

From: Krystal Baumann <krystal.a.s.12@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 4:13 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comment for City Council Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I'd like to share my demands and requests for the city council to address, specifically around budget and policing.

Tacoma should largely defund it's police force and reallocate funding to much needed services to prevent crime, violence and poverty. Such as mental health and chemical dependency services, affordable housing, youth programs, healthcare, transformative justice and education. Cops should be removed from schools, overwhelmingly they arrest or harrass students of color, and no school shootings have been stopped by police.

Prioritize freeing individuals from jail who are at high risk for COVID 19 (immunocompromised and those over 60) and those who have committed nonviolent or low level crimes.

Regarding the killing of Manny Ellis: FIRE, arrest and charge the officers who were responsible for his murder. Officers Collins, Burbank, Ford and Rankine. Fire officials associated with the cover up of the murder; pierce county sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell, and Pierce County Sheriff's information officer Ed Troyer. We can't have this corruption in these powerful positions.

Regarding the Northwest Detention center. Move to close the center! I don't want this facility on Tacoma soil. Eliminate the use of Sani-T-10 in the facility; it is harmful to humans. End deportations; we're in a pandemic! Ensure there is adequate and regular COVID-19 testing of detainees and staff, as well as access to medical care for those who test positive. Free the detainees! Shut down NWDC!

Thank you for your attention.

Krystal Baumann

98405

From: Colin .Conway <colinj1193@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 4:00 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comments concerning Tacoma Police

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello my name is Colin O'Brien,

today I am demanding that we defund the police and sheriff! I don't feel safe with these officers Collins, Burbank, Ford and Rankine and the way that the Tacoma Police have handled the case of Manuel Ellis is very concerning and cannot be trusted.

I demand that we allocate this funding to community transformative justice housing mental health services counseling education and healthcare.

I demand for the removal of cops from all schools.

I am also demanding that we free all jailed and detained people in Pierce County. I have come to believe that most are in for non-violent crimes and that through mental health services, counseling education and healthcare we can have more productive members of society with a chance at life.

In demands back to the case of Manuel Ellis, I demand that we arrest and charge TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis's murder: Officers Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyah Ford and Timothy Rankine. I demand that we investigate how many times the TPD and Pierce County Sheriff's Department broke laws and policies of 1940.

I demand we remove officials complicit in the murder cover up, Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell and Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer.

I also have concerns from NWDC and I would therefore call to eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside NWDC. We need to continue testing of all detained people and workers for Covid-19 and other illnesses inside and can we stop transferring people to and from the facility? It's a global pandemic we need to free these people and end the deportations! Shut down NWDC

I look forward to hearing these changes put into place and thank you for reading through these lists of demands

From: Shariah Hunt <shariahhunt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 4:00 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Public Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I am writing to request that Pierce County defund the police & sheriff, and allocate funding to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, and education. I also demand that Ellis family demands are upheld.

Shariah H

From: Melissa Dunbar <martialyss@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:59 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Resolution #40622

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

As long as this resolution is, there is no "how" nor there is any "when" in any of the actions given to the city manager to carry out.

She is to keep "anti-racism" in mind when doing her duties, but how is she supposed to carry this out? Without having a clear rubric of action, hown is she, or anyone else, to know if she's doing her job effectively or not?

When does she have to have these actions carried out? By next Tuesday? By next month? In six months?

We need a good strong solid foundation to work from that has accountability. The people of Tacoma deserve to be given real actions that have sound commitment that can be tested.

Melissa Dunbar

From: Skye Mccurdy <skyemccurdy@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:59 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Concerns about NWDC

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Good afternoon,

My name is Skye and I am currently a student living in Tacoma. I have some serious concerns about the state of those detained in the NWDC. They are as follows:

- 1) Eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside the NWDC
- 2) Continual testing of all detained people and workers for COVID-19
- 3) Provide medical attention for all people with COVID-19 and other illnesses
- 4) STOP transferring people to and from the facility
- 5) End all deportations (this is a GLOBAL pandemic!)
- 6) FREE THEM ALL
- 7) SHUT DOWN THE NWDC

This facility is a blatant disregard of human rights. Those kept inside the facility are suffering for no reason. Free them all.

Good Day,

Skye McCurdy

From: kylie gurewitz <kyliegurewitz@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:58 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comments for next City Council Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear council members,

I write to you to share my thoughts, as a Tacoma resident, on multiple pertinent issues.

Regarding the murder of Manny Ellis, I ask that you listen to the demands of the Ellis family, which are to:

1. Arrest and charge the TPD officers involved in Ellis's murder:
2. Investigate how many times TPD and Pierce County Sheriff's Department have broken the laws and policies of I940
3. Remove officials complicit in the murder cover up: Paul Pastor, Dom Ramsdell, and Ed Troyer

Regarding the Northwest Detention Center:

1. Shut down the NWDC. Until then:
2. Eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 in the NWDC
3. Continually test all detained people and workers for Covid-19
4. Provide medical attention for all people inside the NWDC
5. Stop transferring people to and from the facility, and stop deportations

Regarding the Law Enforcement of Pierce County:

1. Defund the police and sheriff – Allocate this funding to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education and healthcare.
2. Remove cops from schools
3. Free all jailed and detained people in Pierce County

From: Chessie Merrill <merrillchessie@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:57 PM

To: City Clerk's Office

Subject: Justice for Manuel

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Manuel Ellis' family deserves justice. We demand that the police be defunded and that all protesters be released.

Thank you,

Chessie Merrill

From: Eileen Newton <mammyde2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:57 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Change needed

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

After the following occurred I got an email saying that there would be an investigation and nothing happened. I had to do all my own follow-up. Police have not been held accountable in this city and it's time for change. There has been a formal apology for police officers acting like this. I have been forever changed by this experience.

To whom it may concern,

On Tuesday, June 26th, I was participating in the goodnight neighbors noise rally like I had the previous two days, when a grey car stopped in the middle of the road. It did not move for quite some time and blocked several cars which had to backup and do a u-turn. It became apparent that this car was going nowhere and I saw a young person park a shopping cart about 5 feet in front of the vehicle.

The grey vehicle then started up and hit the cart, (it was a lieutenants car,) and his flashing lights came on. Within 2 minutes the street was filled with police cars, indicating to me that they were laying in wait for an incident.

He got out of his vehicle, pointed at the young person and several officers jumped on that boy, put him in a choke hold and cuffed him. I was shouting that there were children here but they were not listening.

Then they started grabbing people. They grabbed a young man who was playing bongos and began to cuff him and when the bongos got in the officers way he raised them above his head throwing them with a force that would crush them to the pavement.

I didn't want anyone driving over them, so I picked them up and moved them to the sidewalk and heard my daughter saying, 'mom...mom!' And I turned around to see my daughter being hand cuffed. I said that she was my daughter, had done nothing wrong and should be let go. I said this twice and another officer came over and shoved me backwards onto the pavement which caused me to hit my head. He then rolled me over and cuffed me.

There are three things I want to address here:

1. We have a guaranteed right to freedom of speech under the 1st amendment. The police department, workers at GEO, ICE and the city of Tacoma can disagree with me, but they should not try to stop me from being there, making my noise to support the detainees

inside.

2. We are also guaranteed the right to assemble under the 14th amendment. There was no call for officers to show up to a non-violent gathering of citizens. I am disheartened that this ever happened in my city. I used to believe in our police force. That has changed.

3. The officer that shoved me to the pavement, cuffed me too tightly and then proceeded to twist my wrist in the most torturous way possible all the way to the car should not be on our force.

I am a 57 year old mother and elementary teacher. Anyone seeing me would know that I'm no threat. I am sickened that he is part of Tacoma, much less part of our force supposedly here to serve and protect.

I wasn't ever told what I'd been arrested for.

I want ever read my maranda rights.

I wasn't told how much my bail would be.

We spent the night in jail and weren't released until the afternoon of the following day when all charges had been dropped in the morning.

This whole incident has changed how I feel about our police department.

Sincerely, Eileen Newton

Eileen Newton

From: Addie Tinkham <addieliz2000@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:57 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Council Demands

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Defund the police and sheriff! Allocate those funds to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education, and healthcare!

Remove all cops from schools.

Free all jailed and detained people in Pierce county, starting with those in for marijuana charges and protesting charges.

Thank you.

From: Orion Benedict <o.rose.benedict@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:56 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comment on Resolution No. 40622

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear City Councilmembers,

I'm writing to make a public comment on Resolution No. 40622. This resolution outlines steps toward the "transformation" of our police department in response to widespread criticism of policing. What this resolution misses is that the existence of the police force itself is the true problem-- an inherently violent institution cannot be meaningfully reformed. What many communities are actually calling for is the defunding and demilitarization of police with the ultimate goal to abolish policing. Even reforms that appear well-intentioned are often used as a way to strengthen the police by funneling more resources and funding their way. It is a well-established fact that the TPD perpetuates racism and other violence toward marginalized groups-- this is not something that needs to be assessed or further proven before change can occur. Rather than directing more resources toward policing **please commit to defunding and disarming the police.** Then reallocate funding to where it is truly needed in our communities.

Sincerely,

Orion Benedict
Tacoma Resident

From: Grace Dunbar <gdunbar7@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:51 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comments for Tacoma City Council Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

My name is Grace Dunbar and I live in the Hilltop neighborhood of Tacoma, Washington. I am emailing you to share my thoughts and hopes for policing in Tacoma. It is my hope that you defund the Tacoma Police Department and Pierce County Sheriff's Department, and instead allocate this funding to community transformative justice, affordable housing, mental health services, counselling, education and health care--particularly focusing on Black communities and communities of color. Please remove all police officers from Tacoma schools, and end the contract between Tacoma Public Schools and TPD. Consider freeing all jailed and detained individuals in Pierce County, as they are unable to quarantine and are already more vulnerable to COVID-19.

I, along with many others, have deep concerns about the murder of Manuel Ellis that was committed by 4 Tacoma Police Department officers, Christopher Burbank, Matthew Collins, Masyih Ford, and Timothy Rankine on March 3, 2020. It took the Tacoma Police Department over 90 days to inform the Ellis family the names of the officers involved in the murder of Manuel Ellis. These officers were initially suspended, but then later reinstated and continued to work until June 3rd, when they were placed on leave again. The Pierce County Sheriff's Department broke the recently legislated police reform policy I-940. The Pierce County Sheriff's Department was leading the investigation into the murder of Manuel Ellis for 3 months, until it was revealed that one of its deputies had been present at the scene of Ellis's death. All of these facts are unacceptable and deeply disturbing.

I ask that you meet all of the demands of the Ellis family--that TPD officers Collins, Burbank, Ford and Rankine are fired immediately and that no new officers are hired in their place. I also ask that you investigate how many times TPD and the Pierce County Sheriff's Department broke laws and the policy of I-940 in the past. The Ellis family is also asking that all officials who were complicit in the cover up of Manuel Ellis's murder be fired immediately, including Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell, and Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Treyer. Please do this and help provide justice for the Ellis family.

I am also deeply concerned about the conditions of the Northwest Detention Center. I am aware that a number of immigration detention centers in our country, including Adelanto Detention Center in California, have begun using HDQ Neutral-which manufacturer Spartan Chemical warns can be harmful as it causes skin burns and serious eye damage, and respiratory damage when inhaled in poorly ventilated areas filled with detainees. Here is an article that details the harm this has caused to detainees and the conditions of this detention center: [https://www.insider.com/report-detention-centers-use-disinfectant-causing-bleeding-and-](https://www.insider.com/report-detention-centers-use-disinfectant-causing-bleeding-and)

[pain-2020-6](#). It has also come to my attention that the NWDC here in Tacoma has begun to use the chemical Sani-T-10, also manufactured by Spartan Chemical, to sanitize the facility. This chemical is also harmful if inhaled, is a skin irritant and can cause serious eye damage. It is recommended by the manufacturer that Sani-T-10 is only used outdoors or in well-ventilated areas, the Northwest Detention Center is neither of those things. Please eliminate all use of Sani-T-10 inside the NWDC. Additionally, please provide continual COVID-19 testing of detained individuals and employees at the NWDC. Please provide medical attention for all people with COVID-19 and other illnesses inside the facility, and put pressure on the NWDC to release immunocompromised and otherwise vulnerable individuals from detention. Please pressure NWDC to stop transferring detainees to and from the facilities, and to halt deportations as we are in the middle of a pandemic. Ultimately, it is my belief that all detainees at the Northwest Detention Center should be released during this pandemic and that the NWDC should be shut down permanently.

Thank you for hearing my concerns, I appreciate your time.

Sincerely,

Grace Dunbar

503-707-2497

From: Melissa Dunbar <martialyss@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:50 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Resolution #40621

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

What is this resolution set to accomplish? Reading through the action portion of this resolution, all I see is that someone will notify the COUNCIL and that the mayor will call the family if someone is murdered by the Tacoma Police Department.

What does that actually accomplish? There is no transparency here. There is no accountability here. This resolution is placating the public and does no real work. 4 pages of "are you happy, yet?"

No. We are NOT happy.

Give us therefores that tell us you will MAKE OFFICER NAMES AND BADGE NUMBERS PUBLIC within 3 days of a TPD murder. Tell us that you will release the body cam footage in its entirety the family within 3 days. Tell us that you will release body cam footage that the family agrees to release as soon as they give you permission to the public.

Tell us something other than, "don't worry, we will take care of this. Nothing to see here..."

This resolution is unacceptable.

Melissa Dunbar

Tacoma resident

From: Kylee Abbott <kyleeabbott@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:36 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Community concerns

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I am writing to voice my concerns for a number of inequities and crimes occurring in the community. Our city continues to be terrorized by police departments resulting in unnecessary and sometimes extremely violent outcomes. The amount of our city's budget going to these resources is disgusting. What about public services and community support? I stand with the demands of the Abolitionists of Pierce County:

1. Defund the police and sheriff. Allocate this funding to community transformative justice, mental health services, counseling, education and healthcare
2. Remove cops from ALL schools
3. Free all jailed and detained people in Pierce County

I also write to you to share the demands of the family of Manuel Ellis, a young man and father who was murdered by Tacoma PD officers who are still walking free today:

1. Arrest and charge the TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis's murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford & Timothy Rankine
2. Investigate how many times TPD & Pierce County sheriff's department broke laws and policies of I940
3. Remove officials complicit in the murder cover-up: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell, and Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer

Lastly, and the one of the most ongoing issues, relates to the NW Detention Center and it's inhumane and unjust treatment of individuals. I demand the following:

1. Eliminate the chemical **Sani-T-10** to disinfect inside NWDC. This harmful, toxic chemical solution is NOT intended for use on human bodies - this is dangerous!
2. Continual COVID-19 testing of all detained people and workers
3. Provide medical attention for all people with COVID-19 and other illnesses inside
4. Stop transferring people to and from the facility
5. End deportations - this is a global pandemic! These people do not have a safe place to go in the countries they have intentionally left behind.
6. FREE THEM ALL
7. SHUT DOWN NWDC!

Please listen to the demands your community is coming to you with. There is no better time than now to listen and take just action -

we will continue writing and calling with these demands until you hear us.

Kylee

--

Kylee Abbott

kablab.co

(206) 226-6959

From: Jan F. Brazzell, PhD, ACFRE <advancement@harbornet.com> on behalf of jan@advancementconsulting.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:37 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Cc: 'Miriam Barnett'; brazzell@harbornet.com; Kristy Gledhill; 'Kelly McDonald'
Subject: Written Comment re: Proposed Resolutions 40621 and 40622
Attachments: Letter to Tacoma City Council June 30 2020.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Ms. Sorum (Doris),

Please find attached written public comments submitted by Miriam Barnett, Pamela Duncan, Kristy Gledhill, and me regarding two resolutions on this evening's City Council agenda.

Thank you for sharing them as appropriate.

Gratefully,

Jan F. Brazzell, PhD, ACFRE
Principal Counsel and CEO



Advancement Consulting

Helping you move your organization forward
jan@advancementconsulting.com
Phone: 253.756.7897

June 30, 2020

TO: The Tacoma City Council – Mayor Victoria Woodards, Deputy Mayor Keith Blocker, and Councilmembers Chris Beale, John Hines, Lillian Hunter, Conor McCarthy, Robert Thoms, Catherine Ushka, and Kristina Walker

FROM: Miriam Barnett, Jan F. Brazzell, Pamela Duncan, Kristy Gledhill, and Kelly McDonald

RE: Resolutions 40621 & 40622

I can't breathe.

We've heard these gasps and pleas by Black Americans from across the nation – and now we hear them here in Tacoma, too.

The tragic deaths of George Floyd, Manny Ellis, and countless others at the hands of police show us that deadly force is highly overused – even by our own Tacoma Police. Deadly force costs more lives than it saves. What's more, we see deadly force disproportionately used against Black Americans and other people of color.

We, the undersigned, demand justice for Manny (Manuel) Ellis and his family.

As a City Council, you have the power to reduce future killings, increase justice, and save lives by holding members of the Tacoma Police Department accountable for the improper use of deadly force and racially biased policing, and by adopting policies that increase safety for *everyone* in our community.

Racism is so deeply intertwined in our systems that we can't move fast enough to mitigate the impacts. We understand that Resolutions 40621 and 40622 are just the start of a long, transformative process that will require sustained focus on your part and ours. We ask that you proceed with all due urgency, knowing that we and others are here to support your efforts. At minimum, the following "eight can't wait" policies, plus a ninth, need to be in place, appropriately funded, and enforced immediately:

1. Ban the use of chokeholds and strangleholds in all cases.
2. Require officers to de-escalate situations, where possible, by communicating with subjects, maintaining distance, and otherwise eliminating the need to use force.
3. Require officers to give a verbal warning in all situations before using deadly force.
4. Require officers to exhaust all other alternatives, including non-force and less lethal force options, prior to resorting to deadly force.
5. Require officers to intervene and stop excessive force used by other officers and require the TPD to create and maintain a "safe venue" for reporting these incidences immediately to a supervisor without fear of retaliation or reprisal.
6. Ban officers from shooting at moving vehicles in all cases.
7. Establish a use of force continuum that restricts the most severe types of force to the most extreme situations and creates clear policy restrictions on the use of each police weapon and tactic.
8. Require officers to report each time they use force or threaten to use force against civilians, including whenever they point a firearm at someone, in addition to all other types of force.
9. Mandate the use of body web cameras for our police.

The above nine policies alone will not ensure racial justice, especially as long as our community continues to over-rely on militarized policing, ignore police misbehavior, and under-rely on education and human services to resolve behavioral issues associated with mental illness, homelessness, substance abuse, and poverty.

We applaud Council members' recent statements regarding the need to go beyond "police reform" toward *transforming* how our City provides for community safety. In addition to completing a comprehensive assessment of the policy, procedures, and resource re-allocations needed to transform our approaches, we would like to see *all* members of the Council rally behind the following efforts:

- Proceed with a thorough, impartial, third-party review of the Tacoma Police Department, including its leadership, union contracts, and management, to determine what restructuring and revisions need to take place to ensure that police can be legally and effectively held accountable for eliminating racially biased policing.
- Identify, implement, and ensure progress on objectives that demonstrate a commitment to racial equity-based practices within the City of Tacoma's services.
- Actively engage with legislators, at the State and National levels, to enact policies with public accountability standards to:
 - End qualified immunity.
 - End civil asset forfeiture.
 - End the drug war.
 - End over-criminalization.
 - End no-knock warrants.
 - End militarization of police.
 - End mandatory minimum sentencing.
- Actively engage members of local citizen groups who are studying these justice issues (e.g. Abolitionists of Pierce County, Tacoma Action Collective, and Tacoma Mutual Aid Collective, among others) to help define areas of concern, evaluate policy proposals, and affect solutions.
- Assess the extent to which police are being deployed to handle issues that could be better addressed by, or with the help of, behavioral health professionals. Re/allocate budgetary resources accordingly.

Black Lives Matter. We need ALL members of Tacoma's City Council to take a stand to stamp out racist policing; to regularly review police behavior and any complaints; and to be courageous in the face of the inevitable pushback. We need our Council to see this through and make sure that real change does not fall victim to endless "studies."

You will not stand alone.

We will stand by you and support you as you take these steps.

We will work with you to reform and restructure the way Tacoma ensures public safety.

We will herald and celebrate your efforts to bring about racial justice.

Let's show the region, the country, and the world that Tacoma is committed to being a just and equitable place to live, work and play for ALL people!

Miriam Barnett, Tacoma WA 98406 (CEO, YWCA Pierce County)

Jan F. Brazzell, Tacoma, WA 98407 (Principal, Advancement Consulting)

Pamela Duncan, Tacoma WA 98402 (President & CEO, Metropolitan Development Council)

Kristy Gledhill, Gig Harbor, WA 98335 (Founder and Convener, South Sound Anti-Racist Project)

Kelly McDonald, Tacoma, WA 98404 (Member, South Sound Anti-Racist Project)

From: ann bickel <annmbickel@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:36 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: letter of concern for Tacoma City Council June 30 2020 meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Tacoma City Council June 30 2020 meeting

Dear City Council of Tacoma WA

I would like you to initiate the following for the safety and well being of our city

:1) defund the police & sheriff! allocate this funding to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education & healthcare

2) remove cops from all schools

3) free all jailed & detained people in Pierce County

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(4) Share the Ellis family demands:

a) arrest & charge TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis's murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford & Timothy Rankine

b) investigate how many times TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's Dept broke laws & polices of l940

c) remove officials complicit in the murder cover up: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell & Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer

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(5) Share concerns from NWDC:

a) eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside NWDC

b) continual testing of all detained people & workers for Covid-19

c) provide medical attention for all people with Covid-19 & other illnesses inside

d) stop transferring people to & from the facility 5) end deportations (this is a global pandemic!)

e) FREE THEM ALL!

f) SHUT DOWN NWDC!

Thank you for your attention to this,

Ann Bickel

Tacoma Washington 98407

From: Rose Pytte <rosepytte@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:33 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Manny Ellis and TPD

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Tacoma City Council,

I'm writing as a resident of Tacoma who has been following and learning about the murder of Manny Ellis by TPD. I want to join the Ellis family in demanding that officers Collins, Burbank, Ford and Rankine are arrested and charged, that TPD and the Pierce County Sheriff's Department are investigated for breaking the laws and policies of I940, and that Sheriff Pastor, Police Chief Ramsdell and Information Officer Troyer are removed from their positions due to their complicity in the murder cover up.

I also would like to join others in Tacoma and across the country in demanding that the police and sheriff's departments are defunded and the money moved to community transformative justice efforts and social services, that all cops are removed from schools, and that all people who are jailed and detained in Pierce county are freed. I have heard too many first hand stories from people in our community about the violence that police and prisons of all kinds cause, from the family of Manuel Ellis to folks inside the detention center who are refused medical care, put in solitary confinement in retribution for speaking out against GEO, and forced to eat food with maggots in it.

Thank you,

Rose

From: Lexi Brewer <lexib.stc@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:28 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comments on Resolution 40622

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Councilmembers,

I commend and strongly agree with the stated values and intent of Resolution 40622 in "affirming the City Council's dedication and commitment to comprehensive and sustained transformation of all the institutions, systems, policies, practices, and contracts impacted by systemic racism, with initial priority being given to policing in the City of Tacoma."

However, I am concerned that these very values are undermined by the text and directives of this resolution. First, on page 7, lines 13-20, the resolution states "Whereas effectively transforming our systems of policing will require a process that engages with personal at every level of the TPD to assess our current state, ensures that staffing models provide the ability for officers to both protect and serve through authentic and community-oriented policing, and looks for ways that can innovate and assist police officers on the front line....". My concern with this statement is that the same sentence that names "transforming our systems of policing" seems to double down on upholding current structures and systems within TPD, and also seems to indicate that TPD is a majority partner in spearheading its own transformation. We must recognize that the *system* in place at TPD will not be changed or made equitable by small tweaks, neither of which indicate transformation.

Similarly, on page 10, lines 3-9, the resolution directs the City Manager to assess systems at TPD "in consultation with police reform experts." I am concerned that the community at large, and importantly, *those most impacted by systemic racism in policing* are not explicitly included in this directive. The language as it stands gives broad leeway in selecting "police reform experts," which again, can easily lead to incremental tweaks rather than radical transformation.

Thank you for your time,

Alexandra Brewer

--
□

Lexi Brewer

she/her/hers

lexib.stc@gmail.com

From: Emelia Witt <ewitt@pugetsound.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:25 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: 6/30 meeting demands

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello, my name is Emelia Witt,

I am emailing to address a set of demands that I have for Tacoma and Pierce county. I demand that the police and sheriff are defunded, and that this funding is allocated to community transformative justice, mental health services, healthcare, education, counseling, and housing to support Black and Brown communities. I also demand that all cops are removed from all schools for the safety and wellbeing of BIPOC students. Black and Brown students deserve to feel safe in their own schools, and a cop presence actively takes away from this safety. Additionally, all people who are detained and jailed in Pierce county must be released, due to the rise of COVID-19 and the inhumane nature of these facilities in general.

Additionally, I wish to share the Ellis Family demands, that the officers involved with Mannuel Ellis's murder, Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford & Timothy Rankine, are fired, charged, and arrested. Additionally, here should be an investigation into how many times TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's broke laws and policies of 1940. Officials complicit in the murder cover up should also be removed, the sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell, and sheriff info officer Ed Troyer.

Finally I would like to share concerns form the NWDC. The chemical santi T-10 must be removed from the NWDC as it is severely affecting the health of people detained there, who have shared instances of severe reactions from the chemical. It is an industrial disinfectant and should not be used in the NWDC. Additionally, there must be continual COVID-19 testing for workers and all those detained at the NWDC. Medical attention must be provided to those with COVID-19 and other medical conditions or illnesses who are inside the NWDC. Transferring of people to and from the NWDC, as well as deportations, must end. While all of these safety measures must be taken, ultimately all people detained must be freed and the NWDC must be shut down.

Thank you for your time,

Emelia Witt

University of Puget Sound '21
Communications and Environmental Policy Double Major; Spanish Minor Jewish Student Union | President she/her/hers
ewitt@pugetsound.edu

From: Adina Joslyn <adinajoslyn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:25 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Policing and racism

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

I want to lend my voice to the issues of racism and police abuse in our city. I am but one voice, but my hope is I am joining with many others to voice our values and concerns. I am white so I have not experienced racism but I can bear witness to my experiences both in the community as a resident and business owner, as well as a former City of Tacoma employee. I am concerned that this letter will be too much about me, but I know I can only write about what I know and my experiences.

My name is Adina Joslyn. I am one of the owners of Red Elm Cafe in Hilltop. I grew up in rural part of Pierce county, devoid of diversity. I have lived in Tacoma since 1999 and in Hilltop since 2005. The police have lost credibility with me but they have also lost credibility with the next generation. My son will be four years old in September and he knows the police to be dangerous and violent. There is no reason my white son should feel safe with the police when his fourteen year old black cousin does not have that luxury. I will not call the police at my business or home for virtually any reason. I do not want to risk the life of a neighbor, friend, or stranger because the police overreacted or misread the situation.

A few years ago, I was walking up South 19th street just west of Ainsworth Ave. Ahead of me was a person walking in the same direction. I hadn't really registered them until a police car sped up to the curb and stopped suddenly beside the person and two officers jumped out. When I got a little closer I could see the person was an older black woman wearing shorts and a tank top - nothing that even had pockets. When I got to them one of the officers pushed the woman into the laurel hedge as I passed. I turned around a couple yards away and pointed my cell phone at them, too nervous to even figure out how to turn on the video. The officers shouted at me to mind my own business and keep walking. I can't be sure but I am guessing they decided to leave because I wouldn't leave. I asked the woman if she was okay but I didn't understand her reply. I had lit a cigarette to calm my nerves and she motioned her hand to her face. I handed her a cigarette and lighter and we continued walking up South 19th street together in silence. I assert there was no reason that two white male police officers needed to harass that woman. I assert there was no reason or justification to shove her into the hedge that day. I am ashamed to say there have been times earlier in my life when I did mind my own business and assumed there was a reason for police actions.

At my cafe I have had to tell a few people they needed to leave. To be clear these people have spanned the demographics of race, gender, and age. The reason for their disruptive behavior likely stems from trauma related to homelessness, poverty, abuse, and resulting mental health issues. I need them to leave, but I do not

call the police to help. I just offer them coffee and ask them to leave. I am far more uneasy with an armed Tacoma police officer in my cafe than a hungry person struggling with mental health issues.

I want to switch gears and talk about my experience working for Tacoma Public Utilities. I transferred to Water Distribution from Streets and Grounds during the budget crunch and layoffs of 2013. I entered into the Water Utility apprenticeship program. We all went through various classes in cultural sensitivity and unconscious bias training. I do not remember the exact titles for the classes. I would like to assert that you cannot train racism out of a racist particularly when you have a system that sympathizes with it, tolerates it, and even encourages it. Along with many of my coworkers I spent two and a half years in an apprenticeship program being hazed. I had a lead in the field tell me it was his job to make me quit. There were plenty of racist and sexist things said on the job. First of all, you should know that there was a pretty obvious lack of diversity within the department. FYI the apprenticeship program does not require experience so it should be an opportunity for the city to have a diverse department. I have a few suggestions that may improve hiring and recruitment practices that would expand opportunities to more people. Somewhat ironically Water Distribution had a fairly diverse upper management. In the field you either joined in the bullying or you were bullied. I remember one day the entire crew I was on was discussing how awful it was one of their daughters was dating a black man. One of them said I just think people should date their own kind. I responded she's dating a human being not a horse. After that I realized these were opinions they were willing to fight hard to keep, the only way I could get through that day was to demand they not talk about it in front of me. I was given the opportunity to sit on a hiring committee. The only problem was I was pressured to pick the people the others wanted to hire. The pool of applicants interviewed lacked diversity most of them had internal connections to the department. After I left the city there was an employee fired for telling a subordinate he was that section's token N-word. Thankfully the victim of that harassment has moved on to better things as the director of community engagement for Pierce County. I did speak to the EEO officer while I worked there (to be clear this was a previous EEO officer, I have never met the current one). I did not make an official complaint because I was already scared to go to work and I was worried about backlash and retaliation. It was clear the EEO officer was only concerned about avoiding litigation for the city and not concerned with rectifying the underlying systemic problems. I had no intent to sue, I just wanted to not be afraid to go to work. I'm just glad my racist coworkers didn't carry guns as part of their profession. Based on the news of several people killed by TPD and my limited interactions with TPD I assert that our city likely has problems that mirror many other cities across the country. Again I don't believe that additional training will change the reality that our police abuse their power and authority and the consequence is people die.

Now, to address the issue of budgets. Not long ago the city passed a ban on tents in parks. Our city along with many other cities uses the police to sweep homeless out of various spaces. As an exercise in thought...how many people could we as a city afford to help find long term housing and services to remedy the issue of homelessness with the salary and loaded cost of one police officer? How much does it cost to send the police into an area to sweep the houseless away? How much does the growing issue of homelessness cost us now to maintain the status quo? To quote Rashad Robinson "Budgets are moral documents." We are declaring what is important to us as a community by what we fund. During the budget cuts of 2013 the City of Tacoma added police and fire positions despite the deliberately deceptive videos presented to the public at council district meetings. It is time to rethink how we make our city safe and livable for all our residents. I want my 14 year old nephew who is black to be safe to reach adulthood. He is already assumed to be an adult while my 14 year old nephew who is white is assumed to be a child.

Thank you for reading this till the end. Thank you in advance for taking radical actions required to reimagine a safe and thriving community.



ReplyForward

From: Lindsay Walker <walker.lindsay3@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:32 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Resolution 40622 is better than nothing but doesn't go far enough in addressing police brutality

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I am writing in response to Resolution 40622. I appreciate that the city council is making an effort to address racial inequality in our city. I wish that this effort would go much further. I see no evidence in this resolution of any progress towards defunding the police and sheriff and reallocating those funds to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counselling education and healthcare. It appears to me that rather than responding to crises like mental health or domestic disputes with trained responders who are not equipped with deadly force, our city wants to "train police" to respond. This will not solve the problem. I also see nothing here about removing police officers from schools. Police in schools makes schools more violent by turning them into prison pipelines. We need restorative justice in our schools as well without police. Also as we are in a pandemic and jails and prisons continue to not respond appropriately I would like to ask that the city free all people jailed and detained in Pierce County. The Northwest Detention Center is not providing adequate testing and healthcare during this pandemic. No more transfers, adequate testing and healthcare are essential in this unethical detention center where all detainees should be released any way. We also need to eliminate the use of Sani T10 from inside NWDC and end deportations period.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Walker

District 1, Tacoma, WA

From: Leo Rain <leochenaultrain@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:17 PM
To: City Clerk's Office

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello city clerk Sorum,

I emailed you last week and I am emailing you again because the city council has still not met the demands of its citizens. As a resident of Tacoma I will keep on demanding justice!

Here are my (and many many others) demands:

Abolitionists of Pierce County Demands

- 1) defund the police & sheriff! allocate this funding to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education & healthcare
- 2) remove cops from all schools
- 3) free all jailed & detained people in Pierce County

The Ellis family demands

- 1) arrest & charge TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis's murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyah Ford & Timothy Rankine
- 2) investigate how many times TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's Dept broke laws & polices of 1940
- 3) remove officials complicit in the murder cover up: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell & Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer

Concerns and demands for NWDC

- 1) eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside NWDC
- 2) continual testing of all detained people & workers for Covid-19
- 3) provide medical attention for all people with Covid-19 & other illnesses inside
- 4) stop transferring people to & from the facility
- 5) end deportations (this is a global pandemic!)
- 6) FREE THEM ALL!
- 7) SHUT DOWN NWDC!

Thank you for your time and I hope to see these demands taken seriously.

-Leo Rain

From: Natalie Melchers <nmelchers7@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:16 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comments for City Council meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I'd like to share my demands and requests for the city council to address, specifically around budget and policing.

Tacoma should largely defund it's police force and reallocate funding to much needed services to prevent crime, violence and poverty. Such as mental health and chemical dependency services, affordable housing, youth programs, healthcare, transformative justice and education. Cops should be removed from schools, overwhelmingly they arrest or harrass students of color, and no school shootings have been stopped by police.

Prioritize freeing individuals from jail who are at high risk for COVID 19 (immunocompromised and those over 60) and those who have committed nonviolent or low level crimes.

Regarding the killing of Manny Ellis: FIRE, arrest and charge the officers who were responsible for his murder. Officers Collins, Burbank, Ford and Rankine. Fire officials associated with the cover up of the murder; pierce county sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell, and Pierce County Sheriff's information officer Ed Troyer. We can't have this corruption in these powerful positions.

Regarding the Northwest Detention center. Move to close the center! I don't want this facility on Tacoma soil. Eliminate the use of Sani-T-10 in the facility; it is harmful to humans. End deportations; we're in a pandemic! Ensure there is adequate and regular COVID-19 testing of detainees and staff, as well as access to medical care for those who test positive. Free the detainees! Shut down NWDC!

Thank you for your attention.

Natalie Means

98418

From: Katie Howard <khoward5@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:15 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: please read! comments for todays meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello, my name is Katherine Howard and I've lived in Tacoma my entire life.

In light of today's city council meeting I wanted to make some comments:

I am asking you to defund the police & sheriff! allocate this funding to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education & healthcare. Tacoma needs this. This demand has been demanded by groups all across the country. We need to make change.

I am asking you to remove cops from all schools. Quoting an article by The Trace, "There are a handful of documented cases in which an armed security guard or police officers have stopped a school shooting. Last year in Dixon, Illinois, a school resource officer chased a gunman off a high school campus, shooting and injuring the perpetrator, who survived. But it's more likely for active shooters to stop firing on their own, either by leaving or taking their own lives." We do not need cops in schools to prevent violence, we need more social workers & counselors.

Free all jailed & detained people in Pierce County. This should have happened back in March due to COVID but it is incredibly important now more than ever, as COVID numbers continue to rise and these jailed & detained people have a right to live.

I am asking you to arrest & charge TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis's murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford & Timothy Rankine.

I am asking you to investigate how many times TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's Dept broke laws & polices of 1940. I am asking you to remove officials complicit in the murder cover up: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell & Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer.

Finally, I am asking you to eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside NWDC.

I am asking for continual testing of all detained people & workers for Covid-19

I am asking you to provide medical attention for all people with Covid-19 & other illnesses inside, to stop transferring people to & from the facility and FINALLY end deportations (this is a global pandemic!)

FREE THEM ALL!
SHUT DOWN NWDC!

Thank you for your time,

Katherine Howard

From: Erin L. <erin.lungwitz@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:15 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Public Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello City Clerk Sorum,

I hope you're having a good day. I am emailing as a resident of Tacoma to demand that the police and sheriff are defunded and that the money is reallocated to housing, mental health services, counseling, education and health care. These services are what protect our community and keep the community safe and healthy.

Further, I'm asking that Tacoma Police are removed from Tacoma schools. Other cities across the nation are doing this, and it is important that we follow suit to create a safe learning environment for all students in Tacoma.

I am also demanding that the officers who murdered Manuel Ellis - Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masyih Ford, and Timothy Rankine - are, at the minimum, fired. Officials involved in covering up and ignoring the murder - Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, TPD Police Chief Don Ramsdell, and Ed Troyer - should also be removed from their roles.

Finally, people imprisoned in the Northwest Detention Center are being sprayed with toxic chemicals. Officials say that this is to protect these people from COVID19, but these chemicals are making people sick. The only way to protect these people from COVID19 is to release them. Those who are sick need medical attention, as well.

Thank you for reading my comments,

Erin Lungwitz

From: Janssen Judge <jrennee.judge@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:13 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comments on Resolutions 40621 and 40622

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello City Council members,

Here are my comments on the upcoming resolutions:

Resolution No. 40621

Page 3, Line 7 - Investigations should not be done by other state or local law enforcement agencies, as across the board we have learned that state and local law enforcement can only be trusted to protect themselves and each other, not our citizens.

Instead, independent investigations should be done by investigators not involved in state law enforcement.

Page 3, Lines 19-20 - Police should be reporting deaths at their hands to city council and the mayor **within 24 hours**, not “as soon as practicable” giving them time to hide evidence, practice their story, or alter facts.

Resolution No. 40622

Page 7, Lines 13-14 and 23-24 - The police department **should not be used as a first response system for all public safety services** in our community.

Instead, reduce police funding and scope, and invest in non-police emergency response systems as seen in other large cities.

Page 7, Lines 17-20 - Police forces across the country, including in Tacoma and Pierce County, have shown that they cannot be trusted to "lead change from within," adhere to protocols that protect the public, or even be fully honest. TPD lied about circumstances in the death of Manuel Ellis and who knows how many others.

Instead, enlist **community members** in a process to assess the current state of policing and decide upon processes that protect the community. Furthermore, immediately put a stop to any campaign contributions from police organizations that create a clear conflict of interest in your and other representatives ability to govern.

Page 10, Lines 4-5 The police department **should not be used as a first response system for all public safety services in our community.**

Instead, reduce police funding and scope, and invest in non-police emergency response systems as seen in other large cities.

Best,

Janssen Judge

District 3

From: Benjamin Summerour <summerourbenjamin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:09 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Public comments for 6/30

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello, below are my public comments for tonight's meeting of the Tacoma City Council:

I am joining the Abolitionists of Pierce County in demanding that the city council move forward to

- 1) Defund the police and sheriff and allocate this funding to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education and healthcare.
- 2) Remove cops from all schools
- 3) Free all jailed and detained people in Pierce County

I share the demands of the family of Manuel Ellis, who was murdered by the Tacoma Police Department on March 3rd:

- 1) Arrest and charge the TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis' murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masyih Ford and Timothy Rankine
- 2) Investigate how many times TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's Department broke laws and policies of I-940.
- 3) Remove officials complicit in the murder cover up: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell & Pierce County Sheriff's Information Ed Troyer

I also demand that the council stop dragging its feet and move with urgency to address the following emergencies unfolding at the Northwest Detention Center:

- 1) Eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside NWDC
- 2) Implement continual testing of all detained people & workers for COVID-19
- 3) Provide medical attention for all people with COVID-19 & other illnesses inside
- 4) Stop transferring people to and from the facility
- 5) End deportations - this is a global pandemic
- 6) Free them all
- 7) Shut down NWDC once and for all

Thank you

From: Charles Williams <charleswilliams13@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:08 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: June 30 City Council Meeting Public Comment Submission

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor Woodards and Council Members,

I am writing to request that the city take immediate steps to defund the police department during current budget deliberations. In a period where the city is facing significant budget cuts and where the police budget is close to 35% of the general fund, we need to reallocate resources away from the police to support community services. The currently proposed resolutions in response to concerns over police violence and systemic racism are not enough. I urge you to take stronger action in a timely manner rather than falling back on the (consultant-led) outside review process initiated by the city manager, which will only result in long delays and policy inaction.

Thank you for your consideration.

Charles Williams

Tacoma DSA

From: Bennett Johnson <bennettj987@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:55 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Demands

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi,

Thank you for your time. Here are my demands. I hope the city council will talk about this today.

Defund the police and sheriff. Allocate funding to Community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, and healthcare.

Remove ALL cops from ALL schools.

Free all jailed and detained people in pierce county.

Arrest and charge the officers responsible for Manuel Ellis death: Matheuw Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford and Timothy Rankie.

Investigate how many times TPD and pierce county sheriffs department broke laws and policies of I940

Remove officials complicit in the cover up of Manuel Ellis's murder: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma police chief Don Ramsdell and Pierce County Sheriffs Information officer Ed Troyer.

Eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 to clean inside NWDC

Continual testing of all detained people in and workers in NWDC for covid-19

Provide medical attentions for all people with covid-19 and other illnesses inside NWDC.

Stop transferring people to and from the NWDC.

End deportation. This is a global pandemic!

Free everyone in the NWDC and shut it down!

Thank you for your time. I want to be proud of my city again. Please make us proud to call you our leaders.

Sincerely,

Bennett Johnson.

Tacoma Washington 98405

From: Jessica Brady <jessbrady602@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:55 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Some comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

As a resident of Tacoma I'd like to share my concerns and wishes for our community in this time. I live on 6th and Pearl and am deeply concerned with the lack of meaningful action currently being taken by the city and the county with regards to calls for defunding the police.

First I'd like to voice my support of the Ellis family's demands: We NEED to arrest and charge the Tacoma Police officers involved in the murder of Manuel Ellis. That would be officers Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford, and Timothy Rankine. An outside investigation must be conducted into how many times TPD and Pierce County Sheriff's Department broke laws and policies of 1940. And the officials complicit in the murder cover up MUST be removed. That would be Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell, and Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer.

I am also deeply concerned with the health and wellbeing of those being detained at the NWDC. I would like to see the elimination of the chemical Sani-T-10 that's being used to disinfect inside the NWDC. We need continual testing of all detained people and workers for Covid-19, which should have begun at the beginning of the pandemic. All people who are currently detained with Covid-19 and other illnesses MUST receive adequate medical attention immediately. STOP transferring people to and from the facility.
END DEPORTATIONS, FREE THEM ALL, and SHUT DOWN NWDC!

Lastly, you MUST defund the police and sheriff! Allocate these funds instead to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education, & healthcare. We need to remove cops from all schools, and FREE ALL JAILED AND DETAINED PEOPLE IN PIERCE COUNTY.

Thank you for your time. I hope you are healthy, well, and secure.

Jess Brady
T: 425.999.2747

From: luciadill@yahoo.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:49 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comment for June 30 Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear City Council,

I am a citizen of Tacoma, currently residing in district 2, 98406. I appreciate that there has been movement to address the case of Manuel Ellis independently. The reforms the city is working to add to TPD are not enough; there is evidence these reforms don't work. For example, 3 of the 4 cops involved in the death of Manuel Ellis had received bias training. And yet, Manuel Ellis, a black man, is dead. Also these partnerships and reform are going to take further funding that are desperately needed elsewhere, especially during the ongoing global pandemic.

To move forward I demand
that the city of Tacoma:

1. Defund the police and
sheriff departments. Let's start by defunding them both by at least 50%.

2.
Allocate the funding from both departments to transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education, and healthcare, particularly in Black neighborhoods. These funds could also go to supporting those in need during the ongoing pandemic. With any pandemic protections ending but the pandemic continuing, even more folks will be out on the street or hungry (and subsequently most likely be harassed by police).

3.
Remove all police from all schools. Children need support and guidance from trained counselors, teachers, and administration, not to be put into the school-to-prison pipeline. Government actions and pressure will help guide our local institutions.

4. Free all jailed and detained people in Tacoma and Pierce County for their health and safety during the pandemic.

This includes shutting down the NWDC.

5. As concerns the NWDC:

eliminate

the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside NWDC, provide continual testing of all detained people & workers for Covid-19, provide medical attention for all people with Covid-19 & other illnesses inside, stop transferring people to & from the facility and end deportations.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Lucia Dill

2101 N Fife St,

Tacoma, WA 98406

From: Kaitlin Armstrong <kaitlinjcashman@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:41 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

My name is Kaitlin Armstrong and I am writing to submit a public comment on Resolution No. 40622. I am writing in support of Manuel Ellis' family and urge the City to arrest & charge the TPD officers involved in Ellis' murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford & Timothy Rankine. I am urging the City to investigate how many times TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's broke the laws and policies outlined in I940, as well as remove all officials complicit in the coverup. The City should demonstrate its commitment to transformation of all institutions that uphold systemic racism by defunding Tacoma PD and reallocating those funds towards housing, mental health services, counseling, education, healthcare, and community transformative justice. The entanglement between the police and our schools is another link that perpetuates systemic racism. All cops need to be removed from schools.

Thank you, and I look forward to your response.

Kaitlin Armstrong

From: Heather Kerr <jerichosoul@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:37 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Demands for much needed change

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

As a concerned member of the Tacoma Community, I am asking for the following changes. I believe it is well past time to act on behalf of the marginalized and forgotten people who deserve better. Let Tacoma be an inspiration to other communities around the country. I am an elderly white woman and I am tired of seeing my loved ones whose non-white skin color dictates their consistent struggle against the inequity of racial policies. Please hear me. We are one race. Human.

On police issues:

1. Defund the police & sheriff! allocate this funding to community, transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education & healthcare.
2. Remove cops from all schools.
3. Free all jailed & detained people in Pierce County.
4. Arrest & charge TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis's murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford & Timothy Rankine.
5. Investigate how many times TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's Dept broke laws & polices of 1940.
6. Remove officials complicit in the murder cover up: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell & Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer.

On community health:

1. Eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside NWDC.
2. Continual testing of all detained people & workers for Covid-19.
3. Provide medical attention for all people with Covid-19 & other illnesses inside.
4. Stop transferring people to & from the facility.
5. End deportations (this is a global pandemic!).
6. FREE THEM ALL!
7. SHUT DOWN NWDC!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Heather Kerr

Tacoma resident

From: Amelia Bergen <abergen46@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:34 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comment for 6/30 meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Tacoma City Council.

My name is Amelia Bergen, I am a Tacoma city resident writing to demand we do better. The time to listen and evolve is now. Three focuses of this comment: Manuel Ellis, the dangerous police force, and the human rights violations at NWDC.

1. Manuel Ellis. In March this Black man was slaughtered in cold blood by Tacoma police officers Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Timothy Rankine, and Masiyh Ford, then his family was disrespected by the various hush-overs and cover-ups that took place in the months following. It took the George Floyd uprising for all the murderers to even be removed from the force. The officers involved must be charged with murder and the officials involved and complicit with the injustices that followed should be removed: Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell, Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, and Pierce County Sheriffs Information Officer Ed Troyer.
2. The Police are a dangerous institution to all but those with wealth and whiteness. In fact the police began as a force to hunt and catch people who had escaped enslavement. In Tacoma, the police and sheriff departments have caused far too much damage to innocent lives, disproportionately using severe force on black and brown bodies. The city of Tacoma must defund and eventually abolish the police and replace with radical community support and resources for the homeless, mentally ill, and addicted. The Tacoma police and sheriffs budgets must be drastically reduced with funding reallocated to community transformative justice, housing, counseling, healthcare, and education. This begins with getting police out of Tacoma public schools and will eventually require every caged person in Pierce county to be freed.
3. Finally, the NWDC must be shut down. From toxic sprays, abusive guards, no chance to socially distance, this place is a hell hole and every minute you allow it to stay open should be another drop of blood on your conscious. Sick people are not receiving medical attention, everyone is being sprayed with a toxic disinfectant, Sani-T-10, and deportations are still happening, despite being in the middle of a global pandemic (personally I think the WHO will need to step in if we cannot do this on our own). No human is illegal. You have the power to stop this cruelty. Why haven't you yet?

In conclusion you have a lot of work to do. And remember who you work for. You'll be hearing from me again.

From: Haydee Lavariega <haydeelav@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:33 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Tacoma City Council Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Comment and request from concerned Tacoma resident:

1) defund the police & sheriff! allocate this funding to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education & healthcare

- 2) remove cops from all schools
- 3) free all jailed & detained people in Pierce County

1) arrest & charge TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis's murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford & Timothy Rankine

- 2) investigate how many times TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's Dept broke laws & polices of I940
- 3) remove officials complicit in the murder cover up: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell & Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer

NWDC:

- 1) eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside NWDC
- 2) continual testing of all detained people & workers for Covid-19
- 3) provide medical attention for all people with Covid-19 & other illnesses inside
- 4) stop transferring people to & from the facility
- 5) end deportations (this is a global pandemic!)

Haydeé

From: Twylia Westling <twestlingmpa@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:33 PM

To: City Clerk's Office

Subject: Comments about Police brutality and NWDC

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Please find attached my comments on these two topics, to be heard by all who have ears to hear and who care about humanity.

Regarding police brutalities and inhumane policing policies:

#1 - Defund the budgets of the police department. The budget is being used to inflict injustice and inhumane police tactics on people of color, and against people who, by the 14th Amendment of the Constitution, are presumed innocent until proven guilty. These funds would be better spent supporting the health and welfare of the residents of the City of Tacoma who most desperately need this support.

#2 - Immediately cease and desist from providing Tacoma police officers to Tacoma Public schools except in cases of emergency. The school to prison pipeline has been solidly documented over the last ten years and there is no reason for the City of Tacoma's tax payers to be complicit in the unjust and inhumane practice of criminalizing children who also should be presumed innocent, in accordance with the 14th Amendment of the Constitution.

#3 - Free all jailed and detained people in Tacoma jails who are not accused of violent crimes. Advocate for those people with Pierce County Sheriff's department to free people who are jailed/detained accused of crimes which are not violent. People who are currently jailed under a suspect police department deserve to be presumed innocent until proven guilty, and there is enough evidence to show that TPD has acted in inhumane and unjust ways to put people in jail. Innocent until proven guilty shouldn't only apply to people wearing a badge.

#4 - Arrest and charge all Tacoma police officers who were complicit in the murder of Manuel Ellis, including their superiors who were complicit in covering up the dastardly behavior of these police officers: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford and Timothy Rankine.

#5 - Repeal the licenses and permits of the Northwest Detention Center and demand that all detained in that facility be set free. They are condemned to suffer under an organization which has proven to not care about the lives of those detained. The organization is solely concerned with profits. Tacoma has no oversight of the inhumane and unjust treatment that our friends and family endure.

#6 - Stop supporting the inhumane and unjust actions of deportations and incarceration of people who are seeking a life free from violence, murder, kidnapping, and extreme poverty.

For too long, Tacoma has been complicit in the oppression of people of color and has given deference to the systemic racism built into the policies and practices of the police and corporations of incarceration. This needs to stop. Now.

We will no longer abide half measures and pretty talk.

Twylia Westling

--

Twylia Westling, MPA

The 'i' is silent; I'm not.

<http://twestlingmpa.com>

From: Tacoma Action <tacomaactioncollective@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:27 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Cc: Ushka, Catherine; Beale, Chris; McCarthy, Conor; Hines, John; Blocker, Keith; Walker, Kristina; Hunter, Lillian; Thoms, Robert
Subject: Public Comment for June 30th

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear City Council Members,

We, Tacoma Action Collective, are writing to address the lack of transparency, accountability, and trust in this city.

On March 3rd, Manuel Ellis was brutally murdered by Tacoma Police. He was choked multiple times. He was tased multiple times. He was punched. There was a knee on his neck. All while saying "I can't breathe sir, I can't breathe". In the midst of his brutalization, he still resorted to the respectability politics most Black children are taught about safely interacting with the police: call them sir and ma'am, and maybe they'll see past your Black skin. Despite his pleas for air, a spit hood was placed on his head.

As seen in two different eye-witness videos, the last moments of Manuel Ellis evoke heartbreak and rage. Knowing that, nearly four months later, his family still does not have answers is equally heartbreaking and angering. Every bit of information they know, came from the media and eye witnesses.

While many of you have argued that you can't get or give any information because of I940, that is an excuse. We read HB1064 in its entirety, and if each of you did as well, you would know that hiding behind that excuse is not acceptable. According to I940 (HB1064) Manuel Ellis' family deserved to know the names of the officers, they deserved a family liaison, they deserved to know his cause of death in a timely manner. They deserved better.

Knowing that the four officers involved were placed on leave and allowed to return to work, with no investigation, does not make us feel protected. They were placed on leave again on June 3rd for their safety, but what about ours? Eye witnesses watched an officer slam his door open, hitting Manuel Ellis and knocking him down, and then proceed to brutalize him. Both witnesses were afraid. You can hear one screaming for them to stop, and then says it was scary.

Watching Ed Troyer, and a lawyer that represents the officer, slander and flat out lie about the encounter and about the character of Manuel Ellis is infuriating. Again, this does not make us feel safe. Manuel Ellis' cause of death was always hypoxia due to physical

restraint, but instead the media was told it was excited delirium. If an officer can kill us in the street, on video, and be protected by the county and the law, who protects us?

Mayor Woodards put herself in a dangerous, but brave, position when she demanded the officers be fired. We are waiting for all of you to step up and do the same. You are currently in your study session talking about equity and anti-racism, but we have a hard time believing you all will lead this city in the right direction when you sit back and allow a Black woman, who also happens to be our mayor, stand alone. If you are committed to this city being anti-racist, you will not put the burden of speaking out on your Black colleagues. We are writing today to ask that you take that burden off of your Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

We are asking that a Council Member put forward a motion to fire officers Collins, Burbank, Ford, and Rankine. We are asking that you put action behind your words and show the city that you care about our safety. We are asking that you do more than post "Black Lives Matter" on your social media, we want you to show us. Demand that the City Manager fire the officers that murdered Manuel Ellis. Until this happens, your proposed policies that closely resemble I940 and are only being used to cover your tracks. These policies hold no weight. We do not believe that this city wants to move forward in actively being antiracist. Policies mean nothing if there is no accountability.

You all have the opportunity, and the duty, to do what is right. Do it.

-Tacoma Action Collective

From: The People's Assembly * <thepeoplesassembly253@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:26 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Community Demands 6.30.20

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

June 30, 2020

To the mayor and councilmembers of the City of Tacoma, we write to reiterate and echo the demands of Abolitionists of Pierce County, La Resistencia, and the family of Manuel Ellis who was killed by Tacoma Police:

Abolitionists of Pierce County demands:

1) defund the police & sheriff! allocate this funding to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education & healthcare 2) remove cops from all schools 3) free all jailed & detained people in Pierce County

La Resistencia demands:

1) eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside NWDC 2) continual testing of all detained people & workers for Covid-19 3) provide medical attention for all people with Covid-19 & other illnesses inside 4) stop transferring people to & from the facility 5) end deportations (this is a global pandemic!) 6) FREE THEM ALL! 7) SHUT DOWN NWDC!

Ellis family demands:

1) arrest & charge TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis's murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford & Timothy Rankine 2) investigate how many times TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's Dept broke laws & polices of I940 3) remove officials complicit in the murder cover up: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell & Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer.

Sincerely,

--
The People's Assembly*

www.tacomapeoplesassembly.com

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

*TPA was formerly known as Tacoma Stands Up.

Read the full statement on why we changed our name [here](#).

From: Mckenna Johnson <mckenna.johnson11@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:25 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Resident Concerns

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I am a resident of Tacoma (District 1), and would like to submit comments and concerns to the City Council for today's meeting.

On the topic of police and police funding, I would like to put pressure on the council to defund the police and sheriff and allocate this funding instead to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education, and healthcare. Furthermore, I believe that all cops should be removed from schools, and that all jailed and detained people in Pierce County should be freed.

With regards to the case of Manuel Ellis, I stand behind the Ellis family demands that the TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis's murder (Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford, and Timothy Rankine) be arrested and charged, that the number of times TPD and the Pierce County Sheriff's Dept. broke laws and policies of I940 be investigated, and that officials complicit in the murder cover up (Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell, and Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer) be removed.

Finally, I would like to echo concerns that have been brought up regarding the inhumane conditions within the NWDC. I stand behind demands to eliminate the use of the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside NWDC, establish continuous testing of all detained people and workers for Covid-19, provide medical attention for all people with Covid-19 and other illnesses inside, stop transferring people to and from the facility, end deportations (this is a global pandemic!), and ultimately FREE THEM ALL and SHUT DOWN NWDC!

Best,

Mckenna Johnson

From: Michael Fitzgerald <michaelfitzger@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:09 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Stand with Abolitionists Pierce County and the family of Manuel Ellis

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I wish to share the demands in solidarity with local community groups who have been conducting ongoing protests with the following text from this link: <https://www.instagram.com/p/CCENLxvD8w3/>

(4) Share Abolitionists of Pierce County Demands: 1) defund the police & sheriff! allocate this funding to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education & healthcare 2) remove cops from all schools 3) free all jailed & detained people in Pierce County

(5) Share the Ellis family demands: 1) arrest & charge TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis's murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford & Timothy Rankine 2) investigate how many times TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's Dept broke laws & polices of I940 3) remove officials complicit in the murder cover up: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell & Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer

(6) Share concerns from NWDC: 1) eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside NWDC 2) continual testing of all detained people & workers for Covid-19 3) provide medical attention for all people with Covid-19 & other illnesses inside 4) stop transferring people to & from the facility 5) end deportations (this is a global pandemic!) 6) FREE THEM ALL! 7) SHUT DOWN NWDC!

I 100% support these demands and feel that all of them need to be read and addressed at the meeting.

From: HIEN HONG <hienhong@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:09 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Demands from the Abolitionists of Pierce County & community

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi all,

I wanted to boost the demands of the Abolitions of Pierce County.

1. Defund the police & sheriff. allocate the money to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education, and healthcare.
2. Remove cops from all schools.
3. Free all jailed & detained people in Pierce County.

I also want to remind you the importance of arresting and charging those involved in Manuel Ellis's murder. Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford, and Timothy Rankine.

You also need to investigate when TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's Dept broke the law -- I-940. AND remove officials complicit in trying to cover up the MURDER: Paul Pastor, Don Ramsdell, and Ed Troyer.

Lastly, you need to close down the NWDC. At the very least, you could eliminate Sani-T 10 and provide medical attention for the detainees. Both COVID, and non-COVID stuff. Stop transferring people. Or better yet, FREE THEM ALL!

Sincerely,
Hien Hong

Former Hilltop resident | UW Tacoma alumni

From: Connor Van Alstine <saberakcon@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:07 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Community Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

As a member of Pierce County and the Tacoma community, I want to express my alarm and frustration with how the county has responded to the ongoing national revolution against police brutality and white supremacy in our country, county, city government, and communities. The Tacoma community and other parts of Pierce County have been outspoken and explicit in demanding an end to police brutality by defunding the Tacoma Police Department and Pierce County Sheriff's Department and relocating their funding to programs that provide community-based transformative justice alternatives, housing, mental health services, counseling, education, and healthcare programs that actually keep our communities safe. Tacoma PD makes our community unsafe. Minneapolis is already taking these steps, there is no reason Tacoma cannot do so as well.

Additionally, I want to echo the demands of Emanuel Ellis' family for justice for his murder by Mathew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyah Ford & Timothy Rankine. This was an extrajudicial killing and is absolutely unjustifiable. There is no excuse for this thoughtless and brutal killing. It is an active betrayal of both these officers' duty to protect people but also a fundamental breach of trust between the Tacoma community and our government. Along with Mr. Ellis' family, I feel I speak for myself and everyone I know in this county in demanding that all TPD officers involved in his murder be arrested & charged for murder. Additionally, we need a public and transparent investigation of how many times the TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's Department has broken the law and policies of I940. Finally, any officials complicit in this murder need to be removed immediately including Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell & Pierce County Sheriff's information Officer Ed Troyer. These people have failed in their duty and actively contributed to a culture of fear and racism in law enforcement. They make our county and unsafe place for any of us to live but particularly people of color, disabled people, LGBTQ people, and immigrants. Any process to repair this breach of trust/ act of violence against our community cannot start until these people are held fully accountable and no longer have power in our city or county. Further, we need police out of schools, they are harmful and increase youth incarceration significantly. Further, for the sake of public health and because TPD and county law enforcement have demonstrated repeatedly their malicious attitude towards communities of color, we need to, as demanded by activists, immediately release all jailed and detained people in Pierce County and invest in transformative justice processes that don't harm us.

Furthermore, with the ongoing COVID-19 epidemic, we have seen that jails and immigrant detention centers are actively contributing to the public health crisis we are still experiencing. The Northwest Detention Center's treatment of people detained there needs to change. They need to stop using Sani-T-10 inside the NWDC as it has been shown to cause significant harm including rashes and bleeding. It is toxic and actively endangers the health of those inside many of whom are integral parts of this county and the Tacoma community. Everyone detained there must be regularly tested for COVID-19 along with NWDC workers so as to ensure that they are not actively made sick/ we do not increase the spread of COVID-19 due to negligence/ lack of concern for the lives of immigrants/their children. Further, people detained need to be provided with regular medical care for all illnesses so that COVID-19 can be diagnosed and treated and we can manage outbreaks. Transfers to and from the facility also

need to stop. This increases the likelihood of COVID-19 spread and endangers public health in our county, specifically among low income and immigrant communities that most often make up essential workers. This is a public health responsibility that the county has to its residents. Even Iran released its political prisoners due to COVID-19 concerns we ought to be at least equivalently responsible. Deportations violate our public health responsibility to the global community. This pandemic is not just in the United States and deportations actively increase the global spread. We do not have accurate or accessible enough testing to be sure that those deported are safe so we need to end deportations. All of these people need to be freed for our community to truly be safe.

Please take this into consideration and do what is right for our communities. Reforms are not enough. Defunding is the path forward.

Sincerely,

Connor Van Alstine

From: Laurie Arnold <tacomalaurie@harbornet.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:47 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Public Comment on Resolutions 40621 and 40622

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I am writing in support of Resolutions 40621 and 40622. While I feel that the former is somewhat too specific, focusing only on a communications protocol and the latter is too broad, focusing on everything, I have to believe these are more than performative gestures and that those proposing—Mayor Woodards, Councilmember Blocker and Councilmember Hunter, as well as those I hope will be voting in favor—are sincere in their desire to seize this moment and make an effort towards real change.

I have been calling and writing regarding the Manuel Ellis case for weeks now and encouraging others to do the same. I recognize that it is ultimately the task of The People to hold our leaders accountable for the promises they make. I am telling you that I am pledging to be one in the number to regularly check in to ask how you are doing in implementing policy and procedure reforms that will make a real difference.

One thing I think is crucial is to define antiracist/antiracism which you do not do in either of these resolutions and so I would like to offer a friendly amendment to add such definitions.

Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, professor and NY Times best selling author defines terms thusly and I personally believe his are the most concrete and helpful definitions currently available:

Racist policy: "Any measure that produces or sustains racial inequity between racial groups."
Antiracist policy: "Any measure that produces or sustains racial equity between racial groups."
Racist: "One who is supporting a racist policy through their actions or inaction."
Antiracist: "One who is supporting an antiracist policy through their actions or inactions."

I believe with these definitions in mind, we will have a way to actually gather data, quantify and measure actions and develop remedies to then remeasure and requantify to determine effectiveness.

One again, I urge to you pass these two resolutions as I believe they are at least a start and could move us in the right direction.

"Where the really sincere white people have got to do their 'proving' of themselves is not among the black victims, but out on the battle lines of where America's racism really is - and that's in their own home communities."
~Malcolm X

From: Maggie Hellis <hellisart@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:43 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comments for Jun 30 meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

My name is Maggie Hellis and I am a Tacoma resident. I am writing to express my concerns over the police murder of Manuel Ellis and a number of other community issues.

I want to express my support to defund the police and sheriff and to instead allocate these funds to positive and supportive community investments like housing, healthcare, mental health services, counselling, education, and transformative justice initiatives.

I think it is critical that cops be removed from school, because state sanctioned violence and police presence is no way to foster supportive learning environments for our children and NO CHILD SHOULD BE SUBJECTED TO POLICE VIOLENCE.

I also feel it is imperative to free all jailed and detained folks in Pierce County especially because of coronavirus. And until the time that they are freed, it is AT MINIMUM, imperative that you do continual COVID-19 testing of all detained people and workers in these settings, and provide medical attention for those with COVID-19 and other illnesses. No person should be punished to illness or death because they are serving time.

END ALL DEPORTATIONS--this is a global pandemic and it is unconscionable we are participating in these inhumane practices. NWDC is a shameful part of our community and should be shut down.

Regarding Manuel Ellis, it is critical to restore faith and trust with the Tacoma community by arresting and charging the TPD officers responsible for his murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford Timothy Rankine. Another important step is to remove all officers involved in the murder cover up: Paul Paster, Don Ramsdell and Ed Troyer.

Thank you for your attention to these issues,

Maggie Hellis

98405

From: Erica Varela-Gittings <erica.varela@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:43 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Manuel Ellis

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

The officers involved in the murder of Manuel Ellis need to be charged and fired. We will not stop until justice is served.

Erica Burns

Sent from my iPhone

From: Cassandra de Kanter <cassandra.mathias@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:31 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Public comment re resolutions

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Good afternoon,

I am a Tacoma resident (ZIP 98405) and this is my comment on Resolution 40621 and Resolution 40622. I hope they are both approved, but I'm honestly disappointed that they don't go farther. I understand systemic changes must often by their nature be incremental, but if ever there was a historic moment that called for decisive, sweeping action this is probably it.

I believe that 40621 is necessary, especially in the aftermath of Manuel Ellis's murder, which has made it clear that communication with Mr. Ellis's family and the larger community wasn't a priority for TPD.

A resolution affirming the Council's commitment to transforming systems impacted with racism is nice, but I'm unclear what the practical effects will be?

For whatever it's worth, I'm for defunding the police department and redirecting their budget to social services, education, mental health, hell—even the arts. May Resolution 40622 be merely the opening salvo in a more vigorous approach to healing the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments, and for all your hard work on behalf of Tacomans.

Respectfully,
Cassandra de Kanter

From: Tom Pierson <TomP@tacomachamber.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:29 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Cc: Woodards, Victoria
Subject: Support for Res 40620, 40621 40622

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

On behalf the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber, we are encouraging a Yes vote on the three following resolutions on the City of Tacoma City Council Agenda for tonight, June 30, 2020.

Resolution No. 40620: Wear Face Masks:

To date, progress has been made in our fight again the transmission of Covid-19, and the increasing number of people gathering with the nicer weather we must remain vigilant. We do not want to lose ground and are actively working with community partners like the TPCHD, PC ED, and others to both reinforce current expectations and show examples of businesses doing the right thing. People need confidence as we reopen our local economy, and the only way to do this is to reinforce everyone, including businesses, are taking public health seriously. Face masks are one critical component of this. We support the measure and look forward to partnering with the City on this important communication effort.

Resolution No. 40621: Deaths in Police Custody:

The people of Tacoma and of the state have overwhelmingly said they want more transparency when it comes to the use of police power, especially when the power kills. The overwhelming passage of Initiative 940 in 2018 shows how important transparency is to the people. The City of Tacoma should prioritize compliance with this law and establish clearer lines of communication when a death occurs while under the care of City government. Furthermore, by sharing the details of a death more quickly will increase faith in the process and the City's leadership. We support this measure and look forward to helping hold our community accountable for the care of all citizens.

Resolution No. 40622: Ending Racism:

We as a Chamber are focused on the need to end systemic racism and support the efforts to stop racism and transform Tacoma. This effort, however, will take work from everyone in our community including our business leaders, and we are focused on moving this issue forward and finding ways to resolve the problem.

As a Chamber, we remain focused on making the South Sound the best place to do business in Washington State. We can only accomplish the goal with the entire community squarely focused on ending systemic racism.

Best wishes,
Tom Pierson
President & CEO
Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber
950 Pacific Avenue
Tacoma, WA 98402

Main: 253.627.2175
Direct: 253.682.1736

tomp@tacomachamber.org
www.tacomachamber.org

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From: Amy QV <amyvan08@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:20 PM

To: City Clerk's Office

Subject: Public Comment Submission

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

It's me again. Amy Van - resident of east side Tacoma, submitting a public comment to the council:

Generally disappointed with the lack of vocal concern from elected officials and lack of movement seen for justice for Manuel Ellis' death.

A reminder that the demands from the people you're supposed to represent includes:

1. Arresting and charging all TPD officers involved in the murder of Manuel Ellis.
2. Investigate the # of times TPD and Pierce County Sheriff's dept broke laws and policies of i940
3. Remove officials complicit in the murder and cover up of Manuel Ellis' case: Paul Pastor, Don Ramsdell, Ed Troyer.
4. The city needs to defund the police department and re-allocate funds to resolve our homelessness crisis, help avert future ones by creating a fund for eviction prevention and invest into other social services like public health care and public space infrastructure.
5. All police needs to be removed from schools and replaced with counselors, therapists and social workers.
6. Release all those jailed and detained. COVID is spreading in these facilities and victims are being abused by chemical sprays, have no access to testing and no PPE. Any permanent harm and fatalities will fall into the hands of elected officials.

Thank You,

Amy

From: Megan Capes <capesmegan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:20 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Cc: City Manager; Woodards, Victoria; Wille, Tadd
Subject: Public Comment and Question

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good afternoon y'all,

Below I do have a process question about public comment and how community member can access it:

Before that, I do have a question about transparency about public comment. Why has the City not pursued accumulating the public comments and posting it publicly on the City's website? Since the move to only written comment due to COVID, I have noticed in multiple meetings that the number of public comments have been acknowledged, but there has not been an accessible way for the public to see them in full. In the past with in-person meetings, the public could watch after the fact to hear comments via the online video. I think that this is really important to get an understanding where others in the community stand on proposed resolutions and ordinances. I think that this could be easily solved by posting the final document the day after (like the video) as an attachment like the agenda and meeting notes. A similar thing is done for Public Hearings and could be replicated.

My public comment for tonight's meeting:

I'm speaking on Res 40622. I appreciate the heart of this resolution, especially the City's commitment to equity and combating systemic racism in our community, especially when it deals with police accountability.

One thing that I would personally recommend is that the City re-examine its decision to interact with unsheltered people and refer services through the HOT Team, which is essentially a special police team. According to the Point-In-Time Count, 46% of people experiencing homelessness in our community are people of color, which is disproportionately higher than the total percentage in the County at 27%. When referring people to services, it requires trust. Oftentimes, it is asking folks to take a risk to change their living situation and move in a new path. Unsheltered people oftentimes associate the police with clearing their makeshift homes, harassing them at night asking them to "move along", tracking their whereabouts, and even unfortunately pursuing arrests. With the City's affirmation in Res 40622, my recommendation is that the City pursue looking at alternatives to police doing this much needed work, and instead look into hiring trauma-informed case managers. We already have great community partners that could potentially partner in this work -- and be more just, cost-effective.

I also stand with Manuel Ellis' family's list of demands, which are:

- 1) arrest & charge TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis's murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford & Timothy Rankine
 - 2) investigate how many times TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's Dept broke laws & polices of I940
 - 3) remove officials complicit in the murder cover up: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell & Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer
- .

Thank you for your time and your work in caring for our community.

In solidarity,

Megan Capes

TDSA Housing Working Group co-chair

From: Courtney Stoker <courtneymstoker@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:19 PM
To: Thoms, Robert
Cc: City Clerk's Office; McCarthy, Conor; Hunter, Lillian; Walker, Kristina
Subject: Re: Public Comment - Police Body Cameras Special Session

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Councilperson Thoms,

Thank you for the reply, but I honestly would have rather you had used that time to speak with local Black leaders rather than craft a defensive response to one constituent. I admire the many hats you wear, but if you are unable to state an opinion on body camera policy, an issue that has been on the council agenda since 2016, maybe it's time to admit to wearing one too many hats.

I appreciate the acknowledgment that these issues do not affect you personally, and your hesitancy to take up undue space in this arena is understood. However, I didn't elect you to represent your own opinions. I elected you to understand the needs and desires of your constituents and to fight for those needs and desires in the halls of power. Our Black neighbors are begging for body cameras. We need you to be an advocate for them, now more than ever.

With all due respect,

Courtney Stoker

On Jun 27, 2020, at 4:13 PM, Thoms, Robert <robert.thoms@cityoftacoma.org> wrote:

Thank you for your message Ms. Stoker, I was on the meeting and spoke several times in fact, however, I didn't have my video on the entire time b/c I have three kids at home during COVID and I am parenting them as well from time to time during call.

As you rightfully note, Deputy Mayor Blocker is a leading voice on our Council as to what concerns he, his family, his constituents and obviously the larger community of people of color are seeking in the changes we want to see for our city. We, as a council are working closely together to find how to not simply reform policing in our city but rather transform. This will likely come in many forms, but I can assure you I have been and remain a vocal proponent of change. I have long fought for greater presence within our community of CLOs, who are more integrated into the community. Currently TPD has 2-3 CLOs per sector (4 sectors citywide) and I think we need to have 10-20 CLOs per sector, who are immersed within the community they work, who are trusted and seen as partners. I foresee more presence with less lethality, that is what I think would be a positive step, but in this time in history, I believe it is more important for me to listen to others, those who know first hand how they have been treated for me to learn how to support transformation. My ideas and thoughts are great, but I haven't had the same experiences with law enforcement so I think the wise course is listen first, be an ally and then get to work toward the transformation necessary for citizens to trust they are truly safe.

We have a long way to go to restore trust. That was exactly what I said last week, we must first restore trust, then we must understand what safety means to citizens and decide how we accomplish said security. For previous actions of officers, we must have justice and that is why I and all of my colleagues supported the Mayor's request to have the Manny Ellis case reviewed by the State, the Pierce County process took too long and had too many questions and we fully supported the family's request for this oversight.

I don't necessarily support cutting the budget necessary to provide a safe community, but it is clear many don't feel safe and for many it is b/c of the color of their skin and for a history of mistreatment and even death. THAT cannot be tolerated and we are going to have changes/transformation necessary to address those evils regardless of how much it cost or how much we cut.

Thank you for taking time to reach out, it is an honor to work for you and partner with you to ensure Tacoma is the best possible place to live, work and raise a family. If you ever have something you need my support or want to speak to me directly about, my cell is right below and you can kindly call me.

Have a great rest of your weekend.

Sincerely,

Robert Thoms

Tacoma City Councilman, Dist 2

253-307-8422

747 Market Street, Flr. 10

Tacoma, WA. 98402

On Jun 27, 2020, at 3:32 PM, Courtney Stoker <courtneymstoker@gmail.com> wrote:

Tacoma City Council Members,

Regarding Tuesday's special meeting addressing the timeline for implementation of police body cameras:

First, I would like to express my deep irritation with my district representative, Councilperson Thoms, for your complete lack of participation in this meeting. You should be ashamed for this display of apathy in the face of the overwhelming grief and desire for action among your community. Having nothing of substance to offer to this conversation at this time is shameful.

Second, I would like to directly thank Deputy Mayor Blocker for being the only Councilperson to mention the critical tension that exists within the community about increasing the Police budget for any reason.

As a resident of the City of Tacoma, I am very hesitant to increase funding to the Tacoma Police Department in any capacity. Police departments around the nation (including Kent and Spokane that were erroneously held out as a pinnacle of body worn camera policy in the region) have demonstrated time and again that they can not be trusted to be good stewards of these cameras. They are routinely misused and underused where deployed. No matter how well thought out your policy and procedures are before implementation, video evidence doesn't make a difference when you have corrupt police unions and qualified immunity that render it impossible to hold police officers accountable.

I understand many Black leaders within the community are advocating for body cameras, so I ask that **any money spent on body cameras be cut dollar for dollar from the patrol unit budget**. Firing the officers involved in the murder of Manny Ellis would be a great place to start the cuts.

Thank you for your time,

Courtney Stoker

From: Karla Rixon <rixon.karla@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:19 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: public comment for City Council Meeting June 30th 2020

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor, City Manager and City Council:

As I said last week, I want to encourage you to defund the police department. Re-allocate that money to provide housing and employment services to folks impacted by the pandemic. Also, remove police from our schools, and free all jailed and detained people in the city. Jails are incredibly dangerous during this pandemic and it's cruel and immoral to detain people where they could be killed.

I also am very disappointed that you have not yet fired and arrested the cops who killed Manuel Ellis. That needs to be done immediately, and TPD needs to be investigated by an outside auditor to determine how many times it has broken I-940. The inaction, poor handling, and coverup of Ellis's death speaks to a failure in leadership and department culture; I want to see the resignation or firing of Police Chief Don Ramsdell.

I'm also very concerned about health conditions inside the NWDC. Covid19 is incredibly dangerous in institutional settings; as we've seen, nursing homes and jails are the biggest hotspots for infections and deaths, and workers in those facilities often contract the virus and bring it back to their homes and families. Please leverage the Health Dept to shut down the NWDC, release those detained there back to home monitoring, and save lives.

Thank you,

Karla Rixon

From: Alexis Sargent <alexis.scarlett@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:06 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Community demands for city council

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear City Manager Pauli, Mayor Woodards, and Tacoma City Council,

I, as a citizen of Tacoma, demand that the following actions be taken:

1. Defund the police and sheriff. Allocate these funds instead to education, affordable housing, mental health services, drug outreach programs (no war on drugs), and community transformative justice.
2. Take the police out of our schools immediately.
3. Arrest and charge the police officers involved in a Manuel Ellis' murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford, and Timothy Rankine.
4. Investigate how many times the Tacoma Police Department and Pierce County Sheriff's Department broke laws and policies of I940.
5. Remove the officials complicit in Manny Ellis' murder cover up, including: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell, and Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer.
6. Eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside the NWDC.
7. Continual testing for Covid-19 of all workers and those detained in NWDC.

8. Provide medical attention for all people with Covid-19 and other illnesses inside NWDC.

9. Stop transferring people to and from NWDC.

10. End deportations.

11. Shut down NWDC and free everyone detained.

Regards,

Alexis Sargent

From: Courtney Stoker <courtneymstoker@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:55 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: 6/30 Public Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I am writing to ask the Council to support Attorney General Bob Ferguson's report to the State Legislature stating law enforcement in WA should be required to report use of deadly force to the National Use-of-Force Data Collection Program. In the statement of support I'd also like to ask the Council to state a desire for the database to be available to the public.

Thank you for your time,
Courtney Stoker
98402

From: Amanda Myton <almyton@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:53 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Resolutions 40621 and 40622

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

As a Tacoma citizen committed to anti-racism, I would urge the CIty Council to support RES40621 and RES40622. These are critical steps towards addressing institutionalized racism within our city.

Thank you,

Amanda Myton

1232 N Oakes St

Tacoma, WA 98406

From: Abolitionists Pierce County <abolitionistspc@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:53 PM

To: City Clerk's Office

Subject: City Council Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear City Manager, Mayor and Tacoma City Council,

Last week Tacoma residents submitted 157 comments regarding the police. Why haven't those been shared publicly?

Abolitionists of Pierce County would like to uplift the following demands to Council. We look forward to hearing from you.

- 1) defund the police & sheriff! allocate this funding to community transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education & healthcare
- 2) remove cops from all schools
- 3) free all jailed & detained people in Pierce County

The Ellis family demands:

- 1) arrest & charge TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis's murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford & Timothy Rankine
- 2) investigate how many times TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's Dept broke laws & polices of I940
- 3) remove officials complicit in the murder cover up: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell & Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer

Share concerns from NWDC:

- 1) eliminate the chemical Sani-T-10 to disinfect inside NWDC
- 2) continual testing of all detained people & workers for Covid-19
- 3) provide medical attention for all people with Covid-19 & other illnesses inside
- 4) stop transferring people to & from the facility

5) end deportations (this is a global pandemic!)

6) FREE THEM ALL!

7) SHUT DOWN NWDC!

Sincerely,

Abolitionists of Pierce County

From: Bethany D <bopit150@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:35 PM

To: City Clerk's Office

Subject: Justice

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Good afternoon,

I am writing to demand that Tacoma defunds the police and sheriff departments and allocates the funds to transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education, and healthcare.

Remove all officers from public schools.

Immediately cease use of Sani-T-10 that is being used to disinfect NWDC. provide testing for all detained individuals and provide medical attention for all in need. Furthermore transporting individuals between centers is irresponsible and will greatly spread COVID 19. The detainees are humans and need to be treated as such.

Bethany Darfler.

From: Oliver Johnson <oliverjohnson133@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:29 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comments for Pierce County Council

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hi all,

My name's Oliver Johnson and I live in North Tacoma, District 1.

Please help us find justice for Manuel Ellis by arresting and charging the Tacoma Police officers involved in killing him: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford and Timothy Rankine.

Additionally, please investigate how many times TPD & Pierce County Sheriff's Department have broken laws and policies of 1940. Because of the protections that police have, I worry that there are more cases like Manny's that have been forgotten or swept under the rug.

Lastly, I ask that you work toward removing the officials complicit in Manuel's murder from their respective offices: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell and Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer.

Thank you for your time,

Oliver

--

Oliver Johnson

oliver-j.com

(907) 444-5036

From: Emma Wonsil <emmwonsil@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:27 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comments on June 30th City Council Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

My name is Emma Wonsil and I'm a Behavioral Health Clinician with Catholic Community Services of Western Washington. I spend most of my work week working with folks experiencing homelessness at Nativity House or the Stability Site, as well as folks living unsheltered on the street. I am writing to express my concern about the budget of the Tacoma Police Department and to ask that the police budget is reallocated to community [transformative justice](#), housing, mental health services, counseling, education, and healthcare. Punishing folks for not having their basic needs met is absolutely ridiculous and punitive - nor does it solve anything. I also would urge you to follow the lead of other cities across the country such as Minneapolis, Portland, and Oakland and eliminate the presence of police officers in schools. Students need resources, not policing.

I also would like to share the demands of the family of Manuel Ellis. Arrest and charge the officers who were involved in his murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford, and Timothy Rankine. The officials who participated in the cover-up of Manuel Ellis's murder must also be removed, including Paul Pastor, Don Ramsell, and Ed Troyer. It is clear that the truth about this murder would have never surfaced without the advocacy of Monet Carter-Dixon and the help of journalists and bystander videos. It is also imperative that TPD and the Pierce County Sheriff's department are investigated to determine how many times they violated the policies of I940.

I also would like to advocate for the freedom of all jailed and detained people in Pierce County. If you are unfamiliar with prison abolition, I think [this piece](#) on Ruth Wilson Gilmore by Rachel Kushner. It provides a solid introduction to questions like, "What would we do instead?".

I look forward to your action on these matters.

Emma

--

Emma Wonsil

she/her/hers

From: Jennifer <jennylanks@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:24 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Cc: Sean Lanksbury; Mabel Lorenzi; Oliver Anderson; Laura (Jeffers) Anderson
Subject: Support for RES40621 and RES40622

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear City Clerk of Tacoma and members of the Tacoma City Council,

I would like to voice my strong support for RES40621, Version: 2 to establish communications procedures for deaths that occur while in police custody. Please vote yes on this resolution to help reform the Tacoma Police Department.

<https://cityoftacoma.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4579870&GUID=1F5A45F9-D01A-467E-8961-82F5579FB8B0&Options=&Search=>

I also voice my strong support for RES40622, Version: 2 (Commitment to Comprehensive Systems Transformation) to further the transformation of all of the institutions, systems, policies, practices, and contracts impacted by systemic racism, with initial priority being given to policing in the City of Tacoma.

<https://cityoftacoma.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4579947&GUID=A7AD32E5-A284-457C-96E5-B5D7A68B4B27&Options=&Search=>

I hope both of these important resolutions are adopted and look forward to seeing how they improve the safety and wellbeing of all of Tacoma's residents and visitors, especially black people and people of color.

Thank you,

Jennifer Lanksbury

5403 81st Ave Ct W

University Place, WA 98467

(253) 312-1119

From: Meadbh Koenigsberg <meadbh.s.k@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:16 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comment for June 30th meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I live in the North End. I stand with the Abolitionist of Pierce County in demanding that the City of Tacoma defund the police and sheriff. Funding must be allocated to community safety initiatives, transformative justice infrastructure, low income housing, mental health services, counseling, education, and healthcare. Only by supporting people's well being will crime actually decrease.

All cops must be removed from Tacoma schools. Relying on police for discipline is counter to educational pedagogy, and feeds into the school-to-prison-pipeline that disproportionately affects black and brown students.

The City must also listen to the demands of the Ellis family. Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford, and Timothy Rankine must be arrested and fired for their involvement in the murder of Manuel Ellis. There must be an investigation into how many times TPD and Pierce County Sheriff's Dept broke laws and policies of 1940. There must be accountability for mishandling.

Thank you,
Meadbh Koenigsberg

From: Tyler Troutman <Troutmantr@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 11:53 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: 6/30/20 Public Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Written public comment submitted for Tacoma's 6/30/20 City Council meeting.

RE: ORD28677 (Firearms and Ammunition tax)

OPPOSE changing the effective date of this ordinance or at the very least, implement the taxing of firearms and ammunition clause as the original ordinance effective date states to begin collecting revenue. Please prioritize this community need while managing the Covid-19 pandemic. Gun violence has no place in Tacoma and we must act.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

~ Tyler Troutman
Tacoma, WA 98403

From: Holly Rydel <teleskichica@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 11:34 AM
Cc: City Clerk's Office; Beale, Chris; Blocker, Keith; Hines, John; Hunter, Lillian; McCarthy, Conor; Thoms, Robert; Ushka, Catherine; Walker, Kristina; Woodards, Victoria; City Manager
Subject: Fwd: Public comment on resolutions No. 40621 and 40621 - Justice for Manny - Defund the Police!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

My name is Holly Rydel Kelly. I live and work in Hilltop, I'm a constituent in Keith Blocker's District, and I'm a small business owner. Usually, I write my own words, but this time, my partner summed everything up completely so I have bolded the points I really want to make. We can do better.

I'm writing to express my deep frustration with the City Government for not taking more bold action in response to the current uprising for racial justice, particularly in light of COVID-19 and the horrific death of Manuel "Mannuy" Ellis at the hands of the Tacoma Police Department and other local law enforcement.

It is shocking that there isn't already a communications protocol for any death that occurs in the custody of Tacoma Police or as the result of use of deadly force. But what's even more shocking is that there has yet to be real justice for Manny Ellis, and that the police still have such toxic political influence in our city, in a moment of deep public health and financial crisis.

Officers Collins, Burbank, Ford and Rankine must be fired and fully prosecuted to the extent of the law. There must be an independent investigation into Ellis' death, and any senior police or city leader involved in a cover up must be prosecuted as well. Anything short of this is a travesty of justice and supports the racists status quo.

Moreover, Tacoma must follow suit with cities as diverse as Minneapolis, Los Angeles, Portland and even New York in making a bold commitment to divest from the police and invest in the community. COVID-19 and austerity mean that Tacoma is facing at least a \$40 million budget shortfall this year, and potentially more next year. This will

disproportionately impact Black and Brown city residents and workers. There are projections of at least 15% cuts to all city departments, yet it is unclear how much will come from the police, if any.

Moments like this require bold action. For Manny Ellis, for racial justice, for equity and for the future of our city, we must defund the police and fund social services. **A 50% cut to the police budget would offset all other furloughs, help prevent more atrocities, and allow all of Tacoma's Black and Brown residents to breathe. I join countless other Tacoma residents in making such demands.** We hope you hear us and take this seriously. Embrace the moment and join the movement.

Black life matters.

Sincerely,

Holly Rydel Kelly

From: Alexis Burke <alexiseburke@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 11:30 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Concerned citizen request for Tacoma city council

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

My name is Alexis Burke and I am a resident of Seattle Washington. Following the events of March 3rd where police were unable to deescalate and instead, used excessive force to subdue Manuel Ellis which led to his unlawful murder, I am asking that action be taken to prevent this ever happening again in our state. Reports of the autopsy and the cops involved have been conflicting and inconsistent. I am asking that the officers involved-Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, masiyh Ford, and Timothy rankine all be fired and arrested and charged for the murder of Ellis. Officials that aided in the cover up of this crime, Paul pastor, don ramsdell, and Ed troyer, should all be timber as well.

Thank you,
Alexis Burke

From: Guion Rosenzweig <guionyork@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 11:29 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Tacoma City Council Public Comment - 06/30/2020 - 21CP Solutions not appropriate as review body for TPD (Police Commentary)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Tacoma City Council,

Thank you for your time. I write to you as a long time resident of Tacoma, taxpayer and active voter. All the comments here are my personal opinions as a private citizen. I love this city, and my communication with this council is due to my passion for our city.

Today, I would like to discuss the optics of the decision to engage 21CP Solutions as an "*independent*" review body for the Tacoma Police Department. In a time where transparency and accountability from police and government officials are being called for, optics are very important.

Last week, without any information on the City Council Meeting Agenda, City Manager Elizabeth Pauli announced that 21CP Solutions would be engaged to review TPD.

Why was this not outlined on the Agenda for last week so that Public comment could be made? Was it because of the heavy baggage which 21CP Solutions carries?

Basic research yields a plethora of information on 21CP Solutions showing it to be consistently criticized for its claimed "*independent*" nature and criticized for producing reports of no substantive value in areas which continue to have police issues today. Deeper dives yield very worrisome information on the products 21CP Solutions is peddling to councils just like ours across the nation.

My headline to you today is: Why on earth would such a firm be chosen to review our department? Was any research done on this firm or what they produce? Or was council simply looking for a firm to provide a lip service report that could be passed off to the people as action? Is this the transparency and optics the Tacoma City Council wants to put out?

Where to start with CP21 Solutions Failings. In 2019, they gave the Seattle Police Department a big thumbs up despite federal rulings saying the opposite. We see how that worked out for Seattle in 2020. In 2019, CP21 also reviewed police departments in Minnesota offering up no real change with reports coming out prior to George Floyd's death. We see how that review worked for Minnesota. Moving on to the south, Raleigh, NC, the city council just got their report back and several council members are very upset with what this "review" produced, namely nothing. Is that where Tacoma council wants to be at the end of this review? In 2018, CP21 Solutions reviewed Asheville's police department and came back with what was widely viewed as biased reports that did not investigate all parties.

All citations for these incidents are listed below for further reading. These are only a few of many examples of the failings of CP21 Solutions. Activists and city government officials alike are displeased with the "*independent*" nature of these reviews as well as the templated/non-actionable reports received.

It would seem based on the optics, which as mentioned are oh so important now a days, that there are 2 possible motivations for choosing a firm with such baggage. 1. The City Manager and/or Council did not do due diligence on this firm to see their baggage 2. The City Manager and/or Council specifically sought out a firm specifically that was under scrutiny for their "*independence*" that would give them a report of no substantive value. Either way, this does not inspire confidence in the city manager or this council that any real reform of police will happen. This seems like lip service that can be passed off to constituents as a win when really it is the old case of "look at this expensive bullet item that achieved nothing".

Furthermore, in a time of budgeting issues due to Covid and police budget scrutiny, I wonder where this 250k be taken from? Police Budget or General Fund? Given the bloated budget of the Tacoma Police department (example: Tacoma Police Budget is 27% higher per capita than Seattle)*, it seems the only logical place to take out funds for review would be from the existing police budget.

As always, with respect, I renew my requests that these comments be read publicly. I realize Covid has thrown a wrench in council meetings and 100% support your virtual meetings. However, virtual does not mean public comment should be excluded. Other councils in the region and other councils (school board) in this city allow for public comment at virtual meetings. It comes off as further evidence of obfuscation rather than transparency in a time when optics are very important.

How will history judge the actions of this council in regards to accountability and equality?

Kind regards,
Guion Rosenzweig, North Slope Tacoma

CITATIONS

*Tacoma vs Seattle Police Cost

Tacoma Population: 217,827

Tacoma Police Budget: \$1,750,000

Per Capita Cost for Police: \$8.03

Seattle Population: 747,300

Seattle Police Budget: \$4,700,000

Per Capita Cost for Police: \$6.29

27% higher cost for Police per capita in Tacoma than Seattle.

CP21 Solutions References of previous lack luster service -

SEATTLE 2019

<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/analysis-but-no-specific-fixes-yet-in-seattles-report-for-judge-on-police-accountability/>

"Rather than describe how exactly to make Seattle's accountability system better, it reviews the existing apparatus, concludes the system is "generally working well" and identifies some areas for improvement. It also compares Seattle's system to setups in some other cities." December 2019 21CP Solutions Report on SPD

<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/seattles-use-of-outside-advisory-panel-condemned-by-police-reform-advocates/>

ASHEVILLE 2018

<https://www.citizen-times.com/story/news/local/2018/08/29/police-report-beating-black-man-leaves-out-minority-relations/1132774002/>

"Video of an officer beating, strangling and shocking an unarmed black pedestrian a year ago spurred outcry over police relations with minority residents.

But a recently released report by police consultants paid by the city to make recommendations after the beating of Johnnie Rush makes no mention of issues of race." \$87,500 in 2018

<https://wlos.com/news/local/city-council-hears-from-policing-consultants-after-pedestrian-beating-case>

Asheville, The consultants reviewed the case of Rush, who was seen on body camera footage being beaten, choked, and tased by former Asheville Police Officer Chris Hickman.

Some recommendations included revising the selection and recruitment process for the field training officer program and routinely assessing early intervention system triggers.

"It seems that there are some stakeholders that are really close to the work and this incident who probably could've given you probably another viewpoint, so to speak, and it could've appeared a little more balanced," Asheville City Council member Sheneika Smith said."

RALEIGH 2019

<https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/counties/wake-county/article243568237.html>

"The selection drew immediate criticism from City Council member Saige Martin and several community members who spoke during Tuesday's council meeting.

The firm is made up primarily of former police chiefs, Martin noted. Of the seven team partners listed in the firm's Scope of Work to the city manager, only one is not a former police chief or associated with a police association.

"I think calling them 'completely independent' is a bit of a stretch," said Martin.

"I know that our goal is to bring in something that is fair and accurate of an assessment and I think that is what people want," he added.

In a public comment period and on social media, several community members and protest organizers also criticized the choice."

"In 2017, former officer Christopher Hickman beat and choked Johnnie Rush, an unarmed Black man, in Asheville. In its report, the firm found that the personnel file, records, and body-camera footage of Hickman, who later pleaded guilty to assault by strangulation, showed "harmful" and "detrimental" behaviors.

But the report did not address more broadly how police interact with Black communities and the consultants did not speak with minority residents or with Rush, according to The Citizen-Times. The consultants said their contract did not ask for an investigation into relations between the police and Black residents of Asheville.

21CP Solutions was also hired by the state of Minnesota to develop recommendations and action steps aimed at reducing deadly-force encounters with law enforcement.

The group released its recommendations in February 2020, four months before a Minneapolis police officer, Derek Chauvin, was charged with the murder and three others were charged with aiding and abetting murder in Floyd's death."

Raleigh 2020 for Protest Review

BRIDGEPORT, CT June 2020

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=561088344553999&id=137353903594114

From A Bridgeport council Member in Bridgeport Ct where they hired 21CP Solutions for a review report

"Yesterday Mr. Charles Ramsey (21CP Solutions) presented an initial 9 page report on the Bridgeport Police Department to the City Council. The language is general and cookie cutter which could be chalked up to paid consultants not wanting to anger the hand that feeds them or the consultant not really having a thorough grasp of the issue (or a bit of both). Regardless these are some of the major findings and recommendations contained in the document I've linked below:

- There is a high level of distrust between the community and the BPD and therefore the BPD should engage in ongoing conversations with the community (much like the conversation hosted by Bridgeport Generation Now - cited in the report).

- Cites that BPD officers have a practice of sharing their cellphone numbers and business cards with community for direct access. I've heard Chief Perez talk about this for 3 years - has anyone actually seen this happen?

- A number of training recommendations including an after incident review and debrief anytime force is used. I was really surprised that this isn't already happening. Seems a glaring issue and I hope I misunderstood the report.

- Posting the current policies and procedures manual for police - Why doesn't this already happen? Such an easy thing to do. In trying to research what we as a community want changed it's really hard to find information on our police department.

- All uniformed officers should have body cameras and training in how to use them - thought this already happened based on Chief Perez's statements but I guess not.

- Review of the current structure of the department

Again, nothing ground breaking here and nothing near what the public around the world is calling for but understand this is a former police chief providing recommendations to a police department so while Mr. Ramsey seems very open to push for changes, they won't go near what the public is asking for."

MINNESOTA February 2020

<https://www.minnpost.com/state-government/2020/05/a-minnesota-task-force-on-policing-recommended-28-reforms-for-deadly-force-incidents-after-george-floyd-will-its-report-get-a-serious-look/>

"But there was no consensus on some controversial issues, only a recommendation to keep talking about them. For instance, the report asks for a review of state law that authorizes when officers can use deadly force. Interested parties should meet to hash out any changes "necessary to ensure there is a focus on the sanctity of life, as well as standards that require that the use-of-force be reasonable, necessary, and proportionate," the report says."

From: Michaela Johnson Blanchard <mjohnsonblanchard@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 11:18 AM

To: City Clerk's Office

Subject: Racial Justice in Tacoma

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I am writing today in regards to the meeting resolution items on the City Council agenda regarding police brutality and systematic racism.

I'm calling on the City Council to do more than just pass resolutions to do better than we've done in the past. I'm asking the City Council to pass legislation to help support the people that are dying in our streets, being incarcerated with extremely high bail, and living in poverty. Racial justice does not end with defunding the police, it's only the beginning.

I want to see the City Council acknowledge that we need better mental health and housing resources. Our communities deserve better than the police system we have now. Giving them body cameras is just the first start, it is not the end of the push.

I want to know what the City Council is actually working on right now to make racial justice a priority in Tacoma.

Best,

Michaela

From: Deven Ropes <sunshinesummertime99@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 11:04 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comments on Resolutions 40621 and 40622

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Tacoma City Council,

I am writing concerning Resolution 40621 and 40622.

In my opinion, both resolutions feel weak and performative.

Resolution 40621 doesn't even address the very real issue at hand; that civilian deaths while in the custody of the Tacoma police shouldn't be happening in the first place. We have a "Vision Zero" for pedestrian fatalities due to automobile accidents; should we not have a "Vision Zero" for civilian deaths by police while in custody? It feels like an adequate communications protocol should be a given---in fact, I am shocked that this isn't already in place. Make a stronger statement by calling for reducing the amount of deaths by police.

Resolution 40622 is weak. I don't see any tangible change coming from the vague commitment to reform policing from the inside. The police, as they exist today, are an assault to public safety, and a drain on tax dollars. When police officers would rather stand by their fellow police officers, unconditionally, than stand on the side of justice, there is something deeply, fundamentally wrong with the institution they are part of. No amount of reform will change that kind of behavior. I don't want to pay police officers as much as I do for that kind of behavior.

I find it utterly absurd that 34% of the Tacoma general fund for 2019-2020 went to the Tacoma PD, while so many other areas---public works, other public safety expenses, and community services constitute such a small piece of the pie. The reality is, the only thing that will make real change for our communities, is dismantling the police as an institution, and redistributing funds to the departments that will enrich and uplift our Tacoma community. Write a resolution that calls for THAT.

If we invest our tax dollars in community services, public works, and healthy spaces to recreate, our community will experience real change for the better. Write a resolution that prioritizes our values as a community; call to dismantle the police and create a public safety task force composed of social workers, mental health experts, and a conservative amount of law enforcement.

Thank you,

Deven Ropes

Taxpaying Citizen, Tacoma Resident

From: Caitlyn Calderon <calderoncaitlyn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:38 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: TACOMA CITY COUNCIL NEEDS TO MEET DEMANDS

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

To Whom It May Concern:

I am reaching out to demand justice for Manuel Ellis and his family. He was murdered by the Tacoma Police department and the demands of his family have not been met.

The demands are listed:

- Arrest and charge TPD officers involved in Manuel Ellis' murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford and Timothy Rankine
- Investigate how many times TPD and Pierce county SHeriff's dept broke laws and policies of I940
- remove officials complicit in the murder cover up: Pierce county sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police CHief DOn Ramsdell & Pierce COunty SHeriff's information Officer Ed Troyer

I also demand that TPD be defunded and funds allocated to the community.

--

Caitlyn Calderon
206.226.8455

From: Megan Selvage <megan_selvage@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:27 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Request for police accountability

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Tacoma City Council,

Please help restore our public faith in the local political system and Tacoma Police Department by firing the officers who participated in the murder of Manuel Ellis. It is so important for the police and public to understand that our officers are here to protect and serve, not dehumanize and destroy some of our citizens.

With thanks,
Megan Selvage

Sent from my iPhone

From: Marnie Ritchie <ritchiem@plu.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:25 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Question for Tacoma City Council Meeting Today

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

I am a professor at Pacific Lutheran University. My questions are: Why will Tacoma not commit to defunding the police? What is the rationale for keeping them v. alternative models of public safety? I believe the people deserve an answer.

--

Marnie Ritchie, Ph.D.

she/her/hers

Assistant Professor of Rhetoric

Department of Communication

Pacific Lutheran University

mmritchie.com

ritchiem@plu.edu

From: Emily BoCo <emilyboco@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:13 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Reduce policing budget

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Good morning,

This email is to support:

- 1) defunding the budget for police and allocating those funds to transformative justice, housing, mental health services, counseling, education and healthcare.
- 2) removing all police from schools
- 3) arrest and charge the officers involved in Manuel Ellis's murder: Matthew Collins, Christopher Burbank, Masiyh Ford, and Timothy Rankine
- 4) remove officials compliant in the cover up of Manuel's murder: Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor, Tacoma Police Chief Don Ramsdell, and Pierce County Sheriff's Information Officer Ed Troyer
- 5) shut down the Northwest Detention Center and free all detained people there

Thank you,

Emily BC

From: Rachel Kunze Wilkie <RachelLeAnnKunze@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:00 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: City of Tacoma Racism Reforms RES 40622

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I am going to comment, even though the resolution is blank as attached, so I can't see the specifics of the resolution as of this morning.

I would like to thank the City Council for working on direct anti-racism work in our institutions. I know this will not be easy or quick in implementation, but I am glad to see that the push is being made to make a quick beginning.

I would like to continue to add my support to the Defund Police movement. I do believe that we can lessen the need for law enforcement by investing in our communities from the ground up, and un-doing the systems that have led to unequal and inequitable access to programs, housing, education, etc. I also firmly believe that law enforcement is the wrong entity to be sent into deal (weapons drawn) with suspected mental health/intoxication/disability situations - where an armed response and lack of training to identify the needs can only lead to escalation and violence. Thank you for beginning the work on this, and I hope that this resolution is only the beginning.

Also, two weeks ago, I watched the resolution of affordable housing in a building near the downtown sector. Several members of our community had a sidebar conversation online about the meeting, and we all agreed that it's hardly fair to quantify a 650sf unit for \$1450, and no parking "affordable housing." That's my mortgage payment for a two-income household with free street parking that allows me to drive to the park and ride to get to work. I don't see how a single renter can be expected to pay that. If that's what we're considering affordable, we need to rethink affordable if we're going to keep people in Tacoma in housing.

Thanks,
Rachel Wilkie

From: Nancy Lee Farrell <nfarrellwa@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 5:01 AM

To: City Clerk's Office

Subject: Policing

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Since racism is so pervasive everywhere, it seems like the police department must take a longer course in de-escalation.

Nancy Farrell

From: Devin Kelly <peopleofearth@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:21 PM
To: City Clerk's Office; Beale, Chris; Blocker, Keith; Hines, John; Hunter, Lillian; McCarthy, Conor; Thoms, Robert; Ushka, Catherine; Walker, Kristina; Woodards, Victoria; City Manager
Subject: Public comment on resolutions No. 40621 and 40621 - Justice for Manny - Defund the Police!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

My name is Devin Rydel Kelly. I live and work in Hilltop, I'm a constituent in Keith Blocker's District, and I'm the Education Officer with the Tacoma-Pierce County Democratic Socialists of America chapter.

I'm writing to express my deep frustration with the City Government for not taking more bold action in response to the current uprising for racial justice, particularly in light of COVID-19 and the horrific death of Manuel "Mannuy" Ellis at the hands of the Tacoma Police Department and other local law enforcement.

It is shocking that there isn't already a communications protocol for any death that occurs in the custody of Tacoma Police or as the result of use of deadly force. But what's even more shocking is that there has yet to be real justice for Manny Ellis, and that the police still have such toxic political influence in our city, in a moment of deep public health and financial crisis.

Officers Collins, Burbank, Ford and Rankine must be fired and fully prosecuted to the extent of the law. There must be an independent investigation into Ellis' death, and any senior police or city leader involved in a cover up must be prosecuted as well. Anything short of this is a travesty of justice and supports the racists status quo.

Moreover, Tacoma must follow suit with cities as diverse as Minneapolis, Los Angeles, Portland and even New York in making a bold commitment to divest from the police and invest in the community. COVID-19 and austerity mean that Tacoma is facing at least a \$40 million budget shortfall this year, and potentially more next year. This will disproportionately impact Black and Brown city residents and workers. There are projections of at least 15% cuts to all city departments, yet it is unclear how much will come from the police, if any.

Moments like this require bold action. For Manny Ellis, for racial justice, for equity and for the future of our city, we must defund the police and fund social services. A 50% cut to the police budget would offset all other furloughs, help prevent more atrocities, and allow all of Tacoma's Black and Brown residents to breathe. I join countless other

Tacoma residents in making such demands. We hope you hear us and take this seriously. Embrace the moment and join the movement.

Black lives matter.

Sincerely,

Devin Rydel Kelly

--

"If I can't dance, I don't want to be part of your revolution" - Emma Goldman

From: Eric Voboril <ewvoboril@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:30 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comments on Resolution No. 40621 and Resolution No. 40622

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

I am deeply disappointed to see the council has had the temerity to offer these toothless resolutions as even the first steps to respond to the thousands of citizens who have taken to the streets in outrage over the death of Manual Ellis.

Both resolutions are missing a fundamental element: to set a goal for the Tacoma Police that NO DEATHS should occur when a person is taken into their custody. The first resolution (No. 40621) merely suggests a protocol so that when a death occurs, the police should communicate that fact more quickly. The second resolution (No. 40622) only suggests that the city should broadly work with the police department to address systemic racism. These resolutions are so vague and do so little to even address the specific issues that have been brought to light, that they are an insult to the citizens that have spoken out, and to the family of Manual Ellis. The council should return to the drawing board and come back with resolutions that seek to specifically 1) end deaths like Manuel Ellis' 2) ban chokeholds 3) end no-knock warrants.

Thank you,

Eric Voboril

1007 S. Lawrence Street

Tacoma, WA

From: Sondra Tanji <sondra.tanji@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 8:23 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Resolution 40621 Concerns

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I am a Tacoma resident and I am writing to express my concerns about Resolution No. 40621 scheduled to appear before the City Council at tomorrow's meeting.

I disagree with the language used "WHEREAS the TPD performs many necessary public safety services within our community that add to quality of life in Tacoma..." I believe this statement suggests that no other community resource could provide the services that TPD does, which is untrue. I would also add that the services TPD provides are disproportionately safe for Tacoma's white residents and violent for Tacoma's Black residents. This statement limits the city's ability to reimagine the public services it could provide outside of policing.

I disagree with the language used "WHEREAS effectively transforming our systems of policing will require a process that engages with personnel at every level of the TPD..." TPD has repeatedly lied to this community about its actions and has lost its credibility to even perform its job, much less have a say in what the future of policing in our city will look like. TPD cannot be trusted to make decisions that will result in anything but their own gain and maintenance of the status quo.

Instead, the resolution should specifically address how community leaders (NOT TPD) and the residents of Tacoma will be involved in dismantling and rebuilding the systems we use to keep our communities safe and healthy. Decision making should be split between public health experts, civil rights leaders, and the people.

Thank you for hearing my concerns. Feel free to contact me at this email (sondra.tanji@gmail.com) with any comments or questions.

Sincerely,

Sondra Tanji

From: Ramirez100 . <ramirez100@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 6:21 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Resolution 40621 and 40622

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

These resolutions will do nothing to end police brutality or deaths in police custody. Resolution 40621 doesn't even mention that deaths shouldn't be happening in police custody in the first place. Instead it simply notifies the mayor and the family that their loved one was killed by police. Everything being handled internally if an investigation is even prompted has shown time and time again to never hold the police accountable for racist and deadly policing. We need to stop these deaths from happening in the first place and these resolutions do nothing to help us stop them. Put in reforms that will actually protect our communities and the people that live in them because the people who are meant to protect us are killing us and they are still getting away with it because they have a badge. The four officers who killed Manuel Ellis in March of this year are still on the force. How many more people have to die before you see how violent and racist our police force is?

From: Jonathan Pottle <jonathanpottle@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 4:02 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Resolutions 40621 and 40622

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I have some feedback on the following resolutions:

Resolution 40621: Why does this resolution take for granted the deaths of people in TPD's custody? Why isn't "No more deaths of people in TPD's custody" the first thing? Why isn't it the only thing? "We'll continue wantonly murdering Black people who we detain for no good reason, but now we'll tell you more about it when we do" is not really an improvement. It's performative busywork to make it look like you're doing something.

Resolution 40622: TPD performs no necessary or useful functions. TPD is an instrument of white supremacy and the protection of property over people. The police as a whole, and TPD in this case, cannot be reformed. They cannot be trusted to make any needed changes. They must be defunded, and the institution must be abolished. THERE IS NO REFORM TO BE HAD. Any "experts" you hire are just grifters who will bill you (meaning us) seven figures to give you some...performative busywork to make it look like you're doing something.

Here's a resolution: DEFUND AND ABOLISH TPD. Give that money to Tacoma's communities--Black, Indigenous, trans*, etc.--that suffer most from the violence inflicted by the police. To support anything less is to publicly declare that you are fine with Manny Ellis' murder and you hope similar things happen in the future. Grow a backbone or get the hell out of the way.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Pottle

Tacoma (District 2) resident

From: Ruby Mullen <rubymullen71@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 1:58 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Council meeting 6/29

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good morning,

I am writing to you to submit my written comments before the meeting today.

I would firstly like to demand that the officers who murdered Manuel Ellis are fired and charged. Manuel's family is STILL desperately seeking justice in the unjust murder of their loved one. Continuing to ignore their cries, and the cries of the public, for justice, is deliberate and willful ignorance on the part of the Tacoma city government. You need to make this right immediately.

Secondly, the police funding needs to be drastically reduced—the usage of body cams has been proven time and time again to not increase police accountability, and we as tax payers in the city of Tacoma do not want more of our money going to the Tacoma police department and further enabling them to kill with impunity.

There also needs to be a guarantee that Manuel's death is given a proper investigation that is free from corruption or obstruction by TPD or the Pierce county sheriffs department. These two departments also need to be independently investigated, as they have meddled with this case, withheld information, and are clearly working to protect fellow cops instead of seeking justice.

One of the officers involved in the murder of Manuel Ellis recently received a commendation for his service, which again demonstrates the vast insensitivity and lack of intent to hold police accountable of the Tacoma city government.

We, the people of Tacoma, do not feel safe with the murderers of Manuel Ellis continuing to hold their jobs. We demand that they are fired and that NO NEW COPS are hired in their places.

Thank you.
Ruby Mullen

From: Kate Terpstra <terpstrakj@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 1:45 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: RESOLUTION NO. 40622 Public Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

RESOLUTION NO. 40622 reads as a tone-deaf performative quarter-measure, and is not sufficient, even in interim, in progressing to a safer, more just Tacoma. What measures will be taken immediately, per Section 4? The firing of the four officers responsible for the murder of Manuel Ellis is an immediate, yet neglected, responsibility of the City Manager. So what actions WILL be taken? What accountability is there to ensure immediate action? Similarly, what accountability is there for the longer-term action described in Section 3? Is any sort of timeline for transformative action in place or in planning? Moreover, this section is poorly informed by trust in police reform experts' assessments and the police departments' internal implementations of change - read: police reform experts will advise TPD on how to *internally* handle their "transformation" without significant change. What we need is acknowledgement that our police department is too deeply corrupted and flawed to accept this level of agency in its own reform. What we need are community reform experts with expertise in substantially defunding police departments. Please listen to your constituents: we demand an assessment for a new community model in which TPD is defunded by 50% and funds are reallocated to community, social, and health services; prioritizing delivery of the aforementioned in Tacoma's most marginalized communities.

Sincerely,
Kate Terpstra
District 2 Constituent

From: Dimitri Winchester <windimtree@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 12:20 PM

To: City Clerk's Office; Beale, Chris

Subject: Justice for Manuel Ellis

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello there

My name is Dimitri Winchester I live in the 5th district, as your constituent I am calling for action for the city manager to FIRE officers Collins, Burbank, Ford and Rankine. After seeing and hearing how officers treated Manuel Ellis in his final moments and how his case continues to be kept quiet, I don't feel safe with these officers in the city of Tacoma.

Additionally, as my representative I request that you support the motion to defund the TPD and relocate the funds into our communities real issues, such as housing and homelessness.,

Thank you for your time,

-Dimitri Winchester

From: Courtney Stoker <courtneymstoker@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 27, 2020 3:32 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Cc: Thoms, Robert; McCarthy, Conor; Hunter, Lillian; Walker, Kristina
Subject: Public Comment - Police Body Cameras Special Session

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Tacoma City Council Members,

Regarding Tuesday's special meeting addressing the timeline for implementation of police body cameras:

First, I would like to express my deep irritation with my district representative, Councilperson Thoms, for your complete lack of participation in this meeting. You should be ashamed for this display of apathy in the face of the overwhelming grief and desire for action among your community. Having nothing of substance to offer to this conversation at this time is shameful.

Second, I would like to directly thank Deputy Mayor Blocker for being the only Councilperson to mention the critical tension that exists within the community about increasing the Police budget for any reason.

As a resident of the City of Tacoma, I am very hesitant to increase funding to the Tacoma Police Department in any capacity. Police departments around the nation (including Kent and Spokane that were erroneously held out as a pinnacle of body worn camera policy in the region) have demonstrated time and again that they can not be trusted to be good stewards of these cameras. They are routinely misused and underused where deployed. No matter how well thought out your policy and procedures are before implementation, video evidence doesn't make a difference when you have corrupt police unions and qualified immunity that render it impossible to hold police officers accountable.

I understand many Black leaders within the community are advocating for body cameras, so I ask that **any money spent on body cameras be cut dollar for dollar from the patrol unit budget**. Firing the officers involved in the murder of Manny Ellis would be a great place to start the cuts.

Thank you for your time,

Courtney Stoker

From: Lexi Brewer <lexib.stc@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:19 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Comments on Resolution 40621

While I commend the Mayor and City Council members Blocker and Hunter in bringing this resolution forward and want to see it passed, I feel that there is a glaring omission in the text of the resolution, which I find concerning as a signal of City Council's values, which is that no where in the text of the resolution is the goal or statement made that the goal is for no one to die as a result of an interaction with the Tacoma Police Department.

We have a "Vision Zero" for pedestrian injuries and fatalities due to automobile collisions, and I would hope that City Council adopts a "Vision Zero" for deaths due to police custody or interactions. A resolution that enacts protocols that anticipate additional deaths like Manuel Ellis's without a statement that they should not happen, PERIOD, is upsetting and concerning to me.

Thank you,

Alexandra Brewer

lexib.stc@gmail.com

--

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lexi Brewer".

Lexi Brewer

she/her/hers

lexib.stc@gmail.com

From: Cassandra de Kanter <cassandra.mathias@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 5:14 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Message to Council re: traffic stops/enforcement

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good evening,

I don't remember who tweeted this link, but I found it fascinating. LA isn't Tacoma and LA's issues probably aren't a perfect 1:1 match to Tacoma's, but this is the kind of movement away from "armed police respond to everything" I hope to see in Tacoma.
<https://11thdistrict.com/news/council-tackles-problem-of-police-stopping-motorists-for-driving-while-black/>
Thank you!

Cassandra de Kanter

From: james Vazquez <jamesvazquez217@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 5:51 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: NWDC

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good afternoon,

I am writing to demand that Tacoma immediately cease use of Sani-T-10 that is being used to disinfect NWDC. This chemical is causing burns to detainees and is acting as a modern day gas chamber. You must provide testing for all detained individuals and provide medical attention for all in need. Furthermore transporting individuals between detention centers is irresponsible and will greatly grow the spread of COVID 19. The detainees are humans and need to be treated as such.

James Farias Vazquez

Sent from my iPhone