

Additional Emails

As of 6/8/2020

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** jennifer aicher  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Milwaukee Health and Public Safety and Police Violence

Dear Committee Members,

I am a Milwaukee resident of Bay View and I am writing to you today to express my concerns over our city's response to the peaceful protests for justice.

I stand with the demands made by AART for 9 Demands for a New Beginning, as well as the demands of Campaign Zero's 8 Can't Wait. As a public school educator, I demand police funds be redirected to community support to help communities thrive. I demand police funds be redirected to mental health resources and support.

I also condemn the political move to reopen bars and restaurants with very little notice as a means to distract from the protests. I condemn the curfews, and demand all curfew violations be lifted. I am calling for a formal apology to my County Supervisor Ryan Clancy for his unlawful detainment, which put his family at risk when we had arrested without precautions for preventing the spread of COVID 19. I condemn the excessive use of force in attacking leader Frank Nitty II, who was peacefully protesting and has proven himself to be an important leader in this community. I am calling for a formal apology by the city and the police, as well as a drop to his felony charges.

In peace and justice,  
Jenny Aicher

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:54 PM  
**To:** Polanco, Joanna  
**Subject:** FW: TMJ Questions for 2:30 meeting

### QUESTIONS

Jim Owczarski, CMC  
City Clerk  
(414)-286-2998  
@mkeclerk

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**From:** Atkins, Tony [<mailto:Tony.Atkins@tmj4.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:33 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** TMJ Questions for 2:30 meeting

Hello Jim,

Here are my questions for today's meeting.

FOR MPD: Some departments, like Dallas Police, are implementing a "Duty to Intervene" policy for officers' peer-accountability. Will MPD consider such a policy?

FOR FPC and MPD: "Why hasn't officer Michael Mattioli been fired from MPD yet?"

FOR CITY OF MKE: "Yesterday, local organizers called for a reinvestment of money from MPD and to redirect it to communities of color. Is that something the city would look into seriously?"

Thanks,



**Tony Atkins**  
News Reporter

Office: 414.967.5346  
Cell: 414.335.9568  
Email:  
[tony.atkins@tmj4.com](mailto:tony.atkins@tmj4.com)

720 E. Capitol Drive  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
tmj4.com



**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Jessica Baumann  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Reaching Out

Mr. Owczarski,

I don't have all the words to express my feelings right now but I wanted to reach out before the deadline. I am a community builder, a facilitator of positive action, and a supporter of public services. I have been helping spread positivity, support peaceful protests, and love Milwaukee. I hate to see services being cut or postponed and to see peaceful citizens hurt. I hope you will do the right thing and speak up for the positive action, to support Milwaukee with what they need. Thank you,

Jessica



## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Cyndi Bergloff  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:29 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim; Kovac, Nik  
**Subject:** Letter for Common Council for consideration during PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

Hello Mr. Nick Kovac and Milwaukee Common Council,  
I am writing as a constituent of your aldermanic district (District 3) since 2018 and ask for you to advocate on behalf of the people of your district.

For 6 days straight, we have seen protests led by Black folks throughout Milwaukee. We know from Milwaukee's history that the people of this city will not stop until the people in power hear us. The open housing marches in '67-68 were a part of a larger movement throughout the US where folks were calling for civil rights for Black and African-American folks. Throughout this movement, there were targeted acts of racism and Anti-Blackness. Although the attacks and discrimination I am referencing are from '66-68, 50 years later we are seeing the same trends.

As many in this city know, 53206 has one of the highest incarceration rates of Black men in this country. In addition, there is a disproportionate amount of Black and brown students in Milwaukee public schools who face cruel forms of punishment beginning at the age 5, such as isolation rooms, all the way to having "security" forces, which closely resemble police, in the school systems. This is a prime example of how the school-prison pipeline is deeply rooted in Milwaukee.

I am glad to see the people of Milwaukee standing up for Black Lives, and am deeply disappointed in the responses from government and elected officials. Police at district 5 have used blockades to narrow Locust ave down to one lane, for "safety." However, I have observed that far more dangerous maneuvers are required to merge due to the sudden nature of these blockades placed just beyond a hill and stoplight. The police are causing road hazards because they fear the people, meanwhile, the systems in Milwaukee have caused fear and incarceration for decades among Black, Indigenous & People of Color (BIPOC).

I am extremely unhappy with the fact that my taxpayer money is being used to request SWAT team backups, armed vehicles, and the use of tear gas and rubber bullets against protesters. This is unethical and unconstitutional that armed forces, including the national guard, are being used against citizens of this country who are practicing their rights of free speech, to gather and protest. Numerous news sources, including TMJ4, have noted that they have had cameras at all fronts and have not noted instances that should call for police to use violence to disperse the crowds.

In addition, the tactics used to reduce crowds in the protests are abhorrent, including the less than 24-hour announcement of "Phase 3 of COVID-19 plan" and the shutdown of night bus service. Many workers have had to make significant changes to their schedules to accommodate the new change.

48% of Milwaukee's budget goes toward Police forces. I am asking for you to de-fund that budget, and redistribute money towards education, social services, community organizations, and infrastructure development communities who need and want it most. We have had community accountability and monitoring for years because the police protect the wealthy and in power. We ask for you to stand for the people. Time and time again, we are seeing that public safety, specifically of Black and Brown peoples, is deeply affected negatively by Milwaukee Police Department.

As you meet today, I ask you to deeply consider who it is that you are serving? **The people of Milwaukee are telling you what they want.**

I'm asking you this as your constituent, a citizen of Milwaukee, a future teacher, a child of an incarcerated parent, and an Anishinaabe descendent (one of the First Nations that comes from the Great Lakes region and continues to have an active presence).

*Gimiigwechin, I thank you,*

*Gigaawaabamin baamaa apii. I will see you later.*

Cyndi Bergloff

*Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Thunderbird clan*

*Pronouns: She, Her, Hers, They, Them, Theirs*

[CynthiaBergloff@gmail.com](mailto:CynthiaBergloff@gmail.com)

*Bimaadiziwin nibi aawan, Water is life*

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Emily Bertholf  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:58 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Curfews a d community

To City of Milwaukee Police and City Leaders,

I am writing to express my support for the peaceful protests that have been happening in our community and all around the world.

It is no surprise that Milwaukee, as one of the most segregated cities in the nation, has significant race relations which put undue stress in almost every area of our community, including policing. What we witnessed in that video of George Floyd on Memorial Day was a horrific crime against humanity worthy of outrage. It is an act that has been too often repeated and too often overlooked.

Our most vulnerable people, our PoC communities, our working poor, and our homeless deserve every bit of protection, safety, and justice as any of us. The voices on the streets deserve to be heard and answered with compassion, understanding, good will, and faith.

My family and many families that I know, each which are already under duress from this pandemic, has come out to support and join these peaceful protests. They have been overwhelmingly peaceful and a much needed and welcome sign of unity in a city that has long been broken, but ripe for potential.

The world is watching and it behooves you to act with grace, humility, learning, and compassionate action.

I am concerned for the safety of the protesters. Many of which are children, elderly, and of all abilities. They are marching together in peace.

I am concerned for the death threats some of the community organizers and leaders have received, and the silence about such grievous threats by our acting police and mayor. What is being done to protect our first ammendment rights to speech and peaceful assembly? Have these threats been addressed and mitigated? Have you as leaders spoke out to say violence and hatred and abuse of powers will not stand and have no place here in Milwaukee?

I am concerned that instituting curfews and shutting down public transit further isolates, silences, and punishes the most vulnerable of us. How are workers to get to their jobs if they don't have personal vehicles?

The protesters will work with you if you close off streets and work together. They are working hard to maintain order and keep everyone safe.

The tear gas and drawn guns from tank is doing very little to build community and build trust to open communication.

Please, address why you have called a peaceful protest a riot and what steps you will take to facilitate and protect our first ammendment rights.

Sincerely,

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Cassidy Blanchard  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:56 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Concern with Police Brutality in Milwaukee

Hello Jim,

I am emailing with concern as to how peaceful protesters are being treated by the Milwaukee police department. We have continued to remain peaceful and continue to be beat down by officers. The leader of the peaceful protests is also being threatened to be assassinated by white supremacists. Having cops attempt to stop the protests is counterproductive and creates more problems than it solves. How about instead of making the protests violent, the police work alongside protesters to actually keep us safe. Currently the cops care more about keeping us silent than our fight for black lives. THAT IS WRONG

Cassidy

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Marco Bonacquisto <marco.bonacquisto@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:59 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Words from a community member

Dear committee members,

First, I would like to address the mayor's curfews. The curfews, as no doubt you have seen now, have been largely ineffective. What the curfews have provided is rationale for further police action against the peaceful protestors, as well as allowing police action against citizens who need to walk home from bus stops, work, or other locations to comply with the curfews. I understand the ideas behind enacting the curfews, but based on the evidence we have seen, they are not effective measures for stopping protestors. Nor should we want to silence the peaceful protestors who are pushing for important police reforms. No more curfews.

Second, I want to address the clear cases of police aggression that have been documented by local activists, politicians, and the media. The police have been documented escalating crises by surrounding protestors, preventing them from dispersing when ordered to do so. Police then use this non-dispersal to justify spraying protestors with tear-gas, which causes more chaos. This is unacceptable behavior. Furthermore, the unacceptable fabrication of evidence (a Molotov cocktail made from a crushed plastic bottle?) is concerning and further demonstrates the police's desire to escalate what have otherwise been peaceful protests. Police Chief Alfonso Morales's management of the department has been unacceptable and he must resign, or at the very least not be reappointed to the position following his performance review.

Third, the constant circling of helicopters overhead is absolutely unacceptable. This is the sort of thing one might expect in a police state (which based on recent actions, we perhaps find ourselves in). Not all of these helicopters are news copters. Some are police helicopters and some are national guard helicopters. These aircraft are disrupting people's sleep, preventing people from feeling comfortable in their own homes, and make citizens feel like they are being constantly surveilled. Stop flying helicopters over our neighborhoods.

Finally, a word about our protests: Milwaukee has had its own share of police murders of black folks that have gone without justice. To protest police brutality only to have the police respond as brutally as they have been is unacceptable and highlights the multitude of ways in which the Milwaukee Police Department desperately needs reform. I am pushing for five easy reforms that will readily make all residents safer:

1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds.
2. Require de-escalation tactics to be taught and used.
3. Require officers to exhaust all other means (including de-escalation tactics) before shooting.
4. Ban shooting at moving vehicles in all cases.
5. Require comprehensive reporting of all use of force, including pointing a weapon at civilians.

Additionally, we need to reduce funding for the police department and redirect that funding towards community development and restoration in order to repair the communities that police brutality has devastated. Particularly, this money needs to go towards assisting the black communities the police have been brutalizing for years. Our city needs a change. Defund the police and introduce substantial reforms to make our communities safer.

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 2:14 PM  
**To:** Dimitrijevic, Marina; Williams, Terri  
**Cc:** Polanco, Joanna  
**Subject:** BRILLIANT

Jim Owczarski, CMC  
City Clerk  
(414)-286-2998  
@mkeclerk

**From:** Sarah Brilliant <...> ]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:13 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Protests

I am writing from a place of incredible professional distress. I am a psychologist, with extensive training in nonviolent crisis intervention. I am regularly the target of aggressive, defiant, and disrespectful behavior, including having chairs thrown at me, being spit on, being called every name under the sun, and being hit and headbutted. Yet I am able to respond to these situations through deescalation, and without resorting to the type of violence that would lead to me losing both my job and my license, as well as my ability to look at myself in the mirror every day. As I witness the behavior of the Milwaukee police department and the national guard, I see little attempt at deescalation techniques, and instead see a response that escalates tensions and increases the likelihood of violence and injury. Why should I be held to a higher standard of safety than our law enforcement officials? Why should those with the greater power to do harm - those who are legally allowed to use weapons and violence against citizens - not be the ones held responsible for the peace and safety of the protests?

Sarah, 53211

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 2:03 PM  
**To:** Williams, Terri; Polanco, Joanna  
**Cc:** Dimitrijevic, Marina  
**Subject:** BUKVICH  
**Attachments:** IMG\_6184.MOV; IMG\_6163.MP4; IMG\_6162.MP4

Jim Owczarski, CMC  
City Clerk  
(414)-286-2998  
@mkeclerk

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**From:** Sabrina Bukvich  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 9:35 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** June 1st protest arrest on McKinley and 6th

Good morning,

I am emailing you my 1st hand experience of what happened at the peaceful black lives matter protest on Tuesday, June 1st at McKinley and 6th. I would like to address the unnecessary and violent force that was used against us. Please let me know if you need anymore information from me. I would also greatly appreciate a response so I know my email made it through to you! Thank you.

I was a part of the peaceful protest that was enticed by police on Tuesday June 1st 2020. Before even getting to the point in which you are discussing on the corner of McKinley and 6th street. I would like to bring up what happened while entering the Hoan bridge.

### Incident 1:

Protesters had made it on the bridge and were peacefully protesting heading south bound. Police ran in front to block protesters from continuing. I could see fatigue and stress in the eyes of the police officers as they ran to get in front of us. As soon as the police officers reached a point in front of us they began to throw tear gas. This caused the crowd to quickly disperse and lots of confusion. 100's of people running in all directions some temporarily blinded by the tear gas. This was a terrifying and dangerous situation being on a 120ft tall bridge with 100s of people running to get away from the fumes. Someone could have easily fallen off and been killed. I have attached a video of the tear gas pouring off the Hoan bridge after a citizen tossed it to protect the protesters. This happened at 6:30pm



## Incident 2:

In our second case with the police on Tuesday June 1st we were at the corner of McKinley and 6th. There were easily more armed officers than protesters and multiple military tanks. We were headed west down McKinley in front of the freeway entrance. The police were blocking the freeway. Protesters got on their knees to show we were peaceful. Then we got up and decided to head north on 6th street turning our backs and walking away from police. That's when tear gas and gas canisters were thrown again. This caused the crowd to panic and run. We were attacked while retreating. We were able to get away from the gas and then went back on our knees and chanted "We are peaceful". At this point an announcement was made by police one time and was not heard. We were unaware of what the police wanted from us. Soon the police linked arms and walked towards us and started chanting "move back" we got off our knees and put our hands up and chanted "we are peaceful" while moving backwards away from police. One man on a bike who was documenting what was happening through video. He stayed in his place on his bike with both hands on his phone taking a video. For no clear reason one police officer from the back of the line of officers pushed his way to the front. The man on the bike tried to ride away from the panicked officer when he was tackled. The other officers responded by covering and blocking the man so that no one could see what was happening. This can be seen on TMJ4s live thread at 25 minutes in. You can also see several officers reach to stop the panicked officer before they decide to help him take the innocent man into custody. There is no clear reason why the man was being attacked and taken into custody. While this occurred other police officers continued to throw tear gas and shot rubber bullets at the crowd that was retreating with hands up. Several people were shot with rubber bullets leaving welts on their stomachs. This is also seen in the TMJ4 live stream at the 28th min. This incident happened around 8pm.

I believe that the police were acting out of stress and fear and injured several innocent law-abiding citizens. The police force needs more training and screenings in how to handle these kinds of stressful situations WITHOUT violence. I am fearful for my city and that the police will kill more innocent people if something is not done. Please help us reform our corrupt system!

Thank you for taking your time to listen

-Sabrina Bukvich

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)



## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** MCHP  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Divest Police, Reinvest in Community Programs

Dear Common Council,

As someone born and raised in neighboring states, I actively choose to move to Milwaukee after college, and have been proud to call this city my home for the past two decades.

Over the past week, however, I am ashamed of the violent actions in my community, specifically of the police in riot gear who tear gassed and handcuffed peaceful protesters and shot them with rubber bullets. These actions are unacceptable. MPD needs to be demilitarized, and de-escalation training, policies and procedures need to be implanted immediately.

This single department takes up nearly half of the city's budget, though they don't contribute to citizens feeling protected. In fact, police who move out of Milwaukee to "Safer" (read: whiter) suburbs have proven that they are doing a poor job of serving the community they employees them.

City spending represents our priorities, and ours are clearly out of balance. I encourage the Council to work toward bringing us back into harmony by defunding MPD and redirecting those funds toward non-violent community social programs that work to help our citizens.

Thank you for listening,

Maria Burke  
53207

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** L Burns  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Feedback on curfew etc

Hey Jim,

Curfew seems to be a tactic to foment aggression against the protesters and infringe on the right to protest by creating barriers to action. So are the fines! Not unlike poll taxes! We wouldn't want our city giving the police and national guard (who shouldn't even be here) more reason to hurt our populace/voters/tax payers.

Thanks,

Lane

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Liza Cohen  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:56 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public safety and Health Committee

Dear committee members,

First, I would like to address the mayor's curfews. The curfews, as no doubt you have seen now, have been largely ineffective. What the curfews have provided is rationale for further police action against the peaceful protestors, as well as allowing police action against citizens who need to walk home from bus stops, work, or other locations to comply with the curfews. I understand the ideas behind enacting the curfews, but based on the evidence we have seen, they are not effective measures for stopping protestors. Nor should we want to silence the peaceful protestors who are pushing for important police reforms. No more curfews.

Second, I want to address the clear cases of police aggression that have been documented by local activists, politicians, and the media. The police have been documented escalating crises by surrounding protestors, preventing them from dispersing when ordered to do so. Police then use this non-dispersal to justify spraying protestors with tear-gas, which causes more chaos. This is unacceptable behavior. Furthermore, the unacceptable fabrication of evidence (a Molotov cocktail made from a crushed plastic bottle?) is concerning and further demonstrates the police's desire to escalate what have otherwise been peaceful protests. Police Chief Alfonso Morales's management of the department has been unacceptable and he must resign, or at the very least not be reappointed to the position following his performance review.

Third, the constant circling of helicopters overhead is absolutely unacceptable. This is the sort of thing one might expect in a police state (which based on recent actions, we perhaps find ourselves in). Not all of these helicopters are news copters. Some are police helicopters and some are national guard helicopters. These aircraft are disrupting people's sleep, preventing people from feeling comfortable in their own homes, and make citizens feel like they are being constantly surveilled. Stop flying helicopters over our neighborhoods.

Finally, a word about our protests: Milwaukee has had its own share of police murders of black folks that have gone without justice. To protest police brutality only to have the police respond as brutally as they have been is unacceptable and highlights the multitude of ways in which the Milwaukee Police Department desperately needs reform. I am pushing for five easy reforms that will readily make all residents safer:

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4. Ban shooting at moving vehicles in all cases.
5. Require comprehensive reporting of all use of force, including pointing a weapon at civilians.

Additionally, we need to reduce funding for the police department and redirect that funding towards community development and restoration in order to repair the communities that police brutality has devastated. Particularly, this money needs to go towards assisting the black communities the police have been brutalizing for years. Our city needs a change. Defund the police and introduce substantial reforms to make our communities safer.

Thank you,

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 2:13 PM  
**To:** Dimitrijevic, Marina; Williams, Terri  
**Cc:** Polanco, Joanna  
**Subject:** COLTON

Jim Owczarski, CMC  
City Clerk  
(414)-286-2998  
@mkeclerk

**From:** Claire Colton  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:01 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Policies for Civil Unrest

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

As you meet today to discuss the policing of protests, I'd like to share my experience as a citizen of Milwaukee.

On Sunday 5/31, I witnessed two peaceful protestors be forcibly detained while trying to get home after "curfew" against a wall of militarized police. This will result in the citizens filing a suit against MPD, as they sustained injuries. Actions are currently being taken on their behalf.

On 5/4/2020, I attended another peaceful march and we walked 9.5 miles throughout the city and downtown with no police interaction. When the protest was complete and we returned to our starting point, the crowd dispersed and we went home safely, having successfully and without incident demonstrated our right to march.

Please consider the stark differences in experiences as you decide how much force to use on your people today.

Sincerely,

Claire Colton

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Shelby Daft  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:53 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Safety Meeting

To the City of Milwaukee,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed curfew for Milwaukee for this weekend. I believe in our right to peacefully assemble, and I am much more concerned about the incredibly valid reasons for the protests than I am about the protests themselves. I am happy to be temporarily inconvenienced with street closures if it means an end to the years of oppression and violence the government systems have imposed on black people.

Milwaukee has a chance to show a caring response and create a positive example for the entire country to organized assembly for the murders of black citizens by the police. Our city's race issues are far greater and more devastating than this weekend of protesting. The black people of this community need to be heard. Denying them their rights to speak and gather is just another injustice to add to the incredibly long list of injustices at the hands of government authorities.

I am more worried about neighbors and friends being tear gassed and hit by rubber bullets than I am about us taking to the streets to make sure black and POC voices are heard.

I am also very worried about the public death threats leaders of the marches have received from white supremacists. What is being done about that?

It is time to change how we are approaching these issues. This entire meeting and curfew discussion just seems like more of the same: How can we most easily silence these inconvenient truths?

Additionally, I think opening the bars on such short notice is an irresponsible ploy to have less people attend the protests.

This is a deadly view that I refuse to support.  
Please allow citizens to assemble and speak.

Thank you.

Shelby Daft

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Madeleine Doelker-Berlin  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:58 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Milwaukee Public Health and Safety Committee meeting regarding MPD's reaction to protests

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to comment and raise a question regarding the police reactions to Milwaukee's protests. First, I am very unsatisfied with how the Milwaukee police force has handled this matter. There were multiple incidents where the police reacted with an immense amount of physical violence that was unprovoked and unwarranted. One example is the quite violent, unprovoked arrest of Frank Nitty on Tuesday that has been documented in many private and public outlets. Another example is the use of rubber bullets and tear gas that same night. These means we're employed without proper warning (the protesters could not hear that the protest had been declared unlawful, which is documented in Facebook live recordings) and they were used even though the protesters were far away from the police and were demonstrating peacefully. There is a vast amount of private (but publicly accessible) and public (from police and the media) video records of the protest. Many of the accounts that the police had given is not in line with these recordings. Therefore my first question: The police appears to not be trustworthy as a sole source of information in this matter. Will there be an independent investigation of the police's conduct throughout the last week using all the information available (and not only police statements)?

Second, the mayor's curfew does seem to further increase the escalation and criminalizes peaceful protesters who are using their constitutional rights. Moreover, police appears to consider it to be a legitimation for further police aggression.

Third, Alfonso Morales' management of the situation has been very poor and he should be asked to resign. I think an interview he gave on Tuesday night with WISN was very telling that Morales appears to incapable to fully grasp what the purpose and demands of the protests are. Rather than addressing the issue of police violence, he pleaded that he is a human being as well and that the protests are „hurtful“. This personalization of the criticism of systemic issues is highly unprofessional and very damaging. It appears like he basically equals criticism of the Milwaukee police as an institution with dehumanization of police officers. This approach is blocking any objective assessment of the police's performance and whether or not MPD needs reforms.

Fourth, the Milwaukee police has a long history of the use of excessive violence, especially against people of color. I have worked as a counselor for criminal justice involved adults and the police's behavior appears to traumatize generations of people in whole neighborhoods. The police desperately needs reforms. Such as:

- 1) ban of chokeholds and strangleholds
- 2) emphasis and continuous training of de-escalation techniques
- 3) require officers to use all other means before shooting
- 4) ban shooting at moving vehicles in all cases
- 5) require comprehensive reporting of all use of force, including pointing a weapon at civilians
- 6) a move from a violent enforcement approach towards community policing and harm reduction
- 7) DEFUND and redistribute the funding towards community organizations (\$75 Million would be great)
- 8) Make Police officers professionals and give them extensive training that also includes awareness of how their power is perceived by others (I was born and raised in Germany and there, every police officer needs to go through 3 years of full-time training).

Finally, a quick side note: I was born and raised in Germany (I am a US citizen) and worked closely with the police. There, police officers were considered to be helping and protecting and no one was hesitant to call them. Here, most people are horribly scared of the police. They are perceived as a threat, rather than as a protecting and legitimate law enforcing body. THIS IS NOT NORMAL, it does not have to be this way.

Thank you for taking comments.

Sincerely,

Madeleine Doelker Berlin

Sent from my iPhone

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Adam Dudenhoefer  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:58 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Fire & Police Commission

Dear members of the commission-

I would like to voice my opposition to the curfew that was imposed recently, as I see it as an unnecessary escalation of tension between the public and our municipal government. It criminalized otherwise acceptable behavior and did not make anyone safer in the process.

I would also like to state that I believe MPD simply should not have tear gas, as it's use is discouraged by the UN, and it's use is known to have a range of potential side effects. The recent dispersal of it only makes this more apparent.

Lastly I want to suggest that MPD has an unnecessarily large budget which would be better spent on any number of measures, including public housing, schools, and transit. These services that assure personal stability for residents do more to promote lawfulness than rubber bullets ever will.

Thank you for your consideration,

Adam Dudenhoefer, 53207



**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Ali Fagnan  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:57 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Curfew and Civil Unrest

Good morning,

My name is Alison Macchia and I live in the city of Milwaukee. The City of Milwaukee's policies regarding curfew and their enforcement in response to "civil unrest" greatly disturbs me. As a high school teacher in Milwaukee Public Schools, I've seen my students and local citizens assembling peacefully and trying to enact change in their own communities after years of inaction by those in power (that includes you).

I stand in solidarity against racism and police brutality, and believe the tactics used over the past week have been counterproductive to encourage real lasting change in our city and its Black communities. The Mayor's Office, the Milwaukee Police Department and the FPC need to work *with* our citizens, not against them. The use of force against peaceful protestors needs to stop as it only serves to create more distrust surrounding the organizations that are supposed to protect all citizens. As a teacher, I've seen first hand accounts on social media of students and citizens protesting peacefully only to be met with physical violence. Your curfews do nothing more than authorize police and law enforcement to respond violently. Furthermore, using curfews, social media, and mailed tickets to cite and ticket citizens only traps people in a broken system.

I hope that the Mayor Tom Barrett, the entire Mayor's Office, MPD, and the FPC will take my concerns seriously and work with the community to establish new policies and procedures that allow the city's citizens to be heard, seen, and believe that real change is coming. Protestors have demands for change, listen to them and take action today.

Thank you for your time,

Alison Macchia

## An Open Letter-

I address you today first and foremost as a concerned citizen of the City of Milwaukee. I have lived in the area for almost six years now and have grown to love this city and everything for which it stands. I can picture clearly the images of thousands of fans of all ages, classes, and races standing together outside the Fiserv Forum to cheer on our home team in the NBA playoffs just last fall. The ongoing protests and unrest have weighed heavy on almost every member of this community. Citizens are crying out for the most foundational of human demands, peace and justice. We need to return to a clear message of unity across public and private enterprise, law enforcement and citizens, media and readers, elected officials and their constituents. There is no "us" and "them", we are all one community. For this reason, I joined the marches in the streets of Milwaukee on Tuesday, June 2, 2020. This is what I saw.

### My Timeline of the Evening of June 2, 2020-

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By 7:18 p.m. the group had turned west on McKinley Ave and was approaching the intersection with 6th Ave. I had a brief phone call with my roommate notifying him of my participation in the protest at this time. Police vehicles closed in on the group from the south and west. More vehicles were present to the north on 6th Ave. The organizers halted the march to determine the next course of action and asked participants to remain in place. Minutes later, dozens of additional uniformed officers descended on the scene. No damage to property or threats of violence had been associated with the march throughout the day.

At 7:20 p.m., Milwaukee police arrested a suspect for blocking squad cars on a bike. During the arrest the officer, rider, and bicycle fell to the ground. Additional officers, rushed in to assist. At least three officers were involved in restraining the subject. Video and photo evidence as well as eye-witness accounts confirm that one of the officers had his knee pressed into the shoulder and neck area of the suspect as he was pinned face down on the road. Witnesses of the arrest were understandably concerned about the reason for and methods used in the arrest. A stream of officers on bicycles filed in to form a barrier between the arresting officers and other protesters. Protesters did not physically engage with or interfere with the arrest. Witnesses of the arrest demanded to know what the arrest was for, and who the arresting officer was.

Around 7:24 p.m., projectiles were reportedly thrown in the direction of uniformed officers from the crowd. The only items I saw from my vantage point of standing directly between the line of officers and the line of protesters, was water bottles that had been handed out that day. The offenders were not perused by law enforcement. The actions were quickly decried by other protesters and less than two minutes later, the majority of the front of the crowd was on their

knees as seen in the Fox 6 News live stream of the event. I personally held back other protesters from leaning into the faces of officers yelling. One uniformed man who refused my request to identify himself by name or badge number paced the east perimeter behind the other officers and maced at least three peaceful protesters from behind the bicycles without warning. I was hit in the back of the head and neck as well as arms and back with mace while being screamed at to back up as hundreds of protesters were being confined into the small area.

By 7:30 p.m., at least 100 uniformed officers from at least three jurisdictions descended on the crowd armed with smoke canisters, sand pellet shotguns, tear gas, rubber bullets, flash bangs, batons, shields, full riot gear, multiple squad cars, and 2 BearCats. The officers fired indiscriminately into the crowd with rubber bullets at ranges of less than 30 yards numerous times. Smoke canisters and a flash bang were deployed less than a minute later. Some protesters scattered east down McKinley, others went north up 6th Avenue. A fractured group was trapped between vehicles and officers in the southeast corner as smoke additional smoke canisters were deployed despite officers not allowing protesters to quickly evacuate the area to the south.

By 7:35, the remaining protesters had assembled on the street on 6th Ave. The police remained in formation on the south end of the intersection. Additional reinforcements from MPD, Milwaukee County Sheriff, and the State Patrol continued to pour in. No projectiles had been thrown, and no physical confrontation was occurring between the sides. After the two sides separated, law enforcement made the official decision to declare the gathering unlawful under Public Safety Section 105-1. This vague statute officially declared the peaceful protest a riot and allowed for use of force to disperse it despite mace, smoke, and rubber bullets already having been used on the crowd. The tense standoff that followed was excruciating to witness as members of the press stood on the sidelines capturing it in real time.

The line of officers with batons in a defensive position and barrels raised at unarmed peaceful protesters marched shoulder to shoulder across the road and side walks, building to building, chanting "Move Back!". BearCats, typically used in emergency rescue situations, armed with tear gas launchers constantly pointed down at the crowd moved forward as well. The protesters continued to retreat up 6th Ave away from the confrontation. The marching and chanting continued across the intersection and up 6th Ave. Additional smoke, tear gas, and rubber bullets were fired into the crowd.

By 7:48 p.m., the group had retreated about half a block from the intersection and had attempted to form a line of traffic barrels in the street. The group then backed up further to completely move behind the line as they continued to ask for peace and for officers to lower their weapons. The commanding officers then sent a line of bicycles up to the barrels just feet from where the peaceful protesters stood their ground attempting to exercise their first amendment rights. No additional show of force was made by protesters. Not one officer so much as lowered his baton when protesters again took to their knees, this time to chant "We are peaceful!".

Around 7:50 p.m., a protester who had been on a bicycle recording officers in public for several minutes, turned his back to the line and began to move away when suddenly at least six officers ran forward and tackled him to the ground directly in front of live media correspondents. Less than a minute later, volleys of rubber bullets, smoke, and tear gas can be seen on several live

streams sending the remaining protesters down Pleasant St. I personally helped carry a man hit in the abdomen by a rubber bullet at close range back to a makeshift medic vehicle that had been following the protest in the extreme heat throughout the day.

Finally, by 7:58 p.m., officers halted their advance and allowed the peaceful assembly of American citizens expressing their opinion in a public space to continue. The march continued down Pleasant to Water, Brady, and Farwell across the lower east side.

At 8:29 p.m., the official Milwaukee Police Department Twitter feed posted a tweet stating "Protesters have been ordered to disperse due to unlawful assembly after throwing rocks and glass at our officers....". No reports of injury to officers or video or photo evidence of rocks or glass being thrown during the confrontation was provided.

At 9:00 p.m., on the east end of Ogden near Burns Commons. Some organizers ended the official event, citing concerns for the safety of participants and bystanders. The march continued long into the night without additional police presence until it ended in Whitefish Bay approximately 6 hours later.

The vast majority of protests in the city have remained peaceful. I can only hope this is a fact which has already been established. In particular, marches through the streets in the daytime hours have overwhelmingly remained peaceful. This begs the question, why has the Milwaukee Police Departments official Twitter feed continue to post inflammatory content, at times without context or supporting evidence. These posts have also been found to be in relation to incidents later announced as under investigation.

The most blatant example of the use of social media to misrepresent peaceful protests and justify excessive use of force, was the tweet sent on June 2, 2020 at 9:16 p.m. stating "Molotov Cocktails were thrown at our officers. Protesters have been ordered to disperse. For your safety and for our safety please go home!". This message was sent 47 minutes after a pair of tweets stating that the peaceful protest was deemed unlawful and protesters were ordered to disperse after rocks and glass were thrown at officers. For the next 3 hours and 55 minutes, no additional information or evidence was given to substantiate these claims. The message was retweeted over a thousand times in the next few hours including by nationally syndicated radio host Buck Sexton. This boost got the message all the way to oval office where the President of the United States responded, "Toughen up police!". The onslaught of abusive comments and threats of violence against peaceful protesters was appalling. These threats were in direct response to the unsubstantiated claim that molotov cocktails, plural, were hurled at uniformed officers during the day's protests.

At 1:11 a.m., on June 3, 2020, a tweet containing images of a plastic water bottle as well as a cylindrical attachment or insert stating, "At approximately 8:08 p.m., on Tuesday, June 2, 2020, in the area near 6th and McKinley, an individual threw a molotov cocktail at uniformed police officers. Thankfully it did not ignite.....". The device pictured did not appear include a glass bottle to shatter, a burnable wick, or which fuel, if any, was used. It was also never clearly stated that the police engaged with peaceful protesters and escalated the confrontation multiple times at least 35 minutes prior to the reported incident including the plastic modified incendiary device

pictured on the MPD Twitter feed. No statement was ever made public explicitly distinguishing the unlawful assembly and use of force from police at 6th and McKinley from the individual who allegedly attacked uniformed officers with an incendiary device.

I am calling for a thorough investigation into the use of force and escalation by law enforcement of the situation at McKinley and 6th Ave. I am also calling for a review of MPD policy on the use of social media to disseminate information on ongoing incidents and investigations.

Addendum: Given the recent events that have unfolded with two officers in the Buffalo Police Department using excessive force against an elderly protestor on camera, I believe the conversation is even more important to have. A previously released official statement from department claimed he tripped and fell during an altercation with police. The American people deserve to see equal protection under the law.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Gamerdinger  
City of Milwaukee Resident  
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## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Sarah Fandel  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Common Council Response to Police Brutality

Hello,

The police have repeatedly instigated violence towards peaceful protesters, and their budget should be cut and redistributed to community programs that will help reduce crime organically. Overtime needs to be regulated far more strongly, preventing overwork and reducing stress in the officers, and militarization of the police needs to be eliminated entirely.

A month ago the common council voted to furlough and financially endanger hundreds of city workers in a time of crisis to try and scrape 1 million in budget savings.

The police budget is nearly 300 times that. It is time to replan Milwaukee's priorities, as the police have again and again proven to be unable to police themselves, let alone protect and serve the public.

I urge you to consider the demands set forth by Leaders Igniting Transformation and make genuine effort to meet them. I want to be proud of this city.

Sincerely,

Sarah Fandel

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** biffy fresh ·  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:59 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Safety and Health Committee

Curfew should not be so police can have an excuse to use force against civilians. Demilitarize and defund the police. Why didnt we have curfew then for COVID-19? Or enforce stay at home?

It is a right to protest. Make police accountable for their actions, including lies about being provoked by protesters.

Innocent until proven guilty. Everyone of every race (including black) should make it to trial ALIVE.



## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Ben Gamerdinger  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:53 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Safety and Health Committee in partnership with the Common Council Special Committee Meeting

### An Open Letter-

I address you today first and foremost as a concerned citizen of the City of Milwaukee. I have lived in the area for almost six years now and have grown to love this city and everything for which it stands. I can picture clearly the images of thousands of fans of all ages, classes, and races standing together outside the Fiserv Forum to cheer on our home team in the NBA playoffs just last fall. The ongoing protests and unrest have weighed heavy on almost every member of this community. Citizens are crying out for the most foundational of human demands, peace and justice. We need to return to a clear message of unity across public and private enterprise, law enforcement and citizens, media and readers, elected officials and their constituents. There is no "us" and "them", we are all one community. For this reason, I joined the marches in the streets of Milwaukee on Tuesday, June 2, 2020. This is what I saw.

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of the officers had his knee pressed into the shoulder and neck area of the suspect as he was pinned face down on the road. Witnesses of the arrest were understandably concerned about the reason for and methods used in the arrest. A stream of officers on bicycles filed in to form a barrier between the arresting officers and other protesters. Protesters did not physically engage with or interfere with the arrest. Witnesses of the arrest demanded to know what the arrest was for, and who the arresting officer was.

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Sincerely,

A Fellow American

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Maddie Hantzsch  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:56 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting 6/5

Good morning,

My name is Maddie Hantzsch and I live in Wauwatosa (53213), Milwaukee. I am writing to you today to express my disgust and outrage at the treatment of Milwaukee's city government and Police Department's handling of the protests related to racial injustice in our city and country.

The action of calling a curfew was not in actuality a preventative measure, it was a punitive one. Milwaukee's city government and mayor knew that when such a measure was enacted, it would be used to target citizens who are outraged by the injustice perpetuated by police and the city government with unrealistic fines and arrests. This action by the mayor's office was incredibly unjust, particularly in the midst of the worst pandemic that this nation has ever seen. At a time when the city government's office is well aware that the worst economic and health impacts of COVID-19 are faced by black communities, who this measure fully intended to punish the most. And to further the inequities faced by black individuals by permanently placing an arrest or citation on their record in a time of record unemployment for black Milwaukee residents.

This curfew also marked a stark difference in how people were treated by Milwaukee police officers. This curfew marked the time when suddenly police violence in the form of tear gas (which is BANNED from use in international warfare), rubber bullets, and physical violence from clubs and batons was acceptable and frequently used. These tactics were used even on the most peaceful protesters, on those not rioting or resisting in any way. Most recently, Milwaukee's police department publicly lied about protesters throwing "molotov cocktails" to stir up support, without video evidence to back up the statement, in order to further justify violence and garner public support and distrust of protesters. The police department must be fully transparent and release video of what happened, and apologize for fabricating inaccurate information.

The city has taken no public action to stand on the side of its citizens, and in the most segregated city and with some of the highest rates of black incarceration rates, the city of Milwaukee chose division. The Mayor's office chose to not question the actions of the police office, or publicly condemn these violent actions, but rather doubled down to encourage such actions due to "rioting and looting" which accounts for a very small minority of any actions by protesters. The city government chose to be on the wrong side of history once again, willingly sacrificing the economic stability and bodies of black Milwaukee residents.

You should be ashamed. But more importantly, you must be compelled to act and change. Businesses can be rebuilt, but lives cannot be given back once taken. You must listen to black organizations and leaders which have given you a complete list of what must be changed. You must apologize for the injustices you have not acknowledged, and the ongoing injustices you continue to enact upon Milwaukee's black population.

Sincerely,  
Maddie Hantzsch

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Dan H  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:57 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Comments for the special meeting

Dear members of the Milwaukee Common Council and the Public Safety and Health Committee,

Basic expectations for the Police should be:

1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds
2. Require De-Escalation
3. Exhaust all alternatives before shooting
4. Ban shooting at moving vehicles
5. Require all force to be reported.

I feel police policy on recruitment of new police should demand disclosure of any police complaints from any former police force. That those records be made public and be a major factor in deciding if they should be hired in the first place. Any failure to disclose should be grounds for immediate termination.

I know it is not under your power but removal of qualified immunity needs to happen.

Remove any "Warrior Training" and dismiss any officer that continues to get that training.

Increase de-escalation training to at least as much time as firearm training and have an ongoing de-escalation training just like going to the range to keep those skills at the forefront of the mind.

I'd like to see a zero tolerance policy for behavior that leads to officers becoming silent due to the blue wall of silence.

Thank you for your time.

-Dan Hayes

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:27 PM  
**To:** Polanco, Joanna  
**Subject:** FW: questions re: Public Safety and Health  
**Attachments:** public safety and health.jpg

### QUESTIONS

Jim Owczarski, CMC  
City Clerk  
(414)-286-2998  
@mkeclerk

**From:** Gracie Lee [ ]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:46 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** questions re: Public Safety and Health

Hi!

Attached is the notice I found via social media to e-mail my questions before noon today.

Here are my questions for the Public Safety and Health Committee meeting at 2:30:

- If I am out past curfew peacefully protesting, will I be arrested?
- If I am out past curfew peacefully protesting, will I be tackled to the ground, shot with rubber bullets or teargas?
- If I am out past curfew peacefully protesting, will I be able to get a bus home? How much time will be given to alert me if busses will stop running?
  
- If I am out BEFORE curfew peacefully protesting, will I be arrested?
- If I am out BEFORE curfew peacefully protesting, will I be tackled to the ground, shot with rubber bullets or teargas?
- If I am out BEFORE curfew peacefully protesting, will I be able to get a bus home? How much time will be given to alert me if busses will stop running?
  
- What is the Public Safety and Health Committee doing to ensure the safety of peaceful protesters amidst the pandemic?
- What is the Public Safety and Health Committee doing to ensure that officers of the law are held accountable for any harmful or unlawful actions against citizens?

Thank you!!

-Grace Hern



**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Amy Horst  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:57 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Today's meeting

Hello,  
I'm a resident of Milwaukee 53211, and I wanted to share my thoughts on curfew and policing around it ahead of the meeting coming up shortly.

I am troubled by the practice of reviewing video footage to issue curfew citations to people exercising their constitutional right to assemble. This chilling tactic is more fitting for an authoritarian regime than for our Milwaukee.

It has also been apparent to me that the violence involved in the protests has been almost exclusively perpetrated by uniformed officers. The idea that these officers seem to be seeking any excuse to attack (with chemical weapons or with physical weapons) makes me very angry and worried. My husband has said that he no longer trusts the police — he is the least likely person to say this, so I use it as a marker of how far the MPD response is past the point of reasonable.

Thank you for your attention.

Amy Horst  
She/her  
Cambridge Woods, Milwaukee

Edwin M. Huertas Jr.

Milwaukee, WI 53212

Friday, June 5, 2020

City of Milwaukee / City Clerk's Office  
C/O City Clerk Jim Owczarski  
200 E. Wells St., Room 205  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear City of Milwaukee City Clerk Owczarski,

I write to you because this has been weighing heavy on my heart – While others will be forwarding you their thoughts on the Mayor's curfew orders, MPD treatment of protesters, their use of tear gas and rubber bullets, etc., I relay a different concern. I am gravely concerned with the FPC's silence and lack of action up until the other day (even then it seemed to be a feeble attempt at appeasing Milwaukeeans of color and our allies...).

Griselda and the FPC have not made ANY significant statement directly related to George Floyd, Black Lives Matter, the protests, and how MPD is responding to and/or treating protesters. As leaders in our community, she and the FPC Commissioners should have the foresight to detect issues affecting our city and take proactive steps to engage citizens and City departments to guide us into resolution. Unfortunately, the FPC has failed to be proactive, and quite frankly, has failed to react appropriately. Not seeing any proactive communication and any strategic action plan from them since the very beginning of all this is disheartening, socially irresponsible, and shows just how ineffective and uninterested the FPC leadership is.

Great trust was put into Griselda when she was confirmed and I was excited to see a Latina step up for such a public role, but I've yet to hear a single positive thing that's come from her work (please remind me if you can recall anything). I'm seeing she and the FPC set up a community meeting for June 23rd, but we literally just entered June and this meeting is a little less than 3 weeks away. Their lack of urgency frustrates me, the FPC's credibility continues to be called into question, our people are hurting, and we need to hear from her and the FPC.

I am human after all, so please let me know if I am missing something or speaking in error. I want to believe our elected officials and government appointees have the best interests of all Milwaukeeans at heart (I'm sure a great majority of them do), but hearing and seeing both the external and internal political conflicts, that belief is starting to wane.

Thank you.

-Edwin



**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Darren Jozefiak  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:58 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Safety and Health (Fixing Racism)

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm a citizen of Milwaukee and want to know why the police think excessive force is necessary to control unarmed peaceful protesters? Instead of using all of the police budget on setting a curfew and fighting off peaceful protester, we need to 1) declare racism a statewide emergency, 2) take 25 percent of the budgets of the Milwaukee Police Department, Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office, and State Patrol and shift the money to public health equity efforts focused on black and brown residents, 3) Demilitarize our streets and stop accepting federal surplus of military weapons, 4) Allocate emergency and permanent resources to invest in black and brown lives like counseling, improving schools, replacing lead pipes, and rebuilding black- and brown-owned businesses, 5) Audit all government institutions to identify racist practices and deliver a comprehensive plan to address the problem.

Sincerely,  
A concerns citizen of Milwaukee

## Polanco, Joanna

---

**From:** Cole Juntila <  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Milwaukee

Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to listen to the citizens of this community.

Firstly, I fully support the protests, and the protestors in their efforts to make the world, this city, and specifically their community a better place.

With that I must ask that you refrain from curfews for peaceful protests, and keep the police supervision to an absolute minimum. Specifically in regard to optics. If you must have officers, no riot gear, no tear gas, no rubber bullets, no FORCE whenever necessary.

People have a right to protest, and as unfortunate as it is that some people take advantage of these situations to loot or destroy property, those of us that support this are more than willing to help with damage, cleanup, and whatever needs to be done to keep the city safe and in good spirits.

Please keep the busses running whenever possible, and not to transport the national guard around. Public transportation is already so limited in this city, please don't take that away from those that need it, especially during this important and challenging time.

Many of us citizens also do not appreciate the city's decision to open bars and restaurants with almost no guidelines or notice. It comes off as a ploy to distract people from the issues at hand, and only endangers those works, patrons, and protestors in a multitude of ways. Please rethink this decision, or at the very least release actual guidelines and directions for these businesses to follow to keep everyone safe.

Thank you for your time, and please listen to these protestors, as they mean well and demand change.

Thank you,

Cole Juntila

--

Cole Juntila

[www.colejuntila.wixsite.com/cjpv](http://www.colejuntila.wixsite.com/cjpv)

(920) 265-2995

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:54 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Safety meeting 6/5/20

Hello,

Please see below for a list of questions that I would hope to see addressed at today's meeting:

1. What measures are being taken to ensure that police are accountable for their actions against citizens exercising their rights (videos show that there have been unprovoked egregious encounters)?
2. The use of tear gas should be immediately halted. It is incredibly harmful and the excessive use has been flooding neighborhoods and wafting into residents homes, with babies? Who will be accountable to the health affects?
3. Surveillance of citizens through social media live feeds and disrupting those feeds .
4. Use of city of equipment (I.e buses) to transport police in riot gear is unacceptable and misuses taxpayer dollars.
5. Continued militarized police presence and helicopters flying over neighborhoods is psychologically damaging to citizens and entirely unnecessary.
6. What steps are being taken to reallocate funding to the police to better serve the public health needs of the citizens.

Regards,

James

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Tejas Kaur  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Comments for Common Council

Hello,

My name is Tejas Kaur and I have been watching Milwaukee's response to the current protests to police brutality toward Black Americans. I hope the Council and Mayor Barrett will take steps to implement the following policies to decrease police violence:

- 1) Ban chokeholds and strangleholds**
- 2) Require De-Escalation**
- 3) Exhaust all alternatives before shooting**
- 4) Ban shooting at moving vehicles**
- 5) Require all force to be reported.**

Finally, I hope the council will discuss another pressing matter regarding police: Milwaukee Public Schools and Milwaukee Police Dept's partnership. In response to the murder of George Floyd and calls for non-police crisis intervention, the Minneapolis Public School system voted unanimously to end ties with the Minneapolis Police Department. I believe Milwaukee should do the same, and pursue alternatives to crises that do not involve armed police officers in our schools.

**Keep Wisconsin's kids safe and sever ties with MPD.**

Tejas Kaur

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Meghan Keech  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:55 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Comment for 6/5 Public Safety & Health Committee Special Meeting

Dear Public Safety and Health Committee, My name is Meghan Keech and I live in District 14 in the City of Milwaukee. I am writing in regards to the current protests occurring within our City and across the nation responding to the murder of George Floyd, demanding an end to police brutality and the systemic racism upon which current policing and so many other systems and policies currently operate within our nation and our own City.

The enactment of curfews, especially without proper notice, is encouragement for police officers to act aggressively and arrest peaceful protestors. It is an inefficient ordinance and should no longer be enacted.

In your discussions about the operational definition of "civil unrest," please understand that the people who have been marching on the streets the past week are peaceful protestors demanding racial justice. Calling the current happenings civil unrest is sending a message loud and clear: the leaders of our City and the MPD care about physical property over Black lives. Property can be replaced. Black lives cannot.

The current enforcement of these peaceful protests by MPD is unlawful and is NOT protecting Milwaukee's civilians. Issuing tickets, citations, and arrests is unlawful. Detaining peaceful protestors without food, water, a phone call, and no rights read is unlawful. The use of tear gas, a chemical banned in war, being used during a global pandemic of a respiratory virus is unlawful. The use of rubber bullets is unlawful. This needs to stop immediately. The residents of our City have a right to protest peacefully in our streets without facing the very same police aggression that they are protesting against.

The City of Milwaukee is reacting to Black pain by calling more police on our communities. This is not the solution. If you as the Common Council on this committee believe in investing in Milwaukee's communities, especially our Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities, I implore you to demand the Milwaukee Police Department and National Guard end the use of tear gas and rubber bullets on peaceful protestors. It is clear that major reform needs to happen with the policing in our country and in the City of Milwaukee, but the first step is to immediately call on the Milwaukee Police Department to end their use of force on peaceful protestors.

We want our voices heard and an end to these unlawful actions immediately. I am hopeful the committee, who is dedicated to the public safety and health of Milwaukeeans, will agree and will voice these same demands.

Respectfully,

Meghan Keech

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Lyndsey Kuhlmann  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:59 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Policing

Thank you for requesting input from the community on the issue of the police response to the peaceful protests happening in Milwaukee right now.

As a member of the community, I'm appalled at how the police response to the protest has been handled. The curfews in place appear to be a ploy for the police to resort to violent measures and make excessive arrests in order to "tame" the otherwise peaceful crowd of people using their constitutional right to assemble and make their concerns known.

Shutting down the bus system early makes it impossible and unsafe for many members of our community to get where they need to go -- be it home or to work.

It's particularly appalling that tear gas - an irritant that provokes excessive coughing, crying and an instinct to spit the irritant out of one's mouth - is being used during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is a human rights issue first and foremost, but it is also a public health issue. The unnecessary use of tear gas will further the spread of COVID-19, crippling our city's physical and financial health.

As a resident of the Harambee neighborhood, I've been kept awake at night by helicopters circling our otherwise quiet neighborhood creating what feels like a war zone. While I'm not a person of color, the majority of my neighborhood is and the sounds are oppressive and fear inducing. It's comes across as power move -- reminding our community where we stand in the eyes of the MPD.

Again, thank you for asking for input on this topic.  
Lyndsey Kuhlmann  
53212

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Kovac, Nik  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:13 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Cc:** Kovac, Nik  
**Subject:** FW: Resident of District 3 with public comment for 6/5 Public Safety & Health Committee Special Meeting

Can this be added to file?

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Amanda (Williams) Cervantes  
Legislative Assistant  
Alderman Nik Kovac, 3rd District  
200 E. Wells St. Room 205  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414.286.3447 / [aide3@milwaukee.gov](mailto:aide3@milwaukee.gov)

**From:** Maggie Laughner  
**Sent:** Friday, June 5, 2020 12:09 PM  
**To:** Kovac, Nik <[nkovac@milwaukee.gov](mailto:nkovac@milwaukee.gov)>  
**Subject:** Resident of District 3 with public comment for 6/5 Public Safety & Health Committee Special Meeting

My name is Maggie Laughner and I live in District 3 in the City of Milwaukee.

***First and foremost, I would appreciate a response to this email, describing what is being done to protect all of this city's people and promote equality and security for everyone. Especially BIPOC and under-represented portions of our population.***

I am writing in regards to the current protests occurring within our City and across the nation responding to the murder of George Floyd, demanding an end to police brutality and the systemic racism upon which current policing and so many other systems and policies currently operate within our nation and within Milwaukee.

I wish to make a comment regarding the enactment of curfews, especially without proper notice. It clearly results in encouragement for police officers to act aggressively and arrest peaceful protestors. It is an inefficient ordinance and should no longer be enacted.

In your discussions about the operational definition of "civil unrest," please understand that the people who have been marching on the streets the past week are peaceful protestors demanding racial justice. Calling the current happenings civil unrest is sending a message loud and clear: the leaders of our City and the MPD care about physical property over Black lives. Property can be replaced. Black lives cannot.

The current enforcement by MPD is unlawful and is NOT protecting Milwaukee's civilians. Issuing tickets, citations, and arrests is unlawful. Detaining peaceful protestors without food, water, a phone call, and no rights read is unlawful. The use of tear gas, a chemical banned in war, being used during a global pandemic of a respiratory virus is unlawful. The use of rubber bullets is unlawful. This needs to stop immediately. The residents of Milwaukee have a right to protest peacefully in our streets without facing the very same police aggression that they are protesting against.

The City of Milwaukee is reacting to Black pain by calling more police on our communities. This is not the solution.

If you as the Common Council on this committee believe in investing in Milwaukee's communities, especially our Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities, I implore you to demand the Milwaukee Police Department and National Guard end the use of tear gas and rubber bullets on peaceful protestors. It is clear that major reform needs to happen with the policing in our country and in the City of Milwaukee, but the first step is to immediately call on the Milwaukee Police Department to end their use of force on peaceful protestors.

We want our voices heard and an end to these unlawful actions immediately. I am hopeful the committee, who is dedicated to the public safety and health of Milwaukeeans, will agree and will voice these same demands.

Respectfully,  
Maggie Laughner  
Resident of District 3 in Milwaukee



## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Kylie Leverette  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** City Curfews/ Police Force

Hello, I am emailing you because it is my duty as a citizen of Milwaukee county to voice my opinions and share my feelings about the current state of events. I feel that the curfew is only being enforced because the police want to make it illegal to protest and exercise our first amendment rights. I think it's shameful and oppressive. Where were the curfews during the pandemic? It makes no sense and it shows the complete lack of care about the socio-political climate we are all enduring. The protests have been peaceful and they will continue regardless of the laws. Just because something is "illegal" does not mean it is wrong. Shame on you.

Kylie Leverette

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Mar Sc  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Health and public safety

example email:

Dear committee members,

Good morning,

First, I would like to address the mayor's curfews. The curfews, as no doubt you have seen now, have been largely ineffective. What the curfews have provided is rationale for further police action against the peaceful protestors, as well as allowing police action against citizens who need to walk home from bus stops, work, or other locations to comply with the curfews. I understand the ideas behind enacting the curfews, but based on the evidence we have seen, they are not effective measures for stopping protestors. Nor should we want to silence the peaceful protestors who are pushing for important police reforms. No more curfews.

Second, I want to address the clear cases of police aggression that have been documented by local activists, politicians, and the media. The police have been documented escalating crises by surrounding protestors, preventing them from dispersing when ordered to do so. Police then use this non-dispersal to justify spraying protestors with tear-gas, which causes more chaos. This is unacceptable behavior. Furthermore, the unacceptable fabrication of evidence (a Molotov cocktail made from a crushed plastic bottle?) is concerning and further demonstrates the police's desire to escalate what have otherwise been peaceful protests. Police Chief Alfonso Morales's management of the department has been unacceptable and he must resign, or at the very least not be reappointed to the position following his performance review.

Third, the constant circling of helicopters overhead is absolutely unacceptable. This is the sort of thing one might expect in a police state (which based on recent actions, we perhaps find ourselves in). Not all of these helicopters are newscopters. Some are police helicopters and some are national guard helicopters. These aircraft are disrupting people's sleep, preventing people from feeling comfortable in their own homes, and make citizens feel like they are being constantly surveilled. Stop flying helicopters over our neighborhoods.

Finally, a word about our protests: Milwaukee has had its own share of police murders of black folks that have gone without justice. To protest police brutality only to have the police respond as brutally as they have been is unacceptable and highlights the multitude of ways in which the Milwaukee Police Department desperately needs reform. I am pushing for five easy reforms that will readily make all residents safer:

1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds.
2. Require de-escalation tactics to be taught and used.
3. Require officers to exhaust all other means (including de-escalation tactics) before shooting.
4. Ban shooting at moving vehicles in all cases.
5. Require comprehensive reporting of all use of force, including pointing a weapon at civilians.

Additionally, we need to reduce funding for the police department and redirect that funding towards community development and restoration in order to repair the communities that police brutality has devastated. Particularly, this money needs to go towards assisting the black communities the police have been brutalizing for years. Our city needs a change. Defund the police and introduce substantial reforms to make our communities safer.

Martice Scales

Peace wanting member of the Milwaukee community

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Spiker, Scott  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:45 PM  
**To:** Tracy Liegler; Owczarski, Jim  
**Cc:** Peterson, Todd  
**Subject:** Re: Dear Alderman Spiker

Jim: Received just prior to noon.

Tracy: Thank you for your feedback.

Might I ask whether you live in the district, and if so, what your address is?

I will pass this along so that the Chair of the committee hearing this item can be made aware of your concerns and suggestions as well.

If you have any links to articles or stories about these other programs (we can do our own research, but it might be a good starting point), please feel free to pass them along to me.

Many thanks,  
Scott

**Alderman Scott Spiker**  
City of Milwaukee  
District 13, The Garden District  
Desk: 414.286.8537  
Cell: 414.708.1884  
[Scott.Spiker@milwaukee.gov](mailto:Scott.Spiker@milwaukee.gov)

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**From:** Tracy Liegler <[tracy.liegler@cityofmilwaukee.gov](mailto:tracy.liegler@cityofmilwaukee.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 5, 2020 11:07 AM  
**To:** Spiker, Scott <[Scott.Spiker@milwaukee.gov](mailto:Scott.Spiker@milwaukee.gov)>  
**Subject:** Dear Alderman Spiker

Good morning,

I am writing as a city of Milwaukee resident to express my concern and outrage with the use of tear gas and rubber bullets on peaceful protestors. The MPD should be working with the protestors to create safety for all. The violent response proves the need for action and change. MPD should be creating policy proposals to address police brutality, modeled after cities who have experienced success with employing use of force policies and support by mental health care workers such as in Eugene, Oregon and Los Angeles.

The curfews, tear gassing, and suspended bus service needs to end. Allow the peaceful protest and bring forth policy changes within MPD.

Thank you,

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** annie@  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:53 AM  
**To:** Coggs, Milele; Owczarski, Jim; Medhin, Ted  
**Subject:** Public Comment for June 5 Public Safety & Health Committee Special Meeting

Dear Respected Committee & Milwaukee Leadership,

My name is Annie Minga and I am a lifelong resident of Milwaukee, a mother of two teenage daughters, and an engineer.

Please do not shoot the protestors.

Please do not shoot my daughters.

Please do not shoot Milwaukee.

I am frightened.

Law enforcement and the military are trained in warfare.

My daughters and the Milwaukee residents are looking for a voice are not trained in warfare.

They are frightened.

Please provide SECURITY during the marches.

Please walk with those who are looking for a voice.

Please provide a safe platform for discussions.

Please actively develop a plan to stop killing Milwaukee residents.

NOW PLEASE!!

When my babies are emotional and confused on the streets late night, please do not shoot them.

When Milwaukee sons and daughters are angry, please comfort them, and do not bomb them with tear gas or spike their cars or shoot them.

Please keep the busses running at night. These kids need to get home safely.

Please do not arrest Mothers coming home from work late night because of a curfew.

What happened at District 2 that night with all of those women who broke curfew?

Why didn't they get food or water for over 12 hours?

Please stop shooting at Milwaukee. Please actively comfort us. Milwaukee needs your help.

Respectfully and Supportive,

Anne Minga

3818 N Humboldt Blvd

Milwaukee Wisconsin 53212

414-312-1938

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Nathalie Luciano  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:56 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Milwaukee County Civil Unrest

Hello!

My name is Arianna and I wanted to reach out to you in regards to what has been happening since Thursday night. I started my protest journey on Friday night and haven't stopped since because of what I've witnessed from the MPD and the National Guard. On Friday, we arrived at District 5 completely peaceful although angry of why we have to protest in the first place. While kneeling, they threw tear gas right in our faces and then proceeded to shoot off rubber bullets. At that time is when the community became upset because we were there peacefully gathering and chanting how we wanted peace. Some dispersed while other refused to be moved. They brought out their riot gear as if anticipating on a fight that we didn't mind giving them. However, that is not the reason we went there. Saturday we were once again peaceful and were met again with tear gas, this time, they cornered all the walking protestors and bombed them, started actually assaulting some by pushing them over, using force that shouldn't be used on ANYONE. Sunday we made it to Oakland near Capitol where we were met with NATIONAL GUARDS, MPD, Shorewood Police, and even the State Troopers. The National Guards were like high school bullies to be as descriptive as possible. One guard was smiling and grinning at us as he held his gun to me and the other protestors faces. They surrounded us like cattle and started pulling people out of the line up to be arrested. When asked if we were free to go or if we were being detained, ONE officer literally laughed and said "It's too late". The National Guard sergeant had to literally PUSH MPD out of the way to create a space for us to walk through . Monday we walked from Water Street downtown all the way to Bayshore Mall. AMAZING! We were peacefully grouped and were polite to officers even offering them something to drink along the way. We got through Shorewood and Glendale with ease until we crossed back over into Milwaukee. On Port Washington is where the National Guard and the MPD all cornered us, assaulted us, and tear gassed us. The National Guard was RUNNING INTO OUR VEHICLES. Causing damage to others property and possibly hurting people. My friends and I had to hop a fence and run a mile to get away from them. I was scared that I wouldn't make it home but I did. The other's who lost their lives to police brutality did not. This is why we march. This is why we use our 1st Amendment Right to speak up when something isn't right. We did. We got hurt by the people who were supposed to listen to us. We want and need change. Thank you for hearing my story. Stay safe.

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Laura Maigatter  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:57 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Police Policy Changes - URGENT

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Laura Maigatter. I am writing to you as a citizen of Milwaukee, Wisconsin in regard to the violent response from the Milwaukee Police Department during peaceful protests and other affairs that require police presence.

I urge you to change policing policies in order to appropriately and effectively protect and serve our community. Data proves that together, the *following eight policies can decrease police violence by 72%*. Here are the eight policies that must be implemented *immediately*.

1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds.
2. Require de-escalation to allow officers more time, distance, space, and tactical flexibility during dynamic situations on the street.
3. Require warning before firing ANY weapon (automatic weapons, mace, rubber bullet rifles, teargas, etc.).
4. Exhaust ALL other means before firing ANY weapon.
5. Duty to intervene; to hold officers liable for failing to rescue another party who could face potential injury or death without intervention.
6. Ban shooting at moving targets, vehicles.
7. Require use of force continuum (infographic attached).
8. Require comprehensive reporting.

We must act now. We consider these measures a first step to addressing systemic issues and are geared to keeping the protests against police violence free from police violence.

Thank you,  
Laura



## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Kari Nervig  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:59 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** From a parent of Edward's COA classmate...my letter

Dear Jim,

I would like to submit the same comments that many have already submitted as they have been some wonderfully captured below. I would like to add a personal note: While we rarely interacted in the time that your son and my daughter were in day care together, I have bore witness to your son's development and brilliance as a young boy. As a 17 year employee and youth serving advocate for teens in the neighborhood, I often witnessed, first hand, the impact of policing on the young men and women I served and loved. I want to see them grow up without fear or violence as I have been able to raise my own, and hopefully holds true for yours.

Dear Committee Members;

First, I would like to address the mayor's curfews. The curfews, as no doubt you have seen now, have been largely ineffective. What the curfews have provided is rationale for further police action against the peaceful protestors, as well as allowing police action against citizens who need to walk home from bus stops, work, or other locations to comply with the curfews. I understand the ideas behind enacting the curfews, but based on the evidence we have seen, they are not effective measures for stopping protestors. Nor should we want to silence the peaceful protestors who are pushing for important police reforms. No more curfews.

Second, I want to address the clear cases of police aggression that have been documented by local activists, politicians, and the media. The police have been documented escalating crises by surrounding protestors, preventing them from dispersing when ordered to do so. Police then use this non-dispersal to justify spraying protestors with tear-gas, which causes more chaos. This is unacceptable behavior. Furthermore, the unacceptable fabrication of evidence (a Molotov cocktail made from a crushed plastic bottle?) is concerning and further demonstrates the police's desire to escalate what have otherwise been peaceful protests. Police Chief Alfonso Morales's management of the department has been unacceptable and he must resign, or at the very least not be reappointed to the position following his performance review.

Third, the constant circling of helicopters overhead is absolutely unacceptable. This is the sort of thing one might expect in a police state (which based on recent actions, we perhaps find ourselves in). Not all of these helicopters are news copters. Some are police helicopters and some are national guard helicopters. These aircraft are disrupting people's sleep, preventing people from feeling comfortable in their own homes, and make citizens feel like they are being constantly surveilled. Stop flying helicopters over our neighborhoods.

Finally, a word about our protests: Milwaukee has had its own share of police murders of black folks that have gone without justice. To protest police brutality only to have the police respond as brutally as they have been is unacceptable and highlights the multitude of ways in which the Milwaukee Police Department desperately needs reform. I am pushing for five easy reforms that will readily make all residents safer:

1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds.
2. Require de-escalation tactics to be taught and used.
3. Require officers to exhaust all other means (including de-escalation tactics) before shooting.
4. Ban shooting at moving vehicles in all cases.
5. Require comprehensive reporting of all use of force, including pointing a weapon at civilians.

Additionally, we need to reduce funding for the police department and redirect that funding towards community development and restoration in order to repair the communities that police brutality has devastated. Particularly,

this money needs to go towards assisting the black communities the police have been brutalizing for years. Our city needs a change. Defund the police and introduce substantial reforms to make our communities safer.

Sincerely and with resolve,  
Kari Nervig  
Milwaukee resident  
Youth advocate  
Non-profit leader  
Mother  
Wife

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Shelby Page ·  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Input for the June 5 Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting

Dear Public Safety and Health Committee,

My name is Shelby Page and I live in District 14 in the City of Milwaukee. In the past week, we've watched our city come together to protest the brutal and unlawful killing of George Floyd, and numerous other Black people, at the hands of police. This murder, these repeated murders, along with the systematic racism that breeds the mentality that use of this type of force and violence is appropriate, is what is being protested. And yet, these peaceful protests are being met with the same type of violence they're working to fight against. It seems as though it should be absolutely cut and dry, that clearly the answer to protests against police violence isn't more armour, more military vehicles, more weapons, more methods of harming citizens of every race and background who are putting their safety on the lines to fight for justice, but instead approaching with peace and an understanding that unlawful violence only causes more unrest. Unfortunately, we've witnessed countless times now that our police somehow can't see this, or more likely, don't want to. When everything you've been surrounded with as a police officer works to reinforce the mindset that Black means danger, then there is no reasonable end to this brutality in sight if those in positions of governmental power don't step up and take action towards vast changes in the role of police in the community.

When a curfew is put in place, a step in the wrong direction is taken. We have seen this so clearly in Milwaukee. Curfews give police permission to take unnecessary action against protesters who have otherwise been incredibly peaceful throughout this, especially considering the gravity of the situation, and especially in this city. The most violent nights have been those in which curfews have been in place; we see this now, after the past three have had no curfew and those protesting have kept the peace. No one genuinely protesting is trying to cause unnecessary harm in any way, and all a curfew does is prevent those trying to peacefully fight for justice from continuing on.

I'd like to address one other thing before concluding: we have an opportunity to take a stand here in Milwaukee. We have thousands of good people who want to fight for reform and are willing to put their safety at risk to do so. Those thousands are not the ones looting, or rioting, and causing harm. They are protesting. Peacefully. Milwaukee police, show up without the riot gear. Show up without the tanks, without the National Guard, and protect our protesters. Walk with them, listen to them, and realize they are not the outside forces that are trying to incite violence. We have the opportunity to set an example for the rest of the country, and I fully believe the people here are willing to fight to do so.

Thank you for your time,

Shelby Page

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Heidi Pennell  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:56 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** curfew/civil unrest

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to communicate my concerns regarding the MPD's response to peaceful protests, a right afforded to our citizen by the first amendment.

I have heard that the Molotov cocktail which was the MPD's incentive to end the protests and initiate curfew was in fact MPD equipment. I did not personally witness this event and cannot say whether this is true information. But if true, this would indicate serious police corruption. It is not acceptable to incite violence as a cop and it is not okay to use tear gas on citizens; this practice was banned by the Geneva convention in 1993.

I am writing to the request that these matters are investigated thoroughly by a neutral third party, and that the whole truth is of the incident is made public to the community.

Our city has every right to protest insidious and pervasive racial discrimination which has been a shameful stain on our country since its inception. We are working to gain justice and equality for ALL citizens, which is the ultimate act of patriotism.

I am a nurse who works at Froedtert hospital, regularly dealing with violent patients. Patients become violent due to delirium, brain injury, substance withdrawal, and other various health concerns. It would NEVER occur to me or any other nurse I know to restrain a violent patient by the neck. We restrain arms and legs and stay away from the face to avoid being spit or bitten. If we were to restrain a patient by the neck we would definitely be disciplined, and probably fired and charged with battery, and rightfully so. We prioritize safety above all else, in all circumstances. If we fail to behave in a safe manner we are held accountable for our actions. The same needs to be true for police, who have vowed to "serve and protect." Police who incite violence need to be released from their jobs immediately and held legally accountable for their actions. Our citizens deserve the right to protest police brutality against African Americans which has been happening for far to long.

We need to prioritize the safety of our community.... regardless of race, creed, sex, gender, age, body type, disability status, etc.

I trust that this very serious matter will be investigated thoroughly.

Thank you for your time.  
Heidi Pennell

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:43 PM  
**To:** Polanco, Joanna  
**Subject:** FW: Question

## QUESTIONS

Jim Owczarski, CMC  
City Clerk  
(414)-286-2998  
@mkeclerk

**From:** Alexi Person  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:56 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Question

Hi,

I wanted to inquire as to why the police tweeted a picture of a plastic water bottle and a water filter and accused protesters of throwing a Molotov?

Thank you,

Alexi Person

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Dimitrijevic, Marina  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** Alyse Pfeil; Owczarski, Jim  
**Cc:** Polanco, Joanna  
**Subject:** Re: HIGH IMPORTANCE - Questions for Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting - Friday 6/5/20 at 2:30pm

Thank you for writing. I share your concerns about the use of force by our officers against peaceful protestors, and we are working to direct all complaints to the Fire and Police Commission for investigation. We also want to see long term solutions. There is a special Common Council hearing being held on this topic tomorrow: Special Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting 6/5/2020.

I am sharing your email with our clerk to ensure your concern is heard at the hearing. Your personal information will be redacted for this purpose.

Terri Williams  
Legislative Assistant  
Milwaukee Common Council  
Alderswoman Marina Dimitrijevic | 14th District  
200 East Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414.286.2873 | fax 414.286.3456  
[Terri.Williams@milwaukee.gov](mailto:Terri.Williams@milwaukee.gov)

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**From:** Alyse Pfeil  
**Sent:** Friday, June 5, 2020 11:49:08 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim <[jowcza@milwaukee.gov](mailto:jowcza@milwaukee.gov)>  
**Cc:** Polanco, Joanna <[jpolan@milwaukee.gov](mailto:jpolan@milwaukee.gov)>; Dimitrijevic, Marina <[Marina@milwaukee.gov](mailto:Marina@milwaukee.gov)>  
**Subject:** HIGH IMPORTANCE - Questions for Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting - Friday 6/5/20 at 2:30pm

Please address the following questions and comments at today's Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting:

- How do we define uncivil rest?
- If peaceful protestors are provoked, antagonized or afraid due to the militarization of our police officers they should have the right to defend themselves. De-escalation should be a best practice.
- How effective are curfews?
- Are curfews antagonizing people?
- Where is the Fire and Police Commission as they provide oversight over Chief Morales and the police department? Each person on that Commission is appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the Common Council.
- Are there consequences for the Fire and Police Commission not holding police officers and departments accountable?
- Why does the City get sued instead of the police department if a police officer murders, harasses or abuses citizens? Taxpayers dollars should not go toward that.

Thank you,

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Andrea Pharris  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:57 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Today's Public Safety Meeting

Hello,

My name is Andrea Pharris and am a Milwaukee resident.

I do not support the use of a curfew, especially during this time. It has been used as a tool for the police to antagonize and use force against peaceful protesters. A curfew is being used as an attempt to silence voices that need to be heard. Additionally, cutting off the city's only public transportation is a disservice to the city's residents, not just those who are protesting and would like to get home, but those who are trying to get home from work, picking up children from childcare, etc.

In addition, I would like to see the following requests addressed. Please bring these to the discussion on your citizens' behalf!

- Declare racism a statewide emergency.
- Take 25 percent of the budgets of the Milwaukee Police Department, Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office, and State Patrol and shift the money to public health equity efforts focused on black and brown residents.
- Demilitarize our streets and stop accepting federal surplus of military weapons.
- Allocate emergency and permanent resources to invest in black and brown lives like counseling, improving schools, replacing lead pipes, and rebuilding black- and brown-owned businesses.
- Audit all government institutions to identify racist practices and deliver a comprehensive plan to address the problem.

Thank you for your time,

Andrea



## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Andy Pilarski  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:53 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** meeting of public safety opinion

Greetings Mr. Owczarski,

I am writing to submit my opinion and outrage in regards to how the Milwaukee Police department and City of Milwaukee are handling the current protests. While I am uncertain of your stance on these matters at this time, I would like to stress that these opinions are not directed at you personally. First and foremost, the tactics being used are ghoulish. Tear Gassing 20 something year olds and shooting rubber bullets at protestors is a direct violation of so many laws and standards, but really, it's just plain inhumane. I get it, protestors have been doing some tiresome things to get attention. I don't support them going into neighborhoods at 1:30am and scaring families, but I feel as though they have been left with no choice. Has any police officer incurred ANY injury at this point from protestors? Do you know how far it would go if the police made their presence without the use of riot gear? It seems so damn obvious that it's all a big scare tactic, but I personally know police officers who relish in the fact that they get to play dress up and shoot at people that they are "allowed" to fire upon. I understand the need to protect the men and women who serve this great city, but keep the riot gear out of sight until it is needed and I'm willing to bet you see a major difference in how the protestors react. I know there is still the danger of a plastic water bottle here or there, but I think the people in blue can handle it. These protests aren't stopping anytime soon and the mayoral decision to open up bars and restaurants is transparent to even the most simple minded of citizens. That decision has only cemented people's stance on this topic and will make people fight even harder, myself included. I assure you, I've never been much of an activist before outside of the art that I make or the conversations that I have, but you have pushed regular people to their breaking points. NO ONE wants violence with the exception of some police officers and some renegade white supremacists, but people are slowly being pushed in that direction. It feels like a ploy. Listen to these people, find a compromise. Send elected officials into the street to meet with the protestors and let them know their voice will incite major change in the city's policies. I know these words don't mean very much, but I know there are millions out there who are coming out of the woodwork to make change happen. Please be on the right side of history with this, you owe it to your city and the world.

In solidarity,  
Andy Pilarski



**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Claire Putchinski  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 2:39 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** POLICE POLICY CHANGES - URGENT

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Claire Putchinski. I am writing to you as a citizen of Milwaukee, Wisconsin in regard to the violent response from the Milwaukee Police Department during peaceful protests and other affairs that require police presence.

I urge you to change policing policies in order to appropriately and effectively protect and serve our community. Data proves that together, the *following eight policies can decrease police violence by 72%*. Here are the eight policies that must be implemented *immediately*.

1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds.
2. Require de-escalation to allow officers more time, distance, space, and tactical flexibility during dynamic situations on the street.
3. Require warning before firing ANY weapon (automatic weapons, mace, rubber bullet rifles, teargas, etc.).
4. Exhaust ALL other means before firing ANY weapon.
5. Duty to intervene; to hold officers liable for failing to rescue another party who could face potential injury or death without intervention.
6. Ban shooting at moving targets, vehicles.
7. Require use of force continuum (infographic attached).
8. Require comprehensive reporting.

We must act now.

Thank you,  
Claire Putchinski

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Barbara Rasman  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Buses should not shut down at 10pm

Please tell Tom Barrett not to shut down the buses at 10pm this weekend. This is obviously meant to make it more difficult for protesters to return home.

thanks,

George Wagner  
3300 N Newhall St.  
Milwaukee

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Nora Rasmar  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Comment Submission - Nora Rasman 060520

June 5, 2020  
Via email:

To the Public Safety & Health Committee of the City of Milwaukee:

My name is Nora Rasman and I am a Milwaukee resident writing to express my deep concern about the city's negligent response to recent uprisings and organizing against police brutality. The excessive use of force used by the Milwaukee Police Department must be investigated and swift action must be taken to stop militarized police responses to communities' concerns.

I have been concerned with Milwaukee's willingness to mimic other cities implementing curfews that fail to confront the demands of organizers while also criminalizing people, overwhelming Black folks, at exorbitant fees for being outside.

Additionally, the decision to cut night bus service for the weekend will put more people at risk: decreasing transportation for folks who already rely on public transit options, forcing folks into the streets to then be targeted by police or private vehicles where COVID transfer is heightened.

Given these concerns, I am in full support of the public demands for accountability as follows:

1. Declare racism a statewide emergency and dedicate resources and time to confronting and dismantling this system of oppression.
2. Remove all police and policing resources from targeting Black and Brown communities and move resources into public and mental health solutions.
3. Protect the rights of protestors by withdrawing the National Guard and revoking all curfew fines, tickets and related expenses.
4. The immediate firing and criminal charging of Michael Mattioli, the MPD officer who killed Joel Acevedo. Mattioli and his three unnamed accomplices should be held accountable by law immediately.

Thank you for attention to these matters.

Nora Rasman  
3149 N Bremen Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53212

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Nora Rasman  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:59 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Comment Submission (sent on behalf of Cesar Cornier)

My name is Cesar and I am a lifelong resident of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. I find it appalling that the City of Milwaukee has mobilized the National Guard, and continues to militarize its police in attempts to stop or intimidate those interested in practicing their rights as Americans to peacefully protest. The use of tear gas is banned from the U.N since the Geneva Convention, and is unacceptable to be used on civilians peacefully protesting. Extreme militarization and use of force will only escalate tensions between civilians and law enforcement moving forward. We need to build trust between law enforcement and elected officials, threatening to impose aggressive tactics on civilians will only add more tension. I want to know why Chief Morales did not choose to fire officer Matt Matioli for the murder of unarmed 25 year old Joel Acevedo. Not only is Officer Matioli not fired, but he is still getting paid during this process. As a tax paying citizen I do not want my money allocated to pay for cops facing homicide charges. The curfew has also been a tool to persecute minorities in an attempt to criminalize people for just being outside. This is unacceptable and is a divisive strategy to further separate law enforcement from its citizens.

Cesar Cornier

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Madie Rech  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:59 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Comment for 6/5 Public Safety & Health Committee Special Meeting

Dear Public Safety and Health Committee,

My name is Madeline Rech and I live in District 2 in the City of Milwaukee. I am writing in regards to the current protests occurring within our City and across the nation responding to the murder of George Floyd, demanding an end to police brutality and the systemic racism upon which current policing and so many other systems and policies currently operate within our nation and our own City.

The enactment of curfews, especially without proper notice, is encouragement for police officers to act aggressively and arrest peaceful protestors. It is an inefficient ordinance and should no longer be enacted.

In your discussions about the operational definition of "civil unrest," please understand that the people who have been marching on the streets the past week are peaceful protestors demanding racial justice. Calling the current happenings civil unrest is sending a message loud and clear: the leaders of our City and the MPD care about physical property over Black lives. Property can be replaced. Black lives cannot.

The current enforcement of these peaceful protests by MPD is unlawful and is NOT protecting Milwaukee's civilians. Issuing tickets, citations, and arrests is unlawful. Detaining peaceful protestors without food, water, a phone call, and no rights read is unlawful. The use of tear gas, a chemical banned in war, being used during a global pandemic of a respiratory virus is unlawful. The use of rubber bullets is unlawful. This needs to stop immediately. The residents of our City have a right to protest peacefully in our streets without facing the very same police aggression that they are protesting against.

The City of Milwaukee is reacting to Black pain by calling more police on our communities. This is not the solution. If you as the Common Council on this committee believe in investing in Milwaukee's communities, especially our Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities, I implore you to demand the Milwaukee Police Department and National Guard end the use of tear gas and rubber bullets on peaceful protestors. It is clear that major reform needs to happen with the policing in our country and in the City of Milwaukee, but the first step is to immediately call on the Milwaukee Police Department to end their use of force on peaceful protestors.

We want our voices heard and an end to these unlawful actions immediately. I am hopeful the committee, who is dedicated to the public safety and health of Milwaukeeans, will agree and will voice these same demands.

Respectfully,

Madeline Rech

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Anthony Siever  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:56 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Curfew Feedback

Hi there,

I'm submitting feedback out of concern for the people of my city.

Recently, America has been learning about the brutal nature of our police.

With this, we've seen peaceful protests, televised instances of lootings, and a reaction from the police that has done nothing but escalate the situation.

The violent reactions from the police only tells people that their protests are necessary, and that there is something fundamentally wrong with the authority that we have granted them.

This is an American problem, but we are responsible for our city.

The curfew seems to be an attempt to control the situation and preserve the nature and way of life of our city. Unfortunately, it seems to be doing the opposite.

It gives more power to the police; it gives them a reason to randomly stop anyone, arrest anyone, bring violence upon anyone guilty of being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Looking at the protestors and listening to the people right now, we cannot trust the police with that authority.

Allowing these curfews to go on is hearing the people and actively telling them that you do not care if the police have another reason to fall back on for kneeling on our necks.

Thank you for listening.



## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Johanna Rose  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:58 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Safety and Health Committee june 5 2020

On June 1st at 915 PM a friend of mine and I were walking down Milwaukee Ave with a case of water and a box of granola bars. An unmarked police car pulled up and told my friend she was under arrest. I began filming it live on instagram. The community watched with me as my friend was questioned over a case of water and box of granola bars. The police kept telling me to go home or I would be arrested too. I didn't feel comfortable leaving her with them - they weren't even wearing masks. On my instagram the last thing people saw was an officer yelling "your coming too" and then charging at me and then my livestream goes dead. We were then cuffed and put into a mobile jail. They didn't take my name or check my ID, they just cuffed me, refusing to let me put my mask up. I was very concerned about being held in the tight space with other people and no ventilation because of the global pandemic - "Don't believe everything you see on TV," said the officer as he cuffed me, suggesting that the pandemic wasn't real. I was detained with 26-30 women in the garage of the 2nd district police station. We were handcuffed/ zip tied for 8-12 hours, many with there hands behind their back. My friend was handcuffed with her hands behind her back for 7 hours. We were constantly told to get closer to ech other, there was no regard to social distancing. There was one bench women were handcuffed to and 3 chairs. There were however so many of us so most of us had to stand eventually sitting on the floor. We were without food or water (we eventually convinced our keepers to disperse the case of water we were arrested with, however they refused to disperse the box of granola bars and chips we had with us). There were several pregnant women. One woman had a c-section two weeks prior, and was experiencing abdominal pain, needed to breast pump and was throwing up in a garbage can. "I'm just so hunger," said another woman. Another woman who was 4 months pregnant was throwing up in a garbage can as well. The Sergeant Mcaleer ( I believe) would come into the garage and eat pizza in front of us and smoke cigarettes. They slowly trickled us into the 16 individual cells they had at the 2nd district, taking our finger prints and pictures and containing us for an additional 2-4 hours. I was released after 10 hours, many were kept 12 hours. When I was released at 7 AM I posted on socials to call the 2nd district and demand they release the women still being held. People got on the phone and everyone was released by 10 AM. We were all charged with curfew citations. Most women were not involved with the protest. They were just trying to get home, many getting their cars spiked, and arrested at gun point. Many had children who were waiting for them, family friends but we weren't given a phone call. I think about how scared those families were. All of this for a curfew citation - a law we've never known in our entire lives that was made up out of fear less then 72hours before they took us. To reiterate - the Police held 32 women overnight, with no consideration of corona virus, no food, no phone call, and no regard to the women that were pregnant and sick, no regard to any of us. All because people are fighting against police brutality. More police brutality is not the solution to the community expressing their issues with police brutality.

- Johanna Rose

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Eric Sanford  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:57 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Demand an End to Police Violence

Dear committee members,

First, I would like to address the mayor's curfews. The curfews, as no doubt you have seen now, have been largely ineffective. What the curfews have provided is rationale for further police action against the peaceful protestors, as well as allowing police action against citizens who need to walk home from bus stops, work, or other locations to comply with the curfews. I understand the ideas behind enacting the curfews, but based on the evidence we have seen, they are not effective measures for stopping protestors. Nor should we want to silence the peaceful protestors who are pushing for important police reforms. No more curfews.

Second, I want to address the clear cases of police aggression that have been documented by local activists, politicians, and the media. The police have been documented escalating crises by surrounding protestors, preventing them from dispersing when ordered to do so. Police then use this non-dispersal to justify spraying protestors with tear-gas, which causes more chaos. This is unacceptable behavior. Furthermore, the unacceptable fabrication of evidence (a Molotov cocktail made from a crushed plastic bottle?) is concerning and further demonstrates the police's desire to escalate what have otherwise been peaceful protests. Police Chief Alfonso Morales's management of the department has been unacceptable and he must resign, or at the very least not be reappointed to the position following his performance review.

Third, the constant circling of helicopters overhead is absolutely unacceptable. This is the sort of thing one might expect in a police state (which based on recent actions, we perhaps find ourselves in). Not all of these helicopters are news copters. Some are police helicopters and some are national guard helicopters. These aircraft are disrupting people's sleep, preventing people from feeling comfortable in their own homes, and make citizens feel like they are being constantly surveilled. Stop flying helicopters over our neighborhoods.

Finally, a word about our protests: Milwaukee has had its own share of police murders of black folks that have gone without justice. To protest police brutality only to have the police respond as brutally as they have been is unacceptable and highlights the multitude of ways in which the Milwaukee Police Department desperately needs reform. I am pushing for five easy reforms that will readily make all residents safer:

1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds.
2. Require de-escalation tactics to be taught and used.
3. Require officers to exhaust all other means (including de-escalation tactics) before shooting.
4. Ban shooting at moving vehicles in all cases.
5. Require comprehensive reporting of all use of force, including pointing a weapon at civilians.

Additionally, we need to reduce funding for the police department and redirect that funding towards community development and restoration in order to repair the communities that police brutality has devastated. Particularly, this money needs to go towards assisting the black communities the police have been brutalizing for years. Our city needs a change. Defund the police and introduce substantial reforms to make our communities safer.



## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Brooke Sauer  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:58 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Black Lives Matter, make our city better

Dear committee members,

First, I would like to address the mayor's curfews. The curfews, as no doubt you have seen now, have been largely ineffective. What the curfews have provided is rationale for further police action against the peaceful protestors, as well as allowing police action against citizens who need to walk home from bus stops, work, or other locations to comply with the curfews. I understand the ideas behind enacting the curfews, but based on the evidence we have seen, they are not effective measures for stopping protestors. Nor should we want to silence the peaceful protestors who are pushing for important police reforms. No more curfews.

Second, I want to address the clear cases of police aggression that have been documented by local activists, politicians, and the media. The police have been documented escalating crises by surrounding protestors, preventing them from dispersing when ordered to do so. Police then use this non-dispersal to justify spraying protestors with tear-gas, which causes more chaos. This is unacceptable behavior. Furthermore, the unacceptable fabrication of evidence (a Molotov cocktail made from a crushed plastic bottle?) is concerning and further demonstrates the police's desire to escalate what have otherwise been peaceful protests. Police Chief Alfonso Morales's management of the department has been unacceptable and he must resign, or at the very least not be reappointed to the position following his performance review.

Third, the constant circling of helicopters overhead is absolutely unacceptable. This is the sort of thing one might expect in a police state (which based on recent actions, we perhaps find ourselves in). Not all of these helicopters are news copters. Some are police helicopters and some are national guard helicopters. These aircraft are disrupting people's sleep, preventing people from feeling comfortable in their own homes, and make citizens feel like they are being constantly surveilled. Stop flying helicopters over our neighborhoods.

Finally, a word about our protests: Milwaukee has had its own share of police murders of black folks that have gone without justice. To protest police brutality only to have the police respond as brutally as they have been is unacceptable and highlights the multitude of ways in which the Milwaukee Police Department desperately needs reform. I am pushing for five easy reforms that will readily make all residents safer:

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4. Ban shooting at moving vehicles in all cases.
5. Require comprehensive reporting of all use of force, including pointing a weapon at civilians.

Additionally, we need to reduce funding for the police department and redirect that funding towards community development and restoration in order to repair the communities that police brutality has devastated. Particularly, this money needs to go towards assisting the black communities the police have been brutalizing for years. Our city needs a change. Defund the police and introduce substantial reforms to make our communities safer.

Sincerely hopefully,

Brooke Sauer, MKE

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Eric Schoen  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** RE: Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting 6/5/2020 2:30 PM

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for taking the time to discuss circumstances under which a curfew is declared, the policies used to enforce it, and the operational definition of the phrase "civil unrest" and the manner in which it is enforced.

First, I would like to address the mayor's curfews. The curfews have been largely ineffective. What the curfews have provided is rationale for further police action against the peaceful protestors, as well as allowing police action against citizens who need to walk home from bus stops, work, or other locations to comply with the curfews. I think I understand the ideas behind enacting the curfews, but based on the evidence we have seen, they are not effective measures for stopping protestors. Nor should we want to silence the peaceful protestors who are pushing for important police reforms. No more curfews.

Second, I want to address the clear cases of police aggression that have been documented by local activists, politicians, and the media. With my own eyes I have seen police officers drive a car into 2 young women while protesting, causing one of them to be thrown onto the top of the police car and the other thrown to the pavement. These civilians were standing in place in front of a police car. They were yelling but posed NO THREAT to the police or any other citizens. During the same incident I saw a police officer point a shotgun at point blank range into the chest of another young woman with his finger on the trigger ready to shoot. Thankfully the officer did not end that woman's life, but the blatant disregard for her safety and the lack of composure from this power-tripping officer has left my blood oscillating between chills and boiling ever since. Why did a man who was probably twice her weight feel the need to point a shotgun at a girl while she was being held by two other officers and surrounded by about another 20 officers?!?! Does the city of Milwaukee WANT blood to spilled on our streets?!?! The police have been documented escalating crises by surrounding protestors, preventing them from dispersing when ordered to do so. Police then use this non-dispersal to justify spraying protestors with tear-gas and shooting rubber bullets, which causes more chaos. This is unacceptable behavior. The police are escalating these peaceful events. Let me repeat that: **THE POLICE ARE ESCALATING** these peaceful events and creating the violence and civil unrest which you seek to define. Research shows that disproportionate use of force can and does turn a peaceful protest violent. Furthermore, the unacceptable fabrication of evidence (a Molotov cocktail made from a crushed plastic bottle?) is concerning and further demonstrates the police's desire to escalate what have otherwise been peaceful protests. Police Chief Alfonso Morales's management of the department has been unacceptable and he must resign, or at the very least not be reappointed to the position following his performance review.

Third, the constant circling of Black Hawk helicopters overhead is absolutely unacceptable. Are we living in a police state?!?! These aircraft are disrupting people's sleep, preventing people from feeling comfortable in their own homes, and make citizens feel like they are being constantly surveilled. Stop needlessly flying helicopters over our neighborhoods.

Finally, a word about our protests: Milwaukee has had its own share of police murders of black folks that have gone without justice. To **PEACEFULLY** protest police brutality only to have the police respond as brutally as they have been is unacceptable and highlights the multitude of ways in which the Milwaukee Police Department desperately needs reform. I am pushing for five easy reforms that will readily make all residents safer:

1. Ban choke-holds and strangleholds.
2. Require de-escalation tactics to be taught and used.
3. Require officers to exhaust all other means (including de-escalation tactics) before shooting.
4. Ban shooting at moving vehicles in all cases.
5. Require comprehensive reporting of all use of force, including pointing a weapon at civilians.

Additionally, we need to reduce funding for the police department and redirect that funding towards community development and restoration in order to repair the communities that police brutality has devastated. Particularly, this money needs to go towards assisting the black communities the police have been brutalizing for years. Our city needs a change. Defund the police and introduce substantial reforms to make our communities safer.

I want to be able to be proud to call myself a Milwaukeean. I can't do that today. Today we need to do better as a city.

Sincerely,

**Eric Schoen**

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Stephanie Schrader-Lawson <[redacted]@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:59 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Input

In response to the request for input on curfew, civil unrest, and enforcement.

1. I can see a need for a city to place a curfew on its citizens. Like if there are alien creatures that only hunt at night or if a Gotham City villain has released all the criminally insane. Protests to bring racial equality and change to documented police brutality are not on my list of acceptable reasons for curfew. Our cities protestors have been largely peaceful and have shown strength and perseverance towards a cause that the outweighs and strength our police department has showed in how it is addressing protestors in the late hours of the night. Bottom line- NO CURFEW.

2. The job of the police in a protest is to protect the protestors. Lining up in stacked lines, attacking people, Kettering people, tear gassing people, armored cars, riot gear, guns out....none of these things are necessary. If I can be hit by a bottle of water at a concert and manage to still enjoy the show, a trained officer should be able to be hit without injuring hundreds. Let the people march, let their voices be heard. Keep them safe from white supremacists, boogaloos, racist suburbanites, grumpy people late to work, and from yourselves. Stand, watch, listen and let them change the world.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Schrader-Lawson  
District 13

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:46 PM  
**To:** Polanco, Joanna  
**Subject:** FW: Public Safety And Health Committee

## QUESTIONS

Jim Owczarski, CMC  
City Clerk  
(414)-286-2998  
@mkeclerk

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**From:** Patrick Small [mailto:psmall@milwaukee.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:58 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Safety And Health Committee

I am submitting the following questions for the Friday, June 5 Public Safety Committee hearing:

1. Will the Milwaukee Common Council order Chief Morales and the Milwaukee Police Department to cease engaging in counterproductive confrontational crowd-incitement tactics? This infamous style of policing was long ago discredited in the 1960s Civil Rights era in the American South and elsewhere. Such brutal and barbaric tactics include preemptive tear-gassing, bullrushing groups of citizens and the dangerous discharging of rubber bullets at defenseless individuals.
2. Will the Milwaukee Common Council order Chief Morales and the Milwaukee Police Department to cease the acquisition of dangerous and frightening "surplus military hardware" from the United States Department of Defense?
3. Will the Common Council order Chief Morales and Milwaukee Police Department to safely dispose within one year the, in fact, "surplus" and needless military hardware and vehicles in its possession? Safe and responsible disposal of needless military hardware will save taxpayers the cost of storing and maintaining these frightening weapons.

The salvage proceeds from these frightening weapons should be designated for continuing the education of Milwaukee Police Department personnel to achieve a complete comprehension of the Wisconsin and United States Constitutions, the guarantees of the Geneva Convention, and the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Thank you,

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Thunder Shi  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Police Oversight Commentary

Dear Public Safety and Health Committee,

My name is Lei Shi and I live by Brady Street in the City of Milwaukee. I am writing in regards to the lawful protests occurring within our City and unlawful use of force against our constitutionally guaranteed rights. I was walking home past curfew with Cheyanne Roszina and Sebastian Pietz, both of whom live with me. We were ambushed (not cited and released), by at least two dozen police officers under the cover of dark just across the street of our house. No sirens or headlights were used to warn us. This should be the response for the FBI's most wanted, not peaceful Americans exercising their constitutional right.

We were taken far away from our home across the street to different precincts. The 4th precinct, where I was taken, is at least seven miles away from my home. There are dangerous neighborhoods between where I was taken and where I live. And I was expected to walk home at 2:00 am.

This is not the response of the land of the free, this is the response of a tyrannical government more bent on achieving order than achieving justice for all.

Respectfully,

Lei Shi

Sebastian Pietz

Cheyanne Roszina

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Cheyanne Roszina's account:

Some of the events I'm about to address will be extremely triggering for some people. Please proceed with caution. This has to deal with the protests and police brutality. Also I keep getting questions and yes, please share. I want everyone who is capable of reading to do so.

I was arrested.

I was arrested violently. I was pushed to the ground and arrested with my hands behind my back and guns pointed at my face. My boyfriend and good friend, both of whom are men of color were also pushed to the ground with guns in their faces and not a single right was read to us.

To emphasize my point, the three of us weren't anywhere NEAR a protest. We had heard screaming and calls for help and sirens down the street and knowing that people we all loved and cared about could be in danger, we decided to suit up and brace ourselves to offer medical supplies and a place to stay for anyone that was hurt by the awful acts of brutality by police that we had been witnessing for the past couple nights. For the past year Brady Street had been my home. It was where I went to get a latte at Rochambo and tell jokes and draw pictures with friends and family alike. But last night, it was the most unfamiliar place I had ever been to.

As we were making our way back down the street to go into our house that was less than 15 feet away, we were ambushed by an all black cop car taking us from our left flank. We knew we were caught but we didn't expect to be in trouble for being right outside our own home, the same home my boyfriend had for the past 5 years without a single problem. Four cops come out with guns in their hands and ready to shoot. It was in that instant I felt that my life was over. Everything I had dreamed or ever wanted was out of my reach. I would never perform on Broadway. I would never move back to NYC. I would never get married or raise a family with the man I love, even if I was to not get shot, he still could have and that dream would still be out the window in a blink of an eye. Without a second thought, a person— another HUMAN could decide that my dreams were unattainable and take my boyfriend away from me for the rest of my life; however long that could be since I have no clue how I could recover since he is my lifeline and has my soul.



In an instant our lives could be deemed worthless only because of a curfew that was haphazardly placed on a day to day basis; and for a moment, we were deemed as worthless. In total there were well over 50 police officers all in squad cars and even the SWAT team pulled up to the scene. All for three peaceful people trying to get home from making sure no one was hurt. As they saw me lay helpless on the ground, crying with fluid draining from my nose, they pulled out their cellphones and took pictures and recorded. "Oh this ones going to Ashley" I heard one say and talk about how they were going to send it to a family member or friend.

While I was thinking these moments could be the last time I ever saw my boyfriend alive, these cops patted themselves on the back for a job well done and circle jerked to a young woman crying thinking that she would never get to say goodbye to the man she loved or to her mother and brother.

After being arrested and our possessions taken forcefully from us, we were separated. My friend and boyfriend in one car and I in another. There I was paraded around the city as I cried not for myself but for the fear of losing my loved ones. Finally I was taken to a dark area under one of the freeway bridges were about 60 other police officers were standing around waiting for something to happen. After about an hour of doing nothing, I was finally put in the back of a high security bus all by myself and three armed cops driving the bus.

I opened my eyes and I was suddenly in a new place with people I have never seen before. All the people being detained looked at me and suddenly I felt a sense of comradery I had never experienced before. I was finally able to stop crying as I realized almost all the people held here looked like they were just trying to get home. One by one I listened to their stories and I realized this was the most disgusting act of power I had ever seen. I felt violated and like I was suddenly non human by the way we were being treated.

What I witnessed was illegal and breaches human decency on every level imaginable. There were two healthcare workers in scrubs being detained with me who were literally on their way home from their clinic that was 45 minutes away. They were arrested at about 9:45. Just from coming home from potentially saving lives. There was a new mother who just had a cesarean section only less than 2 weeks previously. There was an expecting mother with her arms tied behind her back who looked like she could pass out at any moment. The new mother actually did at one point pass out after throwing up and an ambulance was called about two hours later. TWO. HOURS. LATER.

Outside of the Milwaukee section 2 prison facility I was stored in there were military personal with loaded machine guns who kept staring at us like we were nothing more than vermin on our way to be exterminated. As if we were bred for the slaughter of their injustice.

I was taken in at about 10:45 with a lot of my colleagues taken in at around 9. One by one slowly they took us in the back to book us. I can not stress enough how unprofessional and how awful most of the cops were, with many of them admitting they had no idea what was going on or what they were doing. One cop taunted us asking if we learned our lesson. "Yeah" I said. "I've learned to never trust cops again and that all you guys are pigs" I muttered, a stance I hadn't taken before this night. It really was all or nothing, and if I was going to be treated with no regard, why should I care for a second about a cop's life. They clearly didn't care about ours. Mine. My friends. My boyfriends. People I love and care about.

Slowly I watched my new friends disappear and finally taken to a holding cell for the information on them to be processed. I was going to be one of the last ones and the officers admitted they were taking a long time on purpose. I mean, they're getting paid TAX DOLLARS to sit on their asses all day, so I suppose they were trying to milk out that few extra dollars by tormenting and traumatizing us.

For 14 hours I was never read my rights, never given anything to eat, never got to make a phone call, never told I had access to a lawyer, and only reluctantly given water because some of the people I was with threatened to sue. They told us because it was a temporary facility that it didn't count as being normally arrested and so none of our rights were actually ours. Once again, everyone that was detained with me were ALL heading home. No exceptions. Some people were driving home when they had their tires blown out by police. One woman told me her boyfriend (who is black) was tased for stepping out of his car once his tires were blown up. It was only when she begged them not to shoot that they put down their weapons.

At about 7 hours in, I was exhausted and sweating profoundly and I started to cry from anger and once again wondering if my friends were safe. I kept saying that over and over again. That I just want to know if they are okay. One girl stood up and yelled at a cop asking if they cared that I was sobbing begging to make sure my boyfriend was alive. We were all met with shrugs and a woman officer (she was medium built and blonde with her colleague being another woman officer with dark brown hair with the last name of Sanchez) telling us that she didn't care. The two woman officers just gossiped and looked at us with disgusting faces. Perhaps they were just doing their job. But that just speaks even more about what kind of job being a police officer really is. Apparently to do your job right you have to have no regard for human life and for the actual safe keeping of the city. As long as you get the arrest numbers, you're golden to keep terrorizing marginalized communities and people.

There was one point in the night that I had a trans man and another non-binary individual (like me) being detained with the group. After he told them that he was trans, he was brought to the back to be berated and made sure that he REALLY was trans and not just trying to get attention. I don't know what happened to him behind those closed doors since I never saw him again, but I can't imagine it was anything short of horrific.

The rest of the night was a blur and I was labeled as a rioter and my possessions labeled as riot gear. This was my only offense. I had on a helmet and some padded protection on my body since if there WERE shots fired, I wanted to try to lessen the impact. The woman took out my piercings and my hair ties and Bobby pins. I was left only wearing my oversized Star Wars t-shirt and some athletic leggings. In a cruel act of irony, one of the officers pointed to my shirt and said "looks like we got another fan". I just stared at him and he said "smile it's a good thing". This was already 10 hours in. I grunted and spat back, "one would think, right". I've never talked back to a police officer in my life, but I was tired, angry, upset, and in pain. I was fighting for the resistance. They were on the side of the Sith.

We were then placed in individual cells for holding. It was unsanitary and period blood filled the toilet I was given as well as urine from whoever was there before me. At this point I needed to pee and I told everyone to look away. They did as I, as safely as possible, hovered over the toilet seat to finish my business. I wasn't given toilet paper or anything of the sort; instead I used my sock that had been on my foot this whole time. It was actually one of my boyfriend's nice fuzzy black socks. Male cops were able to walk in and out as they pleased and could see females trying to relieve themselves. It was the most dehumanizing experience I have ever had.

Finally I could hear freedom ringing in my ears as I was approached and told that I was free to go. I tried to thank the officer but I couldn't find the words after being treated so horribly. I was given my stuff back in a large bag and then thrust out into the sunlight after being held for again, 14 hours (need I remind you this was all for just a ticket too). My eyes began to tear up as I realized I had no idea where I was or how I was going to get home. I looked around, and since we were thrown out the back, I didn't see a single person. I cried as I picked up my ALMOST dead phone and saw my boyfriend tried to call me several times. For the first time the entire night, I was extremely relieved to see that he was alive and well. I saw his messages saying he and our friend were alright and got out and the only way they were alright was all thanks to the neighbor who saw the WHOLE thing and recorded it too. He saved our lives. Full stop, HE is a hero. He was recording and on our side and trying to get us home safely. Our neighbor picked up my boyfriend and friend from section 4 where the men were held. For those who don't know, it's right in a super dangerous neighborhood and we live on the East side.

Once I called my boyfriend he told me he was out front and I shakily told him that I thought I was on the side of the building but I would head that way. Finally I saw him and he saw me and it was as if we were the only two people on the planet. Yes, it is just like in the movies when you have someone really love and care about you. He first waved to me and I hung up the phone to make my way towards him. He started running and then finally we were in each other's arms hugging on for dear life. He placed his hands on my head and looked me up and down while saying that he was sorry over and over and over again. But I wasn't even a tiny bit angry with him, I was the most relieved and content I had ever been in my entire 21 years of living. After our tearfilled reunion, I got the names of some of the other people that were with me and I gave them my contact information as well.

I have a lot to say... A lot more to say about what I felt and what I still feel. The 700 dollar fine is almost nothing compared to the emotional trauma that I felt and went through. All for just being a decent human being and making sure people were alright from protests that were happening. We were arrested for caring and arrested for essentially the color of our skin. Well, not so much me, but it was the fact that I was with two males of color— the most gentle and kind males anyone could ever hope to encounter. I know it was this because I saw other white people walking around and they didn't get arrested, just told to go home. My stance is now clear to me. There ARE no good cops. There never were. They hold up an institution of racism and fear. That same racism and fear that was so very real to me and not just a concept like you are likely to be reading about just now. Please know I am very angry and heartbroken, but we are safe and right now I'm just thanking my lucky stars that we weren't slaughtered like George Floyd. It is a predicament that no one should have to experience and no one with a human heart should perpetuate.

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Mine and Sebastian's account:

-<https://www.facebook.com/sebastiondon.pietz.1/videos/859209024590772/>

-[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN1t-0\\_0I56BOspqSGKf6bQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN1t-0_0I56BOspqSGKf6bQ)



## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Kevin Sparrow  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:56 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Input

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Kevin Sparrow. I am writing to you as a citizen of Milwaukee, Wisconsin in regard to the violent response from the Milwaukee Police Department during peaceful protests and other affairs that require police presence.

I urge you to change policing policies in order to appropriately and effectively protect and serve our community. Data proves that together, the following eight policies can decrease police violence by 72%. Here are the eight policies that must be implemented immediately.

1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds.
2. Require de-escalation to allow officers more time, distance, space, and tactical flexibility during dynamic situations on the street.
3. Require warning before firing ANY weapon (automatic weapons, mace, rubber bullet rifles, teargas, etc.).
4. Exhaust ALL other means before firing ANY weapon.
5. Duty to intervene; to hold officers liable for failing to rescue another party who could face potential injury or death without intervention.
6. Ban shooting at moving targets, vehicles.
7. Require use of force continuum (infographic attached).
8. Require comprehensive reporting.

We must act now.

Thank you,

Kevin Sparrow

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**Email** // [kevinsparrow@gmail.com](mailto:kevinsparrow@gmail.com)  
**Instagram** // [@ksparrow](https://www.instagram.com/ksparrow)  
**Photography** // [www.kevinsparrow.com](http://www.kevinsparrow.com)  
**Design** // [www.kevinsparrowdesign.com](http://www.kevinsparrowdesign.com)

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## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Corrie Trit  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Today's Meeting per Marina Dimitrijevic

Dear Council,

Your constituents are being brutalized by the members of the Milwaukee Police Department. This is happening because citizens are demanding accountability from law enforcement for the unchecked brutality and murder that they continue to enact against Black people and other people of color in Milwaukee and across the country. The video and firsthand accounts of dozens of local protesters over the past week make this situation perfectly clear.

I urge you to take the following immediate actions in response to these ongoing civil and human rights violations against protesters and Black Milwaukeeans:

- A complete ban on the use of weapons of war against civilians, specifically tear gas and baton rounds/rubber bullets/beanbag rounds
- End the transfer of military supplies from the US Armed forces to MPD
- The immediate firing of officer Michael Mattioli who is charged with the murder of Joel Acevedo. Murderers do not deserve paid vacation on the public's dime.
- Duly consider the \_\_\_\_\_, especially divestment from over policing
- Reinstigate the requirement that police officers live in the municipality they serve
  
- Require immediate implementation by MPD of the 8 policies advocated by the \_\_\_\_\_. Together these 8 policies are shown to decrease police violence by 72%. MPD currently has 3 of these policies:
  - Ban on Chokeholds and Strangleholds
  - Require De-escalation
  - Require Warning Before Shooting (in place, needs adherence audit in MPD)
  - Require Exhausting All Alternatives Before Shooting
  - Duty to Intervene (in place, needs adherence audit in MPD)
  - Ban Shooting at Moving Vehicles
  - Have Use of Force Continuum (in place, needs adherence audit in MPD)
  - Require Comprehensive Reporting of all force incidents or threats

Comments on the other specific issues your council is convening about:

**CURFEW:**

Imposing curfews escalates police violence in protest situations and functionally attempts to criminalize people for exercising their First Amendment rights to assemble and speak against unjust government and institutional actions. This is illegal under the constitution as well as unethical and thoroughly un-American. I oppose the use of curfew and any other attempt by the government to restrict the movement of private citizens in all situations where the whole city's health and safety is not under immediate threat. Police officers annoyed at working overtime or offended by calls for accountability do not meet this burden.

## POLICE USE OF LESS-LETHAL WEAPONS

The weapons police are using against protesters are not harmless. Baton rounds and rubber bullets as well as tear gas can be fatal. These tools are designed to injure, not control or de-escalate. They are being used improperly by MPD and coordinating agencies to punish protesters because cops by and large are offended by what we are saying needs to change.

Relevant Facts:

TEAR GAS IS BANNED IN WARFARE BY INTERNATIONAL LAW.

3% OF BATON ROUNDS/BEANBAG ROUNDS/RUBBER BULLET INJURIES END IN DEATH.

In 2004, a police officer shot and killed a classmate of mine with a rubber bullet while attempting to disburse a large sports fan gathering. It was senseless and horrifying then and now. It is unconscionable to use weapons of war against citizens. The police claim their job is to protect but they are indiscriminately causing injury to your constituents with these weapons and joking about it. It's wrong.

## INTEGRITY OF REPORTS BY THE POLICE

**I urge you in the strongest possible terms to regard the words of the police department and officers with a high degree skepticism. Police are instigating and escalating violence against nonviolent citizens** because we are demanding they be held accountable for their mistreatment of Black people - mistreatment that regularly results in injury and death. They are attacking protesters without warning, provocation, or regard for de-escalation or peaceful execution of their duties. Any other narrative they try to give you flies in the face of everything your citizens have observed in person and on video over the past week, where nonviolent groups are being corralled, beaten, gassed, and arrested because law enforcement is offended by our message.

Just one small example: police stated on the official MPD twitter that a molotov cocktail was thrown at them. The picture they provided to illustrate this clearly shows an empty plastic water bottle with a portable water filter, neither of which can reasonably be inferred to be components of a molotov cocktail. This is not an honest mistake in a tense moment--they examined the evidence and are attempting to make it fit their narrative. This is PD trying to gaslight the public to gain support for their excessive force and brutality against citizens exercising their legally protected first amendment rights.

Also examine the circumstances of the illegitimate arrests of Ryan Clancy Frank Nitty II, the latter of whom was injured to the point of needing hospital care.

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I can't overstate how disappointed I am by the response from MPD and the Mayor's office on this issue. We are demanding an end to the police being allowed to murder and maim citizens without consequence. And we are being met with force and disrespect that only illustrates and exacerbates the problem further. This is completely unacceptable. That's why night after night people continue to stand up and refuse to accept it.

You have action steps to move forward. I urge you to listen to the voices of your most vulnerable constituents and prioritize the safety of Black residents over the feelings of police officers.

Respectfully,

Corrie Tritz

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Simmy Vanderhoof  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:59 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Peaceful protests

Hey Jim,

I'm writing to you to express my deep concerns about how the city has been handling our peaceful demonstrations against police brutality with force and more police brutality. It's very sad and disheartening to see the city react in such a manner when people just want their voices heard.

People are angry and with good reasoning. The police are just creating more tensions and a greater divide between the communities in Milwaukee and the police department. I've been on the streets protesting all week and I can tell you that people are angry and I can tell you that it's becoming increasingly hard for the leaders of these protests to calm down the rightfully angry people and convince them out of violence and destruction. I don't want to see my city burn, but even more than that, I don't want to see my neighbors get racially discriminated against and fear for their lives in every police encounter. That is as unamerican as it gets. I've personally witnessed officers firing on our medics and using tear gas on peaceful protesters multiple times, directly escalating peacefully protests into violence. Both of those actions would be a violation of the Geneva convention had they been done in war, but you guys think it's okay to greet residents of your own city peacefully protesting with that kind of treatment?? Like I said, just creating a greater divide between the city and the police department.

I personally believe that we can close these gaps and create rational and responsible police reform in our city and restore trust in the police department, but you guys need to show the city that you're with us, that you're categorically against police brutality in our city and create an environment where the good cops are empowered to speak out on the bad cops AND that the necessary action is taken. And you guys need to actually sit down and talk man to man with the leaders of these communities.

I'd love to help out in any way possible. I just want to see an end to police brutality in our city and I want to see trust restored in the MPD. If there is any way I can help you guys make that happen for our city it would be my honor.

Thanks for taking the time to read!

-Simmy

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**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Joel Van Haren  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Safety and Health Committee

Curfews are a direct effort to quell the right to free speech and protest by Milwaukee citizens and should not be used. Police should not be using tear gas or force against protestors.

Signed,  
Joel Van Haren

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** gary west  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Public Safety

Committee Members,

As most agree upon, the curfews have been ineffective and increase tensions leading to more violence. I cannot understand the stress that our police department is under everyday. But to add to that stress by restricting free movement around our city is just not working.

I stand with the peaceful protest as I'm sure your committee and our police department does as well. And I also understand there are few who have incited violence to the police and destruction of property. And to those who are taking advantage of the peaceful marches for their own personal rage need to be dealt with in a manner fitting the act. And for the police to distinguish between the two must be a difficult task while our officers are under stress with knowing that at any moment the situation could escalate.

I believe our police department must review the need and the level of engagement required and train our officers accordingly.

I support our peaceful protesters just as I support our police force.

Thank you,  
Gary Wierzbinski

## Polanco, Joanna

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**From:** Samantha Wheeler  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:56 AM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** public comments in regards to the police response to protests

To whom it may concern,

The police have repeatedly instigated violence towards peaceful protesters, and their budget should be cut and redistributed to community programs that will help reduce crime organically. Overtime needs to be regulated far more strongly, preventing overwork and reducing stress in the officers, and militarization of the police needs to be eliminated entirely.

A month ago the common council voted to furlough and financially endanger hundreds of city workers in a time of crisis to try and scrape 1 million in budget savings.

The police budget is nearly 300 times that. It is time to replan Milwaukee's priorities, as the police have again and again proven to be unable to police themselves, let alone protect and serve the public.

I urge you to consider the demands set forth by Leaders Igniting Transformation and make a genuine effort to meet them. I want to be proud of this city.

Sincerely,

Samantha Wheeler

**Polanco, Joanna**

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**From:** Sam W  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Owczarski, Jim  
**Subject:** Today's meeting

To the City of Milwaukee

I am writing to express my concerns about the purposed curfew for Milwaukee for this weekend. I believe in our right to peacefully assemble, and I am much more concerned about the incredibly valid reasons for the protests than I am about the protests themselves. I am happy to be temporarily inconvenienced with street closures if it means an end to the years of oppression and violence the government systems have imposed on black people.

Milwaukee has a chance to show a caring response and create a positive example for the entire country to organized assembly for the murders of black citizens by the police. Our city's race issues are far greater and more devastating than this weekend of protesting. The black people of this community need to be heard. Denying them their rights to speak and gather is just another injustice to add to the incredibly long list of injustices at the hands of government authorities.

I am more worried about neighbors and friends being tear gassed and hit by rubber bullets than I am about us taking to the streets to make sure black and POC voices are heard.

I am also very worried about the public death threats leaders of the marches have received from white supremacists. What is being done about that?

It is time to change how we are approaching these issues. This entire meeting and curfew discussion just seems like more of the same: How can we most easily silence these inconvenient truths?

This is a deadly view that I refuse to support.  
Please allow citizens to assemble and speak.

Thank you.

in Christ, Sam