

6/29/2020 11:56:54 AM

Please do the work to keep our black and brown residence safe from abuse of power but in the same note please keep all residents safe. We need the police force for to fight violent crimes that we have seen increased in our city. Sadly we've had an a tick in sexual crimes gang violence etc. Please do the work with the police chief who I fully support and respect to make this city's please Department into an organization that we as a residence of Minneapolis deserve. Please don't abolish or defund listen to our mayor and our police chief their ideas of going after the police union and etc From my perspective seems the right way forward. Thanks for giving us residents a chance to be heard.

6/29/2020 11:57:19 AM

How would we remain safe? Who do we call if there is a break in? A car accident?

6/29/2020 12:07:35 PM

I am a proponent of reorganizing police response and providing other community resources.

I am against the City Council having final say on these actions. The mayor is more qualified than City Council members and their responsibilities should reflect this.

City Council should not be creating the Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention. There are other more qualified groups than City Council. City Council is not qualified in this space. They have ignored policing issues for years and now are rushing to create change that is not well thought out.

I would like to know more specifically how they plan to use their budget before approving a plan.

I suggest the Charter Commission reject this proposal as it is a first draft. A first draft should not be going to the ballots. This is chaos and a disaster waiting to happen.

6/29/2020 12:08:17 PM

This is total insanity!! You should be ashamed of yourselves for even considering this. Don't make policy on an isolated incident (Floyd). Mpls has been under democratic control for 40 years and if there's "systemic racism" you need to OWN IT!! Crime has sky rocketed since this proposal, most victims are African American. Police brutality towards blacks is not substantiated in the data and is a false narrative. In 2019, 9 unarmed black men were killed by police, 7500 blacks were murdered, mostly by other blacks. You are jeopardizing the safety of Minneapolis residents, particularly black residents. The response to the looting and rioting was a national disgrace!! You allowed or city to be destroyed by criminals and thugs. Shame on you!

6/29/2020 12:12:30 PM

If the police are defunded, I will move. Getting my house all ready so I can list immediately. I have lived in Mpls for 45 years and never considered moving before. The city is so much less safe than it was a month ago because of the disrespect of the law and Leo. I cannot imagine what it will become. MPD has an awesome chief and many (most) cops are great.

We also need to get homeless encampments away from playgrounds. 2 (reported) sexual assaults at Powderhorn already plus lots of dirty needles where children are trying to play.

6/29/2020 1:15:11 PM

I do NOT want the city charter changed on the whim of the city council members. I believe as citizens that we have the right to have a working police department. I don't believe that we should be going forward with the council's "no plan" plan. I am wholeheartedly against this. I support a change in the city charter to give the mayor more power and less from the council itself. I live in the 4th Ward and we really, really need to have a police department — this is real life, not all rainbows and unicorns. I also want to be able to read and analyze their plan before having to vote on a possible change. This plan would have to be fully flushed out with many contingencies to address unintended consequences, etc.

I don't feel that this city council is actually capable of doing the serious work that they were elected to do.

6/29/2020 1:42:12 PM

I would like to encourage the Charter Commission to adopt the proposed charter amendment regarding public safety as-is or with minimal amendments such that the Council can accept it and it can be put on the November ballot without delay. As can be seen by the unanimous council vote, this is a high priority item that deserves to be put before the citizens for a vote without delay.

The charter amendment is necessary for the Council to make the desperately need changes to the MPD. While the language may seem extreme, the practical effect will be to give the Council latitude to take a variety of steps, and does not oblige it to any single path. Minneapolis has a chance to lead in this area after lagging for so long.

I believe many of those arguing against a Charter amendment are doing so from a position of relative comfort (people who have minimal actual interaction with the MPD, or who desire to see the status quo maintained) or who would let the absence of a specific, highly detailed plan for reformation of the police act as an obstacle. However those are ultimately issues that can and should be decided by the voters, and I urge you to allow them that decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

6/29/2020 1:49:10 PM

It is very concerning to me that City Council is pushing this proposed amendment through without additional public comment on this matter. Why the rush? Is the council attempting to exploit the citizens of Minneapolis while we are in a state stress and grief and fear? This appears to be an action an intention to exploit vulnerable individuals.

It concerns me that a group of 12 people are attempting to make a decision that effects every single resident of this City without public input. There does not appear to be any plan in place. What is this going to cost the citizens? How is this going to impact businesses? Will they leave? Will new businesses want to open? How is this going to impact tourism? Will insurance rates go up? Who is going to benefit and who is going to hurt?

Maybe most importantly, do we know how this will impact crime in our city? Will it decrease or increase? I am afraid it will increase. Crime prey on opportunities. A city with no police force will be ripe with opportunities, especially organized crime.

It is completely irresponsible to move this forward in any way, shape or form without extensive research and planning. This action must go before the voters before the charter is amended.

The escalation in violent crime over the past month is terrifying. The city needs to protect it's citizens. Removing the police department is not the answer.

6/29/2020 2:11:06 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I DO NOT support the amending the City Charter to defund the Minneapolis Police Department.

The council has no plan and this is a power grab . The council has failed our city miserably and should not be allowed to continue to do so by allowing this pass.

My husband and I grew up in Minneapolis, we are currently raising our own 2 children here [REDACTED]

I don't think you understand the amount of concern and stress this has caused my husband or other first responders in his same situation. He see's everything first hand and is so concerned of this move to defund the police department that he wants to move our family out of the city. This situation has consumed him and haunts him. We now live in a city (that we love and are paying tons of taxes) where the city council supports lawless behavior, encourages "no call" zones and tells us, the tax payers and city employees that calling the police is a privilege..... Last I checked it's our right and we deserve and need to have a solid police department.

I wish our city leaders were able to work together and were supportive of each other, instead they want to work against each other. The council is a disappointment and has been incredibly reckless with recent actions and statements. We fully support reform within the police department. Let's have faith in our leaders. The city council clearly has no idea what actually goes on and are not in law enforcement or first responders.

Thank you

6/29/2020 2:24:14 PM

I am opposed to amending the Charter to abolish the police department and replace it with an entity that currently has no further definition, scope, accountability, or purpose. Public Safety is too important to the citizens of Minneapolis to be taken lightly in the course of a political storm.

I do support a reorganization of the MPD, with support from the Council, and even folding the police and fire departments into a "Department of Public Safety" with a director the police and fire chiefs would report to would be a better idea than what is proposed, with a leader having zero public safety experience.

6/29/2020 2:44:21 PM

I am absolutely against this amendment. I don't the city council put enough time or thought into its formulation and they have not asked us:the people they are supposed to be serving, for our thoughts and input.

6/29/2020 2:46:08 PM

Wake up! Radicals are taking advantage of the situation. Don't allow them to set the narrative. There will be unintended consequences which you cannot even fathom.

There is wisdom in reform but DO NOT disband.

Unless, of course, you want to drive more people into the small towns of GREATER MINNESOTA. A major city without a PD will soon cease to be a world-class city. A city without a PD will give those in the suburbs and rural MN a reason NOT to visit The Cities for any reason. And then your radical actions will have created an EVEN MORE radical divide between ethnic and socio-economic groups -- the exact opposite of what ALL OF US want to see.

I serve as a Township Supervisor. I am an ordained Lutheran Pastor. I am a former resident and homeowner of the Phillips Neighborhood. I have fought for the powerless and been a voice for the voiceless. I have lived in the developing world for 4 years -- including a country without effective government and ruled by tribal forces. I see parallels to my time in East Africa which are striking. You do not want to do this.

6/29/2020 2:57:02 PM

Hello,

I support the charter amendment, which provides a path for changing the way that law enforcement happens in Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 3:00:46 PM

I am in full support of the amendment to the charter.

6/29/2020 3:01:48 PM

I am a supporter of defunding our police department. I want to make sure that the new charter ensures that we do not just replace our current police department with one with a different name. Real changes need to ensure that we are serving the members of our community with the most need, and that these new departments are not led by current or former law enforcement officers. We need a radical rethinking of public safety, not just a new name for it.

6/29/2020 3:02:33 PM

I do not want the Police Department removed.

6/29/2020 3:02:46 PM

I am not in favor of removing police dept!

6/29/2020 3:03:16 PM

It would be my preference to see a detailed plan and a city-wide referendum for the alternatives before amending the charter. We have not seen either yet so it seems very premature for a change of this magnitude.

6/29/2020 3:03:50 PM

While I support partially defunding the police, I feel like this needs to be a 2-3 year plan, with certain goals to be met each year before moving on to the next phase of defunding. The current state of Uptown, Downtown and residential neighborhoods is completely unacceptable as there are car jackings and shootings happening all the time, even in broad daylight. So we need to get the current crime under control before we think about defunding the police.

6/29/2020 3:08:19 PM

One of the more asinine things I've ever read. Leave the police as is and start teaching morals in schools. Read Thomas Sowell, Larry Elder, and Walter Williams and get over imposing identity politics on all of us.

6/29/2020 3:09:06 PM

I am in full support of the Charter Amendment to remove Police as a Charter Department and introduce a new Department of Community Safety and Violence Protection.

For years I have opposed Police as an institution and have always avoided contacting Police in favor of other actions. A new department that better addresses the needs of the community with less violence and without racial disparities would give me so much pride in our City.

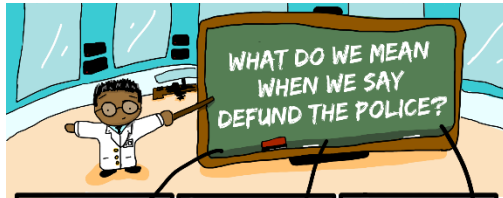
6/29/2020 3:10:44 PM

As both a long-time resident of Minneapolis and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I find the proposal lacking in sufficient detail on such an important matter to render it unfit for consideration this fall. I liken the current state of thinking to the cover page only of an important High School or College term paper; there's not even a table of contents to consider much less detailed content to judge. I will submit to the City Clerk's Office a set of Principles our organization along with others published on Monday 6/29. One Principle is to maintain clear accountability for police oversight which this proposal muddles, much like the plan the Charter Commission previously expressed concerns about. You were right then. The other clear flaw in this language is the discretionary language regarding the provision of law enforcement services. Law enforcement as one part of a needed continuum of responses for a safe City will be provided for at the whim of each and every City Council from this point forward? Really? For all of these reasons - no substantive details for voters to understand what they would be voting for or against, undermining clear accountability for oversight of safety in our City, and the completely untenable notion that law enforcement is a "may" item up to future City Councils every term - this proposal must be substantially re-worked before it is ballot ready.

6/29/2020 3:08:19 PM

I am a proponent of defunding the Minneapolis Police Department (over whatever amount of time it takes), so it can be replaced with something better, more efficient/effective, less expensive, less violent/abusive/racist.



### POLICE AREN'T ALLIES

POLICE WERE STARTED TO FIGHT:

STRIKES FOR RIGHTS

SLAVE UPRISINGS

INDIGENOUS FREEDOM

### POLICE ARE INEFFECTIVE

POLICE SOLVE:

22% OF VIOLENT CRIMES

7% OF PROPERTY CRIMES

### POLICE ARE EXPENSIVE

POLICE ARE USUALLY THE LARGEST CITY EXPENSE, BUT ARE NOT ACCOUNTABLE AND ALWAYS DEMAND INCREASES

AVERAGE POLICE BUDGETS

## WE'RE REALLY SAYING DECOMMODIFY LAW ENFORCEMENT

### LISTEN TO POLICE, THEY WANT TO FOCUS ON ACTUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

MILITARIZATION HAS LED TO BILLIONS BEING SPENT ON TANKS, DRONES, AND WEAPONS IN THE POLICE FORCE. INVEST IN COMMUNITIES TO GET ROOT CAUSE AND LONG-TERM CHANGE.

WE NOW KNOW CRISIS USE IS OFTEN FOR SELF-MEDICATION AND CAN EVEN BE COME WITHOUT HAND. END THE WAR ON DRUGS & LET LAW ENFORCEMENT FOCUS ON CRIME.

### LISTEN TO ECONOMISTS, OUR PRISON SYSTEM IS AN INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX

PRISON LABOR HAS BEEN USED BY THE TOP BRANDS TO CUT COSTS AND INCREASE PROFITS. STOP THE 15 FROM ENSLAVING WORKERS WE'RE PAYING TO JAIL.

MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCES BOOST PRISON POPULATIONS WITHOUT REGARD FOR CONTEXT. GIVE JUDGES POWER TO BE LENIENT & GIVE ALTERNATE PUNISHMENTS.

PRIVATE JAILS MAKE BILLIONS FROM LABOR, OFTEN CUTTING CARE & EDUCATION TO LOWER MARGLE SUCCESS AND TRAP THE WORKFORCE. END FOR-PROFIT PRISONS.

### LISTEN TO DOCTORS, WE CAN REFORM PEOPLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY

WE HAVE AN AVG. REOFFENSE RATE OF 70%, COMPARED TO JUST 1% FOR THE BOSTON PRISON ISLAND. PRIORITIZE HUMANIZING INMATES TO ENSURE THEY BUY-IN TO SOCIETY.

WE NOW KNOW THAT PUNISHMENT HAS VERY FEW POSITIVE EFFECTS AND KILLS FEELINGS OF GUILT. USE EVIDENCE-BASED ENFORCEMENT METHODS.

WITH OVER 20% OF INMATES MENTALLY ILL, PRISONS ARE THE NEW ASYLUM FOR THOSE IN NEED. WE MUST CREATE A NATIONAL MENTAL-HEALTH PROGRAM.

## WE'RE REALLY SAYING END INEQUALITY AT THE SOURCE

### WE KNOW POVERTY IS THE PARENT OF CRIME - PEOPLE WITH INCOME LEVELS BELOW POVERTY HAVE MORE THAN DOUBLE THE RATE OF VICTIMIZATION.

WHEN FULL-TIME HOUSES NO LONGER PAY A LIVING WAGE, PEOPLE WORK OUTSIDE THE SYSTEM - NOT BECAUSE THEY'RE EVIL - OR IMPULSIVE.

### POVERTY IS CREATED BY INSUFFICIENT EMPLOYMENT - EMPLOYMENT IS INTENTIONALLY KEPT LOW IN CAPITALISM TO ENSURE LOW WAGES & A LARGE LABOR POOL.

A JOBS GUARANTEE WOULD INCREASE EMPLOYMENT & WAGES WITH NATIONAL PROGRAMS LIKE BUILDING & IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURE IN A TRANSITION TO GREEN TECH.

### INEQUALITY IS A CYCLE THAT MUST BE BROKEN THROUGH EDUCATION - PRISONERS ARE 40% LESS LIKELY TO REOFFEND WHEN EDUCATED IN PRISON & SOCIETY NEEDS TRAINING TOO.

WE KNOW IT'S CHEAPER TO TRAIN & RELEASE, MORE PROFITABLE FOR SOCIETY TO EMPLOYER THAN ENDSURE, WE MUST COMMIT TO LEARNING A BETTER WAY - AND GIVING IT.

### OUR BASIC NEEDS ARE BEING COMMODIFIED, WE MUST DO BETTER

**LABOR:** STOP COMMODYFING HUMAN LIFE, END PRIVATE PRISONS AND PRISON LABOR NOW.

**HEALTH:** STOP JAILING THOSE WE CAN HELP. CREATE A MENTAL-HEALTH PROGRAM NOW.

**CULTURE:** STOP TERRORIZING MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES, END CARDING AND POLICE STOPS NOW.

**ENVIRONMENT:** STOP CREATING CRIME WITH UNDEREMPLOYMENT. START A GREEN TRANSITION & CREATE JOBS.

**HOUSING:** STOP JAILING HOMELESS PEOPLE FOR \$600/YR. IT'S CHEAPER TO JUST HOUSE THEM.

**TRANSPORT:** STOP POLICING TRANSIT AND USE THOSE SAVINGS TO HELP MAKE TRANSIT FREE.

## DECOMMODIFY LAW ENFORCEMENT NOW



6/29/2020 3:14:48 PM

I'm against this charter at this time

This is a knee jerk reaction and it's totally irresponsible to move forward with this action before having other services in place with a clear understanding of responsibilities and when handoff to other agency/services would take place.

6/29/2020 3:14:54 PM

I am a life long resident of the 3rd precinct neighborhood and was greatly impacted by recent events. I do not support removing the police department/defunding in favor of a "community safety dept". Yes we need change at the PD, careful screening/hiring, and education. ability to effectively deal with problem employees. The alternate path to hiring needs to go away. Adding SW's to team mental health calls etc. As a child protection investigator I have worked coordination with officers for 35 years, our roles are different but our ability to work together is amazing.

The council is overstepping in a knee jerk, not thoughtful manner and should not count on being re-elected should they go forward with these efforts.

6/29/2020 3:15:46 PM

This is a terrible idea and I can't wait to vote against this.

6/29/2020 3:16:59 PM

Hi, I have concerns about these changes. I firmly believe we need to have reform, but to throw the entire police force out without a plan does not make sense. I live in far north Minneapolis. There have been many instances where I have needed to call the police. For example, I was out walking and witnessed a shooting. Under your plan, who would I call - as I read it there is no plan for those and many other types of calls. We have had our house broken into, the alarm went straight to the police department- under your plan- where would that call go to. As I said at the beginning I firmly believe we need deep reforms but as a resident in an area that is not high crime but we still need help at times this is a scary proposal.

6/29/2020 3:17:11 PM

Hello, I'm a homeowner in Fulton neighborhood and I work at Abbott Northwestern hospital. I have concerns about the charter amendment passed by the city council. Although I am in agreement with the need for deep police reform to address police misconduct and racist policing, and that we should be exploring alternatives to armed officers for certain situations (non violent drug or mental health issues, social welfare checks, etc) I oppose the idea of removing the requirement to have an adequately robust/functional police force in our city. There should be at least some specifics regarding the composition of the replacement police force, minimum number of officers, leadership structure, etc before this is put to Minneapolis voters.



6/29/2020 3:18:12 PM

I'm 29-years old and have lived in and around the Minneapolis area for my entire life. I'm a licensed attorney and spent over a year at the Washington County Attorney's Office when I was in law school. I saw true evil. Premeditated murder, rape, domestic abuse, child abuse, and other horrific crimes. These weren't caused by a failing society, they were caused by truly evil individuals. I've seen true evil and I honestly don't think the people in favor of this comprehend what will happen. It will only embolden the predators of our society. In the past month, with the increased hostility and violence, especially aimed at police officers, I've watched my city become a hellscape. Shootings are drastically up. Robberies and carjackings are drastically up. The path to Hell was paved with good intentions. If you eliminate the "thin blue line," more violence will occur not less. I will not standby as politicians, who have taxpayer funded-security details, deprive the innocent civilians of protection. This is foolish and dangerous.

6/29/2020 3:16:59 PM

I want to fix the police department, including getting rid of the mediation that allows cops who are fired to get their jobs back. I think we need to get rid of Bob Kroll and the police union that protects bad cops. I think Chief Arradondo is a good police chief and I would like him to be able to continue to run his department, with radical changes made to that department. I do not think that the safety of police department should report to all of the city council members - that is a freaking nightmare waiting to happen. No one can have that many bosses. People are different and are not always going to agree, so how can anyone report up to so many people? I think we have to change the training, and stop giving police "warrior" attitudes and "warrior" equipment. The police should have to live in the city they are police in. Hearing the cops from the union talk about how they have to live elsewhere so they don't see anybody they've arrested was disgusting. If you were serving and protecting instead of tackling and choking, maybe you wouldn't mind seeing the people of your community. Mostly we need to get rid of the union because I see a lot of the rot coming from that direction. We need more diversity in the police officers.

6/29/2020 3:20:32 PM

I fully support disbanding of the police. Thank you for your hard work and for pushing to do the right thing. I have been a victim of crime several times and police have never been able to prevent or aid in any of those situations. We need to refocus our resources to community led programs. Thank you again.

6/29/2020 3:20:34 PM

This proposal appears to take power from the mayor and to the city council, is that correct?

Why is there not a term limit on the Director of Community Safety and Violence Prevention Department or Director of Law Enforcement Services?

6/29/2020 3:21:24 PM

I fully support the proposed amendment to remove the Police Department and establish a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department, as an urgently needed first step towards creating an actively anti-racist city in which residents are safe and receive the services they need. At this time, given the well-documented history of police brutality against Black people, the Police Department is not a viable way to meet that goal and is causing significant damage to the city as a whole. The proposed Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department is a practical, feasible way to move forward.

6/29/2020 3:24:18 PM

I am FULLY AGAINST the Mpls City Council being in complete control of any Policing or any version thereof.

It is imperative this vote be put on a ballot and worded very very clearly so that anyone can understand the verbiage even those with comprehension challenges. Wording MUST BE CLEAR

6/29/2020 3:24:19 PM

I believe that it would be wrong to remove the Minneapolis Police Department I do agree that reform needs to be made and some of the ideas outlined could be incorporated into the current MPD structure. Please do not unfund the Minneapolis police department.

thank you

6/29/2020 3:24:28 PM

I am all for the removal of the MPD as we know it. It is fatally flawed and built to protect the unjust cops on the force and to unfairly target BIPOC in the community.

It is time for drastic measures.

I am ashamed of the force sworn to protect and to serve me, my family, my neighbors, and my city.

6/29/2020 3:24:47 PM

Absolutely opposed. I live in Southwest, work in Diamond Lake/Hale, and own property all over Minneapolis. It's difficult now to get timely police response, especially in Sothwest, far South and Northeast.

In addition, voting on a change in the Charter without a firm plan as to what we're voting on is madness. What does the Council have in mind? It's foolish to vote on something of such great consequences without knowing the details of the proposal. This is an important issue, but deserves more detail and input.

6/29/2020 3:28:35 PM

I approve of this amendment. I would like to see policing as we know it abolished in Minneapolis. I have not seen MPD be effective at curbing traffic violence, recovering stolen property, or helping individuals who need help. I have seen MPD harass and abuse poor, homeless, and Black people all the time. I've encountered several officers who don't even know the law, and have argued to me that they can break

the law because they are police officers. I want my tax money to go to actual crime prevention: by addressing poverty, failings in education, and systemic inequality. I want compassionate traffic enforcement that prioritizes the safety of the most vulnerable people using our roads (pedestrians, cyclists, and the disabled), which will never be achieved with a department whose officers routinely speed, illegally park on sidewalks and bikeways, and disobey other traffic ordinances themselves. I want to see tense and dangerous situations handled by people who have the training to handle them and are accountable for their actions. I never want to see lethal force used on civilians who do not pose an immediate lethal threat to others, and certainly not until after every other option has been exhausted. I want real justice for the community, not the punitive system that currently treats poverty as evil and Black bodies as disposable. I want people who are invested in the well-being of Minneapolis (especially its most disadvantaged residents) to be in charge of keeping it safe, rather than the current department with a culture of hatred and demonization toward our city and its residents. I hope we can create something that works for the people of Minneapolis, rather than against them.

6/29/2020 3:29:37 PM

I support the amendment. I believe the city council needs more legislative authority in regards to community safety, and that this amendment is the only way to facilitate this. The police department currently operates unlike any other aspect of Minneapolis government. There has been an inability for the city council to reform the police department because of the restrictions in the city charter. The charter needs to be amended. It is critical for the charter commission to weigh the fact that the city council has been unanimous in its desire to move forward. It is critical for the charter commission to listen to the wishes of the Black community.

Personally, my interactions with police have been for issues that do not required an armed police response. I do not need armed police to arrive after my car has already been broken into, or after my car has already been hit, or after my apartment building has already been broken into, or when I find stolen property on the street. These things could all be handled by different city services.

The city council has been clear that safety of citizens will always be a priority, that someone will always be there to answer 911, and that the police department won't be dissolved until a replacement has been planned.

There is no shortage of information available from the city council or from organizations demanding this change. The fear, uncertainty, and doubt about this change are being sown only by the willfully ignorant, those with a vested interest in the broken status quo, and outsiders who do not live in Minneapolis, and should have no say in our city government.

6/29/2020 3:30:32 PM

I am in full support of the change to the charter and associated deconstruction of the current police system. I am a resident of Minneapolis and want to ensure this will help keep our community safe. Please do not allow current people in leadership roles at MPD transition to the new system. This will do more harm to an already traumatized community.

6/29/2020 3:31:13 PM

The most ridiculous, hysterical proposal and idea EVER from government. YES, Minneapolis needs reforms and changes made to OUR tax-provided police department, but this idea is dumb and a rush to make it appear that Mpls. is doing something about a long-overdue problem. We still need police, we just need better public servants who understand the concept of protect and serve and a system that monitors and supports that mission. STOP spending time on slick-sounding proposals. And most importantly get the damn guns off the streets!

6/29/2020 3:33:15 PM

Even before the murder of George Floyd I was shocked and appalled by the flagrant abuses of power I saw the police committing both on public transportation and on the streets. The behavior of the police during the protests only furthered my belief that the Minneapolis Police Department poses a greater threat to my community than any other group in this city. I watched as they brutalized protesters, aiming and shooting weapons directly into the faces of the people they have sworn to protect. I watched as they singled out media and protest medics specifically for harassment and violence. I could not sleep at night as the helicopters buzzed my neighborhood, and for fear that if I did have to go outside, I would be tear gassed and shot at by the police and national Guard. I have been a resident of the twin cities for two years and a resident of Minneapolis for one. My trust in the MPD is irrevocably broken. I do not trust them, I strongly believe that calling 911 puts my community at greater risk than any personal danger I may be in and I ask that the city of Minneapolis abolish the police and institute a holistic set of agencies to bring my community the peace and healing we need. We do not need these monsters that have spent the last 4 weeks holed up behind barricades, we do not need people who can murder with impunity. We will keep each other safe, please help us do that.

6/29/2020 3:36:12 PM

After reading the proposal, I have found it to vague. What it replaces is a simple equation with a vague equation on what/where resources will be spent. The council could spend anywhere from 0\$ up to an infinite amount.

The proposal should outline at a high level, the minimum overall funding via a similar equation, for the entire Department. Then the proposal should include a list of the sub-department that will be created in this new department and how they will be funded. We need to see something more than a wish list. We need to see some level of hard numbers so we know how many social workers, how many administrators, and how many peace officers will be present.

Right now the way the amendment is worded, we could end up with zero peace/police officers which would be a disaster to the quality of life and would force people with means to move out of the city.

Lastly, the person should not be reporting to or appointed by the city council. It should be an individual appointed and reporting to the mayor for accountability. If the person reports to the city council, there will be no accountability.

Bottom line. It feels rushed and the council wants it on this years ballot to prevent it being on the ballot the same year they are up for election. If this is not done correctly, the city will fall apart and never recover (see Detroit)

6/29/2020 3:37:52 PM

I am strongly in favor of the charter amendment to remove the Police Department and create a new Community Safety and Violence Prevention Department. It is clear that the Minneapolis Police Department is a systemically racist organization that cannot be reformed. I want to live in, and I want my taxes to support, a city that provides safety to all residents and does so based on racial equity. I want to see dollars invested directly in communities of color and marginalized communities through direct payments and services that are asked for and provided by trusted members of that community.

6/29/2020 3:38:12 PM

I believe major reform to the police department is necessary. I also believe that not all police are bad, however, there are more than a few 'bad apples'. If it were just a few, like 1%, we would not have the issues of community trust that we currently have.

I think that the Camden, NJ model where they interviewed and rehired the desirable police officers, would be helpful. I believe in reform where there are certain service calls where trained social workers could respond alone or with an officer.

Changing some of the state statues could also help. We need more police officers that live in the city (not necessarily in the percent they patrol). I think when you don't live in the city, you can get an "us versus them" type of mentality among the force. I have heard of officers telling their suburban neighbors "I have to go to work today in the jungle".

I do think it is ridiculous to eliminate the police department entirely. If this occurs, I will likely move out of Minneapolis and will not visit restaurants, theaters, sporting events, festivals, etc. due to the lack of safety. I'm concerned that eliminating the charter requirement for a set number of police officers could lead to this.

6/29/2020 3:40:12 PM

I am fully in favor of placing this amendment on the ballot this November! Police do not keep us safe, and actively cause harm to so many people in our community. We need a new vision of what public safety looks like and a new system to achieve it, and that starts with this amendment. Our community can't wait any longer for real change that will really keep us safe.

6/29/2020 3:40:40 PM

I think a good hard look needs to be taken at how the city/civilians have already responded to police taking a step back/step down. The overall feel of the city is complete lawlessness. Time needs to be taken and these decisions should not be made hastily. Take time and think about a solid plan before moving forward, in any direction. Take time to hear from the silent majority of the city that do not feel safe with the snap decisions being made. The amount of crime in and around my neighborhood has sky rocketed in the past month, and innocent people are already dying from individuals feeling like they can drive/run around and just start shooting their guns off. It's terrifying what has become of the city and the fact that the police department has had no back up given by the chiefs, mayor or governor. This is the main reason why people believe the city has no laws and will continue to murder and shoot people daily.

6/29/2020 3:41:46 PM

absolutely not. I would not feel safe bringing my children to the cities if the police are no longer there. I also have family that lives in the area.

6/29/2020 3:41:47 PM

I am very strongly against this change in the charter because I do not trust our City Council to take on more authority and to create and oversee an entirely new infrastructure. We need a change in governance with either a City Administrator or stronger Mayor that can work with the current Police Chief to actually create a workable solution that would provide for appropriate levels of security and safety for all residents. This attempt to change the charter on such a fast track with no actual experience by any of the City Council members is extremely misguided and should not pass. Thank you.

6/29/2020 3:43:31 PM

No the police should not be defunded. Crime was already hideous before, it will only get worse if you defund. I have to work down there, and I can guarantee you I'll retire and never set foot in Minneapolis again if you defund.

6/29/2020 3:43:42 PM

While I participated in the protests over George Floyd's killing and I believe serious reform is needed, I do not approve of this approach. I believe that the city council has been extremely negligent with its messaging on the topic and is over-reaching in this and other areas. Until a solid plan is in place, with measured, sequenced steps that move us toward a more equitable environment while ensuring the safety and vitality of our city, I cannot support a move to strip us of our police department.

I would support diversion of some funds to community service personnel who would respond to non-emergency calls. I would support renegotiation of the contract with the police union to make it easier to fire problem officers. I would support requiring officers to cover the costs of their own insurance and reimbursing them only to the median cost for all officers. I do support our current police chief and our mayor.

I will not vote to approve this change, and I will definitely vote to bring our city council closer to the left-leaning centrist views that have made Minneapolis such a great place to live. I only wish we could remove the current group of radicals sooner.

6/29/2020 3:45:05 PM

NO! We need our police! Training needs to be re-evaluated, diversity training. Ect..

6/29/2020 3:45:07 PM

I am absolutely not for progressing with the charter and put in place alternative safety until a clear plan that shows an increase in public safety is defined. Our car was just taken at gunpoint in NE at 6 pm. Crime is not reduced through reduced patrols, and even once a crime occurs, we need those resources to follow up with the investigation and determine who is responsible. Conversations on how to get better are welcome, this extreme change leading to a surge in crime and lack of feeling personal safety in our own city cannot progress without more justification and a detailed plan.

6/29/2020 3:43:42 PM

We should not abolish the police, yes make longer courses for their training, laws that would punish them. And lie detector test. And a body cam that they can not remove or turn off at all they need to be held accountable they are here to protect and serve us

6/29/2020 3:45:31 PM

I have worked in Mpls for 24 years in the parks. We need the support of both City and MPPD for the safety of our staff. I would like to know how it would be determined which calls require police and which would require a social worker. A lot of calls start out as one thing and end up escalated before the police arrive. We need help to keep employees safe. It is a requirement of an employer (you) to keep employees safe. Do not put this on the ballot until you have done the work and have a solid plan!

6/29/2020 3:45:36 PM

I fully support abolishment of the police! Thank  
you for doing the work to get this done.

6/29/2020 3:46:18 PM

It is time to stop treating the community that you swore to protect and serve who pay your salaries like trash.

6/29/2020 3:47:11 PM

Absolutely do not remove the police and replace with the safety force. It's semantics and it's ridiculous. I can't wait to vote out these city council idiots.

6/29/2020 3:47:28 PM

<https://biblicalscienceinstitute.com/theology/the-biblical-solution-to-racism/> Please read this. Thank  
you

6/29/2020 3:47:51 PM

Worst idea ever! Do NOT defund the police

6/29/2020 3:47:55 PM

Greetings,

Please take the requisite steps to place this question on the November ballot. I believe a vote on this Charter amendment is necessary and should be undertaken as soon as is possible.

6/29/2020 3:48:00 PM

Foolish idea.

As a taxpayer, your hypocrisy is mind numbing.

You hire armed security (ex MPD!!) for yourselves, while violent crime skyrockets.

As an ER nurse that cares for the victims of said crimes, I find your ignorance unconscionable.

Get out on the streets for a night or two.

Go for a ride in a squad car.

6/29/2020 3:49:16 PM

This is appalling. I lived in downtown for 6 years and felt safe knowing there were police there. I still have friends that live there. This is ridiculous. If you think removing the police department to some community group is going to work then you are fooling yourselves. The people want better cops, not zero cops. There's a difference and if you actually stopped to listen and think for a moment you would know that. How dare you.

6/29/2020 3:49:46 PM

While I appreciate the urgent need to reform the Minneapolis Police Department, I believe that the city needs further information before it can make an informed decision.

Furthermore, before I can consider voting on this issue, I would like answers to the following questions:

- 1) Will the police officers with records that suggest they are unfit for duty be fired?
- 2) Will the police officers with records that suggest excellence be affected by the defunding, if so how?
- 3) What evidence is there to suggest that defunding the MPD will lead to safer outcomes for all citizens of Minneapolis, including POC?
- 4) What evidence is there to suggest that defunding the MPD will lead to dangerous outcomes for all citizens of Minneapolis, including POC?
- 5) How exactly will the Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention bolster community safety and prevent violence?
- 6) Why is this action being considered over the complete gutting of the MPD and immediate recruitment of a brand new police force, with the exception of MPD employees that have an acceptable record of service as defined by the citizens of Minneapolis?



At face value, this charter amendment appears to be a vague knee-jerk reaction and an attempt to satisfy the local community, without serious consideration of the long-term impacts on Minneapolis and its citizens. The consequences of the decisions this City Council makes on this issue, for better or for worse, will forever be tied back to its members. I am no expert in this complicated issue, though I am also not an idiot. When our founding fathers declared independence, they took great care in addressing every possible outcome to ensure the safety and longevity of this country. Before you make such a dramatic change to how the City of Minneapolis, one of the top cities with respect to crime in the United States, manages the enforcement of the law, I sure do hope you know exactly what you are doing. Lives depend on it, as does the future of this city.

Please take this seriously. I do not mean to say that the MPD should not be defunded, however, I am asking that you research this issue far more in-depth than you have already. If you present this to the public without careful consideration AND educating voters on the true pros and cons, the results may be dangerous.

Should there be an outcome that leads to negative outcomes for Minneapolis and its citizens, especially POC, the people will blame its leaders.

6/29/2020 3:51:15 PM

Reform. Dont abolish

6/29/2020 3:51:28 PM

I do not support the removal of the police department in any way until we have a detailed plan on what it will be replaced with.

6/29/2020 3:52:08 PM

Removing the police force would be one of the worst decisions you could possibly do, I am a resident and for the last month I haven't been able to sleep at night. Terrible, terrible decision.

6/29/2020 3:52:36 PM

This process is too rushed, this is a major change to Minneapolis and we are only given 2 days to comments and only a few months to make a decision. This should be blocked until 2021

6/29/2020 3:17:44 PM

Do not remove the police from the charter. We need a police department to be a part of our city's charter for now and the future. The city has a duty to protect us citizens via a police force, that is how it is done.

Bending to activists, and the mayor and city council's emotions and pitchfork and torches approach to problem solving will harm the residents of Minneapolis and surrounding communities by breeding apathy, complacency and emboldening criminals which we are seeing already.

The department can work on much needed changes, but to remove the police from the city charter is a dangerous and short sighted idea that will be fraught with much unintended consequences down the road.

Support our first responders including the police, they do a lot of brave and good work in our community with little to no support and have to endure public abuses while on the job. Support them to enable them to help the community.

6/29/2020 3:53:02 PM

Hell no the police shouldn't be abolished. The city council needs to listen to police scanner audio uncensored for a week. We all can't afford private security. Get off your pedestal. Public security is necessary, and even more so as these idiots take over parts of the city, carjackings, shootings, rioting, rampant drug use in the homeless encampments... The problem here is that the police don't have enough staff & enough funding to rotate the bad cops out - and there's yet another corrupted union protecting them, with a lazy judicial system that refuses to try the problem officers. WAKE THE HELL UP AND LISTEN TO THE VOTERS YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE REPRESENTING! I can't go back to my office when there are people getting stabbed on rail platforms across the street. PROVIDE YOUR CITIZENS THE SAFETY WE REQUIRE.

6/29/2020 3:53:25 PM

This is a terrible solution. You are putting more peoples lives at risk by removing police than you are helping. What has ever gotten better by removing funding? The answer is nothing. Be on the right side of history.

6/29/2020 3:54:15 PM

While there is plenty of room for improvement to the Minneapolis police department, defunding the police and establishing a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department would lead to a catastrophic increase in crime, and especially violent crime. Please, do NOT consider defunding the Minneapolis police department. I will NOT vote to support this measure and I will NOT vote for a member of the Council that supports this.

6/29/2020 3:54:49 PM

I do believe that MPD needs to be dismantled and rebuilt in order to make it more representative and more trusted by the communities it polices. Eliminating MPD altogether and creating a new Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department is one way of doing it. I think we need to have a very thorough and carefully thought out plan in place before we actually eliminate, or even make the decision to eliminate, MPD though. If something like this was passed, I believe we'd have instantaneous increases in current MPD staff leaving their jobs, leaving the city in a lawless free-for-all. In other words, I believe a very thorough plan should be created for this new department before the public votes on it, so that the public knows exactly what it's voting for and the city can be ready to respond to subsequent events appropriately.

6/29/2020 3:54:51 PM

MINNEAPOLIS NEEDS A POLICE

DO NOT AMEND THE CHARTER AND REMOVE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

THE TAX PAYERS OF MINNEAPOLIS DESERVE AND NEED POLICE

6/29/2020 3:55:00 PM

I think it's not only foolish to attempt to remove the police but it's unsafe. In fact, you're not protecting the community right now. Allowing Powderhorn Park to be a homeless shelter is increasing crime and is not what the taxpayers pay for. Also, the fact that you have police protection is hypocrisy. Minneapolis has too much danger with the police. I cannot imagine how bad it would be without.

6/29/2020 3:55:28 PM

I would absolutely not support this. I think there certainly needs to be reform, but the way the Council has presented this is troubling and irresponsible. Minneapolis needs leaders that can make informed and calculated decisions in a time of need, not impulsively act without any regard to the long term repercussions of their decisions. The Council's actions in the weeks since Mr. Floyd was tragically killed are embarrassing and have done more harm in our city than good. The Council has an opportunity to make overdue and lasting change and I hope they take advantage of the opportunity in a responsible way that does not put the city at risk of increased violence as it has already started to do. I support reform to the police department. I support increased input from the community about the needs of the City. I support increased resources and training for officers and other important service providers in our community. I do not support getting rid of MPD and strongly believe that moving forward in that direction will prove to be a failed attempt at meaningful change.

6/29/2020 3:55:31 PM

You are all crazy! Reform, yes! More training, yes! Disband, dissolve or whatever other stupid ideas you have, NO!! The violence is already (and for a long time) out of control and that is with police officers. None of you are smart enough to understand what you are attempting to do! How about this council disband?

6/29/2020 3:56:02 PM

As a resident of Minnesota, I see what is happening in Minneapolis as requiring greater law enforcement resources, not fewer, and am concerned that the lack of law and order in Minneapolis will adversely affect life throughout the state. I intend not to visit Minneapolis until I see some evidence that its leadership has changed direction, and has begun to seek policies that increase safety and protection of property, rather than trying to mollify those who flaunt the law because of some perceived injustice, rather than pursuing redress of grievance in a manner consistent with the law.

6/29/2020 3:56:33 PM

Please do.

6/29/2020 3:57:22 PM

Against the change in the charter, or community members taking over any policing duties.

6/29/2020 3:57:48 PM

As a nearly 25 year resident of Minneapolis, I am 100% in disagreement with defunding, dismantling, or reducing the number of police officers Minneapolis has. I believe we need more police officers - 400 the last time Chief Arradondo asked and was denied by our Mayor and City Council. You are putting lives at risk by reducing our police force:

6/29/2020 3:58:03 PM

Removing the Police from the city charter will skyrocket the crime and violence.

hundreds of shooting already this year. triple last year.

It already has in neighborhoods where police interactions have gone down.

no one will enforce law without a gun. I dont care what agency you set up. no one will join to do the job.

The council abandoning ordinances by allowing camping in public parks that would have gotten any resident a large fines and misdemeanor only 3 weeks ago, is proof positive they council is not interest in public safety or order. The councils shameful use of private security paid by taxes, is hypocrisy of the highest level. you believe yourselves greater than those who elected you, like aristocrats of old.

If you abandon the police, the citizens will abandon funding your government.

6/29/2020 3:58:09 PM

5033 Russell Ave. No - Shingle Creek Neighborhood.

My vote is a NO! DO NOT DEFUND THE POLICE DEPARTMENT!

The current problems in the city - shootings every night - are scaring everyone! I understand reforms are needed, once you get crime down then discuss making the police department smaller.

6/29/2020 3:58:41 PM

I will be moving out of Minneapolis due to the recent actions of the city council.

The city is no longer safe. Residents are in tremendous danger as a result of the council's decisions. In speaking with neighbors, it's widely understood that the council has acted erratically and unilaterally with no regard for the safety of residents.

6/29/2020 3:58:59 PM

Are you all fools??? You don't think crime is bad enough with police? What do you think will happen with no police???

6/29/2020 3:59:17 PM

This is a monumentally bad move. It seems the City council is reacting to feelings around a very charged subject, but have not actually thought through the possible implications. Implications that not only impact Minneapolis proper, but other communities surrounding the city.

This announcement has already sent a message throughout the Twin Cities that "crime is free", with an unprecedented number of gun incidents, car jackings, riots and looting, assaults, and murders. This will only increase if this idea is allowed to continue. And should this be allowed to go on a ballot, and god forbid it is passed, you will see an equally unprecedented exodus from the Twin Cities. Property values will plummet in Mpls, and suburbs taking huge hits as well.

This Community department will be ill-prepared to handle the types of calls they will be forced to experience. I fear this move will simply create more victims than an actual "Protect and serve" department.

As a resident of Columbia Heights, I am increasingly fearful of the rampant violence spreading through the Twin Cities and intend to defend my home and my family. I am equally fearful of the repercussions of defending myself, given the current climate in these Twin Cities. It appears the local governments look down upon it's law abiding and tax paying base, while reacting to emotionally charged stories.

This short sighted and ill-informed Mpls City Council is embarking on a dangerous and likely lethal journey - disbanding the only line standing between peace and anarchy. The criminals that would disrupt the peace are thankful for the City Council right now - they hope this passes.

I urge the Commission to dismiss this amendment talk immediately and help steer the city council to a more productive action.

6/29/2020 3:59:21 PM

I am a life long resident of mpls. I hear nothing but disrespect from the City Clowncil towards a so called white privilege of mine. If you ever get your heads out of your asses long enough to know that back in the 60s 70s there were plenty of poor people like my family, we went hungry often with empty cupboards and no shoes or clothes. I'm off the subject of police patrol of which I 100% want to keep. If anything or anyone should be defunded and recalled it should be you and your racists views.

6/29/2020 3:59:37 PM

Absolutely NOT! Tourism will be wiped out, restaurants are being forced out already because the police have been told to stand down even before flioyd incident.

We have changes that need to be made within the police department but they are making huge advances towards a better department.

They also do not need to reside in Minneapolis...nor should they!

You all whined about them not getting enough funding and now you want to deplete those funds.

Wow!

SAd days

6/29/2020 3:59:38 PM

Every municipality needs an answer to gangs, criminals and predators who use force, and can only be answered by lawful force, it's not a new problem. perhaps patrolmen should be better trained, and from Mpls proper. Inclusion of sociological elements should never be downplayed or ignored. Don't be hoodwinked by the Klan or the Black Muslims. Normal people need the police.

6/29/2020 3:59:58 PM

I cannot believe how completely out of control the City Council has become. I've read up on all of your spin about "defunding" the police. Now you try and end-around to change the charter. the charter exists to prevent overzealous temporarily elected officials from doing permanent damage to the city.

Stop it. Just stop what you all are doing. Clearly none of you are qualified to be in the roles you are in.

I'm not a resident of Minneapolis, but I do significant business in the city. I am embarrassed with what I see happening in the city...truly embarrassed. Bit by bit I am weaning myself from the city and can't wait until I never have to do anything or be part of Minneapolis ever again - if things continue on the path they are currently under this out-of-control City Council.

6/29/2020 4:00:17 PM

Not resident, but medical+other personal business done in Minneapolis. Outrageous that you declined to fund PD to adequate staffing levels. This, on top of ignoring federal advisory against positional asphyxiation issued in 1995, and reiterated by a police trade magazine in 2019. You even paid \$Millions in 2013 for a police homicide in 2010, and ignored your own settlement to train police on any and all restraining holds that could result in death. Now, you gloat about taking down the entire police department, leaving communities to deal with drastic increases in violence, with reduced policing, while you shield yourselves with private security using taxpayer funds. Damn you.

6/29/2020 4:00:20 PM

Removing the police department would be nothing short of turning Minneapolis over to thugs, murders, rapists, and gun toting youth. I would hate to have to wait for a "social worker" to come out if I was being robbed or mugged. Yes, it needs reform, but to dismantle it would be a HUGE MISTAKE. Would city council people be in charge? Good luck with that. Will each citizen get private security paid for by the city? I don't think so. Revamp, retrain, and hold officers accountable. There are many people wanting to be police, so just go through every officer's file and get rid of the ones with complaints.

Maybe a citizen's review board for complaints instead of the disfunctional union. There are things that can be fixed to keep experienced, and the key word is experienced, officers on the department. The end of the police force would mark the end of Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 4:00:39 PM

Hi. I was born and raised in Mpls. I currently do not live in Mpls but I work here. I've worked in the city for 20 plus years. I believe we need the MPD. In fact, we are short in the amount of police officers we should have employed(I think the estimate at one time was 400 short). Every resident, worker, child, family should be able to feel safe in the city. There is alot of crime. There is no dispute about that. We should all be able to go about our days & feel a sense of security. Laws need to be upheld. The deterioration of Mpls in the last month has been concerning. Complete lawlessness. I have seen videos of Uptown & downtown with traffic jams & burnouts & wonder how its been allowed to happen even once moreless every weekend. The graffiti, the destruction, the constant shootings. If you guys have answers on how to deal with the crime without police-why havent you used those tools to address the crime amongst the youth. We have a major problem with 17-19yr olds & continued crime. Do we have to wait to dismantle police to deal with that issue? Let's address & get that under control. I say the city has their hands full. Lets deal with real problems instead of coming up with ridiculous ideas that will hurt residents. Keep MPD!!!!

6/29/2020 4:01:16 PM

NO! We don't want to abolish the police! We need accountability from the leaders to enforce the rules that are broke when/if broken by officers! A lawless city does only the harm to the good people and businesses!

6/29/2020 4:01:38 PM

Please do not take any step to remove the police department until all residents have had a chance to weigh in, and a workable alternative has been rolled out and reviewed by all stakeholders. If you create a law enforcement power vacuum it will be catastrophic for our city.

Please do not share my information with Councilwoman Cano. She is not to be trusted with personal information.

6/29/2020 4:02:27 PM

We don't abolish hospitals despite 250,000 accidental deaths each year, and we should certainly not abolish our police department that once every couple years screws something up. I lived in Minneapolis for 25 years and I can say from first hand experience how important the police department is. I will not spend one penny in the City if there isn't a police department. There are plenty of Targets, McDonalds and the like just a minute or two away. And sports - not a chance. It's dangerous even with the police to go to events - you might as well rob yourself if there aren't police- my family will watch it on t.v. instead and stay out of Minneapolis if it continues on its trend of stupidity.

6/29/2020 4:02:55 PM

This strategy supposes that all a shift of funds to other services for Mpls residents will work to Alleviate the root causes of criminal behavior - poverty, drug abuse, social injustice, etc. This strategy also supposes that all crimes are committed by Mpls residents. If we fix the problems within our boundaries what stops the people from outside of minneapolis from committing crimes in our city. Minneapolis is not an island. Abolishing the police is only going to make it open season for crime in the short term. Ultimately this crime will drive out residents to areas where they will feel protected. Personally, within the last three years we've had two cars stolen from outside our house. I already do not feel I am being served and if they abolished I don't think I will feel safer. Changes to the city services need to elevate the service for everyone

6/29/2020 4:03:34 PM

I strongly oppose any change to the charter. We need more police.

Thank you for considering my comments.

6/29/2020 4:05:48 PM

Don't abolish but retrain. As soon as you abolish the kids will find something else they don't like. Then you really are in trouble.

There will always be something more they want.

6/29/2020 4:06:05 PM

You should make the director's experience qualifications as "desired" or "highly desired" rather than required to give us more flexibility in bringing in exceptional candidates that may be slightly outside the literal confines of the list.

Alternatively, you could say "experience or substantive knowledge"

6/29/2020 4:07:04 PM

I am strongly opposed to your charter amendment to defund and abolish the police department.

I think this movement is naïve at best and misguided in the extreme. I think more training and perhaps a serious review of the Police unions role in not weeding out bad cops would be a better way to solve some of these issues. We have already seen how the mob can be used to ruin this city and without a strong police force we are inviting more chaos. And I don't want to live in chaos.

6/29/2020 4:08:36 PM

Reform, YES!

Abolishment, NO!

Something has to change, police officers should be held to the same laws as the citizens they are protecting.

6/29/2020 4:08:46 PM

We need the police. To defund them is just crazy and makes zero sense. We need Law and Order!

6/29/2020 4:09:26 PM

I am not a resident of Minneapolis, but I work in Minneapolis downtown, ride the LRT, and my kids and grandkids live in Powderhorn. I think it is extremely naive to believe we can survive without police. There are police departments across the country who successfully combine officers with other community resources to do their jobs. Police are expected to do many jobs like social work, child welfare, etc. Let them protect our citizens. Minneapolis is a scary place now, and I am considering quitting my job to work in the suburbs. I'm frightened to go anywhere in Minneapolis for work or pleasure.

6/29/2020 4:09:40 PM

In § 7.3.b - Revised:

I believe the current wording of the aforementioned section should be changed to read the following:

"The Council \*shall\* maintain ... "

The current usage of the modal auxiliary "may" does not place the onus on the City Council for providing services rendered to its citizens. Instead as currently written it allows the possibility for a department to be created and funded by the City Council but does not guarantee such a department.



The use of "shall" as the obligatory subjunctive implies that the city council must provide for a department of "community safety and violence prevention" and does not allow a potential loophole to circumvent such measures.

If you remove the police, you must provide each resident with the same armed security as the city council. Removing the police will only escalate crime, especially violent crime. Removing the police is a poorly thought out, knee jerk reaction to one incident. Do your jobs or resign your position, you're not helping Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 4:11:13 PM

No police. Will cancel Vikings season tickets and avoid Twins and Gopher games. Need law and order. Mayor and city council along with Governor are responsible for these riots and criminal activity since. As soon as that first Target was looted with no response from police due to stand down the blood is on your hands. How about the rapes in the homeless camp. You should be ashamed. Good luck hiring social workers to intervene in all this criminal activity. Resign before you kill more people.

6/29/2020 4:11:20 PM

I strongly support the proposed charter amendment. Recent events have demonstrated the need for deep institutional reforms. This charter amendment would allow the City to start on that path by eliminating the requirement for a minimum number of police force employees, thereby allowing resources to be transferred to other departments better able to improve the safety of our entire community. I also support giving the City Council direct authority over the new Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department, which I believe would better ensure that the entire community is represented in overseeing this critical new department.

6/29/2020 4:11:29 PM

No to abolish police dept..yes to recall council members!!

[HOME](#) > [NEWS](#)

# Minneapolis hires private security for council members after death threats

**Three members are currently  
receiving protection.**

**BY DECLAN DESMOND , UPDATED: JUN  
27, 2020 | ORIGINAL: JUN 27, 2020**



Get Immediate Assistance

OPEN

I would like to say that the MPD is needed within our communities each and every moment of the day to help the people in the community remain safe, because at that this point we don't feel safe in our homes nor on the streets of Minneapolis and this has never been a feeling that I have never had. We don't want to get rid of the MPD we just want to fix for the better of all races. Not all cops are bad and we get that and we as a African American race want to be treated as everyone else. We need MPD TO BE FIXED NOT TAKEN AWAY AND CHANGES INTO SOMETHINGS THAT HAS SNO NAME AS OF YET. FIX THE PROBLEM WITHIN THE MPD.

6/29/2020 4:12:58 PM

I support the proposed amendment. Years of attempts at incremental reform have failed and a complete reorganization is in order.

6/29/2020 4:13:05 PM

I do NOT support the ammendment to remove the Police Department. I do NOT support this move to disband/remove/abolish/defund the Minneapolis Police Department. Please stop this now.

6/29/2020 4:14:28 PM

I think the idea to create safer integrations with police is so important, many times police may use too much force or maybe need to be better trained to handle people in emotional distress.

The current atmosphere is not this at all. I see every week our cities getting MORE dangerous. More shootings, more stabbings, more rapes. We need to support the police in their mission. We all benefit from a society that follow laws and that help us live the exceptional loves we do as Minnesotans.

We need to support the community by investing in police department accountability measures (training for de-escalation, mandatory counseling). We also need to be strict on use of force. However, we should celebrate the job that these men and women do every day, highlight the good and punish the bad. Help keep this city safe for families.

6/29/2020 4:28:18 PM

Keep MPD..retrain..

6/29/2020 4:15:35 PM

I do not agree with the concept of removing the Police Department and replacing it with a Community Safety and Violence Prevention Department. I support the idea of increasing funding to the Police Department to improve training, lengthening training and establishing increased police presence reflective of the neighborhoods they serve. I also believe there needs to stronger accountability to officer performance, etc. Giving Chief of Police the authority to remove "bad" officers. I am completely opposed to the idea the MPLS city council is proposing and its nothing but a poorly thought out, knee-jerk reaction to the tensions in our communities right now. Frankly I'd recommend disbanding the MPLS City Council and using those salaries to increase funding to the Police department to elevate training.

6/29/2020 4:16:02 PM

I don't think it prudent to give up the MPD. I do however believe changes need to be made re union contract for officers, i.e., Rehiring after multiple egregious incidents by an officer. There are too many great officers that care and are upstanding. Please keep the MPD.

6/29/2020 4:16:08 PM

If the Minneapolis Police Department is removed, my family will never attend another event in Minneapolis nor will I spend another dollar in Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 4:16:21 PM

keep police dept.

6/29/2020 4:16:54 PM

I support these changes to the charter. I believe the council will adequately engage the public in the shaping of the new structure.

6/29/2020 4:17:06 PM

I would like to see a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department added to the charter, but not an elimination of the police department. I have support for our chief and want to see him continue to have control over the police. I believe this new department could work hand in hand with the police department. I believe this needs a both/and solution, not an either/or. I propose to add a new department in addition to the police department.

6/29/2020 4:17:36 PM

I am strongly in favor of this move and I would like the commissioners to complete their review quickly so as not to run into administrative hurdles. This decision should be on the November ballot.

6/29/2020 4:17:57 PM

If there is strong opposition to this could the idea of cutting the police in half and using both this new organization and the police union together work? The two could partner together, 1 of each per car? Obviously improvements to accountability would need to happen regardless. I am a former resident and potential future resident.

Thank you for reading!

6/29/2020 4:29:29 PM

What a joke. Good luck to the defenseless people and businesses of Mpls as the crime and violence spikes, property values dwindle and businesses close because no one from NM outside of the city will be willing to travel to Murderapolis. Emergency and Fire won't be able to respond to anything without police response first either so its unfortunate that city council is making the decision to side with protesters just to save face or gain a couple votes. Thank God I do not live in Mpls, won't be going back until confirmed police presence for good.

6/29/2020 4:18:34 PM

I fully support this charter amendment.

6/29/2020 4:18:44 PM

While I fully support examining how to prevent misuse of force, I am NOT in support of defunding the police department.

Our family will not be spending our free time and money within the city if this goes through.

The discussions taking place feel like a knee jerk reAction based on emotion, and not Logic.

6/29/2020 4:18:45 PM

DO NOT REMOVE THE POLICE! WEVE SEEN ENOUGH VIOLENCE AND IT WILL GET WORSE! WE'RE LOOKING MORE LIKE DETROIT. PEOPLE WILL TAKE THE LAW INTO THEIR OWN HANDS... THIS CITY WILL GET BURNT TO TGE GROUND AND PEOPLE WILL DIE. THIS IS A NO BRAINER! WEVE BEEN THROUGH ENOUGH PEOPLE WHO CAN AFFORD TO MOVE OUT OF MPLS WILL CERTAINLY DO SO. YOU'LL BE LEFT WITH THE SWAMP AND NOBODY LEFT HERE WILL CARE.

6/29/2020 4:19:08 PM

I do not support the removal of the Police Department. I support establishing a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department, but not without the support of a Police Department.

6/29/2020 4:20:07 PM

Could you please take into consideration the officers who have done good work within the community? I partnered with several while working in social services that notably have had a positive impact, and I think that they should be an example of how to police correctly and show others how to do the same- in a kind trauma-informed way. Namely- these individuals are: Lt. Grant Snyder, jefferey Webb, Yolanda Wilkes, Scott, and Davis (outreach team). Please consider letting them set an example for the rest of the force, who greatly need direction.

Our officers often work outside the scope of their practice, dealing with individuals with mental health issues and chemical dependency, and they are ill equipped and untrained to deal with. Please take into consideration the lack of space and commitment from area hospitals and detox areas, when properly dealing with individuals. We need space and people who are properly trained to address people who formerly would have been arrestees. I do not feel that their illnesses are issues that warrant arrest, but our current system is not set up to give them adequate care. Please investigate the responses of hospitals and such, when officers have chosen diversion and brought people in for care.

I would love to be able to be a part of training existing officers, who are truly there for the right reasons and care about the community. I have worked with Lt. Snyder and officer Webb on trainings, and I could get a team of social service providers to help create a better equipped force.

6/29/2020 4:20:18 PM

This amendment is being rushed to get on the November ballot and not thought through. There is no plan in place and the current proposal is ambiguous. Until it is clear that a well written amendment that is capable of protecting the Minneapolis citizens the amendment should not be on a ballot.

The idea that the 13 member city council should be in charge of a department that has to make quick decisions is absurd. The amount of dysfunction and confusion this would cause is enormous. This alone should have more than a few weeks to flesh out how the proposed amendment would function.

It is concerning that a non-law enforcement individual would head the department. How could that person possibly know the stresses of being a peace officer and make appropriate decisions in light of that?

Who decides what "adequately fund" means in this amendment? The current charter makes it abundantly clear. Leaving this type of ambiguity in the portion of the charter that is to make our city safe is reckless. And to be reckless with safety of the citizen's of Minneapolis is unfathomable to me.

Whatever changes need to be made need to be carefully considered and vetted before putting them to a vote. This amendment was quickly thrown together to change who has the power over public safety. If it was not a power play, they could absolutely work with the mayor to get changes they want within the confines of the current charter. Instead, they have carelessly thrown something together that threatens the safety and financial stability of Minneapolis.

What about the financial ramifications? Will we get a Super Bowl without a police force? Will we get a political convention? Has any of this been addressed with the Minneapolis Citizens?

If an amendment is to be put to a vote, it should be well thought out and decisive. This important portion of the charter needs time to be carefully considered and written. This one is not.

\*I would like my address and e-mail kept confidential

6/29/2020 4:20:37 PM

If this passes, I will no longer visit Minneapolis restaurants or events. While I think it is a good idea to make some changes, defunding the MSP Police Department is ridiculous and will leave many people worse off. The City Counsel is out of control and rushing. If they stand behind this, they need to get rid of their private security that is costing tax payers. Shameful!

6/29/2020 4:21:05 PM

If you abolish the police in Minneapolis, my family will never spend another dime in your city. You need revenue from suburban residents. I've worked in downtown and Uptown. It was dangerous enough with a police presence. Because you basically gave the green light to criminals when you allowed the 3rd precinct to be destroyed, crime has been out of control. There has to be a way to get rid of bad police and provide more training for the good ones. Working with the community is great, but they can't be in charge. They aren't qualified to deal with the amount of daily violence and you know it. It appears that local news stations are downplaying the situation, but we know what's happening - increased shootings, stabbing, carjackings, armed robberies, assaults, looting, vandalism. If you let Minneapolis to fall due to a lack of real police presence, your crime will spread into surrounding communities. If people get hurt because of your impetuous decisions, that will be on you.

6/29/2020 4:21:16 PM

I do not believe we need to completely get rid of police. I do believe we need to defund, de militarize and some sort of overhaul and extreme retraining. Police do not need as much power and control that they have. It's distrustful to see how their first reaction is to pull out their gun(retrain). The way the police operate as of this moment, disgusts me and the majority of the population unfortunately. The police need to have a small focus(mainly violent crime, apprehending KNOWN criminals, not some poor soul walking down the street they THINK looks like a criminal.) Retrain, defund, de-militarize(can't believe I even have to say this one, it's common sense, but common sense is not very common these days). The more I write the more this conversation angers me. DEFUND, DE-MILITARIZE, and Fucking RETRAIN these disgusting "humans" and the ones who protect them. To be honest the best way to do this would be to fire every cop and hire a new group that doesn't have all of these bad habits.

6/29/2020 4:22:25 PM

I wholly endorse this amendment. In the name of safety, we must reckon with our racist institutions in full context of their historical and current harm to BIPOC bodies. This is an important step.

6/29/2020 4:22:38 PM

The citizens of Minneapolis deserve much more clarity about what the charter amendment will do, particularly in terms of having public safety and who will be responsible for keeping neighborhoods safe for all. How will violence be responded to? By whom? It sounds unwieldy to have the public safety department departments?) overseen by 14 people given the need for quick decision-making. We need a solution to the terrible police brutality and increasing violence in the city that will work. Can the City Council work better than it is with the mayor? Is Chief Arradondo going to lose his job? Is the city going to do its research into successful efforts around the country for police reform and community services (e.g., Camden, areas of Brooklyn and Newark) to do this right? The world is watching Minneapolis. Let's do this right, and that means city leaders really listening to the community.

6/29/2020 4:23:17 PM

I couldn't agree more that what we have now is broken. The job in front of us, and I mean ALL is us, is to figure out what to fix and what to replace. We need to first identify what the police are now expected to do (data analysis from call logs, interviews with constituencies, ride alongs by council members) and is the standard response okay, should it be improved, or is it best done by other entities. If the answer is improve or replaced how will it be funded. My biggest concern is twofold (1) is the police union and its leadership really representative of the rank and file. If so, there is a need for systemic change and (2) If I need help, is calling the police what I should do or is the answer it depends.

6/29/2020 4:23:26 PM

Assuming a large percentage of the current police department duties involve investigations, and that law enforcement is specifically trained in investigations and are sworn officers of the court, who would perform these duties if they are eliminated or reduced?

I'd like to begin by saying I am a lifelong Minnesota resident, I do not live in Minneapolis but I am a resident of its suburbs. That being said, that does not mean that the actions of those who live in Minneapolis do not impact my life. The death of George Floyd was tragic, unacceptable and disgusting, there is no justification that can be made for the suffering the officers put him through. They all deservedly were fired and hopefully will face justice.

We as residents of Minnesota need to hold our officers accountable for their actions, in much the same way that us workers are held accountable at our jobs. The city council however, is not discussing accountability they are discussing a radical referendum that very well may destroy Minneapolis. With no clear plan, abstract wording and empty promises, this council has incited a mob of lawlessness onto the Metro Area. Not to mention the hypocrisy of hiring private security on tax payer with tax payer dollars when those very same dollars are going to be taken away from protecting the citizens who pay for protection from the police.

It is no coincidence that in the time since the city council announced their vote and intention to disband the police force, that crime has risen to historic levels in Minneapolis. The good officers of the law are being treated in a horrific way and are now scared to do their jobs for fear of their lives being ruined and because of this the people of Minneapolis have suffered. Minority communities are being torn apart by violence in the recent weeks. Normally safe, social areas have been turned into places where no one wants to go, I'm speaking of Uptown, a normally safe area to grab dinner or experience nightlife, when safe of course. Businesses are closing their doors because of violence. This has all happened in the past month and the way things are going I don't foresee this getting any better.

There are arguments saying that recent crime is proof the police do not help with violence prevention; instead only in violence response. I'd disagree, the presence of police has always been a disincentive for people to commit crime. Criminals and opportunists have been emboldened by the current state of policing in America to increase their violent behavior because there have been no consequences as of late. Gun sales to citizens are at record highs and homes in Minneapolis are going up for sale at incredible rates. This won't prevent death and violence in the community, this will just bring more.

The police need to stay, there needs to be reform, huge reform, there needs to be accountability and change from top to bottom. But to insist that we tear it down and get rid of it all is just appeasement to a mob of people not speaking for the majority. This is not something that should even be up for debate, special resources should be allocated to help with those dealing with mental issues because obviously an officer with a gun isn't always the answer, we should have more Minneapolis residents being Minneapolis cops, we should have more officers of color helping in communities of color. What we need are good police, what we need is a relationship between those in power and those who are not. Those 12 city council members do not speak for the entirety of the 400,000+ residents of Minneapolis, or Hennepin county.

As someone who loves the Twin Cities, and as someone who wishes to continue living here for the rest of my life I implore you to strike down the farce. We need a system that can work for everyone, what we don't need is a radical decision that could potentially destroy the very city that we all want to protect and see flourish.



6/29/2020 4:24:09 PM

Very disappointed in Minnesota and Minneapolis in particular. These council members need to be removed and replaced. The liberalism just oozes out of each one of them and it's just getting worse by the day with the poor decisions they are making. From changing lake names to now wanting to do something just totally insane like dismantling the police. How incredible ludicrous.

Stop with the pandering to every person that wants this or that changed for the sake of changing something.

Minnesota is slowly becoming unbearable to live here anymore. We are a sad state right now to say the least.

6/29/2020 4:24:40 PM

Police do the job no one else will do at great personal risk. I don't want to do their job and we cannot defund them. This is a city council running wild. No one I know who lives in Hennepin county is for this.

6/29/2020 4:24:47 PM

I'm 1000% opposed to defunding/dismantling. The police department. Training and outreach programs should be implemented to the existing police force which needs MORE officers, not less. Crime is already skyrocketing at the mere idea of this proposal. Downtown has been in a crime death-spiral for years. Our city has been burned and looted. And your answer is to dismantle the police department? To reward the criminals who destroyed black-owned businesses by bowing to their demands? This bill is an abomination of common sense and decency and those who proposed it should be held personally liable for every additional crime committed in response to this. Every single one is on them.

6/29/2020 4:25:22 PM

I do NOT support the amendment to remove the Minneapolis Police Department. I do NOT support the move to disband/remove/abolish/defund the Minneapolis Department. Please stop this now.

6/29/2020 4:25:44 PM

We Very Much Need Our Police, To Say The Least! Absolutely Please Do Not Abolish Our Police Department!

6/29/2020 4:26:07 PM

I COMPLETELY disagree with the movement to remove the Police Department. Make changes but do not change. I would vote against this!

6/29/2020 4:26:27 PM

No more detained without evidence for your safety and ours.....that is basically like being convicted as guilty without being charged and makes peoples blood boil.

No more guns drawn UNLESS IT IS 100% VISIBLE that a person has a weapon

No more tazing unless attacked or ther person has a VISIBLE weapon

More strict rules on high speed chases. The person must have committed a violent felony levelcrime.

More strict regulations on when cops can lay their hands on you ..... can't touch you or restrain/detain you in cuffs while they "investigate" a situation

6/29/2020 4:27:07 PM

The abolishment of the Minneapolis police department is insane. The last 3-4 weeks provide an excellent insight as to what we can expect when the police are no longer patrolling the streets of Minneapolis. More shootings. More robberies. Fewer businesses. Lawlessness.

I have lived in downtown Minneapolis for 15 years and it's clear to anyone with any common sense the city needs more police. Rejecting federal funding for more police was, I thought, the stupidest thing city leaders could have done, but this tops that for sure.

Defunding the police won't hurt somebody like me. I can leave. I feel bad for residents who do not have the resources to leave. The squalor and lawlessness the leaders of Minneapolis are creating is truly sad. True leaders hold themselves accountable. Elected officials in Minneapolis pass the buck, blame others and remain completely aloof hiring their own private security while voting to abolish the cities security.

6/29/2020 4:27:16 PM

I am absolutely against the defending/disbanding of the police department. The City Council does not have an actual plan or a cost study for one thing and the idea of having a director that has no experience in law enforcement is totally absurd. The City Council has been making decisions that encourage more crime like their no bail idea and reducing arrests for what they call "livability crimes". I retired from working Downtown at the end of 2014 and crime was bad during rush hour and nights then, but has gotten much worse since. We need more police not less to get this city back on track. Please reject their proposal and send it back to them for a full study with a more comprehensive plan before anything like this goes on the ballot. Many people will not vote on amendments and I am fearful of this idea being implemented without a well thought out plan and trustworthy committee to review the process. Thanks for your time and consideration.

6/29/2020 4:27:45 PM

If you think you can do without a Police Department given what has happened in Minneapolis and St. Paul since the protests and riots and the numerous shootings since then. Good luck! I can't imagine how you think you can "holistically" manage the community policing needed.,

6/29/2020 4:27:47 PM

I really think that defunding the Minneapolis Police Department is not a solution to the "issues" that exist. Our community needs to have police officers to assist with the crime issues that the city has. I feel like this would make things worse and the residents that do not commit crimes will be at greater risk without the police department. It makes more sense to implement laws and change things within the police department. I feel the only way we can have a safe and strong community is with the help of a police department that has change and not defunded. As a dependable tax payer of the State of MN and the City of Minneapolis, please do not let this happen to our community. I am worried that I will have to move out of the City of Minneapolis if there is no police unit to protect my home, my way of life and my family.

6/29/2020 4:27:51 PM

We need the police to protect the vulnerable like the disabled and elderly. We have been targeted in attacks. We need police so my hispanic daughter can play outside and not get shot or stabbed.

6/29/2020 4:28:28 PM

Institute ALL The RECOMMENDATIONS that STUDY AFTER STUDY Have SUGGESTED.

LIMIT OVERTIME to an ALREADY STRESSFUL job.

Institute MANDATORY therapy and counseling.

Make Officers accountable for complaints and for them to STAY on THEIR RECORD. No more SETTLEMENT after SETTLEMENT for THE SAME OFFICER.

Maik Officers caring their OWN LIABILITY INSURANCE.

NO MORE KETAMINE USAGE.

6/29/2020 4:28:33 PM

As someone who usually loves to visit Minneapolis regularly, I can assure you that any decision to defund the police along with the current violent crime uptick gives me strong reservations about future visits. I lived in Minneapolis for 10 year and I believe large scale police reform is necessary, but this idea is frightening

and literally will keep me and other tourists away. Also, as a social worker who works with law enforcement on a regular basis, I can't imagine too many of my social worker counterparts in Minneapolis like the idea of possibly having to respond to hostile situations without police accompanying us. Hopefully you have a plan in place so as not to jeopardize the safety of social workers. I want to continue visiting Minneapolis....I love the city. I also agree with the need for reform. I don't agree with any plan to defund or decrease the number of officers but I would agree with sending social workers and other types into the field with police regularly.

6/29/2020 4:29:14 PM

« Replace » is a scary way to frame this and so is the proposed name. « Radically reform and restructure » sounds more doable and « Department of Safety and Violence Prevention » helps me envision it better.. Yeah please fix this terrible situation, I am with you

6/29/2020 4:29:46 PM

in the absence of a clear plan, I do not support the abolition of the MPD. The fact that the council uses terminology such as defunding and dismantling interchangeably, it seems their intent is confuse rather than to prevent facts for the people of Minneapolis to make a logical decision. I also see no move to provide additional mental health resources for the MPD who have to deal with the worst life situation so that the people can be safe. I also do see any plan to handle gang and cartel violence. If the city denied the money for more officers in 2019, why haven't they come up with a solid solution? Also, it is highly likely that they will be civil unrest until and during the trial of the 4 officers. Is there a plan to keep people safe then? This seems like a knee-jerk reaction and now the schools have gotten rid of the SRO's and I have yet to hear a plan to make up for this in case of an attack on students. Not all school attacks have been by the actual students. I fear for the physically impaired students who will be in the line of fire but the schools have yet to answer me on their safety plan. All of these decisions seem to rest with a few and it's absolutely frustrating. Hire better officers. Provide better training. Provide mental health resources for the officers and the community.

6/29/2020 4:29:48 PM

I have canceled my remote work location in Minneapolis and I have moved all future planned meetings out of the city. I have zero faith in the council's ability to protect law abiding citizens. You undermined the MPD with no clear transition plan and basically turned the city over to the criminal element. When I was 12 years old I could safely wander the city and now at 53 I wouldn't even consider it. Your poor planning has put a once great city at risk and I will invest in strengthening the leadership and helping to regain what we have lost under poor leadership.

6/29/2020 4:30:24 PM

Removing the police as a charter is a great idea. But your council needs to find solutions for why crimes happen. We could be the first major city to introduce UBI(Universal Basic Income) for Minneapolis residents. The \$200 million that will be defunded from police can partially go towards that. People commit crimes due to poverty, lack of income, and desperation. If people and youth have a UBI to spend on their dreams and necessities, why would they commit crimes? They would not have time to. If you want to rehire mpd when they're dismantled, the officer must have 0 complaints and 0 lawsuits filed against them. That includes any scared citizen who never reported an officer. Release all police information to the public so citizens can come forward against police brutality. Also 24/7 video and audio recordings of every police shift has to be on and publicly available after every shift. If not turned, the officer has to be written up and fired if involved in an incident that was not recorded. Police in Minneapolis MUST be licensed like nurses, doctors, hair dressers. No exceptions. Police in Minneapolis must be individually insured as a whole and not paid for by city taxpayers. Minneapolis must be required to background check any new police hires from previous police jobs complaints and made public. End qualified immunity in Minneapolis for police, Colorado already has. Reopen every case Minneapolis police is involved in a death of a citizen, with independent investigators that are not city or state employees.

6/29/2020 4:30:32 PM

Our community would be better served by a force interested in public well being , not law enforcement. Disabled people are disproportionately affected by law enforcement tactics. I'm a tax payer in this city and want to see a different model

6/29/2020 4:30:51 PM

I don't agree what so ever that the police should be removed. Restructured with new testing on the police officers yes. I can't imagine no police in Minneapolis. Makes no sense to me.

6/29/2020 4:31:44 PM

Dumbest thing I have ever heard. Good Luck!

6/29/2020 4:32:49 PM

To remove the police department would be the most idiotic move of our lifetime. Do not do this. We need a police department and good police officers. If training needs to be looked at so be it but do NOT remove the police departments!! I work downtown Minneapolis and am already thinking of how I will get out of being downtown if you remove police. I can't imagine calling a social worker, what a joke.

6/29/2020 4:33:27 PM

I do not agree with the plan to defund and replace the police. This is about as absurd and out landish thing i have ever heard. With crime rates climbing daily we should be increasing numbers and force. We need more help not less. Do you want to be run by the worst of the worst. We have a beautiful city being destroyed. More death and sacrifice is coming. THE BLOOD WILL BE ON YOUR HANDS if you allow this to happen

6/29/2020 4:33:42 PM

I would also like to encourage a requirement that those working to provide safety and violence prevention in our city be residents of the city. It will hopefully increase their ownership into making this a safe and supportive community for everyone regardless of race, neighborhood etc.

6/29/2020 4:34:41 PM

Absolutely not. I do not support an amendment to the charter. I have zero confidence in our Council Members to appropriately handle this massive undertaking.

6/29/2020 4:35:06 PM

I am very opposed to this amendment. I think it is only fair you inform the public before voting on what the cost to taxpayers will be and the details on how this new department will operate. I think you are throwing the baby out with the bath water. Yes, the MPD needs systemic changes but without a true police department we will see businesses and people move out of the city. What a sad state of affairs for our great city.

6/29/2020 4:35:08 PM

Why can none of you say if there will or won't be peace officers after this. I'm all for major reform and ending the union but why should I give you this power.

If anything we need to end the union. End the military style of policing and increase the number of cops on the streets as the past few weeks have shown. Do what Camden NJ did ! It help a lot there!

Yes we need to invest more into communities but that's a long term fix not one that will show results in a year.

6/29/2020 4:35:09 PM

A safety and violence prevention program would be a lot like the medical field supporting medical prevention methods (which they do). It's a great idea until you have cancer and then prevention is no longer possible. Please (Lisa Bender and followers) do not suggest you can prevent the serious illness in our society through prevention. Evil exists. We need police to protect all of us and as importantly be a DETERRENT for crime! Why don't you just add additional programs (social workers) to police resources and then add more police to deal with the violent crime you (MPLS leadership) have caused by not supporting our officers in the first place. Lisa Bender step down! Mayor Frey fail grade! Gov. Walz your the only one it seems with relative common sense...please help us!!!

And for those who say get rid of the police warrior culture. Then stop sending police into a war zone! Get rid of the war zone and you won't need warriors. But I think it has been proven that a war zone exists and that our officers should be supported not condemned. And if battle ready training is necessary for them to provide safety then so be it.

Excuse any grammar errors...

6/29/2020 4:35:18 PM

I do not agree with the changes that are proposed. I support having a police department and do not believe that someone who has no experience should be in charge. We would not have a principal that has no teaching experience, we would not hire a CEO that has no leadership experience. Why would we consider putting someone in charge of the police department who has never been in their shoes for a day. I encourage all the council members to spend a Saturday night doing a ride along before they make this proposal to change something they have not experienced themselves. As a resident of Minneapolis, I want my voice to be heard and not silenced.

6/29/2020 4:35:32 PM

this is a terrible decision. The police make me feel a whole lot safer than some so-called peace officers. what are your plans for gangs, prostitution, child trafficking, drug trafficking?

The so-called holistic approach will NOT work. I see our city council members as seeing unicorns and rainbows. What a joke that they had to hire their own private security. What about the residents of the city who pay property taxes?

DO NOT ABOLISH THE POLICE FORCE. Anarchy will follow. It has started already with all the thugs doing whatever they want.

6/29/2020 4:35:56 PM

I will never do business in Minneapolis again and will be moving. Your plan to disband and not retrain has my entire family afraid to leave the house. I am so sad.

6/29/2020 4:35:58 PM

This is the most illogical and dumbest thing I have ever heard of. Watch citizens and businesses and your tax revenue fly out of the city. Even minority groups like LGBT have commented how they do not feel safe there without police and will not visit. But all great nations fall from within, so continue as you will.

6/29/2020 4:36:41 PM

A man hurt me and when I called the police they suggested I was at fault for putting myself in that situation. Please form a group of people women can call for help if anyone hurts them. I don't think police have the skills and empathy needed to respond to a woman who has been raped. If the crime has already occurred a woman doesn't need the police she needs someone who really cares to help her know what to do next. And if rape kits aren't going to be processed anyway their presence really isn't necessary for that situation. If someone hurt me again I don't feel I'd have anyone to call. If I live in Minneapolis I feel there should be someone I could call for help.

6/29/2020 4:37:26 PM

I'm in the military away from my home state of minnesota. What the hell are you thinking with disbanding the police??? You people are stupid. Crime is going to go up and I doubt a criminal isn't going to be afraid of some social worker. Police brutality is a problem but statistically it doesn't happen that often out of millions of interactions with police each year. Why don't you go after police unions that keep bad cops on a payroll? I just found out you all got private security. Hypocrites.

6/29/2020 4:37:55 PM

I think this is a absolute horrible decision. I am so grateful to not live in the city. Honestly I hope I'm far enough north. I will not bring my family near the city to spend any of our time or money. The repercussions of this decision are going to be terrible.

6/29/2020 4:38:58 PM

As Minneapolis citizens we need to be protected from those who are violent. The fact is there are people out there that others need to be protected from. Sending civil servants into situations that are violent without protection will put them and others at risk. We currently have police per capita that is way lower than other cities like New York, Detroit, Chicago, etc. We need more protection than what is currently available. I believe that we do incarcerate too many people for small non-violent crimes but we also need to punish people for violent crimes harsher than we do. There are repeat violent offenders that keep getting out and this is not a fault of the police but the fault of prosecutors and judges.

No system is perfect and I don't think many would argue that reform and constant improvement is a good thing. That does not mean that we should abolish the police. Currently people are scared to the core by increased violence and a potentially violent future. We cannot let the small amount of extreme people and anarchists that want to remove the police affect the majority. We can see the issues with what happened in CHAZ/CHOP in Seattle. I understand the desire to make change when a tragic event like the killing of George Floyd happens. This does not mean that we should go to the other extreme. I am sure that when you make a large decision that may be a little impulsive because of the current climate that it is hard to pull back. Now that we have had time for the dust to settle we need to really think about what is being proposed and not double down on a poor decision. It is more respectable to admit the error and come up with other reform than dig a deeper hole.

I also know that the City does not want to pay out lawsuits due to poor police practices. The amount of tax revenue that will be lost without police will be astronomical. People will move, large corporations will relocate, and Minneapolis will become isolated from surrounding cities that have police. This will lead to lawsuits from citizens, local businesses, and surrounding cities because Minneapolis cannot keep people and property safe.

As Minneapolis tax payers, we are currently paying for private security for City Council members. The rest of us cannot afford that luxury and we need to feel protected. The sounds of guns recently has increased what seems like exponentially. Removing the police will increase violence in already violent areas as there will be no repercussions. All citizens will be affected but I would argue that people who are already impoverished and in poor neighborhoods who need the most protection will be impacted the worst.

6/29/2020 4:39:05 PM

No. Do not abolish the police department. I love every last one of them! They are good people. Strong of mind and heart and they give to us always of the best love of heart that can ever be. Abolishing our police department is not wise. Do you realize you are up against God Himself??? The God of Abraham, Jacob, and Isaac. The "I Am." If you could only see the angels with flaming swords He's been protecting us with! Do not do this thing, for your own good. Be careful. Be very careful. You are treading on dangerous ground! --Mrs. Mary H. Sands, eldest daughter of Francis R. McGovern (you remember him? - editor/publisher of The Minneapolis Daily American which was a daily newspaper in competition with the Star/Trib until his death by heart attack on Christmas morn, 1990; I have his blood coursing through my veins, printer's ink instead of blood. Beware. I cannot state this strongly enough!)



6/29/2020 4:39:26 PM

ALL LIVES MATTER.

Our family is moving even further from Minneapolis once our lease is up in September.

I lived in the Detroit area for a couple of years. You are making Minneapolis a burned out war zone same as Detroit.

Until people realize that their actions have consequences, and that they are expected to adhere to the same standards as the rest of society, this cycle continues.

6/29/2020 4:39:30 PM

In the future Police Officers should have a mandatory community service time for violations that may have happened while on duty. This way it shows the community that these officers do in fact care about the city they work in.



6/29/2020 4:39:36 PM

Not a good idea! I would not visit MPLS ever again if they did so.

6/29/2020 4:39:55 PM

By their own admission, the members of the City Council don't know what a new "community safety department" would look like or what roles it would perform, how, or by whom.

Platitudes about 'community based solutions' are entirely, 100% meaningless.

'Trust us, whatever it is we come up with will be better' doesn't cut it when it comes to something as vital as law enforcement and community safety.

Until the Council can communicate exactly what their specific plans are, allowing them to change the city charter would be wholly irresponsible.

6/29/2020 4:41:01 PM

I do not support the idea to replace the Minneapolis Police Department. In fact, I believe we need more police and more funding for them. Statistically there is a correlation between more resources and less crime. The crime in Minneapolis is getting out of hand.

6/29/2020 4:41:12 PM

If the charter is passed to remove Minneapolis police. The council must fast track the gun ownership applications of citizens. We are the first major city to do this and there will be TONS of outsiders, disgruntled ex police, and kkk groups coming to the city to prove the council wrong in the abolition of police.

6/29/2020 4:44:21 PM

I will NEVER go downtown again. It's not safe! Shooting almost every night. Good luck with business and property values.

6/29/2020 4:41:28 PM

I am not in favor of changing the city charter to make it possible to eliminate the police department and replace it with anything different. The police department as it exists needs to be reformed and more officers with good training need to be hired to deal with increased crime and lawlessness. The city council needs to get a better feel for what the citizens in their wards want.

6/29/2020 4:41:49 PM

This is a stupid idea, they need more police not less.

6/29/2020 4:42:08 PM

The fact that 3 of your members have "private security", but all of us are supposed to fend for ourselves! This is treason! You all should be fired!

6/29/2020 4:42:33 PM

I support the proposed charter amendment that would remove the Police Department and create a new Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention. I want the opportunity to vote on this question in the election this year. Thank you.

6/29/2020 4:42:33 PM

The protesters, PROTESTING TO ABOLISH the Minneapolis police,

ASKED for police protection!!!!!!! How DARE they ask for police help, when they don't want the police around!???

6/29/2020 4:43:16 PM

what happened to mr floyd was wrong and disgusting, dont let a few horrible instances tarnish the rest of the police. not only should the dept not be disbanded, but actually hire more and make sure they are trained properly. we should be getting tougher on crime. you cant walk downtown without getting harrassed and approached by people just 'hangong out; their are alot of people that wont go down town to eat, a play, listen to music because they are scared walking back to the car. mpls is going to be ruined if they let the nuts down there get away with this garbage. hire more police and crack down on crime and more folks would spend money in your city. i love mpls and went to school there, but what is happening is sad and wrong

6/29/2020 4:43:18 PM

As both a south Minneapolis resident and downtown employee; I'm terrified by the concept of having the police department abolished. My employer has begun discussing moving both of our downtown offices to the suburbs and I will break my apartment lease if we lose the police department. During the riots, my daughter had a medical emergency while a arsonist throw a Molotov cocktail into my apartment building. Alone, I had to get my daughter to the emergency room while others actively tried to harm us. It was hell on earth. We NEED our police department. Please do not make others suffer like I did. Reform, yes! More accountibilty, yes! Ability to fire them, yes! Removal of our law enforcement, NO!

6/29/2020 4:43:31 PM

I fully support the organized dismantling of the Minneapolis Police department and all efforts to minimize and prevent the use of force against citizens.

I have lived or worked in Minneapolis for 13 years, and still work in Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 4:44:07 PM

Please proceed in your efforts at reform. It's so important that you are successful in this effort. Do not be swayed by those wishing to keep the same system in place. There is a brighter day tomorrow. And we're counting on you.

Thank you!

6/29/2020 4:44:25 PM

DO NOT Abolish the police dept. I DO NOT SUPPORT THIS CHARTER AMENDMENT!

Many will leave the city. Business and visitors and residents. Including me and my family and other family member and friends who are Mpls homeowners.

6/29/2020 4:44:27 PM

This is one of the dumbest ideas I have ever heard. We have 12 people so detached from reality, they actually voted to defund the police force? If you properly funded and staffed the police force in the first place, we most likely wouldn't have this problem. The disastrous CNN interview, Lisa Bender had, should tell you enough. The nation is laughing at you. I know this will lead to a mass exodus of the population and businesses. I have talked with many. I certainly will be leaving if this is enacted. Maybe you should pay all of us so we can get our own security detail. Oh wait that's what the police are for. The police are your employees and they work under your policies and direction. Fix it. Do not abolish it.

6/29/2020 4:44:49 PM

Stupid and short sighted first comes to mind on this proposal. Chief Arradondo has been attempting to make us safer and better, but gets no help from you morons. Adding the 400 officers he requested would be a good start. Reforming the police union, to make meritocracy THE qualification for keeping your Officer job is necessary. Full ON never OFF body cams will protect citizens and officers. Stop the revolving doors of the Courts, make committing crimes painful again. Someone that steals train rides doesn't need counseling they need a moving violation fine or hefty commuity service, every time, and the punishment needs to increase with the severity of the crime. Your philosophy of thugs need hugs is an utter failure already why would you double down on such stupidity?

6/29/2020 4:46:17 PM

As a Minneapolis resident, I want to make it clear that I am adamantly opposed to any alteration of the Minneapolis City Charter to remove and/or redefine the requirement to maintain our police department. Further, this proposal should not be allowed on the ballot until a detailed plan is in place of what we are moving to, how decisions going forward will be made, and who will make those decisions. I firmly believe we can achieve meaningful reform without any changes to the city charter. Further, the council has made it their personal vendetta to rid our great city of our police force and I believe they are no longer acting in the city's best interest.

If this proposal were to pass, the city council has made it clear they will defund and dismantle our police department and they have no plan in place. Not only is this dangerous, but to entrust this small group of people that do not have the background in public safety is careless.

I ask that you not allow this proposal to be on our ballot until we are able to vet out a clear plan, as outlined above, couple with studies that back up why the plan is the best path forward.

thank-you

6/29/2020 4:46:25 PM

This is not only the most tyrannical overstep of local authority I've ever witnessed, but I firmly believe this seemingly innocuous "improvement" to policing is the first measurable step in what might be the biggest threat to American society since WW2. It looks an awful lot like the exact sort of COUP that happened in Chile recently. This is downright treasonous. The local governance should be removed from their positions immediately before a real catastrophe emerges. Most importantly, it should be understood that you're scaring people who are already beside themselves. If I lived in Minneapolis I would flee. This is dangerous at a time when we're all so desperate for reassurance from our elected officials. Shame on you all. Stop this madness.

6/29/2020 4:46:28 PM

Instead of blaming your fantastic and loyal and brave police officers how about you JAIL THE VIOLENT CRIMINALS tearing up your city and DEPORT THE PIECES OF SHIT FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES BACK TO THEIR OWN SHITHOLES. THAT'S WHERE YOUR PROBLEMS COME FROM. YOUR STUPIDITY IS APPALLING!!!!!!! Wisconsin is your neighboring state and our family has good friends and relatives in your city. YOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT IS NOT YOUR PROBLEM - YOUR LAWLESS CITIZENS AND LAWLESS REFUGEES ARE.

6/29/2020 4:46:40 PM

I have lived in Minneapolis for about 6 years. I moved here because it was a nicest, cleanest and safest city in the midwest. I started my career here and bought my first home here, but if these radicals on the city council gut the city charter and abolish the police I will sell my condo, move to the suburbs and take my money with me.

I refuse to live in a city that blindly follows leftist ideology and mob mentality. We must have a police force, we must fund that force, that force needs to be large enough to protect the citizens. Since the complete abdication of responsibility by our leaders Frey, Walz and the council the city has erupted in violence and the police are too scared to step in and stop it. This situation is unsustainable.

If you don't defend the citizens, we will defend ourselves.

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

6/29/2020 4:46:41 PM

I think this is the most ridiculous thing ever. I've lived here all my 76 yrs but I will be leaving Mpls. This is becoming the worst city to live I high taxes now disbanding our police department.. I always loved living here but it's not the same city I grew up in. You can all see how well your plan works !



6/29/2020 4:46:51 PM

Totally irresponsible idea! The crimes have already increased since this dumb idea was first brought up! No one will go downtown anymore and the businesses that were not burned already will go under! If you are going to defund the police then none of the council or the Mayor or Governor should have any security guards paid for by the tax payers! Make them live in the crime works they created without protection just like everyone else!

6/29/2020 4:47:17 PM

I'm opposed to the amendment. We have no idea what shape this new community will take and will likely be lacking training and experience to deal with violent criminal activity. I'll certainly be voting against removing the police department if I find the question on the ballot and for candidates to replace, when the time comes , anyone supporting removal of the police department.

6/29/2020 4:48:21 PM

This is the stupidest idea I have ever heard. There are more good cops than bad and I will never set foot in Minneapolis with a police force

6/29/2020 4:47:26 PM

NO to disbanding of the police force. I used to be a proud resident of Minneapolis and I moved out of Minneapolis because of the violence that was occurring which isn't even as bad as it is now. If you disband the police, I will no longer come to Minneapolis to spend my money nor support any of the businesses there. Incredibly sad what you are trying to do. It almost seems and feels like you want to implement Sharia law.

6/29/2020 4:48:30 PM

You're insane if you think removing the police department is a good idea. You can forget about any business of mine being conducted in Minneapolis should this asinine idea actually move further.

6/29/2020 4:48:40 PM

This amendment lacks essential details as to the composition and operation, as well as vision/mission, of the Community Safety & Violence Prevention Department. This is terribly rushed and incomplete, and quite obviously serves the purpose only of making it appear that a City Council devoid of direction or action up until the last month is attempting to APPEAR TO follow through with something. Please try again, but not until creating viable plans for this type of transition.

6/29/2020 4:48:52 PM

I live in north Minneapolis. We've been struggling here for awhile without police presence. Its difficult to not know whether police will respond if you call 911. There was an accident with injuries on 44th/Morgan a couple weeks ago and was over 15 minutes. No ambulance. Just 2 cops. Please help us. We need policing here. It would just be nice if they could conduct themselves more compassionately rather than mistrust and racism.

6/29/2020 4:49:32 PM

The amendment is a horrible idea but thank you for putting it on the ballot and letting voters decide.

6/29/2020 4:51:12 PM

As a Minneapolis resident, I fully support any steps our city takes to defund the MPD and keep everyone in our city safe, especially Black, Native, people of color, LGBTQI, and people dealing with mental health challenges.

Please support this charter amendment. Please support the ideas recommended by Reclaim the Block and Black Visions Collective. History shows reform has not been effective. We have an incredible, rare opportunity to remake a system that abuses Black people. Not to reform - to remake. Please take advantage of this moment and support the charter amendment.

Thank you for your time!

6/29/2020 4:51:29 PM

Totally disagree police may need better training and discipline but if the police are removed I will never step foot in MPLS again!!!

6/29/2020 4:51:34 PM

I am AGAINST abolishing the police. Crime is out of control in our city and we need the police. I already do not feel safe living here and will be moving out of the city and taking my business with me if we don't have police to response to dangerous situations and crime. It's rather ironic that city council members hired private security for themselves over death threats but average citizens facing deadly criminals should go without in their opinion. Turn this city around, keep the police, prosecute repeat offenders and maybe Minneapolis will have a chance at surviving.

6/29/2020 4:52:40 PM

I'm unable to comment on the amendment and charter itself, but the outcomes I wish for this city include the following:

Full funding for education, housing, health care, and other services that actually keep people safe.

Greatly reduced police presence.

Far, FAR greater accountability for police as individuals and as a department.

However you need to sort the charter out to achieve those goals is fine by me.



6/29/2020 4:52:44 PM

Criminal behavior is complex. To think that one solution like defunding the police will take care of it is extremely ignorant and very dangerous to the public. We need restructuring and retraining and a team approach of a Police Officer and mental health worker might be a good option to keep everyone accountable but no Social Worker I know will go into a dangerous or volatile situation without police protection. You actually need to put MORE money into the police to get teams on board and more police to in bad areas. You have got to stop thinking like a liberal Student Council and start thinking about the best interests of ALL the citizens. Poverty is a big part of the issue of crime so why not work to get people working?

6/29/2020 4:53:17 PM

I usually spend a lot of money in downtown Mpls going to the theater, restaurants, concerts and events. I will not return to Mpls if the charter is changed and the police force is disbanded.

6/29/2020 4:54:03 PM

I am completely opposed to the idea of disbanding the police department. Just the idea of it has emboldened criminals and we have had the crazy amount of shooting since releasing the idea. People will leave in droves, and all that'll be left are the poor people who can not afford to move someplace safer. They will be hit the hardest with this reckless decision. We will become another Detroit. It will be absolute suicide.

6/29/2020 4:54:23 PM

I do not support amending the city charter to allow defunding the police. I do not support the city council plan in its current form. I do not support removing police supervision away from the mayor. I believe the CC is listening to a few voices and have not taken steps for community involvement. In fact the majority of the city has been ignored. We receive no response from the CC president regarding increased crime. Do not allow this wish list and lack of thought and a meaningful plan to continue to disrupt the lives of the citizens and their property in this city.

6/29/2020 4:54:40 PM

Enjoy your ghost town. I won't be going there and I know a lot of business people who will likely either home office or relocate rather than risk going to Minneapolis without protection.

6/29/2020 4:55:06 PM

This is the stupidest idea I've ever heard

6/29/2020 4:55:23 PM

I believe that this is the STUPIDEST, most absurd idea I have heard to date! Yes, changes in policy need to happen and things do need to change within the department, but abolishing the MPD is dumb. I work for the City of Mpls and it is not fair to judge them because of the few bad ones, I interact with officers daily and 99.9% of them are NOT like that! Police are critical to public safety and the council is just too blind to see that I guess and people/buisnesses are going to leave the city and/or not come into the city and spend \$ there, so there goes a chunk of revenue for the city, which by the way is already having financial shortages.

6/29/2020 4:55:25 PM

Minneapolis needs a police force.

6/29/2020 4:55:31 PM

I live in a city that borders Minneapolis. We have a fantastic police force and a strong, diverse, closely-knit community. This is the first time in the 10 years living here that we have contemplated moving. If your lack of leadership and inability to manage your city bleeds into ours, we have no choice but to move. You're destroying the city and surrounding communities and seen hell-bent on continuing to do so. Minneapolis used to be amazing and now it's a national disgrace.

6/29/2020 4:55:37 PM

I pay Over \$200 per month in property taxes! I want More police. If my life or my property is in danger I want to call the police and I want quick response time. Maybe the city/dept should provide better training and maybe corrupt officials shouldn't protect violent/bad cops.

6/29/2020 4:55:58 PM

Removing and replacing the police department is one of the dumbest things I have ever heard of! Touchy feely liberal baloney! I have lived in Mpls for almost 50 years...and felt SAFE! I will not feel safe with a "community of safety and violence prevention department". Go ahead! Put it on the ballot! What a waste of taxpayer expense!

6/29/2020 4:56:02 PM

This is the stupidest idea i've ever come up with

6/29/2020 4:56:17 PM

As a former resident of your crime ridden city this is the most asinine idiotic horrendously stupid idea 2 correct an issue. all you shitbags should have to pay for your own private security since you think the people in the business, the communities in Minneapolis aren't worth protecting. You are the definition of oxygen thieves.

6/29/2020 4:56:33 PM

Please do not dismantle the police. I work downtown and the traffic makes navigating the morning and afternoon commutes tough, the police officers that control traffic, sidewalks, and bus stops make commuting safer. I also volunteer for the Hennepin theatre trust and when shows let out late at night, their presence is needed on Hennepin. Also, during intermission and at the end of the show a police officer is in the lobby or hallway and it makes the theatre safer. After the bataclan theater in Paris was attacked in 2015, the theatre trust made huge changes to make sure the theaters are a safe space for all performers and patrons. Police are and need to be part of the equation to keep Hennepin theaters safe places.

6/29/2020 4:57:18 PM

This is the dumbest thing the hypocritical city council has ever done.

6/29/2020 4:58:21 PM

I am absolutely OPPOSED to this amendment. This is crazy to even consider with no plan in place. Do your work and then come to me with your ideas. This is reckless to even promote this idea and process without a plan. This city is going down in flames and the city council is to blame.

6/29/2020 4:58:30 PM

How will it work when somebody commits a crime? I am trying to wrap my head around if there is someone that gets pulled over and has a gun, then what? I agree that there needs to be change, but shutting down the police department is not the answer, training and being held responsible is. I also believe there should be no union as well, because I believe that is a lot of the problem in police officers being protected from discipline. We all need to work together and all lives matter including police officers.

6/29/2020 4:58:46 PM

I am an Augsburg graduate, lives in the cedar-riverside neighborhood for 6 years. I no longer live in Minneapolis.

I say this because I do not want you to skip my thoughts because I don't live in the city at present.

Do not abolish the MPD. Abolish the union. Unions protect bad actors, breed mediocrity and give you and the city little oversight over their contracts, their behavior and ensuring proper steps are taken when bad actors come to light.

The steps and public comments you've made have damaged the credibility of the police and stoked fear for those under their jurisdiction. You've caused individuals to be regretful about calling the police after violent crime, you've allowed mob rule to take over, you've allowed homeless encampments and by your inaction, allowed rape within that encampment. It's disgusting, it's wrong, and you're leading the city you represent into the void. Stop pandering. Do what is right. Work to stop the crime, over train your police officers, punish those officers who blatantly disregard the lives and dignity of those they serve, maintain the law and restore peace to the city.

6/29/2020 5:00:10 PM

I've been a resident of downtown Minneapolis for two years. I live on Washington Avenue near U.S. Bank Stadium. Throughout my two years in downtown Minneapolis, we have had numerous encounters with disgusting and appalling activity throughout the streets near my apartment. I've had multiple coworkers jumped and beaten up while leaving downtown bars. I've heard multiple shootings from my own bedroom window. The environment in downtown has already made me consider whether I truly enjoy where I live— the fact that defunding the police force is even a real discussion has been the final straw in my decision to continue my residency of Minneapolis. I have witnessed, firsthand, the outstanding work our MPD does, and I could not be more worried about the future of downtown Minneapolis under current city council leadership. I am disgusted in the leadership of my city, and I am looking forward to the expiration of my lease in October.

6/29/2020 5:00:13 PM

Honorable Charter Commission Members:

I ask you to vote down the proposal to place a charter amendment on the ballot that would remove the Minneapolis police force. Instead, the police force should be reformed and especially the union contract that makes it exceedingly difficult to discipline and/or remove a police officer who hasn't lived up to the standards of the department. The arbitration proceedings too often protect officers who should be disciplined or removed from their position.

However, a police force that does meet standards is necessary. The small business owners along Lake Street who had lost their businesses and thus their livelihoods due to looting and arson attest to the need. The nearly fifty percent increase in gunfire since the George Floyd incident attest to the need. The eleven people either killed or injured by gunfire in the middle of Uptown on a weekend evening attest to the need for a police presence.

One of the primary public goods that Minneapolis residents pay for through their property taxes is for safety and security. It was not until a much greater security force was provided by support from the Minnesota National Guard did we see the violence abate. Unfortunately, that wasn't until after much damage had been done to countless businesses both small and large. All of us need to feel safe and secure whether at home, at our office or while shopping or having dinner.

Please seek reform and not abolishment of the Minneapolis police department and do not place a charter amendment on the ballot.

6/29/2020 5:01:11 PM

Do not disband or defund the MPD.

I will not ever go to Minneapolis again if you do. Your beautiful Vikings stadium will feel the effects! Many businesses are already leaving because the city is overrun with lawlessness. These criminals already know that the city's police can make arrests, but they are given a slap on the wrist in court and are back out committing crimes again. There is no respect for authority.

I think a wiser idea is to have a program to encourage POC within the community to commit to become police for MPD in exchange for their education paid by the city and a 5 year commitment to stay after graduating.

6/29/2020 5:01:14 PM

In a time where crime and violence has been on the rise for years, your city council is demanding the disbanding of the Minneapolis Police Department. I have not heard a more ridiculous plan in my life. As a Firefighter/EMT of 12 years I see the good that police officers do keeping the public and first responders safe. Yes there are a small percentage of bad cops. Yes, the MPD needs to be able to get rid of these bad cops when they are deemed as such. But this is a two way street. The culture and attitude in Minneapolis has shifted to crime and violence and it starts with parenting, education, and social services being improved. Instead of all the money that will be spent "developing" a new law enforcement system, take that money and improve your schools, improve support systems for families that depend on it. FINALLY start taking that seriously. Disbanding police is not going to solve your crime. It's not going to help the neighborhoods that are enveloped in crime and violence. Your city will shrivel up unless the violence is controlled. People who normally visit Minneapolis do not feel safe there, myself included. Your businesses will suffer (already are), close (already are) and your streets will become abandoned and only crime will exist. I beg you to reform not reinvent the police department. And give the families and children of Minneapolis the chance to succeed and prosper by funding the social services the way they should be. Otherwise you will not be improving anyone's lives. Please stop making rash decisions without looking at the long term effects you will be imparting on your citizens.

6/29/2020 5:01:26 PM

First impressions are -- it looks great! I especially like the line stating that "Individuals eligible to be appointed as director will have non-law enforcement experience in community

safety services, including but not limited to public health and/or restorative justice approaches."

I do have questions about how you are defining "peace officers" and what you envision their role being.

For example: are they armed? How will they be deployed? Will they have stronger legal restrictions on the use of lethal force? etc.

I may comment again later as I continue to educate myself and gain a better understanding of the challenges our city is facing -- until then, keep up the good work and do your best to help the people panicking about the end of the MPD understand that their communities will still be safe and in some cases even safer after we transition.

6/29/2020 5:02:07 PM

You are a bunch of clowns!

6/29/2020 5:02:28 PM

I think you people are absolutely nuts. For you to think that abolishing the police department is a good thing, sadly you are very wrong. Change the arbitration rules and the union rules before doing that. Do you understand the magnitude of what you are going to possibly do to this City. I, for one, will not be going anywhere near that City, nor will I shop, or patronize any business there. Every resident will be packing guns and it will be a royal shootout if an assault, robbery, murder, etc. happens. I hope residents leave and businesses leave your City, because of how this place is run. The Democrats will ruin a perfectly good city because of their stupid ideations you have created. Between you guys, the Governor, and the Mayor, this City and State is going to hell. Over taxed State is becoming a place I no longer want to live.

6/29/2020 5:02:31 PM

I think the entire Charter should be rewritten. If that isn't going to happen I do not support an amendment regarding the MPD.

6/29/2020 5:02:57 PM

I resign!

6/29/2020 5:03:07 PM

I am very much in favor of eliminating the current Minneapolis Police force for a community based violence prevention and crisis response approach. I think having a staged approach to situation response has proven to be necessary in Minneapolis due to the complex situations that are present here. Crisis response should start with community emergency resources which can then reach out to a larger community for responding resources, then as a last resort an armed highly trained and supported unit for extreme situations with appropriate mental and physical support in place for officers here. Current police are overworked and stressed without support for the physical and mental drain they experience on a daily basis. Offloading some of this work to funded, prepared, and localized response units will allow police officers to do their jobs more effectively and help them stay healthy along side the communities they serve. We currently have a system that makes the police responsible for responding to all situations, which is frankly not appropriate. It is a stress on the officers, stress on the community, and leads to inappropriate and dangerous actions of force from the police towards citizens. A community oriented, preventative, and harm reduction approach is necessary for our current society.

6/29/2020 5:03:36 PM

Where's my private security?

6/29/2020 5:03:56 PM

Minneapolis City Council members -

My husband and I are long-time residents of Southwest Minneapolis in the Tangletown area. Like you, we are horrified by the recent events in Minneapolis and agree that modifications to our policing policies and training must be achieved and that new approaches will likely provide better solutions for our community. Our city leadership and police leadership need more authority and mandate to fire, demote and prosecute officers when they step outside their protocols and quite likely a tiered model of policing may be feasible. That said, your position that you intend to 'dismantle' the police force in Minneapolis is abhorrent to most of us who live here.

I ask that you please represent the voice of your constituents and do not move quickly to overhaul or even substantively modify the police force or authority without a solid, community reviewed and approved plan. I have not met or talked to one person in Minneapolis who felt that the rapid decision-making we are hearing is coming from the Council is a good thing. Most in my community fear that you will take your authority and make things far worse, choosing fast over well-conceived. Even during COVID, I have active discussions and meetings with local and remote individuals. The topic of what the

Minneapolis City Council is doing often comes up and people ask what is going on with our City leadership. I'm embarrassed to explain to friends and colleagues that I have no idea – that your thoughts do not represent the people of Minneapolis and that I hope the Minneapolis Council will reconsider any rush to change. Put a real, vetted plan in place and then put it to a vote. Please provide a voice for those that you have been elected to represent vs. embracing a knee-jerk reaction to the current climate.

6/29/2020 5:04:00 PM

As a small business owner, apartment building owner and home owner in the city of Minneapolis I'm very concerned with this new approach the city council is heading in. They don't have a plan and are rushing to put something on a ballot in November to please their constituents. Public safety is a right as a citizen of Minneapolis but abolishing the police department is a major mistake. I feel that business will leave. Home values will go down due to concerns about safety. As a business owner in NE Minneapolis I have always had a good relationship with the police department. We do need to talk about reform but abolishing the police is a major mistake and will not work well at this time. Please don't allow the council to rush through this process make them take time to get true feedback from business and home owners. Thank you for taking the time to listen.

6/29/2020 5:04:28 PM

Defunding the police is ridiculous. If you're following the Camden model then you'll fire them all and hire the majority back at less pay PLUS an additional 125%.

I think better training would be much more beneficial. Also we should be firing officers with multiple excessive force complaints.

When Arrandondo tried hiring 400 police by 2025 he was denied by the city (and he had secured federal funding for it). Shootings, murder and violence are out of control in Minneapolis. Businesses downtown reported being down year over year in 2019 before Covid-19 because of crime. In 2019 in Minneapolis 6,700 calls to 911 went unanswered.

Some of my favorite restaurants are downtown. One, Fogo De Chao had a shooting right out front. Crave had a shooting on the rooftop seating area. I no longer support these places because I don't feel safe going downtown anymore. I'm not trying to take my family, including my 5 year old daughter, to a place where violent crimes and shootings happen even during the daytime.

I attached 3 articles that support my statements.

[https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.mprnews.org/amp/story/2019/07/18/mps-chief-wants-400-more-officers&ved=2ahUKEwiSvNHM\\_qfqAhXWQs0KHZi9ASkQFjAAegQIAhAB&usg=AOvVaw1dCcFk02PyUy1X6HeE7ym2&ampcf=1](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.mprnews.org/amp/story/2019/07/18/mps-chief-wants-400-more-officers&ved=2ahUKEwiSvNHM_qfqAhXWQs0KHZi9ASkQFjAAegQIAhAB&usg=AOvVaw1dCcFk02PyUy1X6HeE7ym2&ampcf=1)

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.kare11.com/amp/article/news/local/violence-uptick-hurting-business-in-downtown-minneapolis/89-b99e61df-57fd-4053-bd30-77672de25aef>

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.fox9.com/news/minneapolis-police-more-than-6700-serious-calls-went-unanswered-in-the-last-year.amp>

6/29/2020 5:04:36 PM

So who will be arresting the criminals, upholding the laws, first responders, be in the midst of the gang shoot outs, get the crazed drugged up person who's naked in the street trying to stab someone, chasing down the carjacking's with children still in the back seat??? Are your counselors going to be trained to know all of the laws, carry weapons and administer first aid? Come on people get real!!

6/29/2020 5:05:06 PM

1. Have police carry their own liability insurance instead of paying out settlements with tax payer money.
2. Strip police of military paraphernalia including: tear gas, humvee like vehicles, baton bullets, and rifles.
3. Require police live in the neighborhoods they police just as firefighters are.
4. Require paperwork forcing them to describe what non lethal forces they tried from training before using their handgun.
5. Make complaints against officers public record and do not allow them to get rehired if they are fired.
6. If a police officer is accused of a crime they should be arrested and booked like any other citizen without pay.
7. All police cars should be clearly and brightly marked.
8. The police budget should be cut in half along with the size of the force. The other half of the money should be spent on counsellors, and mental health professionals within the same building who can respond to appropriate 911 calls. Dispatch should undergo new training to send the appropriate professional to the scene (if not a counsellor along with an officer, with the officer ONLY supporting). Any additional funds should go to programs to reduce crime at its source.
9. Police departments should report to their chief and then the Mayor in that order.
10. Any commander that is found to be extorting their aid based on personal, political, or monetary reasons (which has been happening for years) should be fired immediately.
11. With the exception of the chief, each officer should be re-evaluated based on their location and record with the public to determine if they are still eligible for service on the MPD.

6/29/2020 5:05:44 PM

There is no way I am in support of this idea. I do not live in Minneapolis but have paid Hennipen county taxes for thirty years. I will no longer come into Minneapolis for events or resume our dinner club once a month at your restaurants. We will not come downtown for and legal matters. There is no way we will feel comfortable or safe without police in the city. The citizens can do what they like but you will lose out on money from people who live in the suburbs and come downtown. We recently lived in Maple Grove for 30 yrs.



6/29/2020 5:05:47 PM

No. You should support the police, they are YOUR employees and they are not racist. I lived in the city for 10 years on Russell Ave N.

Look what you let happen to this beautiful city. It is no longer safe. Frey should be arrested, you all should.

6/29/2020 5:05:50 PM

Police Officers are needed on the streets to assist with specific programs.

COPE, mental health professionals, would respond to EDP and crisis calls alone before the Co-responder program was set in place. Many of these mental health professionals did NOT feel safe without having a police Officer escort and for multiple reasons. Calls for service where subjects are in crisis can escalate quickly. Most of the mental health professionals see clients in an office setting and not on the streets where a subject in crisis is running around completely naked with a knife.

The same goes for EMS and ambulance crews. EMS will not go into a violent scene before Officers get there and deem the scene safe. We need Officers to protect these EMS crews so they may tend to individuals in need.

Police Officers are needed by these community organizations for their safety as they perform their duties.

I do NOT agree with the City Council to abolish police or the new department. However, I agree with increasing the police budget and would like to see more Officers receive more training. Officers should be required to have mandatory training one day out of the week and not 4 hours a year. That is the issue. Much more training. I urge the city council to invest in this training.

Also, please listen to all of the options. This abolish the police is foolish.

6/29/2020 5:06:01 PM

Though I do not currently live in Minneapolis, I grew up here and my parents still reside in SW Minneapolis. It has been heartbreaking to watch the previous month's events unfold. What happened to George Floyd was a crime and I am glad to see the officers being prosecuted. However, I have also been extremely disheartened to see what has happened in the aftermath of Floyd's death.

The Minneapolis I have seen recently is not the Minneapolis I know and love. It saddens me to see the violence that has come out of this violent act. I have wanted to move back to Minneapolis at some point in my life. However, seeing the violent acts and the city's response to this all, has caused me to question whether I ever want to return to the city I grew up in.

In a perfect world, we would not need a police force. In a perfect world, we would not have guns. In a perfect world, there would be no violence. However, we are only human so there is no perfect world.

Yes, there are bad cops. What makes you think these "peacekeepers" will be any different? There will always be bad people. That does not inherently make the department bad. That kind of blanket opinion on a set of people is what got us into this mess in the first place. And yes, reforms can and should be made. There should be more emphasis on de-escalation techniques, there should be community policing, there should be communication across departments and state lines to ensure bad cops don't

get re-hired, there should be accountability, and there should be a re-evaluation of qualified immunity. However, there should NOT be a disbandment of the police force.

Is it going to take a school shooting to realize there should be officers back in our schools? Is it going to take a rise in the murder rate to realize that having a police force may be important? God, I hope not. I think the idea of a peacekeeping force is a very utopian idea. But we are not a utopian society.

I strongly believe that by and large, police keep us safe. Just like by and large, doctors keep us healthy. There are instances of murder, there are instances of malpractice, but we don't hate on the entire medical field. What happened to George Floyd was not an example of poor training, it was an example of a bad man. Bad people will still exist with a "Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department". In fact, bad people i.e. criminals will be allowed to thrive in the absence of a police force.

I find it interesting when those who want to disband the police, still call the police when they need help, take the semi-truck on 35-W for example.

If the city chooses to disband the police force, I hope that whatever replaces it will be successful. I hope that it will be the answer to racism. I want it to succeed because I love Minneapolis. I do not want to see Minneapolis become a dangerous city ridden with crime in the sudden absence of a police force.

However, we are only human and I am terrified for what will happen to Minneapolis with the disbanding of the police. Please do not let what happened in Uptown become the new normal because I fear it will.

Disbanding the police does not lead to a sudden eradication of racism.

6/29/2020 5:06:10 PM

I live in Eagan but think getting rid of the police department is completely foolish. There may need to be a better process and reform to weed out the bad cops, yes - but community members policing drugs and violence will never work and lead to more chaos. There are bad people/works at every business and organization you go but good companies, businesses and organizations know how to weed them out.

6/29/2020 5:06:16 PM

I am in favor of the charter amendment. Policing needs to be rethought from the ground-up. Incremental reforms have proven ineffective here and elsewhere.

6/29/2020 5:06:28 PM

I appreciate this action on behalf of the city council, however im concerned that this charter will only change the name of police instead of their functions. I would like to see language added which made sure former police officers were not eligible for new jobs in the department of violence prevention. Additionally, in the interest of community control of policing I think that civilian control of this department should be written into the charter.

6/29/2020 5:06:34 PM

I do not want the city charter changed until after the proposed plan is FAR more developed Minimally, this needs to include expected costs, funding sources, possible tax increases, transition and implementation timelines and a clear description of what will happen to the existing police department.

Additionally there must be a vote by the public. The council and mayor should NOT be allowed to make a city charter change of this magnitude without public approval.

6/29/2020 5:07:12 PM

As a homeowner and resident of Minneapolis I wholeheartedly OPPOSE abolishing or any type of defunding of the Minneapolis Police Department. I am ashamed that we have a City Council who are proposing such an absurd charter amendment after our tax dollars pay for your private security. Shame on you all.

6/29/2020 5:07:12 PM

I and my family are saddened by the death of George Floyd. He should not have received such brutality. We also agree that we need some police reform to ensure there is no racism and ALL people are treated respectfully by the police officers.

However, my family and I do NOT support defunding/dismantling the police departments. We want our police department to protect our safety. We need more police. We need police with better standards, and police with better ethics and better work habits. The goal is to create positive connections with residents and train to avoid incidents such as the one in Minneapolis that led to the killing of George Floyd. It includes efforts to diversify our police force and hire officers who speak the languages of minority residents.

No one wants crooked cops exposed and uprooted from the system more than good cops do, and failing to stand up for the good cops is already causing problems. While imperfect, police officers are still heroes. They wake up every day ready to put their lives on the line to keep their friends and neighbors safe. Amid a sincere effort to address concerns over police brutality, we have unfairly disparaged the reputation of the entire police force, including the memory of good officers, like Grand Forks Police Officer Cody Holte, who have paid the ultimate price for the safety of their communities.

The crime rate has increased drastically in Minneapolis since the Defund the Police movement started. We don't feel safe to travel to Minneapolis for food, entertainment, and other activities. We don't have the luxury like the three council members who receive private security. Instead of using Minneapolis Police Department, they chose to use private security services, which costs more \$. It is such a hypocrisy for these council members to defund the police department while hiring private security to protect themselves. Commoners like me can't afford \$4500 per day or per week or per month for private security. We need to be able to call 911 for safety and help.

My friends who live in the Powderhorn neighborhood have been having trouble calling 911 because they can't get to them. The police can't go to help them with their calls for neighborhood shooting and violence.

We should not defund the police department. Instead, we need to increase support for the police department to fight crimes and protect the citizens. As we move forward, I urge you to seek ways to refine and support the men and women in uniform who serve our communities admirably.

Thank you

6/29/2020 5:07:24 PM

I think you have absolutely gone as crazy as the rioters. Business and homes will be up for sale like never before. I personally will never go into the city again unless im packing a gun and absolutely have to! You let our city be destroyed by rioters and now you expect tax payers to pay for it. It is time for me to move to a less crazy state! Just when you think the world cant possibly get any crazier..you want to dismantle the only people who protect us!

6/29/2020 5:08:23 PM

My family and I will not step foot in Minneapolis with the way you are treating your police force. We will abstain from attending professional sporting events, concerts, museums, etc.

Good luck with the continued lawlessness.

6/29/2020 5:09:03 PM

How would this Safety & Violence Prevention Dept operate? How would it be staffed? How would the chageover from police be handled? Would it be separate departments (mental health, domestic violence, homeless, crime)? Who would decide and how would it be decided how resources would be allocated for emergency calls?

How does one get a charter amendment proposed that would replace the current "weak mayor" system with a "strong mayor" system?

6/29/2020 5:09:06 PM

In order to be an informed voter, prior to voting in November on the proposed Charter Amendment I would like to see a specific plan describing the agency that would replace the current police department.

Additionally, I would like for Minneapolis rezidents to have an opportunities to attend community Meetings with City council members to offer recommendations.

6/29/2020 5:61:26 PM

I do not support removing the Mpls Police Department, but I do feel that changes need to be made. I do not live in Mpls, but I work there. We use to walk outside on our breaks, but we no longer do that because we do not feel safe! As employees we have spoken up to management about our safety concerns as of late and we are even asking if they would consider moving out of North Mpls because the crime is getting so bad and I feel if you remove the police, it will only get worse.

6/29/2020 5:09:19 PM

As a customer and event attender of Minneapolis restaurants', sporting events etc.. I am horrified to think of the lack of police presence even more in downtown and surrounding areas. One or even two bad apples, does not mean you need to take this type of action and make matters worse by voicing your options to disband or defund the police! This is totally irrational behavior by this counsel and this city will regret doing so! Criminal's will be in full-force and businesses destroyed or they will leave! Does discrimination or prejudice need to be addressed and a solution, absolutely!! Take your time and have meetings with everyone, police, fire, business leaders, black lives matter etc... Come together! Stop this madness now!

6/29/2020 5:10:02 PM

I support our Law Enforcement and will do everything in my neighborhood to go against the plans of the Minneapolis City Council. We will all vote no to change charter and the assinine idea of defunding, dismantling, or abolishing the police.

6/29/2020 5:10:10 PM

As a Minneapolis citizen for 62 years I stand behind the police department. Please do not defund the police. It's time we united to stop the increase in violence and crime in our city. In my opinion the city council has this all wrong.

6/29/2020 5:10:26 PM

I have read the Charter Amendment. I do not think the Charter Amendment is well thought out or anywhere detailed enough and has been rushed through. I do not think there is enough time to get community input. I do not believe this amendment lets me know what changes are to be made. It is like giving blanket approval. I worry there will be only one "open meeting" and that meeting will be limited by Covid restrictions. I agree there must be changes. We need the attention to systemic racism and prejudice for all people. A new plan should be well thought out , studied, and should represent Minneapolis residents not just the City Council. I need details of what I am voting for.

6/29/2020 5:10:30 PM

I have lived in Minneapolis for over 15 years. I lived in South Minneapolis for 5 years and in NE Minneapolis for the last 10 years. I am a homeowner and pay very significant taxes to own a home in Minneapolis. Unfortunately, I am not shocked that I have to comment on the insanity that would be "defunding" or "dismantling" the Minneapolis Police Department. Our current City Council has proven that they are unfit to serve the community that they have a responsibility to serve.

Since George Floyd's murder, we have seen over 113 people shot in our city in the last 3 weeks. I believe this coincides directly with our City Council coming out days after George's murder and loudly posturing to the MOB about defunding the police department. Criminals heard that and immediately thought, "NO

LAWS FOR ANYONE!" "WHOO HOO!" Comments from Lisa Bender in difference to that are so tone deaf and devoid of reality, that instead of laughing at her idiocy, it has me genuinely frightened of how someone like her could be elected to the head of the City Council. Ok Lisa, crime just goes up in the summer. Sure. Her sound bites on CNN of "checking my privilege" if someone breaks into my home were also so morbidly obtuse, it left me speechless. And guess what...there are 12 other people just like her on the Council!

I would like to ask a question. If the City Council has the power to dismantle the Police Department, like they say they are going to do. How do they not have the power to fire bad police officers? How do they not have the power to disband the police union, who allows bad police officers to keep their job? I know, I know...they said they have been trying to do that for years, but the union is just too tough. Bullshit. Overhaul the Police department. GET RID OF BAD COPS. Chief Aredondo seems like he is more than capable of leading good police officers to police our city, which we sorely need.

If this is just political posturing to further another far radical left agenda, I'm not surprised. I hope this doesn't happen. I hope more residents like myself speak up and tell the council that we need cops in our streets. I hope.

Can you imagine the businesses that will leave? The restaurants, the bars...they are not going to put up with lawlessness. Can you imagine the taxes that will increase? The insurance cost to live in a city without actual cops protecting us from bad actors? We already have the 5th highest tax burden of any state in the country! Careful what you ask for, you might just get it.

My vote to dismantle the police department will be a resounding NO. My vote to dismantle the clown show that is our city council will be a resounding YES.

6/29/2020 5:10:34 PM

Please see attached pdf. Thanks

Dear Commissioners,

I am a resident and homeowner of Minneapolis for 20 years. I have lived in Uptown, Loring Park, Longfellow (homeowner X2), and currently in Powderhorn Park neighborhoods. My church is Grace Trinity Community Church in Uptown. My spouse's synagogue is Shir Tikvah in the Lake Harriet neighborhood. My spouse owns a small management business located in Downtown East Stadium area. We are very involved in civic organizations with clubs, city boards, and neighborhood associations. Our son went to Field School, South High School, and PEASE Academy in Dinky Town. I hold a Master's Degree in Public Administration from local Metropolitan State University.

I share this with you to demonstrate our deep knowledge of the community, its history, its people, its organizations, institutions, and its police practices. Also, demonstrating our commitment to this place we call home, built our life and plan to continue to serve to the indefinite future with hopefully buried here. On the subject of mortality, we are both in our mid-forties and see ourselves living here for another 40-50 years god willing.

My request is that you support the proposed Charter Amendment to eliminate the Police and replace it with the Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention. Furthermore, that you move this forward so that it can meet the November ballot deadlines.

I had a very illuminating discussion yesterday with your fellow Commissioner Lyall Schwarzkopf. The points raised for not supporting the amendment did not convince me that this was not needed after all.

There are many reasons for supporting the amendment and here are some of them:

1. Timeliness of the change is critical. The people of the city have been stewing for a long time with the way the police conduct their service. We have come to point of an irreparable relationship with the police after multiple mayors, police chiefs, and others promising reform and things done differently without seeing any recognizable change of behavior and practice.
2. The police service is poor, harsh, and not a tangible service to the community. People complain all the time of slow or no responses, inadequate preventative action, lack of trust to handle the situation correctly, and as we have so tragically seen negligent criminal behavior.
3. The current police are so entrenched that reforms do not alter their practice. This only leaves the community the option of starting over for public safety, security, service, and law enforcement.
4. People understand the union is the main obstacle but restarting with a new department will at least give a chance to restructure the contract terms. And it will allow an opportunity for a new hiring and selection process.
5. There is an immense appetite for this change represented by unanimous support of all democratically elected Council Ward members representing every corner of this city. The mayor does not appear to back the amendment but most likely he would be voted out for another term if he keeps this position. The one-two (Mayor and Chief) current structure of police management is not working as evidenced by the city citizens. The elected Council officials are representing their constituents overwhelming desire to see this change. America and Minnesota should honor the wishes of a fair and just outpouring of their citizens' wishes for their self-governance. Appointed officials should not poise an undue obstacle to a reasonable demand of the people.
6. Let the public decide for themselves on the November ballot. This is a core tenet of our country and identifies us as a functioning democracy. If we do not have this option, then what have we become? What is the outlet of a people if their representatives move an issue forward in a civic fashion following the rules established but in the end are denied their voice be honored by an un-elected small group?
7. Trust the public (defined in this specific case as the residents/voters of Minneapolis' policy/government). People can decide their own destiny and form of government they wish to be used with their tax dollars for their response units. Government officials and departments are to be supported by and support the community. If the Commission chooses to circumvent this bedrock of society then what is the inevitable outcome?
8. Do people think it will be easy or not messy with the transition? Answer is no. We are all mature intelligent adults that understand the consequences of our decisions. We are taking on a monumental change because we see monumental dysfunction from the rank and file police of this city.

9. Why not wait to study the issue more? Because we have been waiting already too long. Because the people know the issues, recognize the perils, and understand better than anyone that does not live in this city or experience what the average city dweller experiences. The process will be long and difficult no matter what. Let's start the process now, this summer, and see what the results are on the November election.

10. Did people feel this way previously or did this spring up since the murder of George Floyd? People have been feeling this way for a very long time. Our patience is up. The social contract with police has been severed. People want a new department and way of doing things no matter the pain the change will surely create. It will be worth it. It is absolutely necessary. Moreover, there are not any other options since everything else has been pursued and failed.

6/29/2020 5:11:42 PM

In absolutely no way do approve of this measure, I would like to double the size of the police force in Minneapolis

6/29/2020 5:11:45 PM

It's a good idea, I like it and I approve of it. Major changes in how we govern ourselves our society and our policing is needed and now is the time. No more waiting or going back to "normal" it's time to treat everyone like humans and it's time to pass these amendments and make this change happen. This new way of policing is the future and we are the pioneers I'm proud of the recommended and wanted change thats being shown and I hope we keep working towards a better world. Thank you for doingthis.

6/29/2020 5:11:51 PM

No, I do not support defunding the police department. But, I do support that we need to make changes to get rid of bad cops and better support the entire community and the many good cops.

6/29/2020 5:11:52 PM

Absolutely am not in support of defunding out police department

6/29/2020 5:12:11 PM

The most ridiculous idea ever. Don't let a few bad cops sway your judgment over the entire MPD. Minneapolis and Minnesota need their police departments to protect our citizens and communities. Reform, yes. Dismantle, no. Huge mistake if this happens. I may not live in Mpls, but I live in the metro area and this will affect all of us.

6/29/2020 5:12:40 PM

If the police department is "removed" I'll never set foot in Minneapolis again. What should be done is major reform not removal.



6/29/2020 5:12:47 PM

I'm in favor of the proposed amendment by defunding the current police department, limiting the number of sworn/ Armed officers & diverting resources towards a community approach of policing.

Please vote in favor

6/29/2020 5:12:51 PM

I work in downtown Minneapolis. If you reduce the presence of armed law enforcement officers in the city I will be forced to leave the region, taking valuable tax dollars with me, as you cannot even provide for public safety with the number of officers you currently employ. Please be wise about how you move forward, we need more police officers, in Minneapolis, not less.

6/29/2020 5:13:07 PM

I dont support removing the police department. I do agree we need police reform, and there's a lot of work to be done. But abolishing or defunding sounds like a terrible idea. I already feel unsafe in certain areas near my home, especially the last month or so with talk of abolishing the police going on. It seems like violent crime has skyrocketed. Maybe I'm wrong, but it feels that way. I dont feel comfortable putting my address on this form. Either way, I'll probably be moving out of Minneapolis within the next couple months. But as someone who's here now, and has been living here (North Minneapolis) for the past year. I do NOT SUPPORT this idea.

Thank you.

6/29/2020 5:13:08 PM

Hello,

In addition to maintaining an active, fully trained and fully staffed police department, we must also work in a reasonable manner toward social change. The two can happen simultaneously. We all know that most police officers are good officers and decent people. Unfortunately there are bad seeds interspersed in the department as well. Those bad officers need to be dealt with swiftly, however the good officers should not suffer for this. Most importantly the citizens of Minneapolis should not suffer the loss of the protection they need from police officers.

An important way to improve the caliber of the police force is to provide more extensive training upon entering the police department, and regular training on an annual basis. This training should focus in part on ways to diffuse situations before they become violent. In addition, police chiefs must be supported when they identify and try to terminate officers who employ unnecessary and excessive force.

We as citizens need police protection. Just as most officers are good officers, most citizens are good people. However, crime is on the rise in our beloved city, and the good people are not the ones committing those crimes.

It is very concerning that people will have to find ways of protecting themselves when they find themselves in danger. Social workers, "holistic" methods and public health measures will not stop people who choose to engage in violent crimes. Those options can be implemented and used alongside a better trained police force, and create a very effective way of both protecting citizens and creating much needed social change.

Thank you

6/29/2020 5:13:26 PM

I live in the suburbs but love to come to mpls for events and restaurants. I will no longer be doing that. Enjoy the loss of money that the city will experience from defunding the police!

6/29/2020 5:13:55 PM

this idea is the most insane yet. This country and this city is going to hell in a handbasket

6/29/2020 5:15:21 PM

You can't abolish the police, definitely revamp and retrain but my neighbor in the 2nd precinct is already stretched thinly and can't respond because we don't have the personnel. Im honestly scared of the idea because im a paraplegic and can't defend for myself. This is a ridiculous idia to think we will be safer without them.

6/29/2020 5:15:33 PM

The plan is, ummm, somewhat nebulous but people are getting shot everyday and so the notion of fewer police seems at best misplaced. I did not enjoy the riots and anarchy. My whole neighborhood is still boarded up and this plan won't help.

Killing Mr. Floyd was a terrible crime but turning the city over to the anarchists is not the answer. The fact that the council is encouraging people to think that is the plan is more than worrisome.

6/29/2020 5:15:44 PM

I have so many questions about this. It seems like you just want to make a change for the sake of it, without thinking through what the new process would look like.

There will be peace officers but what does that mean? What will they do? What are their qualifications? Will there be police officers as well? Only fewer? Honestly, that doesn't make me feel safer.

How does this affect Chief Arradondo? How will Mayor Frey's role change if this is voted through? Who actually answers when I call 911? Last year, my car was totaled by a hit and run - who would respond to my call?

I think it's irresponsible and dangerous for you to propose this change so quickly before anticipating and answering residents' questions and concerns.

6/29/2020 5:15:57 PM

Getting rid of the police is probably the stupidest thing I've ever heard.

6/29/2020 5:15:58 PM

I wholeheartedly agree that reform needs to happen within the ranks of the MPD. We all deserve a police force that is equitable, fair and professional - no matter what your skin color is. With that said, this is not an easy problem to fix and should not be done in a vacuum or overnight.

I do not support a disbanding of the police department or the proposed "direction" that the city council has put forward. As we try to tackle and deal with the issues of systemic racism in our city, it's important to also keep in mind that our city has been dealing with an increase in crime over the last several years. We have seen businesses, residents and visitors of this city expressing concern over their safety due to a lack of police presence and action. We must keep our attention on both issues as we tackle this problem - because if you lose sight of either, you will miss the mark and fail our city yet again.

6/29/2020 5:16:19 PM

I am in full support of the Charter Commission placing a question on the ballot this November regarding removing the Police Department and establishing a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department.

6/29/2020 5:17:01 PM

I've lived in Minneapolis over twenty years. I met my wife here, and we were married here. We own our home here. The Minneapolis Police Department should not under any circumstances be eliminated, renamed, or replaced.

6/29/2020 5:17:09 PM

Reform the training. Keep the PD as is.

6/29/2020 5:17:12 PM

City Council should not implement changes without a vote of ALL citizens. The death of George Floyd was tragic but the over-reaction of CC is just as tragic! You are elected officials who focus on your own agenda and you consistently fail to listen. Citizens are paying your salary, you work for us as elected officials. Your actions will financially impact this city! Focus on supporting the Chief, the good cops and not your "feel good" plan.

6/29/2020 5:17:24 PM

No I'm not a resident of Minneapolis. But my husband works down there and we go to sporting events, concerts, restaurants, bars, hotels and charitable functions in Minneapolis. You vote to dismember the police force I will not step foot in Minneapolis again. By dismantling and defunding the police force will only hurt the community that depends on them. This idea of dismantle and defund is cruel to the people you serve. Do not make a rash decision in a highly emotional time.

6/29/2020 5:17:28 PM

We need a plan in place before defunding and dismantling the police. Stop trying to force an agenda in these difficult times. Our city is being ruined by power hungry city council members. Do not agree with funding for security for the city council members. We will have a rapid exit out of the city if this does not get resolved!

6/29/2020 5:17:35 PM

The reason the public has pushed for the city to take this step is to put an end to police violence, harassment, racial profiling, and murder. As a voter and involved member of my community, I ask that the city not recreate the same violent systems under a new banner with the establishment of the Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department.

Not only do I support the removal of the Police Department but I would like to raise my voice to support a new department that is staffed by community members, is focused on deescalation and never escalatory violence, is committed to transformative justice over carceral justice, does not further expand blanket surveillance of Minneapolis residents and has less than 10% of the budget that the police had. 90% or more of the police budget should be put into crime PREVENTION not crime REACTION. This means housing projects, mental health clinics, increasing our education budget and our transportation budget, free health care, community centers, art grants and business loans and community events to combat white supremacy and toxic masculinity. Please do this in the name of the leadership you were elected to carry out. We are rooting for you to help carry us to a more just world. FTP and power to the people.

6/29/2020 5:17:42 PM

Your plan is not what the majority of the public want. Mpls. will be the next slum worst then parts of Chicago. Without hard line rules of the law and hard enforcement Lawlessness will manifest into an area of criminals, transients and drugs. You are already experiencing most of this. Businesses will move to places they are appreciated, Target center will see a steep decline and the colleges will fold due to lack of attendance. No decent person will go where they are not protected. Renaming the force will not change what good citizens need them to do. Don't let the criminals into our back yard!

6/29/2020 5:17:49 PM

I am so glad I don't live in murderapolis. Defunding the police is extremely irresponsible. I would vote for everyone of you out and I hope the people do. Is it true that you're getting security with tax payers dollars? You should get what protection the residents are getting. None at all. I will NEVER go to Minneapolis again. I hope all the businesses move out! You should all be fired! Why would the crime rate decrease when people like you take away our protection. SHAME on you. The people that have destroyed businesses and you don't care!!!! Oh well....what a shame a council destroyed the city! I hope your job won't be there when election time comes!!!

6/29/2020 5:18:04 PM

If you dismantle the police it will be the downfall of Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 5:18:07 PM

Even now I probably will not ever set foot in Minneapolis again. No sporting event is worth being scared for my safety. I do not understand how order will be kept. You need someone to watch out for the general public.

6/29/2020 5:18:31 PM

I do not agree to disband/defund the MPD. This would not benefit the citizens of Mpls at all. Crime will always be here, and by taking away a strong, structured, law enforcement agency that MPD most certainly is, there will be an incredible increase in violence and crime. I agree that some management should be reviewed and policies revised, however changes must also happen in governing structures as well. Leadership expands beyond the PD to city council and mayor- changes need to be made here. Paying for private security when you take away the public's is a disgrace- shame on you.

6/29/2020 5:19:25 PM

We need more police! And for them to be able to do their job 100% without interference from council. If I'm speeding, give me a ticket. If I have a tail light out, give me a fix it ticket. If I J-walk, give me a ticket. If I'm breaking the law, give me the appropriate citation or arrest. No more telling them to back off, in fear of retaliation. People that don't break the law, shouldn't be afraid to live in an area, because you're scared to let police do their job! Killers walk amongst us, and you want to take away the only thing that somewhat keeps them at bay. The idea that they are going away has caused crime to go up! Any program you think is going to "talk it out" with people that are killing, will fail. Ego's run the streets, not calm people that can be reasoned with!

Stop letting people that don't have to worry about their kid getting hit by a car, or bullet; that don't even live in high crime areas say we need anything but more police. Stop letting people that want to get away with whatever crime they are doing make decisions.

More police period.

6/29/2020 5:19:36 PM

I will not vote to change the charter with such an ambiguous plan for change.

6/29/2020 5:19:48 PM

Police reform is absolutely needed and certain police officers need to be let go. Review of the officers who have had excessive force complaints against them in the past would be a good starting place. I live in a high crime area and since I've been working from home I've become aware of the drug deals and prostitution that is going on in front of my house. I knew it was happening, but I didn't know to what extent. We need the police, I need the police. I believe the idea put forth by the committee is a knee jerk reaction that makes people feel good, but will be dangerous for all of us in its future consequences. All the world's eyes are on us and people are laughing at us with this proposal. Reform the police. Don't throw the baby out with the bath water. Listen to the chief he's doing a good job.

6/29/2020 5:20:04 PM

Absolutely not! I work in Minneapolis as a paramedic and if you take police away, I will not go into most scenes. Anyone thinking this is a good idea is ignorant.

6/29/2020 5:20:15 PM

I will totally quit supporting any business or entering Minneapolis if the proposed changes to the police department are made. What a slap in the face to all the good police officers you have. If things like this continue, you won't find any good people that will want to go into law enforcement. No police in schools - what happens if you have a shooter in the school? How many will die while waiting for someone to respond? Yes, changes should be made, but having officers report to the mayor and the city council reminds me of the saying "too many cooks spoil the stew". Get rid of any bad cops, but don't punish the good ones in the process. I think you are all more interested in your political careers than keeping people safe.

6/29/2020 5:20:55 PM

I implore you to rethink this idea- our peace officers need more training- not tearing apart. It is going to leave blood on all your hands. how are you going to monitor?? Just look at Mexico- Venezuela- they defunded police and crime is prevalent everywhere! You will lose this city, the good tax paying people of this city. Big mistake- please for the good of the city- DO NOT DO THIS!

6/29/2020 5:21:01 PM

I do not live in Minneapolis.

I do shop there, attend events there, etc.

If the current police structure is abandoned, I will no longer venture into the City.

Additional training for police, etc is something I would support. Disbanding...I would not support.

6/29/2020 5:71:03 PM

The idea of no police in Minneapolis is absolutely the dumbest thing I've ever heard!! This is not a 3rd world country like Somalia or a Socialist Country like Venezuela where drug lords and dictators try and police their own!

Who in their right mind will won't to go to any place in Minneapolis? Target Center, Target Field, and US Bank Stadium will be empty!

Crime will increase and people will not be safe! Instead of getting rid of police, get rid of unions! Make training like military! Make police responsible like military police! Take some funds from over paid council to pay for better training! 94000\$ a year is excessive and just shows the ignorance in politics in the city of Minneapolis!

6/29/2020 5:21:11 PM

No, as a frequent visitor for sporting events and concerts, stop being so stupid. The city council has already done enough damage to the city. Just stop.

6/29/2020 5:21:20 PM

If this happens I can honestly say I will not spend one more dollar in the City of Minneapolis- ever for any reason.

6/29/2020 5:21:34 PM

I am in favor of putting this amendment on the ballot.

6/29/2020 5:22:10 PM

Keep our police & get rid of council members

6/29/2020 5:22:24 PM

Greetings Charter Commission,

As a Minneapolis resident, I would like you to know that I support the defunding of MPD and the establishment of a new Community Safety and Violence Prevention. The heavy policing of our neighborhoods is a public health crisis disproportionately devastating the Black community. Police presence in my community DOES NOT MAKE ME FEEL SAFE. The MPD is a deeply violent institution and needs to be defunded so we can reinvest in nonviolent community-led alternatives.

6/29/2020 5:23:11 PM

Minneapolis spends a fortune on community services, mental health and social services - clearly it's not working. I am for some changes in the police department but, to think we are going to curb the violently inclined by simply throwing more money at a clearly broken model of community help, is fundamentally erred. Since it is clear that you have not allowed the police to act since the riots started - I don't foresee the police feeling as if they can ever do their jobs. And the bad actors are certainly aware of it. You tied the hands of the police. You emboldened the criminal element. I am not sure anything you do at this point is going to help Minneapolis.

By the way - it's irresponsible not to inform Minneapolis residents of mobs/ protesters/ groups gathered blocking roads or trains. You are setting up a disaster. We do not need to be scared of turning a corner and being trapped by a potentially violent group.

6/29/2020 5:23:21 PM

There is a certain demographic that only makes up 13% of the United States population but accounts for over 50% of the violent crime. Please don't let this demographic tell you what to do.

6/29/2020 5:23:36 PM

I love Minneapolis. If it weren't for the high rate of crime, I would still live there. I used to enjoy going to the city frequently for museums, concerts, and restaurants, and to see friends. I am concerned defunding or revising police use in the city will result in more crime. We will not be visiting and spending money in Minneapolis any longer in that case. I have small children, and would like it to be a safe place to bring my children to enjoy all the amazing cultural opportunities. At one point, my husband and I were going to move back to the city after our children are out of school. I don't see that as a possibility with the current crime rates.

6/29/2020 5:23:37 PM

I strongly oppose the Minneapolis City Council's Charter amendment to "remove" the city's police department. This obvious knee-jerk, opportunistic power-grab attempt suggests no solution to our city's current problem.

I believe that Chief Arradondo and Mayor Frey need to maintain authority of the police department, and that much needed reform can only be accomplished with the removal of Lt Bob Kroll as head of the police union. Reform---not replace!!

As a resident of Minneapolis, I will feel much less safe without an active and growing police department, albeit one strongly in need of reform.

6/29/2020 5:23:47 PM

Please hold our city council to a higher standard. They haven't done the work with Minneapolis residents and businesses to come up with viable solutions/alternatives, yet are asking for a large amount of authority and control over funding immediately.

The city council is exploiting heightened emotion. Their declarations are one thing, how they would be successfully executed are another. The council needs to do the work before an amendment should even be considered to go to a vote.

6/29/2020 5:24:17 PM

Do Not Defund the Police. If need be, user service charge: Barking Dog complaint \$10, vandalism, car damaged \$15.

We need Reform, not defunding!

6/29/2020 5:24:48 PM

I am a former Minneapolis resident and still frequent the city for shopping, dining, and entertainment. I will not step foot in the City of Minneapolis if there is no active police force, it's a great plan if you want to drive away visitors. I'm all for reform and abolishing the police union. Clearly there are quite a few bad cops and they are the ones we hear about. The union gives the crooked, racist, and abusive officers too much protection from consequences. We need systemic reforms, the city can't afford in any way, shape, or form to start over from scratch. You will lose businesses, conventions, concerts, as well other special



events. For a long time I have been very vocal about getting rid of MPD and starting over, however, in reality it's the wrong path to take. Serious reforms are needed and perhaps blended with a civil force who all work together for safety and betterment of the community.

6/29/2020 5:25:10 PM

My mother, 2 children, brother, nieces and nephews are all residents of north Minneapolis. I choose to move 4 years ago to protect my younger 2 children from being subjected to brutality and violence of the MPD and city as a whole.

I would like to attend a forum where we are able to advocate a multi point plan to restore order and safety without the brutality.

My children are currently still enrolled and attend MPLS public school Bethune and Franklin. I want to move back. But as a mother of a black son, my nerves can't take dealing with the stress of "Will my child get home safe" from school.

6/29/2020 5:25:18 PM

I am NOT in favor of disbanding the police. We are residents of the Whittier neighborhood and it has changed for the worse over the last two years. If this passes, my family will be forced forced to move.

6/29/2020 5:25:35 PM

Much too sketchy to make any sense of. Get serious and flesh it out. Plug in the money and variable s. How could anyone vote yes on no information?

6/29/2020 5:25:54 PM

Keep the police, replace the city council

6/29/2020 5:26:11 PM

Thanks for reading my comment. I just would like to say I've made plenty of trips to Minneapolis for Vikings games over the years and when I go I bring my family so that's a total of 4 people we like to stay down town at a nice hotel at a minimum of three nights and plus eating out 2 r 3 meals a day plus all the shopping and doing things spending a lot of \$ but my mind is made up. No police No go

6/29/2020 5:26:24 PM

Hell no, defending the police is absolutely ridiculous. My vote is no

6/29/2020 5:26:38 PM

I work in downtown MPLS at a safety net hospital. I see first hand the results of violent crime in this city which appears to be much worse this summer than in previous years. While I do believe we have a significant and obvious problem in the MPLS police department when it comes to racial profiling, lack of police education/ training, and knee-jerk reactive brutality, as well as a culture of complacency, and while

I believe it needs to be addressed systematically and with immediacy, I in no way support a complete defunding Or removal of the police. We need enforcement of law that is equitable and safe and fair and just, and with better and more respectful de-escalation practices for non violent offenders, but we do need law enforcement nonetheless. If there is any way to responsibly reallocate dollars that would be spent on things like newer vehicles or office spaces (frills that I live without as a healthcare professional, I sit in a chair from literally 1980 and use a laptop from 2008) and instead place additional funding in the areas of social services and housing supports pertaining to or regarding the encampment and people experiencing homelessness, I am also strongly in support of this.

However I am likewise very concerned about the gun violence and violent crime and car jacking assault sprees and trauma that we've been seeing come in to the hospital and around greater MPLS hospitals particularly in the last 30 days, and believe these types of crimes require active enforcement presence and more skilled intelligence efforts to solve and detain those responsible and to find justice for the families of those victims too, many of whom are black or people of color.

I will add that I am now consistently concerned for the safety of our community fire and paramedic staff safety as a result of the actions of the police and the reputation that is placed upon others in uniform by association. It's clear in the case of George Floyd that police need MAJOR refresher courses in CPR And first aid since any aid was neglected until paramedics showed up, but I also hope cops can assist in creating TRULY safe emergency scenes to assist our brave first responders and not further escalate situations in the community,

Thank you for considering my comments. For the record, I make these comments only on behalf of myself and not for my employer.

6/29/2020 5:26:48 PM

You need to reform the police department not defund it. The mayor and city council allowed this to happen after years of letting the police department become a law unto its self. You don't need to start over you need to fix it.

6/29/2020 5:27:00 PM

Stupidest thing you will ever do is defund the MPS. My family will no longer spend any time or money in Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 5:27:34 PM

Removing the police force is an asinine idea. We are seeing right now what happens when the inmates are allowed to run the asylum. Walz and Frey surrendered the city to the hoodlums and troublemakers and now they feel they have carte blanche to do what they will. What we need is to have our mayor and city council to be out in the public and on media expressing their support for our fine men and women in blue. Instead they cower in their private quarters with personal security paid for with our tax dollars, as they cast shade at cops by encouraging the folks screaming and grafitting ACAB and allowing groups like BLM to block our freeways screaming "kill the pigs, try 'em like bacon". If we are going to defund or rebrand anything it should be our city council who are not worth the price we the people pay for their business cards.

6/29/2020 5:28:44 PM

I will never, ever visit the City of Minneapolis and spend my money in stores, parking, restaurants, etc. again if the Police Department is dismantled. I believe reform is needed. But dismantling the police department and relying on Hennepin County officers to carry the weight of matters when the police are undoubtedly needed is not really going to change anything. It would be hard for me to believe response times would be anything besides worse.

Secondly, if Hennepin County gets no police reform, this solves absolutely nothing.

6/29/2020 5:28:47 PM

Maybe police violence and behavior stems from a much larger societal problem? Please don't sacrifice public safety for the sake of a social experiment.

6/29/2020 5:28:54 PM

Although I am not a resident of Minneapolis, I am literally 2 miles away. I cannot believe you have the audacity to remove the Police Department in Minneapolis! This is absolutely the most moronic thing I have ever heard. I grew up in Edina, where my 86 and 83 year old parents still reside. Shame on you for not taking care of your community and frightening the most vulnerable.

The abolishment of the Police will only flow your crime into the suburbs. We don't want that bullshit here. A "made-up" policing state is the stupidest stunt ever...do you want Sharia Law or common thugs running around making fake arrests? What happens when someone comes to your door to beat the shit out of your family members, who in the heck are you going to call? A Social Worker? Omar? Walz? No, you're either going to have to defend your lives or be another crime. Well, I am not going to be a crime waiting to happen.

BTW, I am not only speaking for myself, but for thousands who don't have a voice.

Reorganize the Police Department...Look again at the bad ones who've had a history of violence. Look at the good ones who do their job honorably. Get rid of the bad, keep the good and train them all again. Have your social workers on duty 24/7, just in case their type of help would be better suited. Encourage races of all color to join and train in the Police Force. They know their communities and what would benefit them. Don't be POLITICAL!

6/29/2020 5:30:40 PM

Please be reasonable and slow down the process. We need to be thoughtful and inclusive when looking and deciding how to improve our city and our safety. Completely dismantling and defunding the MPD is not reasonable. Slow down, meet with and listen to your constituents. You are supposed to represent us and you haven't even asked us what we think. Many in my neighborhood, Kenny and Armatage, would like a chance to discuss further.

6/29/2020 5:77:42 PM

I love my community in Minneapolis, and as a nurse in this community I'd like to think I have the best interest of my fellow community members. This is why I believe that "disbanding" the police department is not the way to go, unless it is done to break up the union, and a solid plan is in place. I have emailed the city council numerous times with questions and have received no response. Would love to see intense reform but disbanding in a city this large and complex would be catastrophic. I would re-consider living here, despite loving this community so much. Lisa Bender's comments on national news definitely put our city on the map and not in a positive light. We absolutely need change, but not this way.

6/29/2020 5:31:17 PM

This is a knee jerk reaction to a few bad eggs. I'd rather see tighter screening of police officers, more up front education requirements such as a 4 year degree and most importantly holding officers accountable for the power they wield rather than hiding behind a brotherhood and union.

6/29/2020 5:31:42 PM

This is the worst idea I have ever heard. If this happens Minneapolis will become the new Detroit, Chicago. It will be a dangerous place to visit. Businesses will leave and so will people. Disbanding or defunding the police will put law abiding citizens in danger. The only people this helps is the criminal population. Do your research, cities that successfully "defunded" police didn't actually decrease police presence, they simply changed who was managing and paying for it to the counties. If this happens everyone I know including myself will NOT have ANYTHING to do with Minneapolis. This includes my children will NOT go to college at the UofM as planned or go to any sporting or concert events held in Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 5:31:44 PM

How can you to get rid a well defined organization and replace it with an idea with no details. No intelligent person would support that.

6/29/2020 5:31:50 PM

Absolutely DO NOT remove or defund Minneapolis police. This is absurd. If anything, we need more of them. Just look at the current state of things - crime, assaults and shootings. Work WITH them and stop deflecting all blame. Very poor leadership all the way around in Minneapolis. I'm scared for the future of this city. If defunded, leaders better be prepared to lose their jobs come election time. I've lived in Minneapolis my entire life (~50 years) and am horrified at the ways things have been handled. POOR LEADERSHIP!!

6/29/2020 5:32:10 PM

Stupid. Do you have ANY idea what you are sentencing Mpls to? Think.

6/29/2020 5:32:16 PM

What a stupid idea! How about keeping the police and let them do their job. Just weed out the bad police. Can't be that hard. You need to abolish the criminals!!!! You will come to regret this decision.

6/29/2020 5:32:29 PM

You people are F\*\*\*\*\* crazy. Did you do even any research if no police and what you are proposing would even make people safer? You dismantle the police and overtime you'll find that you'll end up with a police force with just a new name. You will end up with crime worse than Chicago and when that happens, it will be very difficult to come back from that. Knee jerk reactions are not what this city needs. Do your research based on data we have. You'll find there is no systemic racism! More police officers, well trained, and get rid of bad cops is where the answer is.

6/29/2020 5:32:39 PM

I lived in Minneapolis for many years, and now commute to work in downtown Minneapolis from Midway. I've seen vulnerable people assaulted on the light rail. I've had my car broken into. I've been threatened.

Obviously, MPD needs serious reform. But crime is already "up" in the city. How will you guarantee our safety?

I think the proposed, non-LSO community interventions may help. But I'm not confident that reducing the police force will help. Even if non-LSO interventions work, they will probably take months and years to take effect. And they will likely never be adequate to quell the worst of violent crime.

Please do not endanger our community by reducing the police force. At least get the money you need for non-LSO interventions from somewhere else, implement the programs concurrent to the MPD, and wait for the data to come in before making this immense decision.

6/29/2020 5:35:18 PM

Please don't abolish the police. We have seen the violence that came to our city when law enforcement was overwhelmed during the June riots, we need to reinvest and retrain our officers. Without police we will face even more chaos.

6/29/2020 5:35:19 PM

Please defund and allow the MPD to reinvent itself .. all cops should have to reapply for their jobs. They should also be required to live in the city. Also make sure the police union leader Bob Kroll can no longer influence police. I realize he cannot lose his job, but he needs to be removed from having influence. Let him run a PD in the suburbs or something.

6/29/2020 5:35:48 PM

Daughter is a nurse there. I'm sick over having to worry about her safety. Get your acts together and do the work you were elected to do.

6/29/2020 5:36:20 PM

This is absolutely ridiculous and should not be done. I will seriously vote at the state if this gets supported.

6/29/2020 5:36:29 PM

I do not support the removal/ replacement of the police department. This ramifications and implementation of such a plan have not been thought out. The plan (or lack of plan) at this point fall far short of showing a need to amend the charter.

6/29/2020 5:36:38 PM

Removing the Police Department is not going to help the situation.

1. The real issues here are the laws and the constitution. You need to study them and notice how none of them are cultural sensitive hence they do not the rights of all people only some. These laws, especially the constitution of the united states, have been written by and for old white men.
2. To eliminate the Police department puts good police officers out of work. Every police officer is not bad. To punish all police officers is irresponsible on your part and shows that you all have no ability to work with people unless they are put into position under your authority. That is a privilege move. So, kudos to you. More good people out of work!
3. Kroll should be able to be released because he has demonstrated that he is ineffective and racist. The problem here is he is unioned like the Chauvin and the others. Get rid of the union process. Police should be "at will" just like other staff positions.
4. It is clear that the Mayor has proven to be ineffective, but then so has the City Council. Everything that you all do seems to be in a hurry-up fashion. Everyone knows that anything done too fast is not done well just like 2040 and these bike lanes.
5. So, you say you are not racist, then give Medaria Arradondo, a black man, a chance to overhaul this racist system that he inherited and did not create. If you cannot remove Bob Kroll you have no business eliminating the police force. Get rid of the bad and help the good.
6. If you get rid of the Police Department what is your plan, to get all new people to do what differently? How do you handle shootings? Domestic abuse? Theft? Violence? What will be different?

Your process is not for the people. This is about City Council.

The Police department clearly needs to be overhauled and reformed. No question, but, to eliminate them altogether is irresponsible on your part and an abuse of your power. Now there are death threats on the City Council and we are paying for your security. That is unacceptable. You should be protected by the police. That is their job. So now you want to eliminate them and spend more tax payer's money at a time when our city is financially strapped due to the Virus, the George Floyd incident, etc. That is criminal on your part.

Simply put, if the City Council cannot work with the Mayor to figure this out and work accurately on behalf of the good residents of Minneapolis, then we have no government and all of you are ineffective and you have failed the City of Minneapolis. All of you need to find new jobs. This is over your head!

6/29/2020 5:36:49 PM

I understand why you think that removing the police department would be a good move..but I don't think those the members on the council have thought this completely through..

The 2nd Amendment gives everyone the right to guns.. and to carry them..

Sending in counselors or safety officers will only work until a few of them are shot or killed.. then you will be looking for police officers to come in and help..

Now is the time to retrain and keep the good officers and recruit new ones.. All those young people out there that want to make a difference should step up and do the job..

Retraining also involves selecting better candidates.. Which means better psychological screening and evaluations..

It takes a special person to do this job of policing.. and we need them to step forward and change the look of the department..

Please rethink this idea .. getting rid of the police is the easy way out..

A little more work will give us what we need to keep Everyone safe..

6/29/2020 5:37:15 PM

Good luck; I think you'll find you still need law and order to some level. For example, when someone's going down the wrong side of the interstate or there's a drunk driver or you have a domestic abuse situation. The list goes on and on. Sure you can have specialized people for those things but it'll be police by a different name.

6/29/2020 5:37:17 PM

I am against this, as this could set a precedent for other communities within the state. We need the police to keep the peace, and to serve and protect those in need of medical attention and to keep crime down. Without their presence crime will go up. I for one will move out of Minnesota and spend my money in another state. I am not the only one that will leave. The economy here will fail and leave Minnesota with a huge deficit. I pay my taxes and the majority goes to law enforcement. I am happy with the way things are now, with the exception of the few bad apples and brutality. People are already running rampant and shootings have increased because of fewer police presence. If you want you son or daughter killed then that is on you. If mine gets hurt, raped or killed then please be warned a lawsuit will commence. The council is too young to understand the ramifications of having no police force. I spend alot of money in Mpls and see no reason to go there anymore. But if you allow the police dept to end then crime will infiltrate to the suburbs and I am sure a civil war will commence.

6/29/2020 5:37:30 PM

I used to go shopping and see games, stay at hotels for a long weekend atleast 6 times a year. If you remove police and install a "community force" I and my family, friends, would never go there again. We will fly out of Fargo to Denver, shop Fargo or Denver, from now on. How anyone could think removing the police was a good idea is beyond reason. I'm also thinking this is just a way of letting Sharia law into our great nation. Our State is dead if this happens.

6/29/2020 5:37:31 PM

To propose ambiguously defunding and/or abolishing the MPD with no concrete plan, roadmap, defined terms, or at the very least engagement with broader community has emboldened criminals, put LEOs in greater risk, and caused a great deal of fear and distrust in Minneapolitans citywide.

To be sure, dramatic top to bottom policing reform is in order. Perhaps start by eliminating the union and incentivizing living in the community. But capitalizing on the George Floyd tragedy for political gain is at best a deflection from the reality that a single party has dominated the city's political landscape for decades and has done little to address the problem until it found itself in the worlds spotlight.

I returned to MPLS after 5 years of nonprofit work overseas for my kids to grow up in a multicultural environment in the city we love. But our growing family is in need of a bigger home and I'm afraid we won't be looking within the city limits. I don't trust Minneapolis' city leadership. Good luck.

6/29/2020 5:82:34 PM

Wonderful idea! Can't wait to see what this great town can do to become a model for the rest of the country.

6/29/2020 5:38:11 PM

You would be a moron to abolish the police department.

6/29/2020 5:38:13 PM

I think It is a really bad idea to disband the police. Crime is increasing in Minneapolis and the city council members are not representing their communities. I have seen the neighborhood stores, gas stations and the police precinct all burn down. Powderhorn Park has a tent city where people are being assaulted. I don't believe things will get better if we disband the police I think they will get much worse. People will move out, which is what I am thinking of doing. It's just too much. No one asked my neighbors or me how we feel about this before the council voted. Please do not let them do this. It won't work. Too much trauma because of all the violence. We need to work with the police not send them away.



6/29/2020 5:38:15 PM

I am against getting rid of the Police in Minneapolis. I grew up in Northeast Mpls and love going back to visit. We attend many event in Mpls like concerts, games, shopping, eating out, family get togethers.

I will not come to Mpls and spend any money in a place that I don't feel safe in or that I can call for Police help if there is an emergency.

The City Council is not doing what is best for the city. KEEP the POLICE

6/29/2020 5:38:23 PM

I fully support the proposed amendment. Reform is no longer a viable option.

6/29/2020 5:39:40 PM

A government (local, state or federal) exist to make rules. If a government makes rules they then need someone to enforce the rules. What good is it to make rules with out enforcing them.

By defunding the police who is going to enforce rules?

Who will stop criminals and criminal behaviour?

Who will investigate ANYTHING? (Murder, robbery, arson, child kidnapping, rape)

How long will it take to investigate a crime?

Who will make arrests?

Who will protect the residents?

Who will protect firefighters and ambulances?

Who will protect business owners and workers who do not live in Minneapolis?

At what point are you going to be responsible for the safety of the people in Minneapolis whether you live their or not.

The Federal, State and City governments established the laws and you (Minneapolis City Council) have lost the battle on the ORDER. Instead of handling criminals like criminals you have opted to slap their hands. It is only once they have committed a "seriously violent" offence that you take action. It appears that you have already lost your police department. The ATF and FBI are investing the arson cases from the recent riots. I have not seen or heard of a single arrest for looting and rioting by the Minneapolis Police Department. Your Police Officers are afraid to do anything because if it is wrong in anybody's eyes they will be in jail and the criminals will be set free. I truly do not understand why any business (Cub Foods, Target, O'Reilly, Napa) would rebuild or even restock in your city. These riots will happen again and again until the people accountable are held responsible. The looters DID NOT take what they needed to survive, THEY STOLE what they desired, in some cases they stole what they could never afford in the first place

(Here and other parts of the country). By defunding the police, you are telling every person on earth that you (Minneapolis City Council) do not care about the safety and well being of anyone who is in the city. You are listening to the mob and they are winning. The same mob want to erase portions of history that they deem unacceptable. These mobs are tearing down statues and destroying monuments. These mobs are forcing governments to change everything and you are obliging them as to not start another riot. In obliging them all of you have forgotten the rest of the citizens in the cities states, and across the country. These same mobs are tearing down monuments of people who ACTUALLY helped their cause but the mobs do not even understand the history behind them. It is truly sad. If this happens I want to be the first person to Congratulate you on letting the criminals run your city. You will have taken the first steps into turning Minneapolis into a 3rd world country. Your city streets will become war zones, there will be bloodshed and this will be your legacy. If you step back and look at the facts about what truly happened. Facts

Every death by Police Officers (Anywhere) could have been avoided if the person being arrested would have complied with officers.

Police Officers are not robots, they are human. They are doing a job that sucks a lot of the time but is also rewarding at other times.

Police Officers are thrust into a position or situation with very little knowledge of the extenuating circumstances regarding the situation and then have to react accordingly without regards to their our life. They have to make split second decisions that protect the rest of the population knowing that they will be judged by the same population if they make the wrong decision.

AND AGAIN, Every death by Police Officers (Anywhere) could have been avoided if the person being arrested would have complied with officers. At some point, some if not all responsibility needs to be placed on the actions of the offender not the reactions of an Officer.

For the record, my wife works for a large corporation downtown Minneapolis (Pre COVID-19) and I work in and around the twin cities as a O/O.

6/29/2020 5:39:50 PM

Do not abolish or defund the police.

Do not provide private security for the council members. There must be a way to take away their power.

6/29/2020 5:39:51 PM

I am not a resident of Minneapolis and after the recent vote by the council I am fortunate I am not !

You may want to consider the effect your ill conceived vote will have on reducing the number of people that are comfortable going to Minneapolis for activities; especially at night. My wife and I will no longer feel safe or want to spend money in Minneapolis for entertainment, food or sporting events.

The revenue base you have to be able to enhance the lives of Minneapolis residents will surely go down. Some day common sense will triumph over your politically based decisions.

6/29/2020 5:85:43 PM

Stop this crazy BS. You do not speak for me or anyone I know and love! You are already destroying our city with this madness!!

We NEED the police. Respect the men in blue!!!

Get a grip on reality you idiots!

6/29/2020 5:41:18 PM

Though I am not a resident of Minneapolis, I was for 8 years and have been living literally one block from the Minneapolis city line for the past 20.

First, I have to say that calling for defunding the police when city council members have access to money to provide them security is 100% hypocritical. I'd love to have my own security so that I wouldn't have to worry about someone breaking into my house (which has happened 3 times--once at my Minneapolis house, twice at my current house--both by Minneapolis residents). We've had two cars stolen and 3 bikes taken from a locked garage. Each time, the police were at my house almost immediately helping me and making me feel better. Three of the times the perpetrators were caught and paid restitution.

I can only imagine how much bolder criminals will become when they know that no one will be looking for them. Maybe the city council members will share their personal security detail with me so these things don't happen again.

I would like the council to be more transparent about the percentage of people who actually want to defund the police--not the vocal members, not the PC members of the council, but the community at large through an equal and easy process---not hidden in the middle of a website, but all Minneapolis residents could get a simple survey mailed to them to fill out and send back or directions to fill out online (much like the 2020 census). Get a feel for what the residents of the city want, not just people wreaking havoc on our beautiful city.

I would also like to know exactly what "defunding" means in this instance. Are my Robbinsdale police (paid by my taxes) going to be expected to cover for MPD because we're a close suburb? What are the plans to decrease the crime? We were doing great about 5 years ago and it's surging again (surprise, surprise). What is the plan?

I have worked with families on the North Side coming on 26 years. In conversations with them, they don't want the police gone, they just want fairer treatment. They want to feel safe in their neighborhoods and most of them think the police are necessary for that. Has anyone on the city council actually gone out and spoken to people in the neighborhoods--not just the ones who have the time to protest?

This is a hot button issue, no doubt, but the blood of the city will be on the hands of the council if they don't think this through.

6/29/2020 5:41:38 PM

I support the proposed amendment that would remove the Police Department and establish a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department. I applaud the City Council for taking the first step to moving our city to a place that is safe and equitable for all residents.

6/29/2020 5:41:57 PM

Hey! I am impressed and encouraged by the city council's resolve to mandate change in our policing in Minneapolis.

I am so on board with the redistributing of funds to handle situations and the needs of people.

However, I as well as many others have more questions than answers.

I do not know how we are going to vet the proposed non police response teams.

I am also concerned what policing will be put in place to handle some of our more serious violent episodes and outbreaks. I also wonder who will lead the policing effort. Who will be in charge of all the various efforts and the overall team?

Is there any information you have to share that I could gather more info about the council's thinking on this and or reference materials with the conversation and ideas material to this.

Thanks!

6/29/2020 5:41:59 PM

Please do not replace the Mpls Police Dept, as 99.9% of the officers are honest and there to protect & serve!!

The BIGGEST problem is the corrupt Police Federation Union, so my suggestion is to fire the Union!!!!

The 1% of corrupt officers KNOW that whatever they do wrong, the police federation union has their backs!! Even supplying the best Defense attys in the State to represent them at the Union's expense!

Growing up in a law enforcement family: my father was SGT of the Morningside volunteer Police dept (before we annexed to Edina) besides his job with Mack Trucks. He was deputized a couple of times by then Henn Co Sheriff Don Omodt. My mother's cousin with the FBI. My cousin's 30 yrs in law enforcement with Edina PD, a teacher at the Arden Hills P.O.S.T., & finishing off working with the BCA.

I have never been arrested and have one speeding ticket in Burnsville, 2 blocks from my house doing 35 in a 30 zone.

I have even been a victim of police looking the other way, when 7x (14 Burnsville officers) looked the other way when I told them former Lakeville mayor Bellows had threatened me from going to police on a small matter, despite the former county atty's office saying "Bellows did violate state law"; but had prosecutorial immunity by being an elected official.

> The Dakota County Atty Backstrom likewise looked the other way & allowed him to violate state law.

TO THE POINT: IF THE POLICE UNION WAS NOT INVOLVED TO CODDLE THE 1% CORRUPT OFFICERS, THOSE OFFICERS WOULD THINK DIFFERENTLY WHEN SITUATIONS ARISE THAT REQUIRE SENSITIVITY!

I read thru media the MPD's SOP was NOT to kneel across a throat!

The Minneapolis community & police department DO NOT DESERVE this animosity against fine, decent officers!!!

Thank you very much!! :)

6/29/2020 5:42:05 PM

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments. I worked for a company in Minneapolis and was recently put on furlough. The vote the council made makes me ill. Businesses in DT Mpls are hurting, and lose the police presence, and it will be a ghost town. My company is already saying the Minneapolis branch may close. I understand there is some pain, but disbanding the police will be a big mistake, and simply can't happen. I'm angry about your vote to consider this, but will be respectful and take the high road.

6/29/2020 5:42:31 PM

To the Mpls City Council,

I'm encouraged by the community outreach during this time of growth and change. I'm in support of a new form of public safety, and like many, am most curious about the timeline. I realize there are committees forming and research starting to take place over the next year, but I'm wondering about the vision for a smooth transition. Will the MPD exist after the charter amendment is passed? Will it exist in a smaller capacity? Or will it stay in tact as is while these other social and law enforcement programs are being built up?

Also, in the long-term, I think it would quell some concerns to know that there would be some form of armed officers for VERY specific calls. Obviously, the crime-prevention programs would hopefully limit violent situations.

I'm a member of LC Cunningham's Slack Channel for neighborhood watch, and I found this solidarity and community engagement inspiring and promising. I do have concerns about citizens feeling the desire to arm themselves, as I'm a firm believer in gun control and keeping weapons of violence out of our neighborhoods. How does gun control legislation factor into this plan?

I'm new to this idea, but I could see this beautiful vision as a change that may take decades, and I'm so looking forward to hearing more details about the timeline, and the transition.

Thank you for your work.

6/29/2020 5:42:38 PM

This is absolutely ridiculous. If you are going to let this go through there should be no private security for city council. What a waste of money. Murderapolis is about to be Chicago 2.0 Once the first social worker is murdered on the job you will see that this is absolute insanity. Do you understand how many foster care situations become dangerous? Are you going to hire private security for social workers too at \$4500 a day? What an absolute disgrace you are to the state of MN.

6/29/2020 5:42:47 PM

If the city removes the police department, I will never go there again. As a Vikings season ticket holder, I will give up those seats and watch from home and spend my money elsewhere. The police I see there patrolling the tailgate lots and in the games are some of the finest officers I've ever met. Black, Asian, White, all of them are top notch and beyond friendly with all of our interactions. Getting rid of them is getting rid of one of your finest attributes of the city.

My wife and I love to dine at the nice restaurants downtown, but haven't been in at least 3 years because of the crime. We had a class reunion down there about 3 years ago and I commented on how "rough" the area looked. Later that evening (I believe around 3am) someone was shot in the exact parking lot where we parked for the reunion. Until you add MORE FUNDING to the police department and get your crime in check, we will never be eating down there again, going to the fine arts down there again, or spending another second there again.

We used to love Minneapolis and the surrounding areas including Uptown. We just can't go there any more until the City Council wakes up and realizes the problem they've created isn't the solution. More police. More accountability. More law and order. More sanity! That's the solution you're looking for and not finding.

6/29/2020 5:43:31 PM

Do not abolish the police

6/29/2020 5:44:35 PM

I think this is a great start to putting a community driven protection program that isn't driven in violence like the MPD.

6/29/2020 5:44:50 PM

Although I reside in Eagan, I have spent a great amount of time in Minneapolis whether for work or recreational purposes. I will no longer be frequenting that city for concerts or games, restaurants, or any other purpose if you allow the city council to get their way and make these absolutely asinine changes to defund the police. It's extremely disheartening that I can't take my 5 year old to a baseball game as the city will not provide the proper protection to ensure the safety of my family and countless others who feel the same!! I'm also disgusted and appalled that the city council cries to defund the police but yet citizens have to pay for them to get private security!!

6/29/2020 5:45:21 PM

I am not a resident of Minneapolis however I am one suburb away. I used to visit Minneapolis all the time, going to sporting events, concerts, plays, dinner etc. I personally think your decision to defund the police is not looking at the real problem. We need the police to protect the citizens from all over who attend events. I am pretty sure I will never go downtown Minneapolis due to crime has already escalated even before this incident with George Floyd. If you defund the police what or who are you going to call when you really need the help when someone is holding a gun to a ladies pregnant stomach threatening two lives. I do not think the social workers or group of people you form for this will have no idea on what to do.

There are a few bad LEO just like there are bad lawyers, Doctors, Financial Advisors, Accountants etc. Are we defunding those people no they just get reprimanded maybe fined or censored or disbarred. You need to look at all the professions when you think a few people who made a bad decision and will now be paying the price for it. I want you to know that I am a white person and if I came upon that scene I am pretty sure I would have tackled the officer and maybe dead because I am sure they would have filled me with bullets but I could have saved George's life it was a sacrifice I would have made. Instead of recording on my cell phone I would have tried to save a life not count the views or likes on my social media account. That is one problem with this world people focus on how many likes and views they get on a social media account. This was about a life that could have been saved if those people are recording this incident for the views and likes. In my opinion they should be charged for aiding and abetting as well. They did nothing to stop it. I would have trust I would have. I used to work in Transit and we need to stop giving people 10 or 12 chances when they screw up. Why do we do this? Because the Unions are too strong and dictate how things go. I am pretty sure you took money from them so think about that next time you accept a donation you are at fault as well for taking their money. You should be accountable as well. Wake up

6/29/2020 5:45:25 PM

Start a new Police Same as before but No Union.

Control them with your own Board and Management.

There is a culture in the department that runs deep and we must start over to birth a new culture. I'm not a current resident of Minneapolis but I live in Bloomington and was raised in Minneapolis. I have several family members still residing in Minneapolis. When I was at Roosevelt squad#350 is the one we watched out for because they had no problem roughing us up on a regular basis. I feel for the Police that truly care. I would Not want to be an officer right now. Officers have a legitimate argument on the subject of Policing with force. Guns are a Must. You can Not be unarmed if dealing with criminals that are armed. True criminals should fear the police or they will feel they don't have to follow the law. We all know the real Answers are education and poverty and drug/alcohol

Abuse. Along with mental health services. Poor people need more programs and funding to educate and help them learn a skill to be a productive part of the community. I know many families that learn To use the system from their Moms and Dad's. When you're trying to survive- eat and pay rent-it's hard to break the cycle.

Good Luck! I will keep paying my taxes because we all know the middle class keeps the boat afloat.

6/29/2020 5:45:34 PM

If the Police Dept. is eliminated, then I'm buying a Glock so I have a chance when the resulting anarchy begins!

6/29/2020 5:45:59 PM

If you dismantle your police department I will not visit again. I'm sure there are many tourists who feel the same way. If I am in a strange city I want the comfort of knowing a police officer is on standby if I need assistance.

6/29/2020 5:46:32 PM

My house is on the market(it's on Zillow if you need proof) in preparation that this amendment goes through. I will not feel safe in MPLS any longer. I am for no proposal that does not put additional police on the streets and starts doing proactive vs reactive policing. There should be several police outside of bars at 2 am for 1 example.

6/29/2020 5:46:34 PM

This is a terrible idea that is only being promoted by very small groups of activists taking advantage of an opportunity to push this idea. Minneapolis needs police and police on patrol. There is way to much violent crime in the city still to be reducing a licensed police force. People with bad intentions are going to take advantage of the kind intentions of what ever non-police response they receive while committing their crime. Their will be an increase in residents confronting criminals on their own which creates another severe safety risk in its self. Also, who is going to do traffic control prevent speeding on city streets or driving under the influence? Only licensed police have the authority to make legal stops and arrests, you can't change that at a city level and that is going to be a huge issue. There are plenty of other options for improvement, but this idea is not a reasonable solution or response. The state will not come bail out our poor leadership when things get out of control without us paying a price.

6/29/2020 5:47:22 PM

To the Charter Commission:

I am against the proposed charter amendment and oppose placing it on the ballot for November. Not nearly enough thought and outside consultation have gone into the City Council's taking such an extreme step. Communication and transparency by the Council have been practically absent during our current city crisis. This seems like a power grab by a City Council that so far has performed poorly in governing the city. We need serious reform of the police department and the Union needs to be reined in so that the police department can function as it should, free of racist cops. There are ways to achieve this short of this extreme proposal. I do not favor disbanding or defunding the police in favor of some unclear and vague utopian plan by our City Council. I have noted that our mayor opposes this plan, as do venerated past leaders including Walter Mondale. I hope that cooler heads will prevail and that the Council will get down to the serious work of learning what has worked elsewhere, how to rein in the Union, and how to work cooperatively with Mayor Frey, Police Chief Arradondo, Governor Walz and the Minnesota Legislature — and draft a comprehensive, transparent, thoughtful plan that will have community support.

6/29/2020 5:47:42 PM

Look at the Canadian Police force. A lot of community policing and presence everywhere. Not perfect but a good balance. Not authoritarian but accessibility driven and collaboration.

6/29/2020 5:48:04 PM

We need a department name that resonates with the public to mean law enforcement and public safety. A clear charter of public threats people equate to police. People assume the new CSVPD may be ill equipped to handle physical crimes like murder, manslaughter, domestic violence, child abuse and rape.



The community think of police as emergency protection in the face of criminal activity like burglaries, gunshots, intruders. People want to know 911 calls will still carry an emergency response.

I personally do not sanction a union that allows poor behavior and performance to be swept under a rug. I also do not support qualified immunity as it currently operates. I'd like to see crimes by police follow the same due process as private citizens. Doing otherwise suggests a preferential treatment to those in the department. I'd want to ensure three CSVPD addresses these measures as well.

6/29/2020 5:48:24 PM

Thumbs down to defunding the MPD. Particularly as there is no detailed explanation of what type of entity would replace the MPD. This is an unwarranted action, and it would negatively impact the entire region.

6/29/2020 5:49:38 PM

Disbanding the police would be an absolutely moronic move.

6/29/2020 5:49:54 PM

Crime is already terrible as it is. Why would it be better to remove the police? This is a horrible decision.

6/29/2020 5:50:43 PM

How stupid is the city council if they seriously want to disband our police department, and all the while we are paying over \$4500 a day for their own security detail which are carrying weapons to protect them! If they truly want to prove to us that they care about us, they will let us have the police to protect us.

This is about the most asinine thing I have ever heard. And I am sure all the large venues will want to use US Bank Stadium and the Target Center/Field when we don't have security to protect the visitors to our city while we let the rioters tear it down!!!

6/29/2020 5:50:47 PM

As a contractor who often works in minneapolis we are very concerned over this our employees safety and safety of work sites and parking areas and are considering conceal carry if working minneapolis if disbanding of police goes thru the public criminalization of police is very scary and having no laws or enforcement as whats been happening of late seems like a free for all. None of us want to have to police/ protect ourselves on a daily basis in addition to our jobs.

6/29/2020 5:51:03 PM

a rose by any other name.....will still be cops, so:

Let the chief hire and fire, no rigged arbitration

Offer \$ incentive for current cops to move into Mpls if they aren't residents

All new hires must live in Mpls

College grads with humanities majors get extra consideration for hiring

X hours of volunteer work with youth (community center, tutoring, coaching) REQUIRED per year

Encourage foot patrols so cops get to know the areas they serve

6/29/2020 5:51:41 PM

I was born and raised in Minneapolis and remember the race riots on the north side of mpls in 1968. I am embarrassed at the actions of this council and find it abhorrent. I will never set foot again in the city of Minneapolis again. The lack of leadership by the council and the Mayor is repulsive. I would not support any of you or your actions. This is race baiting, not representative of the entire city and you ought to be criminally liable for not protecting ALL your citizens.

I fully support reform, equal rights, ridding all aspects of prejudice as well as the incarceration of guilty parties.

6/29/2020 5:51:45 PM

We need the police department. Getting rid of the police would make people like me stop going to Minneapolis. Say goodbye to tourism, concerts, sports teams, and people visiting. Calling a social worker for crimes police need to handle will not suffice. I honestly don't understand how anyone on the city council thinks this idea will work in a city the size of Minneapolis. I think all city council members should need to do ride alongs with the police department each month to understand what the police go through each day. Your mind will be changed instantly. Not everyone in Minneapolis can use taxpayer money to have their own private security like you do. When you get rid of the police department are you going to pay for everyone to have private security just like you get? It will be needed. I for one will never step foot in Minneapolis if the PD is disbanded.

6/29/2020 5:51:57 PM

I have lived in Minneapolis my whole life,

60 plus years. The increase of violence and gangs are at its highest in the last few years. I've had bullets go through my main living room window, have had my cars broken into.

I would really think about your stupid decision.

Very Concerned resident.

6/29/2020 5:52:19 PM

While I am not a resident of Minneapolis I do hold season tickets and attend several events located in Minneapolis several times a month (before covid of course) my family and I will be cancelling said tickets and will no longer attend events nor support any business located in Minneapolis if this proceeds or passes.

6/29/2020 5:52:28 PM

If the police department is removed the city will lose all tourists revenue. We as a family that attends Gopher games, Twins and Vikings games, will no longer come to either city. We also stay downtown multiple times a year for plays, restaurants and concerts.

6/29/2020 5:52:35 PM

I absolutely do not support this. There is nothing wrong with have law and rules enforced. There needs to. E someone to call when someone is hurt or in trouble. I'd there is violence or robbery you cannot depend on the community to take responsibility to resolve the issues. I think it would be much more wise to enforce further training for the the Minneapolis department and think it's absolutely ridiculous to get rid of the police and defund the police department. I do not live far from Minneapolis and have family that live in Minneapolis and I know they don't feel safe nor do I feel safe having family live in an area where there is no authority enforcing rules.

6/29/2020 5:54:11 PM

I would love to see a detailed plan and for the city council to clearly communicate with the public on a regular basis BEFORE asking for a vote. Seems like a reasonable expectation that IS NOT occurring.

Asking the public to vote without a plan in place is foolish and irresponsible.

6/29/2020 5:54:12 PM

The thought that you people are even considering this is absurd. I have loved Mpls my whole life and I thought that I would never leave. My heart is breaking to write this but I am leaving. And several of my friends and families are coming with. By City Council, the Mayor and Governor not supporting police and lumping them all together as bad you have created an environment that criminals have ceased on. Look at what you have done to Mpls. A criminals playground. You should be ashamed of yourself. Some of the best people I know are police officers for MPD. They risk their lives EVERY single day for the citizens of Mpls, most of whom would love nothing more than to see them hurt or worse. And they are STILL showing up because that is what good people/cops do!! If you haven't already, I suggest you go on a ride along over north Mpls for a full week in the summer time. I guarantee you will never question whether to get rid of police again!!

6/29/2020 5:54:18 PM

First of all, the murder of Floyd over an unsubstantiated counterfeit \$20 bill by police is reprehensible and absolutely unacceptable. Allowing buildings & businesses to burn to the ground and abandoning the 3rd precinct neighborhood to let the community fend for itself for several nights was, to a lesser extent, also unacceptable. However, this desperately needed change can't be positioned or promoted as "defunding" since that will lead to more gun violence as people decide they need to arm themselves to stay safe and go right back to those nights of no sleep, trying to watch their neighborhood - but this time with people carrying guns & emboldened to feel like they're the law. That misperception will also lead to businesses leaving the city which will tank the tax base, employment & home values. We need to realistically keep a

police presence and not be "Pollyanna" thinking social workers will stop people from robbing, assaulting & vandalizing. Social services may eventually get someone to change, but it will take years. Desperate people aren't going to change overnight just because they have someone to talk to or a place to live. And whose to say more criminals won't come here if there's a perception that Minneapolis doesn't have a police presence? Be realistic, make much-needed changes within the department (start by getting rid of Kroll), stop racially profiling, treat the same crimes with the same punishment regardless of skin color, gender, physical ability or socio-economic status, stop the rampant use of deadly force within the department and actively recruit POC to be police officers. Perhaps have a review board (much like a medical review board) made up of community members to review and judge a sampling of uses of extreme force cases, people dying in custody and tickets given to POC vs. White, etc.

6/29/2020 5:54:59 PM

I am writing this to inform you of my dismay as a constituent of the 5th Ward of how the 'Dismantle the MPD' initiative has been handled. This City Council has appeared to pander to the media and listen to only one group; not all constituents, which is what the job entails and for what my taxes pay. I believe that the Proposed Charter amendment related to community safety and violence prevention should be something that is discussed with the community and voted on by the community before the City Council removes the Police Department as a Charter Department, Article VII and Article VIII.

If you are planning to have year-long community engagement and input in this process, then why do we need to make this change now? The City Council does not need more power over this process, especially since they do not include the community they serve in the process. The recent acts of Council Members have made me lose trust in these city leaders. Based on how this situation has been handled, it appears the agenda is not about color of skin or equality, it is about the agendas and political pursuits of the City Council. If past behavior is any sign of the future, then I will make my voice heard at the polls when the time comes.

6/29/2020 5:55:34 PM

I'm in favor of the amendment. The city needs a better approach to community safety, one that recognizes responses that are most likely to produce good outcomes for citizens, and minimizes the role of armed police officers.

6/29/2020 5:55:39 PM

No, you are all completely stupid for thinking so. How about a different kind of training for new recruits? Not get of them. Only a fucking moron would think this is a good idea.

6/29/2020 5:55:40 PM

You are using the tragedy of George Floyd's death to push your agenda to capitalize on the moment - and without having a real plan. I'm all for reform, but why hasn't there been any push for change before? With Democrats/Liberals in power in this city for so long now, who's to blame except yourselves. All you city council members should be ashamed. With no police, you will destroy the city.

The diversity you seek will come in form on gangs of criminals (of all colors) staking claim to their territory. You want affordable housing? You'll get it because the good, law-abiding citizens won't want to live in the city - myself included - and property values will fall off a cliff. There are NO DETAILS in your "plan". You're an embarrassment to the city, and making us the butt of many jokes nationally and beyond. I wish we could vote to defund the city council. I can't wait to vote you out of office.

6/29/2020 5:55:47 PM

No, you are all completely stupid for thinking so. How about a different kind of training for new recruits? Not get of them. Only a fucking moron would think this is a good idea.

6/29/2020 5:55:55 PM

I support the charter amendment!

6/29/2020 5:55:56 PM

The term "neighbor", in my usage below, is defined as those in my immediate vicinity (neighborhood), as well as those in the broader community of Minneapolis.

The terms "policing leaders", "community policing", and "leaders" are nomers describing the tasks and those enforcing them that were formally assigned to police, however it may be set up within a new system.

Abolishing or defunding the police and moving to "community-based policing" is based on the assumption that my neighbors have my best interests in mind, and that assumption is simply not true.

In such a liberal city, with such a lopsided city council, a council with a shortage of voices representing moderate and conservative members of the city, how can it be ensured that community "policing leaders", many likely to be liberal as they are the ones heartily backing this system change, are fairly treating those that do not have the same political affiliations? Since "policing" will now be community member to community member, can these "leaders" remain impartial since the interactions and implications of their decisions will become very personal? Can I assume that my neighbor will equally support/treat those they don't politically affiliate with/disagree with compared to those they politically affiliate with/agree with?

How will the city council participate in the various pieces of this new system? With news of them wanting to have the Police Chief report to them, how can we maintain a system of checks and balances to avoid conflicts of interest and a council that has power to manage every piece of the city?

Will everyone involved in "community policing" have to undergo psychological testing? Will they be required to know local, state, and federal law? Will community members that take over tasks formally handled by police be addressing situations that could potentially turn volatile? If so, will they be permitted to carry a weapon? I'm not willing to participate in a system that puts me in situations that could potentially turn volatile without a weapon, and I suspect there are many others that feel the same.

6/29/2020 5:56:50 PM

I work in Minneapolis. I spend a lot of time in Minneapolis going out to dinner, attending ball games, shopping, using the park system, and other activities. I have a daughter and two nieces that live and work in Minneapolis. I have MAJOR concerns over this proposal to remove the Police and replace it with a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department.

Already we have seen a rise in crime as criminals have been emboldened with this "defund the police" and "remove the police" talk. Criminals were also emboldened when the Mayor gave the orders to abandon The 3rd Precinct Police Station.

The Minneapolis Police do a great job most of the time. This incident with George Floyd is not the norm. Derek Chauvin has been charged and he will have his day in court and pay the penalty for what he did. Everyone agrees what he did was wrong. That does NOT mean the entire Police Department needs to go and be replaced.

This radical talk by the City Council is a knee jerk reaction to a bad situation. The Department needs more training to guide officers in these kinds of situations, like how to deal with criminals that are drunk, high on meth, or other drugs like fentanyl. Officers need training on how to handle another officer, especially a senior officer when they see something wrong. Officers need training on how to become more a part of the community and less intimidating to the people they serve, especially minorities that think they are being targeted.

Eliminating The Police will only keep people from visiting Minneapolis, working in Minneapolis, moving to Minneapolis, and investing in new businesses in Minneapolis. The riots have shown us that The Minneapolis Police needs more funding, not less. The talk of eliminating the Police has already motivated many people to stay away and I have read the reports of many businesses that will not be re-opening here. I also believe that talk of eliminating the Police is a big reason for the spike in crime we have seen over the last few weeks.

Thank you for listening to my concerns. Please do not remove or replace the Police. The Minneapolis Police are needed and appreciated by everyone who lives, works, and visits the city, with the exception of one group and that group is the criminal element.

Thank You

6/29/2020 5:57:30 PM

It is incredibly reckless and irresponsible to put something like this on the ballot without having a specific, detailed, viable proposal for what a new public safety department would be. Doing this right will take extensive community engagement and guidance. We absolutely MUST go through that process and develop a viable plan BEFORE putting this on the ballot. The end result of a new safety department must be less crime and increased safety for everyone, and we need (and deserve to have) confidence that we have a plan to accomplish this!

6/29/2020 5:57:35 PM

This decision should be left up to the voters and not the city council as I believe you have stepped way beyond your boundaries. There also seems to be something other than public safety with your empty agenda. Personally I think your decision to defund the police department is insane but then again so was the \$10,000 raise you gave yourselves a few years ago without anyone else's approval as well!

6/29/2020 5:57:52 PM

I am a resident of a neighboring community that has already felt the affects of the police being handcuffed. While I agree that reform and updated policies need to be put in place, you should spend more money on policing.. not less. If you cut funding, I will be moving out of the area.

6/29/2020 5:59:10 PM

I see this going one of two ways.

It will either just create another police department with a different name and everyone will be just as angry as they are now, or a department for safety and violence prevention will have less resources for self defense and violent crime will sky rocket.

Criminals are people of opportunity. To assume that getting rid of the police isn't going to create opportunities and cause the rate of violent crimes to go up is irresponsible and dangerous not only to the community but also to those working for the new proposed department.

There's no question that police are not trained well in multiple areas. But eliminating the department entirely is skipping past a copious amounts of steps in the direction of alleviating the current problems with the MPD.

More time and money needs to be allocated to properly train our police officers. Our officers need to be held accountable for their actions. No exceptions.

We shouldn't be hearing about officers with numerous complaints filed against them having suffered no consequences.

The city should take responsibility, dumping the MPD in the garbage is only going to create more problems.

6/29/2020 5:59:51 PM

Will not be returning to Minneapolis if passed. Good luck fighting crime with hugs. Maybe instead of guns officers could carry dildos and gold star stickers.

If the police are disbanded your city will fail. Businesses and residents will leave.

6/29/2020 6:00:04 PM

There are obvious reforms needed within the police and I do believe the union has too much power. We do, however, need police, as these last few weeks of insanity have shown. Criminals are acting with impunity, knowing the police are loath to do much of anything and are effectively handcuffed. We need a better trained, more diverse police department that includes specialists for responding to specific calls. The majority of the city council is very eager to disband the police but I do not trust that they have any sort of viable plan to do it. It seems purely political and puts the citizens of Minneapolis at risk.

6/29/2020 6:00:12 PM

From what I know, I am not for removing the Police Department and establishing a community of safety and violence prevention. First of all, what does that even mean? If I am at an event in Minneapolis and I am assaulted by someone, who is going to help me, some random untrained community member? Or are they trained and still allowed to be armed and use the weapon (only if absolutely necessary)? Secondly, the problem absolutely is not the entire Police Department. It is a select group of people that just absolutely should not be police officers that is ruining it for the rest of the amazing and dedicated group of individuals. Fire those people that have multiple cases against them. Evaluate the entire staff and really see who should stay and who should go. Train the remaining group and have a consistent evaluation process to make sure that those officers are obeying those rules set in the trainings. Then, I think there would be a better department that can be trusted. If this so called "Community of Safety and Violence Prevention Department" does that and makes this system better and does what I just described, then that would be good, keep the name Police Department then. If it literally allows crimes to happen because we are too afraid to have someone intervene then I am not for this. Keep what the police does with an evaluation process and this would be exactly what the community needs.

6/29/2020 6:00:24 PM

The Minneapolis Police Department needs reform, it should not be removed. As a Minneapolis resident I oppose this amendment to the charter. The proposed amendment does not provide enough clarity to be brought to a vote. Elected officials should be required to provide full transparency and clarity on how this impractical change could actually work while keeping our city safe.

I 100% believe the Minneapolis police department is in need of reform but do not believe this is well planned out solution. Our city needs to get this right, which requires thought and planning over a longer period of time.

6/29/2020 6:00:34 PM

I am not in agreement with the City Councils plan to defund/disband the MPD. I am in full agreement that there needs to be changes with MPD, Mpls City officials (including Mayor and City Council) as well leadership within the POC communities to reduce the crime in Mpls and address racism and profiling in police work. I have been a Mpls home owner and property taxpayer for 25 yrs and the crime is getting worse everyday even in my neighborhood. I no longer feel comfortable walking my dog at night. After several experiences with being harassed by loitering groups of young men in downtown Mpls, I will no longer spend any money at restaurants/bars or events downtown.

6/29/2020 6:00:41 PM

I do not support this move. As a multi year Minneapolis resident, growing up on 40th and queen North in the victory neighborhood to now my first apartment with my girlfriend in the south uptown neighborhood I see how the police need to be apart of the community.

The police department is too integrated with our community and removing it would only open doors for criminal activity.



But I will say that the police union is a problem. When it comes to public service roles we should not promote people based on years of service, we should promote them based on service to the community. Too many young cops are chased out of the force by long time union thugs who get paid to "show up and wear a uniform"

I have a personal story of a close friend who is an officer in the 3rd. This is a man I trust with my life and the kind of caring loving person that should be working our streets. But instead he is stuck working the night shift, often doing foot patrols in and near recent homeless encampments. This man has never been so much as accused of being too aggressive yet he is "stuck" on night shift. No way to have a more active role due to the barbaric union tactics used by the police union.

Lastly, I said to all my friends. "We need people from our city working on our force. 'Not Country boy Bob' from Blaine working the south side"

Please don't "defund the police" let's try "defund/bust the union"

6/29/2020 6:00:53 PM

I personally will no longer feel safe to work in Mpls or shop or attend any events including sporting events or conferences if the Police department is defunded or disbanded.

6/29/2020 6:01:15 PM

This change is long, long overdue. Thank you for having the courage to move forward with this. I sincerely hope we can look back on this as a turning point in our history.

6/29/2020 6:01:19 PM

I am AGAINST removing the police department. I live in uptown and after seeing the devastation brought about by rioters when the mayor and governor told police and the national guard to stand down, I can't believe this is being proposed. We need MORE police, MORE funding, and less involvement by the city council in allowing crimes to go unpunished. This is a terrible idea and completely disregards the wishes of the majority of Minneapolis residents. This needs to be up for a vote from Minneapolis residents, not from officials who have no clue what they are doing or no precedent to follow.

6/29/2020 6:01:33 PM

While the Police Department needs some reform and change getting rid of them is not the solution. There are more violent crimes being committed and if there isn't a police force to help protect us, people like myself who work and deliver products in North Minneapolis will become bigger targets of crimes than previously. I would strongly recommend to not disbanding the police force as they do positive for the community and help protect us!

6/29/2020 6:02:50 PM

You are insane and should resign for suggesting this. This decision would risk mostly black and brown residents of the city. You should be working WITH the police department to expand and train more officers. The beat cops of the past knew everyone in the neighborhoods and all the business owners. You have made today's force run from 911 call to 911 with no chance to do any community policing. Community policing has been proven to work again and again.

Please give up your private security and promise to resign when this fails. You clearly do not care for people of color or you would not subject them to the current violence and terror by threatening to create more violence and terror.

6/29/2020 6:03:10 PM

I do not agree with the decision of the city council. I was a homeowner in north Minneapolis for over 17 years until this past September. During that time we had encounters with good police and bad police. Officers need to be held accountable for their actions. They need the time to get involved in the communities they serve. The current city council is completely out of touch with their communities and is unwilling to listen to their constituents if their opinions don't align with their own. The council has demonstrated they are self serving (private security) and unwilling to listen to residents.

6/29/2020 6:03:21 PM

Moved here from Toledo, OH in June 2018. As a frequent user of the MTR light rail system, the safety deteriorated to a point in Jan that I will not ride after dark. Too dangerous! Absolutely no monitoring or police presence prior to the protests/Riots and now I will not ride at all. Beatings, muggings, shootings are up. The criminal know that they are being given free reign. Downtown is no longer safe. Abolishing the police is an idiotic concept and yet it's supported by 100% of our city council?? There is NO WAY that I'll ever support abolishing or defunding the police. Toledo Ohio is looking better all the time - and that's shocking!!

6/29/2020 6:03:24 PM

don't be foolish .

If you remove your police force , you lose your city .

Look outside your window now and see for yourself .

Sit on any corner of west Broadway for an hour and you will see a crime of hate and hear a gunshot .

Remove your bad employee as any place of employment or organization does and move to better yourselves .

This is just ridiculous.

But ...if you do remove your police and the city collapses . The city will lose its chance of holding the Democrat stronghold it has now , and Republicans will make the change needed either way .

Without guidance in Mpls do you really think they will take the time to vote ? The residents that care will leave ,and those that will remain have proven they don't listen or care about the city or each other anyways ...

6/29/2020 6:03:39 PM

First and foremost, the residents of Minneapolis need the city to regain, assuming they ever had it, the power and authority to manage the performance and discipline of the current Police Department structure from the Minneapolis Police Federation. The police union manages all of it, including work slowdowns and retention of bad cops, and it's ludicrous to leave them to monitor themselves. Doesn't happen in any other workplace. And if it's on the State of Minnesota to roll back statutes that prevent the city from regaining control of the police from the union, then start there - demand that the State roll back statutes empowering the Police Federation. You need to kick their feet out from under them and take back control!

From there, and I can only speak for myself, the city would probably be served well by supplementing the current police structure with added dimensions of social service and other incident management strategies given that we endure ongoing SERIOUS livability issues, especially in North Minneapolis. We're overlooked - ALWAYS. However, this city now, more than maybe ever, needs a police force that is well controlled by the city and that STRICTLY enforces laws addressing livability more than it needs "Community Based Safety" programs that, until now, have utterly failed us. We've heard about them - we know they're there. And they're great news stories but nothing substantive.

We're failed by city government repeatedly, but this proposal, on its face, is a face-slap and an insult to law-abiding taxpaying citizens of this city. Minneapolis has created a free-for-all for displaced Chicago criminals and we have had enough. Do something about it that isn't another "feel good for criminals solution".

6/29/2020 6:03:41 PM

We need the police, Minneapolis has gotten so bad because the people know that the police really can't do anything, I have lived here all my life and I have never seen it this bad till now. I think that the city council and the so called mayor should go out with the police at night and see what they have to go through with the crime and not getting any respect. Yes we do have some bad cops but we also have a lot of people causing problems and just cry racial because they got caught.

6/29/2020 6:03:55 PM

This is just a horrible idea all around. Social workers and community activists don't have any idea about the laws and to put them in charge of "public safety" in a "holistic" way is tantamount to inviting criminals to run the streets. Just reading comments posted on this ludicrous idea on-line from all over the world, and Minneapolis is officially the city to move out of. So many have said they are dropping Minnesota from their travels just due to this really stupid move by our so-called City Council. I wish they would work on repairing all the damage from the riots, (i.e. no grocery stores, no pharmacies, no post office, et al) for the citizens of Longfellow before winter sets in.

6/29/2020 6:04:20 PM

I do not approve of the removal or dismantling of the city's police! We have already witnessed the chaos. I have lived in this city which I love for 53 years and will not hesitate to leave if the police were to be removed. I have no problems with the police, any encounters I have had were acceptable. We are not racist so if the one bad apple causes the whole tree to be cut down, isn't that racist?! Thank you

6/29/2020 6:04:33 PM

I work downtown at the Wells Fargo buildings on 4th street. While this matter will not come for me to vote on it will influence my decision to work from those offices or for Wells Fargo if things are not done in a manner that provides for my personal well being.

6/29/2020 6:05:09 PM

This proposal is insane. Police are needed for a civil and lawful society. Plan your work, and then work your plan. It's apparent the council members have NO idea what happens after dark. The look on my sister-in-law when I visited her and my brother in Minneapolis was frightful. She was very scared about the looting, rioting, and chaos at that time. And this proposal does the same thing. Stop scaring the citizens in our communities in and around Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 6:05:15 PM

My family and friends will no longer be coming downtown. Not even for a baseball or football game.

6/29/2020 6:05:37 PM

For the City Council to proceed with this amendment when we've all seen the lawlessness that has resulted from just the suggestion of removing the Police Department is mind-boggling. We all watched what happened when Mayor Frey told the 3rd Precinct to abandon the building and neighborhood. To think that a "Community of Safety and Violence Prevention" will be able to protect Minneapolis residents is, at best, naive; at worst, it is incompetence of the worst kind. Many of us are already planning to move out of the city, but the people most in danger are the ones without the ability to move, so we are hoping for a way to add a ballot measure to eliminate the City Council. A silver lining is that you may have awakened a renewed interest in teaching Constitutional civics.

6/29/2020 5:54:59 PM

Long over Due!!! Tired of being afraid for my children and their friends from being harassed by the police in addition to the Ridiculous amount of Tax \$\$ for them and they aren't helping Anyone!! Thank You for leading in this and doing the right thing!

6/29/2020 6:06:13 PM

I disagree with this decision and it is reckless and not in the public communities best interest.

6/29/2020 6:07:03 PM

I am in favor of amending the charter in order to establish a different kind of safety and violence prevention department, but I agree with Mayor Frey that this proposed amendment does not address necessary questions in order to move forward. Who will be in charge of this department? Who will that person report to? How many members would this department have? It seems to allow for continued traditional police presence; what will the ratio of UNARMED peace officers to armed officers be? Removing an officer's ability to use deadly force in an instant would have made many, many Black people safer (Chauvin's cold-blooded murder of George Floyd notwithstanding). As a community resident I have never had a situation that required an armed police officer, yet every officer that I've ever interacted with had been armed. If real change is to be enacted, some of these specifics need to be included in the charter or else it will be more business as usual. I applaud your steps to take massive action here, and encourage you to get to the specifics quicker. Thank you

6/29/2020 6:07:35 PM

This is by far the dumbest idea ever proposed by a group of elected officials.

Every US City/County/State has a police department. Crime is rising, South MPLS looks like Syria and we want to defund the police?

The council has offered no plan. I don't think they should be allowed to put up a Charter Amendment vote without any plans in writing. Who knows what the citizen would be agreeing to .....The council could pay off cronies, provide security where they choose, require private citizens buy their own police force, Maybe they charge a Utility fee if you want police protection.

No written plan means no vote!

6/29/2020 6:08:19 PM

I think this is a horrific idea which will promote lawlessness and high crime! Expect to see the murder rate double and triple! Reform, not abolish!

6/29/2020 6:08:22 PM

I have never felt more unsafe in Minneapolis. Businesses will flock out of DT. With crime rates increasing and Covid19 transforming the workplaces DT to telecommunication solutions, the worst possible outcome for the economy would be for dismantling, defunding, or some other cloaked spin term that has the same result. Minneapolis businesses will suffer as will retail, office space, and of course housing prices.

Whomever supports this will regret it in their next election cycle. The city long term viability is more important than anyone of your political careers. Turn Minneapolis into Baltimore is not a winning strategy.

6/29/2020 6:09:01 PM

I attended Minneapolis Community college and played basketball there. I've always enjoyed visiting Minneapolis. If this proposal to eliminate the Minneapolis police department is enacted I have visited Minneapolis for the last time. I will ensure that all professional and civic organizations will discontinue conventions in Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 6:09:36 PM

I liked the block support & community protection mentality that came of the riots, actually. However, please don't do this without a balance of all types of trained professionals. I hope that in your planning, you honor and provide opportunities to the MPD members who have been community building assets to our city. Guns exist, and so does evil. People are not likely to forgive the flaws of or even support a new system that loses sight of protecting people against that end of the spectrum.

6/29/2020 6:62:01 PM

A system that unjustly murders the citizens it's hired to protect And serve does NOT deserve to be in existence. I shouldn't have To worry about my black children's lives being ended by the people who are supposed to protect us. Who am I supposed to call to police the police? Who is going to help when a cop kills/ sexually harrasses/ beats me? If this inept system isn't replaced, no one.

6/29/2020 6:11:19 PM

Removing the Minneapolis Police is completely wrong. As a Minnesota resident, I am fearful of going into Minneapolis now for work. When I meet clients for lunch, I make sure it's out of city limits. It's just not safe anymore. I am also a big Twins & Vikings fan but will no longer attend any sporting events or concerts in the city. As a white woman, I feel extremely unsafe in Minneapolis with the current climate. Without police it will just get so much worse.

6/29/2020 6:11:28 PM

I think defunding the police is just a pipe dream you as city council people have no thought of what the consequences would be. You're actually thinking someone in an office sitting will go to a scene of a stabbing or gun violence or a rape or a suicidal person. Without being armed people don't listen with actual cops I highly doubt they'll listen to an unarmed social worker. You already have guards watching over you because of threats. Also that's totally fine because everyone deserves to feel safe but WAKE UP PEOPLE. I live in Minneapolis and I've seen the violence already and WE have police still can you actually see a city without police. We already have violence every night. How about sending the social workers in to educate the most violent neighborhoods and try and educate parents on how to teach their children not to turn into criminals. Or try riding along with Minneapolis police for a week and see what they put themselves through. I'm all for change but not like this! I will not vote for this and I will not vote for anyone that is for defunding the police.

6/29/2020 6:11:42 PM

I will never, ever deliberately set foot in your city again if this passes. No \$\$ spent.

6/29/2020 6:11:56 PM

I have been a life time resident of Minneapolis. I have not seen this kind of lawlessness happening that is happening now in our city. While I firmly believe the police need training in respecting even those that commit crimes and treating people like human beings. I haven't lived here without witnessing police brutality on more than one occasion and being completely appalled by the behavior. Now is the time to make police accountable for the behavior they display in the field but i am firmly against abolishing the police. I believe the city council is over reaching in the job they have been hired to do. Please do not abolish the police department. We need our police to protect and serve.

6/29/2020 6:12:47 PM

I own properties in mpls. I think restructure would be ideal. New black Police union president along with a new rule that you must live in the area you police. Hire more black police. Pay more money if needed.

6/29/2020 6:12:51 PM

I live in Minneapolis in the Kingfield neighborhood. Under ordinary circumstances, I work in downtown Minneapolis at Xcel Energy's headquarters, although I am presently working from home. I have lived in Minneapolis since 2014 and have worked in Minneapolis since 2011. I consider this city my home I and expect that I will continue to live and work here for the foreseeable future.

As a citizen of Minneapolis, I have been extremely concerned with the recent misconduct we have seen from our police department, not only in the killing of George Floyd, but also in the mistreatment of peaceful protesters (and even the news media) in the days that followed. The police department, in theory, is supposed to provide safety for all citizens of Minneapolis. It seems, however, that the department as it presently exists falls dramatically short of this goal. There has been much discussion on what is needed to change this. Among other things, the City Council has recently proposed an amendment to the charter to address this issue.

While no one approach is a panacea, I firmly believe this amendment and ballot question are a step in the right direction, and I support them as they are currently worded. The proposed amendment, generally, provides for three key changes to the charter:

- Replacing the existing police department with a public safety and violence prevention department. While the new department would include a division of licensed peace officers as a component, it would also include other employees and approaches to public safety.
- Removing the Mayor's "complete power" over the department, therefore meaning that power would be shared with the council.
- Removing the minimum requirements regarding the number of employees in the department, therefore leaving such details to the judgment of the council.

I am supportive of all three of these changes.

-First, and most importantly, the amendment allows for the existing department to be replaced with a holistic approach to public safety. There is a saying that "When all you have is a hammer, everything looks like a nail." Well, right now, all we have in our public safety toolbox is a hammer - a department of armed individuals with use of force training. Replacing the police department as it presently exists with a new, holistic approach will allow the city to finally have a full toolbox for public safety.

-In addition, placing the division of licensed peace officers under the control of the larger department of public safety helps to ensure that there is robust civilian oversight, a critical component in reform.

-Much like with any other aspect of our city's governance, control of the department in the amendment is divided between the executive and legislative branches of the city, as it should be, rather than giving "complete power" to the mayor.

-Finally, I am supportive of removing the requirements concerning minimum numbers of employees for the department. This is far too detailed for such a fundamental document as the city charter. The council should be able to adapt the size and budget of the department as needed due to current conditions, being responsive to the needs and desires of the citizenry at the present moment.

In addition, I would ask that the Charter Commission and the Council do all they they can to "fast-track" this process so the amendment can indeed be placed upon the ballot this November. Recent events have shown that the problems in the Minneapolis Police Department are deep and urgent. Fundamental change is needed as soon as possible. We cannot afford to put this off until November of 2021.

I appreciate your consideration of my comments. I look forward to casting my vote on this critical issue facing Minneapolis this November.

6/29/2020 6:13:47 PM

Do not get rid of the police or replace them. The public needs the police to keep us safe. You can't replace them because of public pressure. You guys have sworn in these officers and approved these officers. Do better at training them in the academy and making sure the bad seeds get replaced or face additional training depending on what happened. I believe in law enforcement and support police officers!!

6/29/2020 6:13:48 PM

If Minneapolis disbands the police, I will avoid the city for anything besides necessary visits. This is a foolish, rash, and emotional decision. Reform yes, but not erase.

6/29/2020 6:13:57 PM

I refuse to set foot in Minneapolis unless I absolutely have to go there. The Police presence is a comfort to me. The police Officers I know and bump I to are: kind, humble, helpful, and care about all who find themselves in Minneapolis.

My husband mentioned eating at a wonderful restaurant in Minneapolis, I refused because of how terrible the Police Officers are being treated AND their possible removal.



6/29/2020 6:14:04 PM

If Minneapolis disbands the police, I will avoid the city for anything besides necessary visits. This is a foolish, rash, and emotional decision. Reform yes, but not erase.

6/29/2020 6:14:35 PM

I like the proposed amendment. It eliminates the police requirement from the charter which would give the City a lot more flexibility in how it conducts public safety. The amendment also allows for peace officers to still exist, which I believe is important, but there shouldn't be as many and they should be supporting people trained with more applicable skills, such as mental health and deescalation. The City is going to always need the means to enforce the law but stepping back and taking a look at the bigger picture community health and safety is the better way to do it.

6/29/2020 6:14:55 PM

Keep our police department please!!!

6/29/2020 6:65:17 PM

Keep our police department please!!!

6/29/2020 6:15:42 PM

I support the proposed charter amendment and want all Minneapolis residents to be able to vote on this pressing issue in this upcoming November election. The time to act is now, this is what people are requesting so please don't delay this. We need to move forward/onward.

6/29/2020 6:15:44 PM

As a Minneapolis resident I did not agree that defunding and removing the police department is appropriate. While I agree some changes need to be made to the police department including more frequent training of officers, a better vetting process and more accountability to unnecessary use of force, I do not agree with replacing police officers with people who are less capable of dealing with criminal situations. The country as a whole needs law and order and Minneapolis is no exception. As we have all sadly seen first hand, when there is no police presence crime and violence puts people and property at great risk. Just take a drive down Lake Street and you will see what happens when there are no police. It is my opinion that a lot of what is happening in our city is more of a people problem than a system problem. We need more programs to help ALL PEOPLE be better and live better. Keeping the people of Minneapolis safe is an important step in helping people do better. There is no room for bad police officers and we need to do better in identifying them and removing them so the good officers can do what they do best. Saying all police are bad is like saying all people are bad and we all know that is not true. I agree the residents and police department CAN work together to make everyone feel safe. Put more funds into more positive police and community interactions and better programs for people who may need help getting on a better path. I believe there are far better ways to make positive changes for everyone to feel safe than removing police officers. Let's make decisions based on the needs of all not on the emotions of some.

6/29/2020 6:15:45 PM

This is the worst idea I have ever heard. I do not support this at all. We need a police department. The answer isn't removing the police department. Frankly, any council member who supports this should be removed from office.

6/29/2020 6:16:01 PM

Removing the Police Department from the City charter or otherwise reducing Law Enforcement's ability to respond to crime forcefully and directly is a terrible idea. If it were to happen, I would sell my house and leave this State for the safety of my family. I was born in Minneapolis 51 years ago and I wouldn't say that lightly.

6/29/2020 6:17:23 PM

Completely disbanding the police is an absolutely terrifying and ridiculous option. There is no reason the police should be entirely removed. Reform? Yes. Proper training? Yes. Additional resources to help with crisis situations (mental health professionals, social workers, etc.)? Yes. I am truly considering moving out of Minneapolis because the violence in the last weeks has been outrageous, and this is not going to help.

6/29/2020 6:17:43 PM

I just read the proposed amended language for the city charter put forward by the council. I can tell you this large of a change really needs more community engagement and detail before I would vote yes. I am very uncomfortable with the requirement the leader of the new department have NO law enforcement experience. I wonder to myself where they would recruit such an employee? I also wonder if we really need a mayor since this is a clear power grab from the council.

I think this needs to go back to the working group and submitted with more detail for 2021. Rushing this thru in a matter of a couple of weeks is really not enough time to have thoughtfully considered a change of this magnitude.

If the amendment as written gets on the ballot in November 2020, I will be voting no.

Thank you.

6/29/2020 6:18:05 PM

Are you fucking retarded I guess I'll start robbing places cause a citizen can't legally detain me they can perform a citizens arrest and then have to wait for cops to arrive but wait that's right you dumbasses got rid of the police so enjoy the high crime rate

6/29/2020 6:18:37 PM

This is ridiculous. I don't even feel safe in my condo anymore. The police department should absolutely stay in place. Should we make adjustments? Absolutely. Will the city council be paying the difference in lost value for my condo? No one wants to live in this city anymore you are turning it into the next Detroit.

6/29/2020 6:18:38 PM

Please remove the police department and pave the way for a safer future for the residents of Minneapolis. The police department is currently radical and dangerous. Your work now will change the way policing is done all over the world. Thank you.

6/29/2020 6:18:47 PM

I do not support these changes. The council members are ridiculous and have no idea what they are doing. They get paid way too much to play around with our safety and community. They don't know how to effectively communicate with their community members. No knowledge of leadership. I've never felt more unsafe since Lisa Bender went on CNN and made a fool of herself.

6/29/2020 6:18:48 PM

It's so ridiculous to even think of dismantling the police department! I think we need more well trained police. Crime is just going to get worse without police. The criminals are just waiting for this to happen.

6/29/2020 6:19:49 PM

I do not agree with the changes to the charter. We already have a high number of shootings and violence. A statement that the city may maintain a division of law enforcement services is ridiculous. This should be a requirement regardless of other changes that are made. I don't consider being able to call the police for something like a home invasion to be white privilege - it is a basic right of citizens and has nothing to do with race.

6/29/2020 6:67:06 PM

In my opinion, this proposal is ridiculous! I have watched our state become a joke to the whole country. I am actually embarrassed to be a resident. You've already used the media to turn everyone against the police, so doing something like this would at least keep the officers safe by removing them, but how are the rest of the citizens supposed to feel safe. I am 43 years old and have NEVER once in my life felt the need or desire to have a gun, but 2 weeks ago, we bought one because I don't feel safe in this state anymore. You are letting criminals do whatever they want with no consequences because you aren't letting cops do their jobs. Has anyone ever thought that if George Floyd wouldn't have been breaking the laws on the first place, none of this would've happened? I am sure the officer involved didn't intentionally kill him while he was knowingly being recorded..

6/29/2020 6:20:49 PM

I work in Minneapolis and I want to see a comprehensive plan as to how you are protecting the safety of both the residents and the daily workers by defunding the police. Minneapolis used to be a great city. Without peacekeepers that are trained, and not just neighborhood vigilantes, You will become Chicago.

6/29/2020 6:21:06 PM

My family lives in your jurisdiction. I am a dispatcher in NC. Train your police, give them more money, hire & maintain quality standards. You are not going to get anywhere giving in to the lawlessness and starting from scratch!

6/29/2020 6:21:10 PM

I live downtown- and the violence has only gotten worse in the last 3 years. Now is not the time to consider removing the police department. I'm contemplating moving out of Minneapolis permanently if this happens and even out of state when my lease ends in September 2020— and several of my friends are also. I don't think you have thought through the implications of this. We cannot be compared to a much smaller city in New Jersey. The risks here are too great. We need union reform and less of the corrupt officers being let back on. That is the whole issue.

I can promise you- Minneapolis will become a shadow of its former self if you do this. The whole world is already laughing at us.

6/29/2020 6:21:12 PM

Please continue forth with abolishing the police.

6/29/2020 6:21:13 PM

I support the proposed amendment to the City Charter to remove the MPD. Over the past month, I have watched my community take care of itself without, and in spite of, the MPD. There are a million other ways to deal with the issues that the MPD is charged with doing - community-based and based in actual justice. If we dismantle and defund the MPD, there will be more resources available to assist residents without turning to constant criminalization, and a disparate and violent response to Black and brown residents. My community wants better. Minneapolis had a chance to be bold and a change for justice.

6/29/2020 6:21:34 PM

I'm not a resident of Minneapolis but I'm a trim finish carpenter and work in Minneapolis quite a bit , I will not be picking up any jobs in Minneapolis and either will my company , where done working in Minneapolis, I hope other construction company's follow suit and refuse to pick up jobs and work in Minneapolis, good luck , abolish the police are you fricken crazy , it's already scary working out there

6/29/2020 6:22:03 PM

I am highly against removing the Police Department, but highly for removing the whole city council and the mayor. The Police Department does need to make some changes, and I feel the Chief of Police is capable of make these changes with the right support. He has asked for more officers in order to answer calls and be community oriented. Right now, there aren't enough officers to just answer calls and that is embarrassing. The Mayor and City Council have failed up to this point and now is time to have each and everyone of them removed from office. They need to be replaced by people that have the community as #1 priority. The gun violence has needed to be addressed for way too long. If the Police Department is removed the citizens of Minneapolis are all in grave danger to live in the city. We need good leaders, not a removal of the Police Department.

6/29/2020 6:22:31 PM

No but union has to go or be their just for wage and benifits,and all police have to be healed to a higher standerd,I should be on a board to discuss this,as a 68 year old white man that grew up as the minority in a mostly black area I had a gun put to my head by police and thaken to lake phalen with my 2 black friends and beaten

6/29/2020 6:22:51 PM

If you want a strong, confident, dependable and professional Police Department you will make the wise choice to train, support and fund YOUR police department.

If the force is defunded by you, I will no longer bring my family & grandchildren to Minneapolis to attend any concerts or professional games.....I can GUARANTEE you that your city will become a "Chicago". It will no longer be safe for ANYONE!!!!

Hope you can use common sense and make the right choice!

6/29/2020 6:23:01 PM

While I do not live in Minneapolis proper, I do work downtown. Before the Floyd killing, I witnessed drug deals, fighting and general safety concerns waiting for the bus at 5th and Nicollet during mid afternoon. When Nicollet was closed and the bus ran on Hennepin I saw blatant crime, and avoided working in the office.

The thought of less protection is not a risk I am willing to take. When the Super Bowl was in town, and the city was at its finest. How will you ever get Twins fans, or other events?

What happened to George Floyd was murder, add to that less policing count me and my disposal spending OUT.

The bicycle lovers dream out the door, the values and overall appreciation of the residents and visitors has all but been eliminated.

6/29/2020 6:23:31 PM

As a lifelong resident of Minneapolis and a homeowner, I object to the proposed amendment to remove the MPD to establish a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department. Change the policies so that bad cops are held accountable and removed (like Chauvin).

After watching the video of Chauvin killing Floyd, then the looters and arsonists burning and stealing among protestors who were trying to keep it peaceful, I am deeply disturbed by the utter lack of response from city leadership. The levels of shootings we are now experiencing in Mpls. is intolerable for a city of which I was once proud. Having three City Council members spending \$4,500 daily for private security suggests that they too feel the need for protection.

Like the three council members, we all would feel more secure knowing that there are well-trained police officers, who are held accountable to high standards, available to protect us should we need it.

6/29/2020 6:23:39 PM

As a teacher and resident I have so many concerns about this charter. I have lived in Minneapolis for over 20 years. I feel that the council moved ahead on this for publicity and without taking some time to first gather comments, thoughts, and suggestions. Although I support more funding for services like counseling and Social Workers, disbanding the police force seems extreme. I do not support this as written.

6/29/2020 6:23:40 PM

The actions/inactions of the mayor and council over the past month are a complete disgrace. I and many others will no longer frequent this dismal city. I hope the Minneapolis police officers who are not able to retire find jobs with other agencies that will treat them with dignity and respect. I also suggest you stop blaming the union for all the issues created as a result of years of failed city/police leadership. Good luck in trying to find new peace officers. I know firsthand how difficult it is to find qualified officer candidates-ones who can pass a background and psychological exam and who possess good moral character. Anyone who still wants to pursue this career will most definitely not want to work for your organization.

6/29/2020 6:24:15 PM

Please get the Police out of military equipment and out of Minneapolis. For far to long they have used oppression and violence against all people. They are violent and racist and need to be disbanded.

6/29/2020 6:24:17 PM

This is one of the most lamest idea that I've ever heard

6/29/2020 6:24:19 PM

I will vote no on this matter city council is acting fearfully, under duress, pressure and pushing this through so quickly without thoughtful approach to make incremental changes so any changes can be monitored to know what works and what doesn't! I have family that have served in police forces and after talking to many of them the city will lose many good cops and the ramifications of the future of the city Minneapolis are under jeopardy... slow down and make thoughtful changes!

6/29/2020 6:25:59 PM

Not less officers. Better trained officers. More training for officers. Less authority and hierarchy within the department (especially in the academy). More transparency to the public for officers violations. legalize marijuana. Stop having police spend their time pulling people over for minor offenses on the road. You can hire a force of monkeys to hold a radar gun and hand out speeding tickets.

6/29/2020 6:26:01 PM

I won't support the change in the charter with the current information available. I don't support having no police force. I do support significant reform. I need real answers to why the current positions on the force can not be restructured. Responses of previous reform has failed are not enough. Exactly what reform was tried and why did it fail? How will this change address those issues and still provide (not maybe allow but definitely provide) a police force? How will this change in the city charter impact the state laws that need to be changed? Why would this change need to happen first because it seems like the laws need to be changed first? Why can't we get rid of all current positions and rehire outside the union? With only a concept to eliminate the police force I will not vote for this change.

6/29/2020 6:26:56 PM

Wow, just wow. Are you thinking long term with this? From my perspective, if this passes, why would I ever visit, eat at a local restaurant, shop somewhere local, or do business in this area? Secondly, if for some reason I had to step foot in that city, why in the hell would I bring along my wife and children?

6/29/2020 6:27:17 PM

It's the dumbest thing I've ever heard of I'll stop going to Minneapolis. Stop trying to disband doesn't obey on more training most cops risk there's lives every day to protect people they serve. Good luck it's a complete disgrace to the state of Minnesota

6/29/2020 6:27:41 PM

A short sighted, destructive, malevolent and ultimately ineffective bit of "reform." A naked power grab with nothing written in stone. The word "may" is used a bit. This is basically a blank sheet of paper for a CC wildly out of touch and already given far too much power.

6/29/2020 6:28:04 PM

I do not agree with defunding the police dept. I have lived in Mpls my entire life but I won't remain in this city without a fully functioning police dept. I have lived in my NE Mpls home for the past 27 years. I have yet to find a single neighbor in support of defunding. In fact several have stated that they too will move out of the city if the police are defunded. I think Chief Arradondo is an excellent chief. I think he is more qualified to handle the departmental changes than any of you are. He is a black man, undoubtedly experienced racism and knows what it is really like to be a police officer. It's easy for us to be arm chair officers because it's safe and we don't possess the courage needed. I certainly believe there are racist police officers but I don't believe the majority of the Mpls department is racist. Obviously the media isn't going to show all of the kind and peaceful instances of white officers engaging with people of color. Sadly it wouldn't be newsworthy in a society addicted to sensationalism and tragedy. I think your efforts should be going into negotiations with the union to ensure that the police chief has the power to permanently terminate problem officers. In addition, the revolving door of "injustice" should also be addressed. Crime has been increasing in NE, SE(dinkytown) and North because criminals know that most will receive "stayed sentences". This applies to criminals with lengthy records as well! Crime is free in Mpls so why stop?

Lastly, you could tackle the homeless situation which has resulted in our parks becoming unsafe for the children they are designed to serve. This debacle is an international embarrassment. I saw the story in a London newspaper and the British were appalled by the stupidity.

6/29/2020 6:28:26 PM

Yeah. We don't need people with guns and the job of putting people in jail to take care of every problem. Of course, armed officers are necessary for plenty of jobs, but funds could be better distributed to solve some problems at the root, rather than militarize the police force.

6/29/2020 6:29:22 PM

I feel that changing the city charter before the council has established a plan to present to the citizens of Minneapolis is wrong. The council stated that it would take a year to do a study and come up with a viable plan of change. They should do their study, present a plan to the citizens clearly stating the changes they hope to make and how it will be paid for, before they move ahead to change the charter.

6/29/2020 6:29:43 PM

Do not abolish the Minneapolis police department because of your leadership failures! Also, I would like to see the city council's private security detail that taxpayers pay for abolished! Thank you.

6/29/2020 6:30:02 PM

I am writing to inform you of my dismay as a constituent of the 4th Ward of how the 'Dismantle the MPD' initiative has been handled.

This City Council has appeared to pander to the media and listen to only one group; not all constituents, which is what the job entails and for what my taxes pay.

I believe their actions and planned actions are and will cause grave consequences to the businesses and safety of the residents of this city.

I believe that the Proposed Charter amendment related to community safety and violence prevention should be something that is discussed with the community and voted on by the community before the City Council removes the Police Department as a Charter Department, Article VII and Article VIII.

If you are planning to have year-long community engagement and input in this process, then why do we need to make this change now?

The City Council does not need more power over this process, especially since they do not include the community they serve in the process.

Mr Cunningham has repeatedly ignored constituents input or requested feedback through polling that doesn't allow for alternative opinions, to justify his policy decisions.

The recent acts of Council Members have made me lose trust in these city leaders. Based on how this situation has been handled, it appears the agenda is not about color of skin or equality, it is about the agendas and political pursuits of the City Council. If past behavior is any sign of the future, then I will make my voice heard at the polls when the time comes.



Should you want to discuss these comments you may reach me at [REDACTED]

Regards,

Ward 4 resident and home owner for 25 years

6/29/2020 6:30:06 PM

Are you going to provide a more clear action plan before the ballot so Minneapolis and surrounding twin cities understands exactly what this means?

1) Shootings will increase exponentially in predominantly black communities (already happening with current police force who is unable to proactively police due to the current climate)

2) More businesses will close due to safety concerns

3) Will not be able to have concerts, sporting events, truck deliveries, etc due to lack of security

4) There is currently the Hennepin County COPE program which responds to mental health calls with police officers. How will your strategy be any better/different?

5) Exactly how many Peace Officers will you keep for the first year? The community deserves concrete numbers to understand how drastic of a change this will be, and proven statistics to show you can guarantee their safety if it's a low number.

6) Are you actually interacting with minority community members and the MPD to get their feedback? Many people do not want to get rid of the department but are for more accountability measures. Also there's sources that say the City Council doesn't even go on their mandated MPD ride alongs so you're not fully understanding how the officers interact with the community and ignorant to the amount of high risk calls they deal with.

6/29/2020 6:30:46 PM

As a resident of Minneapolis, I am not in favor of the current amendment being proposed by the council. Most of the council members have been on the council for more than a year and made no effort to reform the current community safety standards. This rushed amendment feels like an opportunistic power grab on the heels of a turbulent period following the murder of another black citizen by the police. I am all for reform and a new standard in policing but the upheaval and onslaught of violence following the council's photo op in the park announcing the intention to defund the police indicates that the city is not prepared to completely gut the current system and start over with a new one for which there is no plan. This is a rushed reactive response when the council should have been proactive long ago and started putting a plan in place. It's wonderful that the city residents are paying for increased security for council members but most of us cannot afford private security detail. This is an amendment that may well come in the future but not in the current state the city is in. The council has not even addressed the concerns of citizens over the barrage of gun battles, car jackings and assaults that have taken place over the last few weeks. That alone shows the instability of the community and the vast ineptitude of the current council. This is something that should have been thought out, plotted and planned long ago over a period of months if not years to get the public safety measures right the first time. There may very well only be one chance to get it right and this rush to save face by the council is most likely not it. Any proposals for amendments should have detailed plans and platforms to correct the systemic racism.

In the police department but there is no plan. Citizen groups cannot even agree on basic principles for a plan and this rush to push this amendment through is clearly an emotional hotbed and the lack of information and misinformation floating across the city is going to result in disaster . Please send the amendment back to the council so that they can actually spend time developing A strategy and incorporating citizen concerns and ideas to bring a plan forth that will not cause further upheaval.

6/29/2020 6:31:45 PM

If I no longer feel safe I will no longer be attending the 20 Twins, couple Vikings, and Timberwolves games not to mention the many Hennepin theater district events we go to. If the police are gone so am I.

6/29/2020 6:32:49 PM

I completely disapprove in the manner in which this council has been conducting their business. They have ignored residents who don't go along with their agenda.

I disapprove that the police should be dismantled, and in fact, I think that the original request of 409 additional officers for safe staffing made by the chief should be honored.

I do not feel at all like I've had any kind of representation or voice in anything this current council has done. I feel they've divided and damaged the city. I feel crime has gone way up due to their hate for the police, and leniency toward crime, and that city wife safety is a huge concern and I am concerned daily for my own safety. If this dosent improve, I will move— right after I cast my vote for different representatives and making my voice heard to the citizens who've been ignored

6/29/2020 6:33:27 PM

For subsection 7.4 3C, there is no mention of the fire chief's capacity to call in other fire departments from neighboring municipalities to assist with fire emergencies. This should be clarified in light of the chief's inaction on this front during the riots of 5/28-05/30/2020. There should also be consequences in the charter if the fire chief does not appear to take action even though the charter states the chief has the power to execute specific measures.

For subsection 7.3, there is currently no indication of where funding will come from and what funding standards need to be maintained. At the least, a framework or formula for calculating funding minimums needs to be included in the charter. This will be especially critical in the event that mental health professionals (e.g. psychologists, social workers) are called to mental health emergencies. We have seen past examples of these reforms getting swept away due to budget cuts. A charter amendment mandating funding standards for this new department and highly specialized roles (those requiring a master's degree or greater education) needs to be included to ensure this new department does not suffer from abnormally high attrition or is wiped out altogether.

6/29/2020 6:34:27 PM

The City Council has already tainted the respect of the police department and should not have commented or claimed the defunding before asking the community inside Minneapolis and those of us that travel in or do business there. This has caused violence, disrespect and harm to Minneapolis in many ways both by violence increases and economics due to people not coming in. The police department needs the back up of officials and funding that would allow more training and additional support of counselors etc. I do not feel safe going into the city due to their actions. Also, it sounds like the officers should be decertifying the union and that solves a lot.

6/29/2020 6:35:57 PM

The Police protect the individual citizens US Constitutional rights as well as the States Constitution rights. They support our liberty on feeling safe to travel on the streets, shop in the businesses and live in our homes. That simply isn't the case currently. The police need to know that the community supports them especially when most needed. The police officers are people just like you and me. The police expect to go home from there jobs to there families just like anyone else, safe and sound. The members of the council, mayors office, parks and streets expect the same. Eliminating the police department is the same as eliminating the streets department because they are not filling potholes, or the parks department for skipping mowing the lawn. All members of city government are employees of the citizens of Minneapolis. You're job is to ensure safety, opportunity, prosperity for the citizens and businesses of the community. We need to work all together to do better. How does that happen without the police department? I am not in favor of the proposed change to the charter.

6/29/2020 6:36:00 PM

The police force does excellent work. There will always be mistakes. The George Floyd incident doesn't even have the facts displayed for public opinion yet. Where are the body cams?

More training? Sure. Fund it.

I don't want to be an officer and general citizens are not equipped to do so. State law also doesn't permit this.

It's insanity to think otherwise.

How many mentally ill people are also dangerous?

The tax payers pay the police to WIN.

Don't like the police? Stop breaking the law

Almost every example of people dying when they shouldn't have still started with them making a bad decision and usually them fighting the police. Well all bets are off in that case in my book.

The police need to be treated with respect.

When a demographic of the population treats them with abusiveness why would they expect lesser in return?

I have watched how the officers in North Minneapolis are treated. I can't fathom how they keep their cools.

Hats off to them

6/29/2020 6:36:01 PM

Crime is going up all over Minneapolis and you want to cut the police. Stupid. The police need more funding for better training not for you fools to turn your backs on them and screw over the citizens with no proper protection. Oh wait you dont care you have your private security. Bunch of idiots on this city council.

6/29/2020 6:36:19 PM

Stop the insanity now.

6/29/2020 6:36:29 PM

Dear Minneapolis City Council,

While I understand why you want to do this, I disagree with this approach. The level of crime and gun violence in North Minneapolis where I live was high before COVID-19, Mr. Floyd, and your campaign to dismantle and defund the police, and it has skyrocketed since. We need MORE GOOD officers to address these issues, not less. This is not a well-thought out plan and using a buzzwords like "holistic" and "public-health oriented" does not make it better. Hearing gunshots from the backyard, having restaurants blocks away with windows shot out is no way for a family to live (and we live on the very edge of the city), so I can only imagine the terror those that live closer to Lyndale, Penn, and Broadway feel. I do not support this amendment.

6/29/2020 6:36:46 PM

Good luck. I'm moving out of this shithole anyway.

6/29/2020 6:39:28 PM

We need the police here in Mpls.

Get rid of the Union who only protectS the ones that do wrong. That officer that murdered Floyd had 12 complaints against him.

He should have been fired along time ago.

The union protected him.

With all the violence in Mpls right now, the shootings, the armed robberies, etc we need the police.

3 of you are having private security yet we the citizens aren't going to have any?

Come on!

6/29/2020 6:39:42 PM

My suggestion as a retired police officer from Las Vegas Metro, do not abolish MPD. Citizens will not be protected and crime will predictably soar. Mpl violent crime stats are rising. More good police officers should be hired instead

6/29/2020 6:40:22 PM

Go ahead and dismantle the police force. Our family will NEVER spend a dime in your city for as long as we live. Do not ask for my tax money to fix the horrific damage that was allowed by Mayor Frey and Governor Walz. They decided to sit back and watch the city burn and both should resign. This council asks for private protection while getting rid of protection for the public. You all are a joke. Liberal leadership has gotten us to this point, look around. Good luck and stay safe, if you can in that city.

6/29/2020 6:40:50 PM

One thing I hope isn't overlooked is the appearance of whatever replaces the police department. I hope the new department can take cues from Europe and have vehicles and uniforms that are more friendly-looking. It seems like Europe focuses on visibility (which makes sense) whereas American cops use black and white either to intimidate or out of needless tradition.

6/29/2020 6:40:56 PM

Are you all insane?

6/29/2020 6:42:16 PM

I moved and sold my duplexes because of you liberal dnowflakes.

6/29/2020 6:42:47 PM

We are being asked to trust the city counsel with the lives and safety of ourselves, our families, and our communities. The council will not provide a plan in advance that we can make an informed decision on. The risk is far too great, lives are Literally at stake and we are asked to trust a team that has put no effort into working with the communities to ask what it is we want.

Please don't allow this change to go forward until we as the communities the council members are supposed to represent have a voice in making this decision.

Thank you for your time.

6/29/2020 6:42:48 PM

To the Minneapolis City Council,

As a citizen of Minneapolis for over a decade, and a white male whose father was a St. Paul Police officer, I've never had a single positive interaction with any police officer in the MPD, neither have I ever witnessed a single positive interaction between the MPD and the black community.

Police should never be an "us vs. them" affair, and I believe the root of the problem exists in the culture. I can see how deeply the toxicity, racism, and encouragement of force runs in the department. .... I've seen police make gestures of force for no reason in public spaces. They emit an aura of "order" in a way that suggests that they are not here for my safety, or the safety of my friends, or other racial communities.

I am in full support of disbanding the Minneapolis Police Department, and would encourage doing so on opposition of attempts by police unions to uphold the status quo. We NEED a thorough rebuilding and reimagining of public safety. We need several tiers of individuals who are trained (thoroughly and completely, more than two years) to handle separate and specific scenarios, rather than a singular overworked force inflated with funding that's wasted on military surplus. We need a culture of co-operation, and public service, ..... with people of various racial backgrounds, along with people who live in the city and understand its demographics and its communities, rather than an army of out-of-city, out-of-county officers with no desire to interact in a meaningful way, respective of these communities.

Public safety is more than just strong-men in uniforms. Let's build something truly revolutionary, and make ourselves the example to the rest of the country. Let's truly reimagine public safety for the 21st century.

6/29/2020 6:42:50 PM

We, the majority of residents in Minneapolis, do NOT want to abolish the police. YES for more training, absolutely YES more training.

How dare you accuse the residents of Minneapolis of coming from privilege in wanting to keep our families safe ..... And then you, city council members, go out and use our tax dollars for your own private security. HOW DARE YOU.

6/29/2020 6:42:54 PM

No. Just no

No one will go to Mpls

No concerts

No timberwolves games

No twins games

No Vikings games

Not the bars or restaurants

No law and order

No more money.

No one would be safe from the gun violence that is already out of control.

6/29/2020 6:43:23 PM

Defunding or disbanding the police department is a terrible idea for all of the people of Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 6:44:03 PM

My family owns business in MLSP so I've seen and heard of many issues ..... You need start a new training program for officers That go into unsafe or questionable situations. Train them better in social/family matters and how to calm it ..... if you send in holistic or peace officers into uncertain situations and they are not trained correctly they could end up the victim .... you just need better training for the police so they are more well rounded...or send in a "peace officer with an officer outside .....you can not tip toe around the safety MLSP needs and cops are that. You already see and increase in crimes..... you'll be letter people know they can get away with whatever if police are gone..... there are laws that all races need to abide too .... its really odd that a city wants to get ride of its protection. Who

Will save a missing child? An elderly person who is lost? A shooting call? Stop a burglar? Stop rapists? Stolen cars?? You are setting your self up to let the city turn to garabage if their are no police. You need a better way to weed out bad cops. Get ride of the union

And politics in police .... make it a vote between higher levels of a cop is complained about. Unions are only good for bad workers. They keep th employed.

6/29/2020 6:79:04 PM

Please do not abolish or defund the Minneapolis police Department. I am very afraid of what will happen to our great city I have in lived in for 66 years. Born and raised here and think if this happens people are going to move in mass exodus out.

My grandchildren and great grandson do not have the luxury of moving to the suburbs to raise their families and am fearful for them.

Thank you for your time.

6/29/2020 6:44:38 PM

If there are no police, myself not my family will continue to visit, shop, eat, attend sporting events or concerts in Minneapolis. Please rethink this kneejerk horrible decision.

6/29/2020 6:44:59 PM

I firmly believe as an 18 year resident of Minneapolis that we need a police department and community service people could not handle the things that happen in our city. Guns, domestic abuse, woman being attacked a child being threatened a woman raped. if you have never had to make a call about these things, you do not understand the importance of the police. I have made calls, I have witnessed good police and kindness from police. They do exist and the city would be so much worse off without them.

6/29/2020 6:45:02 PM

Save the police. Get rid of the bad eggs

6/29/2020 6:45:07 PM

Every employee and business owner who works in Minneapolis regardless of where they live needs to be allowed to vote.

6/29/2020 6:45:28 PM

I'm open to seeing some change as far as policing goes in the City of Minneapolis, but I am a little concerned about the seemingly lack of a plan going forward after defunding. I would like to see a better plan in place before we go forward along with the time frame for when things would happen. I'm open to hearing any kind of plan, but we need to have one.

6/29/2020 6:46:01 PM

Nearing 50 years on this earth and NEVER have I seen such a ridiculous decision made by a group of adults. Thanks to your vote to disband the MPLS Police Department my family and I will not set foot in your city again. I do hope the businesses that were destroyed, after the George Floyd incident, will take their insurance money and move to a city that will protect them and their business. I hope your liberal agenda and decisions will haunt you. You are destroying a beautiful city. Who are you calling on to protect you now? Private security? Why? If the people don't get it on taxpayer dollars you shouldn't either! Your upcoming elections can't come soon enough! I hope the eyes of your citizens have been opened and they replace each and every one of you! Your actions are disgraceful!

6/29/2020 6:46:25 PM

i think we should seek to remove the 2nd amendment from the constitution.....or rename arms to tasers only..... this shoot to kill strategy is crazy .....although less violent people procreating might lead to less violent societies..... i think we could tase .....but i also think a lot of problems with law breakers is that they don't believe in the laws. for example some want to smoke weed or use harder substances ..... it'd be nice if we had mind altering substances legalized and regulated with therapists at designated zoned locations so as to thwart driving impaired. when drugs feel as good as they do and the danger of getting caught adds to the high i think our current system does not thwart behaviors. i wish we could all vote on our electronics and create our own personal constitutions ..... trying to fit everybody into one freedom choice seems stupid given the complexity of sociologically. i'd love to chat more ..... i live in princeton minnesota these days but used to live in st paul and minneapolis ..... thank you for asking for input .... that is what will bring the community together ..... when they had a part in creating it.

6/29/2020 6:46:48 PM

Mpls resident for 55 years.

We need the police here!

Have you noticed all the increase in crimes ?

Calling a neighbor when my house is being broken into wouldn't do any good.

This will just increase gun purchases to self protect ourselves!



6/29/2020 6:47:21 PM

If the last few weeks of unrest has shown us anything, it's that we need police officers.

I grew up in Minneapolis, and bought my first home there. I love this city and after watching what city leadership allowed to happen, my heart is broken. I very recently moved from Minneapolis because of the crime. My family is still in the city, and with police presence, the crime has escalated significantly. If you think removing officers and putting a community policing system in place is going to improve this you are so incredibly wrong. There are so many citizens that rely on law enforcement to ensure their safety in the city of Minneapolis that if you remove them, these people will be left helpless.

Reform is great, it is needed. Replacing police will create more dangerous situations for the law abiding citizens in the city. Decisions made up to this point on how to handle the unrest have been disappointing to say the least, and this adds to the immense disappointment. This city has been through enough. Areas that once were safe aren't anymore. Even with the police this isn't under control.

Removing the police will be the beginning of the end for the city of Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 6:47:25 PM

Abolishing the police department is the stupidest thing I have ever heard. The criminals have guns. If we have no police, to deal with the guns on the street HOW ARE PEOPLE in this city going to feel safe? Are you expecting every household to have a permit to carry? This is insane. You cannot send a social worker into the gang wars.

We need BETTER TRAINED police. The current training program is inadequate. We need police who LIVE in Minneapolis and who take the time to know the people in the community. My favorite good cops example are the Bike Cops for Kids. These guys circulate on bikes and build relationships and TRUST with the kids and their parents. Get the cops walking a beat and building relationships to the people who live in the community. Oversight of the police is essential and demilitarize them. Most of all please extend their education and training. Get Kroll out of office! It is sickening that I live in a highly Democratic City and the Police were sitting at Trump rallies. A very sickening visual that the police/police union are non-representative of the people they serve and protect. Get the politics out of the police! Why should they be supporting ANY PARTY, much less a very racist, misogynistic party at that.

If you abolish the police, you further be hurting every home owner cause of the crime is not controlled, there will be a major exodus from the city. Property values will tank when crime and shootings continue without a police force. We already pay horrendous property taxes, with frequently having double digit percentage increases. The growing senior segment of the city population is literally be taxed out of their homes.

Your vision is unrealistic. It is as unrealistic as the housing development decisions to not require parking space for each housing unit. No one is giving up their cars, particularly after how COVID impacted the availability of public transportation.

6/29/2020 6:48:54 PM

I do not think Minneapolis should disband the police department. Violent crime is getting worse in Minneapolis we need police to deal with crime and keep the community safe.

6/29/2020 6:49:00 PM

Renaming the department of police and changing it's focus to public safety is a good first step. Changing the hearts and minds of the officers is something that is going to take a lot longer and be much more difficult, but that has to be the end goal.

6/29/2020 6:50:27 PM

I live outside of Minneapolis city limits, but definitely DON'T agree with getting rid of the police department. I think that a combination of citizens, social workers and police should be used to try to control and improve the city and its problems. If anything, I think you need MORE police. Maybe you could to use some of the social workers to help educate the police better too. I have lived here my whole life and have never felt so unsafe and/or embarrassed by our city/state! Way too much violence, carjacking, shooting, rioting, "no rules—anything goes" now days. Very sad!!!! (I also don't see why this decision is the city council's decision, and not more of our state leader's decision).

6/29/2020 6:51:01 PM

I am definitely not for getting rid of the MPD. I feel there needs to be more training on how to evaluate and handle situations that put a police officer in danger. I feel we the people should be making these decisions by being able to vote on it. I am not willing to give the City Council my ok on something that they aren't even sure how it is going to work. I have lived in Minneapolis for 34 years and paid taxes witch go up every year. I feel that I am owed a sense of security just as the City Council has with their private security. If they proceed in getting rid of or decreasing the amount of Minneapolis police officers we will be putting our house up for sale and moving far away from here.

6/29/2020 6:51:22 PM


This amended charter would leave the city and its citizens completely unsafe. Some examples of this have already occurred with the amount of violence that has occurred over the last two weeks and would only continue. There will be a huge ripple effect on so many other things including the overall economy as businesses will not stand for putting their employees or staff in an unsafe position and pull out of Minneapolis. Residents will flock to the suburbs. If the goal is to have an unsafe and empty city then this is certainly a step in that direction.

Is business everything? No. But our states largest city cannot be without a police force. This is highly concerning that the City Council actually thinks not having police is even remotely close to the right answer. I ask and challenge each of them to show any type of action plan. As an employee of downtown it already feels unsafe more than it should with a regular police presence. Take that away and it's the Wild West.... the city council should be ashamed of themselves and take a look in the mirror... the citizens are not their guinea pigs, the city is not a test subject. Take the lollipops, clouds, and dreams elsewhere and all resign now

I do not believe defunding or abolishing a police department is the correct choice

Lets face the actual facts George Floyd wasn't an Angel ... He did not deserve to die but he certainly wasn't an angel .....The police also save lives you know take for instance the boston Bombing and the events of 9/11 the police were the and so were the looters as well.

The unfortunate death of George Floyd which sparked a Civil War like atmosphere in America has now snowballed into worldwide protests. All four officers involved have now been suspended, arrested and charged. Floyd had moved to Minneapolis after being released from Texas prison for aggravated robbery. He was under the influence of fentanyl and methamphetamine at the time of arrest. He went to jail for atleast 5 times and a look at George Floyd's profile as per court documents reads like a career criminal involved in drug abuse, theft, criminal trespassing, aggravated robbery as well as entering a woman's home and pointing a gun at her stomach while looking for drugs and money.



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### 9/11 Illness Kills More Cops Than Attack

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On September 11, Blind Luc...  
theatlantic.com

6/29/2020 6:84:01 PM

DO NOT DISMANTLE THE POLICE! You are DESTROYING Minneapolis and if you go forward with this garbage YOU LOSE ALL OF OUR VOTES!

6/29/2020 6:52:07 PM

Do not defund or replace the Minneapolis police. The problem is too many convicted criminals are set free and not kept locked up where they belong.

6/29/2020 6:53:11 PM

The section that says the city council MAY maintain a law enforcement gives the city council too much power and too much ambiguity around the proposed changes. As a resident I'm for change and defunding the police department but I still want a police department. Without a more thought out plan on what a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department looks like and how they handle various situations I will be voting against amending the charter.

6/29/2020 6:53:36 PM

I am against defunding the Minneapolis police. As a person who works and does business downtown I would feel extremely uncomfortable walking and driving alone in the city. It would definitely make me rethink working in Minneapolis if the police presence was not there. I would absolutely work and spend my money elsewhere if the police were abolished.

6/29/2020 6:53:45 PM

I am against defunding the Minneapolis police. As a person who works and does business downtown I would feel extremely uncomfortable walking and driving alone in the city. It would definitely make me rethink working in Minneapolis if the police presence was not there. I would absolutely work and spend my money elsewhere if the police were abolished.

6/29/2020 6:53:48 PM

This is the worst idea ever. This is just a way for us democrats to be able to say they changed the system. We already have a good system. It needs to be reformed. The leadership is broken

They need more training NOT reduced funding!!

6/29/2020 6:54:46 PM

A failure to plan is not a plan. It is ridiculous to ask us to vote on no plan.

6/29/2020 6:55:39 PM

We frequent Minneapolis. If the police are abolished I will not feel safe to shop or eat at restaurants there. I'm already planning to completely avoid the city if there's no police department. However, something needs to be changed and officers who are guilty of racist tactics or abuse need to be fired.

6/29/2020 6:55:41 PM

I work in Minneapolis and would not feel safe coming into the city if you abolish the police. I'm horrified that you are even considering it. Look at what is happening in the Powderhorn Park area! The whole city will be like that! Why would you want to destroy the beautiful city of Minneapolis?

6/29/2020 6:56:00 PM

I live in Brooklyn Park MN.

If the police are defunded I will NO LONGER come to the city of Minneapolis. I won't come to the wonderful ARTS in Minneapolis such as the Guthrie. I wouldn't come to Twins games or Vikings games. You will lose money in taxes and many businesses will suffer.

6/29/2020 6:57:40 PM

The seriousness of all events are a huge reminder to fully evaluate everything instead of having a knee-jerk reaction. I agree things need to be evaluated but I fully oppose forcing something that hasn't had the time to be fully evaluated. This should be on the next political in 2021 and not now. There are numerous people that I have talked with who are too afraid to make comments because they fear for their safety. How can there be a democratic discussion when one person/party/side won't participate as an adult? This world, and country, needs to communicate and connect, that would help many of the problems people are having.

6/29/2020 6:57:43 PM

As a former law abiding, tax paying resident (30+ years) of Minneapolis, I can honestly say the Minneapolis police department has been nothing but watchful and helpful. Nobody will want to live in Minneapolis if there are no police keeping residents safe, and I for one will not return if they are abolished. This is a disastrous idea, please, let's not go there. Reform, do not abolish!

6/29/2020 6:57:57 PM

Thank you for voting to abolish the police department, the safety of our community counts on it. The pressure is on for you all to continually advocate for change in all areas of our city's structure. I, as a resident and voter, expect community leaders of diverse backgrounds to be heavily included in the process of creating a new department of safety.

6/29/2020 6:58:01 PM

Hold it.

Take my pen for a minute.

Look this way.

Our city council says we all die some day?

Defund the police and they make you pay?

Private security to protect thier family is ok?

No way!

If you walk the walk, walk the talk, in your words way.

It will be my family, my cousin, my sister, my brother that will stand in your way. I

defund your privilege all day.

I defund the place where you stay.

You make us pay?

Please vacate this city that you never loved anyway.

I'll watch you leave all day.

6/29/2020 6:58:15 PM

As a tax paying resident of the city of Minneapolis for five plus years, and someone attracted to move here from out of state, I am 100 per cent against the defunding or removal of the police department. This move is antithetical to fixing the issues that do plague our city, but no police would be my incentive to leave the city, and possibly the state, for good.

Since the riots I have seen my neighborhood almost become a warzone. We desperately need MORE well trained men and women on our police force, not less. Violent crime has gone up every year I have been here and I do not feel safe in many places I once did.

Our police need reforms, but we as a city NEED police. They have helped me and my neighbors on many occasions and I do not want to live in a city that values politics and gut-reaction decisions over the safety of all of its residents

6/29/2020 6:58:22 PM

Congratulations on the utter demise and destruction of Minneapolis. Congratulations on your overreaction to drive the largest city into chaos.

George Floyd was murdered by Derek Chauvin. So you vote to disband and abandon your other 600 officers and 300000+ residents and businesses?

You really think I'm going to tell you my really name so when this gets "accidentally" released or hacked and then I get canceled. Yeah right! I'm white. Not racist. An ally to all. I grew up in Minneapolis and have customers in Minneapolis. My mom worked at two businesses that burned at Hiawatha and Lake. No way I'm doing anything there. After all the identity politics and virtue signaling - watch the people and businesses leave. It is already happening.

6/29/87 :58:50 PM

I like the police, and feel defunding them will lessen the quality of policing and candidates. Disbanding the police will create an unsafe city and I would not go there for relaxation or entertainment. No matter what "group" or organization you use to replace it will need policing powers (state authorized through statute). That will then become a police force, no matter what you want to call it. Any police force will have those that are not happy with it, it's the nature of enforcement of rules. The plight of MPD lays as much on the city leaders as it does on the PD. You can't shift the blame on the police only. The council is being irresponsible with the lives and livelihood of 400,000 people.

6/29/2020 6:59:28 PM

It is ludicrous to unfund the police department. We are witnessing violence in our streets every day. The mobs outnumber the police and we are letting criminals run amok. Protests should never have allowed hundreds of people to congregate during a pandemic. Masks or Not. The Governor set a curfew and didn't follow through with reprimands, fines or arrests of hundreds who blatantly and willfully ignored it. Violence and destruction resulted and is still active today. Any protests that remain are aimed at harming and killing innocent people. Destruction of buildings, statues and businesses are out of control. And it makes me angry that these things are not being protected. Politicians are letting us down and people now see that we are not being protected. 911 call times are too long or nonexistent. It is not safe in our very own neighborhood's. Soon civilians will feel the need to arm themselves to protect life and property. NOW, I ASK YOU, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT SAFE TO DO THEIR JOBS WITH SUPPORT. I pray that this is under control before the next election because you are failing!

6/29/2020 6:59:57 PM

I 100% approve of this amendment.

6/29/2020 7:00:18 PM

I was considering moving to Minneapolis but definitely will not considering the city council makes rash decisions against public safety.

6/29/2020 7:02:04 PM

If there are no police in Minneapolis we will no longer be visiting the city to eat out or for recreation. We will also not be renewing our Gopher Football season tickets or attending any Timberwolves games.

Police officers deserve better than this. As a blue family and an Army brat I am horrified that this is what a "solution" looks like. Imagine if we got rid of all teachers because of a couple awful ones. We need union reform, not this.

6/29/2020 7:02:35 PM

I am just outside the city, but work in Minneapolis and often travel to Minneapolis for pleasure. I can say the removal of the police department is one of the most short sighted, fear induced responses to current events I have seen. They deal with thousands of police safety issues a year including an increase of murders, muggings, and assaults even before Covid and Floyd. To remove them at such a critical time will mean completely failure of a downtown night life much less the feeling of security in your city. I've lived in the suburbs but I can say with certainty that myself and others will look for other employment and not travel to your city any longer if you remove your police force.

6/29/2020 7:02:46 PM

Thank you to the council for moving forward on this, and for responding to the outcry in our city. I am in full support of abolishing systems that don't work for our neighbors, especially BIPOC, immigrants, and LGBTQ folks, and building new supports that respond safely and conscientiously to our needs.

6/29/2020 7:03:21 PM

I think this is a great idea.

6/29/2020 7:03:25 PM

Please don't make it an option to defund Minneapolis police!!

We have live in the Bancroft neighborhood for 8 years. We've brought 2 babies home from the hospital here and our kids go to Northrop elem. We have loved this place. Now we are scared. In the past 2 months there has been a murder on our block, an intentional vehicle crash/fight in front of our home, shots fired, countless vehicles driving at high speed and recklessly, and witnessed a drug deal and people using in their car who were not even initially scared away by a police drive by. This is more crime than we've seen in the previous 7 years we've lived here. I'm in favor of change but not defunding. I do not trust the city council and mayor to lead radical changes. These were the same people who let the city burn instead of asking for back up and defending its people. Do not give them any more power. Please!!! We are scared.

6/29/2020 7:03:27 PM

First and foremost, I would normally go on to address the fallacious argument that the police or that America as a nation is systemically racist but I will refrain. Prima Facie, it just is not true. If you are wondering how I could continue with this argument, then I would refer you to Larry Elder. Due to the cascading effect of the availability heuristic, that police are bad, is now leading the potential division of the police department. This will have a more detrimental effect on the impoverished and low-economic status people of Minneapolis. By privatization of protection or lack thereof a regular police department, crime will inevitably and invariably increase. When there is a problem who is going to address it? Because I certainly know it will not be the politicians on this board. Moreover, if you try to appease a mob, it doesn't work. You cannot appease someone or a group of angry people who are emotionally driven with logic. It simply will not work.



Secondly, what Derek Chauvin did was wrong. Unequivocally. That is why he has been fired and tried for his crimes. That is what our justice system does. But to equate the American nation of Police and the Minneapolis department as being equal is the fallacy of composition and is also a hasty generalization. If you go to any police department you will find that they are predominately altruistic humans. They get paid terribly and do a job that puts a target on their back all for the betterment of their community.

I will conclude with this, what you are about to do will lead to a crime spike in your communities all at the behest of a mob with insufficient evidence and fallacious arguments. Also, I will propose a solution. Provide more funding to the Police Department. This funding should be allocated for better officer training, incentivized higher pay but also higher educated individuals. Knowledge leads to the eradication of hatred and racism. If you don't want stupid mistakes to happen, hire smarter individuals. Also if the Officer had trained in Jui-Jitsu he would have been more adequate at restraining George Floyd and would have known that the restraint he was using would contribute to his insufficient oxygen.

6/29/2020 7:03:34 PM

Terrible idea to defund or get rid if the police department. The city council has already made this the most dangerous city to live in. We need a 1000 officers and lesson for the public how to be good citizens. The city council should stop listening to the small loud complainers and do what is right.

6/29/2020 7:03:39 PM

If you dismantle the police I will not visit any resteraunt bar or buisness in mpls nor will I deliver goods in my commercial vehicle to mpls

6/29/2020 7:03:47 PM

We should not only keep the police department but increase funding. We clearly need more officers with better and more frequent training. We can not abandon the men and women who risk their lives for us every day because of a few bad cops. How can our businesses thrive when they can't provide a safe environment for their employees or customers? Do you think we will ever get another Super Bowl or large national event without LAW & ORDER? You must all resign and turn this over to competent adults.

6/29/2020 7:04:13 PM

Removing the police department will only force "privileged" residents, who happen to be your tax base, to leave. I don't intend on remaining in the city of my birth if my tax dollars are going to a bloated sub-par department. #defundcitycouncil

6/29/2020 7:04:52 PM

Getting rid of the police department will not help the crime rate or keep citizens feeling safe. There has been an uptick in crime since the idea of defunding and dismantling the police department was presented. More drug and violent crime reported in the last few weeks. It will only get worse. What happens with current crime cases pending or unsolved? There are already not enough officers to keep up with the workload. Get rid of the Union and make officers pay for their own insurance coverage while on duty. The city needs to be safe not a place where we all live in fear if we don't have protection provided by gangs.

6/29/2020 7:05:27 PM

Overall I support this Charter Amendment to create a new department and place Law Enforcement within this department. I do not believe that the culture of the Minneapolis Police will change any other way. I would strongly support positions within this department remain City positions that provide good salary and benefits. This should not be seen as a way to reduce costs but rather a way to redistribute resources. I am a strong supporter of Chief Arredondo and his considerable skill and expertise should be welcomed in the development of this new entity. Your commitment to significant community input MUST be honored, particularly Communities that have been adversely impacted by the police and racial/economic injustice.

6/29/2020 7:06:37 PM

Thank you to the council for moving forward on this, and for responding to the outcry in our city. I am in full support of abolishing systems that don't work for our neighbors, especially BIPOC, immigrants, and LGBTQ folks, and building new supports that respond safely and conscientiously to our needs.

6/29/2020 7:06:43 PM

I do NOT support this proposal. These city "leaders" have provided zero details and formulate their schemes behind closed doors catering to themselves and the few likeminded individuals that they ask for feedback from. If this measure passes, as great as Minneapolis is, it will be time to move out of state to a city where I feel safe and protected.

6/9/2020 7:06:56 PM

I do NOT support this proposal. These city "leaders" have provided zero details and formulate their schemes behind closed doors catering to themselves and the few likeminded individuals that they ask for feedback from. If this measure passes, as great as Minneapolis is, it will be time to move out of state to a city where I feel safe and protected.

6/29/2020 7:07:58 PM

I think that it is a great idea to leave it up to public vote, if it's struck down in this stage then the public will truly never be able to vote about it. Please pass this amendment to allow it to be voted on in November

6/29/2020 7:08:08 PM

I do not support replacing the police with a violence prevention program. There will always be lawlessness...there is no workable "prevention" program! We have good officers but we need to better prevent the officers from using maximum force when it is not needed. The union is not helpful when reinstating troublesome officers.

6/29/2020 7:08:25 PM

I think you guys are making a huge mistake ! I get that you want changes but to disband the police department is completely wrong. You have good and bad people but just because of a few bad you shouldn't label everyone bad. Also a big problem I see is that people don't respect the police. If everyone would just do what is asked of them and then if they don't agree with it take it up in a court of law. The police are just trying to do their job and it's time we paid them some respect ! Yes I have family that are police officers and I've heard some of their horror stories.

6/29/2020 7:51:34 PM

This is terrible for our city. Keep the police force.

6/29/2020 7:08:55 PM

I will never come to the city of Minneapolis again if there is no police department. It alarms me that there are enough people that think this is a good idea. The recent spike in crime should be telling enough that the city will be a disaster without police. This is the biggest city in the State of Minnesota... again, I am very disturbed that this is even being considered.

6/29/2020 7:09:18 PM

I do NOT agree with the City Council's proposal to defund and rebuild the MPD.

I do not believe in their idea to take the MPD apart without any solid ideas on how to rebuild it.

I do not believe the City Council is constructive in their actions and I do believe the City council is only interested in "sound bites"

They have managed to disenfranchise the majority of people who actually LIVE in Minneapolis and pay taxes!

I'm a Democrat and have been for years... I've never seen a council so out of touch with their constituents. Their ideas to bring in an untrained, uneducated person to run the MPD is useless...bring in someone who has no idea what should be done to retrain and restructure an essential service in the city and get "ideas" from their little meetings with out actually having Real Data behind these changes is beyond idiotic.

I love this city, I do believe systemic racism has to be eradicated from our government systems...but take a step back from the rhetoric, do some real WORK and identify REAL SOLUTIONS!

DO NOT ALLOW THEM TO CHANGE THE CITY'S CHARTER!

NO!!! I do not support this change. This is irresponsible!

Residents shall be able to expect certain BASIC requirements as afforded by law and history and to which our taxes support. Public Health & Public Safety. These are the basics!

The changes to the name is playing game to 'soften' the name but provides no clear direction of the basic right originally afforded by the constitution. Public safety was and remains a basic tenant.

This suggestion to change the authoritative decision making authority to the council, which previously was to the Mayor, weakens the clarity and direction, especially important when emergencies rise or political dialogue is stifled in decision. There is already an adequate checks and balances and this provision eliminates that. It is fair to expect that a department that requires emergency response, be at the direction of one, not a large contingent that needs to take action that will take time, be a culprit to political gridlock.

It provides no definition of the level funding. The prior does. The suggested says 'appropriate'. No indication that the funding is to be responsive to population or tax base or any other metric, just a subjective 'appropriate'. The metric is there to intentionally establishes minimum expectation that residents can assume. It is not whimsy to politics, the political persuasion of the mayor or councilor or anything that would result in radical funding swings that can not address hiring or firing at extremes as could be anticipate by a 4 year change in governance.

It removes the language that calls for officers to be sworn. We have a right to trained, accredited, and officers with common knowledge in LAW and are held to a common and certified standard across jurisdictions. The state offers this. We should expect this.

The charter removes the written ability for the Mayor to bring in additional sworn resources, if necessary. Had we not had the Military Affairs step in, we would not have curbed the aggressive destruction and fires. We hope that this is not necessary in the future, but why would we eliminate the ability to enforce peace?

To construct a charter change, so significant, without first even attempting to craft change, is irresponsible.

There is nothing in the current charter that keeps us from hiring social workers. There is nothing that talks about negotiating union contracts. There is nothing that limits organizational change within the department. There is nothing on the charter that limits the training that these officers receive. If we want to add social workers, increase cultural training, and put provisions in place for a fair union that does not hold the city at mercy, those can all be achieved in the current charter.

But the elimination of basic expectations of officer credentials and funding has forgotten that we have established government for for public health and public safety, and this sets the minimum expectation.

If we want to change the charter, set a minimum expectation for the addition of social workers. Otherwise, work within the structure, training, union agreement and other frameworks to evolve the department to meet the needs of all residents.

6/29/2020 7:10:21 PM

Please use some common sense and keep the MPD fully funded. As a Minneapolis resident, I also deserve access to protection. I cannot afford, nor have access to taxpayer funding to hire private security as council members have done for themselves and the police are a necessary function of a civil society.

6/29/2020 7:10:25 PM

I hope any resolution to defund the police would have to be voted on by the citizens affected most by that decision. As someone who does not live in Minneapolis but who frequently visits for the restaurants, shopping, and entertainment, I would definitely not visit Minneapolis soon after the passing of any such resolution. I would want ample time to pass to see how the city fares without a police department before I would choose to visit the city.

6/29/2020 7:12:20 PM

Do not defund the police!!!

6/29/2020 7:12:44 PM

This is the stupidest idea to ever come from the city council.

6/29/2020 7:14:16 PM

I Don't support any revisions to the City charter which modify the present charter to maintain a police force based on population. I further do not support any modification of the current Police and the current policies.

6/29/2020 7:14:55 PM

I am NOT in favor of the removal of the Minneapolis Police Department. They are needed. They can be retrained. I also don't think the present Minneapolis City Council is capable of being in charge of the Police Department, much less the City of Minneapolis. I do feel some things have to change, but getting rid of the Police shows that the present City Council is incapable of wisdom in governing and they should all be replaced with people who are fair and who represent their constituents. I have failed to see that in your rash decision making. I also am not in favor of any government official who is willing to take my freedoms away while making me pay for private security for themselves. Since you want socialism, you should be equal to your constituents. I also don't respect your Council members not returning constituents calls. How many of your constituents are you placating compared to how many voted you in. Also, I hope you have the City Real Estate taxes lowered to be comparable to the house values being dropped! Without Police, next Fire Department, next Emts will go, ergo no 911. Get real! You Do NOT have my vote to dismantle the Police. We, the tax paying residents, should be getting a hefty refund since you won't be paying police salaries. I hear visitors no longer want to come here. We were number ONE and now are the laughing stock of the Country. Nice work...all in less than a month. we moved to the bottom of the list of where people want to live. I have heard people want to move out of Minneapolis...not stay or ever come back.

6/29/2020 7:14:56 PM

Defunding the police has to be one of the worst ideas I have ever heard. Do you understand how many people only keep their violent impulses in check because of fear of punishment? With an even further decrease in the chance of being caught, these people will have no need to hold back any further. I don't understand why you want to turn this city into the Purge.

More people die in car accidents than police related deaths; yes even Black people. Over indulging the false narrative that this is a high cause of death is just feeding a phobia and paranoia that is frankly, unfounded. Do the police kill people unfairly? Absolutely, and those situations need review and proper punishment if found necessary. Police have to accept to some point that their lives are in danger from their work and need to be less eager to shoot first. That is the burden of the duty they undertook. For this, they need to be compensated fairly and appreciated for the necessary and heavy task they have taken up.

Still, they are responsible for the lives in their care when they arrest, and need to treat any complaints of medical emergency seriously. Letting the city burn was shameful, and shows what a hellscape our copfree future is going to be like. People are not able to control their darker impulses on their own. No amount of counseling or hugging it out is going to change that. Some people don't want hugs, they just want the world to burn.

You probably should try to set up some kind of strong mentorship program in the roughest neighborhoods to try and intercept elementary school children, particularly boys, before they get into the gang warfare system. Help them buy into society before they decide to burn it down. Be the village that raises the child, but we still need our guards to maintain order and security for the people who want to live peaceful lives.

Security is one of the baseline needs in the hierarchy. You won't be able to worry about supporting other marginalized groups, like LGBTQ, when we are all sleeping in shifts to try and defend ourselves against the roving gangs of bandits who own this city unopposed.

Also, vigilante groups are going to set up. Did you see what happened in CHAZ? There was a shooting from a white SUV, so CHAZ security set out a hit on all white SUVs. Two black teenagers happened to steal a neighbor's car for a joyride that fit that description. CHAZ police gunned down the sixteen year old and brained the 14 year old with an icepick. There were no guns found in the car, the windows were rolled up, it looks like they probably weren't the shooters, so mob justice killed the wrong people.

Another angry mob burned down a house they believed had kidnapped children in it in Milwaukee. They were mistaken again and the kids were found three miles away, but they did destroy the house of a woman who was away giving birth. Fortunately her two year old was with her brother, or that two year old would be another fair sacrifice to the greater good of mob rule.

I wish I felt comfortable enough to include my full name, but my god, you've let these monsters run rampant and destroy the lives of anyone who so much disagrees with witchhunts, so I fear too much for the chaos in this society that you have already unleashed. I am looking into getting a gun so I can stand a chance in the upcoming turf wars and collapse of society.

I have been a life long liberal, but you guys have betrayed every ideal I held and now I feel politically homeless. I'm ashamed I voted for you.

6/29/2020 7:14:59 PM

I used to be a resident of Minneapolis. Extremely glad I am not any longer. My boyfriend and I were going to go to dinner in the uptown a week ago. Decided not to in favor of something closer. SOOOO glad, because a block from the restaurant we had originally wanted to go to was a shooting. You won't see me or my friends or relatives any where near what has become a lawless city. Build a new police department with all new people and do extensive screening and training before the officers can be on patrol.

6/29/2020 7:15:31 PM

A well trained police force is necessary to ensure public safety. I don't feel the general public fully understands the huge spectrum of behavior the police force has to deal with.

6/29/2020 7:16:40 PM

Absolutely not. I live in an inner ring suburb and am considering moving out farther due to this. You will see mass exodus of residents and businesses. The snowflakes need to go. We are a society of laws for a reason. Police dept in need of reforms for sure but not abolishing.

6/29/2020 7:17:30 PM

I strongly support bringing this amendment to the ballot in November. It is a critical step in rethinking policing in the city. The people want change and we need to be able to vote to make that possible.

6/29/2020 7:17:54 PM

No, I do not agree.

6/29/2020 7:18:02 PM

Absolutely insane! I never thought I'd see this day! We need our police! The animals (criminals) and disrespect on the street needs to be stopped. If you dont want problems listen to what the police tell you. You want to get rid of the police? Then city council, get rid of your security right now!!!

6/29/2020 7:19:34 PM

It's extremely dangerous to abolish the police. I feel that you're out of touch with the reality of the majority of your constituents. Please do not endanger the many good people of this city by reducing or defunding our law enforcement.

6/29/2020 7:19:50 PM

I do not support removing the Police Dept. and replacing it with the Community of Safety and Violence Prevention program. I do, however, fully support removing the Police Union so Police leadership can discipline and or fire Police officers that have committed acts of brutality against the public that they serve. I feel the Union needs to be removed to start reforming the entire culture that has developed. By this I mean a culture of "you're with us or you're against us" while referring to the current culture of police protecting one another at all costs. Screening of those that go into police work needs to be improved and focused on as well.

The idea of a city the size of Mpls. being without a Police Force is a frightening thought to say the least. If anyone on the Council thinks that there aren't bad guys among us, you're either kidding yourself or vying for votes.

Also, the idea that members of the City Council have received private security paid for by the tax payers is one of the most hypocritical things I've seen in a good while. You all let this city burn and be looted while I gathered my family and got my own protection because I felt like our lives were threatened too. How dare you!

6/29/2020 7:20:08 PM

I ask that you come share my home with me for one week before making any final decisions. I do support this new proposal and I do believe that we need to do things differently but I fear that you have not thought this fully through.

6/29/2020 7:21:07 PM

This is a ridiculous plan. You guys are seeing first hand on what happens you defund the police. They are open to change and want to hear your ideas. Paying \$65,000 a week for private security. Way to spend taxpayer dollars on something they receive no benefits from. Have the MPD protect you like they do every other citizen.

6/29/2020 7:21:22 PM

I do not agree with defunding the police department...in any city/community.

Changes need to be made but not "Violence Prevention Department".

I would it feel safe going into an environment that does not support and use the police.

6/29/2020 7:21:38 PM

I am writing to express my extreme concern for the city of Minneapolis as the council considers defunding and/or dismantling the MPD. The increase in crime, shootings, and carjackings since this announcement and since the police have been neutralized by the mayor, chief and others should be enough of a sign of things to come without a strong police force. There will be so many serious and dangerous consequences of this action, and this is only a small indication. I know friends and family of ours will no longer visit Minneapolis for anything, restaurants, theaters, shopping, etc. just too dangerous. Businesses will no doubt look to relocate their offices and employees. These are just a few of my great concerns and I hope you will think of the full range of issues and not do anything so drastic in haste.



6/29/2020 7:21:41 PM

I'm not in favor of the charter change. In fact I haven't been in favor of anything this council has done. Nothing is done for the betterment of its citizens, everything has an agenda. In fact I'm looking into how to avoid paying my property taxes due to the shenanigans of the council. How can the pavilion NOT be open for myself and my kids but we can open it for tent city?

6/29/2020 7:22:09 PM

I am a South Minneapolis homeowner. I am in favor of moving forward with the new charter amendment concerning the police department. I absolutely support the proposal to remove the police department and replace it with a new Community of Safety and Violence Prevention department--but more importantly, I believe it should be up to the members of any community being "policed" to decide how they should be policed whether or not they are benefitting from the arrangement. Let it go to vote, and let the people decide.

6/29/2020 7:22:38 PM

Ultimately, the police department and its chief and policies are under your purview. To suddenly start pointing fingers at the MPD and want to gut it is irresponsible and irrational. Yes, a murder occurred and the officers are being prosecuted as such. Defunding and dismantling the department without a solid replacement plan in place is ludicrous. Make the modifications, demand better training, break the union, lobby for legislation but all the while realize you need enforcement of laws. To request private security in the face of your decision is ironic. Also, the economic impact of such actions will be devastating. I'm sure corporate execs are mulling over potential relocation of businesses should the police department be altered. Then what will happen? Please don't fall victim to globalizing the issue when there are many good, caring officers trying to do a very difficult job.

6/29/2020 7:22:53 PM

The Minneapolis city council should absolutely not be given more power. We need the police to protect this city. I'm in favor of reforms to training, tactics, discipline procedures etc., not decreasing funding or having no funding at all! The council is not a sufficiently answerable body to the residents of Minneapolis and so should not be given the level of power they want over the police department.

6/29/2020 7:23:34 PM

I am not a resident, but I have spent 30 years commuting and working downtown. I pay for parking, eat my breakfasts/lunches out and spend evenings at entertainment venues. I spend more than my fair share of money in Mpls. It has been on a steady decline the last 10 years. If police are abolished I will WFH permanently and likely never set foot in downtown again. The thugs are already too much to deal with. Your community service idea is stupid. The criminals are salivating. There have been more car jackings the last 1-2 weeks than I can remember in the last 10 years. The Mpls City Council is full of fools.

6/29/2020 7:23:49 PM

For the love of your children, for the love of Minneapolis, and for the love of God, please stop this nonsense. The police are essential first responders who deserve to be valued, deserve our respect, and deserve increased funding. Why don't you figure out what was really going on during the 9 MINUTES where an officer would rather be videotaped with his knee on Mr. Floyd's neck than any other course of action. This was not racism - it was criminal - and that is what needs to be addressed. We need more law and order. We do not need a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department.

6/29/2020 7:24:09 PM

If you get rid of the police, you might as well quit. The city is going to burn, you are not going to have a job. Stupid idiots.

6/29/2020 7:24:14 PM

Thank you for allowing us to voice our opinions.

I think this proposed amendment is a horrible idea. There is zero clarification about how the law enforcement portion will work. I have lived in Minneapolis for 3/4 of my life. My children attend the Minneapolis Public Schools. I love this city. That being said, if the Minneapolis Police Department is abolished, I will move, as will so many of the citizens of this city. I will not live in a city where the law is not upheld.

As soon as the City Council announced what they were planning to do, crime sky rocketed. Our normally quiet Bancroft neighborhood is now filled with the sounds of gun shots and reports of crimes that don't normally exist here. The criminals have listened to the City Council. They know that the MPD's hands are tied, and they're giving us a taste of what the future of Minneapolis looks like. I cannot raise my children in this type of environment, and I know many more feel the same.

If this passes, not only will you have a mass exodus of residents from the city, but your schools will once again be empty, the businesses in the community will leave for safer areas, unemployment will skyrocket beyond what it looks like because of Covid. Our once beautiful city will become the next Chicago or Detroit, and that makes me so sad.

The mayor and the chief are working towards making changes. They've already begun. Change cannot happen overnight, especially when you're dealing with people, but it will happen if the City Council and the government would support the mayor and chief instead of going against them.

More focus on this city needs to be put on reducing crime, especially violent crimes committed by our residents. We are hurting each other FAR MORE than police are hurting us. The facts support that if people would just take time to read the facts instead of listening to news headlines and politicians.

Please, please, do not allow this amendment to go through.

Thank you for listening.

6/29/2020 7:24:17 PM

To do this to the residents of Minneapolis is irresponsible and dangerous. There is no way the city can deal with the gang violence and control of these groups. The violence, drug, and murder rate will increase putting residents in danger. Not only that, you will have residents moving out, foreclosures increasing, people will not come into the city for events, and revenue will plummet. You are bringing on something that will bring about the collapse of a city.

6/29/2020 7:24:37 PM

I am very much opposed to disbanding the MPD. I am also opposed to private security for city council members, you want to talk about privilege!! I will be voting to oust any council members who continue this absurd proposal.

6/29/2020 7:25:18 PM

This cannot happen. You must be out of your minds to even consider this is a good idea. There will be the largest exodus of residents and businesses from the city that this nation has ever seen from a single location. Doing this will not only jeopardize the safety of the residents but will cripple the city economically for eternity.

6/29/2020 7:25:48 PM

We will not be going to Minneapolis or St. Paul with no police. That includes restaurants...sporting events...etc.

6/29/2020 7:26:17 PM

I am in favor of gradually defunding the current police dept. over a period of years, during which time the City would use the "saved" money to develop a new structure, hire and flesh out a new dept. that would rely less over time on "cops with guns" and more on putting money into the community in ways that deal with real problems like addiction, education, mental health, affordable housing, job creation, etc., while also providing more funding to the police for actually investigating serious crimes against citizens. I truly believe that by developing a more equitable society, crime rates will drop. Citizens could still call 911 with urgent needs, but there need also be a structure then to disseminate those calls to the appropriate dept. employees to handle. Right now, it is ridiculous to send police trained to respond to violence to take down burglary and robbery reports, deal with traffic problems, etc. "Police" responding to non-threatening situations do not need to bring guns along in order for them to serve citizens. And the police who are trained to respond to more challenging situations need to be trained in de-escalation and how to be anti-racist. It must be possible for their Chief to discipline and fire them just like the rest of us. And citizens deserve a valid and meaningful course of action they can follow to get some type of charge against officers who kill their relatives. Information in killings needs to be made transparent and open to citizens via some method. Ultimately, we may need more police, but not just a garden variety type trained to maim and kill. But with most trained to either provide services that lift the community out of

their problems, not just send them to jail for being poor &/or black, or to serve as a resource to guide citizens to other organizations that can help them. Oh, and we need to demilitarize the police over time. I believe the militarization of them that has taken place is a factor in why the purchase of guns by criminals and regular citizens has escalated. This is dangerous for everyone. Fewer guns overall will result in fewer killings. Thank you.

6/29/2020 7:26:44 PM

With all of the unrest as well as crime rates, increase in violent crimes the City of Minneapolis would NOT be a place to visit. The city has Target Field and US Bank as great venues that likely would lose attendance. We do not live in MPLS but without a police department, we will not be spending time in the city. Police are necessary and do many more good things than bad. I would not feel safe in the city without a police force. Not to mention Minneapolis would be an embarrassment and no one would want to even come to Minnesota.

6/29/2020 7:27:13 PM

I am in favor of more money for mental health and drug related issues. I am not in favor of weakening our police force. We have to find a way that we can get rid of the bad eggs but keep the police force in tact. I want them to protect my neighborhood.

6/29/2020 7:28:03 PM

Get rid of the police department. I support the new system you are trying to move forward too

6/29/2020 7:28:09 PM

I and my family have enjoyed having family fun days at various places in Minneapolis. We have always felt comfortable and safe. We will not set foot in Minneapolis if the proposed plan to change policing is put in place. The gun violence is currently out of control and I don't see it improving with the proposed changes. The situation at Powderhorn park is indicative of what a city with less police will look like. No thanks - there are plenty of parks, lakes, ice cream shops, museums, arts, and restaurants to fulfill our wants outside of Minneapolis. We will not support this with our tourism dollars.

I was also seeking a hands on volunteer opportunity In Minneapolis but I no longer feel safe spending any time in Minneapolis. I will be looking for some other city (probably St. Cloud) to volunteer instead. Six months ago I would have said I feel more safe In Minneapolis than in St. Cloud.

6/29/2020 7:28:17 PM

This is the dumbest thing I have ever heard of! I cannot believe I am living through such a crazy period of time! This police force does not deserve any of this. I will NEVER spend my money in your city if this happens. What an absolute disgrace this is.

6/29/2020 7:29:40 PM

I spend a lot of time bicycling "the lakes", and patronizing the restaurants in the areas hard hit. I am so incredibly sad Mr Floyd, for my friends who live in the area, for the business owners, and for the city. This terrible crime needs to be tried in court and protections put in place so that it never happens again. When a person is disabled totally by a policeman, no abuse should EVER happen to that person, and that must be an absolute law followed by all police officers. No self respecting person should ever beat or abuse a person he/she has disabled with handcuffs. Penalties must be heavy to prevent this from EVER happening again. AND we must retrain that absolute rule into our mostly excellent police department, require body cams 24x7x365 for all concerned, and reopen and fund our mostly excellent Minneapolis department. I don't live in Minneapolis, but have spent a lot of time there, and it feels like a second home.

6/29/2020 7:101:02 PM

We need a police force. Current police force needs more training and accountability, not to be completely abolished.

The fact that three council members have hired private security for themselves after receiving threats, who usually have less training than most Police personnel, highlights this.

6/29/2020 7:30:17 PM

Your guys are smokeing crack of you think it's a good ideah to remove the police there are multiple shootings per day you need to train them more and train them better

6/29/2020 7:30:34 PM

Who are we going to call when my house is on fire and the fire department won't come because the police won't be there or if someone gets shot and the ambulance won't go help them because the scene isn't safe because the police won't be there to help? Who is going to come to my house when someone is trying to break into it and hurt my children? We need the police department more than ever. Do not get rid of the people that come in and help when everyone else runs

6/29/2020 7:30:51 PM

Defunding the police is the dumbest thing I've ever heard. You have emboldened criminals and forced the good people of south mpls to make a choice, stand and defend ourselves or move out of our homes and our community.

The violence is worse than I've ever seen and I've lived in south mpls in the 55406 for 35 years! I'm afraid to let me elderly mother and father go to stores in mpls because of the violence. We dont need less police we need more cops and more leaders who are willing to restore order and the rule of law!.

How about we defund the mpls city council instead we could save a lot of money and spend that on better training and more police and fire fighters.

If I had wanted a warzone I would have joined the army instead my city I love is just the next once great city to be taken over by criminals. Anyone who wants to defund the police should be held responsible for anyone who dies or gets hurt because if this stupid idea.

6/29/2020 7:31:17 PM

Have you gone madd??? Who the fuck do you think is going to control the fucking thugs you have spent your entire career protecting.

Slap on the wrist policies and inaction on the local prosecutors has created this mess. George met the death he was eventually going to meet based on his life choices.

You fucking liberal queers and transvestites better be ready for more than just private security. Look at the death and carnage your fucking constitutes have amassed since May 29th.

Reap what you sow, Reap what you sow dumb fucks

6/29/2020 7:31:27 PM

Our whole family WILL NOT be going anywhere near Minneapolis. No Vikings games , Twins or concerts. No restaurants either. Getting rid of the police department is the most ridiculous thing ever. Get rid of the Mayor !! He's worthless. Until you get new people in office. My friends and family will not be coming into the city.

6/29/2020 7:31:31 PM

NONE of the amendments are going to work to replace the police unless you deal with the underlying cause of racism by society.

All of you have been ignoring or ignorant of the FACT that Eugenics ideology is the source of the inequality. That one type of person is better than all others. and the junk science that was created to support that delusion of grandeur . and that same junk science used to establish discriminatory policies and laws.

Eugenics never went away , It was just rebranded, after the atrocities committed by Hitler and Nazis who were carrying out a Eugenics program called T4 program. that was perfected by killing disabled and feeble-minded before moving onto the Jews. Hitler got the gassing idea from US eugenics commission that Germany was a part of, but was later kicked out when Germany did not agree with US direction of Nordic white being supreme ideal for human superior race. .

People with disabilities have it far worse than those who are black. even those who are black severely discriminate against people with disabilities.

It's so bad that people with disabilities was removed from the original civil rights law that blacks enjoy. But the source is defiantly Eugenics ideology, they are the ones that established that race was inferior to Nordic white. That feeble minded, women ageism all of it.

I would highly recommend reading "war against the weak" It will give you better insight on where to start to amend the rift that Eugenics ideology created. Need to understand how we got to where we are now if we are ever going to become true equals, ALL of us. Not just black and white.

So when I say all lives matter I am NOT using the political version regarding white and black or police and black. I am speaking that every single legal citizen of the USA is equal and thus need to be treated as equals and fairly. regardless of skin, clothing, wealth, health, age, sex, etc.

but if people are going to riot and resort to violence then they need to be held accountable.

how many riots have been committed by people with disabilities regarding the massive wrongs and atrocities committed against us though history and is actively happening today?. Exactly ZERO. we are still being killed,, murdered where the murderer is forgiven, denied the right to procreate, sterilized against our will, denied employment, denied right to vote, denied human rights, denied the right to self determination. If I remember the number of people with disabilities killed by police EXCEEDS the number of black people killed by police, list goes on and also includes ALL of the wrongs that blacks face.

So what ever you do, DO NOT get caught up in solely trying to fix the white-black divide. Or you will never fix it, because until Eugenics ideology is completely eradicated , Eugenics will work its fingers into whatever program you replace the police with and corrupt it from the inside out again and if they can't do that , They will defund it or rule in court to mean something it doesn't to remove its effectiveness so the programs you put in place will have no effect because it won't be able to get anything done.

So if you want to fix the relationship between black and white you need to see the relationships of those of us with disabilities. and repair it as a whole.

6/29/2020 7:31:59 PM

The police department needs to be reconstituted and held more accountable to following policy and procedure. The union has to have less influence in reducing or eliminating disciplinary action for officers. I strongly believe that this can be accomplished with eliminating a police department. The police department has a separate mission and responsibility than health and human services. The city may need to fund additional human services but this should not be in the same department as the police.

6/29/2020 7:33:19 PM

We need a police department!!!!!!!!!!

6/29/2020 7:103:50 PM

Please don't do this. Absolutely there is work to be done in the police department. Please do that work and by all means look at ways we can support the community with social services. I work in social services and I know that there is definitely a place for family, peer supporters and agencies working hand in hand with officers.

There is no question that this has caused our cities to be unsafe. What already was a volatile situation has been exacerbated by the words of the council. To say that it is white privilege that has people concerned about these changes is not true. There are many living in the community who do not want this. This is making all of us unsafe and giving criminals a green light. The next question asks if I am a resident of Minneapolis. I am not. However, I provide services to individuals with mental health and developmental disabilities within Hennepin County. I serve on a mental health committee within Hennepin County. We shop, work and visit in Minneapolis. I will not be doing that until things are under control. I am afraid to send my staff to visit their clients. Now is not the time to allow this city council to go forward with their agenda.

6/29/2020 7:34:00 PM

I believe there is a place in our city for a police force that is directed at the efforts that other civil servants are not able to deal with well. Immediate response to violent crime is a great example. We still need cops to respond to things like armed robbery in progress. But we don't need cops to do things like respond to a homeless person panhandling or deal with someone who may be injecting drugs in a park. We should direct police at that which we truly need them for. This will set society \*and\* the police up for success in the future. I do not support abolition. I do not support defunding. I support RE-funding to direct resources to preventative measures that reduce the need for reactive policing and alternative resources. Thank you for soliciting community input.

6/29/2020 7:34:05 PM

I no longer feel safe in Minneapolis now that my 3rd precinct was burnt down. I would not feel safe nor would I want to live and work in Minneapolis if you abolish the police.

I no longer feel safe going to downtown bars. I won't go to Uptown anymore. All of my business is done in the suburbs right now. Luckily, with Covid-19 I'm not forced to go downtown every day for work.

Please consider alternatives before playing a game with our lives.

6/29/2020 7:34:25 PM

This is one of the most lamest idea that I've ever heard

6/29/2020 7:34:31 PM

I support restructure, reform, and reimagining what it means to provide safety and security for the city of Minneapolis, and in particular, that there is equal protection for ALL PEOPLE. There are many issues affecting citizen safety, and those include homelessness, poverty, drugs, mental illness, and healthcare, as well as the proliferation of guns in the public realm. I agree that not all of these should be handled by the police. However, I am not in support of a change in the city charter, which would risk putting decisions in the hands of the council, and not allow input from citizens. Change, restructure, but do not eliminate. And there is no need to change the charter in order for the change to happen. This is a blatant power-grab by the council at a time when compassion, empathy and real work is needed.

6/29/2020 7:34:50 PM

I believe this is good progress. Due to all the racial incidents with police against black people (or other POC), the change is necessary. I think the city of Minneapolis can do much better.

I think we should definitely research a lot on how CAMDEN COUNTY, New Jersey is doing right and copy most of that. We also should see what it is not working for them and avoid it. We should not aim to have a safety & violence prevention department like CAMDEN; we should have a better one. One that the whole country and look and copy because we did it right.



6/29/2020 7:34:54 PM

Rushing the proposed amendment through is another knee-jerk reaction to the minority of your constituents. Where is the proposed one-year citizen involved study to determine the correct way to address the situation?

I read the charter changes - twice - a few nights ago. Could you make it any more confusing? Or is that the plan? From my little org chart I drew to try to determine what you were attempting: you are not "defunding the police", you are adding another layer of bureaucracy to the situation -- another layer to insure that no one is responsible.

6/29/2020 7:35:41 PM

Who's going to protect Ems and MFD when scenes are not safe?

6/29/2020 7:35:57 PM

I am a longtime resident of Minneapolis and current homeowner in Kingfield (Ward 8). I am writing to express my concerns regarding the Minneapolis City Council's proposed charter amendment 'Establishing Community Safety & Violence Prevention Department' (Legislative File 2020-00668).

It is clear that our city is ready to make sweeping and much needed reforms to the Minneapolis Police Department. However, I do not believe that the proposed amendment is the platform from which this should be done.

The City Council had promised a yearlong process with community engagement to develop a holistic approach to community safety. Yet, their work up until this point has occurred hastily, behind closed doors and resulted in a vague proposal. Established crime prevention groups and communities have not been given an opportunity to provide input. In good governance, it is imperative for stakeholders to feel heard.

Beyond the lack of community engagement, I worry about the loss of accountability in our city and the deepening of bureaucracy. The current charter is designed in such a way to allow for checks-and-balances within policing as the Mayor has control over the establishment, maintenance, and command of the Minneapolis Police Department while the City Council controls the budget. If this amendment were to pass, it opens the door for abuses of power by the City Council and a system in which citizens voices go unheard through voting measures.

Please consider rejecting this amendment. We as a community have not gotten enough information nor opportunities to share our thoughts regarding the proposed Community Safety & Violence Prevention Department to make an informed vote this November.

I have lived in Minneapolis for 30 plus years. I have never felt so anxious and afraid in my own home as I have since the riots. We need MORE officers, not less. I own several affordable rentals in South Minneapolis. If this were to go through, I will give notice to all of my tenants, sell my houses and move. I cannot believe the poor leadership of this city. I personally do not know a single person that is in favor of this; just a small group of loud mouths. I can guarantee you many of us will leave the city if this happens. The language is unacceptably vague and jargon laden leading to the inescapable conclusion corruption and political patronage will dominate it's implementation. There is no evidence replacing professional, sworn law enforcement officers (who are well trained) with political patronage and mob pressure tactics will improve security and safety. In fact, almost all evidence both contemporary and historical points to an opposite result.

#### *Corruption in local government*

Because there are many factors that can lead to **corruption in local government** it is hard to study corruption patterns empirically, but recently, improved research This article includes a list of references, related reading or external links, but its sourcesL ereamrna minore

This Demographic factors needs additional citations for verification. Learn more strategies and information sources have made such studies better.

There are several types of political corruption that occur in local government. Some are more common than others, and some are more prevalent to local governments than to larger segments of government. Local governments may be more susceptible to corruption because interactions between private individuals and officials happen at greater levels of intimacy and with more frequency at more decentralized levels. Forms of corruption Types

pertaining to money like bribery, extortion, embezzlement, and graft are found in local government systems. Other forms of political corruption are nepotism and patronage systems. One historical example was the Black Horse Cavalry a group of New York state legislators accused of blackmailing corporations.

*Bribery* is the offering of something which is most often money but can also be goods or services in order to gain an unfair advantage. Common advantages can be to sway a person's opinion, action, or decision, reduce amounts fees

collected, speed up a government grants, or change outcomes of legal processes.

*Extortion* is threatening or inflicting harm to a person, their reputation, or their property in order to unjustly obtain money, actions, services, or other goods from that person. Blackmail is a form of extortion.

*Embezzlement* is the illegal taking or appropriation of money or property that has been entrusted to a person but is actually owned by another. In political terms this is called graft which is when a political office holder unlawfully uses public funds for personal purposes.

*Nepotism* is the practice or inclination to favor a group or person who is a relative when giving promotions, jobs, raises, and other benefits to employees. This is often based on the concept of familism which is believing that a person must always respect and favor family in all situations including those pertaining to politics and business. This leads some political officials to give privileges and positions of authority to relatives based on relationships and regardless of their actual abilities.

*Patronage systems* consist of the granting favors, contracts, or appointments to positions by a local public office holder or candidate for a political office in return for political support. Many times patronage is used to gain support and votes in elections or in passing legislation. Patronage systems disregard the formal rules of a

local government and use personal instead of formalized channels to gain an advantage.

Socioeconomic characteristics and the size of the population of people that make up a municipality can be encouraging factors for local government officials to engage in corrupt practices. Patterns of Demographic factors political corruption can be found in places that have a similar demographic make-up. Demographic factors that have been known to lead to or increase the likelihood of corruption in a local government system are religion, race, class, size of the municipality, local economic conditions, education, political culture, and gender. Some factors are interrelated or can lead to other factors which may cause more corruption.

#### **Size of a municipality**

Smaller municipalities may be more prone to experience corruption within their local

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government. These towns and villages nominate (or self-nominate) residents or officials to represent and run the local government, sometimes without oversight approval from higher levels of government. In a small community, personal opinions and relationships play a larger role in politics. Due to this, problems like nepotism or extortion can be prevalent. In addition, some local governments face another kind of disadvantage - lack of experience and professionalism from their representatives. It can be a challenge to attract qualified up and coming politicians to small towns. Another major issue in small municipalities lies with accountability - some have inadequate or insufficient structures for policing and prosecution of corrupt local officials, culminating in a difficult situation for those affected.

#### **Condition of the local economy**

Low economic development has been found to be an encouraging factor for political corruption. Economic practices like dependence on raw material industries and drug trades are characteristic of poorer cities and areas with increased

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This section possibly contains original research. Learn more

amounts of corruption. Economic dependence on certain industries will also lead to less stable governments and less money available to fund governments. Fragile economies lead to increased levels of poverty and less opportunities to get out of poverty. Poverty is a known factor that encourages corruption in local governments. Places with failing economies and poverty sometimes get loans or start aid programs to support the local economy and the people, and public officials are often able to unlawfully take the money or goods for private gain. With less money available, local officials are more likely to get lower wages, which is seen as another factor that leads to corruption. Officials who get lower wages, which are not enough to provide for their necessities, will many times become corrupt and try something like embezzling money that may entrusted to them in the local treasury. Low wages can cause economic insecurity and encourage politicians to take advantage of current opportunities as public figures of authority. On the other hand, some researchers argue that the more money a local government has to spend, the more tendency it will have to do so inefficiently, which can lead to suspicions of corruption. Overall, poorer municipalities are more often perceived to have corrupt local governments than rich ones.

#### **Education**

Lower levels of education which are often caused by poverty are seen as a factor which encourages corrupt government practices. Those with less education are not as informed as to how the government works or what rights they have under the government. It is easier for corrupt officeholders to conceal corrupt activities from a poorly educated public. Uneducated citizens are less likely to be aware of corruption in local governments or how to

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stop it, and therefore, corruption is able to remain and spread. Without some kind of

political awareness, citizens will not know which candidates to elect that are honest or dishonest or other ways to prevent corruption from taking place in their local governments. This often leads municipalities to be continually governed by one or more corrupt local officials who use patronage or nepotistic practices to stay in office or keep influence in the government for long periods of time. When local political leaders are less educated, they will be less likely to find legitimate ways to make the municipality wellstructured, productive, and successful.

#### **Political culture of municipality**

Many local governments have an established political culture with certain expectations and practices that often determine what is seen as acceptable and not acceptable in local politics. In municipalities with an undeveloped or underdeveloped political culture, accountability and legitimacy is usually low and principles of ethics in government are not established. This can encourage corruption to take hold in the local government because citizens do not know what is considered corrupt, and local officials are not afraid to be corrupt

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because of the low accountability. In some places the local governments have been corrupt for so long that the citizens think that is how it is supposed to work because that is all they have been exposed to. Long periods of political instability will also lead to corruption in the government because people are unsure of how the government should operate, and thus do not know what practices are corrupt or how to stop them if they are corrupt.

#### **Academic references**

Links and references

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*The Causes of Corruption: A Cross-National Study* , Daniel Treisman, Department of Political Science, University of California

*Consequences and Causes of Corruption*

– *What do We Know from a Cross-Section of Countries?* , Johann Graf Lambsdorff

*A Handbook on Fighting Corruption* , CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE, U.S. Agency for International Development

#### **Web references**

*Corruption and Development* , CHERYL W. GRAY AND DANIEL KAUFMANN

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6/29/2020 7:36:37 PM

As a woman of color, who owns a house 10 blocks from where the 3rd precinct was, 1/2 off East Lake Street, I do not support this charter change. I know reform is needed. Serious and elaborate reform. But police are members of our community, whether they believe it or not. I want police to reflect our community values. The murder of George Floyd, Philando, Jamar and so so many others is a real tragedy. What happened to my neighborhood's streets is different but was also, so, so wrong. The fear I had for myself and the safety of my child was wrong. I want police who believe in their community & feel supported. I do not think this vague charter change is right and if it is brought to voters I will vote against and not support it being passed.

6/29/2020 7:36:54 PM

This is a phenomenal idea and so needed. As a European immigrant that has grown up in countries with minimal police presence I would only like to state that this plan has to be accompanied with increased investments into schools, educational programs and a general push for decreasing inequality.

We have to stop blaming individuals for their acts of desperation. We have to start providing opportunities.

6/29/2020 7:37:02 PM

Who's going to protect Ems and MFD when scenes are not safe?

6/29/2020 7:37:32 PM

Removing the police department is a terrible idea. We need a reform for mpd. I agree that there are issues within the department and things need to change asap but with the right tools and more training we can move in the right direction. In my opinion we need to add more officers to the department. With current events going on right now they're out numbered. Without mpd I feel like mpls will be an unsafe place to live. We need them

6/29/2020 7:37:54 PM

Suburban Minnesotan from South of the river here. My family and I will absolutely never visit the city of Minneapolis if police are dismantled. Not a chance. Protect your citizens or say goodbye to any money I would've spent there.

6/29/2020 7:38:03 PM

You people have lost your minds ..... deal with the occasional bad officer, or come up with and work out something with the union to do so. obviously something is not working ,with the terrible things taken place in recent years but to get rid of police is insane.

6/29/2020 7:39:13 PM

Based on the MPD's history of discrimination and violence towards communities of color, in combination with the police union's stranglehold on policy and general police culture, I am in favor of defunding or disbanding the MPD. Minneapolis residents span cultures, languages, income levels, educations, and living situations, and we need a better service to keep the communities respected and safe. I'm particularly in favor of more social workers and mental health workers being employed by the city to help address and deescalate potential crises. I would love to see this proposal on the ballot in November!

6/29/2020 7:40:28 PM

If they defund police I will be armed!! Are people insane!! They protect and serve us!!!

6/29/2020 7:41:24 PM

I do not trust MPD with my safety or the safety of my black neighbors.

6/29/2020 7:41:39 PM

Why would anyone need a private security detail that have cost taxpayers \$63,000 over the past three weeks? We don't need the police, why do we need security details?

6/29/2020 7:42:25 PM

We do not need police in Minneapolis who constantly have messed with People of color and also do not have proper training, what we need is a social workers who know what they are doing.

6/29/2020 7:42:37 PM

The idea of removing the Police Department is insane. What needs to take place is removal of the City Council and the Mayor. Figure out ways to clean up the community and crime. Prosecute those committing the crime. We as tax paying citizens want and need the Police, your root issue is not doing enough to curb crime to begin with and letting repeat offenders free and clear. Look at your local sites, this is OUT of hand! You will have business fleeing, residents fleeing, your issue is absolutely not the police. It is the dirty city the Democratic leadership or lack thereof have allowed it to become. Tired of watching what used to be a vibrant and wonderful place to live turn into a disaster. Removing the Police is not the answer. It disgusts me. Stop trying to cater to the nonsense and fix it.

6/29/2020 7:42:49 PM

In favor. We need to be taking the funds from the highly inflated police budget and be spending it on education, small business loans/grants, and enabling home ownership for people of color in this community.

6/29/2020 7:42:56 PM

This is beyond scary. I will be moving out of Minneapolis and many more will follow. There will never be another Super Bowl or National Event held here again.

People in the suburbs are scared as well. How about working together instead of abolishing the police? This city is having a knee jerk reaction and it's not going to end well

6/29/2020 7:43:47 PM

This is absolutely a knee jerk insane not intellectual nor thought out cave in to remove the MPD ! There will no safety for us who work to pay taxes and try to live here ! Loss of tourism and kiss all the business' and tenants and future home buyers GOODBYE !!!! Also why do you the city council ask for protection yet let us sit wide open like sitting ducks against criminals !!!! Think long and hard as this is absurd and will put the last nail in the coffin for Minneapolis for good

6/29/2020 7:46:25 PM

I do not reside in Minneapolis but I work downtown. Violent crime is already a huge problem downtown. We see it happening near the rail stations and stadiums. Replacing police officers with social workers Will not resolve the problem. Find a balance. Keep officers on the streets but mix in social workers to assist with escalated calls. Not having police downtown will make alot of people feel even more unsafe. Don't make it worse by removing police. WE NEED THEM!

6/29/2020 7:44:41 PM

I'm opposed to the proposed amendment and/or placing the question on the ballot this November. Rushing to make a change of this magnitude is irresponsible. The Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department has not been defined nor have any of the "new" rules that would come along with this change. Although I don't live in Mpls. I'm a Minnesota resident and enjoy visiting Minneapolis for dinner, visiting friends that live downtown, theater, and we are season ticket holders for Minnesota Twins. There is already a growing concern for personal safety based on the riots, looting, and burning of buildings and increased shootings.

6/29/2020 7:44:54 PM

As a season ticket holder for Vikings and Twins, if this passes, I will no longer patronize the city or its businesses. It was scary enough last season. Roving gangs intimidating, the only thing keeping people safe WAS the police.

I'm absolutely sure that the failed mayor and city council is hell bent to turn Minneapolis into another Chicago, while the elites hire private security for themselves at taxpayer expense. Shame on you! You are the epitome of hypocrisy!

6/29/2020 7:45:19 PM

I DO NOT want the police department abolished , we need the police!!!! I agree they need more training and more accountable for there actions , but to totally get rid of them NO

6/29/2020 7:45:27 PM

DO NOT REMOVE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT!

6/29/2020 7:45:52 PM

While I am all for police reform, I am against changing the charter to remove the police department. The charter needs to remain as is. Changes to the dept need to come from the police chief, the mayor, and the city council working together. We need cooperation among our city leaders not the division that is currently growing. I attended the powderhorn gathering when the council proposed its opened-ended call for change. I was not impressed as the even felt more like a contest among council members to see who should run for mayor. Please, no more pandering. Please do something real. Defunding the police is not real. Actually firing cops and hiring cops from our communities is doing something real. Actual re-



training of police. Get rid of the police union. Reform what we have into something better. And above all, please stop focusing on this drive to abolish police department and DO SOMETHING ABOUT ALL THE HOMELESS PEOPLE SLEEPING IN THE PARK. My god, that is a real emergency. Also, do something real about the rise in crime. People are being robbed, shot, beaten. This cannot wait.

6/29/2020 7:45:59 PM

Getting rid of the entire police department is reckless and short sided. It's going to cause the city of Minneapolis to go on a downward spiral of crime and death. I totally understand overhauling the training, discipline, and reaction training of the police but you cannot get rid of them.

All the small and large businesses alike will pull out of the city, the fire and paramedics wont want to respond to scenes if they don't feel safe, and the city will turn into Chicago. Please for the love of god dont make a decision that we cannot come back from. You all have private security because of how dangerous downtown is, with a police department, wait until they are gone. You all need to step down and let people represent our city who are competent and know what they're doing. Mark my words, you will all get voted out of office. I've lived DT my whole life and if this passes I'm leaving. Stop ruining our beautiful city. And secondly, please get the homeless camps out of our beautiful parks. What the he'll are you doing letting them build slums in them!?!?!? I pay a lot of money to live here and it feels like I live in a slum.

6/29/2020 7:46:30 PM

The idea to make a rash and rushed decision about ending the police department is a reckless and dangerous choice. My family and I spend a lot of time at the many amazing events and places in Minneapolis. This will come to an immediate halt if there are no clear, effective law and order there. Regardless of political and social pressure, your job is to keep its citizens safe. If you do not think that police are needed check how the "autonomous" zones in Seattle are working.

To jump the gun and make quick decisions without the forethought into the consequences is irresponsible. The citizens all agree that change is needed; no one can dispute that. However, it is imperative to make sure that all outcomes are considered. It would be a shame to watch our beautiful city become an unrecognizable wasteland of what it once was.

I beg you to stop and slow down to avoid devastating results on a subject that needs a huge amount of thought to make it work.

6/29/2020 7:47:07 PM

I reside in the Longfellow neighborhood and I support the amendment to replace the police with a Department of Safety and Violence Protection. Thank you.

6/29/2020 7:47:48 PM

US Marine Vet here...Instead of abolishing a police department and probably using more tax paying dollars to create a whole new Institution, wouldn't it make more sense to just adjust the duties and responsibilities of the police department instead? Clear house, make each new recruit go through proper training, every 90 days each member gets a psych evaluation to see if they remain fit for duty mentally and emotionally. 3 complaint strike notice for anything verbal. Any excessive use of force complaints with proper evidence, that officer is taken off duty until he completes proper training and courses to be reinstated. 2nd offense and they is permanently removed from the Precinct.

The departments should be held as accountable as the officers they employ. The chiefs job should be just as replaceable as the bottom guys, if his job is threatened by the performance and problems from the lower guys, they might care a little more about how the officers conduct themselves instead of a half assed apology about the unacceptable behavior when they probably don't even care in the end, only to protect their own image.

6/29/2020 7:48:23 PM

This is a horrible idea

6/29/2020 7:48:25 PM

I understand, appreciate, and participate in the anger surrounding the killing of Mr. George Floyd. I fully support a reform of our policing. However, removing, dismantling, or defunding MPD is not the solution to the problem. We face violence and crime every day of our lives. The Community of Safety and Violence Prevention sounds like a utopia. Who is going to protect us when thieves enter our house? When they steal our cars? Who is going to stop the drug dealer in our community park? Who is going to protect my 13 year old daughter who is afraid to walk out in the summer night? Who is going to pursue a drunken driver? Are social workers and medical professionals trained to prevent violent crimes? We need policing and at the same time we need to reform it. Not abolish it. I would support a more balanced solution where MPD is involved in more violent crime prevention and social workers are involved in situations that with the right intervention are likely to deescalate. Finally, "community policing" is a horrible idea if it means that citizens of neighborhoods police their own neighborhoods. This may work in wealthy parts of the city, but here gangs are going to take over and demand money for "our protection".

6/29/2020 7:49:25 PM

Downtown is almost unlivable at this point. Crime is rampant, public transportation is an unsafe option, drugs are dealt and people are stabbed and shot. This has been bad for a few years now, but this year is the worst ever. Dining outside on Nicollet is a risk.

We need more police, and a return to order. I understand certain communities need help, but not at the risk of public safety. If downtown remains the same, why would anyone want to keep living here. I won't.

6/29/2020 7:49:39 PM

Disband you're private security!

6/29/2020 7:50:22 PM

As a former Minneapolis resident of 25 plus years, I can't imagine life in the city without a police force. We were both robbed and vandalized on a couple of different occasions. I'm each instance the assailants were well aware that there was not enough police on duty to cover the calls coming in. Living in the city we felt like we should just assume at some point or another crime would come our way. Defunding and disbanding the police department is a ridiculous proposal

Especially considering the high taxes Minneapolis residents pay. If we hadn't already have moved out of Minneapolis we would be moving now. Who will want to live there or do business.

6/29/2020 7:50:31 PM

Reforms can be made without defunding the police department. The city counsel has not considered the ramifications of what they are proposing, and they have no plan in place going forward. They are reacting to mob mentality which states that all police officers are bad because of the actions of a few.

Ultimately, all that the city counsel will achieve is sowing more seeds of discourse between people while the Twin Cities loses investments, businesses, jobs, tax dollars, and quality of life to a vast data gathering mission to nowhere. This is not leadership. This is playing politics and it's dangerous.

If the Minneapolis city counsel members are intent on diverting tax dollars from the MPD to use elsewhere, might I also suggest that they donate their excessive salaries to the cause?

6/29/2020 7:50:37 PM

The police force should absolutely NOT be removed. A Community of Safety and Violence Prevention department is what MPD is. The horrific actions of one officer, who was told by a junior officer to stop, should not paint all of MPD with the same brush. There are loyal, dedicated officers on MPD who do the best job they can. Instead of defunding or disbanding MPD, the union should be abolished and there should be additional officers hired.. a lot of them, enough to allow officers to be proactive in the community not just coming to clean up after the crime is done. Community policing cannot be done when officers are constantly reactive. I would agree that officers should live in Minneapolis.

I moved here about two years ago and I've never seen worse driving. It's because MPD has a traffic unit of 4... for the whole city! Ridiculous! I've had to call police 3 times in two years. The shortest ETA was 2.5 hours. That's indicative of a police department stretched to thin.

Additionally, officers who only are able to reactively work don't create bonds with the area they work, there's no time for them to meet citizens until the citizen is a victim or an arrestee.. too late then.

My wife and I moved here planning on buying a house and living in Minneapolis for up to 20 years. We are both middle aged professionals. We are already looking to move out of Minneapolis, to a suburb, simply due to the rumors of disbanding the police department. It won't be worth the risk to stay.

In closing, I would like to reiterate my opinion that removing, defunding or disbanding the police department would be bad for citizens, bad for business, would cost the city money on property taxes and sales tax as well as revenue and only be good for crime.

6/29/2020 7:50:54 PM

Reckless and hasty are two words that come to mind when I think of your proposal regarding the MPD. Already we are seeing serious crime increasing in Mpls. in areas that are "off- limits" to the police. I grew up in Mpls. and until recently went into the city for dining & recreation. But, if Mpls. defunds and disbands its police department I will no longer go into the city due to safety concerns. I'll spend my dollars in other cities that support their police departments.

6/29/2020 7:51:00 PM

All of you are morons. Hiring private security while a youth football practice is stuck in the middle of a shootout and you want to get rid of police? If anything happens to any of you, you deserve it as you dont deserve protections if we the people dont get any. You all should resign or be in jail for treason and you all should be on the front lines of police work to truly understand how difficult the job is. You wouldn't last a day as a police officer. Any of you. You cant even handle being real leaders.

6/29/2020 7:51:29 PM

I will not set foot in, or spend my sales tax dollars in Minneapolis if the council eliminates the police department. You're on your own.

6/29/2020 7:51:33 PM

Defunding and/or removing the MPD is not only foolish but short-sighted. The current lack of solid leadership in Gov Walz and Mayor Frey is appalling.

Our family and many others will not spend another dime in Mpls.

6/29/2020 7:52:10 PM

Horrific idea. There is no training or experience like the MPD officers have gone through to handle ALL the emergency situations in Minneapolis. You would disservice thousands of people that need police the most. These people aren't the ones with access to this form, or the ones making all the noise, but they will suffer tremendously.

6/29/2020 7:52:48 PM

This is a terrible idea and will irreversibly damage the city, it's economy and it's citizens.

The first priority for any city is the safety of its citizens. Simple as that. This experiment will bring chaos, anarchy, violence and crime to our city. We already see a spike in violent crime hitting Minneapolis and that will be just the beginning. Your citizens will not feel safe walking/biking/living in a place where law and order is not the cornerstone. Crime happens, so come up with realistic solutions instead of removing a police department and hoping that somehow will reduce crime. There needs to be a strong, well funded well trained and well staffed police department to protect city's most vulnerable.

Additionally this will devastate the economy of this city. You think any small business will want to open in a city without a police department to respond to a burglary? You think any tourist wants to visit a town with spiking crime rates? You think any events will come to a place without a police department to ensure visitor security?

Citizens will leave, your tax base will disappear. Business will leave, your economy will crumble.

Visitors will avoid the area at all costs.

If this plan is enacted then the fall of Minneapolis as a livable city will begin, a trend that will effect the entire Twin Cities area. Reform, train, finance and improve the Police Department, but to "remove" it entirely? NO.

Bring actionable, realistic, adult solutions to the table. Not idealistic pipe dreams of a utopian future of peace without a police department.

Minneapolis is hurting, and it should be. But don't make it worse by bending to radical calls that will make that pain even worse.

Lead and legislate with logic. A Police Department is needed. Without it, Minneapolis will no longer be a city I or my friends and neighbors will call home.

6/29/2020 7:52:50 PM

If there is no police protection in the city of Minneapolis I will not be going down there for anything. I will not feel safe. I won't even go to a Twins game..

6/29/2020 7:52:58 PM

As someone who has worked in Minneapolis for nearly 13 years, even prior to the events of this June in the Twin Cities, I can say with confidence that I had noticed a deterioration in general safety in the city for some years, a situation I perceived had to do with to growing pressure on decreased numbers of police not to intervene until \*after\* a situation became dangerous.

Given the recent increase in violent crimes in Minneapolis (and even here in St. Paul) after the mere \*suggestion\* of dismantling police, I would not feel safe bringing my family to Minneapolis unless absolutely necessary and would not spend time outside of work in the city if it could be avoided, until a time when it was apparent that the city could reasonably assure safety. It is especially worrying to me how opportunistic crimes may unfold as more people return to work and universities after COVID and people are mixing more anonymously in greater numbers in the city with a general sense that no one is particularly watching.

Beyond my concern for general safety given recent trends, I would suggest that the economic factors required for a successful public safety transition of the type the council proposes will not be attainable or sustainable if people are reluctant to enter the city for commerce and other purposes that generate revenue for the city.

I am not sure how to direct the city to address these concerns, only that the city will need more than just the support of its own residents to succeed, and I (and I assume others) am not convinced that the nobility of this experiment exceeds the threat to public safety and economic stability in the city.

6/29/2020 7:53:04 PM

I strongly recommend that you follow closely to this excellent historical outline for civilian policing: The Peelian Principles laid out by Sir Robert Peel to define an ethical community police force. In this model of policing, police officers are regarded as citizens in uniform. They exercise their powers to police their fellow citizens with the implicit consent of those fellow citizens. "Policing by consent" indicates that the legitimacy of policing in the eyes of the public is based upon a general consensus of support that follows from transparency about their powers, their integrity in exercising those powers and their accountability for doing so. PLEASE do not destroy the Police from being able to respond to violent crime effectively, but use the Peelian method to approach citizen interaction as much as possible!

6/29/2020 7:52:11 PM

I have serious concerns about this proposed amendment. It seems incredibly naive to expect the city to continue to function without a police department. I live in the Phillips neighborhood, and we have already experienced a higher number of shootings and crime in the past several weeks than prior to the riots. I was informed by my community relations officer that the police units responding to problem houses are no longer operating. This means that the drug trafficking and suspected prostitution on my block - which I and my neighbors were previously working with the police department to safely put an end to - is no longer being addressed. Violence is up in my neighborhood, and I no longer feel safe walking around. We need a complete overhaul of the police department. I 110% agree with that. Protocols need to be changed; the police union's involvement needs to be changed; officers need to be held accountable for complaints made against them. But we NEED a police department in this city. Gangs and drug lords are not going to change their behavior if the police force is removed; they will fill the gap that law enforcement leaves empty. I also find it incredibly ironic that the council members proposing to eliminate the police department have hired private security for themselves. Guess what? I can't afford private security. I pay taxes and expect law enforcement to respond when crimes happen. Please reconsider your amendment. Keep the police department, and focus your energy and budget on changing the protocols for training and accountability, and bringing other trained emergency and health responders alongside the police, rather than replacing the police department.

6/29/2020 7:53:21 PM

The great people of Minneapolis will suffer if the Police Dept is removed. Look at all the issues in the Powderhorn Park and North Mpls already. Please rethink this, REFORM is needed, yes. But not dismantling the entire police force.

6/29/2020 7:54:41 PM

Minneapolis must have a police force to protect citizen lives and property. Without a police force deterrence, violent crime will flourish and public safety will plummet. Our city will become yet another crime-ridden failure like every other big city that has embraced progressive, liberal policies.

Defend the Police. Defund City Council.

6/29/2020 7:54:42 PM

B.S. replace the city council and the mayor...problem solved

6/29/2020 7:54:48 PM

This is a blind and reckless move that will endanger minneapolis residents.

6/29/2020 7:54:52 PM

I would vote no. I was a resident of NE Minneapolis for 45 years...just moved 2 years ago. If you would like resources to go to helping the community, you can do that without removing the police department. Your lack of support already has many officers ready to leave or willing to take early retirement. Minneapolis is going to have a hard time hiring officers if you can't be supportive. And when that happens, you should be required to live in the worst parts of north and south Minneapolis and then report back on how great this all works if it actually happens. I don't want to live in any city that goes this route.

6/29/2020 7:55:14 PM

As a black man and local business owner, I am baffled and appalled by the decision of the city counsel to even consider abolishing the police. Catering to the minority of non-contributing citizens while alienating and ignoring the pleas of residents and businesses is a gross abuse of your power and privilege. If this order passes, I along with MANY other local business owners will not hesitate to promptly move to St. Paul or surrounding cities that deserve our taxes.

6/29/2020 7:55:30 PM

Additional police funding is needed so we can hire the best educated graduates and compete with private companies.

Minneapolis will be the next Detroit (or worst) if we do not resolve this matter with logic and reasoning rather than emotion.

6/29/2020 7:55:40 PM

This is the most idiotic thing I have ever heard. It is disheartening to see public officials acting so stupid. They dismantle the police for everyone but they get protection. It is all about power nothing else. If they want to destroy the city they are on the right path. find it annoying and beyond human comprehension that they want Minneapolis to be the center of anarchy

6/29/2020 7:55:43 PM

I am opposed to the whole idea. Please stop. You have no idea what you are doing.

6/29/2020 7:55:53 PM

I work within the city of Minneapolis and I am mortified by the proposal of doing away with the police department. As a Public Safety officer on a college campus in the city, I see many crimes and abuses that take place regularly by unhealed, contemptuous citizens and illegal aliens within the city. I thank God I don't have to live within the city. Working there is often quite bad enough.

The very idea of eliminating the police force and replacing it with some kind of "community action and safety team" is like sending a T-ball team of 7-year-olds to play against the Twins. It's crazy on its face, and soon there will be injuries and killings of these "community safety" members. Criminals don't respond to touchy-feely "community safety" personelle. They'll eat them for a snack.

I've been in Public Safety as an officer for nearly 19 years, and even with my lengthy training and experience, I wouldn't want to go up against any hardened felon or be sent into a seriously dangerous domestic call, as I would be likely to be hurt or killed, and would I be of little effect in thwarting a crime in progress. THAT'S WHY WE CALL THE POLICE. We Public Safety Officers are trained to observe and report, and CALL THE POLICE when a real crime or dangerous situation is upon us.

Anyone who thinks you can replace the police with a group of "kind and understanding, gentle folks" who will talk a criminal out of hiding, or diswade them from committing a crime with "gentle words of wisdom," or stop a madman from killing his wife and then himself with "open arms of understanding," that person is beyond madness. And believe me, Minneapolis will crumble to the destitute state of Detroit or worse in but a short time. No one will trust anyone, nor will want to live or work in Minneapolis. The economy will disappear. No student's parent will dare to send their child to study in a city that is essentially a lawless free-for-all. Our schools and colleges will soon become empty. Our businesses will be bankrupt. Our city will be in ruins.

There's nothing wrong with the idea of improving the training of police officers to eliminate dangerous types of restraint techniques... But there IS something drastically wrong with eliminating the Police altogether.

Heed this warning, all ye of sound mind.

6/29/2020 7:55:59 PM

hurry up and get this done,because if there is a lower amount of police officers in Minneapolis. I plan to move there. It will be so much fun without so many cops.

6/29/2020 7:56:01 PM

The charter amendment is ill-conceived, without a framework and rushed. Minneapolis deserves to have a robust discussion about public safety but that must include licensed peace officers. This amendment doesn't guarantee that and it should NOT go on the ballot. Nothing in the current charter precludes the city from adding to the mental health co-responder teams, implementing city-specific training requirements or other ideas being advanced. All the amendment guarantees is that it would be possible for Minneapolis to disband the police department. That concept is just wrong.



6/29/2020 7:56:58 PM

Removing the police dept is insane. The whole council is insane. The uptik in crime is insane. I am insane from dealing with a city that burned, no leadership to reassure the public that we were not going to be killed by the hooligans and arsonists running amoke that week! We were TERRIFIED!!! Yes, you see what it was/is like with no police and a bunch of amateurs at City Hall think they can do better?

Please, Please, PLEASE REJECT the proposed charter amendment the council wants you to consider. This is being rushed through with hardly any time for the public to respond Ms. Bender wants it that way to appease a small group of activists with no forthought going into just what a monumental and dangerous precedent this is. We are FED up and moving out of Minneapolis because of this. We have lived here over 50 years but we are done!! Please be the reasonable, sane adults in the room and see this proposal for what it is (leftest baloney) because like I said, the council is INSANE!

6/29/2020 7:55:01 PM

I was working on a telephone pole using my bucket truck in. Roth Minneapolis. A person who had a medical band on his hand came to truck and got my cab door open. He then tried to drive my truck with me extended in the air. I thankfully have a kill switch in my bucket so he can't get the truck moving. The cops came in a few minutes and took the guy back to the hospital.

Is my situation one that could have used someone other than the police? Maybe. I could tell the person was mentally unstable but I wouldn't have called another number other than 911. I was happy with the quick response from the police. If there were less police working that day it could have taken longer for someone to get there and the results might be different.

6/29/2020 7:57:38 PM

Full abolishment of the police department is an overreaction to the problem of a single police officer in charge. If fully implemented this will be devastating most of all to the poorest people in this city. I have known private citizens of color that have been shot and killed by other private citizens. To my knowledge virtually every police officer across the country has condemned Derek Chauvin's actions. This could have been a unifying opportunity for all people of all races to come together against police brutality. Instead this horrific situation has led to a huge blow to police officer's ability to fight crime so much that the laws are no longer enforced. Abolishing the police is impossible. Camden NJ and other areas have not been able to eliminate all law enforcement and just rely on more county law enforcement than any city police they had before.

A society without law enforcement is effectively no longer a society. Why create laws that are not enforced? Why follow laws that are not enforced? We have a case study on this in Minneapolis. There was a dictation recently that drug crimes would no longer be enforced (even though still illegal). Now it is common for my children and I to witness people shooting heroin or trespassing or stealing things in our neighborhood. Just 2 or 3 years ago this was not the case. Drug usage has multiplied many times over. How do you expect abolishing the police and not enforcing violent crimes with police will do the opposite? Crime has even increased dramatically in the short time since the looting, riots, and other lawlessness began. Imagine continuing this to the logical extreme. My friends, neighbors, and co-workers of color have ALL expressed deep concern that abolishing the police is a huge mistake.

6/29/2020 7:58:07 PM

Please keep our Minneapolis Police Department. Reform it, but keep it. What happened to George Floyd should never have happened. It was tragic and wrong. I hope and pray it never happens again. But doing away with the very people who give their lives to protect us is not the answer. They have a very, very difficult and demanding job and we must honor that and respect that. We need them to keep the peace, to preserve law and order.

6/29/2020 7:58:13 PM

No end of discussion

6/29/2020 7:58:51 PM

I fully support the new charter. Something has to change! I feel only radical actions might cause change.

6/29/2020 7:58:54 PM

Until law and order is restored, no person I know will continue to live or do business in the City of Minneapolis. Hire the 800 police officers the Police Chief asked for and is required.

6/29/2020 7:59:15 PM

If KKKroll isn't going to resign, we have no choice...

6/29/2020 7:59:43 PM

I may not be a resident now but I lived and/or worked in Minneapolis for 60 years. North Minneapolis was my home growing up, downtown was my employment until retirement and 31st and Park was my first place to live when I moved from North Minneapolis.

I will never come back into the city without police...not for a restaurant or event, not even to visit my sister. You will bankrupt the city. Show me a convention that will book without the safety of police. Sporting events..you won't need the pandemic to end...you'll have lots of empty seats.

You can pretend all cops are bad and racist...not so. All white people aren't racist. All black people don't hate white people. Through the years, we worked hard to eliminate the divide you are creating. Relationships were formed, diversity respected. George Floyd's death doesn't negate that progress. You're listening to loud and bullying voices. The community is comprised of hard-working people that deserve to be safe! It doesn't matter the race, people deserve to be safe. You, the City Council, are ridiculous. I may not like the mayor but he's right and you're wrong!

6/29/2020 8:00:09 PM

What happened to taking a year to discuss, get input and come up with a plan? What's your rush?

Do not abolish the police, reform yes, abolish no! And who is going to head this new commission? You really think having a non-law enforcement person running the show is the way to go. With all the crime a social worker or mental health worker is going to solve the issues. Get real. Your ideas are not realistic. There does need to be police reform and adding other professionals will help but you can't abolish. Who is going to want to live here just so the city council can have all the power.

6/29/2020 8:01:25 PM

We live in Eau Claire, a short drive to Minneapolis. I travel there regularly for work and we regularly attend Twins, Vikings and Gopher games. If the Police department is removed, we will no longer be spending a substantial amount of money in Mpls. It will not be safe and not worth the risk. I grew up in Richfield, cannot believe what is happening there.

6/29/2020 8:01:34 PM

I am a business owner in MPLS. I will pull my business from MPLS if the police are abolished. Poor thought process.

6/29/2020 8:01:54 PM

If the city removes the police department, we will no longer do business or leisure in Minneapolis. I will also work hard to get my family members to leave Minneapolis for their own safety.

6/29/2020 8:02:11 PM

[illegible]

6/29/2020 8:02:50 PM

6/29/2020 8:02:53 PM

6/29/2020 8:03:32 PM

Do not abolish the Minneapolis police! Also, dont defund them or cut funds.

6/29/2020 8:03:38 PM

Don't defund the police and don't disband the police. All you are trying to do is rename them. De-unionize them. That is the true issue. Instead of wasting your time on renaming the police, just find the better option. If you choose not to abolish the police and defund them, good luck with keeping the crime rates down. You will lose 70 officers, and there will not be enough officers to deal with the already too high crime rate in Minneapolis. Please think instead of listening to people who don't know the facts. De-unionize them, and then everyone will be happy and more importantly SAFE.

6/29/2020 8:00:39 PM

NO

INSANity...You guys are all over the world news as inept- WHAT to do with NO police- and yet YOU ORDER YOUR OWN private Security WITH tax payer money.

THE Mob WILL rule your city - murders- robberies-arsons. You have quit - given in.

UN Fucking Believab,le

6/29/2020 8:03:56 PM

Abolishment makes no sense. Add to what we have instead of removing it. Add the community officers in addition. MPD needs more people actually from the areas they patrol, and police who actually live in Minneapolis. More experience on the force instead of a place to train, not a springboard to go somewhere else. Better pay to retain better officers. They also need to be held accountable if they are bad apples, as they ruin it for everyone.

6/29/2020 8:04:23 PM

if the people remove the Minneapolis PD quality of life will decrease dramatically. There are thousands of truck drivers that have already stated they will NOT deliver to minneapolis without city police. Now all of the stores will be empty as they are not getting in shipments. The few shipments that do come in will cost thousands more in shipping prices. Crime will skyrocket to levels we haven't seen in decades. Murders, rapes, robberies, car jackings are already increasing, they will increase even more once the police are completely gone. Minneapolis will turn into the chaz zone like in Washington only worse.

6/29/2020 8:04:35 PM

I absolutely support ending the MPD. When crime overruns the city and it turns into something like "Escape From New York", then maybe the childish population of Minneapolis will start electing ADULTS to run the city.

6/29/2020 8:04:54 PM

I often go to Minneapolis and really enjoy it. I think the police are broken beyond repair. But the public needs more information on what's in this plan, and to hear case studies establishing why the council feels this will work for Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 8:04:56 PM

Are you guys on crack? Fuck this idea and fuck each and every single one of you.

6/29/2020 8:05:39 PM

This is the most absurd and ridiculous thing I have ever heard of. Police officers are needed. They are a special humans with special God given talents that most everyday people do not possess. To take their funding or them away entirely from the city of Minneapolis would be destructive.

6/29/2020 8:05:49 PM

What is wrong with this city council. We absolutely need the police department. We dont need to coddle criminals, drunks and drug addicts. This is beyond ridiculous. Proper training of the police is definitely lacking. And they should never shoot anyone not trying to shoot them first. Where in the heck has common sense gone in this world. Our city is a disaster right now.

6/29/2020 8:06:07 PM

Dismantling the police department will singlehandedly destroy the city - the fact that this is even up for discussion shows the terrible leadership & lack of support for law enforcement.

6/29/2020 8:06:11 PM

We need to evolve the police department in a way that preserves the lives of our neighbors, provides security to residents/business, and a deterrent to those who wish to damage property and injure others.

The current level of violence is not acceptable. Any plan needs to reduce the crime level and deaths while in police custody.

Keep the police department. Let's not become the next Seattle or LA.

6/29/2020 8:06:21 PM

Long time resident of S Mpls and I cannot imagine a city without our police department. Before recent events, the crime has spiraled out of control and now it's even worse. Any interaction I have had with Mpls PD has been professional and courteous, that includes being arrested for DUI and calls regarding theft. These men and women serve and protect our city. The 4 who are accused of murder do not represent the entire Department. The further this city goes into the sewer the more people like myself will move out and never look back.

6/29/2020 8:06:26 PM

Ha! What a joke!

6/29/2020 8:06:39 PM

I do not feel that the Minneapolis Police Dept. should be abolished and off the city charter.

There are ways to achieve police reform with out just removing it from the charter.

6/29/2020 8:06:53 PM

As a business owner in Minneapolis I can say that the idea of removing the Police Department is not only absurd and terrifying, but is setting up this city for great failure and increased crime. We have already seen an increase in theft in our private Optical practice by more than 150% in the past month. Crime in Minneapolis overall has already increased. Without the support of the police department for both homeowners and business owners I see no positive outcome for the city, homeowners and residents or business owners.

6/29/2020 8:07:01 PM

Reform police functions and train better but defunding them while there's already so much non police viole makes no sense. Insist on reform and better practices and hold them accountable. But defunding or anything similar and you'll have fewer businesses, have to lessen taxes on residents and still will spend more on other related services.

6/29/2020 8:07:52 PM

I do NOT approve of dismantling the Police department.

I feel the Minneapolis City Council is treating our city as though it is a college campus. The City Council members are hypocrites.getting money for their protection, yet taking protection away from the Minneapolis residents. I would tell them to grow up. I was taught in elementary school that violence is not the way to solve issues (Might is NOT right)

6/29/2020 8:07:52 PM

I do not believe getting rid of the minneapolis police department is a good idea at all. it's one of the silliest things I've ever heard and if it actually happens then I, among many others, will no longer travel to Minneapolis to do any sort of business because it's going to be worse than Chicago. In fact the crime rate has skyrocketed since you came up with this ridiculous idea and that doesn't tell you you're making a dumb mistake? minneapolis will die from this, our streets will look like Detroit. barren. desolate. abandoned because the woke leadership thought they could fight crime by removing the only people truly qualified to help keep the streets clean.

6/29/2020 8:08:05 PM

Seems radical. Is this THE BEST IDEA you can think of? Is this decision political? Destroying people's dreams because of a few pathetic humans should not be rushed or considered lightly.

6/29/2020 8:10:19 PM

Go ahead and dismantle the police, and watch all hell break loose. My family and friends will not go to Mpls for any reason, sports, dinner, concerts, anything. There are plenty of places where we can spend our money and be safe, but not in Mpls.

6/29/2020 8:10:28 PM

Getting rid of the police is a stupid idea..I worked in downtown Minneapolis for over 30 years and at night on my way to my car I was always relieved to see them out and about and they have always been friendly.i like the police and that is who I would call if I needed help...you guys have gone too far..there are many..many wonderful police.

6/29/2020 8:10:39 PM

I am in favor of the proposed change to the Charter Commission and placing the question on the ballot this November.

I believe more descriptive language needs to be included about the kinds of roles on the Community Safety & Violence Prevention department.

I recommend this new structure not have a military-style ranking hierarchy as most police departments currently operate under.

I recommend the word chief not be used for any of the positions in the fire department.

Thank you for your swift work on this crucial issue to make our city equitable and safe.

6/29/2020 8:11:04 PM

PLEASE continue with total reform, including passing the charter amendment. The MPD cannot be fixed as is. But, also, CMs, please put a serious plan together ASAP so all the people who live in Mpls and are nervous about "abolishing police" (which seems to be most people) can understand the goal.

"Defund," while accurate, is confusing. Also you must acknowledge that the union system is badly broken. We are desperate for a fundamental re-shaping of public safety. Please: do not screw this up.

6/29/2020 8:11:10 PM

I've lived in Minneapolis for almost 20 years, and I am vastly more supportive and engaged in the passage of this Amendment than I have been for any other issue in local politics. I appreciate the opportunity to comment. Even as an affluent white guy, I no longer trust the MPD in its existing form to take honest, humane, or professional actions in the course of its work. I feel distinctly unsafe and angry when I see police cars pass by on the street. I am excited for this change.



I do like the amendment for its new methods for achieving the goal of a safe and just community in Minneapolis. My main reservation is that its language does not give me a specific impression of what the final administrative structure will be for the Department of Community Safety.

In particular, I would like the peace officers to lack anything like the current police union. I would like transparency, accountability, and comprehensive training. I would like peace officers to have a college degree or similar education. I would like there to be no possibility for the culture of reflexive self-interested lying, "no snitching," warrior training, and white supremacy to re-establish itself; along those lines, I would like criminal prosecutors to be socially and professionally separated from the peace officers themselves, as well as the coroners, dispatchers, and other associated professionals who seemed incentivized to corruptly lie, insinuate, and obfuscate in order to protect the officers who murdered George Floyd. I don't see any provisions in the Amendment that address those issues, although I understand that the City Charter is more of a constitution than a policy handbook or orgchart.

In summary, I like the goals and scope of the Amendment but I wanted to encourage progress outside of the Charter itself toward a better system that prioritizes community safety above all, instead of prioritizing the protection of officers from any and all consequences of their potential unfitness for the job. Based on the responses of the community and you, our representatives, I'm fairly confident that things are well in hand. Thank you!

6/29/2020 8:11:25 PM

I work downtown on Washington Ave. Issue isn't the police department. Until you stop making excuses for criminals nothing will change. I would challenge each city council member to spend a week with the MPD. See what they deal with on a daily basis. You can sit in your offices and talk about community involvement. Where is that involvement when a 2 year old is shot in a drive by shooting? Witnesses won't speak up. Stop blaming the police force. These are criminals.

6/29/2020 8:11:45 PM

I've lived in Minneapolis for half a decade and I support this change 100%.

We need the flexibility to make radical changes to a deeply rotten system. I am happy to see my councilman, Kevin Reich, support this move, and I hope he is an active, communicative participant in the upcoming policies that reshape law enforcement in Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 8:11:50 PM

I do not want the police defunded or abolished! We need the police department! Don't blame everyone for a few that are bad!

6/29/2020 8:12:17 PM

I've worked in downtown Minneapolis for over 20 years and have witnessed the slow steady decline of the safety of the city over the last 5 years. Our city depends on business, business travelers, conventions, shows, concerts and sports to pay for all of the far left progressive directives of the city council. By disbanding the police department, all of those above mentioned tax generating entities and events shall

loose faith in the city and pull out or not come. We will be the new Detroit...burned, bankrupt and unsafe. I have zero faith in the city council and it's ability to lead or to understand what is best for the city of Minneapolis. The amendment to the charter should be to disband the city council.

6/29/2020 8:13:07 PM

I work in Minneapolis as a telecom employee. We just had somebody try to steal a coworkers truck while he was working in it. This persons reason was that he was just robbed. Crime is on the rise and your turning all police officers into bad guys and turning your back on them instead of cracking down on and getting rid of the officers that continuously break law themselves and have no place being a LEO. Yes they need continuous training on proper tactics and the standards on conduct should be raised but you can not allow crime to run rampant. Minneapolis will become unsafe for law abiding citizens.

6/29/2020 8:13:12 PM

I do not want this on the ballot!

This is the worst idea ever. Reform, retrain - yes but to have the polo run by a "committee" NO THANKS!!!

6/29/2020 8:13:15 PM

I want to extend my full support to the city council in the amendment to the charter commission that would place a vote on our ballot this election cycle. The citizens of Minneapolis deserve to be heard on the state of our policing. Many individuals, like myself, are in favor of community safety & violence prevention through measures that our police department has been incapable of. Give us the opportunity to be heard by putting it to a vote.

6/29/2020 8:13:19 PM

Need police more than you need the Council.

We left Minneapolis due to high crime and shootings.

Neighbor next door was beat up and robbed by 3 black men.

6/29/2020 8:13:20 PM

As a father of 3 children I fear my family with your plan to remove the police department, especially in light of the violence that has occurred over the past month. I believe this proposal to disband the police is an absolute disgrace and an embarrassment to the city and our state. You should be ashamed of yourself.

6/29/2020 8:13:44 PM

One of two things will happen:

1. The new department will be identical to the existing one and we'll spend an absurd amount of money changing uniforms and renaming things

2. Law and order will be destroyed as we know it. No one will investigate rape cases. No one will be pulled over for driving 90 down a residential street.

I'm not a fan of either outcome.

City council has shown time and time again that they can't be trusted with authority. Current council members have literally doxxed their constituents and spread blatant lies on Twitter. I don't want those people in charge of the safety of me and my family.

6/29/2020 8:14:21 PM

I am completely opposed to the City Council's proposed charter amendment. Yes, we do need to reform the police department but not disband it. The Council has no plan. They have not included the business leaders in their process.. Mayor Frey has taken the correct approach. If the Council's amendment is not allowed, it will, hopefully, force them to work with the Mayor and the Chief of Police.

6/29/2020 8:14:27 PM

To abolish MPD is pure insanity! The MPD does need systemic change, no doubt.

Chief Arradondo has received little or no support from the city council in his efforts to transform MPD. I am extremely proud of our Chief, he is a man of integrity and compassion. We should be everything in our power to help Chief Arradondo remake MPD into a institution all citizens can be proud of.

6/29/2020 8:66:51 PM

Hello Council Members,

I have already contacted my council representative, Steve Fletcher, to say I do not support defunding and dismantling police. I do support reform. As a Minneapolis taxpayer and resident, I should be afforded the rights of police protection for me and our community.

From what I can tell, many people calling to defund the police do not live in Minneapolis, and their safety would not be at risk if it were to come to pass. I am alarmed that members of the Minneapolis City council are eager to bow to the whims of people calling to defund, who do not even live here.

In recent days, I have asked myself what kind of message does it send for members of city council to have private security (I assume funded by taxpayers) and yet the same council members are calling to defund police that offer protection to the community at large?

I consider myself a liberal and my voting record shows this, but I do not support defunding police and am extremely disappointed in those who are turning it into a political issues vs a basic safety issue.

Minneapolis Ward 3

6/29/2020 8:15:39 PM

Fuck yourself you worthless piece of shit.

6/29/2020 8:15:45 PM

Without a plan we are heading back to the old Chicago days where you paid protection money . No one has thought of all the extra services the police perform on a weekly basis for the public . My vote is irrelevant since I don't live in Minneapolis

6/29/2020 8:15:47 PM

We need more policing, not less. And we need to go back to policing livability issues.

6/29/2020 8:15:51 PM

I live in Mendota Heights and take the Blue Line every day from Ft. Snelling to Target Field Station for my job in the North Loop. I walk through downtown Mpls or North Loop for lunch, shopping or work almost every day. I have witnessed assaults and property crimes committed in those places. I would feel very unsafe if Mpls Police presence is weakened or diminished under that of present level. I am fine with pushing the legislature to change MN labor laws to make it easier for MN police or sheriffs departments to get rid of bad cops.

6/29/2020 8:16:14 PM

I hope the city council does not move forward with this proposal to remove the police from the city charter. As a resident of Minneapolis, my family's safety is paramount in importance to me. I would not choose to live in this city if criminal activity continues to escalate as it has in the past month since the abolishment of the police has been proposed. Criminals have taken the call to end the police as a pass to increase violence and brazen acts throughout Minneapolis. I agree that reforms need to happen but an abolishment and or replacement of the police force in a city of our size is not feasible. The downtown core entertainment district had already seen a drastic decrease in visitor number pre Covid because of increased crime. I would hate to see the city continue on a path of self destruction. Many families, including my own, will choose to leave for safer environs if things continue on the path they are on. I urge the city council to reconsider their plan to remove the police from the charter and take the time to find alternatives that can work for all citizens of this city.

6/29/2020 8:16:37 PM

I am opposed to dismantling the police force in Minneapolis. Minneapolis has a large history of violence and crime in it; including the use of deadly weapons (ie. Guns). Taking the police force away takes away the safety and security of people living, working, and visiting the city. If Minneapolis dismantles the police force I would avoid the city due to safety concerns and take my business to other cities who can provide a safer environment for my family when visiting.

6/29/2020 8:16:48 PM

I am not in favor of removing the police department. We do need different responses to different circumstances and more community programs geared toward outreach, youth development programs, and crime prevention.

6/29/2020 8:68:31 PM

I wanted to add to my comment I just sent; it is extremely hypocritical that Minneapolis taxpayers are funding private security for three council members while advocating abolishing the police! What about the taxpayers here? Where is our protection? Oh wait, the police are jaded and rightfully so. They had to watch their police station burn and get destroyed, sending the message to criminals that the city is a free for all. WORD OF ADVICE: ANYONE WHO THINKS THEY CAN PROTECT THE PUBLIC BETTER, GO AHEAD AND APPLY FOR THE JOB. THEY WOULD NOT LAST 24 LET ALONE 4 HOURS!

6/29/2020 8:18:09 PM

Please do not disband or defund the police. There needs to be extreme overhaul in Mpls of the police force, but we need the police force. I don't approve of the council making their own decisions without consulting the residents. Look at the increase in crime we are experiencing. Getting rid of the union head would help.

6/29/2020 8:18:13 PM

What happened to George Floyd was a terrible abuse of power and illustrates larger, systemic issues of police brutality, racism, and organizational dysfunction.

Clearly, the force is in need of transformational change and major revisions to the union contracts the city council has agreed to, in the past, are absolutely necessary. The force is unnecessarily militarized which does very little to promote community and unity.

However, defunding the police is an absolutely asinine idea. I commute into Minneapolis daily for work - downtown - and I actually believe the city should be given more officers, particularly in the wake of this horrific incident.

The increase in crime is not going unnoticed and I deserve to feel safe going to and from my place of employment. All people in Minneapolis have that right. Furthermore, we need for the role of police officers expand from law enforcers to service engagers.

Yes, there will always been a need to enforce the law but there is also a large group of individuals in Minneapolis who are living with mental health and drug abuse issues who would greatly benefit from officers who can help people engage with different service providers to get the help needed. We can't encourage people to live on the street.

Lastly, the police department has so much work to do to rebuild trust, particularly with children. This can't be understated and must be intentional, daily, and across the city.

6/29/2020 8:18:44 PM

I am in strong support of reforming the police department. I believe there is a place for police officers, but the system needs to be torn down and rebuilt. I am also interested in being involved in the conversations around this restructuring. I emailed Alondra Cano (my city council member) and did not hear back on how to get involved.

6/29/2020 8:18:46 PM

I will never go downtown Minneapolis again based on the violence and disturbing choice to eliminate the police. It is unfortunate but I can live watching the Twins and Vikings from the comfort of my home. No need to take chances for an evening at a nice restaurant or go to a show at some of the best venues in the state.

Logic had gone out the window in MPLS.

6/29/2020 8:18:47 PM

Members of the Charter Commission, I am writing today to voice my concern regarding the recent proposal by the Minneapolis City Council to amend the city charter. As a resident of North Minneapolis, I cannot condone the plan the commission has put forth. The reason I cannot condone such action is that there seems to be no plan at all. I hear buzzwords like "holistic" and "health & safety", which may sound great in political ads, but they do little to address the true concerns of the community. Our citizens deserve more; we need to see the what, the where, the why and the how of their plan. What's next? This is not something that can be addressed on the fly. Unintended negative consequences are inevitable with such an approach. In fact, ever since the council announced their intentions, we are seeing a drastic uptick in violent crime and property damage in our neighborhoods (especially the Northside). One can easily assume the perpetrators are feeling emboldened by the weak messages from leadership. Take a look at the weekly crime maps published by the city, and you will see what we are experiencing. I am all for reforms that benefit the community, but when we fail to plan, we plan to fail.

6/29/2020 8:19:01 PM

I strongly urge you to reconsider removing the police department. This is a short-sighted, knee-jerk decision you are making. I work in the utility and telecommunications industries and we have conferences in downtown Minneapolis. The industry groups I belong to are planning contingency plans if the police are removed. You are facing a massive deficit in revenue. That will balloon if you get rid of the police. Businesses will leave and folks who come to spend money in Minneapolis will come far less often.

6/29/2020 8:20:07 PM

Please do not dismantle police in Minneapolis . I am 64 have lived here my whole life , but I will move if police dept is no longer here ! Period no if and or butts it's a ridiculous suggestion.

6/29/2020 8:20:54 PM

I am against defunding the police

6/29/2020 8:20:58 PM

You are asking me to approve a building with no foundation

You all supporting this have zero idea where you want to go and I will not help you.

Do we need police reform- of course. This is not how you do it.

6/29/2020 8:21:42 PM

What are you guys nuts! This passes I'm moving! Talk about stupid!

6/29/2020 8:21:49 PM

Is the city council members going to help with crime control? This is such a bad idea they should be able to realize it.

6/29/2020 8:21:56 PM

Change is an absolute but not through disbanding. Stop arresting for marijuana infractions (legalize it already)!! Require police live in the city.

6/29/2020 8:22:14 PM

I am 100% against the replacement of the police department. I feel it would be throwing the baby out with the bath water. Fire and Medics will not be able to do their jobs on calls which we saw during the riots. Blocks burned because there was not adequate protection. Now the city council members need security. Why? Shouldn't they have mental health professionals ready to talk it out?

I do agree that there is a need to reevaluate with certain responses. I do believe rogue cops should be held accountable, no different then the criminals in our midst but now are less and less prosecuted.

This is accountability issue. That will have businesses and homeowners leaving. .... who supply the taxes for the budget. There has already been huge concerns about public safety in certain areas of the city, Downtown, Northside(every neighborhood), Uptown, etc..... So we are going to cut the police department? Without a plan?

I am 100% against this so called plan.

6/29/2020 8:23:00 PM

As a resident of Minneapolis who has paid taxes for over 25 years, I DO NOT want the Minneapolis Police Department defunded in ANY manner. Period.

6/29/2020 8:23:08 PM

PLEASE put this to ballot! It's a necessary step toward ending corruption in MPD! It can't simply be weeded out with reforms. Reforms haven't worked, and they will continue to be futile.

6/29/2020 8:23:22 PM

The City Council needs to present a detailed plan to the community. I will be voting against amending the charter unless there is a plan in place or at the very least, a detailed proposal. I do not trust MPD but I also do not trust the majority of the current City Council and their reactionary policy making. I do not want to give them the power to decide the fate of MPD and potentially all of Minneapolis without a plan for which the community can hold them accountable. We need more details before amending the charter.

6/29/2020 8:23:25 PM

I strongly disagree with this plan

6/29/2020 8:23:27 PM

I fully support our city council in this bold step. I am proud to be a resident of this great city that is showing national leadership in this area. We don't need to have every single answer to how every piece of this puzzle fits together, in order to clearly say that what exists has failed, and that we are brave and will stand as a community while we work together to get this right.

6/29/2020 8:23:34 PM

What are you people thinking? Do you really think that it's a good idea to dismantle the system that provides law and order? This idea is completely absurd, the increase in violence, murder, lawlessness etc. will increase quickly to the point that the Wild West will look like life in Edina.

6/29/2020 8:23:34 PM

Work with the community to develop checks and balances, educate the police force, and provide aggression training and mitigation. Work for solutions for the benefit of the ENTIRE society not to appease one segment of the society.

The direction that this could go is truly frightening. This is the first opening of the door to communism, and socialism, a direction this city, and great country do not need to go.

Please do not go in this horrible direction, think hard of the consequences and outcomes of a lawless society. There are far better alternatives that will have a far better outcome.

6/29/2020 8:23:43 PM

This is simply semantics to satisfy dissidents of the police force. The 2 primary resolutions that need to be solved are:

- 1: how do we direct resources to improve the lives of citizens to avoid crime before it occurs?
- 2: how do we enforce our laws in a way that is unbiased with minimal amount of force required?

6/29/2020 8:25:30 PM

Dismantling the police department is a very idiotic idea. As that would put everyone's safety at high risk. I think, instead, the focus needs to be on police training and more psychological assessments to take place.

6/29/2020 8:25:33 PM

This policy proposal is a train wreck



6/29/2020 8:25:40 PM

This is the most stupidest thing I have heard. Are you aware of what is taking place in our city now? Innocent people are getting hurt. People are scared everyone is buying guns. Oh wait we are paying for you to be safe. This is what you have created. Then you come up with this shit. You all need to get your heads out of your asses

Sit down and do your job. Focus on more training more evaluations. Listen to the people and taxpayers. You work for us. Time you do the job your paid and protected to. Each and everyone if you have lost my vote.

6/29/2020 8:26:02 PM

I will quit m job at hcmc after 23 years. No way will this be a solution. Your city council is a joke and just cares about votes. Meanwhile safety of residents is no concern.

6/29/2020 8:26:27 PM

I currently own two businesses in Minneapolis and live South of the Metro. My businesses utilize the Police Department fairly often (LTC). My children also visit Minneapolis several times a month.

Watching the recent happenings in Mnpls, I would not be comfortable in allowing them to continue to visit. I will not visit and will most likely end up closing my facilities and relocating them elsewhere that provides Law Enforcement.

You are doing this city a tremendous dis-service by even considering such an event. Property values are already sinking, home sellers are higher than average. Residents and business owners alike are scared yet you continue to flame those fears. Why?

6/29/2020 8:27:30 PM

I believe there are racists on the police force.

I believe police officers should be punished harshly for flagrant murder of citizens.

I believe the police got what it deserved when the 3rd precinct was overrun and burned. If the police won't hold itself accountable, and the law won't return guilty verdicts against them, then this will be settled in the streets.

That said, I want to keep a traditional police force and harshly punish those who execute unarmed men, especially unarmed black men.

And I think the city council in voting hastily to "defund" the police without any further rhetorical strategy in place to explain this action, have handed Donald Trump the one life line he could've hoped for in the 2020 campaign.

The "defund" topic is not only hopelessly idealistic. Because of its simplistic label, which which is hyper-efficiently misinterpreted, the idea of "defunding" is hostile to the actual fates of people of color by ceding essential political advantage to the most dangerous president in American history.

Focus on punishing these evil officers on your force. If the police union president stands in your way, then destroy his reputation and career. Act like a city worth respect in this country.

Best of luck.

6/29/2020 8:28:16 PM

If this amendment goes through I will no longer visit the city of Minneapolis for any reason.

6/29/2020 8:29:39 PM

Disband the City Council! Complete idiots. How can they be so stupid ?

6/29/2020 8:29:43 PM

The idea to abolish the Mpls police is ridiculous. Even now the crime is rising in Mpls and spilling out into the suburbs. If anything we need more police and give them the ability to arrest these criminals! I don't feel safe going into Mpls any more and am encouraging my family members to move out of the city because it's not safe. My brother hears gunfire in his apartment. Criminals are being allowed to destroy our city!!

6/29/2020 8:29:45 PM

In regards to defunding or disbanding the Mpls police. My thoughts are that you should be standing behind our police in every way possible. Not jumping on some delusional bandwagon. Or caving to the demands of a terroristic group. Or playing political games. These officers risk their lives every single day. I will never spend another dollar or go to your city again if this continues. It is ridiculous that this is the idea you run with. Rather than punishing the officers who were in the wrong. Be prepared to lose not only people who visit your city. But to have residents move away. Support those who support your city and do not follow those who hope to destroy it. Its unfathomable that this is even being considered.

6/29/2020 8:29:59 PM

I am all for changing up the police department but abolishing the police department as a whole and substituting it for "peaceful officers", I believe would be the biggest mistake in the history of the city of Minneapolis. Residents still want police on patrol and near by, last year we wanted MORE police and in my neighborhood in NE Minneapolis, there was going to be a fund raiser towards the end of May to help fund the police department in the 2nd precinct so we could get more patrol around our neighborhood. I am baffled how the city is paying over \$63,000 for "private security" for about 3 of our council members??? This might sound like a good idea but what happens when someone pulls a gun on someone, or shoots someone, or robs someone or gets in an accident and leaves? The community of safety and violence prevention department will not work in this city and if it does get passed by the public, this city is going to be worse than Detroit and Chicago. I'll be voting no and hoping to stay in NE Minneapolis as long as the police department is here. I'm on board with Mayor Frey

6/29/2020 8:30:12 PM

We, my wife and I, do not want the police department de-funded or abolished! That is absolutely the road to total anarchy. Have we not seen enough of rising violence and property destruction in the last weeks to warrant more, and better trained officers. Really fully trained officers without regard to religion race or creed. I am certainly no fan of our mayor, but even he sees the utter folly in the idea of abolishing the police. I am in agreement that the police union is an issue. They need to have their protectionist powers reduced. You could say the same with the Teachers union as well, but, I know you would never go there. What's good for the goose is good for the gander!

6/29/2020 8:30:19 PM

Minneapolis Commissioners,

I am writing today to voice my concerns and opposition to the proposal to defund the Minneapolis Police Department. The City Council and other city officials have been so fast to blame the MPD for every issue going on in Minneapolis and it's time they take a look within at themselves. As someone who lives and works in Minneapolis I am completely disgusted by the actions of the city officials and their constant finger pointing. Their actions have resulted in me having completely no faith in the competency of the City Council, especially Lisa Bender. Right now the City Council has more blood on their hands than the MPD due to their repeatedly urging residents to not contact the police and the backlash that residents fear if they do contact the police. I am so sick and tired of not being presented with the facts and with the City of Minneapolis being run by people more concerned about their "media tour", getting attention for their radical ideas, and ignoring the resident's needs. I am as heartbroken and angry about the murder of George Floyd as anyone else but now my heart is also being broken watching the city of Minneapolis get ruined by its officials.

Black lives matter and I stand united in supporting the Black Community and ensuring equality for all. However, I do not think defunding the police is the right action. The answer is in community reform, police reform, social reform, and it is not a one size fits all answer. Currently I know many neighbors who are getting ready to put their house on the market due to their mistrust of how Minneapolis is being run, my husband and I are considering moving, I have friends closing their Minneapolis businesses, my friends from the suburbs are nervous about coming to Minneapolis to visit us. Minneapolis is going downhill....fast! This is all due to the fact that they have a complete lack of trust in Lisa Bender and the City Council's quick, non-thought out actions as well as them not feeling safe with the decreased police presence.

We speak of not racially profiling, not discriminating based on skin color, accepting all for who they are. Right now the actions and words I am seeing and hearing are more hate filled than ever and the community is being pulled further apart than ever. Last week a good family friend of ours who is a very kind compassionate man who happens to have retired from the MPD 13 years ago was downtown. While downtown he was hungry and knew of a black owned restaurant. He went into that restaurant to show his support and instead had the owner come over to his table berate him, and kick him out of his establishment b/c he was a former cop. Discrimination is still discrimination whether based on skin color or occupation.

Currently crime is up in the city, a 14 year old was raped in the Powderhorn Camp, businesses are being boarded up, and all we hear this is this is MPD's fault. Please reconsider the proposals put forth by the City Council and instead work together with the MPD to better serve our city. I strongly urge Lisa Bender to step down, the city to step up, and the police to be taken along as partners. I am tired of not feeling safe in my own city and the unrest and radical actions need to stop.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

6/29/2020 8:30:23 PM

It doesn't need a 7 word long name, you are completely insane. This is one of the stupidest things ever! I will not be in Minneapolis anymore period and I hope others leave and don't come back! It's too dangerous there and you do not care about your citizens at all!! I know you don't like President Trump but it is asinine to destroy your own city and get citizens hurt and killed on purpose in attempt to make him look bad.. people see through this, he doesn't look bad. You look bad.. you are a national embarrassment and I'm sure you're even too stupid to care.

6/29/2020 8:30:59 PM

I have become more and more afraid to come down town every year for the last 20+ years it gets worse every year and you all know it! most everyone knows it and feels this way! knowing there will be less police! I will not be coming for Anything! anymore!

6/29/2020 8:31:00 PM

The city council actions are incredibly reckless. They are making decisions out of anger and that is only going to do more harm then good. I do NOT support the city council and will be voting for a new member in my district just as soon as election time comes.

6/29/2020 8:31:39 PM

The city council actions are incredibly reckless. They are making decisions out of anger and that is only going to do more harm then good. I do NOT support the city council and will be voting for a new member in my district just as soon as election time comes.

6/29/2020 8:32:10 PM

Dumbest thing I've ever heard of! Complete ignorance. You are creating a mess, people will lose lives, who will protect them? Do you not care about the citizens of your city or the people that come into town for business and/or pleasure? I know I DEFINITELY won't be visiting the twin cities anytime soon. The Minneapolis city council is an embarrassment to our beautiful state. #backtheblue #trump2020

6/29/2020 8:32:47 PM

You must be crazy

6/29/2020 8:76:49 PM

We oppose this move. We do not think the removal of the police department is the answer to the issues facing the city. If you proceed in this endeavor it will result in many no longer wanting to work in or visit Minneapolis, a loss of revenue, loss of perceived safety, loss of actual safety and a move out of state for us along with many, many others. This is a knee jerk poorly thought out overreaction and will result in destruction of the city.

6/29/2020 8:32:56 PM

I think ridiculous number of shots fired reports, the random shooting in Uptown, and absolute destruction of Lake Street show that Minneapolis needs police. A reform plan should be put in place rather a complete removal of the MPD. The NAACP has a reasonable and realistic list of actions that could be taken. A 'Safety and Violence Prevention Department' isn't feasible. There's not going to be any violence prevention happening if we have social services trying to talk down a man beating his children. No suicide prevention task force is going to attempt to get a gun away from someone suicidal. A community patrol won't have any idea what to do about a gang shooting that ends up taking the lives of children who just happened to be in the wrong place.

If people don't feel safe, they will leave, and with them will go all the tax dollars we could have used towards scholarships for black students or decreased home loan rates for black families or funding for schools in majority black neighborhoods or start up funds for prospective black business owners. A lot of businesses on Lake Street have already decided to leave and take those jobs with them. I'm obviously not the only resident of Minneapolis, but I have a feeling that, if put on the ballot, this ammendment would be voted down. The loudest voices don't speak for all of us.

6/29/2020 8:32:57 PM

YOU DUMB FUCKS! YOU DUMB FUCKS! YOU DUMB FUCKS!

6/29/2020 8:32:59 PM

This is insane! You should all step down from your posts as you clearly no longer align your agenda with the will of the people. What a disgrace!!

6/29/2020 8:33:24 PM

Although I do not live in Minneapolis, I am an individual who used to love going to Minneapolis. I loved going to concerts, eating at different restaurants, going to a large variety of theatres to see plays, attending sporting events, and visiting museums. I was in the city for one of these reasons almost monthly. If you remove the Minneapolis Police Department, I will no longer attend any of these establishments. Not having police protection readily available is a huge concern for mine and my family's safety. The crime in the last few months has increased tremendously and it seems it is no longer in the late evening/early morning hours, times when I would have thought it was safe. I refuse to put my life at risk to spend money in a city that does not have an adequate police department.

6/29/2020 8:33:36 PM

Time to buy an ar-15 to protect myself

6/29/2020 8:33:39 PM

Minimizing or getting rid of the police department is absolutely ridiculous. criminals will always complain about police officers and what they do. The police do far more good than bad. The most vulnerable people in our society depend on their protection. Maybe the requirements to become a police officer should be changed. More emphasis on education and less emphasis on physical ability. If a police officer does something illegal and other officers cover for him or her they all go. As soon as you get rid of the police our society will go back to the wild wild West. Please don't do that. Please do not be pressured by political agendas. Do what is right even if it is only this once.

6/29/2020 8:33:52 PM

I strongly support the charter amendment. It is clear that the Minneapolis Police Department is beyond reform. They have been through enough bias trainings, body-cams and other material updates that reformers around the country have pushed for, to no avail. This charter amendment is the first step to the people of this city having a voice in the future of public safety. The amendment does not go far enough, in my opinion, in preventing law enforcement officials from participating in the creation of this new department of public safety. However, I believe it is important for the people of Minneapolis to be given the chance to vote on how we keep each other safe this fall. I hope you give us that opportunity.

6/29/2020 8:77:12 PM

My wife works in Minneapolis. She takes Broadway to and from work. A week ago or so, there was two shootings on 200 West Broadway between gang members. They were shooting across the street both time. The first shooting happened at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

C'mon...this is a no brainer. Take away police, take away any fear of getting caught.

6/29/2020 8:35:43 PM

I disagree with any attempt at abolishing or replacing the police department. If anything the police should get more money so that they can increase training, safety planning and increased community policing by more cops that LIVE in this city. Will that be on the ballot? For the city council to make a blanket decision that is so out of left field with what the public wants is not helpful and is harmful to the atmosphere in the city at the moment. It shows that your goal is to divide and not heal this city. It shows how out of touch you are with the public. My council representative won't even answer emails. By making this radical move, you have proved yourselves unworthy to represent the people of Minneapolis and we will do everything to vote you out in November if not take action before then. You will not run this city into the ground.

6/29/2020 8:35:45 PM

End it now! Bring in the NG and Feds to lockdown the city. Wake up!

6/29/2020 8:35:52 PM

I think it is ludicrous to defund a police department, especially when the same city council hired private security to protect themselves using taxpayer dollars. What a bunch of hypocrites they are. Who are private citizens suppose to call for protection? They cannot afford to hire private security.

6/29/2020 8:36:23 PM

This, if passed, would be one of the worst ideas in Minneapolis history

6/29/2020 8:36:24 PM

The city council's proposed charter amendment is a change that puts the cart in front of the horse. Rather than have a sensible discussion of what the future of the MPD should look like including budget, staffing level and desired outcomes and then discuss the path to get there; the proposed charter amendment places those necessary items entirely in the hands of the city council who is saying 'trust us, we know what we are doing'. However, as evidenced by the group of you who promised to 'disband the police' and then the unanimous decision to forward this amendment with out a clear eyed vision of the future, all of the city council should be excluded from the adult table as this discussion continues. I oppose the proposed Department of Hugs, Kisses and Well Wishes without a well defined plan that includes significant numbers of trained and armed police officers.

6/29/2020 8:37:31 PM

I will NOT be visiting Minneapolis for dinner, theater or sporting events if you dismantle the police department! You will end up losing a lot of money from us in the suburbs.

6/29/2020 8:37:47 PM

I think it would be absolutely devastating to disband the police. I do not believe a community led safety and violence prevention department would be effective. All research and past experience has shown that when police are decreased crime increases.

6/29/2020 8:37:50 PM

Yes Fuck 12 get rid of Them

6/29/2020 8:38:15 PM

Hello.

Thanks for opportunity to share feedback on this important proposal. Minneapolis is great and very advanced, multicultural megapolis. And i see, and appreciate and liberty and diversity.

Majority of Officers in Minneapolis do great job protecting city from chaos. And majority of Officers do follow safety procedures strictly. They , Officers, often put their life to protect others.

City of Minneapolis, in fact, does owe to officers for the order and achievements.

I vote to keep Police Department.

6/29/2020 8:38:47 PM

I DO NOT support the City Council's plan to amend the City Charter. I do not believe that the City Council has spent nearly enough time deliberating the merits of their plan and the possible potentially disastrous consequences. What is the rush? I know they are saying "do the charter amendment first, then get community input later". That is an unacceptable plan. I remember what happened during the "community input" phase of consideration of the Mpls 2040 Plan, and that all happened BEFORE the Council voted to approve the plan. I do not believe that community input will ever be meaningfully considered. Our city is at a tipping point whether they realize it or not. We have the best Police Chief ever, why not give him a chance to do the work he so clearly understands needs to be done? It seems like a way for the Council to take control of the MPD away from the mayor, the only elected office voted on by the ENTIRE city of Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 8:39:53 PM

Absolutely NO to removing the MPD from the charter. This is being done entirely too quickly and in my opinion in order to look a certain way in the national spotlight.

This serious of a change needs MUCH more time for community discussion, clear plans, and a functional council.

6/29/2020 8:40:09 PM

I am writing to express strong support for the proposed new charter language creating more flexibility for the City to develop the tools most appropriate to our current needs to address public safety, which may well include a role for police ("law enforcement services") in some fashion, but I like the idea that this would be ONE tool, and not the overarching one, in the public toolbox. As they say, when your only tool is a hammer, every problem looks like a nail. If we diversify the available responses, we expand the possible solutions. MPD's conduct demonstrates that we have put all our eggs in this basket for too long, and that we desperately need different solutions. It's (beyond) time for a change of approach.

6/29/2020 8:41:47 PM

Criminals will love the proposed amendment. Intelligent citizens will vote against it. Overly optimistic, law-abiding, homeowners, will regret their affirmative votes, but after it's too late. I've heard of worse ideas. Watching the shit show unfold if it passes will at least be entertaining for those not in MPLS.

6/29/2020 8:41:56 PM

Decreased police presence equals increased crime. Period. For the first time In my 23 Years of living here I am considering leaving Minneapolis. Good police are being punished for the deeds of a few bad ones. Hold bad cops accountable, establish counseling for those who are overwhelmed, and evaluate their effectiveness. But please do not abolish them. A month ago they were heroes and now they are criminals? I think not.



6/29/2020 8:42:01 PM

Insanity. As a former Mpls resident, UMN alumnus, and citizen of Minnesota, I am so saddened to see Mpls leadership turn their back on all of the hard working officers who have dedicated their lives to SERVING the public. First responders are special people and deserve our respect.

My greatest fear is the countless residents and businesses that will suffer if lawlessness takes hold. Many will flee to safer suburbs and the city will slowly slip in to recession. It will be sad to see such a vibrant city slide into obscurity. Vilifying police is not the way to catalyze change.

6/29/2020 8:42:03 PM

Please submit a comprehensive replacement report with community input, hard data with sources, budgets, etc. before requesting a charter amendment change on the ballot for Nov 2020.

6/29/2020 8:42:04 PM

I believe that disbanding the police department is a mistake. We need more police to handle the increasing number of shootings and violence in this city.

6/29/2020 8:42:43 PM

Please review the amendment and approve its being added to the ballot in November. Passing the amendment will allow citizens to decide together how we want to move forward with issues of community safety and support. We need not necessarily abolish the police force; there is a range of potential solutions that can be considered. I support the community having its own dialogue about these options, with the power to implement our chosen decisions. In the absence of real dialogue followed by genuine electoral options, we may face more hopelessness, divisiveness and violence. Please support our city's electoral freedom by approving this amendment in time for the ballot in November.

6/29/2020 8:40:32 PM

I don't have the luxury of private security details to protect me from murderers, thieves and rapists and the rest of the dregs of society like politicians and the wealthy do. What gives you the right to endanger my life and property just so that you can pander to a bunch of violent and irrational people that are forcing you to make a singularly political decision?

Who is someone supposed to call if there is a serious crime? Social workers with herbal tea, soy-free cookies and a kleenex? You'd better save all the public money you can so that you can properly bury all those bleeding-heart "safety and violence" people when they're shot in the streets by the very same people you're so intent on "protecting" from police. Better train the existing police, force yes, but don't prevent them from doing the jobs they were hired to do.

For the first time in my life, because of the Mpls. City Council, I am arming myself with several guns to protect me and what's mine. I will not hesitate to pull the trigger if threatened.

Not everyone in this city has lost their minds and will fight you with all the breath in their body. You have all gone insane and even if you do get this moronic proposition on the ballot, you will not prevail. You will be shone to be the true fools you really are.



6/29/2020 8:43:41 PM

This is a travesty. Please do not disband the police.

6/29/2020 8:43:56 PM

The defunding of the police is insanity orchestrated by individuals who have no knowledge of recent police statistics, have very little or no knowledge of police work and apparently do not work. The great majority of citizens who work hard for a living dont show up at mob demonstrations. In response to the city council and Mayor Frey (all of whom should resign) I am selling my place at Fifth Ave Lofts. Your plans are pathetic.



6/29/2020 8:44:02 PM

Please review the amendment and approve its being added to the ballot in November. Passing the amendment will allow citizens to decide together how we want to move forward with issues of community safety and support. We need not necessarily abolish the police force; there is a range of potential solutions that can be considered. I support the community having its own dialogue about these options, with the power to implement our chosen decisions. In the absence of real dialogue followed by genuine electoral options, we may face more hopelessness, divisiveness and violence. Please support our city's electoral freedom by approving this amendment in time for the ballot in November.

6/29/2020 8:44:14 PM

Removing the police is a worry some and potentially catastrophic idea. While I am sympathetic to the fears some are experiencing regarding the police this decision just does not affect the people of Minneapolis. While I do not live in Minneapolis my husband is a over-the-road truck driver and it is dangerous to not have police presents while making deliveries or even driving through Minneapolis. Robberies Highway jackings murder I fear for my husband safety as well as the safety of all truck drivers who have to pass through or deliver to Minneapolis without police. The idea that criminals would listen to reason is absurd. The fact of the matter is that robberies amongst truck drivers would go way up which is putting them in a dangerous position for just trying to do their jobs. Don't think that could happen look it up , there was a string of robberies at a government-owned rest stop that targeted truck drivers that was with police presence. This is just one of many scenarios that could happen to a poor truck driver on the road without police. As I stated earlier this decision would not just affect the people of Minneapolis it would affect a lot of people's lives and these truck drivers the ones delivering the goods so y'all can eat in Minneapolis are the same people who would be targeted and they have families and it is the responsibility of cities and states all across the country to ensure that everyone is safe and has a fair chance to make it home to their loved ones and removing the police does not grant that opportunity for anyone. And I can tell you as a non-resident of Minneapolis if there are no police I will never visit Minneapolis. And there are no promises no reassurance that would ever be told to me that would ever change my mind.If there were no police I just would not feel safe being a visitor. And I hope that the city takes a good long hard look at the consequences in the future and does what's really the best and smartest and safest thing to do, not what feels good now. And just as a side note Dr. Martin Luther King jr. Did not want to remove the police, keep that in mind and he was a very smart man.

6/29/2020 8:44:18 PM

We need to get rid of every member of the city council, not the police. The police can never be replaced! City council is the most Petty, uneducated bunch of idiots I have ever seen! Any Resident of Minneapolis is nothing more than a Sitting Duck if the police are not there. Criminals and know it, and anyone in improv worst neighborhoods knows it!

6/29/2020 8:44:49 PM

I'm a resident of St Louis Park. I frequent Minneapolis and I also live close to the border. I am disgusted to hear of the plans to abolish the police department in Minneapolis. The city has not proven that they are evolved enough to exist without a police presence at all. I hope that the city council reads these comments... they need to know that we see their corruption. All my life I have been so proud to say I live in the suburbs of Minneapolis. I grew up in Golden Valley and have always lived close to thos city that's near and dear to my heart. This city has completely fallen apart. Removing Law and Order is not going to help the cause.

6/29/2020 8:45:41 PM

This idea is so bad I'm embarrassed to be from Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 8:46:06 PM

I moved to Mpls from Chicago to get away from crime (was a stabbing victim) in 1981. I will not go to Minneapolis without police. The effects of reduced policing is already evident. You on the city council (the elites) can get your private security while the people (the proletariat) die and the businesses burn, are destroyed, or leave (the bourgeoisie). The evils of the Bolshevik revolution will repeat itself. If you look at the history of Lenin and Stalin, no one is safe in the long run. Don't do this. You yourselves will benefit from the protection. That is what our constitution is supposed to do for ALL citizens.

6/29/2020 8:46:27 PM

I don't want to live in Minneapolis anymore. And it's not because of the tragic Floyd incident. It's the absurdity and inconsistencies of the leadership. Minneapolis has been a wonderful city to live for the 13 years I've been here, but now a City that doesn't support its own police!? Becuaee of the actions of one officer? The homeless are allowed to destroy whatever they like, receive free handouts daily and freely live in the best park system in the nation?! My God this City's government has been handed what was a world-class City and is dismantling it into a lawless, extreme left-leaning free-for-all shit hole that is to be supported by wealthy taxpayers which will leave! Refer to Detroit in the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s and 1990s!

6/29/2020 8:46:59 PM

I for one as a citizen of Minneapolis, 5 generation will no longer reside in this city if the police are disbanded or defunded. I will not feel safety for myself let alone my family. I do not get who the council of so few think they are to take away that Decision for the thousands who live in this city, they do not get to speak for all of us. The lose of business and funding by this Ridiculous proposal will not just leave us all unsafe, it will bankrupt our city. No sporting teams, let alone ours, will want to do business in the Minneapolis limits. So say goodbye for our income from the twins, Vikings, and Timberwolves, etc. Truck driving companies will stop delivering here, and all other forms of assistance from other city's, who helped with the riots, will not come to our aid if needed if this is passed. This is the most preposterous proposal I have ever heard of in my life. Shame on these council members for putting us at such large risk. They are not interested in serving or protecting us citizens on Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 8:47:08 PM

I am very against removing police department.

6/29/2020 8:47:56 PM

I am a member of the Minneapolis community and am in favor of letting myself, my peers, and those who live among me decide on how we as a community want to move forward and enact change in regard to the charter amendment concerning the police department. I fully support the proposal to remove the police department and replace it with an improved Community of Safety and Violence Prevention Department. It would be a disservice to the Minneapolis community if the citizen's voices are ignored in the process of deciding what to do regarding this charter amendment.

6/29/2020 8:48:29 PM

If the police are dismantled. I will not feel safe enough to visit your city. I live in southern mn and we travel and stay there at least 6 times a year. without police I will not feel say to attend events and go to restaurants and bars in your city

6/29/2020 8:45:12 PM

Downtown Minneapolis is bleeding out on your watch...

- 1) MORE POLICE
- 2) No more shoot to kill policy
- 3) Cop on every corner

6/29/2020 8:49:25 PM

Irresponsible Bad idea. Uphold & Protect from foreign & Domestic . Redirect funds into better training , less tactical more people skills. Why should city leaders have personal protection ( body guards tax pay funded )& I average worker , tax payer have some clown that knows some one in the leader ship to get the job show up when call 911 . Wake Up defend our rights as intended not defend mob law

6/29/2020 8:49:26 PM

You guys are absolute fucking morons and I can't wait to watch you fail

6/29/2020 8:49:42 PM

Defunding and dismantling the police is ridiculous and insane.

6/29/2020 8:49:52 PM

This has got to be one of the most moronic ideas I've ever heard of. If my house gets robbed, or I get mugged on the street, (the latter actually having happened to me), a social worker will respond? Or maybe a shrink? That'll go over well until they and the public to which they are "responding" start dying. What moron responded with "it's not eliminating the police, it's defunding them"? Who the hell works for free? I will be moving out of this city run by clueless liberals if this comes to pass. This is the problem when you have genius liberals pissing all over public safety to further their political agenda.

6/29/2020 8:50:26 PM

DEFUND THEIR PRIVATE SECURITY HYPOCRITES!! DEFUND THEIR PRIVATE SECURITY HYPOCRITES!!  
DEFUND THEIR PRIVATE SECURITY HYPOCRITES!!

6/29/2020 8:50:35 PM

The Minneapolis police department is not serving residents of color. Instead, officers are and have been brutally murdering innocent civilians. We demand change. Starting fresh with a more diverse array of professionals to assist with different issues while still employing newly trained law enforcement officers is one change we can make to our racist system.

6/29/2020 8:51:01 PM

If you defund the police, I will do everything in my power to avoid going into Minneapolis. It was not the safest place to begin with. Now with talk about defunding the police..... well it'll get worse. What good would a social worker do if someone is high on meth and bent on hurting someone? I would like everyone who is on the city council who supports defunding the police to go through some Police Use of Force Training and/or listen in on 911 calls. When in the moment of crisis, how would they or a social worker respond. Calling the police is not because of someone's privilege. It is the direct result of a medical emergency, violence or wrong-doing done by someone else. Do not defund the police. Invest in them. Help them. Talk to them. How can we help them to "serve and protect"—like it says in the oaths that they took.

6/29/2020 8:51:55 PM

Abolishing the police is a terrible idea, I live downtown and I have already witnessed two assaults since the unrest began. Our leaders are weak. Unthinking. Find your strengt, we need you to actually be leaders, pretend if you have to. Fuck.

6/29/2020 8:52:06 PM

Hi, I live in north Minneapolis as a single parent. We need the police. We need retrain them and make them held accountable for their actions but we do need the police. North Minneapolis has been a war zone. Sending case workers in is a horrible idea. You cant expect people to feel safe with them showing up and trying to control the city. Im all for reforming them. They need to be trained better and held accountable. We need the police. Look whats happening to Minneapolis. Its lawless. Horrible idea to get rid of police

6/29/2020 8:53:17 PM

Absolutely the dumbest thing I have ever heard of. Mother in law lives in mpls

6/29/2020 8:53:20 PM

The police department needs reform it can not be replaced with a "Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department."

We, the citizens of minneapolis, are all watching what you, the city council are doing. The VAST majority of MPLS citizens are against this. I and all of my neighbors disagree with your charter. We are the hard working people that live in minneapolis that don't want to move to the suburbs but with idiotic policy you leave us little choice.

We are all watching cities like Seattle deal with problems like the CHAZ/CHOP. We who live here have seen crime rise dramatically in the past weeks since police have been held back. We hear the gunshots every night, I see my neighbors buying guns to protect their family and homes.

DO NOT GET RID OF THE MPD!!!

6/29/2020 8:54:29 PM

Two questions: 1. Will most law abiding citizens and businesses flee the city before or after the various warlords establish their territories?

2. Will the police agree to return when you start begging them to?

Say hello to plummeting property values and goodbye to business, investment and tourism. These ill effects will spill over onto neighboring cities as well.

6/29/2020 8:54:41 PM

Please do not put this amendment on the ballot this fall, 2020. The city council passed a resolution which asks for a year-long community process to involve the public in reshaping what safety will look like, and the creation of a Future of Community Safety Workgroup. Let's have the community process FIRST and THEN consider a charter amendment. This feels like putting the cart before the horse. We deserve to see what we would be voting for before voting on an amendment to our city charter.

I have come to my conclusion after much thought and after talking to people across the city, from diverse backgrounds. Few people have faith in the current city council to truly listen to the people, and many are concerned with the additional power the city council would have.

This is too big of a change to do in a rushed fashion.

Thank you for serving.

6/29/2020 8:55:00 PM

HAVE YOU PEOPLE LOST YOUR MINDS. The only thing we should be defending is you jobs.



6/29/2020 8:55:03 PM

We are completely against disbanding the police department. We NEED our police officers. We recognize there are issues to improve upon, but believe that we need to support our officers who make sacrifices each and every day to protect us and uphold the law.

Perhaps teaching respectful behavior would be a good start.

Without our officers, some of us taxpayers will look for other residences...

6/29/2020 8:55:31 PM

Best solution is to outsource, either to St. Paul PD (preferred), or Hennepin County sheriff. Benefits:

- Most Minneapolis cops will be rehired, but that's the point. They'll have to be rehired and bad apples may not make it.
- Toxic Police Federation goes away.
- Huge liability to fund settlements (much, much higher than any other jurisdiction in Minnesota, including per capita) also goes away.

The charter does not preclude this. Required ratio of 17 employees/10,000 residents would be maintained.

Some elaboration in my blog, attached.

In the 1980s Minneapolis had a colorful, reform-minded police chief, Tony Bouza. The mayor he served under, Don Fraser, was as low-key and understated as Tony was flamboyant. They were equal, however, in their determination to bring about a much healthier relationship between the cops and the people in the communities they were there to serve.

There have been four mayors and six police chiefs since then, counting current chief Medaria Arradondo and current mayor Jacob Frey. They, too, are united in their determination to bring about a much healthier relationship between cops and community. Bouza and Fraser failed, all their successors failed, and Arradondo and Frey will fail. The Minneapolis Police Department is broken beyond repair. In the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd, every past study and blue-ribbon commission report is being brought out, dusted off, and examined for recommendations that, though ignored before, could, this time, fix things. Really, this time we mean it, we will hear. Just today a veto-proof majority of the Minneapolis City Council vowed to begin the process of ending the Minneapolis Police Department, but details as to how a large city could function without cops were notably missing.

Let's do something radically different, but utterly practical. Let's get the City of Minneapolis out of the police business, as the City Council majority would wish. Let's do it, though, by outsourcing Minneapolis policing to the Hennepin County Sheriff, or perhaps even better, the St. Paul police department. Contracting with another law enforcement entity will bring three fast, and large, benefits.

First, to take on the task of policing a city of 400,000 people the Sheriff or St. Paul PD will need to hire a lot of Minneapolis cops. That's the point and that's the benefit. They will have to be hired. They will have to demonstrate their fitness to serve. Some, by their past record or current attitudes, will fail and be left behind.

Second, if Minneapolis no longer has its own police department, it also no longer has the toxic Minneapolis police union. Long headed by Trumper Bob Kroll, the union has stubbornly resisted every reform proposed by all those chiefs and mayors and city councils and study commissions. Post-George Floyd murder, at least four other unions have disavowed the police union. Solidarity Forever is not on the playlist of these other unions. Additionally, the city's Park Board and School Board, the University of Minnesota, and three major arts organizations that hire security will now refuse to hire off-duty Minneapolis cops, though some would reconsider if Bob Kroll was gone.

Third, a huge expense goes away: the cost of settlements after cops do bad things. From 2007 through 2017 Minneapolis paid out almost \$21 million in settlements. That was 35% of all payouts of all police jurisdictions in Minnesota for that period. Yet Minneapolis is only about 7% of the state's population. Then, in 2019, the city was presented with a bill for another \$20 million, as the cost of settling just one incident, the murder of Justine Damond. Some extrapolation of the figures through 2017 would suggest that, through 2019 Minneapolis' cost of police settlements is more than half of the statewide total. This can be done. Minneapolis got out of the library business 12 years ago, merging its system into Hennepin County. And it is common for municipalities to contract with other cities or sheriffs for police coverage. Usually it's a smaller city buying service from a bigger entity, but there's no reason why a big city can't buy service that will be better than what it has, probably less costly, and populated entirely with cops who serve rather than disdain the citizens.

6/29/2020 8:55:38 PM

I am writing in opposition of the amendment as worded. Renaming the department isn't a problem, but adding layers of bureaucracy is an issue. Safety science tells us that creating more bureaucracy leads to poorer outcomes and more critical incidents of a serious nature. I don't believe the city council should have as much control over the department as the amendment would provide.

Please leave this off the ballot and work with the community, activists, law enforcement professionals and experts on safety science before any more work is done.

6/29/2020 8:55:45 PM

I would like to see added services to help prevent crime and provide resources to the residents of Minneapolis. Calls should be vetted and assigned to the best places that can help them. I would like the creation of new systems added to the charter. Along with a police department that works with the different agencies and resources that can be implemented. I do not agree with taking the police department out of the charter as a whole. The uptick in crime needs to be dealt with, and if armed security protects the council, it shows that there needs to be a component that is for protecting residents. I support reform, and those that work hard to serve and protect. I truly hope you take into account what all residents are saying, and that it makes a difference. I have been discouraged with how we are taking care of the now.

6/29/2020 8:55:48 PM

I support defunding, disbanding and/or abolishing the police. I do not support any more police reform.

6/29/2020 8:56:53 PM

As written I would vote No on the proposed city charter changes, and I would work to persuade others to vote No as well. I do believe the status quo is not acceptable but these proposed changes lack substance. I may very support amending the city charter, but I think it needs to be specific, well thought out, and be the result of community input, before the amendment is proposed (not the other way around).

Here is what I see wrong with the proposed changes to the charter:

- 1) Vague and ambiguous language, which is basically useless as a constitutional foundation for public safety. Many different, and even contradictory, interpretations are possible, depending on the city council members or the mood at the time. Yes, this gives elected officials flexibility, but so would having no language about public safety.
- 2) I feel that the “weak” mayor system is already problematic for Minneapolis, so this proposal just makes the mayor position even weaker. Having a single elected official accountable for public safety seems critical to me, with that being the mayor, who I believe should appoint the head of public safety. Spreading accountability across the many elected city council members and the mayor would mean no one person would have to answer to Minneapolis citizens, via communications or elections. Additionally the head of public safety would have multiple bosses, who might have similar viewpoints on some things, but different and contradictory directions on others; this would lead to confusion, lack of clarity, lack of focus and mission, and “committee”-related ineffectiveness. I believe the roles of the city council in the role of public safety would be approving the mayor’s nominee for public safety director, as well as legislating any laws about public safety, and funding it, within the constraints of the charter. Note: I also believe it is appropriate for the city council to amend the charter.

6/29/2020 8:58:24 PM

We are being asked to trust the city counsel and to put our lives in their hands, no questions asked. The safety of ourselves, our families, and our communities is at extreme risk in doing this. The council will not provide a plan in advance that we can make an informed decision on. As a Minneapolis resident and homeowner, commercial property owner, and small business owner, this is absolutely unacceptable to me. The risk is far too great. Lives are literally at stake and we are being asked to trust a team that has put zero effort into working with the communities within Minneapolis to ask what the citizens of this city want.

Please don’t allow this change to go forward until we, the communities the council members are supposed to represent, have a voice in making this decision.

Thank you for your time.

6/29/2020 8:58:39 PM

I will cancel any upcoming events and will never step foot in Mpls with everything going on. We need police. The city council members are insane. Do they really think a social worker can reason with a criminal or stop someone from causing a violent act? Oh, and is it true the city council members have their own security at tax payers expense? Shame on them.

6/29/2020 8:59:06 PM

I want to thank the entire City Council for being brave enough to stand up against the current Police Department and for giving us the opportunity to develop new city agencies which will promote equal opportunities for all of our residents and reduce violence in our city.

6/29/2020 8:59:28 PM

I strongly support the proposed charter amendment being placed on the November ballot. Every Minneapolis resident deserves to feel safe in their city. For too long, the safety of the privileged has come at the expense of our black neighbors, and we simply have to do better. The first step is giving every Minneapolis resident the opportunity to be heard on the future of our city, and the best way to do that is for the proposed charter amendment to be advanced to the November ballot.

6/29/2020 8:59:59 PM

Who is paying you to betray your city, your state and your country? Matthew 10:36.

6/29/2020 9:03:07 PM

For over 5 generations my family has called Minneapolis home. I am a land owner, tax payer, work and spend my money in Minneapolis local neighborhoods and have stood up for Minneapolis firmly on many occasions. The Minneapolis leadership has failed its residents greatly. I believe the removal of the police department is a terrible idea, instead we need more, better trained, community police that reside in the city work. The effects of even proposing this has been felt throughout the city and many of us do not feel safe in the city we call home, from south side to north side, and especially uptown and downtown the city is in term oil. Very disappointed and embarrassed for my city.

6/29/2020 9:03:31 PM

I believe this proposal was fashioned in a hasty and reckless way without seeking public input nor identifying root causes and showing specifically how removing the police department would address those causes. Council member Alondra Cano just said tonight in a public Q&A, we should "take a stab at" creating a new department. This city's safety is not something to play lab experiment with nor has the council shown willingness to engage with the community at large other than telling us this is our only solution without any details. I suspect some council members will attempt to intimidate the charter commission to voting for their proposal just as they've attempted to shove this proposal down the city's throat without showing a willingness to listen to even get an idea if this is what the city at large is crying out for outside of "defund the police" protesters. I do not support this amendment at this time until the

council at the very least engages the community in a broader way and can show they have a game plan beyond a protest slogan. Jeopardizing our public safety for a proposal that is so absent of details is not a solution.

6/29/2020 9:03:58 PM

Are you insane? Fewer cops? I know of businesses that are already planning on leaving the city. This will only accelerate the process. REFORM the dept all you want, but ELIMINATE IT? Recipe for disaster.

6/29/2020 9:04:13 PM

I agree we need changes in the police force and how they are monitored but I believe you are over reacting buy disbanding our police. Please slow down and think this out more

6/29/2020 9:04:15 PM

We do not want to remove the police department or see this on the ballot at all. Lisa Bender is the president of the city council after receiving less than 4500 total votes.

We are all for creation of a safety, violence, and especially something to do with our homeless population that you are letting live in our parks we pay for.

Its obvious with all the gun violence if there is no police there is no Peace and the city council is broken.

6/29/2020 9:02:18 PM

Do not get rid of the police department because of a few bad eggs! That is lunacy! There are bad cops just like there are bad plumbers and bad baristas. Don't throw out the baby with the bath water!

6/29/2020 9:05:12 PM

I envision a city whose residents call a number and a multidisciplinary team of professionals are assembled to respond. Mental health crises, drug overdoses, domestic violence, sexual assault, etc. are responded to by key team members who are compassionate, trained, and utterly focused on safety and rights. I envision a city that invests deeply in primary violence prevention and evaluation. I believe this new charter can make these things happen! We need BIPOC, women, people with disabilities, immigrants, etc. driving this new set of solutions to ensure safety of EVERYONE. We need to undo systemic racism.

6/29/2020 9:05:16 PM

I am absolutely opposed to the plan to remove the Police Department and establish a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department because I believe that it will place the citizens of this city at significant risk to increases in crime and result in an inability to investigate and deal with crimes that have been committed. There is no place for a city of this size to not have a police department. Previous examples of cities such as Camden, NJ that have been cited as disbanding their police department are not actually true examples. If you look at the details that city significantly reformed their department but never went a single day without police and actually increased the number of police officers in the

department. We have already seen a significant increase in crime within Minneapolis over the last several weeks and that is simply with a "stand down" approach that is being taken. If there truly were no police presence at all then crime would increase exponentially within the city as criminals have a field day with a lack of patrolling. The city council has provided no details on what this "Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department" would look like and how it would uphold the law without any police within its ranks. It is one thing to increase social workers presence at call involving the mentally ill etc but they will need backup and support from police officers in order to safely provide services. You cannot send people out to interact with an armed mentally ill person having a breakdown and think that there won't be severe consequences. What are citizens supposed to do if their house is being broken into in the middle of the night and have to call a community organization for help. This is completely irresponsible and ridiculous. I also think that the process being taken to push this through so quickly without proper vetting and community input during a pandemic that prevents true community engagement is completely undemocratic and appalling. Reform is necessary, abolishing the police department is absolutely not the answer.

6/29/2020 9:05:39 PM

abolish the police.

abolish the prisons.

general strike.

rent strike.

universal basic income.

keep the economy close until we have it.

how can we thrive when we're denied what we need to survive?

6/29/2020 9:07:39 PM

You all want to get rid of the police while the taxpayers have to pay for your private security. How stupid! If I lived in Minneapolis I would refuse to pay. Pay for your own security. The hardworking people that live there can't have any security while you get security. This is not fair.

6/29/2020 9:08:16 PM

Your so stupid if you so smart give up the security and live like the rest your all a bunch of pussies and fuck head quit your job you morons !!!

6/29/2020 9:08:25 PM

Thank you to the City Council for responding with this proposal for a ballot initiative to defund MPD and build a new department in its place. You heard loud and clear that MPD does not protect and serve all residents equally, specifically as evidenced by its disgusting and callous treatment of people of color. It doesn't matter at this point whether the force just has "a few bad apples" or the entire force is rotten to its core. Either way, if I have to risk the police killing a human being, I'm not calling the police under any circumstance. MPD has lost the trust of the communities it serves and must answer for that on the ballot this fall.

I look forward to this city leading the nation on a better way to enact public safety and to extend a more equitable existence to all its residents.

6/29/2020 9:10:43 PM

As someone who used to enjoy visiting Minneapolis for baseball games, concerts, theater events and general tourism. You will lose my money and my support. I will not visit a city that does not have law enforcement in full support.

Instead of hurting your officers, how about supporting them and retraining them. You have thrown them to the wolves and with it my love for your city. I am ashamed. Hopefully you don't sell out the rest of the state with your city.

6/29/2020 9:10:57 PM

Just moved to Blaine 2 years ago. Lived in North Minneapolis for 20 years on 43rd and Knox Ave N. I went through the Citizens Academy and worked with the police department in getting our block cleaned up. Our block worked hard. We did it.

My thoughts is to get rid of the union as they keep the not so good police officers on the force no matter how many times the officer shows bad judgement. Had a citizen advisory board and also work with those that are in the community and know the people, ins and outs. More police more police more police. They are over worked and under appreciated. They are abused by the public and need breaks from that.

6/29/2020 9:11:03 PM

I think this charter amendment is a terrible idea. I do not support it whatsoever!!

6/29/2020 9:12:55 PM

I do not think the Minneapolis police department should be disbanded or replaced if anything there should be some additional training on ways to restrain a combative person under custody and not to use any type of chokehold unless the police officer's life is in danger or someone of the public and I agree that other officers should have the right to interrupt intervene or physically remove another officer from somebody who is in custody if they are injurying or restraining them in an appropriate way. One thing the public has to understand is that the members of the Minneapolis police force put their life in harm's way every single time they put that uniform and badge on and go to work a police officer has the

right to protect themselves in any way possible even if extreme force is needed and only applicable to the situation the police officer has the right to go home to his or her family every night I do and always will support the police department for the courageous job that they do Thank you for listening to my comment and I thank the Minneapolis police department for all the hard work that they do

6/29/2020 9:13:03 PM

Not a smart choice for Minnesota or our country. We need law enforcement. Period.

6/29/2020 9:13:21 PM

It is irresponsible to eliminate the police department without explaining how you will assure the safety of the citizens of this city. This has not been accomplished. A more appropriate change to the city charter that should be added to the ballot this year would be to defund the city council.

6/29/2020 9:13:24 PM

As someone who has deep roots in Minnesota. My great grandfather settled here in 1867 in Gordon township. I have loved growing up and being a part of all that Minnesota is about.

I moved to Arizona a few years ago to follow my daughter in medical school. I still have family in Minnesota and so enjoy visiting in the summer time.

I grew up in the 3rd precinct. Those cops at the time knew the majority of us(both black and white) by name. They would bring us home if they caught us doing something we should not be doing. I was in Minnesota the night that the protests for George Floyd started. I was actually on Hiawatha Avenue driving threw my old "hood." Longfellow Park where my family coached and played, Roosevelt where my siblings and I graduated etc.....

For the first time in my life I am afraid to come back "home." I had a spouse that his life in front of me with a hand gun. I hate guns ..... for the first time in my life I have thought very seriously about getting a gun before I ever (if I ever) come back to see me family.

I am very sad to see the area that I grew up in so decimated ..... how sad that Minnesota's governing individuals could cause this to happen to what used to be an amazing wonderful kind giving place to live.

6/29/2020 9:13:56 PM

I was open to the defunding and reorganizing of the police department after the MURDER of George Floyd. My heart broke when he cried for his Mama. I didn't want to watch the video but I made myself so that I could feel that pain with my community. I think those events opened up a lot of white people's eyes to the injustices black people have lived with for so long. I truly hope this is a changing point for MN, the US and the world. BLACK LIVES MATTER !

If we do continue having a police department, I think there should be more training on how to deal with mental illness. Or a staff of social workers out patrolling as well. But then I would worry about their safety with this gun violence. I find it confusing that the city is paying for private security for city council



members that voted to defund the department. I think the council hurt their own cause by allowing this and that it came across as contradictory to their message. Perhaps they also should have sought more public input before voting so quickly without any sort of plan.

I also have great concern for the homeless camps in our parks. Let's give these people their dignity back and make an investment in our future. We need more programs for these folks. I personally would be willing to pay more in taxes to ensure these people can get the help and services they need. The fact that the City has let this get so out of control speaks to their judgement and credibility.

As of now I would say no to defunding the police because there is no plan. Everything is so vague. I hope you put together a decent plan and change my mind. And for all of our sakes I hope it works.

6/29/2020 9:14:20 PM

Please stop this fast track plan to "defund" the police force. A city needs law and order at the most fundamental level to thrive and prosper.

6/29/2020 9:14:30 PM

As a resident of St. Paul & frequenter of Minneapolis, I completely support removing the police department as from the city charter! It should be replaced with the new Dept of Community Safety & Violence Prevention as community organizers have suggested (folks their suggestions to keep our BIPOC neighbors safe!!!! Community members should have a voice!

6/29/2020 9:14:34 PM

There is no way I would be able to vote for an amendment to the city charter without knowing what exactly I'm voting for. Putting it to a vote first and filling in the details later is not the way to do this.

6/29/2020 9:14:38 PM

This proposal is not thought out at all and is not based on models or any facts. There have been nothing put forth on what it is you are proposing and instead you have hired private security for yourselves rather than try the new process that you are putting forward. What model are you basing a new department off of? What will happen if someone is beating their wife on one of the light rail cars? In that case, a group was actually yelling at the train operator for not coming out and breaking it up. What happens when there is major violence or an active shooter? You are putting something forward with no thought or plan other than to say you did something. This is akin to closing all roads since cars are bad for the environment and instead implementing a electric drone system for all deliveries.

The fact that you are hiring private security instead of implementing what you are proposing for yourselves shows that you do not care about the people who elected you and you are just doing this to say you did something. Instead of working with the people to make a better system, you are instead focusing on yourselves instead of the communities that have elected you. With such a guilty conscience from how you have behaved while in your elected roles, I do understand how they must think a lot of people are out to get you. I am sorry that instead of investing in resources that are available to everyone you are instead only doing what is best for yourselves without caring for the people in the communities

you are suppose to represent. You are saying that this won't work for you since you are so much more important, but for the rest of us, this new department and learning to defend ourselves will be enough. I understand that not everyone on the council is using private security, but as public servants if you know someone is doing wrong you should hold them accountable.

6/29/2020 9:14:39 PM

I spend quite a bit of money attending sporting events, concerts, and plays as well as dining, shopping, and parking fees for all of these in Minneapolis. With what is being proposed by city council, I have big safety concerns that will stop me from doing any of these things or even visiting the city. I would rather drive to anther state where I wouldn't fear for my safely in order to attend and if these events or not at attend any.

6/29/2020 9:14:41 PM

I do not agree with the changes to the city charter to change the police force to a Community Safety and Violence Prevention Board. It is unclear what and how a holistic public health orientated approach is going to keep the people of Minneapolis safe. More information needs to be provided on how certain situations will be handled by a public health orientated approach before a drastic step such as dismantling the police force is taken.

6/29/2020 9:15:53 PM

I will not travel there anymore - no matter what you do at this point.

No conferences, sporting events, or airport use. Not a penny.

6/29/2020 9:17:19 PM

I support a charter amendment to remove the requirement to maintain a police department. I support the creation of a new Department of COmmunity Safety and Violence Prevention. I want to also state firmly that I do not want the Police Federation to be involved in any way with this new Department. I see that organization as a source of the biggest problems with reinstating cops who always resort to violence first. I want the new Department to be informed by community stakeholders who are BIPOC. I would like to see this process include the voices of BIPOC leaders.

6/29/2020 9:17:26 PM

Without police my family won't be going to Twins games, monster truck, concerts or dinners in Minneapolis any more. It's very sad, really. We need the police! Who do you all think you are, making this asinine decision???

6/29/2020 9:17:41 PM

I don't think the City of Minneapolis should defund our police department. I certainly hope our leadership can come up with a better plan that reforms our police department while serving all citizens of Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 9:18:18 PM

see attached document

1. Process and necessity to provide adequate opportunity for public comment

There absolutely must be opportunity for written public comment that includes adequate time to prepare them with notice of such period. The public comment period ahead of this July 1<sup>st</sup> meeting is a joke. 2 days! I first saw the public comment announced on one media outlet about 36 hours before purported cut off period for comments on June 30. Even if the July 1 meeting is only about the upcoming process, the public should have had adequate time to comment on that before the meeting.

For subsequent comments, there should be at least 10 business days for the public to prepare comments. The opportunity for such comments needs to be widely publicized in the mainstream media serving the Minneapolis market. An ad in the Strib should also be used. Certain state of MN public processes often include ads in multiple newspapers.

It would help if the Charter Commission would ask commenters to address some predefined questions. Of course, commenters would be allowed to address any other topic too.

The process for verbal comments at a public meeting should assure that comments from many parties can be heard. Time allotted to an individual commenter should be short, say 3 minutes maximum so a few do not monopolize the dialog. If this requires more than one meeting to accommodate many verbal comments, multiple meetings should be held.

2. Substance of the present draft amendment

For this potential major change, the draft amendment lacks sufficient specific information. Additionally, there were not previous, formally and appropriately noticed public meetings for community stakeholders to find out more about the amendment or offer feedback.

We are very concerned about the latitude left by the open ended phrase "The Council may maintain a division of law enforcement services, composed of licensed peace officers..." in the draft amendment. The use of "may" is not a minor point. In an amendment for a public vote there needs to be more specifics about the implications of doing or not doing that so that voters know what they are voting on and do not have to parse apart and guess on the meaning and implications of "may".

The draft motion would not provide sufficient accountability, while increasing bureaucracy.

6/29/2020 9:98:37 PM

I strongly oppose the charter amendment proposed by the City Council. One key problem I have, besides the sheer stupidity of such an idea, is that there is no mention as to who is responsible for the crime, and why. The police are reacting to a crime problem on the streets, they are not the cause.

If we want to reduce crime we must start with the reasons that people become criminals. Strong, safe cities start with strong, stable family bonds and shared cultural beliefs that uplift and benefit individuals and families. There is much more to be said, of course, but it's intellectually dishonest to not acknowledge the underlying factors.

I support something like an outreach component to public safety that works in addition to the police, but in no way do I support defunding or removing the police. Defunding the police will create a myriad of problems for which the whole of our state will pay. People already feel unsafe when they see that the mayor allowed the 3rd Pct. to be overrun and burned to the ground, and rioting go unchecked.

There has been nothing concrete from the Council about what this proposed CSVDP would do, exactly. There is no reason the average citizen should believe the City Council has any idea how replacing the police department would work. They are not experts in this field. The average Council member received scant votes compared to the populations of their respective wards and should not feel emboldened by the rabid voices of activists versus the silent majority who rarely interact with local politics in any meaningful way.

Please do not do this. You are courting disaster.

6/29/2020 9:19:44 PM

If you disband the police department I would not be willing to support any businesses in Minneapolis. This is a reckless move by the city council and has impacts that reach beyond the city.

6/29/2020 9:19:47 PM

I can understand reducing the police budget and allocating more toward other services, but completely striking out "the police" in its entirety is foolish and dangerous. By doing this, you are setting up future city councils to make major missteps.

Please reconsider.

06/29/20 9:19 PM

I absolutely disagree with the removal of the Minneapolis Police Department. However, processes and policies with regard to the hiring, training and promotion of police officers needs to change. As a Dutch citizen living in Minneapolis for nearly 20 years, I am astounded by how policing is conducted here compared to the Netherlands. Policing is a public need and it is HOW policing is conducted that should be the issue at hand. This is where change must occur. For starters, officers ought to be residents of the City of Minneapolis. That they live in the suburbs and police in the city is part of the problem. They must demonstrate a commitment to community, they can be rated on the community relationships that they build, shift away from a militant policing model.....there are so many changes that are needed that defunding the police is a weak way out from getting to the core of the issues. Address the issues. Policing is a need. City Council needs to focus on HOW. Look at models that work. Deeply understand those models. Ask the critical questions.

6/29/2020 9:20:15 PM

If the folks governing Mpls insist on "reforms" that reduce law enforcement and embolden criminals, I will never spend another dollar in that city. My safety is paramount.

6/29/2020 9:20:15 PM

Although I don't live in Minneapolis, I live in Colorado Springs. However I find this whole idea to be ridiculous, this city needs a police department. The agency you are going to set up is not going to work, in fact you will need to take an aggressive approach to deal with someone violent and you will need to give these people guns a tasers. This will not in any way prevent violence and this agency will have to find themselves having to use guns and tasers.

Instead of dismantling the police force basing on emotions, just clean out the bad egg officers and train them better. Just restart the entire department.

06/29/20 9:20 PM

I am in support of the notion to restructure the police department; however, I think we should have a department responsible for protecting and preserving public safety, and community engagement for crime prevention and collaborative relations. I understand the need to reform the police department but we need to reform the City's prosecution office and the regulatory services department because they also need accountability and oversight for discrimination against community of color and the indigenous people. We need to have a holistic and intentional approach to fixing what have been a racism system designed to oppress and divide our communities. Thank you for the opportunity to contribute!

6/29/2020 9:20:55 PM

How have you evaluated the long term impact of this change on POC? Based on statistics I've evaluated indicated this would have a long term negative impact on lower income communities. Additionally, does not address how you would remove police from the original help call to evaluate the safety of the community worker to proceed.

6/29/2020 9:21:17 PM

I am writing to inform you of my dismay as a constituent of the 4th Ward of how the 'Dismantle the MPD' initiative has been handled. This City Council has appeared to pander to the media and listen to only one group; not all constituents, which is what the job entails and for what my taxes pay. I believe that the Proposed Charter amendment related to community safety and violence prevention should be something that is discussed with the community and voted on by the community before the City Council removes the Police Department as a Charter Department, Article VII and Article VIII.

If you are planning to have year-long community engagement and input in this process, then why do we need to make this change now? The City Council does not need more power over this process, especially since they do not include the community they serve in the process. The recent acts of Council Members have made me lose trust in these city leaders. Based on how this situation has been handled, it appears the agenda is not about color of skin or equality, it is about the agendas and political pursuits of the City Council. If past behavior is any sign of the future, then I will make my voice heard at the polls when the time comes.

I believe the City Council's initiative to defund/dismantle the police has caused irreparable damage to this city. Their complete and utter disregard for the entire Minneapolis Police Department has sent a terrible message to our communities. It tells the criminals they are on their side because they don't like the police either! We have all seen the significant rise in crime in the last month and little accountability on anyone's part!

Need I remind all of you, the primary purpose of government is to establish laws, maintain order and provide security, protect citizens from external threats, and promote the general welfare by providing public services. The City of Minneapolis has failed on several fronts, especially on the North side, for years!!

6/29/2020 9:22:11 PM

To Whom it Concerns:

The Charter Amendment is the worse idea I have ever heard. If you remove the police department you can guarantee I or my family will not go there or spend money in the twin cities if police force are not present! One bad officer doesn't mean the entire department is bad. Let's use some common sense.

Maybe there needs to be a Change in who's in authority of the officers and not the department. Apparently, the chief isn't being respected of those the chief are in charge of! Not following protocol from top down!

Concerned Minnesota Resident

6/29/2020 9:22:14 PM

This idea is absolutely reckless and irresponsible. It is no secret that the Black population in Minneapolis will be the community suffering the most from a change like this. Black lives will be lost, along with lives of all people.

If you want to ensure that this city has a crime-ridden future, then you should proceed with this. Minneapolis was once a great city and unfortunately we have been watching crumble before our own eyes in recent years. Nobody will want to live here!

6/29/2020 9:22:40 PM

The amendment to Articles VII and VIII of the City Charter raises the following questions, creating a vague amendment that could be interpreted differently than the original intent in future generations of city council members. It is in the best interest of the citizens of the City of Minneapolis to be crystal clear in the City Charter should the city council insist on pursuing this path.

In (a) Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention, the proposed amendment is unclear. What does it mean to "adequately fund"? Who determines what "adequate" means? What does it mean to "maintain"? And what does it mean to "consistently engage"? In the current City Charter, for example, there is specific information about how many officers (both referred to as "police" and "peace" officers) are employed in relation to how many residents are living in Minneapolis (currently at 0.0017). The current City Charter also specifies how much property tax is collected to pay for these employees. The proposed amendment is too vague in terms of funding the proposed Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention.

In (b) Division of Law Enforcement Services, the proposed amendment states that the council MAY maintain a division of law enforcement services composed of licensed peace officers. The use of the word MAY implies that the city council is under no obligation to maintain a division of law enforcement services. Therefore, I request that the word MAY is changed to WILL.

In (b)(1), the proposed amendment states that a director of the division of law enforcement services will be appointed. Again, this is vague. What qualifications should the director have? Any director of the division of law enforcement services should have law enforcement training and experience comparable to or surpassing any employed peace officer.

Should the city council wish to create a Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention, they should maintain a police department with a police chief while simultaneously appointing a Director of Community Safety and Violence Prevention who works ALONG SIDE the police chief in matters of the safety of Minneapolis residents.

I would like to point out that the words "police" officer and "peace" officer are used in the original City Charter. These two terms should be clarified regardless as it is assumed they are one and the same. Or are they different?

In Article VIII, 8.4, the proposed amendment REMOVES the 30 day vacancy period for a police chief, thus extending it for 90 days. This means any peace officers under the new City Charter could be without management, a boss, or oversight for 3 months. This is unacceptable for any police force, peace officer group, or any other entity needed to keep a city safe. We have seen in the last 30 days alone the amount of crime (i.e., 137 robberies, 337 aggravated assaults, 74 domestic aggravated assaults, 10 homicides, and 39 rapes) as a result of lack of leadership in Minneapolis. I request that the Charter Commission deny this change. Should the council members wish to further amend the following change: replace "police chief" with "Director of the Division of Law Enforcement Services" for consistency throughout the charter language but keep the vacancy period at 30 days.

I also request clarification on 7.4 - Fire, section 3(b) - what are "fire police"? And why does the proposal suggest removing this part of 7.4.?

I urge the Charter Commission to REJECT the passage of ordinance proposing amendments to the City Charter in the current form. Our safety is too important for a vague, hastily written proposal that has not been thought out carefully by the city council in an effort to meet the Charter Commission's deadline for changes.

6/29/2020 9:23:57 PM

Do NOT abolish or defund the police department. My family of 6 at the time lived in the 2nd precinct for 10 years. I watched the police risk their lives for our community. I now live in one of the suburbs but miss Minneapolis and support our Minneapolis police 100%. This logic of abolishing defunding the police because of one person makes no sense. Following that logic we should abolish & defund teachers, doctors, attorneys, CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS and the list goes on because everyone of these groups have a bad person(s) within their organization. I stand with the Minneapolis Police.

6/29/2020 9:24:08 PM

I lie, work, support retail and food establishments, and intended to purchase an investment property as an affordable rental in Minneapolis. I will no longer shop, dine or purchase property in Mpls if the police force is defunded and/or disbanded prior to a clear, concise and transparent alternative to public safety and law enforcement is presented by the City.

6/29/2020 9:24:16 PM

I already felt at risk as I have come into the city to teach Little Earth children weekly. If you take the police protection out of the city, I will be afraid to enter. The lawlessness seen recently even as protestors rule the streets scares me as I am driving in my car to provide food and encouragement for frightened Native American friends. You are taking steps that will totally ruin Minneapolis and you council members should be held responsible for that.

6/29/2020 9:24:59 PM

This is the stupidest ammendment I've ever heard. I'll never visit Minneapolis again if this goes through. Being a suburb resident of Minneapolis for over 40 years I've seen a lot of change in Minneapolis and most recently in the past 10 years or more by greatly reducing gain violence. The MPD is the primary reason for the huge improvements and safety on the streets. If you make this move you'll end up worse than murder-Apolis of the past.

6/29/2020 9:25:15 PM

I am not in favor of the amendment to the City Charter which removes the Police Department and replaces it with a Community of Safety and Violence Prevention Department. I am in favor of an ADDENDUM to the City Charter which adds a Community of Safety and Violence Prevention team. The current amendment would create too much bureaucracy, has no accountability for the council, does not incorporate a testing method and completely discounts the necessity of an armed security presence in certain situations.

My comments are as follows:

- 1) The mayor should be in charge of the Police Department and the City Council may appoint members of a Safety and Violence Prevention Department that is required to collaborate with the Police Department. The current proposal would create an inefficient and ineffective decision-making process. It would be extremely cumbersome to make quick decisions on community safety if they all must be vetted by 13 different people. 13 people, I might add, that have substantially less experience in public safety than the Chief of Police.
- 2) The council should be held to a higher standard. If they are to be the body that oversees community safety then they should be required to complete up to 30 hours of continuing education each year. This education should include, certifications in criminology, addiction and behavioral science, police ride-alongs, accompanying police foot patrols and importantly overnight stays in low-income housing for 2 nights each year.
- 3) Finally, whatever amendment that is ultimately proposed MUST allow for a test-run of changes the council would like to implement before it is added to the ballot. The testing period should be no less than 3 months. The test should be run in wards of the city with high and low crime rates, with a statistically relevant population size. The testing period should specify measurable key performance indicators for



the experiment such as reduction in violent crimes, reduction in property crime, reduction in drug crimes and overdoses, # of people starting rehab or being rehoused, reduction in arrests and reduction in weapon use. If the test fails, then this should not be added to the ballot.

6/29/2020 9:26:30 PM

Me and my wife been a resident of Minneapolis for a long time. If the police are Defunded or dismantled I will have to sell my house and move out Minneapolis. I wouldn't feel safe to live in Minneapolis any longer without the police. The Crime is bad enough as it everyone running out buying handguns because People don't feel safe to live in Minneapolis anymore.

06/29/20 9:27 PM

Biden is correct 20 percent of the population is bad. No police sounds good to me, let them continue to rob, speed, rape, pilfridge, shoplift, destroy property, deface public property, unsafe streets for our kids and the weak. Let's watch business leave mpls. Let's have more drugs and drug dealing, mugging, break ins. Then when it's all burned down they will come to Blaine and threaten our families, steal our potatoes, well you get the rest. Remember for every death or property damage your city councilman have to put there heads on there pillows every night and have that on there conscience for the rest of there lives. No one else to blame.

8:58



**FOX NEWS**

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U.S.

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wounded in the crossfire over just  
1 week in Chicago**



POLITICS

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For You

6/29/2020 9:28:06 PM

I have been a long time resident of Minneapolis. I work there, own a home there and own several rental properties. I cannot believe this is even being considered. Talk about throwing the baby out with the bath water - I think the City Council has lost their collective minds. Certainly make some reforms and obviously get rid of bad cops but to disband the police is ludicrous. Obviously thought of by those pandering to the mob without putting reasonable thought into it. Crime is currently going through the roof, taxes and insurance costs are going to go up because of all of the rioting and now you want to get rid of the police? Good plan - I can't wait to sell everything (for a decreased value-thanks a lot) and get out.

6/29/2020 9:28:16 PM

I stand with the decision to defund or restructure the Minneapolis Police Department as a community driven safety & violence prevention entity. I believe the MPD is systematically dysfunctional and this change will be better for Minneapolis. Thank you for listening to your communities.

6/29/2020 9:28:36 PM

I vote to NOT defund or remove the Minneapolis police department. The only people this type of change could benefit would be the criminals.

6/29/2020 9:29:08 PM

I think we should be able to vote on the amendment this fall. I'm not sure yet about removing the police. It's scary now with the current MPD so I'm not sure we have much to lose at this point. Bob Kroll's union needs to be removed.

6/29/2020 9:29:57 PM

No, we need the charter just the way it is, and we need to enforce the hiring of the required number of Police officers stated in the charter. The Police Officers deal with dangerous situations and make the scene safe for our firefighters and Medical EMS. They are the ones who make first contact to bring people under control, who then can be evaluated and assisted by Social Services etc. If anything we need to provide more funding to the police. Things like incentive locality pay should be implemented to encourage Officers to reside in the city of Minneapolis. Funds for that would be well spent rather than leaving residents like myself a 66 year old woman having to fend for myself when trouble comes to my door. Criminals are emboldened already with this talk about defunding the Police, and the all out war on them by this failed city council.

6/29/2020 9:31:22 PM

I really like this idea. We need to hold our cops accountable for protecting all people. The only way to ensure that this will happen is by working with the affected communities and making sure that new regulations and guidelines for protection also protect them, too.

6/29/2020 9:31:47 PM

I stand completely against the plan to replace the police department. Your plan puts the lives of people in danger when faced with violent crime.

6/29/2020 9:32:15 PM

We need the Police in Mpls

I feel the Police need Better training

I read up on a program in Eugene Oregon call CAHOOTS hopefully Mpls can adopt a program like they have. Having a group of folks trained to respond to issues of non violent crimes could be extremely beneficial for the City.

I was mortified by what happened to Mr. Floyd

Justine Damond ect. Obviously we have A Huge problem with the trust of the community and having Police live in the community they Serve also involved in outreach should be a priority. Disbanding Police should not Happen

6/29/2020 9:33:02 PM

I am against changing the mpls charter, for getting rid of the police dept. We need to keep the police dept and incorporate social workers and others into it. And relieve the police of some of the calls there taking.

The city council needs to be recalled!!! Or defunded.

Hiring private security for them selves, shame on them. Business owners had to fend for them self's with what ever they could find to defend themselves during the riots. City council is a disgrace to the city.

6/29/2020 9:33:10 PM

Absolutely not. This is an untested, and unrealistic goal in this timeframe.

This will absolutely destroy this city. As a almist lifelong resident of mpls, and a new homeowner in north mpls, i have seen the shift and BS since all this has happened.

Criminals do NOT respect community organizations, and will absolutely see kindness as weakness and run with this.

I agree that changes are absolutely, and undeniably needed- the biggest one that mandates police officers live in the area where they patrol.

The immediate , and political need to be the popular one will absolutely destroy the infrastructure of this town i love.

Dont propose, but make changes within the PD. This romantic idea of no police is an absolutely ridiculous idea in the immediate future.

Please do not jeopardize the safety, and really the sense of security that is needed for a successful community, and society.

This is not a commune , on an island. These decisions affect everyone who lives here.

6/29/2020 9:33:33 PM

I live on Lake Street and noticed no police presence what so ever nor fireman or paramedics between wednesday the 27th and saturday am, seventy five percent of damages here were preventable but the police abandoned our neighborhoods-I and my neighbors would like to know who gave this order but that questioned hasnt been asked yet has it??? Anyhow when I served in the military we took an oath and so did the police this was dereliction of duty so my vote is that we do deep reforms of the Bob K crowd we simply do not need them they have been a problem for way too long, sure there are good cops and i invite them to speak up and come forth the blue silence is deafening-if not take a resume class because that day is done.

6/29/2020 9:33:43 PM

I do not want the police department to be abolished. I think we need major reforms, not budget cuts and abolition. Crime is already rising around the city with shootings and violence. Plus, cars littered around Powderhorn park smashed into people's yards.

Please don't get rid of the Minneapolis police department.

6/29/2020 9:34:45 PM

I live in Saint Paul and I am very concerned with the very notion that you are actually considering defunding the Police. That invites anarchy and chaos, I read a post that stated 3 of your council members pay \$65,000.00 a day on personal security guards with guns by the way for protection from harm. Don't the citizens of Minneapolis deserve to be protected? In order to protect a city at large you need a police force and they should be well funded. Do Not defund, dismantle,disband or anything else that cleverly words the defunding of the Police department.

6/29/2020 9:108:48 PM

You clowns will destroy the city with moves like this. You aren't capable or worthy of the positions you hold. We know you city council members have private security hired with tax payer dollars, all the while telling your public that they dont need security. The hypocrisy couldn't be more palpable. Please do the right thing and resign immediately, you don't serve the public.

6/29/2020 9:35:11 PM

As a 70 year resident of Minneapolis, I believe strongly, that disbanding the Mpls Police Dept. would be a HUGE MISTAKE. Violence, brutality, & crime in general is NO respecter of color, person, or profession. My brother was a Mpls cop for over 25 years, during which time his partner was shot & killed while on duty, as part of a gang initiation. My father owned a business on Lake Street for 35+ years & was held up

several times, some at gun point while my 10 year old brother was with him. I have friends who have been assaulted while walking home. Who would come to your assistance should something like this happen to you? Have you ever had a gun pointed at you? Have you ever feared for your life or for your family? I pray you haven't & what's more I pray you never will. Without police, we'll live in chaos, & you'll see a mass exodus of residents to other places!! Please don't disband the police, but rather help guide residents of ALL colors & the police to improve relationships with one another! Thanks

6/29/2020 9:35:25 PM

Have to be honest I have never felt truly safe in Minneapolis and this just would cinch it for me no chance I would visit Minneapolis again.

Twins, Vikings. Convention Center all would lose our personal and business dollars. Restaurants we go to would lose revenue.

You need to wake up Minneapolis this isn't what people want the squeaky wheel is getting the grease.

6/29/2020 9:35:37 PM

Nearly 3 years ago, I decided to purchase a new construction home in the City of Minneapolis, moving from Columbia Heights. Since then, the daily shootings occurring in North Minneapolis have slowly started creeping further north, near my neighborhood. You've already seen the significant increase in crime since announcing your "plans" to abolish the police. You cannot remove the police department from the City of Minneapolis, if you know what is right for the residents and taxpayers. If anything, more police and allowing them to do their job, is what this city needs most right now.

6/29/2020 9:35:56 PM

I absolutely oppose this ridiculous proposal. Minneapolis needed more police, not less. I am terrified to continue living here.

6/29/2020 9:39:03 PM

I am against this 100% I will not be voting on this in November. This is not the answer. We need to address the policies that protect the police officers when they commit a crime. We need to go after the police union, but fewer officers on the street is a huge mistake. I used to see police patrolling the neighborhood frequently. There used to be less crime with their presence. Now I hardly see any patrols and violent crime is skyrocketing. I am more scared of the people living in Mpls than I am of police officers. If this pass in November, I will absolutely sell my home by spring and move somewhere much safer and with police officers.

6/29/2020 9:39:53 PM

I have 2 comments:

1. If you dismantle police, than you as council members or anyone else that votes for this remember: you should forfeit all rights to any security that you do not pay for yourself and when a crime is committed against you or a loved one, forget calling 911

2. Myself and many others will no longer bring our money to a city without police protection.

Good luck

6/29/2020 9:40:20 PM

I completely disagree with the city council. This whole situation was caused by the city councils decision to not financially support the police department over the years as well as be very critical of the department. This lead to a hostile work environment for the police and without proper training became a demoralized unit. A better solution would be a well funded and properly trained department that would be a community asset. In the event that they succeed in dismantling the police I would like the city council to provide me a paid full time security guard like the one council members Jenkins, Cunningham, and Cano currently enjoy at the taxpayers expense.

6/29/2020 9:40:59 PM

The push to defund the Mpls Police Dept is transparently political. Policing in the United States does need to be re evaluated. As does Human Services and the judicial system.

You say that the world is watching. Well, I agree but they are laughing. They are wondering how you could allow the very fiber of this city to be torn apart and to start a movement that is flimsy at best. We are to guilty too. We are guilty of complacency. You have indoctrinated a generation with your agenda since Kindergarten. You are pushing this country down a road that will tear us apart from the inside out. Shame on you for your foolishness and God save this Country from your machinations.

6/29/2020 9:41:35 PM

If you vote to abolish the Minneapolis Police Department, law abiding, tax-paying citizens will flee the city for the suburbs (it's already starting). And the few that remain will arm themselves to defend their families and property. You can't possibly be stupid enough to do this to your own City.

6/29/2020 9:42:31 PM

I think disbanding the police department is a bad idea. I think you should listen more to Chief Arredondo (sp?) and hire more officers not less. We need the police to deal with all the violent crime that is occurring. There are too many people in this city/state/country with firearms and we need the police to deal with them. Ever since the city council came up with this idea a lot of these people think they have a "free for all" to shot at other people and steal and figure they will get away with it because the city council is not supportive of the police department. If the City Council insists on shoving this down on the residents of this city you will lose a lot of votes when you are up for re-election.

6/29/2020 9:42:57 PM

You get rid of the police and I won't visit Minneapolis again. No, I am not a resident of the city. I am a hard working tax paying suburbanite. I don't feel safe going to sporting events or concerts in Minneapolis without the police there to keep law and order.

Your poor judgement will literally turn the city into a third world country. It was a beautiful city. But because you were afraid of standing up to a bunch of disrespectful non tax paying looting individuals you have brought that city to its knees.

This will go down in history as the biggest mistake of the century.

6/29/2020 9:11:10 PM

Illegal police violence is the least of Minneapolis' violence problem. Hire more police officers and get the crime in Minneapolis under control or my family will not enter city limits. Frey spoke this violence into existence. Resign. Successfully inviting Murderapolis back. Entire city is going to have Fireworks & gunfire PTSD. Frey decreased the property value in Minneapolis. Ready for the mass exodus?

6/29/2020 9:43:30 PM

Defund the Minneapolis Police Department! Immediately redirect funds towards education and investment in communities of color!!!

6/29/2020 9:43:47 PM

This would be an absolute waste of money when we already have a majority of these resources. Fix the sources don't just get rid of them. Now I will keep my gun on my hip while I walk my dogs, play in the yard with my kids, etc. There will be more blood on your hands than there is now. Wiping out the police department for what? Because some are racist, get rid of them, train and recruit new ones. Fix the system, don't erase it. Such a passive aggressive approach.

6/29/2020 9:43:54 PM

I have lived in Minneapolis my entire life. 35th and Pillsbury, 38th Vincent, 54th Nicollet, 55th Colfax, 46th Emerson and now 51st and Irving. I have never felt unsafe until recently. Now many of our Mpls friends are buying guns, they say if the police is not going to protect us, then we have to protect ourselves.

If you disband the police things will worsen. Residents will buy guns and/or leave the city. Criminals will be empowered. They burned down our third precinct and set our city on fire. I am afraid to see what is next. I have been to Haiti twice, we lived with the Missionaries of Charity. In order for the sisters to live and serve the poor they had to hire a security guard with a machine gun to protect their hospital, orphanages hired guards with guns too. Since the Haitian government does not protect Haitians they protect themselves. The city of Minneapolis needs to do better.

6/29/2020 9:44:47 PM

I will never enter this city again if they defund the police.. I will do everything on my power to have the current city council replaced ..



6/29/2020 9:45:26 PM

I do not want to see the charter amendment on the ballot.

I would like to see a stronger mayoral office and hope the city will work with the chief of police to create an improved police force.

I do not have confidence in the current city council.

6/29/2020 9:45:37 PM

First, let me recognize that the reason we are having this discussion is because George Floyd was murdered by a MPD officer a little over a month ago. It was tragic and 99.9% of the world agrees that this tragedy was wrong and could have easily been avoided.

On to the proposed future; the Transforming Community Safety Resolution states that "police use-of-force is among the leading causes of death for young men of color." The Star Tribune reported on 5/31/2020 that the City of Minneapolis has had 10 police involved deaths from 2011-2020. Six involved black males. Therefore, 0.6 black males per year have been killed by the MPD per year over the last ten years. The population of black males in Minneapolis is approximately 38,000 (wikipedia). Therefore, 0.00016% of black males of Minneapolis die each year by force of the MPD.

It is an extremely bold statement to lead a resolution to remove our entire police department with a fact of 0.00016% black males per year in Minneapolis are killed by police officers.

That percentage of 0.00016% is too high. However, removal of an entire police force is an extreme measure for this statistic.

Solution to consider: ADD funding to the police department to allow officers to spend less time on the street and more time in continuing education and community involvement projects. (ie. 75% of hours on the street and 25% education/community). Police officers work in highly intense and highly charged environments. More opportunities for officers to wear their uniforms involving uplifting community activities and bettering themselves professionally is beneficial for us all.

6/29/2020 9:45:54 PM

I oppose this fast tracked amendment, it is not planned out, it is worded in such a vague way that it would allow the council to do whatever it pleases and it hoodwinks the citizens of Minneapolis. Tell the council to go back to the drawing board. I'm a 35 year resident of Minneapolis and a 35 year Police Officer in Minneapolis,.

6/29/2020 9:47:30 PM

I believe that the idea of taking funds away from police departments doesn't address the issue at hand. The issue is there is a lack of trust between police and minority communities. Simply moving the funds from one department to another does not remove that distrust. I also think the idea of delegating tasks that require less force to other agencies should be researched but it also risks further distancing and alienating police departments and other law enforcement from these communities. In which I mean it leaves only the more violent and less humanizing duties to law enforcement.

I also think that any suggestion to simply remove or dismantle law enforcement without and immediate and equal agency is foolish and short sided. Also the naming and framing is important as well, such as nobody is in agreement to what "defund" the police really means and it could lead to confusion among supporters and detractors.

6/29/2020 9:48:46 PM

If you get rid of the police I would like to get all your phone numbers so I can call you in the middle of the night to seek help. I do hope you are going to back up what you are planning on doing by getting rid of the police. I do not want the police department closed down. Who is the crazy person that thinks a social worker would be any better. A social worker murdered my brother. Even the ones that don't murder people would probably not be able to solve a issue with a man with a gun using a pencil and a note book.

6/29/2020 9:48:54 PM

We go up to Minneapolis every couple of months. We will not be doing that if there are no police officers. We feelsafe knowing they are patrolling the area. As a business stand point I think the bars and restaurants are going to loose a lot of money as people are not going to feel safe.

6/29/2020 9:113:44 PM

The City Council's recent declaration to defund and or dismantle the Minneapolis Police Department is of concern for two reasons.

1. The announcement was given without CONCRETE PLANS as to what this means and how it will be implemented, adding to Citizen concern for the future of private and public safety in Minneapolis. Citizens are currently dealing with an unseen deadly virus that has caused high unemployment and loss of income, are reeling from witnessing uncontrolled rioting, are navigating loss of local shopping/pharmaceutical venues, and are now expected to deal with an upheaval to public and private safety, possibly placing citizen safety in further jeopardy. Proposals for radical change should not be given in haste without solid plans for making the change. For example, it is said that social workers will answer 911 domestic violence calls. Such calls are considered high risk police calls, as perpetrators often in possession of weapons, with higher rate of police mortality. Does disarming police in a society that allows citizens to possess weapons make sense? Does sending unarmed social workers to calls where weapons may be in possession make sense? Will social workers have emergency vehicles to respond to domestic violence in progress? Will social workers be on call 24/7, 7 days/week? Will social workers receive training in self-protection? Will social workers pay for liability insurance? Will social workers be able to apprehend, if necessary? Who will apprehend someone who breaks the law in this type of call? Sending a social worker does not guarantee a peaceful outcome to domestic violence or that a crime has not been or will not be committed. Folk wisdom evolves over time from hard learned experience, as in "Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater." It may be murky water, but there's a baby in there that needs fishing out. Our police department needs to be fished out of murky water with commitment, investigation and support from those in position to make this happen.

2. Curiously, the City Council's stand on police reform appears to overlook the most valuable resource on maintaining safety, law and order in the city of Minneapolis, the police officers themselves! All members of the Minneapolis Police Force should be interviewed with the opportunity to share ideas for improvement BEFORE radical changes are made. Who are any of us to think we alone have all the answers with no need to hear from those who have served us day and night, every day of the year, whenever we have called upon them. The Council would be remiss to bypass input from police officers BEFORE radical changes are made.

In closing, I will vote against revisions to the Charter based on the City Council's decision to issue knee jerk policy change regarding safety of Minneapolis citizens without ANY CONSULTATION WITH THOSE CITIZENS OR THE OFFICERS OF THE MINNEAPOLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT. The Council has displayed an ARROGANT DISREGARD for citizens of all colors who in a civilized society somehow find it within themselves to NOT BURN DOWN PROPERTY, STOP TRAFFIC ON FREEWAYS, DISOBEY CURFEWS, OR IN ANY WAY ENDANGER LIVES OF OTHERS in order to get their concerns heard. The Council's disregard panders to and promotes violence of expression, which should not be rewarded in any way in a civilized society.

6/29/2020 9:50:02 PM

We have been loyal visitors of Minneapolis for over 40 years. We attend every Vikings game, many Gophers games, Twins games, Timberwolves games along with the theater at the Orpheus, State and Pantages theaters. We also have season tickets to Orchestra Hall. In addition, spend a lot of time on St. Anthony Main, Uptown and Downtown restaurants, breweries and bars. We will, unfortunately, have to stop all of these activities if the Minneapolis Police force is disbanded. We currently don't feel safe because the police are being harassed and unwanted because of a few terrible officers. The city is at the mercy of a bunch of radical anarchists and we need police, if not military protection from the gangs of shooters throughout the city. If I lived in Minneapolis, I would vote against the current council and vote for more level headed people. Your proposal will only keep more people like us away from the city and all of the businesses will suffer. Please reconsider because we love Minneapolis and only want to feel safe like we did for the last 40 years.

6/29/2020 9:50:08 PM

Dumbest thing I've ever heard

6/29/2020 9:51:30 PM

Please reconsider this ridiculous request! We need police more than ever we just need better training.

6/29/2020 9:51:49 PM

The MPD is wholly rampant with power and needs to be replaced by a new system of public safety. Something that works for everyone. Bob Kroll and the entire federation cannot be reformed and the only way to move forward is with something entirely new and different that will work for all, and not result in unwarranted death and abuse of power by those sworn to serve. Doing the right thing may be unpopular with some, but in order to raise up the lowest, we must do something different.

6/29/2020 9:51:58 PM

I support getting rid of the Minneapolis Police Dept and replacing it with another organization that will include police officers. I believe the MPD can not be fixed, and must be replaced, but I do believe we need police in Minneapolis. Eventually I would like to see a Public Safety Service that consists of Mental Health Workers, Social Workers, non-licensed investigators, non-licensed parking and traffic enforcement, and licensed police. The investigators would respond to calls that require someone to take a report but no suspect is present, such as a garage break in. The 911 Dispatchers will need extra training as they would be making the initial decision of who to send to the call. I would be in favor of the Hennepin County Sheriffs Dept to be in charge of a temporary police unit that would be hired and staffed to get the number of police officers needed to fill the gap until the new police department can be fully developed and trained. I believe that having a Public Safety Service that is primarily staffed with mental health and social work employees who are supported by police officers who understand their minimized support roll what our city needs.

6/29/2020 9:52:02 PM

I fully support disbanding the Minneapolis Police Department. We need to keep people safe and help people in need. I've seen first-hand how the mpd unfairly target black residents and use violence and threats against them that are not used against white residents. As a white person, my friends, coworkers, and neighbors of color have all been unfairly treated in ways I will never experience. The people who protect and serve our community should live here and represent all of us, not commute here to harass people they perceive as bad guys. I've worked with, am friends with and am even related to Minneapolis Police officers and know in my heart of hearts, that very few of them would speak out if they saw a fellow officer doing something wrong or hold themselves accountable for their own bias. There is no faith left in the MPD. We need to create a new paradigm of public safety that serves everyone in our community.

6/29/2020 9:52:35 PM

I think we need to spend more time identifying a solution versus rushing to a decision. It took 3 years to decide on plastic bags. Yet, we're willing to decide on law enforcement in a few weeks. The current City Council has done nothing to benefit the city. As a resident, my opinion is that every action they take benefits them personally. They don't have a plan. Eliminating police equals having businesses move from Minneapolis. Who feels safe going downtown? Obviously not them if they are costing the city \$500,000 per year in security. I used to feel safe here. Now, I don't. They aren't helping create collaboration. \$500,000 could sure help fund housing for the homeless or police reform. Most residents don't want this. Why wouldn't a city council want to bring the city together versus divide? I can't figure it out....

6/29/2020 9:52:45 PM

I prefer police reform but am open to a community safety department if there is an actual plan. I feel as if the council appeased a group of protestors with a groupthink mentality instead of asking their constituents for their thoughts on the matter. If this does make the ballot and doesn't pass, what is plan b? I'd like to hear more about well thought out plans and council members having conversations with those they represent.

6/29/2020 9:52:46 PM

While I think we need extreme police reform, dismantling the police in exchange for an unproven and unsupported by data fashion seems unwise and ignorant. If there is a radical, new form of policing and public protection that we think makes sense, let's test in a smaller community so we have data to see what works and what doesn't while also being able to throw extra resources towards the effort to give it a fair shot.

6/29/2020 9:53:18 PM

Changing the city charter because of one City Council's agenda is ridiculous. Disbanding and replacing the Police Department will result in a ridiculous amount of waste. As a frequent visitor to the City, I would not come to the city to spend time or money.

6/29/2020 9:54:04 PM

It has always been evident and has become even more evident within the past few weeks that the MPD has never cared and continues to not care about black lives and other poc lives. This police system that is currently in place is not working and is overall doing more harm than good within our city. We need a system that rehabilitates and knows how to interact with all types of people and situations without causing them harm or death. We cannot claim that our city is above racism or doesn't enforce systemic racism when it is present in all aspects of our city. This is simply a start to deconstruct the systemic racism and overall racism that has been present from the beginning of time.

6/29/2020 9:116:51 PM

I have worked at Target HQ at City Center and The Target Plaza (above the Dakota on 10th and Nicollet) for 9 years. Even during the day, if I have to walk between to the two on the mall, I keep my eyes straight ahead and keep moving. I have been harassed, intimidated, and made to feel unsafe over that entire time. The crude gangs of people that hang out in front of the Target retail store on 9th makes me want to cross the street. So you're going to put people with NO AUTHORITY or POWER in place to take care of the OD's, the open drug dealing, the list goes on, I have seen it first hand. Getting rid of the Police is absolute insanity. Should you choose to do so, and if it makes the November Ballot, and God help us actually passes, I will retire and never set foot downtown for the rest of my life. So sad, because I actually love downtown.

6/29/2020 9:55:58 PM

We need to keep the police department and refund the city council. They are wasting tax payers money on private security. Why would they need private security if they are doing the right thing.

6/29/2020 9:55:59 PM

I am in support of the amendment to remove the Minneapolis Police Department from the City Charter, and establishing Community Safety & Violence Prevention Department.

The MPD has not only failed to protect our community, they have become a threat to us. We cannot afford their violence or the lawsuits it yields.

6/29/2020 9:56:39 PM

I am not currently a resident of Minneapolis, but I own a four unit rental property in the Lyn-Lake neighborhood. I lived in the building for many years and care deeply about the neighbors and the neighborhood. While I agree 100% that there needs to be major changes in the police department, I think pushing to remove the Police Department is extreme and irresponsible. What will Minneapolis residents be able to do in an emergency situation? Look what happened with all the arson and property damage that occurred when the police department was unable to respond. Things were completely out of control until the National Guard came in. Also, look at the shootings of 11 people that occurred in Uptown last week. I saw a video taken shortly before of complete chaos at Hennepin/Lake (rowdy crowds, cars spinning around on Hennepin and Lake, drag racing) and no police around. Residents and business owners in Minneapolis are already feeling unsafe and I've heard long time residents saying they're considering moving out of Minneapolis. Change is needed, but it needs to be well thought out and planned.

6/29/2020 9:56:44 PM

As a life long liberal democrat and voting resident of Minneapolis for a long time I have to voice my strong objections to the city consoles proposed changes to the Minneapolis charter. This is a blatant power grab by the some of the farther left leaning parts of our party in total disregard of any normal procedure. Please try to remember you are elected to represent of all of the people of Minneapolis, not just your personal agenda.

The people of Minneapolis deserve a more thoughtful and complete review of all possible reforms that could be used.

This is a knee jerk response to a terrible situation that we all should take a breath and respond in the best way possible for Minneapolis future.

I urger the Charter Commission to reject this motion.

6/29/2020 9:56:53 PM

The move to disband or decrease funding for the MPD is a dangerous move that should be avoided. I refuse to do business in Minneapolis until robust funding and autonomy of officers to do their jobs and protect citizens and businesses is restored. The city council, mayor and DFL party have resigned control of the city to extremists in an effort to undermine peace and stability in an election year. I was previously part of the DFL party prior to this past March, but resigned my party affiliation after the party began pushing unsubstantiated fear rather than community trust and common sense. Countless other friends of mine have abandoned the Democratic party as they continue to spread lies, fear and promote racism masquerading as positive community solutions - all for politicians own personal benefit, not citizens.

Until the leaders of the city of Minneapolis resign and offer the people a solution for a return to peaceful normalcy that includes a well funded and autonomous police force, I refuse to do business with any organization in Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 9:57:27 PM

I support this proposed Amendment.

6/29/2020 9:58:10 PM

I/we, and guests will not go near downtown and maybe uptown, certainly farmers market no ball games, no restaurants no east of 100 without a potent police force.

Save the goodwill ambassadors for a summer camp.

6/29/2020 9:58:52 PM

I live in Hennepin County in a suburb of Minneapolis and enjoyed going out there. I will not if there aren't Police and I am looking to move out of Minnesota entirely. Your leadership has failed Minneapolis and Minnesota and tax payers are now expected to pay for all the damage and be personally at risk to increases in violent crime. I also don't appreciate tax dollars paying for private security service. We can't afford to hire our own private security.

6/29/2020 9:59:32 PM

DO NOT DO THIS. This is dangerous to the citizens of Minneapolis and will backfire! They deserve to be protected and taken care of. Replacing the Minneapolis PD will result in so much crime, it will ruin this whole city. We the people say DO NOT DO THIS.

6/29/2020 9:59:42 PM

I have lived in Minneapolis for 20 years. This city is my home, and I foresee it being my home for a long time.

I am white.

I support complete police abolition.

Complete police abolition is the only option to move forward as a community. It is precedent: there was a world before police and we will be monumental in moving toward a world without them. This is Minneapolis's opportunity to fire all police officers and keep them OUT of the formation of the community of safety and violence prevention department. Nobody who currently works on police or as police should be allowed to be involved in this or else how do we expect anything to change?

There are Black and Indigenous leaders in Minneapolis who have been organizing to create alternatives to policing for years; let's defer to their leadership. I have been personally told by Linea Palmisano: "they won't make meetings to meet with me!" then YOU should attend their events. Listen to them speak. Be open to changing your mind.

Mayor Frey and many of the rest of city council are protecting the white supremacists who fund their campaigns. We understand that you are holding back from committing to end the police department because you are afraid of upsetting the status quo that is upheld by white people.

Our city has tried police reform so many times. Giving more money to police departments is the opposite of the answer here. Schools, housing, food: we could be funding these instead.

6/29/2020 10:00:19 PM

Do not defund the police. You will ruin the city, the crime is already bad enough. Defunding the police is literally the dumbest thing ever. People are already leaving in droves, it will only get worse. Who will own a business here? Who will want to live here? Property value will drop and everyone that can afford to leave will do so.

Who do you think is going to come here? It's an open invite for every criminal and homeless person.

6/29/2020 10:00:21 PM

I support amending the City Charter to create a new Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention and remove the Police Department as a charter department. The city must have the flexibility to develop and fund effective programs that will more comprehensively improve public safety for everyone in the city.

I've lived in Minneapolis since 1985, and the MPD has always been violent, racist, and unaccountable, and their actions since the murder of George Floyd have done nothing but confirm that they are unwilling to change. I completely support dismantling the MPD and reimagining public safety in Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 10:01:32 PM

I don't see why the director of the new department can't be a police officer if they are charged with a holistic view. Arradondo is a good chief and I feel like many in the community trust him if given support he needs.

How do you ensure the minimum number of resources are going toward safety like the current one outlines.

The people seem to have asked for a civilian review board. Why not add this instead of put all power to the city council...I like most of you now, but who knows who we could get later on.

Good luck. This will be a hard change without a plan or understanding of how the power shifts.

6/29/2020 10:01:49 PM

I am very disappointed in the MPLS city council's move to dismantle the police department. We live in the suburbs and have always loved bringing our family into MPLS for events, restaurants, etc. We no longer feel that MPLS is a safe place to visit and spend money. Our neighbors, friends and family feel the same. There is a lot of violence in MPLS. You should focus efforts on encouraging these communities to stop



hurting each other as that's where a majority of the crime is committed ..... not a few bad police officers. I am disappointed in this decision. I am also disappointed that the city council took it upon themselves to spend tax payer money to hire private security while compromising the security of the MPLS citizens and those who visit MPLS. We no longer plan to spend money in MPLS and will take our family and friend events elsewhere.

6/29/2020 10:02:05 PM

I have been trying to find information on what this "proposed charter amendment" means, and from what I've read it's concluded that the police will be mainly replaced with a "holistic" approach. This is not going to work. To abandon law enforcement when they need MORE TRAINING and MORE CONNECTION to the community is abhorrent and is no different than turning your back on your own community. Police officers are killed as well. In fact according to the FBI in 2018 150 were killed in the line of duty. Now what happened to Floyd was HORRIBLE. And should never happen again. But if anything, police need more funding for more training programs that implement stronger ties to their communities! You are putting social workers lives at risk by putting them on the frontlines to "de-escalate" a situation that they are not physically equipped for if it gets ugly! Will these social workers have weapons? Because a lot of these seemingly harmless cases turn violent within seconds. Gangs will be happy to hear that police are even further into the minority. I cannot believe what Minneapolis is trying to do. You try to humanize criminals by assuming that social work will heal their violent ways. And it is hopeful, but it is not reality. Please look at the facts and statistics before you destroy your city.

6/29/2020 10:02:22 PM

I do not want to live in a city run by chaos and anarchy. I want to know that if there is imminent danger, there will be help. I am more likely to vote for the amendment if it assures that the council WILL maintain a division law enforcement services. Usage of the words "may maintain" leaves too much to interpretation. I also want to see that a majority of police officers must live in Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 10:03:16 PM

Not my real name.

Hard-working tax-paying Minneapolis resident. Do not do this. Do not abandon us.

6/29/2020 10:04:11 PM

I want to express support for this new measure. I think it will go a long way to make our community safer for all residents.

6/29/2020 10:04:12 PM

Just when I thought bag taxes and 750k sculptures were insane, with this proposal you all have really outdone yourself. Two things stand out. 1) I wouldn't trust you to do anything this big. Actually, I don't trust you at all. 2) you don't have the expertise, general competency, or ability to find experts to do this well. This city is going to go down and it will be on your watch.

6/29/2020 10:04:42 PM

Do not remove the police department. The city has been taken over by thugs, hoods, and every criminal there possibly is. Our city is falling apart without police on the streets enforcing the laws. We need the police department desperately. And now. We need them to act now and put a stop to this criminal element, it has become a daily and nightly thing now. Nobody feels safe. We NEED the police. Retrain them, how to handle and interact with everyone. The hoods, enforce the law, don't let them out on bail to repeat what they have just done. Too many shootings, carjackings, home invasions. Please Stop it now. We need the police...and laws and them to enforce them. I want our city back.

6/29/2020 10:04:46 PM

This is not a thought out plan. Not a supporter.

6/29/2020 10:04:50 PM

The problem of police violence in Minneapolis cannot be solved without changing the city charter. It is the job of the police to serve the public, not the public to serve the police. We cannot right the balance of power of the citizen vs. the police without making this change to the charter. Some say it would be too radical to change the charter, but I say it would be radical not to change the charter, because not changing the charter would make reform possible. And those who make reform impossible make revolution inevitable.

6/29/2020 10:06:04 PM

I already fear for the city if Minneapolis. Look what happened when the police were not allowed to protect the city. Anarchy. That will continue and many truly innocent lives will be lost for years to come. Tax payers and businesses will move out. People will not feel safe visiting, attending events etc. What once was almost a great city will be absolutely ruined. I will not visit Mpls until you give the Police the respect and funding it needs to keep the citizens safe. This will not fix racism. You will only disparage the already disparaged.

6/29/2020 10:06:35 PM

Thank you for working to change our current racist and oppressive system. This is one of many.

I think taking a year to discuss with communities, test ideas and figure out how to begin to change the system is smart.

Thank you for all of your hard work

6/29/2020 10:07:46 PM

So very crazy..will never work..worked a career helping the poor...since when have our police become our enemy..happy I'm not a mnpls resident

6/29/2020 10:08:16 PM

I am against abolishing/defunding the police and I am also for reform. I believe The current police chief should be supported and kept in place and I think the city council is wrong to try to put a new model under their power. I do not have faith in the current city council to lead on this issue. We need to listen to leaders from the communities most impacted and we need deep reform, not a pledge that has nothing to stand on.

6/29/2020 10:08:24 PM

I would like to see how this would look like. I want to see a concrete plan and proposal of how this would be accomplished before I would vote for it. MPD is obviously corrupt and needs to go but I am also concerned about public safety. There are a lot of public safety issues that have gone completely unattended to even with a full fledged police department and I would like to know how these issues would be better addressed such as homelessness, rampant drug use/over doses, and violent crime on metro transit and light rail.

6/29/2020 10:08:43 PM

De-escalation training is the key! Keep the police force as is but train de-escalation in all situations!  
Get ready for Chicago style murder numbers otherwise.

6/29/2020 10:09:34 PM

If the city council thinks they can establish an organization to take the place of the police department is grossly mistaken. The police department is a highly trained organization that is trained to respond to all situations. They have saved numerous lives and have sacrificed there own lives. The Minneapolis city council wants to do is a disgrace to all true Minnesotan people. The city council and there plan has no chance to lower the crime in Minneapolis. It will be another Chicago.

6/29/2020 10:09:43 PM

To whom it may concern,

While I am not a resident of Minneapolis, MN I work in the downtown area full time (on Nicollet Ave). In addition to work, I spend time in Minneapolis during the weekday evenings for dinners and happy hours and on the weekends frequenting concerts, shows at the Orpheum Theater, uptown restaurants, and Twin's baseball games. Since the killing of George Floyd there has already been a large increase in violence reported in Minneapolis (over 100+ shootings). It is my belief that the proposed amendment to disband or defund the Minneapolis Police Department would cause an even larger increase in criminal activity that would make it unsafe for me or my family to continue to spend time in Minneapolis. Assuming the proposal would leave even a smaller number of Police Offices (when I think a larger presence is currently needed) I would request to move to another office outside of Minneapolis or petition to work from home full time to avoid the area altogether.

In addition to my dollars no longer flowing into the City of Minneapolis, I also have grave fears on how the outcome of this experiment would affect the surrounding areas. I am concerned criminals would feel emboldened to commit crimes in surrounding cities and then flee to MPLS where the chances of being caught would be slim.

Because I am unable to vote if the proposed amendment gets to that this November I am hopeful the voices of people who come to MPLS for work and play will also get to have their voices heard. I strongly reject the idea to disband the MPD and in-fact would like to see more resources put in to keep the city residents and visitors safe.

Thank you

6/29/2020 10:11:13 PM

You are making a huge mistake! Reform the police, clean up the police dept.

Do not get rid of them. You are destroying your state! My family will not visit there if you get rid of the police department.

6/29/2020 10:11:47 PM

Over the years I have very much enjoyed the restaurants, theaters, sporting events and concerts in Minneapolis. If they city moves forward with this we will stop frequenting these places in Minneapolis. Police presence is what has always made us feel safe at these locations. I will not spend my time or money in a city where I do not feel safe. Nor will I support government officials who see it necessary to spend city funds on private security yet continue to work towards taking that very security away from their citizens. This will bring more crime, and financial hardship to Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 10:12:19 PM

Please do not remove the police department we've already seen so much violence and it's getting worse and trickling to other areas already and that's exactly what will happen if you don't get control over all this crime.

6/29/2020 10:14:41 PM

I have lived in south Minneapolis for four decades. I have lived in Powderhorn, Bancroft, Standish, and Longfellow. I'm a victim-survivor advocate and I fully support we as advocates providing intervention, deescalation, and services. However, we have to ensure advocates can do their jobs safely because the presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of homicide by 500%. We would need Minneapolis to also consider registering domestic abusers like sex offenders and taking municipal action to disarm abusers—the 2015 law is useless and never enforced. Organizations providing community advocacy and violence intervention would also need much more funding and support from the city than we currently receive.

6/29/2020 10:14:46 PM

I will no longer do any business in Minneapolis if the police are defunded/got rid of. I would not feel safe going into Minneapolis.

6/29/2020 10:15:15 PM

No, I do not think that the Minneapolis Police Department should be abolished. The City Council has not put forth any viable or minimally proposed plan about what an alternative solution would look like, which is incredibly irresponsible given their public comments. I am also opposed to members of the City Council receiving personal security at taxpayers' expense.

6/29/2020 10:15:22 PM

This plan effectively ends our use of light rail to the Twins games, our visits to restaurants we have enjoyed, our use of light rail to the airport...and my Saturday Minneapolis Farmers Market shopping.

It changes our comfort level greatly attending Gopher games, eating out beforehand at local restaurants. We won't be bringing grandchildren with us to their annual dinner and game one on one dates, without the cheerful helpful police presence there.

I can truthfully testify that MANY from greater Minnesota who I know, and those I am related to, plan to AVOID Minneapolis now due to the reckless knee jerk reactions against police.

6/29/2020 10:15:34 PM

Defunding the police is the dumbest fucking idea anyone could ever possibly come up with.

6/29/2020 10:15:38 PM

I think this is ridiculous! Disbanding a police department over a few bad cops is not the way to go. There are decent and good cops that deserve to serve their communities with respect and dignity. Having a community based policing is not effective and will not minimize crimes but increase them among felons who believe they now can get away with crap. Keep the MN PD intact and reinvest in non combative training programs for them. Make them all take cultural awareness courses.

6/29/2020 10:15:46 PM

The city council is pushing this through too quickly.

There has been no discussion. Little or no information has been shared. We as residents of Minneapolis need to be consulted before any change like this is proposed.

Vote this down now.

Make the city council do their work over and come up with a more complete proposal.

6/29/2020 10:15:51 PM

Are you crazy? Certainly incompetent. The police are good, you are bad.

6/29/2020 10:17:12 PM

Based on this change and the lack of detail in what has been presented I no longer feel safe in Minneapolis and will look to sell my property if something does not change. We absolutely need reform but this plan is something different. It is ironic that council members have private security yet want residents of the city to feel safe with less protection. Look at what has been happening in recent weeks in Minneapolis. The shootings are out of control and kids are not safe. Minneapolis has the opportunity to be an amazing and welcoming city. Please take additional time to present a detailed plan of how that can be accomplished. With that I believe there would be support. Putting out a general idea of what it could be while council members are spending money on private security does not give residents comfort in the path forward.

6/29/2020 10:18:18 PM

I have worked in Minneapolis for years regarding the opioid crises and its racial disparities in Minneapolis. It is time to defund the police and direct funding to safe injection sites in North and South Minneapolis. Drug addiction like other addictions is a health issue not a criminal issue. Follow Europe's example and support sensible drug reform.

6/29/2020 10:18:27 PM

I support putting this question on the ballot in November and I look forward to voting for a change in policing.

6/29/2020 10:19:07 PM

As a resident of Minneapolis, the city council members should contact whoever they would contact in the future to protect them now not the \$4500 per day per person fee for security! Who is paying that? Get a clue! We have a city to rebuild!

6/29/2020 10:19:17 PM

I lived Mpls in the late 60's I loved Mpls I always thought it was a great city. But from what I have seen happen in the last month you could not get me there with an all expenses paid trip. With no police it will be another Chicago. Getting rid of the police is the most immature, irresponsible, stupidist thing you can EVEN think about doing. And you have private security paid by the taxpayers. Really? Really?

6/29/2020 10:20:16 PM

This amendment smacks of virtue signaling and agenda based politics, rather than sound, thought out, rationally discussed and built policy. Why the haste? If the goal is to get it right, then rational people should be able to hash out a clear plan, with all issues, contingencies and consequences considered, cared for, and calculated. You folks seems to be flying by the seat of your pants, fanned by the flames of an angry mob, whether they are justified or not. This is modern leftist leadership at its worst. Knee- jerk, reactionary, emotional policy rarely is successful and a majority of the time, leads to worse outcomes than the problems it was created to fix. Please, stop your vote. Have the discussion, have the conversations, hear all sides, hear all the concerns from everyone, not just a select few. We all live here, so we will all be affected by your choices.

6/29/2020 10:21:02 PM

Absolutely the worst idea ever and I know the liberals are all behind it trying to change the US to fit your agenda and you are doing nothing but working for Satan! It's all about power and control at their level and less control at our level!

6/29/2020 10:21:25 PM

I firmly believe we need to keep the Minneapolis police department.

6/29/2020 10:21:44 PM

Minneapolis will be in flames without a police department. Murders will skyrocket, as well as vandalism and other bad things. Keep MPD for the safety of all of us!