From:	Sara Odenthal
To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	Let"s invest in our community.
Date:	Sunday, June 28, 2020 12:36:46 PM

Hello,
I am writing a someone who cares about the Missoula community and wants to see us healthy and thriving.
Defund the police-yeah, I know you have heard it. Here's the real breakdown: reallocate funds from the police budget to social services.
It's vital that we look at the specific problems that face the Missoula community-Substance use disorders, untreated mental health conditions, homelessness, domestic abuse, and find *specific solutions* to each problem. Currently, the police are overtaxed and operating like a swiss army knife-doing 7 jobs that they aren't well equipped for. We need social workers and community health interventions to help support people and provide solutions that are supported by EVIDENCE to show positive outcomes.

We DON'T need police reform, we need police restructuring. We need to get the police out of every area of our lives that we can and find community-based solutions that are supported by evidence.

We need to use our tax dollars to provide services that will help our community. We need to provide services that will not lead to violence against indigenous, black, and brown people. Missoula is better than this. We have always been innovators and we can make this change. I invite you to imagine a future where people can get the care they need for their addictions, there are supportive mental health services, not just a doctor handing a patient a bottle of pills. This is possible, and we can do it together; and it's going to take some work.

Sara Odenthal