From:	Lillie Greiman
To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	Comment on City Budget
Date:	Saturday, July 25, 2020 7:59:14 AM

Dear Council,

I am writing today to ask you to push back against Mayor Engen's proposed budget with the substantial increase in dollars for the MPD. This money is so desperately needed elsewhere in Missoula.

I grew up in Helena and when I moved to Missoula I felt so much pride in joining this community and I feel so incredibly lucky that I have been able to call the Northside of town my home for over ten years. I plan on staying in this neighborhood because I was able to purchase a house in 2018. However, most Missoulians are not as privileged as I am, and many of my friends in the service and support industries (industries that make Missoula thrive) will likely never be in my position. This is especially true for my friends and neighbors who are Black, Indigenous or People of Color in town. Over the years I have had some rude awakenings that this community that I thought was so open and accepting can be anything but that if you are a person of color.

I am asking therefore that you take a stance against the mayor and against this increased funding.

1. Withdraw proposed funding for riot gear, armored personnel carriers, and the additional new funding for police.
2. Pass a budget in alignment with our community values - **not in policing.**
3. Rather than police, put more funding into:
    a. additional, permanent funding to the mobile crisis response team
    b. additional funding for the affordable housing trust fund
    c. emergency and transitional housing
    d. local substance use support

e. promoting Racial equity in public schools

Sincerely,

Lillie Greiman
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