From:	Jon Cardiello
To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	Please Invest in the Missoula Community! (not just the polisce)!
Date:	Wednesday, June 17, 2020 12:45:59 PM

Hello Missoula City Council,

I'm writing in hopes that you will consider investing in the Missoula community - rather than continuing to dump massive sums of money into the police department. I stand with the many other concerned citizens who don't support our taxpayer money going towards the police department.. **especially not towards a $250,000 new locker room!** I think there is a lot of work to be done moving forward but I hope you will join us in envisioning a brighter future in Missoula where our city is investing in homeless shelters, social workers, education, mental health experts, drug abuse resources, (the list goes on) rather than giving a disproportionate amount of this funding to the police department.

I know these ideas are a lot to take in so quickly.. but I truly hope that we can all learn from the current BLM movement. It should be alarming that so few people feel like the police are there to protect them when the police department is a publicly funded organization. **That is messed up!** I hope that Missoula can be a leader for the state of Montana in taking some bold steps to realign our city budget with the values of prioritizing the well being of our community.

ALSO I think the city council and Mayor Engen should publicly denounce the white supremecist military groups that have been harassing our BIPOC community and simultaneously claiming to be "protecting the protesters." This is a really scary presence in our community and we do need your guidance on addressing it. Most importantly we need to be listening to the most vulnerable members of our community WHO ARE LEAVING TOWN BECAUSE THEY ARE SCARED OF THESE PEOPLE.

Thank you I appreciate your time in reading this! Also - are these messages being read? Any sort of response would be much appreciated!

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