

COMMENTS I - P

Received by City Clerk

CCFN 200214 - Communication from the Office of the Mayor, the Milwaukee Police Department, and the Fire and Police Commission relating to 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.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Maggie Iken <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 9:39 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: City Clerk - Thoughts on Curfew

Hello Mr. Owczarski,

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 silent voices that need to be heard.

Thank you,
Maggie Iken

Polanco, Joanna

From: Michael Ioffe <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:00 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Re Meeting for Public Safety and Health - pro-protestor position

My name is Michael Ioffe. I reside in Fox Point, a village in the county of Milwaukee. I spend a lot of time in the city. I'm writing to show my support for my neighbors to the south.

I want to see legislation that shows police themselves have a right to declare a gathering, a protest, etc unlawful without a mayoral order. I also want to see what legislation there is that empowers police to prevent protestors from marching past certain places and into certain neighborhoods.

Moreover, I've been appalled at the police response to peaceful protest in Milwaukee specifically. And I want to see evidence for the claim the MPD made regarding the use of Molotov cocktails. If no such evidence can be produced, then the department should be sued with the use of tax payer money for inciting/inflaming sentiments against what then and otherwise peaceful protest. Furthermore, the department should be sued for the destruction of private property as demonstrated in their attacks on medical tents and the like.

I also would like to know when there are budgetary meetings open to the public so I can show my support for the reallocation of tax payer funds, diverting them from the purchase of armored vehicles, tear gas, and anti-riot munitions.

Please provide references/resources to where these questions can be answered and note that I live in one of the wealthiest areas in the state and am not willing to see any of my tax dollars that go the state and get redistributed to Milwaukee county go to suppression of free speech and assembly.

Regards,

Michael Ioffe
444 W Willow Ct
Fox Point, WI 53217

Polanco, Joanna

From: Loretha Jack [mailto:lorethajack@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:15 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting---Stop Silencing Protesters!

Hello,

My name is Loretha Jack, and I am a Milwaukee resident. I am appalled that the City of Milwaukee would try to silence protesters by enacting curfews. You are essentially telling us that if we want to exercise our constitutional right to protest we risk arrest, a nearly \$700 fine, and police brutality. The MPD should not under any circumstances be allowed to react violently to peaceful protesters under the guise of "enforcing a curfew." I consider tear gas, batons, or rubber bullets used against unarmed protesters to be criminal acts and think officers using these tactics should face criminal charges. I don't understand why you think it is a good idea to react to protests against police brutality with more police brutality.

The incident on Tuesday June 2nd, in which the MPD fired tear gas and rubber bullets into a crowd because someone threw a water bottle at them demonstrates the incompetence of the department. You had riot gear on and you think it's appropriate to fire a substance that is considered a war crime into a crowd of unarmed people along with rubber bullets which can cause serious injury to people who don't have the luxury of being covered in tax-payer-funded body armor and face shields. At this point it seems like the MPD is looking for excuses to use violence against protesters, and enacting curfews gives them an excuse. I would also like to express my disappointment that our city is ready with riot gear, tear gas, and rubber bullets to be used against peaceful protesters, but hospitals didn't have enough resources during a global pandemic. Get your priorities straight, the police need to be defunded.

The people of Milwaukee will not be intimidated into silence. I urge you all to think deeply before enacting curfews that restrict the rights of your citizens and ultimately do nothing but cause physical harm and feelings of disenfranchisement, anger, and resentment. We are watching you, and we will remember your words and actions come election time.

Sincerely,
Loretha Jack

From: Gregory James < >
Subject: On MPD
Date: June 4, 2020 at 9:07:42 AM CDT
To: Tom Barrett < >, Nik Kovac < >

Dear Mayor Barrett and Alderman Kovac,

I'm compelled to write this morning to express one citizen's opinion of MPD's behavior during the past week. I do so having been one to write in the past, often in support of policing in my neighborhood near UWM. While I have personally often been helped by neighborhood cops I am appalled by the behavior of the department during recent protests. I had hoped our new Chief of Police would set a better tone and defuse flash points. This hasn't been the case.

Milwaukee isn't alone here, of course. But the attitude of police officers toward the city's civilians, particularly African American and Latino civilians, has been a problem for decades. The culture within the department, going back to Harold Brier and before, is often hostile toward the community it is supposed to serve.

Our city's budget is extraordinarily distorted towards policing. I attribute most of that to cuts forced on the City by state legislators and the previous governor. But the bottom line remains... we spend a lot of money on the police department and we really deserve a better force. We're witnessing assaults on peaceful protesters like that at yesterday that no professional force should allow, much less try to justify by post hoc claims of molotov cocktails being thrown. We're seeing police officers firing weapons into peaceful protesters. The failure of our department to de-escalate in situations like this is inexcusable.

I am fully aware that there are people who are intent on committing acts of violence. These people are motivated by fringe politics on both the left and the right. Of course police need to be able to isolate these folk and take them into custody. But if the department weren't treating protesters in general as if they were part of this fringe they would find, I think, a population eager to help them isolate the problem actors. It is in the interest of protesters and protest leaders to do so.

We must find ways to demilitarize our police force. We should not see them parading around in riot gear in anticipation of trouble. We should not see military style assault vehicles driving on our streets. We should not see officers carrying rifles. None of this helps.

If the department can't find ways to engage with citizens and genuinely convince all of us that they really do *protect and serve*, we are destined to suffer these problems forever. If we can't find ways to hold officers who fail in their duty to account, no amount of money will produce a peaceful city. We must find ways to break the blue wall of silence that protects offending officers. We need transparency into the department. And it is long past time that the City fix this.

Thank you,

Gregory James
2819 N. Frederick Ave.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Alexa J <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Cc: Mayor Tom Barrett
Subject: Milwaukee Police Policies
Attachments: Use of force continuum.png

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Alexa Jansen. I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Milwaukee in regard to the violent response from the Milwaukee Police Department during peaceful protests and other affairs that require police presence.

I come from a family of police officers, and therefore I believe that most cops are good, but it is impossible and irresponsible to overlook the systematic problems in our city and around the country. 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%. Milwaukee only enforces three of them currently. 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.

The time to act is NOW.

Thank you,

Alexa Jansen
Account Manager
Assurance Laboratories
C: (414) 839-5443



Polanco, Joanna

From: Parker Jensen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 8:48 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Comment for 6/5 Public Safety & Health Committee Special Meeting

Dear Public Safety and Health Committee,

My name is Parker Jensen and I live in District 5 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,

Parker Jensen

Polanco, Joanna

From: grace jessen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:28 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Curfew, helicopters vs. peaceful protests

Hello

Please support the multitude of protests going on in Milwaukee [and suburbs]. Please insist that Chief Morales IMMEDIATELY issue orders of non-provocation by the police. They must know some deescalation tactics already, but he can instruct at least a few simple commands for them to follow.

There must be no more tear gas.

There does not need to be late night helicopters. The news ones as well need to be grounded at least by 10 PM, according to the noise ordinances. Milwaukee does not need to SOUND nor BE a war zone.

This is the MOST racially divided city in the US by income, and public health measurements. Let's consider that when being upset about the protests and the overflowing of hurt and rage.

How many documented murders by police do we have in this city?

Can't we give some slack if the protesters get sabotaged by outsiders or simply hotheads?

thank you, I know you have a big job, but it s a big mess,

Grace Jessen
Riverwest Citizen

Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief. Do justly, now.
Love mercy, now. Walk humbly, now.
You are not obligated to complete the work but neither are you free to abandon it. -Talmud

Polanco, Joanna

From: Yanzi Jiang [redacted]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:11 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public comment on 200214

Thank you Jim for passing on these comments.

As a medical student participating in the protests, I have witnessed incredible unity and advocacy with respect to protecting black lives from police brutality. I believe racism is a public health crisis, as declared in Milwaukee in 2019. The time to be advocating for our city's black community is NOW, especially given how the pandemic has placed a disproportionate burden on them already. What frustrates me about the curfew is that instead of implementing it to reduce transmission of COVID-19, it has just been implemented in the last few days since our peaceful protests have started. This sends a message that I don't believe the city intended - which is that you'd rather impede the people's right to peaceful protest rather than impede the spread of the virus. I understand this may not have been the intention, but given the timing of the curfew, this is the message that it sends. I'd also like to point out that each protest I have been a part of has been peaceful and lawful, and each time, we are met with unnecessary and escalating police response. I implore you to:

1. Promise to prevent any more murder and violence from happening to community members in Milwaukee County
2. Stop blocking the routes of protests
3. Stop using tear gas and rubber bullets at protests
4. Promise to never increase the budget for the Milwaukee Police Department
5. Abolish the curfew and promise not to set any more curfews

Thank you,
Katherine Jiang
she/her/hers

Polanco, Joanna

From: Kali Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:51 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Civil Unrest

My name is Kali Johnson. I want to address the protest that started in Humboldt Park a Wednesday, June 3rd. My teen daughters started with the group at the park. I met them in Walkers Point when they turned around to avoid the bridges.

As my friend was driving me to catch up we went into the 3rd Ward. The bridge was pulled. We sat and waited... nothing no horn. No boat ever came. When it dropped we turned around having recieved a text the protest had done the same.

We marched down National past Potowonami into Marquette campus area. That's how far we had to go to ensure we could cross and be safe. When buses needed to pass we all moved and let them pass without issue. We made our way onto Wisconsin Ave. We met with another group that had walked from Gordon Park and untied.

Our organizers informed us about white supremacists that were armed. I believe several of these boogaloo men were arrested later.

Everything was about saftey. Where were walked. Stopping to rest a bit, ensuring cars and walkers were safe, having prime hydrate, having medics.

When we ended at Veteran's Park our organizers announced the groups were splitting to return to their starting points. We again had to avoid police blocking certain areas. While we were walking I was notified police were at Speedway on OK and Howell putting on their gear. Why? Why were they there waiting for us? We had been peaceful. It ended peacefully.

I have heard there were other issues with the other group later. I'm disappointed with how things are being handled. When it feels like you can't trust the police because they've decided you're the enemy and they're not interesting in keeping the peace. They're interested on making a point. They're in charge.

I want you to stop and ask yourself... if we were protesting for feminism would there police respond this way????

I understand things can get out of hand easily. I understand as the evening goes on things can escalate. A little bit can go a long way. Acknowledging we are a heavily racially divided city with a history of injustice for our black community.

Set a new tone and standard for our community. If we can have Summerfest every year as well as several other huge events and we can get control in those settings without tear gassing the crowd why can't we for protesters? Why would anyone think tear gassing people would settle a crowd?

It's unacceptable. Violence has to end starting with the police.

The curfew is just another tactic in trying to stop the protests. If they aren't doing that they're stopping buses. It's sneaky and only upsetting the community more.

Be better, do better.

Get

Polanco, Joanna

From: Hannah JB [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:58 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public input re civil unrest

Hi Jim,

As a registered voter, taxpayer, and resident of the City of Milwaukee, I voice my support for Leaders Igniting Transformation and their call to our elected officials.

1. Declare racism a statewide emergency with the same force and resources of the National Guard
2. Remove all police and policing resources from our neighborhoods and schools immediately
 - a. Shift 25% from Milwaukee city police, county sheriff, and state police budgets to public health equity efforts focused on Black and Brown residents
 - b. Cut all policing resources from Milwaukee Public Schools and shift the \$16 million budget to hire more counselors and mental health professionals for Black and Brown students
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, strengthening our schools, replacing our lead pipes, and rebuilding our Black and Brown businesses.
5. Audit all government institutions to identify racist practices and deliver a comprehensive plan to address the problem.

Thank you,
Hannah Johnson-Breimeier
[REDACTED]

Polanco, Joanna

From: SE JG [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 9:57 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Feedback for Mayor, Police, Public Safety & Health Committee, & Common Council for June 5th Committee Meeting

Dear City Clerk / To Whom It May Concern,

We marched peacefully and in solidarity with one of the most joyous, generous, spectacular, loving, positive, beautiful protests either of us has ever been a part of. We marched for 7 miles with children, parents, sisters, brothers, friends, community leaders, role models, teachers, students, and working people in 90 degree heat over the course of 4 hours. Everyone was taking care of each other-- sharing water, snacks, sunscreen, masks, hand sanitizer, First Aid, etc. We shared pictures with family members describing the experience, and left after spending an hour in front of the police headquarters. It was an incredibly beautiful display of community, love, support, unity, cooperation, and peace. When we got home, filled with an incredible amount of inspiration in our hearts and minds, we watched in horror, through live video feeds on social media as well as Fox 6's live feed, as those same beautiful & peaceful community members were being attacked with violence, tear gas and rubber bullets in front of Fiserv Forum. We saw them holding up their hands, kneeling, and chanting "We are Peaceful! We are Peaceful!"-- it was obvious that they were doing NOTHING to provoke such violence from MPD. Over the course of the next couple days, we read hundreds of accounts of personal testimony from our community about their horrifying experiences of being met with excessive force, violence and aggression by MPD. While this display of force and violence is a clear, brazen violation of protestors' rights to peacefully demonstrate and exercise their first amendment rights, we are now seeing reports from infectious disease experts that the use of tear gas also puts protestors' lives in danger during this COVID-19 global pandemic. We are providing resources below showing that experts are pleading with mayors and police departments to NOT use tear gas during this crisis, as it can complicate symptoms of COVID-19 and has the potential to increase mortality. As lay people, we assume that this is because tear gas affects the lungs, as does COVID-19. To witness the city of Milwaukee put the safety of its own citizens at risk for purely political reasons and to witness excessive force, brutality, tear gas, and unfounded aggression against the citizens of Milwaukee is heartbreaking. The city leaders are setting themselves back by ordering these reactions, condoning these reactions, or staying silent on these reactions. The legitimacy of your leadership is at stake. We are also learning that Mayor Barrett approved an order to reopen bars and restaurants without guidelines, without safety plans, and without resources for local bars and restaurants to even know where to begin. Many business owners are infuriated and see this as a political ploy to lure people away from the peaceful protests. Again, another brazen disregard for safety during this pandemic and another political ploy to quell "unrest." We are deeply ashamed of our city, and as social workers, we will be doing everything we can to fight these injustices and promote real, positive change.

Sincerely,

Andrew and Sofia Jonas-Gordon (UW-Milwaukee, Harvard University)

"Tear Gas Is Way More Dangerous Than Police Let On -- Especially During the Coronavirus Pandemic" -- ProPublica

"Corrosive Effects of Tear Gas Could Intensify Coronavirus Pandemic" -- New York Times

"Police departments' use of tear gas could exacerbate coronavirus outbreaks, experts say" -- Business Insider

Polanco, Joanna

From: Erica Kane [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:20 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: June 5 PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

Good morning -

My name is Erica Kane and I live in the City of Milwaukee. I have been disturbed by the use of tear gas/rubber bullets and by the policies of the City of Milwaukee to enforce the curfews that have been enacted the past few days in response to "civil unrest".

I have heard from friends that have participated in the protests that police officers have shot at them and gassed them without provocation. Relations between the police department and the citizens of Milwaukee are rapidly deteriorating. Of course, even before these protests, many citizens of Milwaukee distrusted police. Policy change is needed immediately to resolve these issues.

I stand in solidarity against racism and violence in any form, and believe that the tactics used over the past week have been counterproductive to encourage real lasting change in our city. The Mayor's Office, the MPD, and the FPC need to work WITH our citizens and 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.

MPD needs to take active steps to reform police culture and ensure that all citizens are protected and treated with respect.

I hope that the Mayor's Office, the 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.

Thank you for your time -
Erica Kane

From: Russell Karnes < >
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 4:51:33 PM
To: Dimitrijevic, Marina < >
Subject: Police violence

Hi Marina,

I am appalled by the violent behavior of MPD and the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office in response to the peaceful protests that are occurring in Milwaukee. It is unacceptable that the police are attacking, corralling, and deploying spike strips against protesters. The police must immediately cease these methods and cease the use of chemical and other non-lethal weapons against our citizens. There is no justification for the police's pattern of escalating and inciting violence against protesters.

We all have First Amendment rights to express ourselves and peacefully assemble. In addition, all people should be able to exercise those rights, and simply exist, in our streets without fear that they will be attacked by the police.

In watching numerous live streams and other videos of yesterday's protests, it is clear that the police were the aggressors at 6th and McKinley and have been the aggressors in many other encounters with protesters. The Tweet that was released by MPD suggesting that a Molotov cocktail was thrown at police did not appear to be truthful, and seems to have been prepared as an after-the-fact justification for the use of force. The photographic evidence that was released is not credible as no such device could be constructed from a plastic water bottle. Even if items were thrown by protesters, that does not excuse the police's use of violence as a response.

At Friday's meeting, I would ask that you ask MPD and the mayor what right they believe they have to attack peaceful protesters?

I also believe that the mayor has exceeded his authority in the use of curfews to unlawfully limit our First Amendment rights.

My family and I will continue to support BLM, the protesters and attend protests when we are able. We would like to do so as a family but are not confident that the police will not cause another violent incident. We have also had very difficult conversations with our children about not being able to trust the police. On top of everything else that we are currently dealing with, that is the terrible reality.

Thanks for your time and support. I hope you and your family are doing well.

Russ

Polanco, Joanna

From: Allison Kasprovich [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:06 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Thoughts for Common Council

Hello,
I think it's an amazing step to read these messages during your meeting.

The main issues I would love to see discussed are as follows:

1. **Deescalation** is not required of cops. I work in an elementary school where deescalation is everything. When a child throws a chair, deescalation is required. When a child hits someone, deescalation is required. Everyone should have that right. We teach that to children. Why don't adults function the same way?
2. It is not required to **exhaust all alternatives before shooting**. This makes absolutely no sense. There should always been options explored first that keeps people alive. Cops are supposed to protect the people.
3. **The way curfew was enforced the few nights we had it was obscene**. I understand that police are trying to keep an eye out for rioters, but many groups were out peacefully protesting and **tear gassed and shot at with rubber bullets**. This is not an acceptable way to enforce a curfew. Simply being out past 9:00 should not mean opening yourself up to violence that could blind you and make you bleed. We are in the middle of a pandemic that causes lung issues. Why is it acceptable for police to tear gas?

These are just some of the issues that I see with what is happening in our police system. Thank you for taking my thoughts and the thoughts of other civilians into consideration today. I look forward to hearing what you decide.

Allison Kasprovich

--

Allison Kasprovich (*she/her*)
262-308-2748

Polanco, Joanna

From: Lauren K <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 7:03 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Comment for 6/5 Public Safety & Health Committee Special Meeting

Dear Public Safety and Health Committee,

My name is Lauren Keene and I live in District 6 in the City of Milwaukee. I recently moved to Riverwest from Oak Creek and have lived in the Milwaukee area my entire life. 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. Curfews also target many workers of color, many of whom are essential right now, who work late shift or third shift jobs.

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,
Lauren Keene

Polanco, Joanna

From: Maggie M. Kellogg [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 8:19 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: For Committee Meeting on June 5

Hello,
I am Maggie Kellogg, a Milwaukee resident. On Tuesday, June 2nd, I attended the peaceful protest in Milwaukee. I was moved to tears by how the community came together to support the cause. People offering help, water, snacks, hand sanitizer, face masks, nursing assistance, and more.

When this peaceful protest became not peaceful because of the escalation of the cops it was shocking. Seeing it in person. You see it in media, but experiencing it yourself is eye opening.

There is no need for tear gas and rubber bullets and other forms of unnecessary force.

The peaceful protesters who have been given citations should be forgiven.

What I witnessed at the protest was insanity. The protestors were insanely strong, kind, and smart. The cops were insanely disrespectful, scary, and unnecessary.

It's time for a change.

Maggie Kellogg

Polanco, Joanna

From: Meghan Keyes <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 9:52 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police Policy Update — URGENT

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Meghan Keyes. 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,

Meghan Keyes

Polanco, Joanna

From: Molly Kiefer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:33 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: End excessive police Aggression against peaceful protestors

Dear Public Safety and Health Committee,

My name is Molly Kiefer and I live in District 3 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.

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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,
Molly Kiefer

Polanco, Joanna

From: Meg Kilkenny [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2020 6:12 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Comment for 6/5 Public Safety & Health Committee Special Meeting

Dear Public Safety and Health Committee,

My name is Meg and I live in District 3 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 will agree and will voice these same demands.

Respectfully,
Meg Kilkenny

--
Meg Kilkenny
she/her/hers

(262)506-8930

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jacob Klapperich <jacobk@blumind.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:56 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police brutality concern

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Jacob Klapperich, and 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.

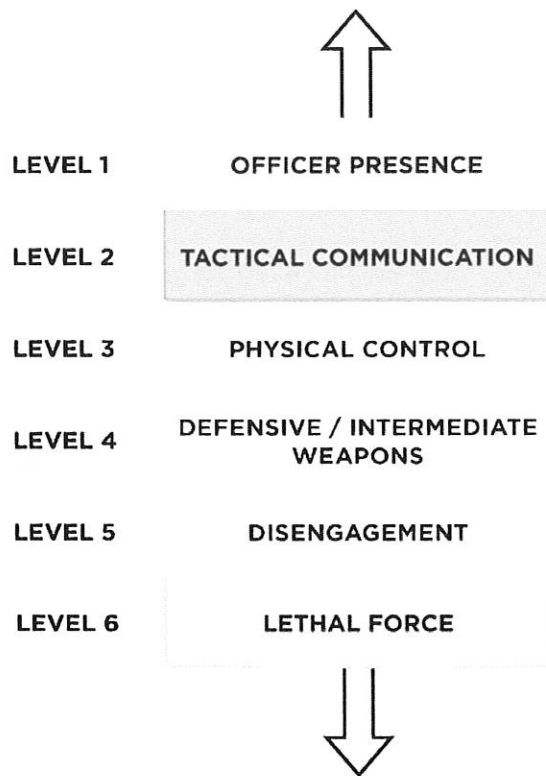
I urge you to change policing policies in order to appropriately and effectively protect and serve our community. Data proves that together, the *following eight policies can decrease police violence by 72%*. Here are the eight policies that must be implemented *immediately*.

- 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. Please, do the right thing.

Thank you,
Jacob Klapperich

USE OF FORCE CONTINUUM



Sent from my iPhone

Polanco, Joanna

From: Elissa Koppel <elissak@redacted>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:03 AM
To: Medhin, Ted; Polanco, Joanna
Subject: Jowsca's email address blocked me. Sending this to you.

Dear Public Safety and Health Committee,

- **Police must stop shooting protestors with rubber bullets, tear gas, and pepper spray immediately. This is a violation of de-escalation procedure, and it is a violation of their protected first amendment rights. The ACLU of Wisconsin and the National Lawyer's Guild are monitoring the police violence towards civilians.**
- **The curfews are an excuse for police to make more arrests and be violent with civilians. Additionally, because legal observers are not advised to break the law, curfews create a scenario where police are acting unmonitored by nonpartisan resources. The curfews must stop. The curfews are not disincentivizing protestors.**
- **Police must stop attending protests against police brutality with guns, batons, and chemical weapons.**
- **Police must stop being violent with protestors and tackling them to the ground, especially when they are on bikes.**
- **Police must make their announcements to protestors multiple times over loudspeaker. Protestors cannot hear muffled police words and will miss guidance.**

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All the best,
Elissa Koppel
(414) 897-3283

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jared Kraft [redacted]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:08 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Common Council Input

Mr. Owczarski,

As a Milwaukee citizen for the last 9 years I want the common council to intervene on the unconscionable acts being done by the Milwaukee Police Department. I am emailing to demand accountability to the Milwaukee Common Council for the violent and unnecessary tactics taken by the Milwaukee Police Department related to the peaceful protests that have been taking place in our city. It is unacceptable to use the force that we have seen on video, and to be sure worse, off-video happening to our city and citizens exercising their protected rights. Further, it is unacceptable to not allow swift justice and action to those officers who have acted against their oath to protect and serve. We can no longer allow slap on the wrist repercussions towards the men and women in the police department. True justice and action must be taken in disciplinary measures. The police department has been protected over our citizens. Tear gas, rubber bullets, and brute force have no place against our citizens who are exercising their constitutional rights.

Many thanks,
Jared Kraft

Polanco, Joanna

From: Mallory Rose Krumrei [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:28 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for Special Common Council Committee Meeting
Importance: High

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nt for the

Dear Tom Barret, Alfonso Morales and Earnell Lucas,

My name is Mallory Krumrei. I am currently a resident of Milwaukee County, residing in zip code 53204. I am emailing you today as both a public health professional and as a concerned citizen of this community.

Let it be clear: racism is a public health crisis. Police brutality is a public health crisis. So-called “law and order” is a public health crisis. Together, these crises represent health inequities that are systematic, unjust, and avoidable. My fellow community members and I have witnessed multiple accounts of unwarranted violence at the hands of law enforcement. There have been countless unlawful arrests, which have been discriminatorily targeted towards the residents of our community who seek justice in the face of systemic oppression—systemic oppression that you all have a hand in upholding. It is time you join us in actionably recognizing the value of our people. It is time we put a stop to the unrest and violence. It is our right as Americans to gather and protest peacefully. It is our right as humans to breathe.

I demand that the brutality of the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office, the City of Milwaukee Police Department and the National Guard towards the peaceful protestors cease immediately. I demand that every protestor wrongfully arrested be released from custody immediately and have their tickets and fines revoked. I demand an end to the city-wide 9:00pm curfew aimed at criminalizing peaceful protesting. I demand that no further limitations be put on our public transportation—a very basic human right, a public health asset, and one of many that Milwaukee government leadership has stripped away from its citizens. I demand that no more last-minute distraction tactics are pushed onto our community and our businesses. We very clearly see through these ploys; they are prolonging injustices—injustices at the hands of your leadership, which you must and now denounce and rectify. Finally, I demand that the City of Milwaukee Police Department release the body cam footage of the reported Molotov cocktail being thrown at officers which led to violence at the June 2, 2020 protest that was peaceful up until that point.

The cumulation of brutal actions taken by law enforcement since these peaceful protests began shows not only a gross abuse of power but an overarching intolerance of the Black Lives Matter movement. Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department, City of Milwaukee Police Department and the National Guard have overstepped and abused the power entrusted to them, resulting in physical harm, untold emotional damage, financial loss, and unlawful arrests against the valuable citizens of this community—the citizens to which you are morally, ethically, and juridically indebted.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jeff Ksiazek <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Curfew

Dear Clerk Owczarski,

Throughout American history, curfews have been enforced when BIPOC communities want their voices heard. They have been used to add additional charges and fines upon arrest and have led to law enforcement inflicting further violence on marginalized communities. In one of the most segregated cities in the country, Milwaukee can and must find better solutions. Please abandon the idea of a curfew.

Also, stopping bus services early hurts third shift workers and can needlessly shift blame for an impact of service from a government decision to peaceful protests and protesters.

As a resident of the Washington Heights neighborhood, I hope you reconsider these policies.

Jeff Ksiazek
Archivist - Musician

Athas - Irish music from Milwaukee, WI

Irish Music Lessons - Milwaukee Irish Fest School of Music

Polanco, Joanna

From: Colleen Kubiak [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 9:42 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Regarding "Civil Unrest" and Curfews

Hi! My name is Colleen Kubiak and I'm a resident of the city of Milwaukee. I care deeply about making our community safer.

I'm emailing to urge city clerk Jim Owczarski to demand Milwaukee police agencies enact policies that have been shown to reduce officer-involved violence and killings and to end the transfer of surplus military equipment to local law enforcement. Implementation of the #8CantWait policies in addition to other policies already in place can decrease police violence in our community by 72%.

I'm asking you to enact these policies:

-Require officers to de-escalate situations, where possible, by communicating with subjects, maintaining distance, and otherwise eliminating the need to use force.

-Require officers to intervene and stop excessive force used by other officers and report these incidents immediately to a supervisor.

-Require officers to report each time they use force or threaten to use force against civilians.

It is clear our current system is racially biased and causing the unnecessary deaths, arrests, and abuse of members of our community. All of these policies can be implemented with your power immediately and I'm asking you to not hesitate to make our city safer.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Colleen Kubiak

4121 Martin Dr. Milwaukee WI 53208

Polanco, Joanna

From: Rory Kuehn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:33 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Meeting on 6/5/2020 Input

Hello,

My name is Rory Kuehn. When I say "Fuck the police" I mean that shit. I have cousins and old friends who have gone into the police force, so I know there are good people who are police; I still encourage them to find a new career. The reason why I say this is because the Police force was ONLY created once the slaves were freed, and they "needed" to "protect" white people and white property.

White people and the police have not been afraid of people of color getting freedom, they have been afraid of them wanting revenge. 400 years of this has led us to where we are today. We now see these thin skinned white racist folks behind the badge.

We hate because we are taught to hate.

We hate because we are ignorant.

We are the product of ignorant people who have been taught an ignorant thing which is that there are four or five different races.

There are not four or five different races, there is one race on the face of this earth and we are ALL members of this race and that is the human race.

Thank you for taking time to read my input.

Rory Kuehn

Polanco, Joanna

From: Amber H <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:31 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Milwaukee Curfew

Good Morning,

I'm just providing my opinion about the curfew. I live on the eastside of Milwaukee where plenty of protests have gone through and they seem pretty peaceful. I think the curfew is unfortunately only meant for those who don't care to follow it and won't. I'm not against having a curfew, but I honestly think that most people have been ignoring it.

From what I have seen on Facebook live or online during the late night protests, the police don't seem to be enforcing it anyway. Of course they have issued some citations but there's no way to enforce it with such large crowds of people.

On another note, the other night when there wasn't even a curfew, a friend of mine was pulled over around 1am and asked why she was out and where she was going. This was without a curfew in place and it seems strange to me.

It also seems strange to enforce a curfew on the first weekend bars and restaurants can open, considering how many people may be out patronizing these locations and the people who are working past the curfew. Also, the buses are shutting down early which means some people may need to walk or ride a bike to and from work.

Thanks!

Amber L.

Sent from my iPhone

Polanco, Joanna

From: Julia Lazarski [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:15 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Safety and Police Response to Protests

To the Common Council of Milwaukee, Public Safety and Health Committee, and City Clerk,

My name is Julia Lazarski. I am a lifelong resident of Milwaukee County and I am contacting you all today to express my concerns with police protocols during peaceful protests in Milwaukee. I feel it is my responsibility as a citizen and resident to urge the elected leaders of our city to thoroughly re-examine the current tactics and protocols law enforcement employ in the interest of public safety.

Militaristic tactics, tear gas, and use of “less-lethal” ammunition against citizens not only violates the right to assemble peacefully, but also leads to severe injuries and fatalities. Empirical studies published in the British Journal of Surgery (2013) found that “kinetic impact munitions” [rubber bullets] used in riot control intended to cause pain but minimal harm contributed to hospitalization, permanent disabilities, and death. Employing these tactics as institutional protocol is counterproductive to creating a peaceful and just society, and rather promotes fear and anguish.

We the residents elect officials and fund our public safety organizations with the expectation that they will do just that, serve and protect everyone - especially the most vulnerable. It’s long past time we address and change the tactics that officers use to carry out the law as well as deeply examine the laws that have allowed excessive force to go unchecked. These laws and institutions that have disproportionately affected our black and brown communities are causing preventable deaths and effectively showing that those who are hired to protect also determine the value of a human life. These deaths are people. They are our family members, our neighbors, our friends, our coworkers. We join in our grief and mourning for those lost to violence and discrimination, and we march in solidarity for the principal that if my fellow black and brown Americans are not free, neither am I.

Listen to the community who has long been ignored right outside your door.

Respectfully,
Julia Lazarski
Resident, District 14
414-534-8434

Polanco, Joanna

From: Sue Leister [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 8:48 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Message for June 5th Common Council meeting

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

Thank you for accepting and passing on to the Common Council what I'm sure will be many many emails.

While I have many thoughts on the actions of police in how they have responded to peaceful protests, I'd like to direct my comment to police culture as it relates to the "manner that Civil unrest is addressed".

What struck me about the George Floyd tape was the fact that the other officers let Derek Chauvin continue his behavior without intervention. We're they afraid to step in? If so why? Afraid to not show a united front? Afraid of being ostracized by their peers? Somehow punished? That says loads about the culture of the Minneapolis PD.

So does the Milwaukee PD have that same culture? Does having your partners back mean you will support him or her even if they are acting in a horribly wrong way?

Or does "having your back" mean that "I will step in to save you from yourself. To save you from making a huge error in judgment."

I know being a police officer is really hard work. I know they are faced with dangerous situations on a daily basis. I can only imagine how that could jade someone's view of the world. But that cannot be an excuse for what we watched on film.

If the MPD culture discourages allowing its officers to intervene in another officer's inappropriate actions, and ostracizes an officer that does intervene, that's a big problem. They need to be able to check one another.

So teach them ways that they can intervene when a partner gets out of hand.
And make sure there's a clear line that can't be crossed without intervention.

That Minneapolis cop standing over Chauvin and Floyd? All he had to do was turn to his partner and say something to move the situation along. But he did nothing. I'm glad he was arrested for accessory to murder.

I would say that changing the police culture would go far in preventing situations like we witnessed on the Floyd tape, which would address the issue of civil unrest. Get to the root of the problem.

Thank you for reading this,

Sue Leister
Milwaukee Wisconsin 53231

Sent from my iPhone

Polanco, Joanna

From: Liz Lincoln Steiner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: MPD response to peaceful protestors

Good Morning Members of Committee,

Thank you for convening the committee to discuss the police response to this long-overdue uprising in our city.

I have emailed Ald. Murphy about my concerns, which I will briefly reiterate for the committee.

I have joined some of the actions with my children and watch footage of friends more directly involved in the movement. I am deeply concerned by the escalation I see from police officers. I have been talking with my children about the history of the civil rights movement, and how people like Congressman John Lewis were beaten by police and left with permanent damage because of it. And even my 8-year-old was able to observe that not much has changed in that respect..

We MUST take immediate action to protect protestors who are exercising their first amendment rights. Long-term, I join my voice with the African-American Roundtable for divesting from policing strategies and investing in the people in our communities. We need justice for Joel Acevedo.

I want to particularly call on my fellow white electeds to take immediate bold action on racial justice in our city. White people created racist institutions and white people need to be active in dismantling them. To be clear, I expect action on these issues. It is not enough to be a nice well-meaning white person. Tepid responses do nothing to advance the cause of justice. If you're not willing to work for a more just society, then I question why you sought office in the first place. My call to action is that of Pope Paul VI, if you want peace work for justice.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Lincoln Steiner
Resident of District 10

From: Anne Liners < >
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2020 8:09 AM
To: Spiker, Scott < >
Subject: Demands for Today's Special Meeting

Hello Alderman Spiker,

My name is Anne, I am a resident of the 13th District of Milwaukee. It has come to my attention that today there will be a special meeting of the Milwaukee Common Council in response to the protests happening around our city. I reached out earlier in the week with a list of questions and concerns about our police procedure. Today, in extension of that, I would like to extend a list of 8 demands for community health, safety, and wellbeing.

These demands are published by the African American Roundtable of Milwaukee. They have the support of a tremendous number of community organizations and individual citizens, including many of the people protesting this week. I recognize that some of the demands can only be met with legislative powers exceeding your own, but I ask that you will support these 8 measures to the full extent of your capacity.

The demands from the African American Roundtable of Milwaukee are as follows:

- 1) Community Investment: A \$75 million divestment from the Milwaukee Police Department and reinvestment into building healthy communities that can thrive.
- 2) The rights of protesters are respected and no harm comes to them (this includes, but is not limited to, eliminating all use of tear gas and pepper spray)
- 3) Justice for Joel Acevedo: Officer Michael Mattioli must be immediately terminated from the Milwaukee Police Department for the murder of Mr. Acevedo.
- 4) FPC be the voice of the community: The fire and police commission must remain the lead investigator in the internal investigation involving officer Michael Mattioli.
- 5) Accountability to the community: Common council president Cavalier Johnson must immediately appoint community members to the community collaborative committee.
- 6) Instead of an executive order to activate the national guard, the governor and county executive should provide safeguards to Black communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 7) Housing: Implement a moratorium on evictions, foreclosures, rent, mortgages, and utility disconnections for Milwaukee county residents through the end of 2020.
- 8) Healthcare: Declaration of racism in the state of Wisconsin and city of Milwaukee as a public health crisis. Public and private institutes must be expanded to ensure Milwaukee county residents have access to affordable health care.

Thank you for your attention to these important issues.

Best, Anne Liners

Polanco, Joanna

From: Katrina Lord <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:01 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Common Council's Public Safety & Health Committee Meeting

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

I'll make this quick and to the (rubber bullet) point. Please use this forum to:

1. **Speak out against the police violence** in response to peaceful protesters. Police are supposed to serve and protect all, not some.
2. **Demilitarize** the police response to the protest. These are citizens. We all have a right to be heard and seen. Do not use rubber bullets & gas, tanks & riot gear. It's well known that a weapon escalates a situation. The police are escalating with armored tanks, visible weapons (some are purposefully flaunting - look and you will see it), and audible threats. I know they're scared, but they are feeding and instigating a vicious cycle. As the civil servant and authority, they should lead the change.
4. Support the efforts to **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. Begin discussions for an **audit of all policies** to identify racist practices and deliver a comprehensive plan to eradicate.

These are your people. I am hopeful as fellow humans you will see this as an opportunity to do the right thing.

Best regards,
Katrina Lord

From: satira lord <>

Sent: Thursday, June 4, 2020 5:20:15 PM

To: Dimitrijevic, Marina < >

Subject: Concerned Citizen

Dear Marina Dimitrijevic,

I want to start by thanking you for all your hard work, I'm so happy you are my Alderwoman. I know your job is difficult, I believe that you are a good person and want what is best for the community.

That being said over the past week I have been deeply disheartened by the actions of the police force over the past week. I have watched countless peaceful protesters be met with unnecessary force including physically violence, tear gas, and pepper spray. It is your job to build community and protect those who's voices aren't heard. People are hurting in Milwaukee and should be able to express themselves. Enacting curfews, restricting freedom, and using force does not restore trust in the community.

I am glad that you and other Milwaukee Common Council Members put out a statement on one of the many acts of cruelty the police have done in the last week, to the citizens of Milwaukee, but that's not enough.

My husband and I moved to Milwaukee over five years ago. My husband is an MPS teacher and I work in education in the city. When I speak to the treatment of the Black community to my friends and family back home they can't believe it. I hardly can, there is so much segregation, bias, and blatant racism in our city. I thought it was due to the public being uninformed about issues in our community and if they only saw the perspective of the Black community, Milwaukee would change. I was wrong. It is now the time to make drastic change. I implore you to enact Eight Cant Wait, a project by Campaign Zero. They have 8 policy that are data driven to decreases police violence by 72%, Milwaukee is only using 3 of these policies. This is the time to move Milwaukee forward and to be on right side of history. There is a lot of good work to be done, I hope your ready to tackle the biggest issue in Milwaukee.

Thank you for taking the time to listen.

Thank you,
Satira Lord

Polanco, Joanna

From: Hailey Michelle Lorenzen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim; Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Input for Common Council Regarding Police Policies

Good morning,

I am writing to you to share my input as a Milwaukee constituent on the recent protests. Like many residents of Milwaukee, I have been saddened and concerned about the response from police officers. The protesting I have witnessed and been a part of have been peaceful, and the violence or property damage that has happened elsewhere i do not believe warrants the kind of militarized and overzealous response that I have seen from the police. In the midst of a pandemic of a respiratory illness, I find the use of tear gas, a chemical outlawed in warfare, on large groups of protestors and bystanders alike to be unconscionable. This causes harm, creates terror, and furthers the divide between police and the community. Given the behavior of the police force, I cannot believe in good faith that escalated tactics such as tear gas or rubber bullets are the result of genuine concern for a crowd becoming violent, or the result of the police's vindication. I have been kept up at night afraid, not of looters or violence in my neighborhood, but by the sound of helicopters circling overhead or tanks in the streets and not knowing their intentions. I believe that instituting a curfew this last weekend led to a higher concentration of "bad faith" actors congregating, and that peaceful, law-abiding protestors where driven away from expressing their first amendment rights. I feel that this is not an instance of civil unrest as the mayor and news media have made it out to be, there is not anarchy being incited in the streets, but rather a togetherness and collective awareness of each other's struggles that I have never seen in this country before. I am proud of our community for standing so strong this last week and for making it clear that we are going to continue to demand change in our policing, our legal system, and our government at large for racial equity. I will end this email with my first hand experience at the polices response during this past week. I was not attending a protest, but trying to drive home from work when I encountered it outside of the police station on Wednesday night. There was nowhere for me to turn around and I was stuck between cars and the median. It was not the police or the National Guard, lined up with shields guarding the police station who stepped in to help traffic reroute, but protestors who moved out of the way and signaled to cars when and where to exit. It was the protestors who took responsibility and prevented accidents or injuries, not the police who were protecting their own property from a peaceful crowd. I would ask the council today to consider who that behavior "protects and serves".

Thank you for your time today and for making the space for community voices during this time.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Yalanda Ludtke [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 8:27 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Use of police force
Attachments: IMG_1707.jpg

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Yalanda Ludtke. 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,
Yalanda Ludtke

--

Best,

Yalanda Ludtke

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Just as 'peace' means no violence, and 'liberty' means no oppression, and 'justice' means no prejudice, 'all' means no exceptions || Michael Daschlein

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jack Lundeen [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:36 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 John Lundeen and I live in District 3 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 Milwaukee.

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 addition, the use of drawbridges, road spikes, and police barricades to prevent protestors from observing said curfew in the first place is particularly troublesome and in direct opposition to the order these police officers are supposedly enforcing.

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 and police accountability. 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, State, and Nation have a right to protest peacefully in our streets without facing the very same police aggression that they are protesting against. This right to peaceful assembly is the bedrock upon which our entire society has been built.

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 supporting your constituents, especially our Black, Brown, and Indigenous neighbors, 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 perpetrated by the City of Milwaukee. I am hopeful the committee, who is dedicated to the public safety and health of those who elected you, will agree and will voice these same demands.

Respectfully,
John Lundeen

Polanco, Joanna

From: Chelsea Malacara <chelsea.malacara@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 8:33 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public input on curfew and cutting off bus service.

Good Morning,

My name is Chelsea Malacara and 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 bus service will only be 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 2015, in Baltimore, following the wrongful death of Freddie Gray, they shut down the transportation hubs which allowed anger and frustration to fester and ultimately led to a situation which was a threat to public safety.

I hope you will consider lifting these tactics.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Malacara

--

Chelsea Malacara
chelsea.malacara@gmail.com
207-405-1009

Polanco, Joanna

From: Liam Maltz [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:46 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police brutality

Chair Dimitrijevic, Vice Chair Lewis, Alders Borkowski, Spiker and Rainey

I want to thank you all for scheduling this very important meeting during a time of crisis in Milwaukee. I appreciate this opportunity to be heard by my elected leaders and to offer feedback about the direction of this city.

My questions are simple.

How many of your constituents killed by police is an acceptable number?

How many millions of dollars is the community prepared to spend to avoid any change in our police policies surrounding use of force?

How many times will this city be forced to settle lawsuits over the unjustified deaths of black men caused by law enforcement officers who the residents of this city pay generously to protect them?

Why is this city providing tanks and tear gas to the police but not providing basic services to the communities of color that the police continue to assault and oppress?

Why are the Milwaukee Police arresting elected officials who are representing the public interest by observing their excessive use of force on community members?

I look forward to your response and to the hearing tomorrow afternoon.

Paul Spink, Milwaukee Resident of the 14th District"

Polanco, Joanna

From: Joe [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 1:50 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Feedback for public safety

Good Morning,

As a concerned citizen and resident of Milwaukee I write to offer my comments ahead of Friday's special meeting.

Your curfews are transparent acts of war against the people of this city. Curfews were imposed solely to give the police some ham-fisted justification to start attacking the peaceful public. Absolutely disgusting and inexcusable. You had a stronger response to the public's overwhelming response to the murder of George Floyd by police than you did to a global pandemic!

You're actions in no way demonstrate a concern for public safety.

You have turned this city into a war zone with your fascist policing in response to a week of peaceful protests. It is an affront to the rights of all American people. The world is watching. You had an opportunity to be a shining beacon of change, and instead you took the coward's way out.

I am ashamed of our city and our country.

You are attacking the very citizens you claim to protect.

Stop showing up to protests in riot gear and stop destroying this city.

Joe Manske

Polanco, Joanna

From: Owczarski, Jim
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:13 AM
To: Polanco, Joanna
Subject: COMMENTS
Attachments: 8 can't wait; Concern for June 5th Public safety & Committee; input on policing policies; We Need Police Reform NOW; Acknowledgment and Growth; Feedback for public safety; Re: Boogaloo Movement; Fwd: Police Policy Changes - URGENT; Boogaloo Movement; Public Safety and Health Committee; A Plea for This City; Public Comment: Public Safety and Health Committee: Curfew; Fwd: Protests, curfew and police response; Re: You must use your authority to put a stop to police violence and illegal suppression of our rights; Common Council and the Public Safety and Health Committee; Re: Bay View protest; Re: Call for Police Accountability and Defunding; Re: Public Feedback - Public Safety and Health Committee - Special Meeting - 6/5/2020; Re: A Request From Your Constituent: Uphold Protesters' Rights; Policing Policy Changes; Public Safety Meeting 6/5; Re: Concerns regarding law enforcement and the protests; Curfew enforcement and civil unrest

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jacob Marek <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:34 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Comments on the Police Reaction the Protests

To whom it may concern,

I think most of what I am interested in saying has already been said. So I will attempt to add something new to the conversation.

Indiscriminate use of tear gas and "rubber bullets" on crowds is considered a war crime due to collective punishment provisions. Tear gas on its own is a chemical agent banned in the same Geneva Conventions. Obviously these less lethal weapons are legal for use in the USA but they should no longer be used by the MPD. Please consider a full ban on both tear gas and rubber bullets to force MPD to use truly non lethal crowd control.

In addition, Chief Morales should be removed and replaced with someone who does not defend the actions of the officers (regarding the officer kneeling on the neck of a protestor) who are responding with disproportionate force. He has failed this city in his response by allowing his officers to escalate beyond reason.

Unfortunately, thanks to the Police Department's reaction to the protests I am no longer comfortable inviting my friends and family to come live here. I am only comfortable remaining myself because too much of our population has been lost already.

Respectfully,
Jacob Marek

Polanco, Joanna

From: Stephanie Martin [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:31 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Common council agenda re: curfew

Hi Jim!

I heard that the Common Council was looking for feedback on the police policies and intervention that we've seen here in Milwaukee the past week, and I am happy to help.

First of all, I personally attended a protest this week. Police presence was at a minimum until it got dark, and then it seemed to increase all at once. Milwaukee Police should be trained on de-escalation procedures and should never use weapons, intimidation, or tear gas as a first solution. Also, the use of helicopters and the National Guard is completely unacceptable- this is not a police state, and citizens are exercising their rights to protest peacefully. When the police have to get involved, they should ALWAYS have their body cams and dash cams turned on. If they don't have this equipment, it should be issued across the board.

Second, the city curfew is entirely off base and I've contacted Mayor Barrett to let him know how I feel about it. The only thing that a curfew does is ensure that more innocent people are arrested for doing absolutely nothing.

Last, I recommend the council take a look at the 8 can't wait initiative. These policies are the leading thoughts on the way forward for ending police violence:

Thanks very much!
-Stephanie Martin, 3rd district of Milwaukee

From: Mandi McAlister < >
Sent: Thursday, June 4, 2020 12:05 PM
To: Dimitrijevic, Marina
Subject: 5 Policing Policies to Enact Today

Dear Alderwoman Dimitrijevic,

I'm concerned with the violence that is used within the Milwaukee Police Department. Excessive force is endangering the lives of Milwaukeeans and increasing tensions between residents and the police force.

Campaign Zero has outlined 8 policies based on the . They have been proven to decrease police violence by 72% when used together. Milwaukee currently has 3 of the 8 policies enacted. I ask, as your constituent and as a resident of Milwaukee, that you ask Mayor Barrett to enact the remaining 5 to save lives and decrease violence in my home city.

Here are 5 to enact:

1. Ban Chokeholds and Strangleholds
2. Require De-escalation
3. Require Exhausting Other Means Before Shooting
4. Ban Shooting at Moving Vehicles
5. Require Comprehensive Reporting

You can find more information at . Thank you for your urgency in this matter.

Sincerely,
Mandi McAlister
Bay View Resident

Polanco, Joanna

From: Whitney Schaefer [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:40 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Remarks for Special Common Council Public Safety Health Committee Meeting

To whom it may concern in regards to the Public Safety Health Committee Meeting:

I write to you as a Milwaukee business owner and citizen who watched video of first hand accounts of a peaceful protest turned violent from the hands of Milwaukee Police on Tuesday, June 2nd. I speak specifically of the footage from 6th and McKinley and on HWY 794. I am completely furious that I watched peaceful protestors clearly be attacked by police officers.

I call on you to demand the Milwaukee Police Department to stop using force on peaceful protesters.

It is completely obvious that major reform needs to happen with the policing in this country, but a first step is to immediately call on the Milwaukee Police department to stop using tear gas + rubber bullets on peaceful protestors.

They need to be called out for lying to justify using those same tear gas + rubber bullets as well.

Protestors need to be able to continue without fear of being attacked as they protest peacefully in our streets.

Respectfully,

Whitney McAllister

Polanco, Joanna

From: Bo McCollow <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:56 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: my public input

Hello,

I have been disturbed and frightened by the militaristic response to the community of voices that is begging to be heard. Rolling in with armored vehicles, and having black helicopters circling the city is entirely inappropriate and only serves as an intimidation tactic that fuels the resentment and distrust being protested. Having hundreds of officers in full riot gear is putting the police in direct opposition to the people. When all you have is a hammer... For as quickly as the police ran up and stopped the march from crossing the Hoan bridge on Tuesday, it would have been just as easy to stop traffic and let them cross peacefully. Seeing the military style response and the direct antagonistic use of anti-terrorist tactics to the peaceful marches makes me feel less American. Teargas is against the Geneva convention and I am sickened by its use on my fellow community members.

In summary: Categorizing peaceful marches as "civil unrest" is purposefully condemning our community who is demanding to be heard. The heavy handed response was, is, and will continue to be grossly out of line, and an extremely bad reflection on our neighborhoods, city, and country.

Please stop,
Bo McCollow.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Ian McCullough <imccullough1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:14 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: You must end escalating police force NOW

Hello Clerk Jim and Mayor Tom,

I hope you are well. This is a critical time for our city and your courage is needed more than ever.

I am emailing you to voice my support for the ending of the militarization of our police and for a re-imagination of our public safety. Also to hold those policemen who break the law accountable. If they break the law, they are criminals. Just like looters. So, why are they not being held accountable?

We need ACTIONABLE change. How are you going to

There are so many of us watching what is happening now. I have seen so many occurrences of our own journalists, citizens, and bystanders being hurt and terrorized by the escalation of MPD. This MUST STOP. This is breeding a continued distrust in the Milwaukee leadership and their role in this police militarization.

I encourage you all to follow the data. It is quite clear that militarization and increased use of force puts the public servants and the public at greater risk.

Please, in this moment, have the courage to stand up for the people you serve.

Thank You,

Ian McCullough
District 3



Polanco, Joanna

From: Sarah McCure <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:10 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police response to protests

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.

Thank you,
Sarah McCure

Polanco, Joanna

From: Claire McHugh [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:50 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Re: Public Input to Be Reviewed at Common Council Meeting on 6/5/2020

Good morning Mr. Owczarski -

I am a Milwaukee citizen and have been so for the last 10 years, and today I am emailing to demand accountability by the Milwaukee Common Council for the violent and unnecessary tactics taken by the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) related to the peaceful protests that have been taking place in our city over the last week.

There is a serious problem that has been plaguing our country, and the city of Milwaukee for many many years. It is high time that serious and swift action be taken towards the police in states all across the country and more importantly right here in Milwaukee.

Racial injustice is something that Black Americans have to deal with every single day and as dedicated Milwaukeeans, we should be allowed to peacefully demonstrate our support for the Black community, without the fear that our police force might take violent actions toward us. The protests in Milwaukee have been very peaceful and while there are opportunists who have taken it upon themselves to destroy property, they do not represent the greater good. And while destroying property is bad, THINGS can always be replaced and PEOPLE cannot.

The over-the-top and dangerous actions taken by MPD over the last few days is horrific. Tear gassing and shooting rubber bullets at our citizens is not the answer. I again urge you to hold MPD accountable for their violent actions and make major changes to policing of the peaceful protests.

Thank you for taking the time to review this email and I truly hope to see major changes moving forward.

Sincerely,

Claire McHugh

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jesse McLaughlin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:28 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Curfew & Law Enforcement response

Hello,

Over the course of the last week we have seen swift action on the part of both local and national law enforcement. This would be comforting if it were actually in the interest of the people they are sworn to protect and serve. It is disheartening to see that rather than address the issues at the root of the protests across the globe sparked by YET ANOTHER unarmed man killed by Police officers, the response has been to do just the opposite and seemingly up the ante toward an inevitable conflict.

First off, the curfew is unjust and frankly quite saddening. This is something seen in Police states and should never be happening to quell what are almost entirely peaceful acts of protest. It adversely affects many people completely unrelated to the protests and does nothing to stop the few people only interested in starting trouble through looting etc... But this curfew, like the entire police response is mostly time deaf.

Next, I would like to say how sad I am to see that during a time where all the "good cops" could be out there uniting the city by and joining their fellow citizens in asking for justice and reform, they instead opt to either blindly follow their marching orders and in many cases seem to almost wish to incite violence.

This is completely unacceptable. As a force of supposed "law and order" the LAST thing they should be doing is looking for a fight, but we've all seen footage including quite a lot recently from here in Milwaukee of officers creating conflict rather than making nearly any attempts to de-escalate. Also their justifications have been laughable at best... the "Molotov" that all the unarmed protestors managed to clearly see as an empty plastic water bottle and still immediately disapproved of and yet trained officers feared for their safety at the sight of? These are people with itchy trigger fingers and I shudder to think what kinds of things some of them might be doing when the focus isn't on them.

I don't know if it is a failure in training, or if the police force unfortunately is just attracting those with underlying aggression issues to its ranks, or if it is simply the concept as a whole needs a revamp. What I do know is that if the upstanding members of the force don't call for those willing to act in a way that is not in the best interest of the citizens they are meant to protect than they can and should be held just as accountable.

Another topic here worth addressing is the reason for the protests themselves. A lot of people misguidedly seem to be questioning why they're even still going on or even seemingly growing in size despite the fact that FINALLY some justice is in the process of being had for Mr. Floyd's family in Minneapolis. The answer is simple, this was never about one man's murder but the systemic, historic trend of murders all across the country at the hands of police officers with no check to their power. These are supposed to be the citizens best equipped to protect us in these positions not the most likely to abuse us and see themselves as rulers. Sadly a lot of officers seem to be held to lower standards rather than at the height we all deserve them to be.

To put it simply, if policing is to continue in its current form in Milwaukee (or anywhere) we demand much greater accountability and restrictions as well as more apparently much needed training. Also, it should go without saying but vetting of officers for any history or tendencies towards racism, sexism or any other kind of discriminatory behaviors.

If this seems like a lot to ask that should illustrate how deeply rooted these problems are and the importance of remedying them. Until that happens, we'll be in the streets, demanding justice.

Thank you for taking the time.

Sincerely,
Jesse McLaughlin

Polanco, Joanna

From: Kayla McNeil <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 1:01 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Comment Regarding Common Council Committee Meeting

Good afternoon,

My name is Kayla McNeil and I live in Washington Heights (53208), 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,

Kayla McNeil

Polanco, Joanna

From: Matthew Middlebrooke <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 8:33 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Curfew Comments

Good Morning,

I read on tmj 4 that y'all are meeting today on the subject of curfew. It wasn't clear if it's about the recent ones enacted over the protests or ones in the future, however I would like to express my thoughts on the subject. The recent curfew was not much of a hindrance to lawlessness. On its full technicality the protests that occurred after 9pm on the curfew nights, though peaceful were unlawful because of the curfew. It made the police and the mayor look weak, in a way, because it wasn't enforced all that much. I understand that really enforcing it would look bad to media and some peoples' opinions. But if it can't be enforced than there should not be a curfew put in place. It seems to embolden bad behavior.

I'm not against curfews in special times like this, but it has to have some teeth to it and it had to be clearly laid out. There were a lot of questions among my friends and family about the specifics, such as, can we sit outside of our house after 9pm, or what if I have run to the store? So better charity is needed in the future

We need proper enforcement of laws and we need the police to be held in high regard. A proper society demands law and order. Our men and women in blue need our support, not scorn. Well I need to get to work, I hope your meeting is profitable for the Cream City.

Matthew Middlebrooke
4513 S Logan Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53207

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

From: aly mitchell [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:34 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: URGENT: June 5 Public Health & Safety Meeting
Attachments: Force-continuum1.png

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Aly Mitchell. 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,

Aly Mitchell

Signature of Aly Mitchell
Aly Mitchell

Polanco, Joanna

From: Maggie Moegenburg [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:50 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Comment for 6/5 Special Meeting

Dear Public Safety and Health Committee,

My name is Maggie Moegenburg and I live in District 4 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,

Maggie Moegenburg BS/CTRS
Social Work Graduate Student
Helen Bader School of Social Welfare
University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee

920.579.1723

Polanco, Joanna

From: Savannah Morales morales27@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:09 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim

To our city leaders:

Black Lives Matter is a peaceful movement that have been made dangerous for civilians in our city due to unjust police retaliation and I want to know why, Mayor Tom Barrett hasn't called to stop this by listening to his citizens. I want to know why Tom Barrett doesn't support this movement? What does it do, but shift the protective measures to each and every citizen in our city, as well as ensure that police officers and government officials are held to the same judgement as the rest of us citizens? I want to know why he's allowing the police to lie about why they are retaliating. As a brown person, Tom Barrett does not make me feel safe living here. We need reform. Starting with equal education, police reform, and a redistribution of city funds to support black and brown communities in whichever way they need most. Until our mayor accounts that Black Lives deserve more in this city and it's his leadership that's would ensure it, we will not support Mayor Tom Barrett or the Milwaukee Police Department. Black Live Matter is a movement that frees us all.

Sincerely,

Savannah Morales,
A Latina who is a concerned citizen, educator and student.

From: Elizabeth Mueller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:26 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting

Good morning,

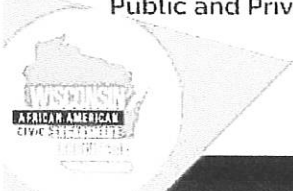
Attached is a list of 8 demands from the African American Civic Engagement Roundtable for your review before the Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting meeting today. I fully support each of these demands and ask that in the meeting you address each specifically and discuss policy initiatives and actions you plan to implement to support these demands.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Mueller
Milwaukee Resident

AART DEMANDS

8 DEMANDS for a NEW BEGINNING

- 1 Community Investment A \$75 Million Divestment from the Milwaukee Police Department and reinvestment into building healthy communities that can thrive.
- 2 The rights of protestors are respected and no harm comes to them
- 3 Justice for Joel Acevedo: Officer Mattioli must be Immediately Terminated from the Milwaukee Police Department for the murder of Mr. Acevedo.
- 4 FPC be the Voice of the Community: The Fire and Police Commission must Remain the Lead Investigator on the Internal Investigation Involving officer Michael Mattioli.
- 5 Accountability to the Community: Common Council President Cavalier Johnson Must Immediately Appoint Community Members to the Community Collaborative Committee
- 6 Instead of an Executive Order to Activate the National Guard, the Governor & County Executive Should Provide Safeguards to Black communities during COVID-19 pandemic.
- 7 Housing: Implement a Moratorium on Evictions, Foreclosures, Rent, Mortgages, and Utility Disconnections for Milwaukee County Residents through the end of 2020.
- 8 Healthcare: Declaration of Racism in the State of Wisconsin as a Public Health Crisis. Public and Private Institutes Must be Expanded to Ensure Milwaukee County Residents have Access to Affordable Health Care.



Polanco, Joanna

From: Brady Murphy <[REDACTED]@milwaukeejournal.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:24 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Feedback - Public Safety and Health Committee - Special Meeting - 6/5/2020

Hi,

Dear Public Safety and Health Committee,

My name is Brady Murphy 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 is encouragement for police officers to act aggressively and arrest peaceful protesters. It is an inefficient ordinance and should no longer be enacted. The fact that leaders vowed never to enforce a stay-at-home order while our black community bore the brunt of COVID-19, but found it necessary to violently enforce a curfew in the face of peaceful protests in the name of racial justice, is unacceptable. When will our black communities receive the liberties that are constantly afforded to non-POC? Our institutions are failing us in this effort. That is why we protest. Enact change, not a curfew.

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 protesters 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 protesters 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 protesters. 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 protesters.

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, Brady Murphy

Polanco, Joanna

From: Lori Nabors [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:00 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police response to Milwaukee protests

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,

-Lori Nabors

Polanco, Joanna

From: Kendra Ninmann [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:17 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Fwd: Citizen Letter for the Public Safety and Health Committee 6/4

Dear Committee Members,

First, I want to comment on the police aggression that has been documented by local citizens and activists, the media, and politicians. The police have been escalating situations that could otherwise remain peaceful. Fabrications by the police department aimed at local citizens is concerning and only escalating the situations further. Our citizens and community members have the right to protest and our police force should be helping them do so peacefully to make a positive change in the world.

Second, I want to address the helicopters that have been flying over our neighborhoods and are unacceptable. This is a fear inducing tactic that is only adding to the trauma inflicted on people of color by the police and the government systems. These are not all news helicopters, some are police and national guards. This is not helping our community feel more safe and protected, it is a constant reminder that people of color are not welcome to fight for their rights in this world.

Here is a list of reforms:

1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds.
2. Require de-escalation tactics to be taught and used.
3. Require officers to exhaust 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. Reduce funding for the police department and redirect it to community development and restoration.

I am asking that Mayor Tom Barrett review the use of force policies with members of the community and commit to report on planned reforms and to say that this is a priority.

Sincerely,

Kendra Ninmann
53212

Polanco, Joanna

From: Emily Nordquist <emily.nordquist@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:09 AM
To: Mayor Tom Barrett
Cc: Owczarski, Jim; MAIL, FPC; DeVougas, Steven; Soler, Nelson
Subject: Extremely Concerned Citizen

Government Officials,

I'd like to start by expressing my anger regarding the surprise declaration to reopen restaurants and bars in an obvious attempt to dissuade the protests and civil unrest occurring in the city, while you take no concrete steps to meet the demands of your citizens. This is an insult to the intelligence of the people you serve.

Next I would like to address some preliminary steps the city of Milwaukee and officials who have power in this situation can take. These steps will start to improve the city for everyone, but most specifically for Black people who are extremely disproportionately targeted and feel the effects of police violence far greater than any other group. I'm sure you already know this, so do something about it.

1. **Allow peaceful protests to continue without police intervention and instigation.** I don't think the irony of the police using violence against people who are protesting the use of police violence is lost on any of us.
2. **Announce a ban on the use of knee holds and choke holds** as an acceptable practice.
3. **Announce a policy to require a clearly laid out multistep use of force continuum**, including de-escalation as the first step and verbal warning before shooting.
4. **Announce an unbiased committee to investigate use of force** and determine if the continuum was followed. Make these records publicly available.
5. **Announce clear policies and steps that will be taken if this committee finds the use of force continuum was violated.** These steps should be harsh, as the use of force should not be taken lightly.

This is common sense. Officers who give into personal feelings of anger or fear impulses and use excessive force when it's not called for are clearly not mentally equipped to serve in the police service and should be removed. It's time to end the long-standing tradition of police using their unwarranted position of power to abuse the Black citizens who they are sworn to "protect and serve".

#BlackLivesMatter #NoJusticeNoPeace #ICan'tBreathe

Respectfully,

Emily Nordquist

Polanco, Joanna

From: Erin Nuechterlein [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 9:55 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Common Council meeting - resident input

Hi there,

As a resident of Milwaukee (zip code 53219) I wanted to have my voice heard for the upcoming common council meeting.

Knowing that our city has been participating in a number of protests that have been peaceful, the Milwaukee Police department and it's officers need to be held accountable for their inappropriate, dangerous responses.

I strongly urge that Milwaukee ban the use of tear gas (which is prohibited in war) and rubber bullets (which are misused, shot directly at protesters when they should be shot at the ground - but should not be used at all). These methods are absolutely inhumane regardless of the use, but coupled with misuse it's dangerous, reckless, and shameful that they've been used on peaceful protesters. Far more harm than good has come from this.

The Milwaukee Police department has also been spreading misinformation, including reporting that Molotov cocktails were used when live recordings showed and eyewitnesses have stated this is simply not true. They should be held accountable. Starting with correcting the misinformation is the minimum that they can do.

These things I'm sharing with you are the true civil unrest we're seeing in our great city right now.

Do what's right. Ban tear gas and rubber bullets in Milwaukee. Do this and more for these citizens that the police are supposed to have sworn to protect. There should be more diversity training, sensitivity training, and racial training at a bare minimum to better equip our officers so that these things don't continue to happen (violence against protesters, violence against Black people and other people of color). Bring in experts to make sure this is done right.

A concerned citizen,

Erin Nuechterlein
262-995-8704

Polanco, Joanna

From: Rachel Oasan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 7:21 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Increase police policy requests

Good morning,

My name is Rachel Oasan and I'm a resident at 1667 N Marshall St in Milwaukee, WI 53202. As a meeting is being held around the police force and curfews today, I ask that 5 of the 8 #8cantwait policies be enacted for Milwaukee:

- Ban Chokeholds and Strangleholds
- Require De-escalation
- Require Exhaust All Alternatives Before Shooting
- Ban Shooting at Moving Vehicles
- Require Comprehensive Reporting

The #8CantWait policies are simple, common-sense and would make our community safer. Milwaukee is okay with the other 3 policies that are a part of the #8CantWait pledge. Can you commit to enacting the 5 above?

Thank you.

--

Rachel Oasan

Polanco, Joanna

From: Caitlin O'Brien <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:52 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

It has been a while since I've had the pleasure of communicating with you! We used to coordinate meeting with the International Visitor Leadership Program together for guests of the US State Department what feels like many years ago.

I'm adding my name to what will surely be a glut of emails. Forgive me for copy-pasting, I've edited this a bit to reaffirm that the words are the same as others because the hopes are the same.

I urge you to change policing policies in order to appropriately and effectively protect and serve our community. Data proves that together, these *eight policies can decrease police violence by 72%*. In bold are the five that Milwaukee needs now:

- 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
- 8. Require comprehensive reporting.**

We are tired of living like this. I have faith in our city beginning to see a better future with the implementation of these steps.

Thank you,
Caitlin O'Brien

Caitlin L. O'Brien
262.354.4059

Polanco, Joanna

From: Casey O'Brien <casey.a.ob@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:38 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Input: peaceful protests until provoked by police

Mr. Owczarski,

I want to share my perspective on the protests in our city. Everything I have experienced shows them to be peaceful, illuminating, inspiring and united in one goal: justice and equity. The more disturbing common thread is that when escalated to violence or chaos, it is ALWAYS because police start shooting tear gas at peaceful, non-threatening protestors, often kneeling protestors. The news is not capturing the true experience. This movement will bring so much of the nation together as long as police stop brutalizing and disrupting the peace.

Milwaukee must commit to the following policies.

1. Ban Chokeholds & Strangleholds
2. Require De-escalation
3. Require Exhaust All Alternatives Before Shooting
4. Ban shooting at moving vehicles
5. Require Comprehensive Reporting

Milwaukee must de-fund the police and reallocate funds to communities of color and violence prevention organizations that have a pulse on the problem. That do not meet violence with violence and jail time but rather focus on understanding and reform. Specifically the OVC and street outreach programs in Milwaukee.

Milwaukee must publicly commit to holding every person to the law equally. Milwaukee must convict police who commit crimes and fire police who break the rules they are sworn in to uphold. Again, protestors want equality and this would certainly level the playing field.

Please, please do not delude yourself into thinking that people who want peace and justice are the bad guys, after all how can anyone asking for equality and against the violence against a population be on the wrong side of this? Those goals are inherently good and right.

Thank you,
Casey O'Brien of 53202

Polanco, Joanna

From: Owczarski, Jim
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:26 PM
To: Polanco, Joanna
Subject: FW: Comments for Public Health & Safety Committee
Attachments: IMG_5414.jpg

Please REPLACE Ms. O'Halloran's earlier e-mail with this one.

Jim

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

From: Megan O'Halloran []
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:17 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Comments for Public Health & Safety Committee

Good Afternoon Members of Committee,

Thank you for convening the committee to discuss the police response to this long overdue uprising in our city.

I have emailed Ald. Spiker about my concerns. I will briefly reiterate them for the committee. I have joined some of the actions with my children and watch footage of friends more directly involved in the movement. I am deeply concerned by the escalation I see from police officers. Just this morning I was reading Brad Meltzer's book I Am Martin Luther King, Jr with my daughter. When talking about the March from Selma to Montgomery, the author writes "The police had billy clubs and tear gas. They attacked our group and knocked many people down." I was reminded that the more things change, the more they stay the same.

I think we need to take immediate action to protect protesters. Long-term, I join my voice with the African-American Roundtable for divesting from policing strategies and investing in the people in our communities. We need justice for Joel Acevedo.

I want to particularly call in my fellow white electeds to take bold action on racial justice. White people created racist institutions and white people need to be active in dismantling them. To be clear, I expect action on these issues. It is not enough to be a nice well-meaning white person. Tepid responses do nothing to advance the cause of justice. If you're not willing to work for a more just society, then I question why you sought office in the first place. My call to action is that of Pope Paul VI, if you want peace work for justice.

Sincerely,
Megan O'Halloran
Resident of District 13

8 DEMANDS for a NEW BEGINNING

- 1 Community Investment A \$75 Million Divestment from the Milwaukee Police Department and reinvestment into building healthy communities that can thrive.
- 2 The rights of protestors are respected and no harm comes to them.
- 3 Justice for Joel Acevedo: Officer Mattioli must be Immediately Terminated from the Milwaukee Police Department for the murder of Mr. Acevedo.
- 4 FPC be the Voice of the Community: The Fire and Police Commission must Remain the Lead Investigator on the Internal Investigation Involving officer Michael Mattioli.
- 5 Accountability to the Community: Common Council President Cavalier Johnson Must Immediately Appoint Community Members to the Community Collaborative Committee.
- 6 Instead of an Executive Order to Activate the National Guard, the Governor & County Executive Should Provide Safeguards to Black communities during COVID-19 pandemic.
- 7 Housing: Implement a Moratorium on Evictions, Foreclosures, Rent, Mortgages, and Utility Disconnections for Milwaukee County Residents through the end of 2020.
- 8 Healthcare: Declaration of Racism in the State of Wisconsin as a Public Health Crisis.
Public and Private Institutes Must be Expanded to Ensure Milwaukee County Residents have Access to Affordable Health Care.

Polanco, Joanna

From: alyssa olson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:15 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim

Dear Tom Barret, Alfonso Morales and Earnell Lucas,

My name is Alyssa Olson. I am currently a resident of Milwaukee County, residing in zip code 53211. I am emailing you today as a concerned citizen of this community.

After witnessing multiple accounts of unwarranted violence at the hands of law enforcement and unlawful arrests towards the residents of our community, it is time we put a stop to the unrest and violence. It is our right as Americans to gather and protest peacefully.

I demand that the brutality of the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office, the City of Milwaukee Police Department and the National Guard towards the peaceful protestors cease immediately. I demand that every protestor wrongfully arrested be released from custody immediately and have their tickets and fines revoked. I demand an end to the city-wide 9:00pm curfew aimed at criminalizing peaceful protesting. Finally, I demand that the City of Milwaukee Police Department release the body cam footage of the reported molotov cocktail being thrown at officers which led to violence at the June 2, 2020 protest that was peaceful up until that point.

I believe that the law enforcement involved in these acts of brutality are acting on personal emotions, fear and biases rather than professional training at this time. The actions of law enforcement since these peaceful protests started show a gross abuse of power and overarching intolerance of the Black Lives Matter movement. Your Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department, City of Milwaukee Police Department and the National Guard have overstepped and abused the power entrusted to these organizations, resulting in physical harm, untold emotional damage, financial loss and unlawful arrests against the citizens of this community. The very citizens you are entrusted with protecting.

In addition, I stand with the demands outlined by The African American Round Table of Milwaukee Wisconsin, which include:

A \$75 million divestment from the Milwaukee Police Department and reinvestment into building healthy communities that can thrive;

The immediate termination of Officer Mattioli from the City of Milwaukee Police Department for the murder for Joel Acevedo;

The continuation of the Fire and Police Commission to be the voice of our community; and

The appointment of community members to the Community Collaborative Community.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Olson

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jolynn Palmbach [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:25 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim

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,
Jolynn Palmbach
Riverwest resident

Polanco, Joanna

From: Lyz Eli [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Feedback on emergency curfew and civil unrest.

Dear committee members,

In response to the curfews issued by Mr. Barrett, I must express my extreme disapproval. While being largely ineffective in maintaining public safety, it appears that the curfews were placed to provide a rationale for our police to exert further violence against peaceful protestors. In addition, they also endanger our working class members of society, particularly minority workers, by making them vulnerable to retaliatory actions from the police. I am appalled that the potential damage to property seemingly required such instantaneous and violent action from our law enforcement, while the thousands of lives--and rising--lost to the COVID-19 pandemic are addressed with the hasty "reopening" of Milwaukee in what appears to be a rushed response to subdue protestors by forcing them back to work. This creates the impression that our mayor prioritizes the appearance of a police state over the health and lives of his constituents.

I must also comment on the police's incredibly dishonest handling of subduing protests, including the widely documented use of pepper spray, tear gas and low-lethality rounds against protestors who are kneeling, sitting, laying down, or standing quietly. The fabrication of a "molotov cocktail," which is clearly a crushed plastic bottle, to rationalize using violence against protestors is unacceptable and makes a mockery of the entire department. The image has made its rounds on social media and made Milwaukee law enforcement a national laughing stock. Who are we to trust these workers to maintain order when they cannot be trusted to identify real threats? The overall impression is one of petty, retaliatory actions from the police who are displaying extreme cowardice and lack of judgement.

Protestors march against police violence and racial injustice, and there is no evidence of the police responding in a way that offers a meaningful plan to address their cause. Instead, they respond to protests against violence with rising and more extreme violence. This reinforces the aforementioned appearance of a police state. To appropriately respond to protestors, I hope that the Milwaukee police department commits to the popular reform propositions to reduce fatalities:

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

In addition, I recommend that the covering or disabling of police body cameras be recognized as an attempt to destroy evidence. This will provide additional accountability. With these measures in place, in addition to appropriate and non-violent responses from our law enforcement, I believe the civil unrest can be dramatically reduced and eliminate the need for an emergency curfew altogether.

Sincerely,
Lynnzie Palomaki

Polanco, Joanna

From: Heather pantoga <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:33 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police brutality

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Heather Pantoga. 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,

Heather Pantoga,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Polanco, Joanna

From: judie Papadakis [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:55 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Comments

We have to stop these riots . The peaceful demonstrations should remain and be treated with respect. Get the news and social media asking the peaceful Marches come home before the meanness and hatred and violence starts .the protesters are never going to win there are white supremacy groups in the groups and some very white only thinking police offerers. Put away the armor and shields during the day. Ask the people the come to the table. This is not going to end well for Milwaukee citizens Milwaukee will be a war zone when all you have to do is tell them you are ready to listen .We are sorry. I know I am for any part I have played as a white person in Making this a racist society. Have one of our cities leader stand up at a rally and ask the young people to make demands we are ready to listen,. I love Milwaukee I hope you do too.
Sent from my iPad

Polanco, Joanna

From: Zoe Papua <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:52 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Zoë Papia. 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,
Zoë Papia

Polanco, Joanna

From: Owczarski, Jim
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:37 PM
To: Polanco, Joanna
Subject: FW: Public comments for 6/5 special meeting

COMMENT

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

From: Elijah Pawelek []
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:36 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public comments for 6/5 special meeting

Hello,

I would like to add public comments for the special meeting Friday afternoon:

The use of excessive force, chemical agents, and weapons against peaceful protesters by MPD (and other parts of the country) is disturbing to see. Our law enforcement needs to and can do better to protect the rights of all citizens.

Please investigate all uses of force, mass arrests, and deployment of weapons against peaceful protesters. The MPD must be held accountable for their actions and policies must be changed to prevent these violations of our civil liberties in the future.

Thank you,
Elijah - Milwaukee resident

Polanco, Joanna

From: Angela Payne [redacted]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:23 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Please stop the violence from the police against our citizens!

To Whom It May Concern,

Milwaukee is my home and I want to know why the police think such 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) create better oversight and transparency with our police force
- 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,
Angela Payne

Polanco, Joanna

From: Mark Pelzek [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:47 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public comments for Public Safety and Health Committee meeting 6/5/20

Chair Dimitrijevic, Vice Chair Lewis, Aldermen Borkowski, Spiker, and Rainey:

Thank you for scheduling this meeting and giving the public an opportunity to comment. Please see my email to the mayor below and consider this my public comment for this meeting.

Mayor Barrett,

My name is Mark Pelzek. I am a resident of Milwaukee's 13th Aldermanic District and I am emailing today to demand steps are taken immediately to instate policies to end police violence.

Campaign Zero has provided 8 policies that, at your discretion, could be enacted today. These 8 policies have demonstrated the ability to decrease police violence by 72%. The 8 policies are as follows: ban chokeholds and strangleholds, require de-escalation, require warning before shooting, exhaust all other means before shooting, duty to intervene, ban shooting at moving vehicles, require use of force continuum, and require comprehensive reporting. In the city of Milwaukee, currently only 3 of these policies are in place. For more information, you can visit [this link](#). Having 3 of these policies in place is a good start but more needs to be done.

This is one of the many pathways toward reforming our broken systems. Please don't choose between this and other efforts to defund, prosecute, etc. This is not an "either/or," but a "both/and." Defunding the police department must be a priority. More cops does not make Milwaukee safer. These funds are better spent by investing into the communities of color in our city for programs to promote health equity, strengthen schools, provide counseling & mental health services, replace lead laterals, and help rebuild businesses in these neighborhoods.

There is a role in the good fight for everybody. I urge you to act today. Failure to act is unacceptable.

Sincerely,
Mark Pelzek
6312 S 20th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221

BAN CHOKEHOLDS
& STRANGLEHOLDS



REQUIRE
DE-ESCALATION



REQUIRE
WARNING BEFORE
SHOOTING



EXHAUST ALL
ALTERNATIVES
BEFORE SHOOTING



**TOGETHER, THESE 8 POLICIES CAN
DECREASE POLICE VIOLENCE BY 72%.**



DUTY TO
INTERVENE



BAN SHOOTING AT
MOVING VEHICLES



ESTABLISH USE OF
FORCE CONTINUUM



REQUIRE ALL FORCE
BE REPORTED

#8CANTWAIT

8CANTWAIT.ORG

Sent from my iPhone

Polanco, Joanna

From: Peterson, Eileen [mailto:epeterson@mcw.edu]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:15 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Response to peaceful protesting

Hello,

My name is Eileen Peterson and I am a resident of Wauwatosa, WI. I have seen the unnecessary violence by police in Milwaukee against peaceful protestors. I am requesting that the MPD stop using rubber bullets, tear gas, and other forms of unnecessary force. I am also asking the city to forgive citations given to peaceful protestors for protesting and/or violating curfew.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Eileen Peterson

From: Jacob Peterson < >
Sent: Thursday, June 4, 2020 11:42:24 AM
To: Dimitrijevic, Marina < >
Subject: Increased police presence in the neighborhood.

The last few nights I have noticed an increased police presence in our neighborhood. I understand this is a response to the unrest we are seeing in cities everywhere, but I was hoping you would be able to pass along this idea to the powers that be.

Please have them get out of their big intimidating black and white SUVs and walk.

During a walk last night I saw more than a handful of SUVs patrolling our small chunk of Bay View. I can tell you that this did not set people at ease. Cars drove timidly, and people stiffened up and started talking quietly to each other as they looked over their shoulders . To me this seems like the exact opposite of what we all need.

We live on a busy street corner on a bus stop. Last night, during a quiet moment in our studio I overheard a couple. They were coming back from the protest march. You could tell they were upset by the experience and the behavior of the police. The man was said "Scanning, scanning, that's all they were doing, good bad, black or white." The woman tried her best to console him. She told him she understood how he felt, and she loved him, and she hoped things would change for them. It was a difficult conversation to hear from my place of privilege and safety. It saddens me to the point of tears just recalling it.

Seems to me that the MPD could learn a lesson from this woman, less scanning, and more understanding. I'm sure the people of Milwaukee would pay them back in kind.

Hug the Patriarchy,
Jacob T Peterson

Polanco, Joanna

From: Carl Pforr [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:43 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Cc: Carl Pforr
Subject: Milwaukee Protests

Dear Committee:

My support goes out out to all the Black Lives Matters protesters.

The State of Wisconsin and City of Milwaukee's heavy handed, militaristic response has done NOTHING to alleviate the situation.

Military vehicles and helicopters add a completely unnecessary level of tension to the air. I understand that you want to monitor things on the ground, but these aircraft are especially noisy and threatening.

You're not going to solve anything unless you CALM things down. YOU, not the protesters. THEY are peacefully marching. Yes it may go quite late, but YOU are the ones escalating things with the heavy handed military machinery of WAR!

A palm bends in a hurricane. An oak snaps off. If it's not obvious, the protesters are the wind that society's cursed unjustness has released. You should behave as the palm.

Thank you,
Carl Pforr
MKE Born and Raised.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Daosavanh Phakeovilay [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:33 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: citizen against police powers

Hello,

I have lived in Milwaukee for 33 years now, since I was 33. The heavy police presence is escalating violence which disproportionately affects the poor, and black and brown population. In the time of Covid and police brutality, it is immoral and downright evil by design for the city to unleash blood thirsty poor thinking police officers onto the general population.

I love this city. I want it to be safe for everyone. Police do not make that happen. Please reconsider how you have broadened the powers of police during a time in which a global pandemic is already ravaging the black and brown population here. This cannot possibly be the legacy you want to leave.

Thank you.
Daosavanh Phakeovilay

Polanco, Joanna

From: Mitchell Placek <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 1:59 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Acknowledgment and Growth

This situation is full of tension on both sides and everyone is feeling the pressure. We can either acknowledge the problem or delay it. If we delay the problem then we disrespect peoples humanity which only leads to the same problems continuing to come up again and again. Please empathize with the people who face these things only a daily basis. Things won't change in a day but once the first domino falls, the rest follow. Let us please acknowledge the difficulty of others daily lives as well as our fears of being wrong, of getting embarrassed, and grow together. Making changes is something we should be proud to do because it can help us grow past shame and into a place where we see and recognize that we are all in this together.

Thank you for listening

Polanco, Joanna

From: Adam porter [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 8:55 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Concerning Curfew & "Civil Unrest"

Good Morning Jim,

I am emailing you to express some concerns about the implementation of the curfew in Milwaukee, the suspension of bus services, and how we define "civil unrest". While I understand that a curfew might help to slow the spread of COVID-19, I am worried that it will largely be used to give tickets to people who are already under economic strain due to the rising unemployment rate and/or will be enforced more on people of color or low-income people who lack a car. This brings me to the bus service suspension - which is primarily used by second-shift workers, not people looking to party or cause undue mayhem. So, this constitutes a "double whammy", second shift workers are at risk for being stopped due to the curfew which puts them more at risk for transmission of disease and delays/impedes their efforts to return to work after their shift ends. Lastly, I am concerned that the use of the term "civil unrest" will be applied too broadly to peaceful protests and that by using a term like that could trigger a more militaristic and aggressive response on the behalf of the state. This is exactly the type of escalation that not only endangers the lives of the citizens that public servants serve but also sows further resentment and mistrust at a time when we need to listen and deescalate. I urge the office of the Mayor to look at ways beyond technology or shows of "strength" at this junction.

Best,
Adam

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jennifer Posh [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:57 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Safety comments

My name is Jennifer Posh, and I am currently a resident of Milwaukee County, residing in zip code 53207. I am emailing you today as a concerned citizen of this community.

After witnessing multiple accounts of unwarranted violence at the hands of law enforcement and unlawful arrests towards the residents of our community, it is time we put a stop to the unrest and violence. It is our right as Americans to gather and protest peacefully, and I am very concerned by the reactions of the City of Milwaukee Police Department, Sheriff's Office, and the Mayor's office to the protests in Milwaukee.

I demand that the brutality of the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office, the City of Milwaukee Police Department and the National Guard towards the peaceful protesters cease immediately. I demand that every protester wrongfully arrested be released from custody immediately and have their tickets and fines revoked. I demand an end to the city-wide curfews aimed at criminalizing peaceful protesting.

I believe that the law enforcement involved in these acts of brutality are acting on personal emotions, fear and biases rather than professional training at this time. The actions of law enforcement since these peaceful protests started show a gross abuse of power and overarching intolerance of the Black Lives Matter movement. Your Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department, City of Milwaukee Police Department and the National Guard have overstepped and abused the power entrusted to these organizations, resulting in physical harm, untold emotional damage, financial loss and unlawful arrests against the citizens of this community.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Posh
[REDACTED]

Polanco, Joanna

From: Owczarski, Jim
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:27 PM
To: Polanco, Joanna
Subject: FW: Peaceful Protests Against Police Brutality - Met with Blatant, Unjustifiable, Police Brutality

COMMENTS

[REDACTED]

Jim

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

From: Debbie Powers [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:43 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Mayor Tom Barrett; Kovac, Nik; Dimitrijevic, Marina; Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Re: Peaceful Protests Against Police Brutality - Met with Blatant, Unjustifiable, Police Brutality

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response, and for being out there to support the cause. I am comfortable with my statement being shared if it is of value to the conversation; feel free to use excerpts since it is so long, as long as I can trust that the message will not be skewed. I also want to make sure that Black voices and other POC voices are heard above mine.

If you do share my message, please use my first name or last name, but not both.

Thank you!

Ps- I will do my best to virtually attend the meeting. If you know of other ways that I can support besides bringing supplies and continuing the peaceful protests, please let me know.

On Thu, Jun 4, 2020 at 9:53 AM [REDACTED]

Good morning Debbie. I am writing to acknowledge that your message was received. I was also at the scene with my teenage son and sincerely share your concern. The Office of Violence Prevention is committed to working with city leaders to address the concerns expressed in your message. There is a special Common Council hearing being held on this topic tomorrow: Special Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting 6/5/2020

From: Debbie Powers 

Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 12:17 PM

To: Mayor Tom Barrett <mayor@milwaukee.gov>, "Kovac, Nik" <nkovic@milwaukee.gov>, "Moore, Reggie" <Reggie.Moore@milwaukee.gov>

Subject: Peaceful Protests Against Police Brutality - Met with Blatant, Unjustifiable, Police Brutality

To whom this may concern,

I am distraught with emotions after the events that took place yesterday. I am angry, I am sad, and I am terrified. We are looking for accountability and an end to police brutality- which is felt strongest in the black community- and yet the response is blatant, unjustifiable, police brutality. I doubt you will read my entire email, but this is my story.

Yesterday, I marched alongside a gigantic group of peaceful protesters. The vibes were pure love. Masses of people and local establishments were offering water, popsicles, snacks, fans, first aid kits... When someone passed out near me, the crowd yelled medic and a flock of fellow protesters ran to their aid. There were hardly any police along this route until we got to the police station. Once there, the police were silent (besides one quick PR stunt of an officer kneeling in front of a news camera). As you are well aware, that silence did not last when news coverage grew scarce and the crowd became smaller. The group remained peaceful, but the police did not.

I cannot speak to anything that happened when protesters attempted to get on 794, but there is plenty of live stream footage that I believe shows the order of events pretty clearly. I returned to the group shortly before we came upon 6th and McKinley. Downtown felt like (and was) a war zone. There were so many officers in riot gear, so many military vehicles, and marked and unmarked police vehicles. We were outnumbered - by a lot...

As we knelt with our hands up, we begged for peace. Yes, there were a few empty water bottles thrown, but the crowd loudly demanded that it stop and we stay peaceful, and it stopped immediately. That is when they released tear gas, smoke bombs, flash bombs, pepper bullets, and rubber bullets. The crowd somewhat dispersed, but many re-gathered a little way up the road. Again, we knelt with our hands up, begging for peace, the police advanced towards us. We slowly stood up and backed away with our hands in the air. Nothing was thrown this time, no one was agitating. All of a sudden- more gas/smoke, more rubber bullets.

I am no warrior, so I ran. I have never been so afraid for my life. As I ran to get away from the violence, I had to run towards a marked police car. This was the first time that I got a real glimpse at what many POC experience their entire life - this police car I was running towards was not going to protect me, it was more likely to attack me and twist the truth to make me into the bad guy. I couldn't feel safe anywhere. It didn't matter that our actions were peaceful, they were out for blood.

I beg you, please listen to the voices of the people in this city - in our community - particularly POC who are so rarely allowed to have a voice. We understand that the City of Milwaukee cannot do anything about George Floyd, but you know good and well that this is about much more than that. Call off this excessive police presence, remove their military-grade weapons, and allow us to show peaceful solidarity with the country and the world as so many lives are being mourned. Listen to the organizations that are calling for change in our police system, and come up with just solutions that will protect your people.

Sincerely,

Debbie Powers

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Best wishes,

Debbie Powers

262-470-3774

Polanco, Joanna

From: April Presnell [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:23 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Comments on Curfew

Good Morning,

Thank you for providing us with a forum to air our thoughts and ask questions. I ask you consider the following questions.

1. Curfews are problematic as they inconvenience everyone, not just the protesters, which can cause an unfair bias against protesters executing their constitutional rights and dampen the impact of protester's demands. How do you plan to address this?
2. Curfews spark outrage at an individual's rights being taken away from them, which is more likely to spark anger and a desire to lash out at those suppressing people's rights. Why do you feel that attempting to enforce a curfew will curtail violence, when any intrusion on rights makes tempers flare? Despite this intrusion, protesters remain overall peaceful, something that cannot be said for the police force.
3. Curfew implies that a military response from police is warranted, despite the majority of protests being entirely peaceful. Why do you feel the need to paint the picture that this type of response is okay against civilians?

Curfews allow protesters to be hit with additional charges, which is even more dangerous now during the pandemic. They make life difficult for third-shift workers who will face additional scrutiny from police. They can also be used as an excuse for police to escalate to violence against citizens. I ask that instead of imposing a curfew, you take a hard look at the way the police are responding to protests, and consider ways you can address the concerns protesters have about a police force we can no longer trust.

Thanks,

April Presnell
Resident of St. Francis, WI.

--
April Presnell

Polanco, Joanna

From: Emma Purton [mailto:emma.purton@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:01 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Cc: Johnson, Cavalier; Dimitrijevic, Marina; Mayor Tom Barrett
Subject: Concerns regarding law enforcement and the protests

Dear Council Clerk, Council President, Mayor, and Alderman,

My name is Emily Purton and I reside in Bayview, zip code 53207. I, like many of my fellow citizens, have been shocked and appalled at the recent displays of police brutality against the peaceful protesters in our community. I joined in one of said peaceful marches and felt such a powerful, united feeling only to find out that the same protest I had attended had met with tear gas and rubber bullets just hours after I had left. As a Milwaukee official, I am asking you to step forward and help us end this reign of blatant violence and intolerance against those in the city who are just exercising their 1st Amendment rights. The videos that I have seen of peaceful protesters on their knees being met with gleeful force is something that I cannot unsee. Please release every protester who was wrongly arrested and forgive the fines and tickets brought unfairly against them. Please consider the demands outlined in the African American Round Table of Milwaukee, including but not limited to a \$75 million divestment from the MPD and reinvestment into community funding and the termination of Officer Mattioli for the murder of Joel Acevedo. Now is the time to take a stand and side with the people of Milwaukee for a safer and more just city. Thank you for your time and attention.

Emily Purton