

ITEM NO. 3

From: [Brittney Cozzolino](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Cc: [Dave Pine](#); [Carole Groom](#); [Don Horsley](#); [Warren Slocum](#); canepa@smcgov.org
Subject: Agenda Item 3, 6/23/2020 Board Meeting public comment
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 7:28:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Hello, please read the following public comment into the record for Agenda Item 3 if possible:

Hi, my name is Brittney Cozzolino and I am a life-long resident of San Mateo County.

This has been a challenging year and I appreciate your commitment to protecting public health and safety, and recognize your efforts to support the Black Lives Matter movement today. However, it is not enough to stand in solidarity or reaffirm any pre-existing commitment to racial equity. Your resolution says it itself—racial inequity exists in San Mateo County. So what real actions will you take to implement this resolution? What actual changes can you make?

Systemic racism is a deep-rooted issue and overnight change is not feasible or realistic, but I am not asking these questions rhetorically and would greatly appreciate a response if possible. I ask you to consider developing a racial equity action plan that includes measurable goals and outcomes. You may be familiar with the Government Alliance on Race and Equity, or GARE, which is a great resource for governments working to examine and change their systems—they have several toolkits and how-to manuals that could help the County put this resolution to action. Links have been provided with this email.

If I understand correctly, of your 3.2 billion dollar recommended budget, almost 14 million is allocated to the Sheriff's Office while several health and social service budgets are being cut due to the structural budget deficit. Please consider how these cuts will disproportionately affect people of color, and how in the future, funds can be reallocated from the Sheriff's Office to other departments and projects that will support affordable housing, mental health treatment, and youth education. This is the time for real change, and you are in the position to make it happen.

<https://www.racialequityalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/GARE-Racial-Equity-Action-Plans.pdf>

<https://www.racialequityalliance.org/tools-resources/>

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Brittney Cozzolino


ITEM NO. 4

CITY COUNCIL

RAYMOND A. BUENAVENTURA
RODERICK DAUS-MAGBUAL
PAMELA DIGIOVANNI
JUSLYN C. MANALO
GLENN R. SYLVESTER



**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF DALY CITY**

**333 – 90TH STREET
DALY CITY, CA 94015-1895**

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DANCA M. HALVORSON
CITY TREASURER

PHONE (650) 991-8008

June 22, 2020

Board President Warren Slocum
Vice President David Canepa
Supervisor Carole Groom
Supervisor Don Horsley
Supervisor Dave Pine

City of Redwood City
400 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063

Dear President Slocum, Vice President Canepa, Supervisor Groom, Supervisor Horsley and Supervisor Pine:

Thank you for your leadership during this fast-moving crisis. I want to applaud the Board for the current extension of the eviction moratorium, especially given pressures to return to some sort of “normalcy”. During this time, you all have made sure that County resources were there to support the residents of our cities and County. As a fellow public servant, I appreciate the County having our back as we work with our city staff to have our resident’s back through the pandemic.

Our cities are united in our ask for your continued support, to have the backs of the most vulnerable neighbors that we all serve. We encourage you all to have the public conversation with various stakeholders that investigates several options to deal with this new, constantly changing health, housing and economic reality made clear during the pandemic.

Many working families have already faced significant loss of income and permanent layoffs due to the pandemic. San Mateo County’s Core Services Agencies have seen a 5-fold increase in basic needs, food and rent. Once the State of Emergency ends and the rental repayment period begins, tenants must continue to pay their regular monthly rent payments on-time per their lease. This has the consequence of pushing tenants to their breaking point, having to pay back a tsunami of debt while paying their current rent just to stay housed. We must protect the public health and provide renters an opportunity at a healthy economic

recovery to ensure our most vulnerable stay safely housed, after our public health crises. It is important to remember we continue to face an affordability crisis within a public health crisis.

Therefore I am asking you and San Mateo County Board of Supervisors to take the following actions to support a debt resolution process for renters:

- Extending the eviction moratorium for an additional period of time, tied to Governor Newsom's State of Emergency,
- Consumer debt conversion of renter debt to prevent evictions,
- An extension of the repayment period for renters to a total of 12 months,
- and additional resources for Rental Assistance from state, federal and other agencies

For many renters, after the pandemic, there is not a light at the end of the tunnel but a wall. A wall of debt that threatens to keep renters from their safety of their homes. Hundreds of families will just be starting over or have low-wage jobs that will require more time to recover while keeping current on their non-protected rent payments.

While we agree that homeowners, landlords and renters are all impacted by the pandemic. Renters, who are mostly low-income and people of color and have the least amount of support, will need equitable protection.. The above-mentioned solutions will provide support, protection, patience, and grace for a healthy recovery for all.

We are indeed San Mateo County Strong and can get through this together. Again, I encourage the Board of Supervisors to once again research and consider a bold response to this public health, economic, and safe housing crisis

Please feel free to contact me to speak further and thank you for your commitment to public service.

Signed,



Dr. Roderick Daus-Magbual
Council Member
City of Daly City

From: [Annick Fariss](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Fw: Comments for the June 23 Board of Supervisors meeting on Eviction Moratorium
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 5:10:11 PM

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I apologize for having sent my first message to the wrong address

From: Annick Fariss [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 5:06 PM
To: boardfeedback@smc.org <boardfeedback@smc.org>
Subject: Comments for the June 23 Board of Supervisors meeting on Eviction Moratorium

I would like to respectfully urge you to consider no. 2. and 3. below. Number 1 is a separate opinion for your consideration at another time.

1. This is just an additional opinion that has nothing to do with, no. 2 and 3. below are the items to be discussed with the meeting! I oppose investing \$1 million to purchase more tasers, knowing that just [last year three men died as a result of tasers during encounters with police](#). There are, I believe, better ways to spend the money for the police department, adding mental health personnel to accompany officers being one of them.
2. The County's budget ought to reflect our county's higher aspirations valuing life, health, education and the common good, prioritizing the most vulnerable people among us.
3. It is of utmost importance that our Board of Supervisors vote today not just to extend but to EXPAND the Eviction Moratorium to prevent more families from becoming homeless. This means:
 - A. 12 months, starting August 31, 2020 at the earliest, to repay rent debt
 - B. Conversion of the rent debt to consumer debt, and
 - C. An extension of the eviction moratorium until at least August 31, 2020.

Thank you for considering the 2 options above,

Anne Fariss,
San Mateo, 94401

From: [Denton Murphy](#)
To: [Sherry Golestan](#); [Sukhmani Purewal](#); [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Cc: [Alexander Melendrez](#); [Leora Tanjuatco Ross](#)
Subject: Public Comment for BoS Eviction Moratorium & Extend Discussion
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:35:22 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

To the Board of Supervisors,

I'm a resident of the Sign Hill neighborhood in South San Francisco. As a member of the Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County, I strongly endorse provisions they suggest in the letter they're sending you on this issue. I actually advocate going further in a few important respects:

1. The payback period for any consumer debt converted rent should be extended from 12 months to 120 months. For many residents of SM County (approx. 50% according to the San Mateo Daily Journal), they already deal with rent burden, meaning they pay at 30%, and in many cases, more than 50% of their income just to stay housed. This is a crushing burden without the horrendous prospect of a balloon payment of 9k (assuming 2250/mo for 4 months, which is a low estimate based on median rent of \$2259 from 2017, which has definitely increased). Do not force people to choose between the streets or risking COVID so they can scratch together the extra \$1000 a month this 12 month payback period will likely entail. It's simply unreasonable.
2. Ensure that this payback period doesn't come with interest payments. It wasn't tenants' fault that they lost their job. Do not add insult to injury by allowing landlords to treat this debt conversion like regular consumer debt, such as credit card interest rates that trap families in poverty.
3. If possible extend this consumer debt conversion to mortgage payments in San Mateo County too. It's not just tenants feeling the bite. Homeowners without employment will be feeling the sting too, especially if the federal government revokes the extra \$600 / month unemployment benefit next month.
4. Threaten civil forfeiture of property in the case of landlords caught trying to evict tenants during the moratorium period. Only the threat of prison or loss of property, not a slap on the wrist fine, can discourage bad actors in this space. I was disgusted to read the following LA Times article: <https://www.latimes.com/homeless-housing/story/2020-06-18/despite-protections-landlords-attempting-to-evict-tenants-in-south-l-a-black-and-latino-neighborhoods-data-shows>. If this is occurring in San Mateo County, the strongest possible measures should be taken. Greed cannot be allowed to endanger the rest of society by forcing people onto the streets, where they face increased likelihood of contracting and spreading COVID. Seizing property and selling it back to a responsible landlord that respects moratorium rules, with the tenant staying in place, sends a clear message to the community about what's important.

Thank you for your time and look forward to you taking further action on this issue.

Respectfully,
Denton Murphy



From: [Patricia Leggett-Wantz](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Cc: [Patricia Leggett-Wantz](#); [Adam Wantz](#)
Subject: Eviction Moratorium
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:33:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Dear San Mateo County Board of Supervisors,

Hello, my name is Patricia Leggett-Wantz. My husband, Adam Wantz, and I are 20 year residents of San Mateo County. We are writing to urge you to extend and expand the current eviction moratorium.

This action invests in the health of our community and protect our most vulnerable members. Many of our community members are in crisis and need our help. We urge you to extend the eviction moratorium to 90 days after the the shelter in place order is lifted. We also urge the Board to expand the eviction moratorium to allow renters 12 months to repay accrued rent debt after the shelter in place order is lifted, and allow renters to convert their rent debt to consumer debt. We need our Board of Supervisors to act to protect and prioritize the most vulnerable people among us.

Sincerely,

Adam Wantz & Patricia Leggett-Wantz
Belmont, California

ITEM NO. 8

From: [Dan Harper](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Item 8: Adopt a resolution approving the FY2020-21
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:24:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

To the Board of Supervisors:

In regard to Item 8: Adopt a resolution approving the FY2020-21 Recommended Budget submitted by the County Manager — on the June 23 agenda: I strongly oppose budgeting \$922,110.83 to purchase 310 new Tasers from Axon Enterprise.

We know the county is facing budget cuts, due to the economic situation.

We know that there's a nationwide effort to cut down on unnecessary use of force by police departments, and that includes Taser use.

Do the right thing — cut the Tasers from the budget.

Kind regards, Dan Harper



From: [Katie Dinneen](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Sheriff's Dept Funding/FY21 SMCO Budget
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:21:39 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Dear Supervisors David Canepa, Carole Groom, Don Horsley, Warren Slocum, and Dave Pine:

I have been a resident of Pacifica for the last 17 years and I am reaching out at this critical moment to urge divestment from the San Mateo County's Sheriff's Office (SMCSO). Funds must be redirected to health and mental health care, education, transit and affordable housing that have proven to have a positive impact on all residents.

As our communities continues to struggle with the impact of Covid-19, increasing the SMCSO budget is offensive and unacceptable, especially when the County is projected to be in a \$65-100M deficit.

I urge the Board of Supervisors to take action this fiscal year by divesting substantially from the Sheriff's Office and investing those funds in health services, individual and family assistance programs, and other safety-net aid that will benefit the people of San Mateo County.

Sincerely,
Katie Dinneen

From: [Carol Cross](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: On the subject of \$\$ for tasers
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:20:26 PM

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I can't find any reference to the proposal that the Board is still planning to invest \$1 million to purchase more tasers for fiscal year 2020-2021. I most sincerely hope you've decided to pull and re-evaluate that recommendation. I can imagine that you've gotten many many emails and phone calls asking you to redirect that one million into enhanced public services, so instead of making the same points yet again, I would just like to say that at the very least, in the light of the nation-wide protests that have taken place day after day after day, to vote to give more money to the sheriff's department for additional tasers at this time is just plain tone-deaf.

Respectfully,
Carol Cross

You can't have climate change without sacrifice zones, and you can't have sacrifice zones without disposable people, and you can't have disposable people without racism.

~ Hop Hopkins

From: [Katie Wysong](#)
To: [Carole Groom](#)
Cc: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: The Need for A Moral Budget
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:15:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Dear Supervisor Groom and the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors,

I had the privilege of growing up in San Mateo County. I attended Baywood Elementary School, Borel Middle School and Aragon High School. I am a member of Peninsula Temple Beth El which participates in Faith in Action Bay Area. I have benefited from the access to wonderful parks and beaches, quality schools, safe communities and diversity.

However, our community is not safe until every member of the community is safe. The SMC Sheriff Department is not what makes our community safe, especially for our Black and Latinx community. We remember the tragic death of Chinedu Okobi in Millbrae. The Board of Supervisors should not invest an additional \$1 million in tasers, which were used to kill Okobi in 2018, and three other men in 2019. Not only does the investment not make our community safer, it redirects resources that should be invested in the health and wellness of our entire community.

In light of the historic protests against police brutality and the global pandemic, which has disproportionately harmed communities of color in the United States, we demand a moral budget. We demand a moral budget that prioritizes investment in programs to lift up the health and well being of the Black community. The budget is a document that demonstrates truly what our values are. I ask that this budget reflect our county's higher aspirations valuing life, health, education and the common good, prioritizing the most vulnerable people among us. It must recognize the historic harms of redlining and housing segregation, and the ongoing epidemics of systemic racism and police brutality.

Additionally, we must live our values by not letting our neighbors lose their homes in the middle of a global pandemic. It is undeniable that housing costs are incredibly high in the Bay Area. The Board of Supervisors took an essential first step earlier this year by enacting a countywide moratorium on evictions. However, as the pandemic and its economic destruction continue, more is needed. I join with local activists and community leaders in asking for the moratorium not only to be extended, but expanded to fully meet the needs of our community. This means (a) 12 months to repay rent debt after shelter-in-place is lifted, (b) conversion of the rent debt to consumer debt, and (c) an extension of the eviction moratorium until 90 days after shelter-in-place is lifted.

I am proud to be from San Mateo. Our county should serve the needs of all its residents, not just its wealthiest. We must address systemic racism and prioritize the true safety of our community, especially the Black community members, by investing in social programs and expanding the eviction moratorium, not investing in the Sheriff's Department and tasers.

Thank you for your time,
Katie Wysong
San Mateo, CA



NAACP

San Mateo Branch

June 22, 2020

Reverend Lorrie Carter Owens
President

Paulette Landers
1st Vice President

Michael Levinson
2nd Vice President

Kathryn Haysbert
3rd Vice President

Mary Ellen Davis
Secretary

Takiyah Smith
Assistant Secretary

Lauren Sneed
Treasurer

Randi Randle
Assistant Treasurer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Marie Davis
Maurice Goodman
Alexis Lewis
José Mendez
Mona Simpson
William "Bill" Stewart
Hope Whipple

STANDING COMMITTEE

CHAIRSPERSONS:

Education: Maurice Goodman
Events: Hope Whipple
Housing: José Mendez
Legal Redress: Michael Levinson
Political Action: Alexis Lewis

County of San Mateo Board of Supervisors
Hall of Justice
400 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063

Dear Honorable Supervisors Pine, Groom, Horsley, Slocum and Canepa:

On behalf of the San Mateo Branch of the NAACP, I wish to express that we are deeply troubled by your resolution of May 5, 2020, waiving the RFP process to allow the Sheriff's Department to allocate up to \$922,110.83 to purchase 310 new electrocution devices, commonly known as Tasers. We are further troubled by the probability of your adopting the FY21 budget tomorrow that will include this allocation.

We have made our position about the use of Tasers in San Mateo County very clear. Tasers are lethal devices. They are used disproportionately against people of color across the nation, including here in San Mateo County. When Tasers are used against citizens of this county, causing injury or death, it is the citizens of San Mateo County, not Axon Enterprise, Inc. as the manufacturer of these horrible devices, that are left facing the lawsuits and paying the settlements.

It is a slap in the face to the memory of Chinedu Okobi, who was tased to death by a San Mateo Sheriff Department deputy on October 3, 2018 to spend almost \$1 million on more Tasers. It is also somewhat hypocritical to adopt a resolution supporting the Black Lives Matter movement and reaffirming the county's commitment to racial equity and, in the same meeting, adopt a budget that will allow for the purchase of devices that we all know will be used primarily against black and brown people in this county.

Perhaps we are missing something here, but what additional funds are being proposed in FY21 to be used for improved training in implicit bias and de-escalation techniques for deputies?

Lastly, how can you, in all good conscience, approve a \$1 million line item to purchase torture devices when public agencies all across the county are being called upon to cut budgets in response to the financial crises we are facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic?

The San Mateo Branch of the NAACP is asking you to please rescind/revoke your resolution of May 5, 2020 regarding the purchase of new Tasers and pass the FY21 budget with this item removed.

Sincerely,

Rev. Lorrie Owens

Reverend Lorrie Carter Owens, President

From: [Alexis Lewis](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Item 8: Adopt a resolution approving the FY2020-21 Recommended Budget submitted by the County Manager.
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:58:28 PM

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Dear Supervisors,

I am extremely disappointed that you are considering the approval of almost \$1 million dollars in public funds to purchase torture devices, at a time when other public agencies are being asked to cut budgets. The people who will be tased with these new devices are the same ones tased in the past, San Mateo County's people of color, and people suffering from mental illness.

Please do not approve the purchase of additional electrical weapon sold by Axon.

Alexis K. Lewis - wife, mother & grandmother



From: [Brittney Cozzolino](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Item 8 on 6/23 agenda
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:53:45 PM

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Hi there, I am interested in more information on item 8 on tomorrow's agenda. Is there an attachment of the actual recommended budget with line-item breakdowns? I only see the brief memo attached to the agenda.

Thank you,
Brittney

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Brittney Cozzolino


From: [Xander Tartter](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Public Comment - Defund San Mateo County Sheriff's Office
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:16:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Like other police departments around the country, San Mateo County's police departments and Sheriff's Office have a long history of unnecessary use of force and over-policing which particularly impacts residents of color. Here in the Bay Area, it may be tempting for many of us to assume that our cities are immune and above these problems and that our police force is free of racism and discrimination, but this could not be further from the truth. The independent organization Campaign Zero researched police department's throughout California and assigned letter grades to many major cities. Redwood City was awarded an F, San Mateo a B-, South San Francisco a D-, and Daly City a D-. Most of these cities have adopted only two of the recommended 8 Can't Wait Use of Force policies. Redwood City has adopted ZERO of these policies.

I am calling for this Board of Supervisors to take swift, necessary, and long-overdue actions including:

- Decrease the San Mateo Sheriff's Office budget and reinest in much-needed life-affirming services to address the problems people face in housing, healthcare, adn employment. The budget for the sheriff's office is currently set to increase by 0.4% while all other county departments face cutbacks, which isn't right.
- Freeze hiring on new officers at the county level while alternatives to policing are studied.
- Immediately defund and end the corrupt Sheriff's Activities League (SAL) and re-invest in community-led organizations and programs. For a more peaceful and just future, young people need examples of nonviolence and discourse around everyone's human rights and dignity, not a reinforcement of policing and prisons as solutions.
- Immediately end all funding for tasers which are lethal, and were used to kill Chinedu Okobi, Ramzi Saad, and Warren Ragudo in San Mateo County.
- Ban the choke-hold in the Use of Force policy.
- Ban the police from carrying weapons on patrol.
- Begin serious study with the community into non-police, unarmed alternatives to emergency response, considering the model of CAHOOTS in Eugene, Oregon, as well as work being done in other cities and countries. This study must be community-led and conducted outside of the RWC police department.
- Reject funding for corporate consultants on a "social progress index," and invest in affordable housing instead.

Defund the police now and reinvest in life-affirming services for the community!

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Alexander Tartter





From: [Corinne Riley](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#); [CMO BoardFeedback](#); [Michael Callagy](#); [Dave Pine](#); [Carole Groom](#); [Don Horsley](#); [Warren Slocum](#); [David Canepa](#)
Subject: San Mateo Resident WRT 6/23 BoS Meeting
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:06:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

To the County Manager and Supervisors:

My name is Corinne and I'm a resident of San Mateo County, and have been for the last few years.

I am emailing with regards to the Agenda Item #8 for the 6/23 Board of Supervisors Meeting. From my understanding, the current intention is to increase the Sheriff's Office budget by \$12MM, compared to budget definitions that the county is currently running on the healthcare front, and other beneficial programs.

Given the current political climate and healthcare needs, I would strongly support the funds initially intended for the Sheriff's office to be redirected to health and mental health care, education, transit, affordable housing, and COVID-19 relief.

I would further suggest that the Sheriff's Office budgets be cut even further in order to fund constructive and positively impacting social programs.

Thank you,
Corinne

From: [Sam Modest](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Message for the County Board of Supervisors Meeting on June 23rd, 2020
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 6:06:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Hello,

My name is Sam Modest and I am a resident of the County of San Mateo. I am writing to demand that we reconsider how our county allocates our budget toward the Sheriff's Office, especially in light of the individuals who have lost their lives to police violence in San Mateo County. As I am sure you are aware from this now national conversation, much research has shown that policing does not actually improve the safety and wellbeing of residents across many different landscapes be it in suburban, urban and rural areas. What does, however, support the wellbeing and safety of community members in cities and counties across the United States is deep trust and investment in our communities through housing, health care services, jobs, mental health services, and education.

In reading the proposed county budget for FY 20-21, I am appalled that \$288.5 million has been allocated towards funding the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. With looming budget deficits as a result of COVID-19, we do not accept the prioritization of an increased police department budget over essential community resources in this next year. We demand a budget that adequately and effectively meets the needs of at-risk San Mateo County residents during this trying and uncertain time, when livelihoods are on the line. We demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, rather than one that empowers police.

Furthermore, merely reforming the San Mateo County Police Department is not an adequate option. History has *not* shown that police departments in the United States can effectively reform themselves. Khalil Gibran Muhammad, a historian and professor at the Harvard Kennedy School, has dedicated his career to studying the history of the criminal justice system in America. In [an interview with the hosts of NPR's podcast, *Throughline*](#), Professor Muhammad shared:

"The evidence [of police violence and racism] has been presented for a century... when you ask me the question, what do I think about this moment, what's possible in this moment, it seems to me that's what's possible is recognizing that police officers and police agencies are incapable of fixing themselves. They've never been able to do it, and they've never particularly

been compelled to do it. The incentives have never quite added up to be strong enough."

I recommend listening to this entire episode, as it details the 100 years of efforts that American scholars and civil rights advocates have spent gathering and communicating the overwhelming evidence of violent police racism in our country. By maintaining our current budget for policing in San Mateo County and opting for reform, we are taking a dangerous gamble. By doing so we are betting on an approach that has, time and again, proven to be a failure. And the consequence of that failure has been tragic - the continued loss of human lives, at the hands of those who are meant to protect those lives.

It is your duty to represent your constituents. I am urging you to completely revise the San Mateo County budget for 2020-2021 fiscal year. Public opinion is with me.

Thank you for your time,

Sam Modest

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [St. James AME Zion Church](#)
To: [Penny Nixon](#)
Cc: [Corey Helfand](#); [Peninsula Solidarity](#); [Warren Slocum](#); [CMO BoardFeedback](#); [Carole Groom](#); [David Canepa](#); [Don Horsley](#); [Dave Pine](#); [Michael Callagy](#)
Subject: Re: Letter from SMC Clergy in advance of Tuesday's BOS meeting
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 5:37:35 PM
Attachments: [icons8-instagram-48.png](#)
[icons8-facebook-48.png](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Yea, I wish the same. Maybe our ask for the special fund will be honored, that would be a win. Carlo seemed interested in that. I believe she's an advocate.

On Mon, Jun 22, 2020 at 4:10 PM Penny Nixon <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Sorry- hit send too quickly— I wish we could have had time to advocate for a different use of the money.

I hope there is an opportunity to hear more about all this.

Rev. Dr. G. Penny Nixon
Senior Minister

Congregational Church of San Mateo
...open, progressive, spiritual



If you have received confidential information in this email, please respect the confidentiality of the content.

On Jun 22, 2020, at 4:08 PM, Penny Nixon <[REDACTED]> wrote:

I think you are right Marlyn— sounded like they had already purchased...which

is a shame

Rev. Dr. G. Penny Nixon
Senior Minister

Congregational Church of San Mateo
...open, progressive, spiritual

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

If you have received confidential information in this email, please respect the confidentiality of the content.

On Jun 22, 2020, at 4:01 PM, St. James AME Zion Church
<stjamesamezchurch@gmail.com> wrote:

This is an excellent letter. If I heard Supervisor Groom correctly in this morning's meeting, she said the BOS had already approved the purchase of new tasers. That's why I asked if the new batch are truly non lethal. I raise this because the letter is asking them to reconsider the purchase and it sounded like an already done deal. Can anyone else who was on this morning verify this? If so, we may need to tweak those sentences a bit so they still have impact.

Blessings,
Marlyn

On Mon, Jun 22, 2020 at 1:36 PM Peninsula Solidarity
<peninsulasolidarity@ccsm-ucc.org> wrote:
<Screen Shot 2020-04-21 at 11.21.32 AM.png>

June 22, 2020

Dear County Manager Callagy and Supervisors Canepa,
Horsley, Groom, Pine and Slocum,

We write on behalf of the Peninsula Solidarity Cohort, a coalition of over 35 religious leaders from diverse traditions who unite around a shared goal of building communities of compassion, justice and belonging in San Mateo County. As religious leaders, we know that serving in these unprecedented times is difficult and demanding work. There is so much at stake.

The COVID-19 pandemic has taught us that we are all only as safe as the most vulnerable among us. It has revealed both the truth of our interconnectedness *and* the truth of systemic racism and inequity that put black and brown people at greater risk not only of sickness, but also of poverty, unemployment, homelessness, incarceration and police violence.

San Mateo County is immune to none of this. The recent killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Rayshard Brooks by law enforcement elsewhere in the United States follow the Tasing deaths of Chinedu Okobi, Ramsey Saad, and Warren Ragudo by law enforcement right here in San Mateo County. The officers involved were never charged, and although community members called repeatedly for a ban on Tasers following these deaths, the county is now considering investing \$1 million to purchase *more* Tasers. This is unacceptable. Right now, in the midst of a global pandemic with uprisings spreading across the globe against centuries of systemic racism and anti-Black violence in the United States, ***we need to shift our priorities from further arming law enforcement to fully funding health care, mental health services, education, affordable housing, and pandemic relief.***

As religious leaders, we understand budgets as moral statements. They reflect our values, our priorities. The recommended budget for 2020-21 includes a \$12 million increase in the Sheriff's budget from last year, yet the deficit is projected to be \$65-100 million, with safety-net departments hardest hit by the shortage of funds. Do we in San Mateo County really value policing more than we value housing, human services, education and public health? Instead of continuing to invest in a dysfunctional approach to law enforcement, can we instead invest in meaningful police reform? In programs that lift up the health and well-being of the Black community? And the Latinx community? ***We urge you to pass a moral budget, one that reflects our county's higher aspirations***

***valuing life, health, education and the common good,
prioritizing the most vulnerable among us.***

The pandemic is teaching us a long overdue lesson: we are all only as safe as the most vulnerable among us. Thus we urge you, as we did last month, to ***expand the eviction moratorium to prevent vulnerable families from becoming homeless as COVID continues to spread.*** Families who have lost jobs need more time to save up money for rent and rent-debt that has accrued during shelter-in-place. We ask that you:

- extend the eviction moratorium for 90 days after shelter-in-place has been lifted,
- permit rent debt to be converted to consumer debt, and
- allow twelve months to repay rent debt after shelter-in-place has been lifted.

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, after marching with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “Morally speaking, there is no limit to the concern one must feel for the suffering of human beings, that indifference to evil is worse than evil itself, that in a free society, some are guilty, but all are responsible.” This time of uncertainty, suffering and turmoil is putting us all to the test. Will we succumb to more fear and division? Or will we unite with courage to create communities of compassion, justice and belonging for all?

What happens next is up to us--all of us--and we are asking you, as our County officials, to take bold and decisive action to prioritize the health and well-being of our Black and Latinx residents, who have for too long suffered disproportionately as a result of systemic injustice.

Together in service to our community,

Rev. Dr. Penny Nixon, PSC Co-Director
Rev. Dr. Marlyn Bussy, PSC Co-Director
Rabbi Corey Helfand, PSC Planning Team Member
Dr. Tovis Page, PSC Program Coordinator

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Blessings,
Pastor Marlyn Bussey

“Never forget that justice is what love looks like in public.” Dr. Cornell West

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Blessings,
Pastor Marlyn Bussey

“Never forget that justice is what love looks like in public.” Dr. Cornell West

From: [Dave Morris](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Agenda item #8: FY 2020-21 budget, Defund Sheriff's Office
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 5:06:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

The SMC Sheriff's Office takes an outsize portion of the budget. At least half of its allocation would be better used devoted to programs for mental health and addiction treatment, education and affordable housing. Sheriff and Police based law enforcement are an adversarial force in our communities, terrorizing people of color in particular - and a new tack needs to be taken in the methods we use to provide safety and justice.

Thank you for your time,
Dave Morris in Daly City

From: [Dixie A Blumenshine](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Comments for San Mateo County Meeting, June 23rd, 2020
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:26:17 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Hello San Mateo County Board of Supervisors,

I am a resident of Menlo Park at [REDACTED]. I am writing to impress upon you the importance of the changes we need within our communities, which are within your hands and can be accomplished by working with residents of San Mateo County and hearing out our researched and thought-out desires.

Firstly, I ask that you decrease funding to the San Mateo Sheriff's Office, which is planned to receive an increase of over \$1,210,000 while County Health, Social Services, and Community Services all are facing budget decreases this year. Please take the increase intended for the Sheriff's Office, and more, and reinvest it back into the departments that the people rely on, and that help them thrive. Additionally, please freeze hiring of new county officers while the current approach to policing and community safety is being reassessed at this pivotal moment in history. It is not a good use of taxpayer money to hire new officers while San Mateo County residents are calling for funding reductions to local law enforcement.

Furthermore, I ask for the additional changes: that the Sheriff's Activities League be defunded and disbanded, that use of tasers by San Mateo County law enforcement ends immediately, that chokeholds are banned from use by the same, that officers are banned from carrying weapons on patrol, and that the county begin serious and invested study WITH the community into alternatives to law enforcement as we currently know it. The model of CAHOOTS in Eugene, Oregon, for mental health crisis response may be of interest. This study MUST be community led and conducted away from and outside of the Sheriff's Office.

Finally, I must emphasize that these demands are in the true best interest of the citizens of San Mateo County. The deaths of Chinedu Okobi, Ramzi Saad and Warren Ragudo in this county were preventable, and we must do everything we can to prevent more loss of life or harm at the hands of law enforcement. Working alternatives exist. It is past time to use funding dedicated to law enforcement for the true benefit of citizens in the form of social support.

Thank you and best wishes,
Dixie Blumenshine

--

Dixie Blumenshine

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
She/Her/Hers

[REDACTED]

From: [Nancy Schneider](#)
To: [Carole Groom](#)
Cc: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: The Need for A Moral Budget
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:40:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Dear Supervisor Groom and the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors,

I have lived in San Mateo for 25 years and have raised my two daughters here. I am also a member of Peninsula Temple Beth El in San Mateo where I which participates in Faith in Action Bay Area activities to improve our communities. I am fortunate to have a comfortable and safe life here.

However, our community is not safe until every member of the community is safe. The SMC Sheriff Department is not what makes our community safe, especially for our Black and Latinx community. I remember the tragic death of Chinedu Okobi in Millbrae. The Board of Supervisors should not invest an additional \$1 million in tasers, which were used to kill Okobi in 2018, and three other men in 2019. Not only does the investment not make our community safer, it redirects resources that should be invested in the health and wellness of our entire community.

In light of the historic protests against police brutality and the global pandemic, which has disproportionately harmed communities of color in the United States, I agree with the Faith in Action demand for a moral budget, a moral budget that prioritizes investment in programs to lift up the health and well being of the Black community. The county budget is a document that demonstrates truly what our values are. I ask that this budget reflect our county's higher aspirations valuing life, health, education and the common good, and prioritize the most vulnerable people among us. It must recognize the historic harms of redlining and housing segregation, and the ongoing epidemics of systemic racism and police brutality.

Additionally, we must live our values by not letting our neighbors lose their homes in the middle of a global pandemic. It is undeniable that housing costs are incredibly high in the Bay Area. The Board of Supervisors took an essential first step earlier this year by enacting a countywide moratorium on evictions. However, as the pandemic and its economic destruction continue, more is needed. I join with local activists and community leaders in asking for the **moratorium not only to be extended, but expanded to fully meet the needs of our community**. This means (a) 12 months to repay rent debt after shelter-in-place is lifted, (b) conversion of the rent debt to consumer debt, and (c) an extension of the eviction moratorium until 90 days after shelter-in-place is lifted.

I am proud live in San Mateo. Our county should serve the needs of all its residents, not just its wealthiest. We must address systemic racism and prioritize the true safety of our community, especially the Black community members, by investing in social programs and expanding the eviction moratorium, not investing in the Sheriff's Department and tasers.

Thank you for your time,
Nancy Schneider
San Mateo, CA

From: mwslee@aol.com
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 8: 2020-2021 Recommended Budget
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:46:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

To the Board of Supervisors, San Mateo County,

My understanding is that this budget includes a line item to purchase 310 Model-7 tasers for the Sheriff's department, at a cost of nearly \$1M. I would like to express my extreme displeasure for including this item. If the Board chooses to adopt Item 3, support for a Black Lives Matter resolution, this appears to be in conflict with the taser line item in your budget. Since this is your plan, perhaps someone could explain at the meeting how the taser purchase is related to your support of Black Lives Matter. Thank you.

Kind regards,
Mona Simpson, member - NAACP San Mateo Branch

From: [G B](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: An issue that is not on the agenda but is very important
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:54:14 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Dear San Mateo County Board of Supervisors,

I am a resident of San Mateo County in Menlo Park at [REDACTED]. I am writing to you about an issue that has been brought to the forefront of our nation's conversation these past months, defunding the police.

Firstly, I ask that you decrease funding to the San Mateo Sheriff's Office, which is planned to receive an increase of over \$1,210,000 while County Health, Social Services, and Community Services all are facing budget decreases this year. Please take the increase intended for the Sheriff's Office, and more, and reinvest it back into the departments that the people rely on, and that help them thrive. Please freeze hiring of new county officers while the current approaches to policing and community safety are being reassessed at this pivotal moment in history. It is not a good use of taxpayer money to hire new officers while San Mateo County residents are calling for funding reductions to local law enforcement.

Furthermore, I ask for the additional changes: that the Sheriff's Activities League be defunded and disbanded, that use of tasers by San Mateo County law enforcement ends immediately, that chokeholds are banned from use by the same, that officers are banned from carrying weapons on patrol, and that the county begin serious and invested study WITH the community into alternatives to law enforcement as we currently know it. The model of CAHOOTS in Eugene, Oregon, for mental health crisis response may be of interest. This study MUST be community led and conducted away from and outside of the Sheriff's Office.

Finally, I must emphasize that these demands are in the true best interest of the citizens of San Mateo County. The deaths of Chinedu Okobi, Ramzi Saad and Warren Ragudo in this county were preventable, and we must do everything we can to prevent more loss of life or harm at the hands of law enforcement. Working alternatives exist. It is past time to use funding dedicated to law enforcement for the true benefit of citizens in the form of social support.

Thank you,
Grace Blacker

From: [Darlene Martin](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Taser Purchase
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:18:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Hello Board,

I am writing to express to you how sad I feel that you have chosen to spend almost a million dollars to purchase tasers when our communities have so many other needs. Particularly, in light of the school and business closings, we will need additional resources to open these vital functions again.

We have likely already spent too much money on "justified" police shootings and taser-deaths. Even if these deaths are not found to be "wrongful" they are wrong.

Additionally, as a person who has served on juries for the county, I have been dismayed at the negative portrayal of defendants of color in order to get a win in court. I am equally dismayed at my daughter's lack of support in her local high school where the one African American employee is a security guard of some type.

With the recent murders of several African Americans across our country, our own experience with lawful deaths and a seemingly racist justice system, there is a divide in our community and a lack of support for our African American residents.

Continued militarization of our police forces will only serve to further divide the constituents of our county.

Please reconsider this misguided use of taxpayer money.

Darlene Martin
San Bruno

From: [Alisa Parker](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Defund the police
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:42:35 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

To the Board of Supervisors in San Mateo County,

I am writing to request that San Mateo County immediately reallocate the policy budget and re-invest it in life-affirming social services such as education, affordable housing for the homeless and low-income workers, employment, and healthcare.

Based on the protests and council meetings I have attended in the past two weeks, I have heard of numerous cases of brutal, violent, often absurd treatment of individuals of color, who are often targeted for "crimes" such as walking down the street or having a mental breakdown. It is absolutely unacceptable that the people of color in our community have to fear that the police exist to harass them and disenfranchise them. Those seeking protection have often faced violence when they call for help.

I demand that we :

- End all funding for tasers, which are lethal and were used to kill Chinedu Okobi, Ramzi Saad and Warren Ragudo
- Ban the choke hold
- Ban police from carrying weapons on patrol

Best,

Alisa Parker

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Aram James](#)
Cc: [Jeff Moore](#); [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: San Mateo County Board of Supervisors Just Say No To The Purchase of 1 million dollars of new tasers
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 12:36:22 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

FYI: previously submitted on May 5-2020

5/4/20

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors:

A growing body of evidence suggests that Tasers are much more dangerous than previously thought. The death toll is now well over a thousand people who have died after being shot with a Taser. Almost all of the dead have been unarmed individuals. The great majority of those who have died are people of color, the mentally ill, those under the influence of drugs and alcohol and those with a wide variety of undisclosed medical vulnerabilities.

After many Taser deaths the police and the municipalities who employ them are successfully sued for "break the budget" large sums.

Victim's families who sue no longer bother to sue the manufacture (Axon, previously Taser International) because the manufacture's 4500 word warning (7 pages) explicitly advises against using the Taser to shot someone in the face, eyes, chest, groin, the mentally ill, those under the influence, and numerous other circumstances, making the Taser extremely challenging for police to use within the parameters of the warnings.

The practical reality is that police departments that are properly trained rarely use the Taser in the field. On the other hand, departments that fail to abide by the warnings are repeatedly being sued. Ed Davis the former police chief in Boston from 2006-2013, in ultimately declining to purchase Tasers for his department, said the following:

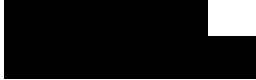
" The warnings made the weapon impractical to use, and it gave a lot of us the impression that we weren't getting the full story. I didn't want to take the risk. The potential litigation costs absolutely were a factor."

The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors should

think long and hard before spending nearly a million dollars on a weapon that is rarely used and invites litigation when it is.

Sincerely,

Aram James
[Palo Alto, CA](#)



From: [Miriam Hennig](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#); [Michael Callagy](#); [Dave Pine](#); [Carole Groom](#); [Don Horsley](#); [Warren Slocum](#); [David Canepa](#)
Subject: Request to Defund the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office - Agenda Item #8
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 6:52:05 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Dear County Manager Michael P. Callagy, and Supervisors David Canepa, Carole Groom, Don Horsley, Warren Slocum, and Dave Pine:

My name is Miriam Hennig and I am a resident of San Mateo County (SMC). I am reaching out at this critical moment to defund the San Mateo County's Sheriff's Office (SMCSO) and commenting on Agenda Item #8 for the 6/23 Board of Supervisors Meeting. Funds must be redirected to health and mental health care, education, transit, affordable housing, and COVID-19 relief; providers that have proven to have a positive impact on all residents.

I have recently had the chance to hear from many of the victims affected by SMCSO including the sister of Chinedu Okobi and others. It was heartbreaking to hear about the loss of life due to violent and unnecessary tactics on the part of law enforcement and even now, to hear that SMC is increasing the budget. We need restorative services funded in our county, NOT the Sheriff's office. We need to fundamentally change how we deal with problems in our community, considering the racist origins of policing and continuing disproportionate violence against communities of color. Additionally, Sheriff Bolanos' collaboration with ICE is deeply concerning and further exhibits that SMCSO does not value the lives and sanctity of our community members.

As our County continues to weather the impacts of COVID-19, which has [disproportionately caused more deaths in Black and Latinx communities across the country](#), we are deeply troubled and find unacceptable that the County has chosen to yet again, increase funding of the SMCSO. We are demanding funding of the vital programs that serve a multitude of SMC people such as the Health Department, assistance programs, and other safety-net aid in the county. As highlighted by the [American Public Health Association](#), law enforcement *is* the public health issue, "...causing deaths, injuries, trauma, and stress that disproportionately affect marginalized populations."

The Sheriff's office already operates with a \$250+ million dollar budget. In May 2020, the County recently approved nearly \$1 million dollars for tasers, and is projected to add \$1 million more to increase wages for the Sheriff's Department. Alarmingly, this increase is being proposed while the County predicts to be in a \$65-100 million dollar deficit because of COVID-19. This is unconscionable.

Meanwhile, the County's Health Department will barely manage to fill a deficit of \$57 million that it was facing before COVID-19 and expects to lose more revenue later this year from less tax and other revenue in the midst of the pandemic. The [County Manager has stated that](#) *"Departments most affected [by the deficit] include safety-net providers needed during the COVID-19 crisis: the Department of Housing, Human Services Agency and County Health and Public Safety, among others. At the same time, demand for county health services, individual and family assistance programs and other safety-net aid is expected to increase costs, according to the county."*

I urge the County Manager and Board of Supervisors take the following action this fiscal year by:

- 1. Divesting \$100 million dollars from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office and investing said funds in the County's health services, individual & family assistance programs, and other safety-net aid that will benefit the people of SMC and that are predicted to suffer financial loss due to COVID-19.**
- 2. Discontinue use of General Fund monies to pay for settlements due to murder, misconduct, and negligence by the Sheriff's office.**

Sincerely,
Miriam Hennig

From: [Katie Nolan](#)
To: [David Canepa](#); [Warren Slocum](#); [Don Horsley](#); [Carole Groom](#); [Dave Pine](#); [Michael Callagy](#); [CMO BoardFeedback](#); [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Agenda Item # 8: Request to Defund the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 6:52:05 AM

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Dear County Manager Michael P. Callagy, and Supervisors David Canepa, Carole Groom, Don Horsley, Warren Slocum, and Dave Pine:

My name is Katie Nolan Hales and I am a resident of San Mateo County (SMC). I am reaching out at this critical moment in support of defunding the San Mateo County's Sheriff's Office (SMCSO) and commenting on Agenda Item # 8 for the 6/23 Board of Supervisors Meeting. Funds must be redirected to health and mental health care, education, transit, affordable housing, and COVID-19 relief; providers that have proven to have a positive impact on all residents.

In 2018, after the tasing death of a Black father, Chinedu Okobi, the SMCSO resisted changing its Use of Force Policy, even after prolonged and sustained public outcry. Ongoing violence by law enforcement across the country, evidenced by the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Rayshard Brooks and recent local law enforcement involved shootings, taser deaths, Sheriff Bolanos' ongoing collaboration with ICE, convince us that our community must shift our funding priorities from law enforcement to those resources that have proven to support the sanctity of human life.

As our County continues to weather the impacts of COVID-19, which has [disproportionately caused more deaths in Black and Latinx communities across the country](#), we are deeply troubled and find unacceptable that the County has chosen to yet again, increase funding of the SMCSO. We are demanding funding of the vital programs that serve a multitude of SMC people such as the Health Department, assistance programs, and other safety-net aid in the county. As highlighted by the [American Public Health Association](#), law enforcement *is* the public health issue, "...causing deaths, injuries, trauma, and stress that disproportionately affect marginalized populations."

The Sheriff's office already operates with a \$250+ million dollar budget. In May 2020, the County recently approved nearly \$1 million dollars for tasers, and is projected to add \$1 million more to increase wages for the Sheriff's Department. Alarmingly, this increase is being proposed while the County predicts to be in a \$65-100 million dollar deficit because of COVID-19.

Meanwhile, the County's Health Department will barely manage to fill a deficit of \$57 million that it was facing before COVID-19 and expects to lose more revenue later this year from less tax and other revenue in the midst of the pandemic. The [County Manager has stated that](#) *"Departments most affected [by the deficit] include safety-net providers needed during the COVID-19 crisis: the Department of Housing, Human Services Agency and County Health and Public Safety, among others. At the same time, demand for county health*

services, individual and family assistance programs and other safety-net aid is expected to increase costs, according to the county.”

I urge the County Manager and Board of Supervisors take the following action this fiscal year:

1. Divesting \$100 million dollars from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office and investing said funds in the County's health services, individual & family assistance programs, and other safety-net aid that will benefit the people of SMC and that are predicted to suffer financial loss due to COVID-19.
2. Discontinue use of General Fund monies to pay for settlements due to murder, misconduct, and negligence by the Sheriff's office.

Sincerely,
Katie Nolan Hales

From: [Lisa Ashley](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#); [Dave Pine](#); [Don Horsley](#); [David Canepa](#); [Carole Groom](#); [Michael Callagy](#); [Warren Slocum](#)
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 6:52:06 AM

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Dear County Manager Michael P. Callagy, and Supervisors David Canepa, Carole Groom, Don Horsley, Warren Slocum, and Dave Pine:

My name is Lisa Ashley and I am a resident of San Mateo County (SMC). I am reaching out at this critical moment to defund San Mateo County's Sheriff's Office (SMCSO) and commenting on Agenda Item #8 for the 6/23 Board of Supervisors Meeting. Funds must be redirected to health and mental health care, education, transit, affordable housing, and COVID-19 relief; providers that have proven to have a positive impact on all residents.

In 2018, after the tasing death of a Black father, Chinedu Okobi, the SMCSO resisted changing its Use of Force Policy, even after prolonged and sustained public outcry. Ongoing violence by law enforcement across the country, evidenced by the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Rayshard Brooks, and recent local law enforcement involved shootings, taser deaths, Sheriff Bolanos' ongoing collaboration with ICE, convince us that our community must shift our funding priorities from law enforcement to those resources that have proven to support the sanctity of human life.

As our County continues to weather the impacts of COVID-19, which has [disproportionately caused more deaths in Black and Latinx communities across the country](#), we are deeply troubled and find unacceptable that the County has chosen to yet again, increase funding of the SMCSO. We are demanding funding of the vital programs that serve a multitude of SMC people such as the Health Department, assistance programs, and other safety-net aid in the county. As highlighted by the [American Public Health Association](#), law enforcement is the public health issue, "...causing deaths, injuries, trauma, and stress that disproportionately affect marginalized populations."

The Sheriff's office already operates with a \$250+ million dollar budget. In May 2020, the County recently approved nearly \$1 million dollars for tasers and is projected to add \$1 million more to increase wages for the Sheriff's Department. Alarmingly, this increase is being proposed while the County predicts to be in a \$65-100 million dollar deficit because of COVID-19.

Meanwhile, the County's Health Department will barely manage to fill a deficit of \$57 million that it was facing before COVID-19 and expects to lose more revenue later this year from less tax and other revenue in the midst of the pandemic. The [County Manager has stated that](#) "Departments most affected [by the deficit] include safety-net providers needed during the COVID-19 crisis: the Department of Housing, Human Services Agency and County Health and Public Safety, among others. At the same time, demand for county health services, individual and family assistance programs, and other safety-net aid is expected to increase costs, according to the county."

I urge the County Manager and Board of Supervisors to take the following action this fiscal year by:

1. Divesting \$100 million dollars from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office and investing said funds in the County's health services, individual & family assistance programs, and other safety-net aid that will benefit the people of SMC and that are predicted to suffer financial loss due to COVID-19.
2. Discontinue use of General Fund monies to pay for settlements due to murder, misconduct, and negligence by the Sheriff's office.

Sincerely,

Lisa Ashley

From: Lauradds@
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#); [Michael Callagy](#); [Dave Pine](#); [David Canepa](#); [Warren Slocum](#); [Don Horsley](#); [Carole Groom](#)
Subject: Request to Defund the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office - Agenda Item #8
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 6:52:06 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Dear County Manager Michael P. Callagy, and Supervisors David Canepa, Carole Groom, Don Horsley, Warren Slocum, and Dave Pine:

My name is Laura Miller and I have been a resident of San Mateo County (SMC) for over 20 years. I am reaching out at this critical moment to defund the San Mateo County's Sheriff's Office (SMCSO) and commenting on Agenda Item #8 for the 6/23 Board of Supervisors Meeting. Funds must be redirected to health and mental health care, education, transit, affordable housing, and COVID-19 relief; providers that have proven to have a positive impact on all residents, including residents of color.

In 2018, after the tasing death of a Black father, Chinedu Okobi, the SMCSO resisted changing its Use of Force Policy, even after prolonged and sustained public outcry. Ongoing violence by law enforcement across the country, evidenced by the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Rayshard Brooks and recent local law enforcement involved shootings, taser deaths, Sheriff Bolanos' ongoing collaboration with ICE, convince us that our community must shift our funding priorities from law enforcement to those resources that have proven to support the sanctity of human life.

As our County continues to weather the impacts of COVID-19, which has [disproportionately caused more deaths in Black and Latinx communities across the country](#), we are deeply troubled and find unacceptable that the County has chosen to yet again, increase funding of the SMCSO. We are demanding funding of the vital programs that serve a multitude of SMC people such as the Health Department, assistance programs, and other safety-net aid in the county. As highlighted by the [American Public Health Association](#), law enforcement *is* the public health issue, "...causing deaths, injuries, trauma, and stress that disproportionately affect marginalized populations."

The Sheriff's office already operates with a \$250+ million dollar budget. In May 2020, the County recently approved nearly \$1 million dollars for tasers, and is projected to add \$1 million more to increase wages for the Sheriff's Department. Alarmingly, this increase is being proposed while the County predicts to be in a \$65-100 million dollar deficit because of COVID-19. My question for you is, who are the police working to protect? Why should certain people have more or less rights to accessing "public safety" services such as police because of their skin color or racial identity?

Meanwhile, the County's Health Department will barely manage to fill a deficit of \$57 million that it was facing before COVID-19 and expects to lose more revenue later this year from less tax and other revenue in the midst of the pandemic. The [County Manager has stated that](#) *"Departments most affected [by the deficit] include safety-net providers needed during the COVID-19 crisis: the Department of Housing, Human Services Agency and County Health and Public Safety, among others. At the same time, demand for county health services, individual and family assistance programs and other safety-net aid is expected to increase costs, according to the county."* I have seen the impacts of the housing crisis both personally in my own efforts to secure affordable housing and in that of unhoused people who are not provided with sufficient services so that they are not living in fear each night. Our most vulnerable community members, such as essential workers and undocumented individuals, deserve to feel safe in their own housing spaces, but more often than not, this is not the case. This lack of access to housing and health services, especially for non-English Language proficient communities and communities of color, has been brushed under the table without concrete policy solutions for too long. It is time to take a stand in action, not in

words.

I urge the County Manager and Board of Supervisors take the following action this fiscal year by:

1. Divesting \$100 million dollars from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office and investing said funds in the County's health services, individual & family assistance programs, and other safety-net aid that will benefit the people of SMC and that are predicted to suffer financial loss due to COVID-19.
2. Discontinue use of General Fund monies to pay for settlements due to murder, misconduct, and negligence by the Sheriff's office.

Sincerely,
Laura Miller

From: [Kristen Fu](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#); [CMO BoardFeedback](#); [Michael Callagy](#); [Dave Pine](#); [Carole Groom](#); [Don Horsley](#); [Warren Slocum](#); [David Canepa](#)
Subject: Request to Defund the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office - Agenda Item #8
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 6:52:07 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Dear County Manager Michael P. Callagy, and Supervisors David Canepa, Carole Groom, Don Horsley, Warren Slocum, and Dave Pine:

My name is Kristen Fu and I am a former long-time resident of San Mateo County (SMC). My parents and grandparents are still residents of SMC, and have been for over 30 years. I am reaching out at this critical moment to defund the San Mateo County's Sheriff's Office (SMCSO) and commenting on Agenda Item #8 for the 6/23 Board of Supervisors Meeting. Funds must be redirected to health and mental health care, education, transit, affordable housing, and COVID-19 relief; providers that have proven to have a positive impact on all residents.

In 2018, after the tasing death of a Black father, Chinedu Okobi, the SMCSO resisted changing its Use of Force Policy, even after prolonged and sustained public outcry. Ongoing violence by law enforcement across the country, evidenced by the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Rayshard Brooks and recent local law enforcement involved shootings, taser deaths, Sheriff Bolanos' ongoing collaboration with ICE, convince us that our community must shift our funding priorities from law enforcement to those resources that have proven to support the sanctity of human life.

As our County continues to weather the impacts of COVID-19, which has [disproportionately caused more deaths in Black and Latinx communities across the country](#), we are deeply troubled and find unacceptable that the County has chosen to yet again, increase funding of the SMCSO. We are demanding funding of the vital programs that serve a multitude of SMC people such as the Health Department, assistance programs, and other safety-net aid in the county. As highlighted by the [American Public Health Association](#), law enforcement *is* the public health issue, "...causing deaths, injuries, trauma, and stress that disproportionately affect marginalized populations."

The Sheriff's office already operates with a \$250+ million dollar budget. In May 2020, the County recently approved nearly \$1 million dollars for tasers, and is projected to add \$1 million more to increase wages for the Sheriff's Department. Alarmingly, this increase is being proposed while the County predicts to be in a \$65-100 million dollar deficit because of COVID-19.

Meanwhile, the County's Health Department will barely manage to fill a deficit of \$57 million that it was facing before COVID-19 and expects to lose more revenue later this year from less tax and other revenue in the midst of the pandemic. The [County Manager has stated that](#) *"Departments most affected [by the deficit] include safety-net providers needed during the COVID-19 crisis: the Department of Housing, Human Services Agency and County Health and Public Safety, among others. At the same time, demand for county health services, individual and family assistance programs and other safety-net aid is expected to increase costs, according to the county."*

I urge the County Manager and Board of Supervisors take the following action this fiscal year by:

1. Divesting \$100 million dollars from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office and investing said funds in

the County's health services, individual & family assistance programs, and other safety-net aid that will benefit the people of SMC and that are predicted to suffer financial loss due to COVID-19.

2. Discontinue use of General Fund monies to pay for settlements due to murder, misconduct, and negligence by the Sheriff's office.

Sincerely,

Kristen Fu

From: [Julayne Lee](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#); [CMO BoardFeedback](#); [Michael Callagy](#); [Dave Pine](#); [Carole Groom](#); [Don Horsley](#); [Warren Slocum](#); [David Canepa](#)
Subject: Request to Defund the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office - Agenda Item #8
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 6:52:08 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Dear County Manager Michael P. Callagy, and Supervisors David Canepa, Carole Groom, Don Horsley, Warren Slocum, and Dave Pine:

My name is Julayne Lee and I am a resident and employee of San Mateo County (SMC). I am reaching out at this critical moment to defund the San Mateo County's Sheriff's Office (SMCSO) and commenting on Agenda Item #8 for the 6/23 Board of Supervisors Meeting. As a former high school teacher, I strongly urge the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors to redirect funds to health and mental health care, education, transit, affordable housing, and COVID-19 relief; providers that have proven to have a positive impact on all residents.

In 2018, after the tasing death of a Black father, Chinedu Okobi, the SMCSO resisted changing its Use of Force Policy, even after prolonged and sustained public outcry. Ongoing violence by law enforcement across the country, evidenced by the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Rayshard Brooks and recent local law enforcement involved shootings, taser deaths, Sheriff Bolanos' ongoing collaboration with ICE, convince us that our community must shift our funding priorities from law enforcement to those resources that have proven to support the sanctity of human life. I grew up in Minnesota so I am quite familiar with the history of the Minneapolis police department and am encouraged by the changes happening in my home state to defund the police and launch alternative, viable initiatives and programs to ensure community safety and the ability for all residents to live full and complete lives. I hope Minneapolis can become a model for other communities across the country including San Mateo County.

As our County continues to weather the impacts of COVID-19, which has [disproportionately caused more deaths in Black and Latinx communities across the country](#), we are deeply troubled and find unacceptable that the County has chosen to yet again, increase funding of the SMCSO. We are demanding funding of the vital programs that serve a multitude of SMC people such as the Health Department, assistance programs, and other safety-net aid in the county. As highlighted by the [American Public Health Association](#), law enforcement *is* the public health issue, "...causing deaths, injuries, trauma, and stress that disproportionately affect marginalized populations."

The Sheriff's office already operates with a \$250+ million dollar budget. In May 2020, the County recently approved nearly \$1 million dollars for tasers, and is projected to add \$1 million more to increase wages for the Sheriff's Department. Alarmingly, this increase is being proposed while the County predicts to be in a \$65-100 million dollar deficit because of COVID-19. I am astounded at the amount of funding allocated for the Sheriff's office and can only imagine how our community would thrive if these funds were diverted to education and essential social services. As a high school teacher, I experienced annual budget cuts, increased classroom sizes and reduced resources. I loved my students and miss working with our youth but these deteriorating working conditions resulted in my eventual departure from education. Let's prioritize education and our future leaders!

Meanwhile, the County's Health Department will barely manage to fill a deficit of \$57 million that it was facing before COVID-19 and expects to lose more revenue later this year from less tax and other revenue

in the midst of the pandemic. The [County Manager has stated that](#) *“Departments most affected [by the deficit] include safety-net providers needed during the COVID-19 crisis: the Department of Housing, Human Services Agency and County Health and Public Safety, among others. At the same time, demand for county health services, individual and family assistance programs and other safety-net aid is expected to increase costs, according to the county.”* Healthcare is an essential service as we have seen and everyone has a right to comprehensive and accessible healthcare. Why not make this possible to everyone in San Mateo County? Healthier communities mean a healthier economy.

I urge the County Manager and Board of Supervisors take the following action this fiscal year by:

1. Divesting \$100 million dollars from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office and investing said funds in the County's health services, individual & family assistance programs, and other safety-net aid that will benefit the people of SMC and that are predicted to suffer financial loss due to COVID-19.
2. Discontinue use of General Fund monies to pay for settlements due to murder, misconduct, and negligence by the Sheriff's office.

Thank you for your consideration. I do hope you'll make the decisions that are in the best interest of our community per the above.

Sincerely,

Julayne Lee
San Mateo County resident and employee

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Julayne Lee


From: [Lori Lisowski](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Public Comment for June 23, 2020 Meeting
Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 7:15:08 AM

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Do Not Invest More Money in Tasers

Dear Board of Supervisors,

All the well-meaning words in the world about the need for police reform and racial justice mean nothing in the absence of actions that back up those words. Your continued support of tasers and willingness to put military-grade weapons and ammunition in the hands of the police show your true colors. Your unanimous vote to spend \$1 million (!!!) on tasers is indicative of the kind of racist policies and excessive use of force promulgated and promoted in this county.

As a white resident of this county, who is appalled by your actions, I request that you redirect the money for tasers into programs that work to build police-community relations, demilitarize the police and inculcate a culture of de-escalation first and force only as an absolute last resort. We also need better mental health training and services in this county.

Act now to prevent more unnecessary arrests and deaths.

Lori Lisowski
San Mateo, CA