

From: [Andrew Carlson](#)
To: [Lee, Chris](#)
Subject: 10/6/2020 Milwaukee Public Budget Hearing
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2020 8:33:46 PM

Good evening,

I was registered to speak tonight, but due to time constraints I had to leave the call before I had the chance to speak before the chairman, the mayor, and the common council. Due to this, I am emailing the comment I had prepared for tonight.

My name is Andrew Carlson, and I live in the 14th district and I would first like to thank the chairman, the council, and the mayor for listening to us tonight.

I am echoing others in urging you to cut \$75 million from MPD's budget and invest in programs that provide true health and safety for Milwaukee residents.

Nearly half the city's general budget is invested into the Milwaukee Police Department.

I would like to see that money put toward programs that better the lives of people in this city like education, housing, public health, and workforce development – programs which actually work toward preventing crime, rather than responding to it after the fact.

The history of policing in this country is rooted in oppression and violence, and the budget in its current form reflects and amplifies this history of racialized violence to the detriment of our entire community.

With Milwaukee's recent declaration of racism as a public health crisis, it is time for you to step up and make the decisions needed to fix it.

I hope you hear our voices and stand up for what's right. Divest \$75 million from the Milwaukee Police Department.

Thank you

Andrew Carlson