adiena Britt <A_dien_AB@outlook.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 4:10 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Fw: Opposition to the Budget Proposal to be held on June 12th, 2020

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I sent this to my council person, City Council Prez, and Eric Costello. Just forwarding to you so it can be counted.

Dear Sirs:

As a resident of Baltimore City, I call on the Baltimore City Council to vote against the proposed increase for FY 2020-21 for the Baltimore Police Department budget and instead work to implement significant and permanent reductions to this department. These funds should be allocated toward the development systems that would greatly improve the livelihoods of our residents, from the youth through adults; and do not terrorize our neighbors and communities via aggressive and harmful policing tactics.

The proposed BPD FY21 Budget is \$549,959,519. This is an increase of \$13,583,042 compared to FY20. The Budget also calls for cuts to several departments that better serve the public, including:

- Affordable Housing (-\$3,535,819)
- Housing and Community Development (-\$227,023)
- Homeless Prevention and Support Services for the Homeless (-\$641,270)
- Outreach to the homeless (-\$1,971,541)
- Enoch Pratt Free Library (-\$350,000)
- Youth and Trauma Services (-\$10,749)
- Board of Elections (-\$190,470)
- Environmental Inspection Services (-\$50,243)
- Chronic Disease Prevention (-\$252,906)
- Park programs and events (-\$122,912)
- Public right of way cleaning (-\$686,806)
- Events Art Culture and Films (-\$442,488)

These proposed cuts are a slap in the face to City residents, and will only manage to perpetuate the harmful lack of relations between the community and BCPD. It will also ensure that the status quo of police violence continues while leaving our residents with no proper outlets or resources to alleviate the Public Health Issues plaguing our City that causes unwarranted distress to our residents. I call on the City Council to cancel the BPD budget increase of \$13.5 million and allocate it to the above departments.

Sincerely,
Adiena C. Britt

NE District resident
6014 Old Harford Rd.
Baltimore, MD 21214

City of Baltimore (City Council)

Form
Date
To
Subject

City of Baltimore
Department of Public Works
Office of the City Engineer

1. The City Engineer is hereby notified that the following information is being provided to you for your information.

2. The information is being provided to you for your information.

3. The information is being provided to you for your information.

4. The information is being provided to you for your information.

5. The information is being provided to you for your information.

6. The information is being provided to you for your information.

7. The information is being provided to you for your information.

8. The information is being provided to you for your information.

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: adrianrakochi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Adrian Rakochi
<adrianrakochi@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 1:34 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Fund the community, not BPD

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,
Adrian Rakochi
917 Saint Paul St Baltimore, MD 21202-2438 adrianrakochi@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: AJ Visgil <ajvisgil@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:38 PM
To: Costello, Eric (City Council); Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Cc: Clarke, MaryPat (City Council)
Subject: Following up on input for budgetary hearings

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Dear Mr. Costello and Ms. Currin,
I hope your week is going well.

I am writing to follow-up on my message from earlier this week.

I would like to encourage the Baltimore City Council to prioritize financial assistance for organizations which help to establish and provide stable housing, mental health services, drug counseling and rehabilitation services, as well as other community-centered organizations and programs and re-evaluate the extent of funding that is designated for the Baltimore City Police Department.

Again, I thank you for taking my input into consideration.

Sincerely,
AJ Visgil
(Resident of Charles Village)

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Alexander Haworth <alexhaworth85@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:39 PM
To: Bernard C Jack Young; City Council President; Currin, Marguerite (City Council); Costello, Eric (City Council); eon.Pinkett@baltimorecity.gov; Middleton, Sharon (City Council); Henry, Bill (email); McCray, Danielle (City Council); Schleifer, Isaac (City Council); Sneed, Shannon (City Council)
Subject: Submitted testimony for Police Budget Hearing June 12th

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Dear Mayor & associated members of the Budget and Taxation Committee,

Thank you for receiving my testimony in regards to this Friday's upcoming Police budget hearing. I write to you as a resident of the 12th district, as a concerned citizen and someone who works professionally on housing issues facing our city.

I wholeheartedly request that you move to substantively reduce the BPD budget and reallocate funding towards programs of social care. The current Baltimore city Budget is wildly out of balance and works to actively criminalize and brutalize Baltimore city residents Both locally and nationally the evidence is clear that our policing model is utterly broken. Now is not the time for increased trainings or procedural shifts. We must shift resources away from our militarized police force and into meeting the material, and emotional needs of city residents . I would also like to state that I fully endorse the demands made by Organizing Black- in regards to specific budget priorities.

Thank you for your time and I hope that you will seize this moment and chart a new course for our city

Sincerely,

Alex Haworth
2159329563
2406 Guilford Ave
Baltimore MD

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: alexlazerow@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alexandra Lazerow
<alexlazerow@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:04 AM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Please decrease BPD funding!

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Lazerow

2629 Rockwood Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-4158 alexlazerow@comcast.net

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Alexandra Wick <alexandramwick@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:44 AM
To: Burnett, Kristerfer (City Council); Sneed, Shannon (City Council); Bernard C Jack Young; City Council President; Currin, Marguerite (City Council); Costello, Eric (City Council); Pinkett, Leon2 (City Council); Middleton, Sharon (City Council); Henry, Bill (email); McCray, Danielle (City Council); Schleifer, Isaac (City Council)
Subject: To include in police budget hearing file - Defund & Re-invest!

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Good morning,

I'm reaching out in advance of tomorrow's City Council budget meeting to plead that you divest from the Baltimore Police Department and reinvest those funds into Baltimore's Black community.

My name is Alexandra Wick, and I'm a resident of Baltimore City:
302 Kingston Rd, Baltimore, MD 21229

Policing is a fundamentally unjust (I won't say it's broken, since it's working how it was designed) program built on principles of violence against Black people for the protection of white people and the ideology of white supremacy. We can do better, and we **must** do better. We have the ability to act as leaders in the country for police reform (aka, total defunding because reform doesn't work), and we owe that to every resident of our community.

I ask that you include my comments in the official file for the police budget hearing tomorrow. Please let me know if you would like to discuss further.

Alexandra

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: allie.schlafer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alexandria Schlafer
<allie.schlafer@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:34 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: For the record: we need you to cut the BPD budget

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am a Baltimore resident living in the Mount Vernon neighborhood. I am writing as your constituent to ask that you vote NO on the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding, and I hope you will push for a significant reduction in the police budget.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and it has been proposed that other critical services have their budgets cut.

This email is also going to the Budget and Appropriations Committee staff to submit it as public testimony for the Fiscal Year 2021 BPD Budget Hearing. I want to be sure this message is put in the public record.

Please hear our concerns and take action.

Sincerely,
Ms. Alexandria Schlafer
900 Cathedral St Baltimore, MD 21201-5311 allie.schlafer@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: amanda.schmidt08@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Amanda Schmidt
<amanda.schmidt08@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 1:19 AM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Reduce funding for the BPD

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,
Amanda Schmidt
3216 Avon Ave Baltimore, MD 21218-3513
amanda.schmidt08@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: amelia.hazen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Amelia Hazen
<amelia.hazen@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 4:48 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Public Comment - Please Cut Funding to BPD

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing to you as a Baltimore resident to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

It is time to invest in the services that will help people in our city thrive, and the BPD does no such thing. The per-capita spending on police in Baltimore is outrageous, and that money would be much better utilized elsewhere.

Sincerely,

Amelia Hazen

3555 Sweet Air St Baltimore, MD 21211-2329 amelia.hazen@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Amy Roza <amyroza@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 12:46 AM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Truly improving Baltimore

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I am a Baltimore City resident. I am asking that my comments are included in the file for the police budget hearing. I urge the City Council to make substantive changes to the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 budget to (1) defund the Baltimore City Police Department and (2) reinvest in programs and services to address the root causes of crime and violence in our city in a sustainable way that values Black lives and dignity. Invest in education, health services including those for physical health, mental health, and drug treatment, in proven community-led initiatives, in affordable housing, public spaces, and services that build community and support community members.

The Baltimore City Police Department budget is over half a billion dollars under Mayor Young's proposed budget. We ask for a new FY2021 budget that radically reinvests these dollars elsewhere. We particularly want to see (1) BCPD be held accountable for consistently spending over budget, (2) defunding of any surveillance program (aerial, phone data, etc.), and (3) removal of former military or military-style equipment/tear gas/etc from the police department's use. Surveilling me or my neighbors makes us less safe and erodes civil liberties. Military tools in the police arsenal leads to them ultimately being used against community members.

We must be bold and far-seeing as we seek to create a better Baltimore, and our budget must reflect our city's true priorities. Budgets are moral documents. This is also a clear opportunity for needed change for our incredible city.

Sincerely,
Amy Roza
Auchentoroly Terrace
Baltimore City, MD 21217

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: awmartin674@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Anna Martin <awmartin674@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 6:00 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Please do not vote in favor of BPD budget increase

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding. There are other solutions that will help residents more effectively than an increase in police funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,

Ms. Anna Martin

2027 Amber Way Windsor Mill, MD 21244-1240 awmartin674@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Anne Comer <comer.anne01@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:48 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: A safe future for Baltimore

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Dear Ms. Currin,

I am writing to demand divestment from the Baltimore Police Department. The millions of tax dollars that we spend on violent and ineffective policing would be far better spent on social services like healthcare (including mental health), education, and infrastructure. Redirecting this money is our only path towards securing a prosperous, safe future for every one of Baltimore's citizens. I also support diverting at least \$268 million (half of the BPD's annual budget) annually to services for Baltimore's Black population, who have been overwhelmingly harmed by interactions with police and other structurally racist institutions. LEOBoR must be immediately abolished; police cannot continue to harm our citizens without due accountability and justice. Finally, the City of Baltimore, not the State of Maryland, should have control and oversight of its own police forces. As a longtime Baltimore taxpayer and voter, I hope you will consider these demands seriously and act in the name of justice for all Baltimore citizens.

Sincerely,
Anne Comer
4303 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: betsykrieger@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Betsy Krieger
<betsykrieger@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 10:37 AM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: The Police Department needs to make due with what it has- no increases

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,

Ms. Betsy Krieger

411 Hawthorne Rd Baltimore, MD 21210-2304 betsykrieger@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: bridget.e.patton@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Bridget Patton
<bridget.e.patton@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:36 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Fund community services over BPD- Public Comment

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,

Miss Bridget Patton

123 N Patterson Park Ave Baltimore, MD 21231-1659 bridget.e.patton@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: cam.pollock91@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cameron Pollock <cam.pollock91@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 3:03 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Policing is NOT a sustainable solution to crime control and public health - Public Comment

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing to ask that you vote NO on the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. I hope you will push for a significant reduction in the police budget.

Policing and incarceration will NOT solve Baltimore's crime and safety issues. Investments in JOBS, HEALTH, HOUSING AND EDUCATION will. Please put our City's money towards these effective and sustainable means to support public health!!

This email is also going to the Budget and Appropriations Committee staff to submit it as public testimony for the Fiscal Year 2021 BPD Budget Hearing. I want to be sure this message is put in the public record.

Sincerely,
Cameron Pollock
200 E 31st St Baltimore, MD 21218-3910
cam.pollock91@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Carlee Jensen <carlee.a.jensen@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 7:14 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Testimony — Budget

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To the Members of the City Council:

I am a fifth-grade teacher and a proud resident of the beautiful, vibrant city of Baltimore. I write to insist, with the utmost respect, that the city council reduce the budget of the Baltimore Police Department by fifty percent. Though I am aware that the council cannot redistribute funds, I ask that councilmembers work with the mayor's office to reallocate those funds, directing them instead toward community-based initiatives that will support the flourishing of the Black community in Baltimore. Our city will be infinitely better served by directing that quarter of a billion dollars toward affordable housing and healthcare, public schools, community-led restorative justice initiatives, environmental protection and recovery, and opportunities for the city's youth. In this moment, when our nation is reckoning with the ugliest and most painful parts of our past and present, Baltimore has the opportunity to lead the nation by investing in the institutions and ideas that will promote our collective healing.

Baltimore is a city unlike any other. The impossible-to-duplicate magic of this city lies in our small businesses, our thriving arts community, our brilliant and powerful youth: all of which the city council has the power to nurture through more thoughtful distribution of our public funds. Imagine what the ingenious, resourceful, and compassionate residents of this city -- particularly the visionary Black community leaders who already form its beating heart -- can achieve with a quarter of a billion dollars behind them. As a person who has chosen to make this city my home, and who wishes more than anything to see it thrive, I urge you to declare your confidence in your constituents: reallocate the police budget.

Respectfully,

Carlee Jensen
600 Parkwyth Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21218
(310)351-7489

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: charleybeller@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Charles Beller
<charleybeller@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:47 AM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Abell Ave/Charles Village Resident requesting no vote on increase in BPD budget

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,
Charles Beller
3141 Abell Ave Baltimore, MD 21218-3412 charleybeller@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Chris Merriam <chrismerriam@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:44 AM
To: Bernard C Jack Young; City Council President; Currin, Marguerite (City Council); Costello, Eric (City Council); Clarke, MaryPat (City Council); Pinkett, Leon2 (City Council); Middleton, Sharon (City Council); Henry, Bill (email); McCray, Danielle (City Council); Schleifer, Isaac (City Council); Sneed, Shannon (City Council); odette@odetteramos.com
Subject: Baltimore Police cannot be reformed. It must be defunded.

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Dear Baltimore public servants,

I would like my comments included in the file for the police budget hearing this Friday.

I know you have been getting a lot of messages about defunding Baltimore Police, and I just wanted to tell you when my opinion switched from believing that BPD was a fundamentally sound institution with some "bad apples" to believing that it is fundamentally unjust and incapable of reform.

I encourage you to read the story "This Cop Broke Baltimore's Blue Wall Of Silence" by Albert Samaha: <https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/albertsamaha/breaking-baltimores-blue-wall-of-silence>

In short, Baltimore detective Joe Crystal watched a fellow officer beat up a handcuffed suspect. After he broke ranks and reported the assault, he was run out of town, his career ruined. Joe Crystal tried to do the right thing, exactly what "good cops" say you're supposed to do when you see misconduct and he was viciously harassed and run out of town for his trouble. There were zero consequences for BPD, and in fact their funding has only increased since then.

Any reforms we pass are meaningless without enforcement. The BPD has proven that they are unwilling to rid themselves of brutal, racist cops, we let's decrease their funding until they don't have any other choice.

Now is the time to stand and be counted.

Sincerely,

Chris Merriam
1314 E. 36th St

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: christinameninger@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Christina Meninger
<christinameninger@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 3:49 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Support the demands of Organizing Black and the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ) - Public Comment

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a Baltimore City resident to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

I support the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,

Christina Meninger

3500 Mount Pleasant Ave Baltimore, MD 21224-2351 christinameninger@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: cparadies09@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cindy Paradies <cparadies09@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:08 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Make Baltimore City for All - Divest from BPD (Public comment)

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,

Cindy Paradies

312 Woodlawn Rd Baltimore, MD 21210-2309 cparadies09@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Claire Strock <clairestrock@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 2:27 PM
To: Bernard C Jack Young; City Council President; Currin, Marguerite (City Council); Cohen, Zeke (City Council)
Subject: BPD Budget Increase

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Dear Mayor
Bernard C. "Jack" Young

,
Council President Brandon M. Scott
& Councilman Zeke Cohen,

I call on the Baltimore City Council to vote against the proposed FY 2020-21 Baltimore Police Department budget and instead work to implement significant and permanent reductions to this department. These funds should be routed toward the development of harm reduction systems that do not terrorize our neighbors and communities.

The proposed BPD FY21 Budget is \$549,959,519. This is an increase of \$13,583,042 compared to FY20. The Budget also calls for cuts to several departments that better serve the public, including:

Affordable Housing (-\$3,535,819)
Housing and Community Development (-\$227,023)
Homeless Prevention and Support Services for the Homeless (-\$641,270)
Outreach to the homeless (-\$1,971,541)
Enoch Pratt Free Library (-\$350,000)
Youth and Trauma Services (-\$10,749)
Board of Elections (-\$190,470)
Environmental Inspection Services (-\$50,243)
Chronic Disease Prevention (-\$252,906)
Park programs and events (-\$122,912)
Public right of way cleaning (-\$686,806)
Events Art Culture and Films (-\$442,488)

I call on the City Council to cancel the BPD budget increase of \$13.5 million and allocate it to the above departments.

Sincerely,

Claire Strock
841 South Bond Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21231

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Claire Tomesch <c.m.tomesch@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:37 PM
To: City Council President; Stokes, Robert (City Council)
Cc: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Written testimony concerning Fiscal 2021 budget

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Dear Council President Scott and Councilman Stokes,

I am emailing you because what happens with the Baltimore City Budget is important to me. I would like to echo others' previous testimony in denouncing the outsize appropriations for the Baltimore Police Department in the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 city budget. Especially in light of cuts due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the fact that the proposed budget includes an overall increase of \$13.6 million dollars for BPD, totalling almost \$550 million dollars, is egregious in the extreme. Please do not continue to increase police funding and instead direct that money to Black and Brown communities. We have the opportunity right now to reshape our city and make Baltimore a place where all residents have what they need to live in health and safety.

Black Baltimoreans have the right to live without fear of police harassment, constant stops, unconstitutional searches, and the threat of police violence. The City Council needs to address systemic disinvestment in Black and Brown communities and stop investing in targeted criminalization and surveillance, especially in the wake of COVID-19.

The fact that BPD is getting such an increase when, for example, the Enoch Pratt Public Libraries are being asked to cut \$350,000 by reducing library hours at certain branches and reducing book purchases is despicable. Additionally, as demonstrated by the graph entitled "Total Non-Fatal Shootings and Homicides (All Weapons)" in the executive summary for the budget itself, increased funding for BPD from FY2017 to FY2020 has not reduced gun crime!

I would like to see my tax dollars reinvested in the community through a community-led process -- including drastically increased funding for education, housing, health care, parks, transit, and libraries. Since FY2017, BPD's annual funding has increased by \$69.25 million dollars. Imagine what this city could be if we spent an additional \$69.25 million dollars on these programs! Imagine what this city could be if we spent anything near \$550 million dollars on these programs!

Baltimore can continue to be known for racism, gentrification, and extreme income inequality, or we can use this moment to transform our city.

Sincerely,
Claire Tomesch

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Clarke, MaryPat (City Council)
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 10:44 AM
To: Costello, Eric (City Council); Pinkett, Leon2 (City Council); Henry, Bill (email); Middleton, Sharon (City Council); Schleifer, Isaac (City Council); Sneed, Shannon (City Council); McCray, Danielle (City Council); Garbark, Matthew (DPW)
Cc: Currin, Marguerite (City Council); Reisinger, Edward (City Council); Greg Sawtell; Cohen, Zeke (City Council); Dorsey, Ryan (City Council); Burnett, Kristerfer (City Council); Bullock, John (City Council); Stokes, Robert (City Council); Roberts, Miller (City Council); Garbark, Matthew (DPW)
Subject: FW: DPW Budget Request for Zero Waste Investment in All Baltimore Neighborhoods

BRING ZERO WASTE TO ALL NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE BUDGET YEAR AHEAD

TO:

- **City Council President Brandon Scott;**
- **Chairman Eric Costello, Vice Chairman Leon Pinkett, and Members Bill Henry, Sharon Green Middleton, Izaak "Yitsy" Schleifer, Shannon Sneed, Danielle McCoy, Budget and Appropriations Committee;**
- **City Councilmembers Zeke Cohen, Ryan Dorsey, Kristerfer Burnett, John Bullock, Robert Stokes**

FROM:

- **Ed Reisinger, Mary Pat Clarke, The Fair Development Roundtable**

RE:

- **REQUEST THE BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE AND CITY COUNCIL TO CALL ON DPW & MAYOR BERNARD "JACK" YOUNG TO ADD \$16M IN SOLID WASTE FUNDING TO VISIBLY ENGAGE EVERY BALTIMORE HOUSEHOLD IN HELPING ACHIEVE BALTIMORE'S 90% DIVERSION GOAL,**
- **beginning with:**

\$9 million for 65 gallon recycling carts for 200,000 service locations; and,

\$7 million for 25 gallon compost bins for 200,000 service locations

Both the City Council's Zero Waste Plan and Baltimore's Less Waste Better Baltimore Plan call for expanded collections to create a cleaner, healthier and more sustainable Baltimore. The Less Waste Better Baltimore Plan states, "it is recommended that separate collection and processing of organic waste would be offered to the over 200,000 households in the City currently served by DPW for trash and recycling collection as well as

to City government buildings and public schools. This entails establishing a three-bin program for trash, recycling, and organics, with new collection bins for source separated organics (SSO) provided to each property served by the program.”

Furthermore, both plans agree on how to begin to implement an improved and expanded collections system. Baltimore’s Less Waste Better Baltimore Plan states, “the option recommended for improving the existing curbside program is providing free recycling carts with secure covers to residents to increase participation in curbside recycling.” Baltimore’s Zero Waste Plan concurs.

The Less Waste Better Baltimore Plan calculates the cost at 9 million dollars for recycling carts and 7 million for compost bins. We request that DPW’s budget be made to reflect the consensus achieved across all Baltimore’s plans for creating cleaner communities by funding these recommended improvements. We cannot afford to lose the “recovery” year ahead in getting zero waste underway.

Thanks for your consideration.

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: cfisher00566@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cristine Fisher <cfisher00566@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 2:53 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: No increase to BPD budget, please!

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,

Cristine Fisher

20 W Franklin St Apt B Baltimore, MD 21201-5032 cfisher00566@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Dan Caplen <dancaplen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 10:53 AM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Cc: Bernard C Jack Young; City Council President; Cohen, Zeke (City Council); McCray, Danielle (City Council); Dorsey, Ryan (City Council); Henry, Bill (email); Schleifer, Isaac (City Council); Middleton, Sharon (City Council); Pinkett, Leon2 (City Council); Burnett, Kristerfer (City Council); Bullock, John (City Council); Reisinger, Edward (City Council); Costello, Eric (City Council); Stokes, Robert (City Council); Sneed, Shannon (City Council); Clarke, MaryPat (City Council)
Subject: baltimore proposed budget

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Hello!

My name is Dan and I am a New York resident. In the midst of this pandemic and public outcry against police brutality, it feels especially inappropriate to propose an increase to the BPD budget to \$545 million. I urge you to ethically reallocate this increase, as well as a meaningful portion of the remaining BPD budget, towards social services and education. Investment in programs such as the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Baltimore Children and Youth Fund, Safe Streets Baltimore, the Office of Employment and Development, or the Department of Health, shows our commitment to communities and the vision that all Baltimore residents deserve to thrive. Historically, the city government has spent far more on police than on public health, homeless services, youth services, and other vital agencies. This while the Baltimore Police Department disproportionately targets nonwhite residents--from traffic stops to the use of lethal force.

It's time to stanch the expansion of the BPD's mandate into homeless services, schools, youth services, mental health, and other social services where an armed police force simply doesn't belong. It's time to protect investments in human services, the social safety net, and racial and economic justice. I am writing to insist that the upcoming BBMR budget hearings for FY 2021 reflect the voices and needs of Baltimore's citizens. I am asking that city officials give intense care, attention and effort towards sustainable, long-term change.

Thank you for your time,

Dan

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: d.e.richman@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dan Richman
<d.e.richman@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:23 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: BPD budget must decrease - Public Comment

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I'm a Baltimore resident asking the Council to oppose the budget proposal that increases the Baltimore Police Department budget. I understand that City Council has the power to cut funding but not re-allocate.

BPD's previous increases in funding have not translated to more effective or more racially just policing. Plus, these increases are coming at the cost of other, more helpful city services having their budgets cut.

I am also a member of Jews United for Justice, and we support Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ) and work alongside them to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,
Dr. Dan Richman
142 N Milton Ave Baltimore, MD 21224-1048 d.e.richman@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Danielle Schmidt <danielle.schmidt6@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:17 PM
To: Bernard C Jack Young
Cc: Clarke, MaryPat (City Council); Currin, Marguerite (City Council); Reisinger, Edward (City Council); Stokes, Robert (City Council); Burnett, Kristerfer (City Council); Middleton, Sharon (City Council); Henry, Bill (email); McCray, Danielle (City Council); City Council President; Cohen, Zeke (City Council); Dorsey, Ryan (City Council); Schleifer, Isaac (City Council); Pinkett, Leon2 (City Council); Bullock, John (City Council); Costello, Eric (City Council)
Subject: Budget

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Dear Mayor Young,

My name is Danielle Schmidt. In the midst of a pandemic and public outcry against police brutality, it is inappropriate to propose increases to the Baltimore Police Department budget. I urge you to reallocate the Baltimore City Expense Budget, divest interest in the BPD, and invest in social services and education programs, effective for FY 2021.

Investment in programs such as the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Baltimore Children and Youth Fund, Safe Streets Baltimore, the Office of Employment and Development, or the Department of Health will have a measurable and lasting impact on public health and safety.

Best,
Danielle Schmidt

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: dillon.majoros@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dillon Majoros
<dillon.majoros@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:28 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Submission for public comment: Request to reduce BPD funding

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,
Dillon Majoros
640 W Conway St Baltimore, MD 21230-2435 dillon.majoros@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: eleanormontgomery@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Eleanor Montgomery
<eleanormontgomery@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 3:34 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: No Increase to BPD Funding - Public Comment

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a citizen of Baltimore City to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that the City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding. Rather, the BPD budget should be reduced to keep it in line with budget cuts to the most important Baltimore City services, such as education, health, housing and sanitation. In addition, when considering the BPD budget, I ask that you take into consideration the enormous sums we the people of Baltimore City are being required to pay to resolve police brutality lawsuits, where members of the BPD have injured my fellow citizens. In addition, I am of course outraged at the amount of BPD resources that have been used recently and entirely inappropriately against peaceful citizens protesting police violence.

Sincerely,
Eleanor Montgomery
628 E 31st St Baltimore, MD 21218-3530
eleanormontgomery@earthlink.net

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Ginevra Shay <ginevrashay@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 6:49 PM
To: Clarke, MaryPat (City Council)
Cc: Currin, Marguerite (City Council); Costello, Eric (City Council)
Subject: Mary: Budget Hearing Testimony from one of your Tuscany-Canterbury neighbors

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Dear Mary,

We've never met, but we are neighbors. My name is Ginevra Shay, I'm an artist and curator. I live in the Highfield House, and you've probably seen my partner and I in the neighborhood walking to Wyman Park, Stony Run, MOMs, or Hopkins Deli. A few years ago I was the Artistic Director of The Contemporary, a nomadic museum in Baltimore, and we created an exhibition with artist Abigail DeVille at the former Peale Museum, helping it to reopen as the Peale Center, with an arts and culture focus, once again. Perhaps you went on one of the city employee guided tours of the exhibition, *Only When It's Dark Enough Can You See The Stars*. Jackson Gilman-Forlini always spoke highly of you.

I'm writing to you, as many others are from the 14th District, to express my commitment to reimagining Baltimore City's budget to function more effectively for all of this city's denizens.

I am incredibly grateful to live in Tuscany-Canterbury, I can easily walk to a grocery store, shops, cafes, parks, the circulator—it is quiet, beautiful, and I can go on a walk at any time of day and feel safe. We live in one of the most family friendly and well resourced neighborhoods in this city, and it is proven that well resourced neighborhoods without police constant presence are safer.

I know the history of this city fairly well, the historic discrimination, redlining, systematic disinvestment, willful neglect, city and state sanctioned violences that stretch back over 150 years. People across our city and this nation are calling for transformation. We know all too well that the Baltimore police force is an extremely powerful corrupt and violent gang that continues to suck this city's budget dry. There is a direct correlation between the disinvestment of city services, increase in the police budget, and an increase in murders in Baltimore over the past 10 years. This doesn't even include police murders because those are undisclosed.

We are sick and tired of these police misconduct payouts: \$24.5M between 2015-2019, and 2017: Federal ruling \$15M (not yet paid). These figures don't even count the legal fees associated with these cases. It is unacceptable that police base-salaries have increased from \$59,660 in 2011, to \$95,660 in 2018. A 59.51% increase. Relatedly, according to the Baltimore Sun in 2019, 19.5% of the police force actually lived in Baltimore City. Which means a large portion of this city's highest earning employees are paying property taxes to fulfill a budget somewhere else. The Baltimore police are beyond reform. It is time to reinvest in social services, and violent crime alternative programs such as Ceasefire and Roca which are proven to work. As a denizen of this city I personally feel the Baltimore Police have failed to keep me safe by perpetuating more violence and harm than reducing it.

Mary, I want every person living in Baltimore to have the same level of safety and access as ours and the main thing standing in the way of this dream is systemic racism and upholding the violent and unreformable Baltimore City Police.

I'm deeply concerned for the well-being of all of our citizens, especially my friends who are Black mothers who give so much to what makes Baltimore great, and the city we collectively love and fight for. Regardless of their occupation, class, or number of accolades, they fear for their lives, their partners, and the lives of their children, every day—regardless of what neighborhood they live in because of the police.

I beg you to please read this article in the New York Times, to understand the impact of direct and vicious violence on Black mothers and children. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/04/11/magazine/black-mothers-babies-death-maternal-mortality.html>

As you end a long and celebrated tenure as 14th District representative, I ask you in this historic moment, larger than the Civil Rights Movement, that tomorrow you vote to defund the police by 50% so we can begin to heal the wrongs this city, and police force, have long perpetuated.

I'm asking you to specifically make cuts from the Baltimore Police Department's aviation, marine, intelligence, intelligence centers, new recruitment, new facilities, police legal affairs, to cut the Warrant Apprehension Task Force, to cut any new special task forces that are undisclosed to the public, The Emergency Rental Assistance Program for Public Safety Officers, JHU police, SWAT, Special Operations K 9 and Mounted Unit, Crime Investigation, Prosecution of Criminals, and any other line item in the BPD's budget that sees an increase in the FY21 budget.

Mary, Eric, and Marguerite please heed the call of the people you serve.

I look forward to your response,

Ginevra Shay
301-996-9911

--

ginevrashay.com
rosarcade.info

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: tgretchen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gretchen Tome
<tgretchen@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 2:27 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Fund a Freedom Budget

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

The Freedom Budget calls for around \$100 million in cuts to the BPD. Those cuts, including cutting the military budget to \$0, capping overtime spending at \$10M, and an overall BPD budget cut of 10%, can be used to fund:

1. Expand Safe Streets (violence interruptors/community health workers) budget to \$30 million
2. Boost the budget for the Baltimore City Health Department to remediate/abate lead poisoning by \$30 million
3. Start a guaranteed income program for households in extreme poverty (those earning less than \$20,000 a year) with \$30 million
4. Fund mental health counselors in public schools and recreation centers in the Black Butterfly, especially in the most redlined and environmentally oppressed neighborhoods \$5 million
5. Support and expand Baltimore Ceasefire \$3 million
6. Fund a gun buyback effort \$2 million

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,
Gretchen Tome
3229 Shannon Dr Baltimore, MD 21213-1726 tgretchen@hotmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: hallie.herz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of HALLIE HERZ
<hallie.herz@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 5:12 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Fund Communities, not Police

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,
Ms. HALLIE HERZ
2528 Barclay St Baltimore, MD 21218-4707 hallie.herz@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: hjd2014@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Hannah Dahlin <hjd2014@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 1:24 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: PLEASE Cut BPD Funding - Public Comment

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,

Hannah Dahlin

1901 S Charles St Baltimore, MD 21230-4867 hjd2014@yahoo.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Heather Kangas <heatherkangas@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:19 AM
To: Bernard C Jack Young; City Council President; Reisinger, Edward (City Council); Mosby, Nick Delegate; Currin, Marguerite (City Council); Costello, Eric (City Council)
Subject: Testimony on Police Budget from Heather of 21230

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Good Morning!

My name is Heather Kangas and I live at 328 S Poppleton St Baltimore MD 21230. I am a social worker of over 5 years. I support defunding the police.

Please include this in tomorrow's testimony on the budget. I also support the following demands:

Divest (Defund) from BPD. We demand an immediate divestment from the Baltimore Police Department. We Demand local schools, colleges, universities, and institutions cut ties with BPD, including School Resource Officers, and disband their current police forces. We reject any intervention made by law enforcement officers in the lives of our people. Instead, we call for the introduction of restorative and transformative justice measures to handle conflict. Invest in Black Communities. We demand 50% of BPD's 2020 operating budget to be invested in Baltimore's Black Communities. \$268,188,238 needs to be invested in infrastructure, healthcare, education, housing, and other social services. Our communities deserve investment. Abolish Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights (LEOBoR) We demand the immediate abolishment of LEOBoR. This "Bill of Rights" hinders transparency and accountability. Under LEOBoR, officers charged with crimes are protected from public reckoning. We refuse the continued protection of officers that enact egregious violence on our communities. Local Control We demand the City of Baltimore gains control of the Baltimore Police Department. BPD has been a state agency for 159 years since 1861. We reject the "need" for outside actors to determine what public safety looks like for our city. We affirm the skills and values of Baltimore's residents to handle issues of safety and wellness.

Thank you for your consideration.

Heather Kangas LCSW-C

--

Heather Kangas
(240)461-1169

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Hilary Hellerbach <hilary.h727@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:43 PM
To: Schleifer, Isaac (City Council); Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Budget Concern

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Please See below

From: Hilary Hellerbach <hilary.h727@gmail.com>
Date: June 11, 2020 at 9:36:52 PM EDT
To: mayor@baltimorecity.gov, CouncilPresident@baltimorecity.gov, Margurite.Currin@baltimorecity.gov, Eric.Costello@baltimorecity.gov, Leon.Pinkett@baltimorecity.gov, Sharon.Middleton@baltimorecity.gov, Bill.Henry@baltimorecity.gov, Isaac.Scheifer@baltimorecity.gov, Shannon.Sneed@baltimorecity.gov, Ryan.Dorsey@baltimorecity.gov
Subject: Budget Concern

Our names are Dan and Hilary Hellerbach and our address is 2905 Ailsa Ave. Baltimore MD. 21214

We are writing to you in support of defunding BPD. Please include our comments in the file for the police budget hearing.

As we approach Juneteenth this year it is even more apparent how important it is that our city budget reflect a true investment in Black communities, transparency in practice, and a clear move away from supporting a system of racist policing. We know that policing in this country began with slave catchers. Even after slavery was officially abolished we know that racist policing continued to support enslavement by utilizing vagrancy laws to detain folks who were looking for their family members. This was followed by the use of "Jim Crow" laws, the war on drugs, and mass incarceration. Police brutality and racist policing have been around for a long time. Police who use excessive force have been protected by laws and our legal system for a long time. This has been a serious problem in Baltimore for a long time. It is beyond time that on June 19th all of our citizens should really be able to celebrate true freedom from oppression.

It is for this reason and to this end that we support city government support for the following local and state focused demands:

1. Divestment from BPD and focus on Restorative practices and justice
2. Use at least 50% of BPD operating budget to invest in black communities in areas such as infrastructure, health care, housing, education and other empowering services.
3. Abolish the Law Enforcement Officers Bill of Rights.
4. Give the City local control of BPD

Sincerely,

Hilary And Dan Hellerbach

County Manager (City Council)

Sent from my iPhone

From:

To:

Subject:

I would like to request that you please...
I would like to request that you please...
I would like to request that you please...

The information regarding the proposed...
The information regarding the proposed...

In light of current events, I am writing...
In light of current events, I am writing...
In light of current events, I am writing...

I am writing to you regarding the...
I am writing to you regarding the...
I am writing to you regarding the...

The enclosed are copies of the...
The enclosed are copies of the...
The enclosed are copies of the...

Sincerely,

Hilary Hellerbach

City Council Member

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: ira.gewanter@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ira Gewanter
<ira.gewanter@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:40 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Re: BCPD funding

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Hi Marguerite,

My neighbors are talking about the proposed funding increase and while we understand the issue is complex, we are asking you vote NO on the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget.

In light of current events (including our city's fresh vote for change), we strongly believe that now is simply not the time to offer budget increases to the police. Instead, we prefer granting the incoming administration time to consider deep meaningful changes to the policing structure with a focus on equitable community-driven strategies to make everyone in Baltimore safer.

While we understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding, and we hope you will push for a significant reduction in the police budget.

This email is also going to the Budget and Appropriations Committee staff to submit it as public testimony for the Fiscal Year 2021 BPD Budget Hearing. I want to be sure this message is put in the public record.

Sincerely,

Ira

Sincerely,
Ira Gewanter
5809 Stuart Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-4141 ira.gewanter@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: jstephencleghorn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of J.Stephen Cleghorn
<jstephencleghorn@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 3:53 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Please take a closer look at how real community security can be achieved

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a Baltimore resident to ask that you take a closer look at how real community security can be achieved and vote NO on the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding, and I hope you will push for a significant reduction in the police budget.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and it has been proposed that other critical services have their budgets cut.

I support Organizing Black and will continue to advocate with them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

This email is also going to the Budget and Appropriations Committee staff to submit it as public testimony for the Fiscal Year 2021 BPD Budget Hearing. I want to be sure this message is put in the public record.

A budget is a moral document - please adjust the FY 2021 budget to reflect that Black lives matter.

Sincerely,
Dr. J. Stephen Cleghorn
4000 N Charles St Apt 1610 Baltimore, MD 21218-1768 jstephencleghorn@yahoo.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: raitzyk.jakob+jufj@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jakob Raitzyk
<raitzyk.jakob+jufj@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 2:18 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: The BPD budget must be reduced

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,

Jakob Raitzyk

915 W 33rd St Baltimore, MD 21211-2710

raitzyk.jakob+jufj@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: mccannj77@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jennifer McCann <mccannj77@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:26 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: A budget is a moral document - Public Comment

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Particularly in these difficult times, we need to invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,
Jennifer McCann
5206 Catalpha Rd Baltimore, MD 21214-2101 mccannj77@yahoo.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Jerry Donabedian <jerrydonabedian@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 1:39 PM
To: Bernard C Jack Young; City Council President; Currin, Marguerite (City Council); Schleifer, Isaac (City Council)
Subject: Reduce Police Funding

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Jack, Brandon, Marguerite and Isaac,

I'm a Baltimore resident of District 5 and firmly believe that reducing BPD funding would be a positive first step in the right direction for this beautiful city, even if it's too late to reallocate the money for FY21. I fear that "reform" without reduced funding would be meaningless, as it fails to address an underlying, long-term problem of the police department and police unions holding too much power and having too much say in the political processes of the city. If BPD's funding and influence isn't reduced, they'll find a way — in the long term — to undo any short-term improvements that might be made. I sincerely ask that you find a way to reduce BPD funding for FY21.

Thank you,

Benjamin (Jerry) Donabedian

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: jessgreaves1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jessica Greaves <jessgreaves1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 7:23 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Public Comment - Please cut & reinvest the BPD budget!

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as your constituent to ask that you vote NO on the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding, and I hope you will push for a significant reduction in the police budget.

The BPD should NOT receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and it has been proposed that other critical services have their budgets cut. More specifically, I support Organizing Black's proposal to Defund the Police budget by 50% and invest that money back into Black communities with greater funding for arts programs, violence and harm prevention/reduction programs in the community, education, health and housing just to name a few.

Having a police service that protects and serves all citizens equally is vital, but I am personally deeply angry to see that the BPD is not functioning in that way. Watching the FOP publicly fight back at every turn against Commissioner Harrison's reform measures and the Federal consent decree absolutely sickens me, all while murders continue to rise, disproportionately impacting my Black neighbors. So I ask this in all seriousness: if the rank & file of the BPD don't want to do the job we're paying our taxes to have them do, and won't work constructively to improve community trust, eliminate bias, and embrace accountability, then why should we pay them at all? If anything, a 50% cut seems generous to me, but I'm trusting the recommendations of Organizing Black and I hope that you will too.

Additionally, the police have long been having to address problems that other groups are better qualified to undertake, but lack the resources to fully deploy their services. Why not shift some tax dollars to expanding the availability of mental health and drug treatment services, and to community-based intervention groups like Roca Inc. and Cease Fire, which are actually making a difference in bringing down crime rates? I'm willing to bet that Erricka Bridgeford could do amazing things with a few million dollars -- what about you???

I am proud to support Organizing Black, Jews United for Justice, and all of the other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city. BLACK LIVES MATTER, and I hope you will use the power that Baltimore voters have vested in you to invest our public funds in DEFENDING BLACK LIVES & COMMUNITIES and DEFUND THE POLICE!

Sincerely,

Jessica Greaves

611 Park Ave Apt 401 Baltimore, MD 21201-4545 jessgreaves1@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: jessica.d.salas@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jessica Salas-Brooks
<jessica.d.salas@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:54 AM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Need to cut BPD Funding

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a resident of Baltimore City to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jessica Salas-Brooks

5301 Wyndholme Cir Unit 402 Baltimore, MD 21229-3289 jessica.d.salas@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Jessica Simmers <jlsimmers@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: FY2021 BUDGET HEARINGS - DEFUND BPD

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I am writing to request that the Baltimore City budget for FY2021 begin defunding and divestiture of power in the Baltimore City Police Department.

The BPD is one of the highest funded police forces in the United States considering the size and economic status of Baltimore city accounting for over a quarter of Baltimore's budget. The police receive approximately \$516.56 per person. That includes over \$50 million in misspent and abused overtime. That includes a legacy as well as on-going corruption including 15 cops charged with the GTTF and over 300 police that cannot testify in court due to "integrity" issues. That includes 79 fatal shootings by police in Maryland as well as non-fatal shootings, non-lethal violence, and rough rides which continue. That includes the police where almost 70% live outside the city that they police. That includes an approximately 30% closure rate on crimes. That includes one of the highest homicide rates in the country.

And yet the BPD budget is set to increase from \$530 Million to \$545 million.

I urge you - do not increase the BPD budget. Stop any increases in funding to BPD in particular no money be allowed for:

- Two new Baltimore Community Intelligence Centers
- Helicopter flight time above 8 hours not 12 hours
- No money allocated for overtime without a system to stop abuses
- No money to the upgrade of network of CCTV cameras in Citiwatch
- Specifically address line items that increase money spent in the BPD
 - o Funds Detail - 115, 621, 622, 623, 815, 853
 - o Special Revenue Funds - 115, 621, 622, 757, 758, 852, 882
 - o Operating Budget - 621, 622, 623, 807, 816. 853

These monies should be reallocated and invested in health, social, and educational programs that are criminally underfunded and actually benefit the city such as the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Baltimore Children and Youth Fund, Safe Streets Baltimore, the Office of Employment and Development, or the Department of Health.

In addition, I ask that the council begin defunding the police of their current budget and if possible allocating those funds to services that serve the community including public health and healthcare, mental health, affordable housing, food programs, education and job training, etc.

Thank you,
Dr. Jessica Simmers

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Joe Rossi <joerossi721@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 3:19 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Written Testimony Regarding BPD Budget

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Good Afternoon,

I write to you today in hope that the City Council will seriously reconsider the proposed funding of the Baltimore Police Department for the upcoming fiscal year. The phrase “Defund the Police” has been used throughout the protests sweeping the nation, and I hope the Council has taken the time to research and looking into what exactly the American public is calling for, rather than remaining willfully ignorant and taking the motto at face value.

“Defund the Police” is an extreme statement; its purpose is to grab attention. But if the hyperbole galvanizes a movement to streamline the police, de-escalate police, demilitarize police, re-humanize police and make police more responsive to the communities they serve, people will be happier on both sides of the blue line.

The call to defund the police should be understood as a call to reinvest in communities and explore new solutions. It asks us to draw on our resources and creativity and to be clear-eyed about the most problematic and painful parts of our policing history.

We ask too much of police. They should not be expected to fill the gaping holes in America’s mental-health-care system. They should not be our primary response to problems of dysfunctional families and disordered communities. They should not be delivering discipline at school buildings or mediating disputes among neighbors. They should not be our solution to homelessness. Shrinking the outsized role of police in U.S. society will require the rest of us to expand our own zones of responsibility and accountability.

It makes sense to reallocate funds, shift responsibility away from roles that police have absorbed over time, and establish guidelines on what society wants and needs from police, including how we expect the police to act in our service.

Insightful, decisive leadership is necessary to embrace police reform, including the funding shifts. City leaders should have the choice to reinvest in competent, evaluated programs for young people, community education opportunities, social services and improved health-care services — including telehealth — without obstruction from police unions. Defunding police departments to redistribute resources means that officers can finally step back from filling the gaps in other areas created by government budget cuts and, instead, focus on their primary responsibility: to ensure a safe community for every person in a way that respects justice and dignity.

President Trump and former Attorney General Sessions have indicated that they have zero intention of enforcing the consent decrees cities have entered into with the federal government regarding police reform, eliminating the obligation to conform to those. The Council cannot re-allocate funds, but the Mayor can

reallocate if the Council decides to slash parts of the budget, as I'm sure you know. The constant increasing in police funding over the past decade has not lowered crime in Baltimore City. Myself and the country are not asking you to neuter the Baltimore Police Department, but to consider that reducing their role to more serious offenses stands to seriously benefit the city, especially considering the departments immense list of past failures and abuses.

I understand this is probably the most chaotic, ill-prepared way these hearings could be going during the pandemic, but that does not change the fact that there is an amazing opportunity right now to explore a change that could alter police/civilian relations within this city forever, and I don't think that opportunity should be cast away lightly. Thank you.

Best,

Joseph Rossi
1101 N. Calvert St.

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Jordan Brown <messages-noreply@linkedin.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 3:58 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Jordan wants to connect with you on LinkedIn

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Jordan Brown wants to add you to their network



Jordan Brown

Actor at InterAct Story Theatre Education Association
Washington D.C. Metro Area · 6 connections

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You are receiving invitation emails. LinkedIn will use your email address to make suggestions to our members in features like People You May Know.

This email was sent to Marguerite.Currin@baltimorecity.gov.



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Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: joyceskeating@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joyce Keating
<joyceskeating@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:24 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Increase homeless drug rehab and social service budget. Decrease BPD's budget

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,
Joyce Keating
7020 Wallis Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-1711 joyceskeating@yahoo.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: judy93@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Judith Sweet <judy93@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 3:14 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Vote NO to increased BPD budget

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,

Ms. Judith Sweet

915 S Beinord Ave Baltimore, MD 21224-4700 judy93@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: deernerak@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Karen Reed
<deernerak@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:18 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Funding Issue

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Sincerely,
Ms Karen Reed
2623 Rockwood Ave Baltimore, MD 21215-4128 deernerak@live.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: kmstouff@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Katrina Thaler
<kmstouff@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:38 AM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: This request is to be submitted as a public testimony for the 2021 BPD budget hearing

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as your constituent and to ask that you vote NO on the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding, and I hope you will push for a significant reduction in the police budget.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and it has been proposed that other critical services have their budgets cut.

I am spending time listening to Black organizations in our city and what they want and need from the BPD and our city, and I will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

This email is also going to the Budget and Appropriations Committee staff to submit it as public testimony for the Fiscal Year 2021 BPD Budget Hearing. I want to be sure this message is put in the public record

Sincerely,
Katrina Thaler
38 N Decker Ave Baltimore, MD 21224-1353 kmstouff@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: wileykayla7@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kayla Wiley <wileykayla7@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:22 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Re: Friday Budget Hearing

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

I urge you to read the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a member of Jews United for Justice to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

Jews United for Justice supports the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,
Kayla Wiley
25 Leatherwood Pl Apt F Rosedale, MD 21237-3525 wileykayla7@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Lauren c <laurenjanacoleman@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:48 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Cc: Bernard C Jack Young; City Council President; Pinkett, Leon2 (City Council)
Subject: Public Testimony re: Baltimore City FY21 Budget

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Dear Ms. Currin, Mayor Young, Council President Scott, and Council Member Pinkett,

I am a Baltimore City resident in District 7. I am writing to support the defunding of the Baltimore City police department and the Ordinance of Estimates charter amendment, to allow City Council to re-allocate FY21 funding to desperately needed resources that citizens in this city deserve and haven't received. The comparatively insignificant proportions of the budget dedicated to education, mental health, trauma treatment, substance abuse, affordable housing and transportation, food equity, employment and entrepreneurship - quite literally, everything aside from the Baltimore Police Department - is astonishingly, shamefully lacking. Even more so when we consider the amount of people suffering from poverty, homelessness, mental illness, trauma, medical problems and violence. It is widely known that this focus on policing and subsequent intentional withholding of basic needs, respect, and love inflicts pain, violence, and death in a vastly disproportionate way on the Black citizens of Baltimore. We are all responsible for taking care of each other.

It is imperative that along with this call for an ethical and humane approach to the city budget in order to create robust resources, we proactively establish oversight and accountability measures for these initiatives. This city is guilty of excessive spending to benefit political donors, misuse of funding, and poorly implemented initiatives over, and over, and over, and over, and over again. Changing our approach means owning our mistakes, learning from them, and holding ourselves acutely accountable at every stage - a new budget and a new approach cannot come without well-planned oversight and accountability, including complete public transparency.

Many of us have a conditioned response to fear the phrase "defund the police." When I look at this embarrassing city budget, along with everything I know as a clinical social worker about mental, physical, and spiritual well-being, racial injustice, and police brutality, I know the current approach is wrong. And common sense also tells me that if the police department has over \$500 million at their disposal annually and very little has changed for the well-being of our city and it's people - it is not working.

Please re-think what is possible and carefully choose the ethics and values we communicate in our city's budget.

Sincerely,

Lauren Coleman

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Leah Friedman <leahannfriedman@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:17 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: BPD Budget

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Hello,

My name is **Leah Friedman** and I am a **New York** resident. In the midst of this pandemic and public outcry against police brutality, it feels especially inappropriate to propose an increase to the BPD budget to \$545 million. I urge you to ethically reallocate this increase, as well as a meaningful portion of the remaining BPD budget, towards social services and education. Investment in programs such as the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Baltimore Children and Youth Fund, Safe Streets Baltimore, the Office of Employment and Development, or the Department of Health, shows our commitment to communities and the vision that all Baltimore residents deserve to thrive. Historically, the city government has spent far more on police than on public health, homeless services, youth services, and other vital agencies. This while the Baltimore Police Department disproportionately targets nonwhite residents—from traffic stops to the use of lethal force.

It's time to staunch the expansion of the BPD's mandate into homeless services, schools, youth services, mental health, and other social services where an armed police force simply doesn't belong. It's time to protect investments in human services, the social safety net, and racial and economic justice. I am writing to insist that the upcoming BBMR budget hearings for FY 2021 reflect the voices and needs of Baltimore's citizens. I am asking that city officials give intense care, attention and effort towards sustainable, long-term change.

Thank you,
Leah

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: LTRAV84@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of LETITIA TRAVAGLINI <LTRAV84@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 6:37 AM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Public Comment to CUT funding for BPD

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a Baltimore city resident to ask that you vote NO on the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding, and I hope you will push for a significant reduction in the police budget.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and it has been proposed that other critical services that support community members, especially community members of color, have their budgets cut.

I support many organizations including Organizing Black, SURJ, and the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

This email is also going to the Budget and Appropriations Committee staff to submit it as public testimony for the Fiscal Year 2021 BPD Budget Hearing. I want to be sure this message is put in the public record.

Sincerely,

Dr. LETITIA TRAVAGLINI

441 Grindall St Baltimore, MD 21230-4127 LTRAV84@GMAIL.COM

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: jliambrooks@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Liam Brooks
<jliambrooks@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 1:15 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Lets better use our money!

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

I am writing as your constituent a to ask that you vote NO on the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding, and I hope you will push for a significant reduction in the police budget.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and it has been proposed that other critical services have their budgets cut.

I support Organizing Black and our other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

This email is also going to the Budget and Appropriations Committee staff to submit it as public testimony for the Fiscal Year 2021 BPD Budget Hearing. I want to be sure this message is put in the public record.

Sincerely,
Liam Brooks
3725 Keswick Rd Baltimore, MD 21211-2241 jliambrooks@gmail.com

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: Lola B. Pierson <lola.pierson@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:36 AM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Written testimony for budget

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Hello,

My name is Lola B. Pierson. I'm a lifelong resident of Baltimore City. I currently live in and own 1921 St. Paul St, Baltimore, MD 21218. I'm the Artistic Director of The Acme Corporation.

I'm writing to express in the strongest possible terms my desire for the Baltimore City Police Department budget to be cut by 50% this year.

I have never felt more safe because of the presence of a police officer in Baltimore City. As I'm sure you're aware the BPD has been operating under a consent decree since 2017. The reforms that we have been promised have not yet come to fruition. Giving more resources to the police isn't improving their behavior and isn't improving crime. We cannot wait any longer. We cannot keep trying the same things that have been sucking the life out of our city for decades.

The scariest part about living in Baltimore isn't the crime; it's that our police department operates as a violent gang with impunity. While it may seem scary to cut half of the budget, the constant exponentially increasing body of evidence demonstrates that you have no other option. There is no reforming the BPD, you must cut their budget and use that money to fund social services.

Thank you,
Lola B. Pierson

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: lbenning12@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lorie Benning <lbenning12@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Now is NOT the time to increase the BPD budget

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

As a white resident for more than 20 years of the northeast Baltimore City neighborhood of Lauraville and an active member of the Baltimore chapter of Showing Up For Racial Justice (SURJ Baltimore), I urge the Baltimore City Council to vote against the proposed FY 2020-21 Baltimore Police Department budget and instead work to implement significant and permanent reductions to this department. These funds should be invested in the development of harm reduction systems that will better and more justly serve ALL citizens of Baltimore.

From the Executive Summary Board of Estimates Recommendations Fiscal 2021, the proposed BPD FY21 Budget is \$549,959,519 (p. 100). This is an increase of \$13,583,042 compared to FY20 (p. 100). The Budget also calls for cuts totaling \$8,482,227 to several departments that provide critical services to Baltimore City residents, including:

- Enoch Pratt Free Library (-\$350,000), p. 83
- 316 Youth and Trauma Services (-\$10,749), p. 87
- 717 Environmental Inspection Services (-\$50,243), p. 111
- 718 Chronic Disease Prevention (-\$252,906), p. 111
- 373 Housing and Community Development Administration (-\$227,023), p. 112
- 748 Affordable Housing (-\$3,535,819), p. 112
- 893 Homeless Prevention and Support Services for the Homeless (-\$641,270), p. 113
- 894 Outreach to the Homeless (-\$1,971,541), p. 113
- 661 Public Right of Way Cleaning (-\$686,806), p. 114
- 824 Events Art Culture and Films (-\$442,488), p. 121
- 899 Fair Conduct of Elections (-\$190,470), p. 127
- 653 Park Programs and Events (-\$122,912), p. 148

Sincerely,

Lorie Benning

2900 Montebello Ter Baltimore, MD 21214-3130 lbenning12@comcast.net

Currin, Marguerite (City Council)

From: lp33de@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lucas Clifton
<lp33de@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 1:11 PM
To: Currin, Marguerite (City Council)
Subject: Please rethink BDP Funding!

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Dear Marguerite Currin,

Please see the message below, and ensure that it is submitted as a public testimony on the 2021 BPD Budget Hearing:

I am writing as a resident of Baltimore to ask that you vote against the proposal to increase the Baltimore Police Department's budget. While I understand that City Council does not have the authority to re-allocate costs, it is fully within your power to cut funding.

The BPD should not receive more funding, especially at a time when it is clear that they do not protect Baltimore residents equally and other critical services are seeing cuts in funding.

I support the demands of Organizing Black and other partners in the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs (CJSJ), and will continue to fight alongside them for the changes that must be made to root out racist, violent, and corrupt police practices and invest in meeting the basic needs of the people of our city.

Sincerely,
Lucas Clifton
703 Berry St Baltimore, MD 21211-2527
lp33de@yahoo.com