

COMMENTS A-H

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: Jumana Al-Juma [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:49 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Disappointing leadership

Dear Tom Barrett and other counsel members,

I am writing as a concerned and disappointed citizen, I do not represent anyone other than myself.

Milwaukee needs to hear your voice now more than ever.

I need you to be the loudest voice advocating change in response to these protests. I need you to be willing to change and stand up for the Milwaukee community that has been segregated and mistreated for far too long.

Milwaukee has the potential to become one of the greatest cities on the planet. You and I love this city just as much, if not more, than anyone else that lives here. It will never realize its full potential on its current path. Milwaukee could become a beacon of hope for the rest of the world to follow. Milwaukee, and the entire world, needs to hear your voice. And we are waiting.

I'm writing in response to your statement on May 30th. I agree with most of the things you said in that statement, but I'd like to help shift your focus slightly.

In your statement you said "To all those individuals who are angry about what they saw in this country, I share that anger. But, we cannot allow it to just be a moment of anger. It has to be a moment when we come together and say we will create more jobs, we will have more stable housing and we will address healthcare needs so that African American individuals can have a better life."

Now, while I don't disagree with any of that, I do hope to help you see that you're focusing on the wrong issue right now. Individuals are angry because so many immoral and illegal things go unchecked by law enforcement. This is the moment when we come together, not to say let's create jobs, fair housing, and better healthcare. That needs to happen, but this is the moment when we come together to say "We need law enforcement to be held accountable for immoral and criminal activity. We need law enforcement to be better at protecting and serving the city." I need to hear your voice say that.

Your statement went on to say "We cannot allow what happened to Mr. Floyd, these injustices which are real, which are angering and which are frustrating, to be defeated by people who are violating the law and destroying property in our neighborhoods. If we take businesses away from the good people who live in our neighborhoods, or if we allow others to take them away, who are we hurting?"

Again, I'm concerned about where you are focusing the conversation. Of course I agree that violating the law and destroying property is wrong and counterproductive. It pains me greatly to see violence, property damage, and unlawful activity negate the work of the peaceful protests. No citizen or small business owner should have to live in fear of destruction or violence here in Milwaukee. What I would like to hear your voice say in the future is "We cannot allow what happened to Mr. Floyd, these injustices which are real, which are angering and which are frustrating, to be defeated by law enforcement officers who are violating the law and protocol in our neighborhoods. If we do not hold these people accountable for their actions, who are we hurting?"

I know you're under tremendous pressure to keep the community safe in the face of a global pandemic... but opening bars/restaurants during the height of COVID cases in MKE and one of the largest civil rights movements in history is far from the answer.

I'm incredibly disappointed. To address the concerns of these protests, I need you to be successful at your job.

No more curfews. No more police brutality on peaceful protesters. Using tear gas on crowds of peaceful people during a deadly respiratory virus should be a crime. Enough is enough! Let us speak for ourselves if you won't speak for us. Milwaukee has been topping charts for years as one of the most racist and segregated cities in the country. All while you've been our Mayor too. Is that something to be proud of? Absolutely not, it's embarrassing and disgusting. So let's actively do something to change that.

If you don't step up and make your voice loud in this historic moment, there are other patriotic citizens and public servants ready to step up. This city just reelected you, please do everything you can do be its leader. Be on the right side of history.

Also, it would be great if you could help get Frank Nitty II's felony charges dropped from earlier this week. He's leading peaceful, lawful protests and it's unacceptable the way he's been treated by law enforcement.

I'll patiently await your response as I know the entire city is emailing you with great disappointment.

Thanks for reading,

Jumana Al-Juma

Polanco, Joanna

From: Nicole A [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:31 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: For Public Health and Safety Committee

The past week has shown the Milwaukee Police Department repeatedly using intimidation tactics and instigating violence towards peaceful protesters, with implicit support from the Mayor and MPD leadership. Protests by day are peaceful, full of hope, and supported by local businesses. By night protestors are harmed, police feel the need to escalate to violence unprovoked, and curfews are put in place to give police free reign to terrorize anyone outside. Bus service being stopped harms people working outside of 9-5 hours or who may depend on busses to get to essential services. Public transportation being taken away, at short notice, not be used as an intimidation tactic, and only gives police more targets of their cruel behavior. MPD's budget needs to be cut and redistributed to community programs that will help reduce crime organically. Overtime needs to be regulated far more strongly, preventing overwork and reducing stress in the officers, and militarization of the police needs to be eliminated entirely. Now is the time to realign Milwaukee's priorities, as the police have again and again proven to be unable to police themselves, let alone protect and serve the public. Community problems arising from systemic inequality should not be met with an overly aggressive and militarized police response. There is no excuse. I urge you to consider the demands and solutions set forth by the African American RoundTable, Community Task Force Mke, and Leaders Igniting Transformation and make a genuine effort to meet them.

Thank you,
A Washington Park Resident
Nicole Allee

Polanco, Joanna

From: Elizabeth Allen <ekallen@milwaukee.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:02 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Comments for Today's (6/5) Special Committee Meeting

Hello City Clerk Owczarski,

My name is Elizabeth Allen, and I am a resident of the City of Milwaukee. I have lived in or near the city my entire life.

I have been following the Milwaukee protests on local news, social media, and out my own window over the last week. I fully support the movement that these protests stand for, and I think it's clear that the way we speak about racism in our city and our country needs to change.

I have seen videos and read first-hand accounts of MPD using unnecessary force against and agitating peaceful protestors. Tear gas, rubber bullets, and other forms of excessive force and violence do not do anything but divide and detract from the true issue at hand. Racism in our communities and specifically in our police force's actions should always be unacceptable. Excessive use of force with or without a firearm by our police should always be unacceptable. The needless killing of black people and people of color by those who are supposed to protect our community should always be unacceptable.

It is clear that the curfew is being used to further police those whose voices need to be heard most. I do not support enforcing citations for violating curfew, and I would encourage the city to drop any charge brought for this cause.

The world and our city will never get back the lives of Sylville Smith, Dontre Hamilton, Joel Acevedo, George Floyd, or Breonna Taylor. But I have hope that, with changes that we as a city have the power to enact, today's children who are watching and listening and learning will never have to write an email like this to their city clerk.

Thank you. I look forward to hearing the outcome of this afternoon's meeting.

Regards,
Elizabeth Allen

Polanco, Joanna

From: Juan Alvarez [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Accountability for Tom Barrett

Dear Tom Barrett,

I am writing as a concerned citizen, I do not represent anyone other than myself.

We crossed paths on June 2nd at a peaceful protest. I asked you "How are you doing?", and you replied "I'm trying to social distance." A woman in front of us then interjected "We need to hear you chanting, we need to hear your voice". I remained silent, and in the days since then I've realized that I should have immediately echoed her sentiment, so I am doing it now. Tom, Milwaukee needs to hear your voice.

Milwaukee needs its leader. I need you to be the loudest voice advocating change in response to these protests. I need you to be willing to change.

Milwaukee has the potential to become one of the greatest cities on the planet. You and I love this city just as much, if not more, than anyone else that lives here. It will never realize its full potential on its current path. Milwaukee could become a beacon of hope for the rest of the world to follow. Milwaukee, and the entire world, needs to hear your voice.

I'm writing in response to your statement on May 30th. I agree with most of the things you said in that statement, but I'd like to help shift your focus slightly. I've had to do this with my own father, and with many other older European Americans this past week.

In your statement you said "To all those individuals who are angry about what they saw in this country, I share that anger. But, we cannot allow it to just be a moment of anger. It has to be a moment when we come together and say we will create more jobs, we will have more stable housing and we will address healthcare needs so that African American individuals can have a better life."

Now, while I don't disagree with any of that, I do hope to help you see that you're focusing on the wrong issue right now. Individuals are angry because so many immoral and illegal things go unchecked by law enforcement. This is the moment when we come together, not to say let's create jobs, fair housing, and better healthcare. That needs to happen, but this is the moment when we come together to say "We need law enforcement to be held accountable for immoral and criminal activity. We need law enforcement to be better at protecting and serving the city." I need to hear your voice say that.

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Again, I'm concerned about where you are focusing the conversation. Of course I agree that violating the law and destroying property is wrong and counterproductive. It pains me greatly to see violence, property damage, and unlawful activity negate the work of the peaceful protests. No citizen or small business owner should have to live in fear of destruction or violence here in Milwaukee. What I would like to hear your voice say in the future is "We cannot allow what happened to Mr. Floyd, these injustices which are real, which are angering and which are frustrating, to be

defeated by law enforcement officers who are violating the law and protocol in our neighborhoods. If we do not hold these people accountable for their actions, who are we hurting?"

I do not envy you or your job today. I know you're under tremendous pressure to keep the community safe in the face of a global pandemic, to help reopen businesses, and to address the concerns of these protests. I need you to be successful at your job.

I'm hearing a lot of concern about the decision to reopen bars this week as a distraction from the protests. Whether or not that's true, I need to hear your voice say that decision was not a diversion tactic, and that you will make some real change happen regarding the protests. I know yesterday you announced the creation of a commission to help you. I need you to act with the full authority of your office to show Milwaukee that you are fighting as hard as you can for them. It's going to take all your courage, and balls, to make a stand for morality in the face of institutional law enforcement habits. For the love of God Almighty, use what he gave you Tom.

If you don't step up and make your voice loud in this historic moment, there are other patriotic citizens and public servants ready to step up. This city just reelected you, please do everything you can do be its leader.

Also, it would be great if you could help get Frank Nitty II's felony charges dropped from earlier this week. He's leading peaceful, lawful protests and I don't appreciate the way he's been treated by law enforcement.

Thanks for reading, let's hear your voice Tom.

-Juan Alvarez

Polanco, Joanna

From: Sean Anderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:21 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Concerned Milwaukee Resident

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Sean Anderson. 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,
Sean Anderson

Polanco, Joanna

From: Zach Anderson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:58 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Input for June 5, 2020 Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting

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, these actions were clearly ineffective and counter-productive. Watching the local media reports during the curfews, it was immediately clear that the excessive police and military presence, which was located only blocks from my home, was producing far more danger than protection. This became especially clear as my wife left for work to perform her third-shift, essential job at a local hospital during the curfew. Our family felt threatened by the police presence -- not the protesters. As a white family living in an affluent neighborhood, we began to imagine just a fraction of the fear that so many families of color endure when they encounter a Milwaukee Police Department presence near their homes.

More broadly, the local media has clearly documented police officers' escalation of violence in multiple situations. Because these protests are largely rooted in a justifiably angry response to systemic racism and police brutality -- both of which are undeniably a part of Milwaukee's past and present -- these police actions have amplified, rather than improved, the situation.

The local government and police leaders must vocally renounce and reject any further violence against lawful protesters. As an initial step toward peace, the unnecessary use of tear gas and rubber bullets on our city's own citizens must be banned. And because it is clear that the curfews served to label peaceful protesters as "unlawful," their fines must be revoked.

More importantly, the city must begin to defund the Milwaukee police department. During these protests, this police department has proven it is not interested in resolving its issues; instead, it has sought more violence against those demanding justice. Reforms have proven ineffective against the systematic racist policing in our city. Funding must be redirected and invested in alternative forms of constructive programs, which seek justice and fight racism.

Sincerely,
Zachariah Anderson, 53211

From: **Heidi Anoszko** <

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Good Afternoon Mayor Barrett,

Write to you as a neighbor, public servant, history educator, taxpayer, someone who regularly votes for you.

I worked for the UW-Milwaukee Archives for years, and I've read every letter, hateful or supportive, sent to ALD Vel Phillips and Fr. James Groppi that the collection holds. I've seen and held the footage recounting the Police firebombing of the --intentionally inciting violence against children in our city in 1967. Stand by individual officers if you must, but **the nation's police-- including the MPD-- are waging war with the communities they claim to protect. And it's not a new story.** It's sickening, documented, and will be forever tied with your inaction and reliance on the national guard. That's what people remember about Henry Maier. Many of my librarian and historian colleagues have created books, dissertations, articles, social media posts, and museum exhibits about it--if you'd like some reading material.

Enact the change your constituents demand, bring peace to this city.

--at the hands of the MPD AND through the spread of COVID-19 with large groups gathering. **Your constituents *will support* you if you push for these policy reforms:**

- **Require exhausting other means before shooting or using force**
- **Require all use of force to be reported**
- **Ban deadly police restraint methods** like choke and strangle holds
- Require officers follow a de-escalation procedures
- Ban shooting at moving vehicles

We need to focus on our education system and public health more than ever before--It's time to stop wasting the city's time, money, and lives on terrorizing people of color.

Do what's right. The voters will follow.

Heidi Anoszko

Anecdote: I haven't seen a single police officer in my neighborhood officer in a Mask since the State Safer at Home order was lifted. DPW workers and sanitation workers have been complying. The Police aren't just killing Black people, their negligence and aggression is toxic to our city.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Diane Bacha <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2020 6:39 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Comments for special committee Friday 6/5

I am sending this email to the City Clerk as a comment for this Friday's special committee of the Public Safety and Health Committee. It is a copy of an email I sent to other elected officials. Thank you.

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I am writing to express my concern about the way the Milwaukee Police Department is handling the current series of peaceful protests in our city.

First of all, I want to say I do not have first-hand knowledge of the situation, and I try hard not to draw easy or quick conclusions. I have been monitoring news reports, social media feeds, and firsthand accounts. I've heard from friends and contacts whose opinions I respect, and who are not prone to knee-jerk reactions.

I also want to say that, as a white educated female who has experienced good fortune over her lifetime, I don't have any personal cause to complain about our police department, and indeed am inclined to support the department for the many positive things they do in the community.

But right now, I am concerned. I am concerned that tear gas, rubber bullets, and other methods are being used unnecessarily.

I am concerned that our Police Chief is not using this as an opportunity to demonstrate visible, tangible shows of support for those who have legitimate issues with law enforcement. I am concerned that this is giving rise — and perhaps cause — for escalation of activities. Those who are pre-disposed to believe the worst are being given ample material to keep believing it, and that material gets amplified on social media as you well know.

Some are calling for the resignation of Chief Morales, or demanding that he be fired. I don't think a public feud between elected officials and the Chief of Police is helpful right now, but I'm starting to doubt myself.

Please consider this letter a request to put all pressure possible on the Police Chief to de-escalate, offer a show of sympathy where it's merited, and direct his attentions more toward the minority that are causing violence and destruction. All parts of our community need to believe they are being heard and respected.

Sincerely,

Diane M. Bacha
2717 E. Park Place, Milwaukee

Polanco, Joanna

From: Joshua Backes <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 1:20 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Milwaukee Policing, Protesting and Policy.

Hello,

My name is Joshua Backes and I'm an educator and musician that has lived in Milwaukee since 1999. I love this town, but I have always disliked the situation that some of my fellow citizens are in due to their skin color.

We have all seen the national situation regarding policing African American communities vs other communities and it is reflected in our city and state at a higher intensity. For years politicians have spoken about it, NPR talked about it, local papers have mentioned it, yet no real policy action has been accomplished. Why is this?

I have witnessed in my life the militarization of the police, here in Milwaukee and across the nation. Where is the need for this? Would this money not be better spent on crime prevention, education and uplift for the community so as to render this equipment useless?

I know someone that works at the LaFollette Public school here in town. It has children with so many issues including PTSD and behavior is a real problem. It is a long complex story that there is not space to go into here, but suffice to say those teachers and social workers need help. It has been suggested that lowering the student/teacher ratio would go a long way to help more of these students get the education they need. Would this not be a better way to spend the money? Do the police really need armored cars? How many teachers/assistants salaries could be paid for instead of military grade equipment for a metro police department? If we improve our neighborhoods, would this not help the police be and feel safer and therefore preventing all of this mess?

There has been some documented police behaviour in recent days that is VERY troubling. My friends have been witnesses and I have seen the tapes myself. This is NOT how policing a protest is supposed to be and I seriously doubt that a protest for any other issue would be handled in this way. I think controlling looting and property damage is fine, but tear gas (banned in warfare by Geneva) essentially unprovoked should result in a serious investigation and consequences for those responsible.

We need to see policy action that takes into account the views and needs of the community. There is no need for such aggressive policing. The following list should be seriously considered, it is adapted from one shared by a friend online:

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.

Can I also suggest that we **LOOK TO OTHER NATIONS** and **OTHER POLICE DEPARTMENTS** for inspiration for new training and tactics. Why not?

We can do better, and I hope this committee is successful in its mission to improve this situation.

Thank you for your time,
Josh.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Stephanie Baghai <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:33 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Comment for 6/5 Public Safety & Health Committee

Dear Public Safety and Health Committee,

My name is Stephanie Baghai and I live in District 13 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,

Stephanie Baghai

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jack Barch [redacted]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:31 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Policing Policy Agenda Discussion Items

Hello, Mr. Owczarski,

Thank you for opening the floor to the public as you discuss police policies. After much thought, reflection, and conversation, we have created a list of a few ideas related to your agenda items that we wish to have considered. Please find our 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 deescalate it. It is not productive to meet aggression with aggression when the ultimate goal is peace.

We appreciate this opportunity to share our 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. We 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,

Jack Barch

Polanco, Joanna

From: Kaylee Bast <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:31 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE - 6/5/2020 2:30 PM - Comments

Hello,

My name is Kaylee Bast and I live on the East Side of Milwaukee, and I am APPALLED by the police/enforcement response to the protests.

First off, how come a police department is outfitted like the military. I know that this comes from the ability to purchase of military surplus equipment. But by purchasing this type of equipment/tools you are automatically assuming that our streets are a war zone. There is NO NEED to have mine-resistant vehicles on civilian streets. All this does is escalate a situation when the police and law enforcement should be deescalating.

Speaking of deescalating, why are they not using deescalating techniques? Are they not trained sufficiently? Are they not trained at all? Are they just simply bad at their job and forget/disregard/not take seriously their training. If that is the case, GET RID OF THEM!

Also, why are the police using tear gas & rubber bullets at protests? They have every right to gather and express their (rightful) frustration. To use tear gas which is banned in war by the Geneva Convention on civilians is outright disgraceful! If it's banned in war then it SHOULD NOT be used on protesters.

I urge you to start a formal investigation into the tactics are being used. As I understand it, this investigation will be conducted but the Fire and Police Commission, but how can we trust that they will provide us with an unbiased investigation. Please consider and alternative, which would have the invitation be done transparently and with people of color involved.

I also urge the committee to take policing funds and allocate them into to programs that actually help the community. Including, but not limited to, education and social services.

As a person who was born in Milwaukee and spent most of my life here, I am incredibly proud of this city. Not because of the police, leadership, or government, but because of the people. For the past week, people have been out protesting and telling you what we want. It's not a mystery, you just have to listen.

Black Lives Matter.

Kaylee Bast

Polanco, Joanna

From: Batiza, Dr. Ann [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:09 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim

Dear Mr. Owczarski,
Thank you to the Mayor, police department and fire and police commission for holding this hearing. You are addressing "the operational definition of the phrase 'civil unrest' and the manner in which it is enforced."

I hope that you agree that the right of the people to speak and be heard is paramount. The recent demonstrations have provided many examples from across the country of how NOT to "police" protests. Unless there is abiding need to protect citizens through a curfew, curfews provide opportunities to interfere with that free speech and should be avoided.

Most of the advances in civil rights in this country have come about through civil disobedience. Therefore, if a curfew is in place, I think the city's handling curfews without arrests (a warning or citation might be a de-escalating response to protesters and bystanders if police find they need to clear an area for public safety) and certainly without chemical weapons being deployed or batons being used is one way to proceed.

The rage at police immunity from prosecution and the killings of black men that have resulted is legitimate. Something needs to change. Has Milwaukee outlawed chokeholds and strangleholds? If not, they must do so immediately. Are Milwaukee police shielded from prosecution? If so, this must change. Is there appropriate citizen oversight of police activities?

Milwaukee needs input from its citizens. I hope the Mayor and police proceed in a way to get that input as soon as possible and in as accessible a forum as is possible now. At the same time, I hope those in charge will examine their policing policies and see where changes can be made.

Thank you for listening.

Regards,
Ann Batiza
200 S. Water Street #205
Milwaukee, WI 53204

Sent from [REDACTED] for Windows 10

Polanco, Joanna

From: Katie Belanger <belangerkathleen1985@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:50 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police Policy Meeting

Dear Jim Owczarski

My name is Katie Belanger 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.

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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 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,
Katherine Belanger



Virus-free.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Nancy Bell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: In Response to Police Actions

To Whom It May Concern:

The police have reacted to peaceful protests with violence, and should be defunded and demilitarized. A month ago the common council voted to furlough and financially endanger hundreds of city workers in a time of crisis to try and scrape 1 million in budget savings, while the police budget is nearly 300 times that. It is time to replan Milwaukee's priorities, as the police have again and again proven to be unable to police themselves, let alone protect and serve the public. There is a shocking lack of accountability within the police department, and this is a reflection that they are no longer part of the community they serve. They have fled the residency of the City of Milwaukee. If they don't feel safe living here, and feel it is unsafe for their families to live here, this only further proves that they are not only doing a bad job, but do not plan on doing a good job to create a better and safer Milwaukee. Replan the budget to build instead of restrict. Fund our libraries, schools, and community programs. Bring our workers home, so that they are invested in not only the well-being of their checkbooks, but the well-being of the residents they serve, their neighbors, their friends, and their families.

Sincerely,

A Proud Milwaukee City Resident and Worker

Polanco, Joanna

From: Elaine Benz <elaine1230317@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:06 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim

I don't see any purpose in a curfew when nobody obeys it. There is no way police can enforce it because they are out numbered, and it could create more problems for them as well as protesters.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Allena Berry <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 7:16 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Take steps now to defund the MPD

Having been a resident of southeastern Wisconsin for most of my life, and a resident of Milwaukee for four years, I have seen first hand how the MPD has interacted with poor, primarily black and brown communities for years. The disregard for life that we have seen over the last few days in response to the people's uprising, led in large part by the Black Lives Matter movement, is the most recent example of egregious behavior. As such, the local government of Milwaukee needs to take steps now to radically defund the police.

Concrete steps could include:

1. Suspend the use of paid administrative leave for officers under investigation;
2. Require individual officers to be responsible for their own liability insurance for misconduct settlements;
3. Cap overtime accrual for military exercises;
4. Withdraw participation in police militarization programs;
5. Remove any and all relationships between the public school system and the police force;
6. Reduce overall spending on the police force; and
7. Use that money for funding education, community health, and housing programs.

These are necessary and concrete steps that should be happening **now**. Anything less is insufficient for the times we are in.

--

Allena G. Berry (she/her/hers)

Northwestern University

Learning Sciences PhD Candidate | Teaching Assistant

Polanco, Joanna

From: John Bian [REDACTED] 4/2
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:10 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Input for the City of Milwaukee Meeting

My name is John Bian and I have a question for the mayor regarding the recent events in our city. What is your plan of action to to combat the systemic issue of racial discrimination that is present in the police department? What measures do you think are necessary to hold police accountable for their actions in a swift and just manner that honors innocent victims and their families? Thank you for your time.

Sincerely

JB

Polanco, Joanna

From: Murphy Bierbach <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:13 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police Concerns

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Murphy Bierbach

Polanco, Joanna

From: Connor Thomas Bowman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:15 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Comment on Police

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Connor Bowman

Polanco, Joanna

From: Pat Bowne <pat@...>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:28 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police violence against peaceful protestors is unacceptable

Dear Mr. Owczarski:

I'm writing to insist that the Common Council take up the conduct of our police department in its meeting today. It is unacceptable for the police to initiate violence towards peaceful protestors, who are exercising their constitutional right to assemble and demand redress for grievances.

Police have too often been acting as if they have nothing in their toolbox except force. It's time we set a new standard for policing in this city that emphasized intelligence, understanding of the community, and respect for citizens instead. If any officers really feel that their job is to suppress peaceful citizens, City Council should make it clear to them that this is not the case.

Some cities have only been able to reform their police departments by entirely disbanding and replacing them. Is that what it will take to get the bad actors in our police department under control?

Thank you for your action on our behalf,

Patricia S. Bowne
2911 S. Superior St. #1
Milwaukee, WI 53207

--
Patricia S. Bowne

Fact: Pat Bowne's PATHO
Fiction: The Royal Academy at Osyth
Find 'em both at (or)

Polanco, Joanna

From: Christine Bradford [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:42 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Re: Public Input for Review at Common Council meeting 6/5/20

Hi Jim,

I am writing today 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 over the past week.

As a Milwaukee resident I have watched with disappointment and horror as MPD has repeatedly escalated situations with the use of tear gas and rubber bullets.

Sincerely,
Christine Bradford

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jamie Bradshaw <jbradshaw@cityofmilwaukee.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:08 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Input for Police Policies and Intervention

Good morning,

My name is Jamie Bradshaw. I'm from Racine, Wisconsin and currently live in the city of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. I have been disturbed by the use of the policies of the City of Milwaukee to enforce the curfews that have been enacted the past few days in response to "civil unrest". Citizens have been assembling peacefully and trying to enact change in their own communities after centuries of inaction by those in power.

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.

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,
Jamie Bradshaw

Polanco, Joanna

From: MaryKate Brehm [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Milwaukee Police Polices- Agenda Considerations

Hello, Mr. Owczarski,

Thank you for opening the floor to the public as you discuss police policies. After much thought, reflection, and conversation, we have created a list of a few ideas related to your agenda items that we wish to have considered. Please find our 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 deescalate it. It is not productive to meet aggression with aggression when the ultimate goal is peace.

We appreciate this opportunity to share our 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. We 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,

MaryKate Brehm

Polanco, Joanna

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

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

Sarah, 53211

Polanco, Joanna

From: Alex Brodsky [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 1:22 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: On the use of force by the police and the Sheriff's Department

Hello,

As a Milwaukee resident I want to note by concern surrounding the use of force by the MPD and Sheriff's Department over the last week (particularly on the evening of June 2nd). Their stated justification -- that protestors were throwing water bottles, glass, and a "molotov cocktail" -- is dubious and, if we take them at their word, still does not remotely give cause for tear gassing and firing less-lethal bullets into a peaceful crowd -- two methods of crowd control that have been proven to cause permanent injury.

While the report of an unexploded "molotov cocktail" (which, while I'm extremely skeptical of the claim since the provided evidence does not meet any definition of a molotov cocktail) could justify some crowd control measures, the timeline presented by the MPD on Twitter doesn't make sense. They report that the bottle was thrown after 8 PM, long after they had begun tear gassing and firing bullets into the crowd.

While I don't condone throwing water bottles at police officers, responding to that with dangerous force against an almost exclusively peaceful crowd cannot be deemed acceptable. This event can't be viewed as a one-time "accident", either. These officers willingly endangered the safety of Milwaukee citizens. They undermine the credibility of both the MPD and the city as a whole. If they are not fired the city risks further rupturing the public's trust.

Thanks,
Alex Brodsky

Polanco, Joanna

From: Victor Buell [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:19 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Healthy and Safety Concern from a Milwaukee resident

Dear committee members,

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,

Victor Buell IV
3351 N Humboldt Blvd.
Milwaukee, WI

Polanco, Joanna

From: Sean Buhler [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:08 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Opinion on MKE *

Hi,

My name is Sean Buhler and I live in Riverwest and throughout the past week I am amazed on how the Milwaukee government and police are handling the protests. The police forces are using fear tactics and unlawful methods such as rushing PEACEFUL demonstrations and the use of batons. Also, the MPD suggesting there was use of Molotov cocktails while it ended up being a water bottle is ludicrous while the allowance of Alt-Right groups are free to incite violence and fear with the presence of weapons and threats of violence of peaceful protest leaders of our community. Also the allowance of military type of vehicles and helicopters constantly patrolling neighborhoods is frightening and instill fear leaving the home since it feels like an occupying force is nearby.

Thanks,

A concerned citizen of their freedom of assembly being stripped.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Sabrina Bukvich <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 9:35 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: June 1st protest arrest on McKinley and 6th
Attachments: IMG_6184.MOV; IMG_6163.MP4; IMG_6162.MP4

Good morning,

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

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

Incident 1:

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

Incident 2:

In our second case with the police on Tuesday June 1st we were at the corner of McKinley and 6th. There were easily more armed officers than protesters and multiple military tanks. We were headed west down McKinley in front of the freeway entrance. The police were blocking the freeway. Protesters got on their knees to show we were peaceful. Then we got up and decided to head north on 6th street turning our backs and walking away from police. That's when tear gas and gas canisters were thrown again. This caused the crowd to panic and run. We were attacked while retreating. We were able to get away from the gas and then went back on our knees and chanted "We are peaceful". At this point an announcement was made by police one time and was not heard. We were unaware of what the police wanted from us. Soon the police linked arms and walked towards us and started chanting "move back" we got off our knees and put our hands up and chanted "we are peaceful" while moving

backwards away from police. One man on a bike who was documenting what was happening through video. He stayed in his place on his bike with both hands on his phone taking a video. For no clear reason one police officer from the back of the line of officers pushed his way to the front. The man on the bike tried to ride away from the panicked officer when he was tackled. The other officers responded by covering and blocking the man so that no one could see what was happening. This can be seen on TMJ4s live thread at 25 minutes in. You can also see several officer reach to stop the panicked officer before they decide to help him take the innocent man into custody. There is no clear reason why the man was being attacked and taken into custody. While this occurred other police officers continued to throw tear gas and shot rubber bullets at the crowd that was retreating with hands up. Several people were shot with rubber bullets leaving welts on their stomachs. This is also seen in the TMJ4 live stream at the 28th min. This incident happened around 8pm.

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

Thank you for taking your time to listen

-Sabrina Bukvich

Polanco, Joanna

From: Emily Bunzel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:25 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public input for the Milwaukee Public Health and Safety Committee meeting today

Dear Mr. Owczarski, City Clerk, and committee members,

Fist, I'd like 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 this crisis 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 yet more chaos. This is unacceptable. Plus, the fabrication of evidence (example: a Molotov cocktail made from a plastic bottle) is concerning and further demonstrates the police's desire to escalate what have otherwise been peaceful protests. Police Chief Morales's management has been unacceptable and he must resign.

Second, the constant circling of helicopters overhead is intolerable. This is the sort of thing one might expect in a police state. Not all of these are news helicopters. Some are police helicopters and some are National Guard helicopters. They are disrupting your constituents' 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.

Lastly, about our protests. Milwaukee has had its own share of police murders of black citizens that have happened 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 that the Milwaukee Police Department desperately needs reform. I am advocating for five simple reforms that will make **ALL** residents safer:

1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds.
2. Require de-escalation tactics to be taught and implemented.
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. Specifically, this money needs to go towards assisting the black communities the police have been brutalizing. Our city needs a positive change. Defund the police and introduce substantial reforms to make our communities safer.

Let the Golden Rule and God lead your decision on this manner.

Thank you very much for your time,
Sincerely,

Emily Bunzel
53212 resident

Polanco, Joanna

From: Thaddeus Burns [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:10 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Ryan Kulp"

I second this entirely. Please do the right thing.

~Thaddeus Burns

Polanco, Joanna

From: Rebecca Sue Button [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:32 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police Protest Procedures

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

It is absolutely shameful, despicable, and outright RACIST what the MPD has been allowed to do during these protests. Unbelievably unAmerican and in violation of Geneva Convention laws. Literal WAR CRIMES. Innocent, peaceful protesters are getting badly hurt, inhumanely detained, and beaten for practicing their first amendment rights. The MPD needs to be held accountable for these crimes. The people of Milwaukee have spoken, and will continue to speak, protest, and stand with the Black population.

One of the greatest actions an American can take is to vote. If the Common Council does not take action, you can rest assured the people of Milwaukee will be voting them OUT, as soon as they can. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.

"We can live here together, or we can die here together. It's not I who is telling you, it is TIME telling you. You will listen, or you will parish." --
James Baldwin

Respectfully,
Rebecca S. Button

Polanco, Joanna

From: Eleanor Cammarano <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:50 AM
To: Polanco, Joanna; Tmedhin@milwaukee.gov
Subject: Meeting for 6/5/20

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for taking the time to ask the people what they believe is the proper course of action regarding our city, curfews, and the definition of 'civil unrest'. First, I think many can agree that the curfew has not been observed and is ineffective in preventing people from leaving their houses to protest or otherwise. What it does appear to do is reinforce the public's opinion that the law enforcement in their communities are looking to quash down their rights to demonstrate and limit their rights to freedom of speech within the commonly accepted "public forum". I do not believe suspending bus services is a good idea, as many of our community members rely on bus transportation, and have a right to safe transit through our city. The suspending of the bus service has been overwhelmingly viewed as a direct attack on the rights of Milwaukee citizens, and further evidence of law enforcements intent to inhibit the public's first amendment rights. These actions encourage distrust within the very community petitioning to be heard by law enforcement, and will more than likely be a major setback for keeping the peace in Milwaukee.

Naturally, the topic of 'civil unrest' comes out of these issues. The city, our communities, the country as a whole is hurting. The tactics the police use to 'protect' and 'keep the peace' are anything but peaceful. You cannot show up to a protest under the guise of "keeping the peace" while dressed for a fight. The outcry of rage and distrust from our communities is palpable at these demonstrations when peaceful protesters are met by officers in riot gear carrying weapons that many can't even identify, purchased by our tax money from wholesale military auctions. Seeing those who are charged to "keep the peace" roll in on their armored vehicles with weapons drawn and directed at those watching is nothing but fodder for potential civil rights violations. Having officers obstruct their badge numbers or shoulder cams by any means is a sign that they no longer are seeking to keep the peace and serve their citizens, and the evidence of this abuse is compiling rapidly by legal observers and the protesters themselves. This is not keeping the peace, this is inciting civil unrest, this is encouraging the public to distrust law enforcement, and this can no longer be tolerated.

The community is watching, collecting evidence of abuse of power and building cases to see social change. Organizations like the ACLU are being handed evidence of police abuse on a silver platter by the rampant use of extreme force. We are in the middle of a pandemic, and any aggressive tactics used such as tear gas can exacerbate the symptoms of Covid-19 in carriers, and doctors around the country are aware of this and petitioning law enforcement to use peaceful means to disperse a crowd. The gross abuse of power is evident and documented, and now would be a good time to address the situation before things get worse and our community is injured further both physically and in their ability to rely and trust in law enforcement.

Thank you for your time,
Eleanor Cammarano

Polanco, Joanna

From: Sara Caron [REDACTED]@mail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 5:08 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Common Council

Mr. Owczarski,

The demonstrations in Milwaukee have been overwhelmingly peaceful. At these protests I see people handing out water, snacks, people volunteering to offer first aid, passing out masks. There is grassroots organization and direction to these marches that is so powerful and inspiring.

The police seem to use any excuse to use force against protestors or to escalate tensions between themselves and peaceful protestors. I've seen police steal car keys from people driving in lawful car caravans. I've heard reports of officers covering their names and badge numbers, refusing to give citizens the information they are required to. I've heard reports of police glibly discussing using unprovoked violence against peaceful protestors. There is documentation of all of these grievous abuses.

Curfews are an excuse to arrest and harrass otherwise peaceful protestors. The police should be working to protect protestors, not inhibit them. These demonstrations are a right of the people.

Thank you for looking out for the interests of Milwaukee's most marginalized and abused communities, please ensure that they continue to have a voice and exercise their rights, that the Milwaukee police department do better to protect lives over property.

Sincerely,

Sara Caron
District 8 resident

Polanco, Joanna

From: Nicole Cave [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:58 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Defund MPD from ALL MPS

Hi Jim Owczarski,

I'm sure I am not the only one (not asking, but REQUESTING) that we start to defund our police department from all public schools. Children do not need police officers near the campuses or classrooms to make them feel safer. Policing is a systematically racist system that needs to be abolished and this is how our city can start to become a progressive and opportunistic city for EVERYONE. Please, LISTEN to me and EVERYONE ELSE who is fighting for justice. I'm not sure where your opinion stands but I think that as a government official you need to make sure your policies are restructured so that they benefit everyone.

Thanks,

Nicole Cave

Sent from my iPhone

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jzazell C [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:12 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 Jzazell Chambliss and I live in District 3 in the City of Milwaukee. I am writing in regards to the current protests occurring within our city, national, and internationally responding to the murder of George Floyd, demanding an end to police brutality and systematic racism.

The enactment of curfews, especially without proper notice, is encouragement for police officers to act aggressive and arrest PEACEFUL protestors. It is an inefficient ordinance and should no longer be enacted. The individuals that have been marching on the streets the past week are PEACEFUL protestors demanding racial justice. Calling the current happening civil unrest is sending a message loud and clear that the leaders of our city and the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) care about physical property over the lives of Black lives.

The current enforcement of these PEACEFUL protests by the MPD is unlawful and is not protecting the civilians of this city. Issuing tickets, citations, and arrests is unlawful. Detaining PEACEFUL protestors without food, water, a phone call, and unread rights is unlawful. The use of tear gas being used on PEACEFUL protestors is unlawful. The use of rubber bullets is unlawful and the MPD has demonstrated their lack of training in the use of them by aiming directly at individuals knowing they are never to be used unless aimed at the ground.

The residents of this city have the rights to protest peacefully in our streets without facing the very same police aggression that they are protesting against.

If you as the Common Council on this committee believe in investing in Milwaukee's communities, I implore you to demand that the MPD and National Guard end the use of tear gas, rubber bullets, unlawful arrest, and unjust aggressive tactics on peaceful protestors. It is clear that major reform needs to happen with the policing in our country but the first step is to immediately call on the MPD to end their use of force on PEACEFUL PROTESTORS.

Respectfully,

Jzazell Chambliss

Polanco, Joanna

From: Aletha Champine [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:50 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Common Council meeting, 6/5

Hi Jim,

Prior to the Common Council meeting tomorrow I wanted to touch base and let you know where I stand on the issues that will be discussed at tomorrow's meeting.

As a voter, resident of the City of Milwaukee, and business owner, I strongly urge to Council to side with the protestors and urge the MPD and MFD to cease the use of any force unless deemed necessary as a means to PROTECT the civilians.

I do not disagree with the use of a curfew, as I see it as a means for rest and recovery for all parties involved, however, under no circumstances want to see it used as a means to prevent or stop peaceful protests.

This City has reached a fork in the road, where we really are faced with two choices One, to continue down the path of the status quo-one that will continue lead to a call for action from those of us that want change, and another path where we can begin making policy changes that protect ALL of our citizens equally.

Mayor Barrett, the MPD, and all elected officials need push for several simple changes when it comes to the use of force against Milwaukee's citizens-that is the ONLY way to bring a greater sense of peace to the City. I urge you all to demand a ban on chokeholds and strangleholds, to require officers to do use all the tools in their toolbox to de-escalate all situations PRIOR to the use of force, ban all gunfire directed at moving vehicles, and to require comprehensive reporting of incidents. I ask for a greater ability to investigate and punish officers that do not comply with these new policy changes as well.

These changes are the first step this city needs to take towards peace and equality. These are the issues that will lead to change, not debating policies on dealing with 'civil unrest'.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Aletha Champine



A professional signature block for Aletha Champine. On the left is a circular profile picture of her. To the right of the picture, her name 'ALETHA CHAMPINE' is written in all caps. Below her name are three lines of contact information: a phone number '(414) 737-2427', an email address 'AlethaChampine@kw.com', and a physical address '205 e Silver Spring Drive Whitefish Bay, WI 53217'. To the right of this contact information is the logo for 'AIG REALTY GROUP', which consists of a stylized 'A' inside a square, with the text 'AIG REALTY GROUP' and '2007 10200 ALICE ST. BOSTON' below it. In the bottom left corner of the signature block, the 'kw' logo for Keller Williams is visible.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Loribeth Chenault [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:42 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Meeting comments for today at 2:30

To whom it may concern:

Your recent actions against the city citizens of Milwaukee is wrong and unlawful. Support justice and the protestors by allowing peaceful protestors their constitutional right and MAKE MPD act in accordance with that, refrain from the use of tear gas or less-lethal rounds, continue the routes of public transport at it's regular schedule, and lift unnecessary curfews. Further, support and implement oversight for MPD and investigate all acts of violence and brutality against our citizens with transparency and efficacy.

We are watching you. Our children are watching you. We will remember. We will make sure everyone remembers your actions in this time of action for equality, whatever those actions are. It's your moral obligation to act in accordance with justice and equity.

Thank you for serving our city and people,

Loribeth Chenault

Polanco, Joanna

From: Su Rin Cho [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:23 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Comments Regarding the Milwaukee Police Department

Dear Jim Owczarski,

I'm writing in regards to the Public Safety and Health Meeting scheduled for later today. I am extremely disappointed and dissatisfied with the Milwaukee Police Department's response to the protests throughout the city. The unnecessary use of force, arrests, and aggression is quite ironic given that people are protesting against police brutality and for accountability. The amount of police presence and the "tanks" and helicopters circling the city is more of a disruption than the protests. MPD's behavior is just sowing more distrust toward the police and creating more "civil unrest" and as a resident and voter in Milwaukee, MPD must protect the people instead of harm the people.

Also, it's shocking to see MPD not wear masks during a global pandemic. So the least they could do is wear masks (not gas masks) and make an effort to lessen the spread of Covid-19 instead of creating conditions to spread it.

Thank you for your time.

Su Cho

Polanco, Joanna

From: Daniel Chojnacki [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 8:11 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Comments for Special Committee Meeting on 6/5/20: Defund the police

Good morning,

My name is Dan Chojnacki, I am a 36 year old White man and mental health counselor living and working in the City of Milwaukee since 2008, and I have lived in Milwaukee County for all but 6 years of my life.

I am committed to the present movement to erase racial injustice, starting with ending the role of Milwaukee's police force in perpetuating into the present day the legacy of slavery, jim crow, segregation and most importantly, the deeply ingrained cultural bias that Black persons are less than fully human, upon which our nation's society and economy were founded, and which must be ripped out by the root everywhere it grows.

While I recognize that broader solutions related to access to quality education, health care, jobs, and safe communities must accompany radical changes in policing, at this point we can no longer turn away from the central role that over-policing plays in both threatening innocent lives and stifling dissent within a society that desperately needs protest at this time to survive the existential threat posed by Trump and his allies.

I am disgusted to see our taxpayer funds deployed via militarized police presence at protests to brutalize peaceful protestors, apparently trying to make an example out of these fearless youth and adults willing to risk their own safety to fight racial inequality and racist violence BY THE POLICE! How is it that in 2020, we have learned so little about police being a support to the community, rather than a threatening presence? How do we not see that even police officers themselves are placed in grave danger by operating from a warrior mentality instead of a community building, servant leader mentality?

Efforts to reform our police department through existing channels like advanced training and accountability through the Fire and Police commission have failed for far too long to be seen as a credible path to meaningful change in the violence perpetrated against Black and Brown communities by police who are rarely disciplined, let alone fired, charged or convicted. The complicity of the three officers who abetted Chauvin in murdering George Floyd on May 25, 2020 says just as much about the culture of policing as Chauvin's actions do.

The trust has been broken. The time has come to recognize that simply characterizing police brutality as the work of a few bad apples does not begin to account for the culture of racism, brutality and militarized engagement in our most vulnerable communities that has come to characterize our police force, and police departments across the country.

Leaders across the political spectrum have visibly acknowledged both the grotesque violence of George Floyd's murder by officer Derek Chauvin and the righteous pain, anger and demands for meaningful change from the Black community and allies. Nonetheless, police forces have consistently played the role of antagonizing protestors carrying the same message as these elected officials into the streets, and police have consistently escalated peaceful protests into violent clashes, even further obliterating any semblance of trust that might still remain with the community. In repeated displays of gross incompetence and aggression, police have beaten, tear gassed, and drawn weapons on peaceful protestors protecting our constitution and our society when those elected to protect it have failed.

I call on the leaders of conscience in this city to immediately fire Chief Morales, remove all police from schools, cut the police budget in half, and invest these much needed funds where they can actually build our community, instead of attacking it: in anti-racism initiatives, improved social services like trauma counseling, restorative justice practices in schools, support for healthy families, and economic solutions led by persons of color.

We do not need these changes tomorrow or next year, we need them today. We are already more than 400 years overdue, and again today, and tomorrow, and the next day, real humans will suffer at the hands of our current system, until it is dismantled.

Black Lives Matter.

Daniel S. Chojnacki, MS, LPC

Polanco, Joanna

From: Elena Coleman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:13 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Suggestion

Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. I would like to urge you to seriously look into some changes to be made in light of the current police brutality upon protestors and more importantly, upon innocent black people.

The police have repeatedly instigated violence towards peaceful protesters, and as such have proven themselves to be unsafe and ill-prepared for any type of civil protesting. We cannot allow this.

The police department should be demilitarized, and their budget significantly reduced and then redistributed to community programs that will help reduce crime in a method besides resorting to violence, handcuffs, or death. More specifically, we need to enforce strict rules and consequences regarding unsafe restraint methods including, but not limited to:

- Chokeholds and strangleholds
- Use of pepper spray/mace on peaceful protesters
- The privilege of being distributed a government-issued firearm without achieving a Bachelor's degree or degree of that level (Frankly, we must stop putting guns into the hands of police officers with the education of merely a high school student).

A month ago the common council voted to furlough and financially endanger hundreds of city workers in a time of crisis to try and scrape 1 million in budget savings. The police budget is nearly 300 times that. It is time to replan Milwaukee's priorities, as the police have again and again failed to police themselves; let alone protect and serve the public.

I strongly encourage you to consider the demands set for by Leaders Igniting Transformation and make a genuine effort to meet them. Together we can make our city better!

Thank you,

- Elena Coleman

Polanco, Joanna

From: Micaela <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:51 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim

Dear City Clerk,

My name is Micaela Christensen. I hope this email finds you the best under these circumstances. On Wednesday, June 3rd, 2020, an armed white supremacist group was spotted at a Black Lives Matter protest on Prospect Ave. They identify themselves as the "boogaloo movement," a far-right extremist movement. According to the Anti-Defamation League, the "boogaloo" typically promote their movement as a war against liberals. They also promote their movement as a race war or a white revolution (1). The members of the movement, "Boogaloo Bois," (2) identify themselves with military fatigues, weapons, and "Hawaiian" print. These "Boogaloo Bois" were in attendance at recent Black Lives Matter protests. Attached are images taken of them on Prospect Ave. I have attached the photos from the protest below.

As City Clerk, I ask you to forward this concern to the Public Safety and Health Committee for their meeting on June 5th, as this is a public health concern. Ensuring that the boogaloo's presence persists at Black Lives Matter protests endangers marginalized groups, especially black people. If the safety of people of color is a concern to you, I would like to have these questions answered after the meeting: Will the presence of armed extremists be tolerated? What will the City of Milwaukee do in regards to this situation? Will the City of Milwaukee ensure that these Boogaloo Bois are removed from public demonstrations, to ensure the safety of marginalized communities?

Thank you,

Micaela Christensen

Sources:

(1)

(2)

Polanco, Joanna

From: Vince Christian [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:25 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Concerned Citizen

Dear Tom Barrett,

I am writing as a concerned citizen, I do not represent anyone other than myself.

We crossed paths on June 2nd at a peaceful protest. I asked you "How are you doing?", and you replied "I'm trying to social distance." A woman in front of us then interjected "We need to hear you chanting, we need to hear your voice". I remained silent, and in the days since then I've realized that I should have immediately echoed her sentiment, so I am doing it now. Tom, Milwaukee needs to hear your voice.

Milwaukee needs its leader. I need you to be the loudest voice advocating change in response to these protests. I need you to be willing to change.

Milwaukee has the potential to become one of the greatest cities on the planet. You and I love this city just as much, if not more, than anyone else that lives here. It will never realize its full potential on its current path. Milwaukee could become a beacon of hope for the rest of the world to follow. Milwaukee, and the entire world, needs to hear your voice.

I'm writing in response to your statement on May 30th. I agree with most of the things you said in that statement, but I'd like to help shift your focus slightly. I've had to do this with my own father, and with many other older European Americans this past week.

In your statement you said "To all those individuals who are angry about what they saw in this country, I share that anger. But, we cannot allow it to just be a moment of anger. It has to be a moment when we come together and say we will create more jobs, we will have more stable housing and we will address healthcare needs so that African American individuals can have a better life."

Now, while I don't disagree with any of that, I do hope to help you see that you're focusing on the wrong issue right now. Individuals are angry because so many immoral and illegal things go unchecked by law enforcement. This is the moment when we come together, not to say let's create jobs, fair housing, and better healthcare. That needs to happen, but this is the moment when we come together to say "We need law enforcement to be held accountable for immoral and criminal activity. We need law enforcement to be better at protecting and serving the city." I need to hear your voice say that.

Your statement went on to say "We cannot allow what happened to Mr. Floyd, these injustices which are real, which are angering and which are frustrating, to be defeated by people who are violating the law and destroying property in our neighborhoods. If we take businesses away from the good people who live in our neighborhoods, or if we allow others to take them away, who are we hurting?"

Again, I'm concerned about where you are focusing the conversation. Of course I agree that violating the law and destroying property is wrong and counterproductive. It pains me greatly to see violence, property damage, and unlawful activity negate the work of the peaceful protests. No citizen or small business owner should have to live in fear of destruction or violence here in Milwaukee. What I would like to hear your voice say in the future is "We cannot allow what happened to Mr. Floyd, these injustices which are real, which are angering and

which are frustrating, to be defeated by law enforcement officers who are violating the law and protocol in our neighborhoods. If we do not hold these people accountable for their actions, who are we hurting?"

I do not envy you or your job today. I know you're under tremendous pressure to keep the community safe in the face of a global pandemic, to help reopen businesses, and to address the concerns of these protests. I need you to be successful at your job.

I'm hearing a lot of concern about the decision to reopen bars this week as a distraction from the protests. Whether or not that's true, I need to hear your voice say that decision was not a diversion tactic, and that you will make some real change happen regarding the protests. I know yesterday you announced the creation of a commission to help you. I need you to act with the full authority of your office to show Milwaukee that you are fighting as hard as you can for them. It's going to take all your courage, and balls, to make a stand for morality in the face of institutional law enforcement habits. For the love of God Almighty, use what he gave you Tom.

If you don't step up and make your voice loud in this historic moment, there are other patriotic citizens and public servants ready to step up. This city just reelected you, please do everything you can do be its leader.

Also, it would be great if you could help get Frank Nitty II's felony charges dropped from earlier this week. He's leading peaceful, lawful protests and I don't appreciate the way he's been treated by law enforcement.

Thanks for reading, let's hear your voice Tom.

-Mark Yencheske

My friend Mark wrote this. I can not put it in better words myself.

Polanco, Joanna

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

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Claire Colton

Polanco, Joanna

From: Bryan Conti [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:51 AM
To: Mayor Tom Barrett; Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Citizen Input

Dear Mayor Barrett & Mr. Owczarski,

I am a longtime and proud Milwaukee resident who has worked in the service industry since 2005. I am extremely disappointed in Mayor Barrett's decision to open restaurants and bars so suddenly. I have been proud of how he has protected our community from the spread of coronavirus up to this point. However, I believe his decision to reopen restaurants was done hastily and was done to try and quell the protests. Statistically, Milwaukee is one of the worst cities in America for black people. This decision he made yesterday does not support the black community and the peaceful protests. The police's use of tear gas and rubber bullets on peaceful protestors at 6th and McKinley earlier this week made me ashamed to live in Milwaukee. A few water bottles thrown at police do not necessitate the level of force the police used when surrounding and knocking a peaceful protestor on a bike to the ground, as caught on camera by TMJ4. The police violence done to Frank Nitty on I-794 is unacceptable. Shooting tear gas canisters at protestors as they are backing up is unacceptable.

The city of Milwaukee must enact the _____ policies right now: ban chokeholds and strangleholds, require deescalation, exhaust all alternatives before shooting, ban shooting at moving vehicles, and require all force be reported.

Thank you for your time,
Bryan Conti

Polanco, Joanna

From: Brad Cramer [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 8:46 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: City Council Friday Meeting

Milwaukee Police seem to want to intimidate the protests into an excuse to crush them. Mayor Barret is complicit. Participating in one march doesn't exonerate him. Police have always seemed to serve something other than justice, sustainment of the status quo. The status quo that has crippled the Northside for decades. I see it in my high school students every day.

We live in the most segregated city in the country and nothing of value is actually produced to fix our deeply racist history. It's time for change. Meaningful, non-superficial, non resume-filling meaningless CV lines. Real quality of life changes.

Brad Cramer
53207

Polanco, Joanna

From: Cara Cribari <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:26 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: URGENT: Policing Policies

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Cara Cribari. 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,
Cara Cribari

USE OF FORCE CONTINUUM



- LEVEL 1 OFFICER PRESENCE
- LEVEL 2 **TACTICAL COMMUNICATION**
- LEVEL 3 PHYSICAL CONTROL
- LEVEL 4 DEFENSIVE / INTERMEDIATE WEAPONS
- LEVEL 5 DISENGAGEMENT
- LEVEL 6 LETHAL FORCE



Polanco, Joanna

From: SARA ADELINA CUADRA ARUGUETE [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:02 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Milwaukee Police Department Reform

To Whom this May Concern,

My name is Sara Cuadra and I am medical student living in Milwaukee. I have been deeply disturbed by law enforcement's response to peaceful protesting and value of the Black Lives Matter movement in Milwaukee. Racism is a public health crisis and nowhere is this more relevant than in Wisconsin where "as of the 2010 census, Wisconsin had the highest incarceration rate of black males nationwide, locking up 12.8 percent of black male residents compared to the country's 6.7 percent average at that time" and "more than half of all African-American men in their thirties and early forties in Milwaukee County have at some point been incarcerated in state correctional facilities, according to a 2013 University of Wisconsin Milwaukee study."¹ The American Journal of Public Health published a study in 2018 that concluded "police homicide risk is higher than suggested by official data. Black and Latino men are at higher risk for death than are White men, and these disparities vary markedly across place."²

It is the Milwaukee Police Department's job to protect and serve the people, but when the majority of people are Black and are facing discrimination and unjust practices by the MPD how can this be? I hear the argument to defend the women and men who risk their lives everyday by serving in the MPD but I ask you to consider the Black women and men who put their lives at risk every time they interact with an officer. In light of this I ask that you support the following reform measures as drafted by another classmate:

1. Stricter measures to require that all police force (not just deadly force) be reported and reviewed by independent agencies rather than supervisors within the department.
2. Banning the use of choke-hold, strangle-hold, and other pressure on the neck.
3. Preventing the use of police force unless there is a threat to human life or health. The assault on peaceful protesters that I have witnessed in Milwaukee is unacceptable for a department that has vowed to "protect and serve."
4. Defunding and demilitarizing the police force. The enormous budget of our police system is unnecessary and can be put to better use revitalizing disenfranchised communities across Milwaukee.

As someone who will be a practicing resident physician a little over a year from now and working to protect the health of Black and Brown bodies, I ask that the MPD does the same.

Link to References

- 1.
- 2.

Thank you for your consideration,
Sara

Sara Adelina Cuadra Aruguete
she/ her/ hers
TRIUMPH: Training in Urban Medicine and Public Health
MD Candidate Class of 2021

Polanco, Joanna

From: Elizabeth Cutter [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:26 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: End police violence

Greetings,

Thank you for taking questions on this important issue. My husband and I live in Bayview with our young child. We both work in the city of Milwaukee. We were not born and raised here, but have both come to love the city we've chosen to make our home. I'm deeply concerned about the use of force, including chemical weapons, against our citizens. For the safety of my daughter, who is a young innocent child and my husband who has asthma, along with countless others whose safety is threatened by police conduct, I must demand police, national guard, sheriffs, and any other security force to cease using brutal weapons of war like tear gas. Use of these weapons must be investigated, and if the Chief or other authority insists on authorizing their use, they must be removed.

I am against any and all curfew or emergency rule that allows for the use of force in any event or individuality pursuing the cause of justice for peace. I refuse to be 1- bound to my own home in my neighborhood while my neighbors are crying for help 2- used as a prop - read: property owner - to justify police harassment and brutality.

Additionally, I must demand the firing of Mr. Mattioli who has been charged in the reckless homicide of Joel Acevedo. If the Chief will not or cannot fire Mr. Mattioli, it is this commission's duty to do so now. The additional delay in his termination will almost certainly increase the pressure of the civilian protests for police reform and or abolition.

Finally, please work to remove armed patrols from our streets, not just when we are upset we have allowed another black person to be brutalized or murdered, but always so that we are free from fear of them. Please push to remove the national guard and other security forces from our streets. Black helicopters circle our neighborhoods and terrify our children. Please work to stop the terror committed by our police forces and military forces on our communities.

I'm certain this is a better choice and will produce more peace than pursuing a further hoarding of power and wealth in police institutions so they can continue to protect the wealthiest and whitest of society from the poor black and brown folks they stole it from. This is the end effect of any curfew, emergency rule, or armed patrol that is designed to police our neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Cutter-Lin

Polanco, Joanna

From: Mary & Kevin Dally-Muenzmaier [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:31 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Comment re: Police Reaction to Milwaukee's Protests

Dear Jim Owczarski, City Clerk, and Milwaukee Public Health and Safety 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.

Fourth, the violence inflicted on members of the media by the police, witnessed around the country as well as in Milwaukee, must stop. It is the duty of the press to report on the protests and other public events in order to shed light on the messages and actions of all involved. This is constitutional matter, protected under the First Amendment of the United States, and cannot be infringed.

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 and others are 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 to change, and it must be done now, by defunding the police and introducing substantial reforms to make our communities safer.

Sincerely,

Mary Dally-Muenzmaier
1534 N Humboldt Ave #1
Milwaukee, WI 53202
414-915-9273

From:

Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 10:17 PM

Cc: ;

Subject: Check-in

Hi, Ald. Dimitrijevic! Hi, Ald. Perez!

Marina, thanks for posting the note to get some feedback to the City Clerk by Friday at 2:30 p.m. I just wanted to message each of you personally. Marina, I live at 2354 S. Howell. Jose, thanks for all of your support for our students over the years.

As a resident of MKE and a school principal, I am constantly at a loss for the gap between **restorative practices** as a proven psychological method for justice and healing and **punitive practices** a proven method of escalation and making small things really big.

I'm constantly training myself as both a foster parent and educational leader to be more restorative rather than punitive. Across the board, this is a key. The only limit is me.

Over and over again, I see our police doing well at this in peace time. This is not the case in times of stress such as the last two weeks. Yesterday, I witnessed a group of protestors peacefully approach a line of state and city police to ask them questions and engage them in a restorative conversation. The police remained silent, refused response, and refused eye contact.

Protestors displayed a valid and positive intention for restorative conversation. In return, they were silenced. I have no idea what the intentions of the police in that line were. But, I witnessed first hand the effect that their silence had on the crowd: To not affirm or even acknowledge the voice of the angry crowd, infuriated them even more. The police single handedly sustained and exaggerated the sense of "us vs. them" that pre-existed the moment. The protesters created the conditions to absolve that sense. All the police had to do was acknowledge.

What I'm looking for is more upward pressure from you, our mayor, and then back down to our police to be the restorative, front lines, support systems needed. If this is possible, true listening could transpire. If not, I am confident the outrage will only expand. Happy to share more on how this change could transpire from a leadership and restorative justice perspective.

I'm sure your getting a gazillion emails right now. Thanks for reading mine.

Respectfully,

Dave D'Antonio

--

Polanco, Joanna

From: Megan Davis [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Black lives matter

Hi,

As a Milwaukee citizen I want to know what policies you will put in place to increase transparency in police departments, accountability from independent authorities, and deescalation training.

What is the timeline for drafting those policies and will public input be taken into consideration? Thank you.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Shelby DeGroot <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2020 11:45 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Comments on Use of Police Force for Friday Committee Meeting
Attachments: IMG_2859.mov; IMG_2858.mov

Good Evening,

I am emailing to tell my account as well as provide a video showing the inappropriate use of police force that took place on Tuesday, June 3rd starting around 7:15 at 6th St and McKinley Ave.

When we were gathered, I remember hearing the police making some sort of announcement, but not being able to hear what was being said, despite being towards the front of the protesters. I later found out they had announced that we were 'unlawfully' gathering, and ordering we disperse, but most of the crowd was unable to hear the announcement. Shortly after, smoke bombs were fired at us, as well as projectiles. At around the 0:30 mark in the video, as protesters are attempting to help an injured fellow protester, we are even more aggressively shot at once again (not everyone knew the difference between smoke bombs and tear gas). I know I only saw a couple plastic water bottles thrown, nothing else. This level of force was completely unprovoked and unacceptable. The other video I have attached, in which we are kneeling to show we are peacefully protesting, takes place less than two minutes before the video in which we are attacked.

It's time for change.
Shelby DeGroot

Polanco, Joanna

From: Andrew de Junco [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 1:22 PM
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.
6. Require officers to warn civilians before they discharge their firearms

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. Our city needs a change. Defund the police and introduce substantial reforms to make our communities safer.

Sincerely,

Andrew de Junco, 53202

Polanco, Joanna

From: Ty Dempsey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 3:53 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: 8 can't wait

I'm a Milwaukee constituent and would like you to consider the 8 can't wait policy for police force:

- 1) ban chokeholds
- 2) require deescalation
- 3) warning before shooting
- 4) exhaust all alternatives before shooting 5) duty to intervene 6) ban shooting at moving vehicles
- 7) require force of continuum
- 8) require comprehensive reporting

Tyler Dempsey

Polanco, Joanna

From: Megan Dewane <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:04 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Common Council Meeting Agenda

Hello, Mr. Owczarski,

Thank you for opening the floor to the public as you discuss police policies. After much thought, reflection, and conversation, we have created a list of a few ideas related to your agenda items that we wish to have considered. Please find our 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 deescalate it. It is not productive to meet aggression with aggression when the ultimate goal is peace.

We appreciate this opportunity to share our 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. We 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,

Megan Dewane

—

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jill Dickerson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:00 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting

Good morning -

My name is Jill Dickerson and I live in the city of Milwaukee. I have been disturbed by the use of the policies of the City of Milwaukee to enforce the curfews that have been enacted the past few days in response to "civil unrest". Citizens have been assembling peacefully and trying to enact change in their own communities after years of inaction by those in power.

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.

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 -
Jill Dickerson

Polanco, Joanna

From: Roxanne Dobbs [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:44 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting

Dear Tom Barret, Alfonso Morales and Earnell Lucas,

My name is Roxanne Dobbs. I am currently a resident of Milwaukee County, residing in zip code 53212. 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 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.

Sincerely,
Roxanne Dobbs

Polanco, Joanna

From: Tory Jane [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:22 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Feedback for the Common Council Meeting

Greetings Mr. Owczarski:

I would like to provide feedback for the Common Council meeting scheduled for tomorrow, Friday, June 5th at 2:30pm.

I see on the agenda, you have the topic of "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."

I am not a politician, nor am I a historian. But I do know that as a citizen of the United States of America, we have the right to peacefully assemble and protest when we believe the government and the agencies below are no longer doing what's best to serve and protect its citizens.

In the wake of George Floyd's death - and many others, including Milwaukee's own Dontre Hamilton a number of years ago, Milwaukee police have continued to use unnecessary force and tactics in their actions towards the citizens of Milwaukee engaging in peaceful protests. We've seen this happen over the past few days - military tanks used to corral people, officers using intimidation tactics and showing up in riot gear, tear gas launched upon civilians protesting, officers using knee-to-the-neck to subdue behavior they believe to be unruly and/or threatening, unwarranted arrests made...

We ask that the Mayor and police chief:

1. De-militarize the police - this means stripping them of their riot gear, and prohibiting their use of tanks, rubber bullets and tear gas on citizens exercising their legal right to protest in a civil manner.
2. Swiftly and proactively demand the dismissal of any police department member who uses intimidation tactics, brute force and/or violence, or unwarranted arrests of any of the protesters.
3. Release all civil protesters who were arrested and drop any tickets or fines against them
4. Refrain from implementing city curfews, allowing those who are exercising their right to protest peacefully the ability to do that

Please consider this feedback from a citizen of Milwaukee County as you discuss these topics tomorrow at the Common Council meeting.

Thank you.

Tory Dolan

Polanco, Joanna

From: Maria Donadio [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:11 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Please hear us.

Dear Tom Barret, Alfonso Morales and Earnell Lucas,

My name is Maria Donadio. 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.

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

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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,

Maria Donadio

Polanco, Joanna

From: Mauriah Donegan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:55 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Safety and Health Committee meeting, public input, 6.5

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 it towards community development and restoration in order to repair the communities that police brutality has devastated. **Our city needs a change.** Defund the police and introduce substantial reforms to make our communities safer.

Sincerely,

Mauriah Donegan Kraker, 53212

--

Polanco, Joanna

From: Christina [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:26 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Common Council Meeting Request

Good morning,

I am writing with 4 demands for the Common Council:

1. Launch formal investigation into the Milwaukee Police use of force as they arrested a 28-year-old Milwaukee man lying on his stomach during Tuesday June 2nd protests downtown.
2. Launch formal investigation into MPD's use of unnecessary force on Tuesday June 2nd in which Milwaukee police fired tear gas and rubber bullets into a crowd of protesters.
3. Immediate removal of Alfonso Morales, Chief of Police from power effective immediately. His tactics are not in the best interest of the people of Milwaukee and have consistently caused dangerous escalation during peaceful protests
4. Consult Mayor Barrett: he is terribly out of touch with the needs of the people in the city of Milwaukee and needs to be helped. Opening bars, shutting down public transit. This is racist classism and will backfire badly. Someone needs to help that man lead.

Thank you.

Christina Dresang

Polanco, Joanna

From: Lindsay Dressnandt [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:22 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Input for MPD Policies

The Milwaukee Police Department has taken unlawful and unnecessary measures against peaceful protestors. They should not be ordered or allowed to use chemical weapons or rubber bullets on unarmed civilians who are only there to peacefully seek justice for the murders of innocent Black people, in accordance with the first amendment.

Thank you,

Lindsay Dressnandt

414.336.6870

Polanco, Joanna

From: Robert Dunbar [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:33 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.

I understand the need to keep peace during times of protest and maintaining safety is important. But there appears to be a distinct disconnect between when that safety is kept and for whom it is intended. The safety of all people, all people, should be of utmost importance. Yet, what I see is an extreme bias from the police not only to be selective in that safety, but also to completely disregard it for peaceful protesters, and even to directly harm them.

On Wednesday, June 3rd, officers fired tear gas into a crowd that was chanting "we are peaceful." This is not civil unrest, this is not rioting or looting, this is a clear and admirable example of how protests should be held. Unfortunately, it is also a disturbing example of the very misconduct by police which spurred these protests in the first place. These people are exercising one of their fundamental American rights to peacefully assemble and protest, and for the purpose of exposing and eradicating systemic racism.

Milwaukee is a beautiful, vibrant city with a mix of culture and ethnicity that should be a powerful example of how racism can be left in the past, not another course in the grain of it.

If protesters are acting in accordance with their rights, and not resorting to violence, why meet them with the latter and not with the same peace they bring? Milwaukee police have an opportunity to stand with the people they swore to protect and show the rest of the country how to come together with a diverse community and put an end to this senseless violence and death against people of color.

As you discuss these matters, I implore you to consider the implications of meeting peaceful assembly with violence and disregard for safety, and the lasting impact it holds as a dividing factor between citizens and police, between people of color and the very system failing to protect them as it should all people regardless of the genetic marker that dictates the amount of melanin in one's skin.

Best,
Robert J. Dunbar, 53222

Polanco, Joanna

From: kristindvorak@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:45 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police Policy Changes - URGENT
Attachments: Force-continuum1.png

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Kristin Dvorak. 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,
Kristin Dvorak

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jessica Eaton [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:58 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Meeting for Public Health and Safety

To whom it may concern,

“I no longer trust the police.” – My father, a former civilian LEO and a veteran MP for the United States Air Force

My partner and I have watched the video and feeds for the last week with anxiety. Law enforcement officers brutalizing their own citizens. Fargo, Buffalo, Atlanta, Seattle, LA, Milwaukee, Chicago, Minneapolis, the list goes on. No state has escaped the fervor felt by the death of George Floyd. I’ve watched journalists arrested live, shot at. Protesters have lost eyes due to “non-lethal” rounds. People have been shot on their own porch by patrols. The citizens of Milwaukee has been terrorized by helicopters buzzing their rooftops. This is a military tactic. They want us tired, either too tired to fight or too tired to work that we blame those actively protesting. We have no choice but to feel we’re under occupation. This is not our city, but law enforcements.

This can no longer continue. We cannot be held under siege in our homes by individuals that act under the guise of protecting us. They’re not protecting us, but themselves. Increasingly military like aggression and tactics have been used to train officers. They answer peace with punches. They aggressively police neighborhoods of color and wonder why citizens aren’t forthcoming with investigative information. They arrest MPS students and wonder why our students aren’t achieving high marks. POC especially are under the constant shadow officers from the cradle to the grave and we wonder why they’re traumatized.

We as a city need assurances that this brutality, this intimidation will stop. That police will not be used to monitor our schools. That they won’t be used aggressively for low-level drug offenses. We will not be placated. This is not a job where “bad apples” can exist. There needs to be top to bottom reform on how we view the role of police in our society. If policing as it currently stands in the United States and the city of Milwaukee is to be rewritten, they need to be extensions of communities. Not the enforcers. More officers need to live in the city limits. Officers cannot maintain immunity to punish citizens with impunity.

What are you going to do as a Common Council to ensure that these needs are addressed and met for the future? How can you make sure we feel safe from those who do us harm backed with the badge?

Thank you for your consideration,
Jessica Eaton and Adam Krueger, Milwaukee Residents

Sent from [REDACTED] for Windows 10

Polanco, Joanna

From: Sarah Eichhorn [redacted]@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 5:05 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Milwaukee Curfew

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing today to discuss the question of a when and if curfews are appropriate for dealing with city emergencies.

Curfews, unlike lesser measures such as "stay at home" orders, are extreme violations of the freedom of expression, association and individual liberty. As such, their use must be rare.

The City's use of measures like curfews must be extremely conservative -- they must only be used in emergencies where their use will diminish rather than exacerbate emergency conditions.

Extensions of curfews: since curfews are such an extreme violation of constitutional liberties, their extension must be the subject of public and democratic debate. While the initial use of curfews may require executive action, any extension of such an extreme measure must be open to public debate.

The curfew passed last week in Milwaukee is one that did not meet the requirements of such an extreme measure. The curfew did not stop the so-called emergency conditions in question, nor did it improve conditions on the ground. That the curfew exacerbated existing emergency conditions is clear through the arrest of at least one County Supervisor and dozens of others whose only crime was being out after the time of the curfew. These curfew-induced actions exacerbated the existing public health crisis (COVID-19) and the existing political problem in Milwaukee and in the United States of police brutality, lawlessness and unaccountability to civilian authorities. Extreme uses of governmental power undermine rather than support the rule of law and the safety of the people.

The extension of the curfew, and the mayor's threat to extend the curfew at short notice on Tuesday (6/2) were extremely poor examples of good governance. Uncertainty exacerbates public trust and the non-democratic extension of the curfew invites worries of authoritarian executive powers. This is precisely what happened.

We have a further issue with the secondary harms of curfews and declaring emergencies, which is the de facto expansion of powers, lack of oversight, and calling in of undertrained reserve police forces (from other jurisdictions, for example). Each of these caused harm.

Expanding the police presence in the city of Milwaukee by calling in police from jurisdiction far from the city of Milwaukee has led to even further problems with racial discrimination and violence by police. The incident of the Sheriff's department brutalizing Frank Nitty is a good example of this.

We have a police brutality and police racism problem in Milwaukee -- that is an emergency, but it's not one that is served by a curfew. Our democratic political structure, which underwrites the rule of law is shaken when executive authorities misuse their power and seek to curb liberty through the threat of emergency.

Again, the conditions for using emergency powers must be extremely limited: curfews must only be used in emergencies wherein their use will diminish rather than exacerbate emergency conditions.

Best,
Sarah

Polanco, Joanna

From: nicholasekert <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 1:04 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Input on June 5 Committee Meeting

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,
Nicholas Elert, 53110

Polanco, Joanna

From: Warren Enström <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:57 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Input on recent protests + curfews for 6.5.20 Public Safety and Health Committee meeting

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.

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

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

Sincerely,

Warren Enström, 53212

Polanco, Joanna

From: James Epperson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:10 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Input for public safety and health committee meeting 6/5/2020

Jim Owczarski,

I'm calling on the city of Milwaukee and urging us to take the pledge to enact the #8CantWait Use of Force policies. These policies should be implemented across the Milwaukee police department and certainly when it comes to the city declaring a curfew or operationally managing civil unrest.

I live in Milwaukee's Bay View neighborhood and I know our city would benefit from these policies.

The #8CantWait policies are simple, common-sense and would make our community safer. It appears as though the city of Milwaukee has already adopted 3 of the 8 policies that are a part of the #8CantWait pledge (Requires Warning Before Shooting, Duty to Intervene, Has Use of Force Continuum); however, I am looking for the city to adopt the remaining 5 policies in order to build a safer community for our citizens when confronted with law enforcement.

Can we commit to enacting the following policies?

- Ban Chokeholds & Strangleholds
- Require De-escalation
- Require Exhaust All Alternatives Before Shooting
- Ban shooting at moving vehicles
- Require Comprehensive Reporting

In recent days, I have seen the Milwaukee police department use unwarranted levels of force when enforcing crowd control and curfews, violating the people's first amendment rights and breaking trust in our PD's oath to serve and protect. The Milwaukee police department states that their vision ..."is a Milwaukee where we can live safely and without fear, protected by a police department with the highest ethical and professional standards". I have not seen that vision upheld in recent days and I demand that they do better for the people of Milwaukee. I think it starts with adopting and enforcing the police policies outlined above.

Thank you for inviting Milwaukee residents to join in today's committee meeting.

James Epperson

Polanco, Joanna

From: Elena Farin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:08 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Regarding Request for Public Comment on Police Response to Public Protest

Common Council:

I am a resident of Milwaukee County residing in zip code 53217.

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

Please refer to demands for the 8 Can't Wait proven protocol to reduce police brutality by 75%. The 5 policies that must be passed in Milwaukee are as follows:

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

A month ago, the common council voted to furlough and financially endanger hundreds of city workers in a time of crisis to try to scrape 1 million in budget savings. The police budget is nearly 300 times that. It is time to replan Milwaukee's priorities, as the police have again and again proven to be unable to police themselves, let alone protect and serve the public.

I urge you to consider the reasonable, necessary demands set forth by Leaders Igniting Transformation and meet them. We must make change to address the failings of our city and set forth an example for Wisconsin at large.

Sincerely,

Elena Farin

From: Emily Fenech < >
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 1:52:01 PM
To: Mayor Tom Barrett < >; Dimitrijevic, Marina < >
Subject: 8 Can't Wait

Alderwoman Dimitrijevic & Mayor Tom Barrett,

Hello! My name is Emily Fenech and I am a Milwaukee resident. I came to Milwaukee from Grand Rapids, MI in 2012 to attend Marquette University and am now a homeowner in Bay View.

I am reaching out because I attended the protest yesterday and was really blown away by the support I saw within the community. Although they did not end the way we intended, I still believe it is important to do what we can to invoke change.

Some of my friends were part of the later protest that was met with tear gas and rubber bullets. I understand that making their way to the highway may not have been the best choice, but what really is the best choice for peaceful protesters who continue to be met with violence? I watched their live Instagram videos showing police intervention and fear tactics. This is not ok. The police are supposed to protect the community and its people, not meet it with violence.

This made me look for a solution. Not a solution for the protesters, but a solution for the tactics that are being used by police on a daily basis. A way to reduce violent action. I WISH that every police officer majored in Psychology or Sociology in college and had immense empathy, but we all know that is not the case. I believe that part of the problem is the way in which each situation is approached from the get-go.

I recently came across . The 8 policies (below) could potentially be implemented within the police department to decrease police violence. Of the 8 policies they suggest, Milwaukee currently has 3 in place:

MILWAUKEE, WI

Mayor Tom Barrett

- Requires De-escalation
- Bans Chokeholds and Strangleholds
- Duty to Intervene
- Requires Warning Before Shooting
- Ban Shooting at Moving Vehicles
- Requires Comprehensive Reporting
- Requires Exhausting Other Means Before Shooting
- Has Use of Force Continuum

I urge you to please take the time to look over the 5 policies that Milwaukee's Police Department does not currently utilize. I feel that taking the time to re-train police officers in de-escalation and RE-humanization of suspects will have a large impact on the social injustices in our community.

We have seen the protests, we have felt the anger and the hurt of the black people in our communities. It is now time to ask: What do we have the power to change?

Thank you for your time,
Emily Fenech

Polanco, Joanna

From: Matthew Filipowicz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:26 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Redirecting Resources

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

I would like the City of Milwaukee to redirect resources from militarization of police, including rubber bullets, tear gas, and helicopters, to policies that genuinely keep ALL our people safe and healthy, including high-quality education, restorative justice, mental health investment, and de-escalation of conflict. I am angry that peaceful protestors were met with tear gas and rubber bullets. This does not promote public safety or public health. I am disappointed in the curfew policy that serves to do nothing but make peaceful protest illegal, because any illegal activity that may take place during a protest (such as property destruction) is already illegal and does not need additional deterrence. Please bring up this comment at the forthcoming meeting. Thank you.

Matthew Filipowicz
2654 N Fratney St, MKE 53212

Polanco, Joanna

From: Cara Fitzgerald [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 9:55 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Citizen Disturbed by Violent Police Response

Greetings City Clerk Jim, members of Common Council and Public Safety and Health Committee:

It is my understanding that a special committee meeting is being held. I, like many others in my neighborhood, am extremely concerned about the police response to the protests/peaceful approach of those who are engaging in these events.

I have been horrified by the violent and militarized response of the police to the protests over the last several days. Can we do away with military helicopters, tanks in the streets, full riot gear, rubber bullets, and tear gas?

On a personal level, as someone living in the Riverwest neighborhood, I have been feeling as though I live in a military warzone over the last several evenings. For hours at a time, very large helicopters (not local news choppers) circle and hover over our houses with sounds and vibrations that are extremely anxiety-provoking. For what reason? I cannot think of one other than what seems to be an aim to exert unnecessary authority over people who are doing nothing unlawful. It sounds intense, violent, and scary.

In addition, there have been claims that protesters threw glass and dangerous items at the police lines, which has led to a response of rubber bullets and tear gas. Yet, news and other first hand live videos of this highlight that these protests have been peaceful and not throwing dangerous items. Again, it seems the police are resorting to tactics that exceed the aggression necessary with an aim to incite fear.

People are taking to the streets in support of the unjust killing of George Floyd, yet also the too many long-standing systems and circumstances in place that discount the rights of our black citizens. It's present right here in our Milwaukee community, not just beyond the city elsewhere. I do not discount that there needs to be a response to protests, and there needs to be a police system in place. Yet, it does not need to be SO violent, especially when unwarranted in the eyes of so many acting peacefully on the front lines. I long for a less polarized reality in which we can change how we police and love black lives. **As a committee, can you please promote policies that both acknowledge that the black and brown citizens in our community deserve more in addition to provide police training and tactics that are less violent in the way of gear and response?**

Please take action and be the voice of the community to shift the manner of violent police intervention

Thank you,
Cara

Polanco, Joanna

From: shauna fowler [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:12 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Public Safety meeting

Hello,

My name is Shauna Fowler, I previously lived in Riverwest (53212) and currently live in Bayview (53207) as of two weeks ago. I love living in these communities and seeing the vibrancy, beauty and solidarity shown by residents from all walks of life.

I like many Milwaukeeans DEMAND that the Milwaukee PD allow peaceful protests, refrain from the use of tear gas, and lift unnecessary curfews. First and foremost- these are tools of suppression used by totalitarian and facists states to break the will of the people-as an American this is not what we stand for, we've fought wars about this.

This brings me to my first question: considering that the small amount of looting is being committed by opportunists/white supremacists or other groups outside of our peaceful movement, shouldn't it be handled by local police who deal with theft and property damage crimes on a regular basis and not the national guard ?

When the national guard is brought in to fire on/subdue peaceful protestors doesn't that only create more chaos and, in turn, more opportunity for looting of local businesses?

What's becoming clear is the impunity on which they are firing at both innocent bystanders, protestors protected under the first amendment, and medics. Does this sound like protection to you?

Systemic violence is costly- both in human lives and in dollars. Why are wasting so much tax-payer funds on an institution that only creates more problems and stokes violence in poor/black/brown communities? Don't you think that these communities would be better served if those funds were redistributed towards community organizers, for operations such as small business loans for minorities, or community growing projects to alleviate food deserts and shorten food supply lines?

Systemic violence is a problem, but what works in solving systemic violence is INVESTMENT not policing. There's tons of initiatives and longitudinal studies that show this effect, both in the US and internationally. We can change from the better and learn! We don't have to send an armed cop to every unruly situation, we can dispatch social workers, addiction experts, and community members trained in de-escalation. If we put the safety of the community back into the hands of the people and not in the hands of the state we will see a difference!

Thank you for taking the time to read this email, and I look forward to any future correspondence on how we can bring this city into a bright future.

Shauna Fowler

Polanco, Joanna

From: Rachel Fox [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 9:53 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT

Hi Jim,

I want to express my outrage as a resident of Milwaukee in the 53202 zip code regarding Milwaukee's use of curfew and militarized police presence to control our civil right to peaceful assembly and freedom of speech.

Municipal tickets can have a life changing negative impact on low income communities, who disproportionately are black and brown communities. The fines associated with tickets can plunge a person into poverty or hold them there. The very communities who are speaking out against the injustices they are shown due to systemic racism in institutions, such as local government and the police, are the same communities that are most negatively impacted by these tickets. It is transparent that this is a cruel tactic to further silence and oppress these communities by turning what is a civil right to peaceful protest into a violation.

Furthermore, the militarized way you are deploying the police force on people after curfew is shameful and the exact reason these people are in the streets in the first place. It is clear that increased police and National Guard presence heightens tensions and causes violent outburst. Our police force and National Guard is not trusted by the people, nor should it be. Until you address the issues that are at the root of these demonstrations, the police and National Guard presence will be unwelcome and counter productive to keeping the peace.

In addition, closing the bus routes at night is a health and safety risk for evening and night workers who had no notice and were likely already at their places of work and may now be stranded. Just another example of something to harm the communities who are simply trying to point out how you harm them and ask you to stop. It's cruel and shameful.

Last for this message but not least for your transgressions, opening up bars and restaurants with little notice, clarity, guidelines, or reason during this pandemic is another clear distraction aimed at getting people off the streets.

You are viewing those who are simply asking to be treated as human as your enemy. You are taking coordinated steps to limit and decrease their health and safety. This moment will go down in history. How will you be remembered?

I hope you consider changing your practices. As the body tasked with considering our health and safety, you have failed us. It is time to own your failure and commit to doing better.

Polanco, Joanna

From: Nicole Gabaldon [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:28 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police Policy Changes - Time to Act

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Nicole Gabaldon. 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, this is so important.

Thank you,
Nicole Gabaldon

Nicole Gabaldon

Boston College | Finance | 2015

email:

phone: 414.403.2659



Polanco, Joanna

From: Shaili Gandhi <shaili.gandhi@milwaukee.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:59 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Regarding Council Meeting

Hello,

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

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

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

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

Polanco, Joanna

From: Anna Garbe <anna.garbe@milwaukee.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 7:24 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police Policy Changes - URGENT
Attachments: Force-continuum1.png

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Anna Garbe. 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,
Anna Garbe

Polanco, Joanna

From: Auriana Gilliland-Lloyd [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 8:34 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police Policy Mtg

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

I am a resident of Milwaukee and my name is Auriana Gilliland-Lloyd. I am emailing you this morning prior to the noon meeting on police policy. I am deeply concerned about the rampant escalation of police violence on my fellow citizens peacefully protesting police brutality that we've witnessed over the past week. I am appalled at the lack of oversight and the apparent unfettered access to military weapons that our police has. What is being done to address this?

The police reacted with force after whining about water bottles, when I've seen more thrown by a crowd of boomers at a James Taylor concert. The police should not be afraid of these protesters but should be protecting their first amendment right! I am very curious who in power is telling the police to react with violence. They are only proving the protesters right by escalating conflict by trapping, harassing, and kettling protesters.

We need oversight yesterday. Every body cam must be turned on, activated, and reviewed in a case of violence by a third party. First amendment rights are being trampled upon with curfews and limited access to our city. If the mayor is going to institute a curfew, there needs to be a legally sound reason why, not a hollow statement that lumps together peaceful protesters and looters that provides no context instituted randomly at 9:00pm. Protesters are being arrested under no pretense - this is a matter of public health and safety and you can see it on the news! I am outraged. We need peaceful police, not a curfew.

We should not be normalizing the military in our streets. Tear gas has been banned per the Geneva convention - why are our police using it? Especially during a respiratory global pandemic? If this were another country headlines would be calling it state-sanctioned bio-terrorism. Why is the police response to riots after super bowl wins so different? The entire crowd is treated differently, football fans aren't pulled to the ground for screaming 'we won' in the streets at midnight.

I appreciate your wanting public input, and I hope you are inundated with emails that call for sweeping changes to how our first amendment right-protected protesters are being treated. They are heroes fighting for civil rights, and history will not look kindly upon the police forces brutalizing them in the streets and the politicians who gave them a pass to do so.

Take care,

Auriana

Polanco, Joanna

From: Dawn Giorno [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:51 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: For tomorrow's special committee meeting

Dear Committee Members,

I want to express my utter disappointment, anger, and complete disapproval of how the City of Milwaukee--the mayor, the chief of police, police officers, etc.--are handling the protests. I am angered at excessive force police are using including tear gas, rubber bullets, and intimidation tactics on peaceful protesters. This is wholly unacceptable, and frankly, causes more safety issues than not. Furthermore, this only shows once again how incredibly racist the government and police are to be perfectly frank.

The unwillingness by our city leaders to act in a way to support the protests, to listen to the people and do their job is atrocious. It is a violation of civil rights and will go down in history as such. Everyone should be ashamed.

I demand that the #8cantwait be enacted immediately. (I don't think I need to spell them out as I'm sure you are familiar.). I further demand an overhaul of our city budget to include a defunding of MPD and to allocate those millions of dollars to better improve our community through education, mental health, and housing. Chief Morales should be fired for the handling of his police force.

Can you imagine the city I do?? Get young people on board and get to work. You are failing.

Dawn Giorno
#blacklivesmatter

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Emily Glaser. 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.

In solidarity,
Emily Glaser

Polanco, Joanna

From: Amy Gleysteen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 8:36 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Policing policy change!

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Amy Petersdorf. 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.

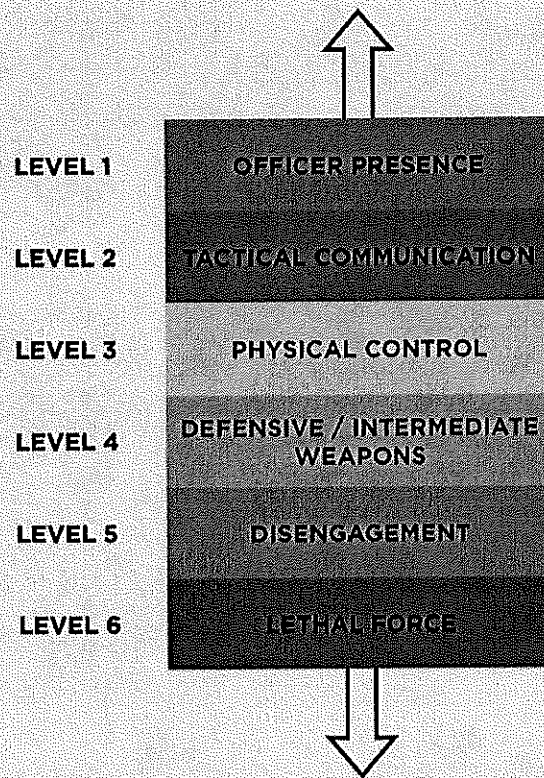
I urge you to change policing policies in order to appropriately and effectively protect and serve our community. Data proves that together, the *following eight policies can decrease police violence by 72%*. Here are the eight policies that must be implemented *immediately*.

- 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,
Amy

USE OF FORCE CONTINUUM



Sent from my iPhone

Polanco, Joanna

From: Natalie Grambo [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:32 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Milwaukee Common Council Meeting

Hello,

My name is Natalie and I am a resident of Milwaukee, WI. It sickens me to know the history of segregation and racism in this city, yet police still thinks it's ok to meet protestors of these racial injustices with outdated war tactics. Please tell Mayor Barrett thank you for removing the curfews, but reopening the bars was an absolutely tone-deaf move. Protestors are still worried about their safety against Covid, but right now are even more worried about their safety against Police violence. There is no excuse to NOT fight both.

Thank you,

Natalie

Cops are weak



Sent from my iPhone

Polanco, Joanna

From: annie grizzle <grizann008@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:38 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: PHS Committee 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. These curfews are an action to take away the right of the peaceful protestors to do just that, peacefully protest, and 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. I myself have witnessed and taken videos of such actions. 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. Particularly at a time when they are screaming, begging, to be listened to. 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.

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.

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.

The City of Milwaukee is reacting to Black pain by calling more police on our communities. This is not the solution. Please LISTEN TO and ENGAGE WITH the community you are representing.

Sincerely,

Annie Grizzle, 53212

Polanco, Joanna

From: Erika Gudmundsson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:01 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Input from a concerned citizen

Dear Tom Barret, Alfonso Morales and Earnell Lucas,

My name is Erika Gudmundsson . I am currently a resident of Milwaukee County, residing in 53235. 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 Afriacan 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,
Erika Gudmundsson
Sent from my iPhone

Polanco, Joanna

From: andrew harris [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:11 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Stop police brutality now!!!

I'm Milwaukee resident and taxpayer Andrew Harris and I am writing today to absolutely demand the immediate stop to police use of brutal force on peaceful protesters.

This is a complete and total disgrace to our city and it's good people.

We need complete and total police reform like a long time ago and it is and has been know Alfonso moralez needs to be removed from his position immediately as he is a direct threat to the people he is serving.


Milwaukee will not stand for this any longer!

Listen to your people

Incredibly concerned and outraged Milwaukee resident, Andrew Harris

Sent from my iPhone

Polanco, Joanna

From: Brittany Haut 
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:28 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Curfew and Use of Force

Good morning,

I would like it known that the use of force that has been demonstrated this week against protesters has been absolutely unacceptable and unwarranted. Tear gas and rubber bullets are unacceptable. There have been *no* threats posed to our police in these situations and they are only escalating things further.

Furthermore, a curfew when no threat is posed is unacceptable. I have been watching these protests all week and have seen no question of the protests causing an issue for safety. A curfew is infringing on our citizens right to peacefully organize and protest.

Please remove these curfews, push for the demilitarization of the police force, and emphasize deescalation tactics for our police as well.

Thank you,
Brittany Haut

Polanco, Joanna

From: Meredith Head [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:09 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE !

Good morning,

I am a constituent of Milwaukee emailing in regards to today's public health and safety committee meeting discussing the role of the Milwaukee police department in peaceful protesting.

Thus far the role of the MPD has only been to intimidate and instill fear in the hearts of protesters completely in their right to speak out against the senseless murder of Black people and endangering of Black communities. We were tear gassed while kneeling and shot with rubber bullets. Police continually trapped us and utilized the National Guard for no reason that I could see. Wednesday night, one young man was hit by a squad car and suffered three broken ribs and a broken pelvis. Another night several friends of mine were arrested across the street from their house going home. And yes, they were all people of color. I am disgusted by how we have been met with violence from the police when they are supposed to protect our right to protest.

In addition, the use of tear gas is inexcusable at any time but especially during a global respiratory illness pandemic. The use of tear gas puts vulnerable communities at risk by causing inflammation in the lungs that can worsen health outcomes for COVID-19. Let alone that Black people already die from COVID-19 at 3x the rate of White people. Milwaukee is THE MOST SEGREGATED CITY IN THE UNITED STATES and our most vulnerable communities are constantly policed. Every single individual in Milwaukee deserves safety and the police are NOT keeping them safe. Ever since the beginning of the quarantine I have seen police pulling people over without masks and standing close to people, including during protests. The MPD is showing up to protests dressed in riot gear when no riot occurs and they are inciting violence.

Finally I come to the fact that the MPD lied about molotov cocktails being thrown at them. I was present for the moment that they claimed a molotov cocktail was thrown. Yes, white people were throwing water bottles. But these were water bottles full of water and posed no serious threat to police officers. If the MPD is sworn to risk their lives to protect us, then why were they so quick to jump to violence at a simple water bottle? And why, then, were they so peaceful when crowds of White people swarmed the capitol armed with rifles to protest orders to remain inside due to COVID-19? White supremacy, institutionalized racism, and racism deeply ingrained in the police force.

I stand with the people of Milwaukee in demanding that the police allow peaceful protests without gathering the National Guard. We demand that tear gas use be eradicated, particularly in the time of a global pandemic. We demand that no curfew be imposed as this is simply an excuse to arrest innocent protesters and use unnecessary violence. We demand that the Milwaukee Police department be defunded and that these funds be allocated towards community services that provide housing, education, and mental health services. We demand that the MPD be removed from MPS systems as they are only there to service the school to prison pipeline.

We will not rest until the people of Milwaukee are entirely safe. Black Lives Matter.

Best,

Meredith Head

M.S. Candidate in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, UW-Milwaukee
Behavior Specialist, Rogers Behavioral Health

P: (414) 324-7772

Polanco, Joanna

From: Mitchell Henke [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim; Dimitrijevic, Marina
Subject: Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting Comments

Hello Alderwoman Dimitrijevic,

I'm Mitchell Henke, a resident in your district. I'm writing to you as a response to the request for public comments for today's meeting of the Public Safety and Health Committee meeting about the Milwaukee Police Department's response to the recent protests.

The City of Milwaukee's and the Milwaukee Police Department's response to implement curfews curbing civil protests, sending military helicopters to circle over the city, and tear gassing peaceful protestors is abhorrent and they have yet to answer for any of it. MPD has also falsely claimed protestors threw a "molotov cocktail", but there is zero evidence it was any more than a water bottle and water filter. Residents are protesting these abuses and lack of accountability, and MPD have not responded with any understanding of that.

The Milwaukee Police Department commands a budget greater than the city's property tax levy, and the MPD budget is set to grow tens of millions more in 2023. Their budget dwarfs that of the Health Department by more than 20 times. The police have the budget to quickly deploy dozens of officers in full riot gear to a peaceful protest to tear gas them. The Health Department was only able to set up a handful of testing centers a number of weeks into a global pandemic that's killed hundreds of disproportionately Black and Latino residents. Our city's priorities are extremely far off, and our budget shows it.

As the chair of this committee, you should be listening to and implementing the demands from community groups like Leaders Igniting Transformation, the African-American Roundtable, and Black Leaders Organizing for Communities. These demands include shifting \$75 million from the Police Department into public health and housing and respecting and ensuring no harm comes to protestors. The full list of demands and organizations in support is available here:

Thank you,
Mitchell Henke

Polanco, Joanna

From: Courtney H [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:31 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Feedback for June 5, 2020 Meeting

June 4, 2020

Good Morning:

My name is Courtney Hess and I am one of the many supporters of the protests surrounding the murder of George Floyd and calling for an end to racism in our country. As an elected official in the State of Wisconsin and an individual with the power to make change, I want you to know that I support the AART and demand the following for a new beginning in the State of Wisconsin, specifically in Milwaukee, where I reside, and which has been declared one of the most segregated cities in our nation:

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.
3. Justice for Joel Acevedo: Officer Matteoli must be immediately terminated from the Milwaukee Police Department for the murder of Joel Acevedo.
4. FPC to be the voice of the community: The Fire and Police Commission must remain the lead investigator on the internal investigation involving Officer Matteoli.
5. Accountability to the Community: Common Counsel 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 safe grounds for 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 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 healthcare.

Please hear my voice and the voice of thousands calling for change to bring peace to our communities. We are counting on you.

Sincerely,

Courtney D. Hess

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Polanco, Joanna

From: Samantha Hobbick, [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:48 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police Policy Changes - URGENT
Attachments: Force-continuum1.png

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Samantha Hobbick. 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,
Samantha Hobbick

Polanco, Joanna

From: Paress Huebner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:34 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim; Mayor Tom Barrett
Subject: Peaceful marches- promote unity/equity

Hi there,

First of all, thank you for the work you do in the efforts to make Milwaukee a better place for all to live. I in no way pretend to know the intricacies of your job. But as a constituent of our great city of Milwaukee, I urge you to realize the harm the excessive force our police staff is having against peaceful protestors and the damage this creates, when they could be creating harmony.

I spoke to my cousin who is a law enforcement agent in a suburb of Chicago. Their squad met with protest leaders to make a game plan to keep all citizens safe, and to ensure and protect the message of peace, unity and equity for their community. Police vehicles literally headed the march to clear traffic and allow citizens voices to be heard. Police met w community leaders and shared stories and tears. We are crying out for chAnge and respect as humans. Our black brothers and sisters and neighbors need us to hear them and give them justice and respect. Without that there will be no peace.

When officers use brute force, tear gas, rubber bullets etc against otherwise peaceful protestors, it is truly the POLICE who are encoring violence and creating further division within our city- which as we are all very well aware is one of the most segregated cities in America.

You are in a position of power and with that comes great responsibility. I urge you to use that for good and to instruct our police force to create harmony as they are supposed to be SERVING and PROTECTING our community.

No tear gas, no rubber bullets, no arrests for peaceful protestors without cause.

Praying for you, our leaders, and our city and that we can get it together to truly make this a better place to live FOR ALL.

Sincerely,

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Polanco, Joanna

From: Tylan Huff [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:23 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Concern for June 5th

Dear City Clerk,

My name is Tylan Huff. I hope this email finds you the best under these circumstances.

Two days ago, on June 3rd, 2020, an armed white supremacist group was spotted at a Black Lives Matter protest on Prospect Ave. They identify themselves as the "boogaloo movement," a far-right extremist movement. According to the Anti-Defamation League, the "boogaloo" typically promote their movement as a war against liberals. They also promote their movement as a race war or a white revolution (1). The members of the movement, "Boogaloo Bois," (2) identify themselves with military fatigues, weapons, and "Hawaiian" print. These "Boogaloo Bois" were in attendance at recent Black Lives Matter protests. Attached are images taken of them on Prospect Ave. I have attached the photos from the protest below.

As City Clerk, I ask you to forward this concern to the Public Safety and Health Committee for their meeting on June 5th, as this is a public health concern. Ensuring that the boogaloo's presence persists at Black Lives Matter protests endangers marginalized groups, especially black people. If the safety of people of color is a concern to you, I would like to have these questions answered after the meeting: Will the presence of armed extremists be tolerated? What will the City of Milwaukee do in regards to this situation? Will the City of Milwaukee ensure that these Boogaloo Bois are removed from public demonstrations, to ensure the safety of marginalized communities?

Thank you,

Sources:

(1)

(2)

Polanco, Joanna

From: B Hughes [redacted]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:19 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Today's Public Safety and Health committee meeting

Dear Sir, please address the following during today's proceedings:

1. The use of rubber bullets and tear gas as a standard operating procedure for peaceful protests. This occurred without provocation prior to curfew hours and is utterly unacceptable. Use of tear gas in warfare, as with all other chemical weapons, was prohibited by the Geneva Protocol of 1925; why is it allowed domestically?
2. The incessant and ominous hovering of military helicopters over densely populated residential areas during the evening, making sleep impossible due to the noise of rattling windows and the stress of a militaristic presence.
3. The police response has not been one of problem solving, conflict resolution, or community building. Please tell me why our city government has allowed this to happen.
4. The use of 'kettling' to trap protesters who have not been violent. Protesting is allowed so why is it being treated as a criminal offense? Why not allow them to disperse naturally? It appears to be a deliberate escalation and intimidation tactic by the police.
5. What our city needs is trust building. What are your intentions for regaining the trust of our community?
6. Why were protesters retained and held without masks and in close proximity during a global pandemic? What wasn't more care exercised in protecting their health and the lives of all those they encounter?
7. How are you holding yourselves accountable for the civil unrest we are currently experiencing?
8. How are you addressing the systemic toxicity that leads to police brutality? How are the mental health requirements of a person in such a role being protected? Are we offering positive role models and solutions that equip officers to diffuse tense situations without resulting to force? Are they trained to recognize their own limitations and inclinations to succumb to a mentality defined in the Stanford Prison Experiment?

Please know that I understand the complexity of the questions I have posed but it is your duty to uphold the health of all people in this city and I expect more from you than boiler plate language and defensive tactics. I want real work done here, work that can redefine the narrative of our city. Work that includes all and respects all and is transparent and honest.

It is time.

Respectfully,
Barbara Hughes
2635 N Bartlett Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53211
414-467-3172

Polanco, Joanna

From: Nicole Hughes [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:11 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: Police Policies and Intervention Meeting 6/5

Hello

My name is Nicole Hughes and I am emailing you in regards to the policies and police intervention tactics that have been used in light of recent events to stop peaceful protestors. The excessive use of force I have witnessed firsthand is not only jarring, but unconstitutional. These people have gathered peacefully to protest police brutality, and is being met with even more police brutality. These citizens are well within their First Amendment rights and are being met with tear gas, which is a WAR CRIME and the use of it was prohibited in the Geneva Protocol of 1925. How can you justify banning it in international warfare but continue to use it on your own citizens, on their own streets, while they fight for the right to breathe, DURING a global pandemic with a virus that attacks the respiratory system? Genuine question.

I have watched time and time again, as another unarmed black person is killed by police and the officer gets paid administrative leave while they "investigate". Usually coming up with several excuses as to how the person either a) deserved it or b) it was "inevitable" anyway due to "health issues". To that, I say no more. No more tax dollars being used to keep these murderers from behind bars. No more use of excessive force. No more innocent black lives being lost over a "counterfeit" \$20 bill (George Floyd), attending a social gathering (Joel Acevedo), existing in your own home (Breonna Taylor), a traffic stop (Sandra Bland, Philando Castile.) and many other horribly unjust "reasons". How is it that police can take extreme threats like Dylann Roof into custody without a scratch, and we have black and brown people out here begging for their lives over a routine traffic stop for speeding? How can angry white men with loaded guns storm the capital to deny a statewide quarantine during a pandemic and be met with nothing but 'understanding'? No more excuses. No more.

We need to take it upon ourselves to look at these policies and tactics under a microscope. Things we've brushed passed and glanced over need to be re-examined and re-written. I am asking that this council discuss and dispose of qualified immunity for officers and paid administrative leave when the officer is involved in any sort of investigation, immediately following the incident. I am asking that this council defund areas of the Milwaukee Police Department and put that money into back into communities of color. I am asking that this council address the excess militarized use of force against these protestors this past week, and instead treat them with the same understanding as you did those angry white men with assault rifles just weeks before. The time for change is now. Black lives matter. No more.

Sincerely,

Nicole Hughes