

COMMENTS Q - Z

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: Sara Rahn [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 12:09 PM
To: Polanco, Joanna; Medhin, Ted
Subject: Emergency Meeting Comments

My name is Sara Rahn and I live in the District 5 of Milwaukee. I understand the meeting starts at 2:30pm and all comments/concerns were to be submitted by 12. I apologize for the few minute delay, but want my voice to be heard. 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,
Sara Rahn

Polanco, Joanna

From: Pete Railand [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 2:38 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: input on policing policies

Hello Mr Owczarski,
from my perspective as a citizen not directly participating in the peaceful protests that have been taking place in and across Milwaukee, I have seen marchers exhibit great care, caution and respect in the face of a global pandemic and extreme police presence. The police have been dangerous and frightening. In regards to the pandemic I have seen very few officers wearing masks and have not seen them working to enable protesters to keep social distance, these officers should be setting an example for the greater public. In regards to crowd control, using tear gas and excessive force on peaceful protesters is extremely upsetting to people in this city and simply creates more distrust between the public and the police. Having watched the protest go through my neighborhood multiple times I was never concerned about the protesters but was very concerned that the police would use tactics to escalate the situation. During this time of global awareness and rising tide calling for police reform the common council must stand up for the people of this city. The use of the curfew has simply given our ever increasingly militarized police force excuse and impetus to harass the peaceful marchers as they stand up for their rights to NOT be victims of continued Police abuse and mistreatment. The time for change is upon us I hope the common council will find itself on the right side of history.

-Pete Railand

Polanco, Joanna

From: Trenay Ratney <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2020 6:08 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Subject: Public Comment: Public Safety and Health Committee: Curfew

Dear Jim Owczarski,

I am concerned about our city's response to the protests in Milwaukee. This is a time that city officials need to show up for the causes advanced by protesters. The true state of emergency in our city, state, and country is racism.

I am disappointed in the decisions by our city officials to declare a curfew and to call in the National Guard. What we have seen as a result is that peaceful protesters have been tear-gassed and arrested. What we have NOT seen is any effort to change police policies and systems. We have NOT seen any effort to respond to demands.

I have personally watched protestors organize peacefully, exercising their right to assemble, and create opportunities for neighborhood clean up; only to be met with brutal police force and threatened with the National Guard. Black people are dying at a disproportionate rate and in our very own city a member of the police force killed Joel Acevedo. This city has an opportunity to show the Black community where you stand regarding Black Lives.

It is clear that the circumstances under which a curfew is declared must be changed. People need adequate time to even respond. It is also clear that the policies used to enforce a curfew, much like the policies used by MPD to this point, are brutal and unacceptable.

Furthermore, I demand the release of protesters who have been arrested.

Now is the time for you to act. Now is the time that you support the protesters. Now is the time that you meet protester demands, provided here by Leaders Igniting Transformation:

https://www.wpr.org/community-leaders-milwaukee-outline-what-change-protesters-want/?fbclid=IwAR3MDt5_F87Mulsac4UpYvR1mzINqjQW86-IVKZ4U0NWp0e-JxeGFyEA

Sincerely,
Trenay Ratney

Polanco, Joanna

From: Mark Raymond [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:43 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Letter to Milwaukee Public Health & Safety

Dear committee members,

I would like to address a couple issues weighing on me:

First, I believe that the curfews that have been placed on the citizens of Milwaukee have been a detriment to the progress that peaceful protesters have made (e.g., Minneapolis Public Schools have ended their contract with the Minneapolis Police Department) in this fight to end police brutality and end social injustices.

Secondly, the excessive force by police and the National Guard against peaceful protesters must cease. This is an abuse of power that cannot happen and will further strain the distrust communities of color have towards law enforcement.

Thank you.

- Mark

Polanco, Joanna

From: Dave Redemann <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:01 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Comment

To Whom It May Concern,

I was born in Milwaukee and have been a Milwaukeean for most of my life. The police brutality that I've seen here — not only this past week, but all my life — makes me deeply ashamed. Why do our city's leaders think that excessive force is necessary to control unarmed peaceful protesters?

I recently saw a list of measures that our city needs to enact, and I call upon you to enact them:

1. Declare racism a statewide emergency.
2. Use 25% of the budgets of the Milwaukee Police Department, the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office, and the State Patrol for 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, such as 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.

The world is watching.

Sincerely,
David H. Redemann
A concerned citizen of Milwaukee

RedemannCreative

414.520.4401

Polanco, Joanna

From: Dana Reinoos <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:58 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Common Council feedback

I am honestly disgusted by the way that the city I love - my home - has dealt with peaceful protests around police violence. Milwaukee has the unfortunate distinction, backed by a long history of racist policy and lawmakers, of the most segregated city in the country. And when its citizens rise up to give a voice to the pain of losing black people through police brutality, the MPD used tear gas (*banned in warfare since 1925*) and rubber bullets to injure and intimidate peaceful protest.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.

ENOUGH of the racist, patronizing curfew. ENOUGH of police violence towards protestors. ENOUGH of racist MPD policies and violence. ENOUGH.

If Mayor Barrett isn't willing to finally listen to our voices, we will elect a mayor (and alderpeople, and state representatives, and so on) who will.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Brandon Reyes [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:02 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Milwaukee Curfew

Mr. Owczarski,

The curfews are unnecessary and only serve to punish law abiding citizens and people attempting to peacefully protest. People that seek to break laws and cause harm, will do so regardless of curfew. It would be exponentially more constructive to focus your resources on ways to make the city safe for all of it's citizens rather than militarizing the police against it's own people. I'm not afraid of my fellow protesters and Black citizens, I'm afraid of the police and white supremacists. I am afraid of you.

Regards,
-Brandon

Polanco, Joanna

From: Gregory Reynolds <greg.reynolds@milwaukee.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 9:50 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Comment For Tomorrow's Common Council Meeting

Mr. Owczarski and by extension, the common council,

I've truly enjoyed the aspirational tone Milwaukee has adopted in the past few years. For a city that has felt defined as much by outsiders' disregard for it as it does by beer and festivals, the last few years have been an incredible experience. But underneath the pride of hosting a national political convention, the excitement of being home to one of the greatest basketball teams in recent history, and the drive to continue our economic growth, we have shamed ourselves through inaction against a force that has repeatedly embarrassed us to the world.

Over the last week, it has become abundantly clear that the Milwaukee police department acts entirely in its own self interests and not in the community's. As the rage and sorrow triggered by the horrifying murder of George Flynn evolved into self reflection and hope in the spirit of every protester marching in our streets this past week, the reaction from the people tasked to protect us only escalated further. While protesters came armed with bags to clean with and chants to recite, an unchecked militarized police force aimed at them with rubber bullets and tear gas. All escalation have been heinous, but none so well-defined as the incident on the evening on June 2nd, blocks away from the Fiserv Forum. A collection of young people demonstrating were fired upon with local media outlets getting caught in the assault as well. I watched from blocks away in my home on TMJ4's livestream of the incident, and witnessed officers tackle a young man on his bike entirely unprovoked. Officers barked orders, sending protesters, medics, and local reporters scattering for their own safety.

The next day, I witnessed the department construct a pathetic alibi for their overreaction, claiming that a molotov cocktail had been constructed out of a clean, crushed plastic bottle and what appears to be a long since discarded water filter found at the site. After it was pointed out that constructing a molotov out of a plastic bottle is ridiculous as plastic doesn't really work that way and would just melt, the department regrouped and rushed out a bodycam video to the local media featuring red circles highlighting the accused "molotovs". These red circles highlighted no fire (traditionally, an important part of the whole molotov process) but it did contain garbage on the ground, including a used cartridge from one of their own weapons. They literally tried to blame protesters for their own garbage. This was a shameful ploy to turn sympathy against the protesters and every member of the Milwaukee P.D. responsible for this farce should be reprimanded or removed.

This is just one recent, and fortunately non-lethal example of this problem, but it's a problem that threatens our forward momentum as a city. When we feel pride over winning the rights to host the democratic national convention, we know that it would be just a short walk away from Red Arrow Park, where Dontre Hamilton was shot dead by police. When we feel excited for the Milwaukee Bucks dominant 2019-20 season, we remember Sterling Brown getting tased outside of a Walgreens due to a parking violation. When we think about the economic growth of neighborhoods like Sherman Park, we remember the charred soil those business sprung forth from following the riots following the killing of Sylville Smith.

The time for impotent oversight boards and easily forgotten community commissions is over. It's time to dismantle the Milwaukee Police Department as we know it and start over. We need to follow the lead of the members of Minneapolis' common council calling to disband the municipal police and replace it with a system of social workers, detectives, and public servants trained in deescalation, empathy, and most importantly,

restraint. Rather than an army of overmilitarized punisher fans thinking themselves as modern day John Waynes, we need a force that can address the root of our city's problems in a way that elevates our most vulnerable citizens. A mental health professional could have saved Dontre's life. A parking official with proper training could have saved Sterling the trauma he experienced. A detective with deescalation training could have found Sylville later instead of shooting him in the back. It will be a hard road to take, but if we really want to continue positioning Milwaukee to be the city we know it can be, it's time to address one of the biggest pieces of it holding us back.

Greg Reynolds
Brewer's Hill

Polanco, Joanna

From: Lauren Richards <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:23 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Comment 6/5/2020

Dear Tom Barrett, Alfonso Morales and Earnell Lucas, and other city officials,

My name is Lauren Richards. I am currently a resident of Milwaukee County, residing in zip code 53202. I am emailing you today as a concerned citizen of this community. After witnessing multiple accounts of unwarranted violence at the hands of the Milwaukee Police Department, the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office, and the National Guard and unlawful arrests towards the residents of our community, it is time we put a stop to the unrest and violence perpetuated by law enforcement. It is our right as Americans to gather and protest peacefully.

The action of calling a curfew was not in actuality a preventative measure, it was a punitive one. The City of Milwaukee and Mayor Tom Barrett 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 and permanent fines and arrests.

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 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 police department must be fully transparent and apologize for fabricating inaccurate information.

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 of 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.

City Officials have taken no public action to stand on the side of its citizens. The City of Milwaukee must be compelled to act and change. Businesses can be rebuilt, but lives cannot be replaced. The City of Milwaukee must listen to black

organizations and leaders who have outlined their demands. You must apologize for the injustices you have not acknowledged and stop future injustices upon Milwaukee's black population.

Sincerely,

Lauren Richards

Polanco, Joanna

From: Allison Rickman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:27 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Safety and Health Committee - Topics to Consider

Hello, Mr. Owczarski,

Thank you for opening the floor to the public as you discuss police policies. After much thought, reflection, and conversation, I have created a list of a few ideas related to your agenda items that I wish to have considered. Please find my points below:

Item 1: Circumstances under which a curfew is declared

- In the scenario where a curfew is put into place, the city must ensure that proper notification is sent to the public--via text, public alert, etc.-- with at least 2 hours prior notice.
- When enacting a curfew, additional information needs to be provided surrounding the protocol for people who need to go out for purposes such as work or other essential tasks.

Item 2: Policies used to enforce it

- Enforcing curfew should not ever require the use of excessive force via methods such as tear gas, rubber bullets, etc.
- In order to properly enforce a curfew, we need to determine the purpose behind a curfew. If the ultimate purpose centers around public safety and the people breaking curfew are not posing any immediate threat to public safety, then using force becomes superfluous and a reminder that a curfew is in place is all that should be needed.

Item 3: An operational definition of the phrase "civil unrest"

- *Civil unrest* can be defined as an activity that arises from a large demonstration in which the majority of participants become hostile in a manner that puts people, property and/or authorities in immediate danger. It should be made very clear that if a small subset of the group becomes disorderly, this does not qualify as *civil unrest*.
- Excessive force via methods such as tear gas, rubber bullets, etc. in response to *civil unrest* is inappropriate and often serves to worsen the situation, rather than to de escalate it. It is not productive to meet aggression with aggression when the ultimate goal is peace.

I appreciate this opportunity to share my observations and thoughts on ways to move forward as a greater Milwaukee community. Ultimately, this is about finding solutions that will protect everyone, regardless of race, religion, gender, or any other discriminatory bases. I believe our police force can still serve to protect, but steps need to be taken so that all feel protected instead of targeted. Thank you in advance for the steps you're taking to reach this goal.

Sincerely,

Allison Rickman

From: Katie Robleski < >
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 2:13:45 PM
To: Dimitrijevic, Marina < >
Subject: No more tear gas or rubber bullets

Dear Ms. Marina Dimitrijevic,

As I and my fellow neighbors of Milwaukee invoke our first amendment right of free assembly, and as protesting continues (and will continue into the near future), I'm calling on all of my local leaders, including you, Ms. Dimitrijevic, as my Representative in District 14, to adhere to our demand to stop shooting rubber bullets, using teargas and use of force on protestors who are marching peacefully, so that no harm comes to them.

Thank you and sincerely,
Katie Robleski
3119 S Lenox St

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jamie Rodriguez [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public safety meeting

I want to share that I am in full support of the peaceful protests! They are doing amazing work and need to be protected to by police instead of antagonized! The police need to be there to guide them instead of shooting rubber bullets and tear gas at them! The curfews are nothing but ploys to give out tickets and to make these demonstrations seem like they're bad. More justice for the protesters and less shooting by police!

Thank you, Jamie Rodriguez

Polanco, Joanna

From: Claire Rolfes, [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:55 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Policing policies

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

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

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

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

We must act now.

Thank you,
Claire Rolfes

Polanco, Joanna

From: Michelle Romano [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:09 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Concerns About Milwaukee's Curfew and Policies to Enforce It

Hello,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Milwaukee. I take issue with the way the Milwaukee Country curfew has been declared and the policies used to enforce it.

It is clear that major reform needs to happen with the policing in this country, but the first step is to immediately call on the Milwaukee Police Department must be held accountable for the way it is enforcing the curfews.

The residents of this city have the right to protest peacefully in our streets without fear of facing the very same police aggression that they are protesting against. I am hopeful that you agree and that this issue is discussed today and MPD Chief Morales' conduct and performance are under review.

Respectfully,
Michelle Romano

Polanco, Joanna

From: Julie Rose [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 3:06 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Day vs Night Protests

To whom it may concern:

I've participated in protests during the day and have witnessed them at night. The protests during the day have been peaceful and very positive; unfortunately the scene in the evening, at least from my perspective, has been the contrary bringing some destruction as well as harm as our neighbor's dog was shot and killed from a spray of bullets Tuesday night. I understand one's right to protest, but I along with many of my neighbors have been very uneasy at night...Helicopters overhead, gun fire, honking cars often speeding down side streets, sirens, etc. Thus, I've been afraid even unable to go to sleep at night. I don't know what the solution is as I understand how important these demonstrations are, but I've also never felt this anxious in my own home before. Is this just me or are others feeling uneasy as well? I am for the movement, but I just wish it could be handled with less harm to public safety & property.

Julie Rose
Cambridge Woods Neighborhood Association

PS. RIP Chief, you were an amazing dog and John my heart aches for you. I just don't understand why we can't do this without more pain and suffering.

Sent from my iPad

Polanco, Joanna

From: Katie Rose [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:12 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Feedback

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 newscopters. Some are police helicopters and some are national guard helicopters. These aircraft are disrupting people's sleep, preventing people from feeling comfortable in their own homes, and make citizens feel like they are being constantly surveilled. Stop flying helicopters over our neighborhoods.

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

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

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

THANK YOU

Polanco, Joanna

From: Alex Rucka <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:01 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Health and Safety Meeting - Item #200214

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in response to the request for community input regarding item 200214.

Although I recognize some of the intent behind the recent curfews, it's obvious that they aren't working as intended. Local media reports have clearly revealed that excessive police/military presence has escalated situations more than it has provided protection.

For example, WTMJ reported on Wednesday that officers fired tear gas into a crowd that was chanting "we are peaceful." If you're looking for an "operational definition of civil unrest," I'd say a crowd chanting that they are peaceful emphatically doesn't meet those criteria. These people are exercising one of their fundamental American rights to peacefully assemble and protest, and they're doing it as part of a powerful national movement to combat systemic racism.

I'm tired of the bad press that our city and state have been receiving due to unsteady leadership. Hundreds flocked to Madison to protest a Safer at Home Order that was meant to protect them in the middle of a global pandemic, and there wasn't a massive police response. No rubber bullets or tear gas.

Why then should these protestors who are championing an end to systemic racism be met with this type of violent response?

As part of your discussions, I urge you to be compassionate and empathetic. It's too easy to let politics and distractions divide us. Stop using rubber bullets and tear gas. Stop labeling peaceful protestors as unlawful. And most importantly, start taking a hard and critical look at how policing is done in our city and make changes to end systemic racism.

Best,
Alex Rucka, 53220

Polanco, Joanna

From: Rebecca Rusk [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 8:16 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Curfew

Mr. Owczarski,

I'm writing to let you know that I do not support imposing curfews on a city that is already under pressure from police acting brutally. I also do not support shutting down public transit at night, an act that disproportionately affects people of color and working class people. I also strongly disagree with reopening restaurants and bars when target statistics for COVID-19 testing have not been met. This pandemic is affecting Black and brown people at much higher rates than white population s, and I can't help but see this as another effort to preserve the ruling class's wealth at others expense.

Rebecca Rusk
District 6 Resident