From: K M
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: Protect BIPOC in our community
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 9:02:27 PM

Dear City Council,
I am writing because I am greatly concerned by the story I heard today from the young man who was attacked by police officers on June 5th at a BLM protest. I am saddened that Missoula is not standing behind a young black man who was at a peaceful protest. He deserves a public apology and the officers that attacked him need to be dealt with. He should not feel unsafe in his home town.

I also have seen the proposed budget and am alarmed by the increase in police funding. Especially alarmed by the funding for riot gear, and armored personnel carriers. It is wrong that the mayor has proposed $19 million for police and only $2 Million toward housing and community development. We would not need the police if we took better care of each other. Please vote to change the budget to reflect what Missoulian's want their money going toward, social justice in our community.

You could put some of that police money into creating a permanent mobile crisis response team (made up of Therapist and Social Workers, people who know how to deescalate conflict and do not carry guns). Funding for Affordable housing trust funds, mental health services, emergency and transitional housing, local substance use support and promoting Racial equity in public schools.

Please make sure this budget reflects what the people of Missoula care about.
Thank you,
Katie Maunz