

Good Evening City Council Members,

My name is Emylou and I am a resident of West Covina. I am writing today to demand that you do not approve the 2020 Justice Assistance Grant application nor adopt resolution NO. 2020-86 which would give the Police Department \$17,856 for Cartridges and batteries for non-lethal weapons, Investigation tools that retrieve digital and cellphone data, Computer software and services associated with the City's Computer Aided Dispatch & Records Management System (CAD-RMS) and the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS).

The Police Department already takes up 47% of our City's budget with only 9% of their department's budget going to materials and services. The Police Department should reallocate their funds from their salaries and benefits if they need upgraded materials and services. They should not receive any more funding to improve state-sanctioned violence against our own communities.

George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and countless others have been brutally murdered by the police. We do not want more money for an institution that consistently criminalizes and kills Black people. We do not need more money for policing, which is a reactive tool of justice. Rather, we seek a future that invests in community services that innovate preventive measures and programs to actually address the root of "criminal" behavior.

If you do pass resolution NO. 2020-86, please consider appropriating those funds to other programs endorsed by the Justice Alliance Grant which include: Prevention and education programs, Corrections and community corrections programs, Drug treatment and enforcement programs, Mental health programs, behavioral programs and crisis intervention teams. We have the HOPE (Homeless Outreach and Park Enforcement), HALO (Homeless Assistance Liaison Officer Program), and MET (Mental Evaluation Team) programs that could direct these funds to empower and uplift our homeless community members from lifestyle's that lead them to "criminal" behavior.

Again, do not pass Resolution NO. 2020-86. Reinvest in our communities, not the police.

Sincerely,

Emylou

Good evening,

My name is Brant Frederickson and I've been a West Covina resident for approximately 35 years now. Regarding the "Defund the Police" movement, I do not believe a majority of the West Covina residents agree with this philosophy.

This is an unproven concept that will only hurt the residents of West Covina.

Not to long ago, we were complaining about not having enough law enforcement Officers to address the homeless population as well as emergency response times.

Before the city council makes any drastic decisions to entertain the idea of defunding our police department, please wait and see what happens to the larger cities like Portland and Minneapolis who are trying this unproven experiment.

I would hate to rely on a social worker or drug counselor to respond to my residence during an emergent situation.

I'm all for homeless outreach and drug rehabilitation but not above the safety and security of our city.

Sincerely,

Brant Frederickson