

6/29/2020 10:22:31 PM

Dumbest thing I've ever heard. Political correctness is already causing your community to suffer. You will end up like Detroit and Chicago. I will no longer visit your community, because it is no longer safe. You created this problem, not the police.

6/29/2020 10:22:37 PM

I support scaling back armed police (only keeping a smaller staff of elite and highly trained officers) and primarily sending unarmed public safety staff of some kind to handle non-violent/non-emergency/mental health calls. I support increasing violence prevention funding, including social supports and investments in the community to reduce crime. The amendment should clearly explain the proposal, which I assume and hope will be thoroughly planned in order to minimize any growing pains over the transition period. It will likely take years to fully transition, and it will take meaningful investments in funding the unarmed staff (social workers, others) and likely funding grants to encourage students to go into that field/profession. We already have a shortage of social workers/mental health professionals- there needs to be a plan and quality training in order to get this right. And an amendment needs to convey that it will not be a "lawless" free for all with no police whatsoever.

6/29/2020 10:22:47 PM

I do not support removing the police and it is careless to make this claim without proper plans in place. Look at how much the violent crime has gone up while you enjoy taxpayer dollars paying for your private security.

I had to call the cops several times for protection from someone (a stranger) continuing to show up on my door step and stealing things from the property. Caught her on camera with a hammer looking in my window.

Another friend of mine who works at a local business was robbed at gun point leaving the business. We want reform, repercussions, more training— NOT removal.

6/29/2020 10:23:59 PM

As a tax paying citizen, I am paying a large sum of money yearly to ensure we have law enforcement to keep the citizens and property safe. I do not feel comfortable voting to dismantle law enforcement without a solid plan to review. The fact that council members are using tax payers dollars for private security tells me they are only thinking of themselves and believe they are better than the tax paying citizens and will leave the rest of us to be victims of crime. I am opposed to any change to our charter that destroys our right to have access to law enforcement!

6/29/2020 10:24:01 PM

Replacing the police department with a new department still controlled by the mayor and the city council is precisely the type of reform that has been PROVEN not to work. You have had many years and many opportunities to implement your ideas and we are still seeing black and brown people being MURDERED by the police.

We need COMMUNITY CONTROL of the police NOW. TCC4J has already presented you with their CPAC proposal and instead you trot out this watered down embarrassment of an amendment.

After watching the city council sell the Elliot Twins to a Canadian bank, I am not reassured by this amendment's putting the power of hiring the "Safety" (POLICE) director in the hands of the city council. The power should be in the COMMUNITY.

We want PROVEN organizers and community MEMBERS to have the final say on who is in this ENTIRE department, not just this amendment's reassurances about one "non-law enforcement" experienced director. The CIVILIAN POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY COUNCIL would function as a 24/7 oversight of the police, instead of a toothless review board. Besides, it would give you (the city council) more time to focus on your other neoliberal agendas that are forcing our community members out of their homes....

This is DISINGENUOUS lip service to back up your sound bite promises of "defunding" and "abolishing." Give US the power and WE will decide when and how to strip the police of their funding. WE will decide how they are trained and equipped.

This amendment is weak and you know it. I am against it.

6/29/2020 10:24:19 PM

Removing the police department is the most asinine idea I could imagine! Before you dismiss me, I am a licensed attorney and a resident of North Minneapolis. I'm not naive enough to think our police department is perfect or that racism doesn't exist. However, the vast majority of our police force consist of hard working, non racist individuals.

Instead of "throwing out the baby with the bath water", there needs to be reform. Let's start with more training and require yearly continuing education and training. Teach more diversity, implicit bias, regularly discuss proper use of force, hold mandatory meetings after excessive uses of force to teach what went wrong and how things should be handled. Discuss filing complaints against fellow officers and allow a more anonymous process. Put civilians on the Internal Investigation boards.

Next break down the hierarchy that stops less senior police from correcting bad behavior. Do this through education, training, mock simulations and rule changes. Enforce violations of even minor offenses.

Establish rules for prompt resolution of excessive force complaints. Set deadlines for each step of the process ie interviewing the complaining party, officer interviews, witness interviews, recommendations, final action, etc

Educate about cultural differences with instruction from different cultural leaders. Assign officers in areas of higher cultural populations to help them learn and serve those communities.

Require officers to live in Minneapolis!!!! If they live among those they serve they will better understand the needs of the city and their role in our city.

Make sure the police use interpreters when needed. Allow and encourage collaboration with other service fields such as domestic abuse advocates, mental health workers, interpreters, medical personnel etc.

Regularly teach de-escalation techniques, less invasive ways to obtain compliance, techniques to calm agitated people after they have been handcuffed...

Pair inexperienced officers with more experienced officers but only allow officers with few to no excessive complaints to train/mentor newer officers.

I have more ideas of how to improve the police department that we have. Defunding or renaming the department is NOT the answer.

6/29/2020 10:24:45 PM

You are completely out of control and your time is neigh. Your political knee jerk reaction points to limited understanding and political weakness. May God help you if you cannot understand that this is the time for truth and steadfastness.

Then there was a man, smart as Satan, who, lacking some perception of human dignity and knowing all too well every aspect of human weakness and wickedness, used his special knowledge to warp men, to buy men, to bribe and threaten and seduce until he found himself in a position of great power. He clothed his motives in the names of virtue, and I have wondered whether he ever knew that no gift will ever buy back a man's love when you have removed his self-love. A bribed man can only hate his briber. When this man died the nation rang with praise...

There was a third man, who perhaps made many errors in performance but whose effective life was devoted to making men brave and dignified and good in a time when they were poor and frightened and when ugly forces were loose in the world to utilize their fears. This man was hated by few. When he died the people burst into tears in the streets and their minds wailed, "What can we do now?" How can we go on without him?"

Which are you?

6/29/2020 10:25:44 PM

You have Police force and you failed to support it, and you haven't done anything as far as reform, and now your only face saving move ,is to demonize the Police and absolve yourselves of any responsibility , and by throwing a bone to the same people who burned down the longfellow neighborhood, will give you some great victory , you throw us to the wolves, by taking away any protection we have

6/29/2020 10:26:56 PM

You guys are nuts on the city council.

Your deas are horrible and you have zero trust from your city residents.

Can't wait to vote you out

6/29/2020 10:27:11 PM

Terrible idea. I will oppose this reckless amendment. I work in Minneapolis and my tax dollars support law enforcement and other city programs.

6/29/2020 10:27:36 PM

Please stop defending the police

6/29/2020 10:27:57 PM

This proposed amendment is absolute insanity. The council is so far disconnected from what their people want. To add insult to injury, paying for private security is ridiculous. The police need reform, not disbanding.

6/29/2020 10:28:36 PM

Before any changes are made there MUST BE A PLAN!

You can NOT disband or defund a necessary entity without having a backup plan- and several of them if plan A doesn't work out.

I think it is absolutely ridiculous to disband the entire police department for a few terrible people. Would you shut down all Walmart stores if there were terrible employees or even if the CEO was an awful and unlawful person? No! the majority of the police officers are good and hardworking people who put their lives on the line every single day and night for this city and the state. How dare you disregard all of those men and women and all of their efforts for a few!

even at this point how easy do you think it's going to be to recruit people to want to become police officers with all of the negativity, and all of the crap that their family is going through also. We're not just talking about the police officers themselves were also talking about their families and their children. Think about the big picture because you are putting hundreds and hundreds of lives at risk by disbanding the police department.

6/29/2020 10:29:03 PM

Bad idea. We will never set foot in Minneapolis again. So many hotels, restaurants and businesses will suffer. It has already seen an uptick in crime after all this rioting. You all should be fired!!!

6/29/2020 10:30:00 PM

This is irresponsible. I have seen private police policing communities. I am from a 3rd world country where no one respects the police, and police are known to take bribes because they are not vested in the organization.

You want better police training but do nothing to hire quality individuals. Train your officers better, back them up legally, and support them if you do not want your city to end up like Seattle.

6/29/2020 10:30:39 PM

Absolutely not! Just crossing the police off charter is wrong. Can we cross out the city council?

6/29/2020 10:32:23 PM

This city obviously doesn't care one bit about the safety of all of its taxpaying and hardworking citizens. The mere proposal of such a preposterous idea proves that my above statement is correct. It was made painfully clear as we all watched the city burning, being looted, and innocent people being attacked that the officials in charge of Minnesota and Minneapolis care nothing for the people who work hard and contribute to a civilized society.

6/29/2020 10:32:37 PM

Keep the police!

6/29/2020 10:32:49 PM

Sadly I will not come and shop in Minneapolis or go to any events if you decide to change law enforcement and/or abolish existing law enforcement.

6/29/2020 10:33:03 PM

As a volunteer in a Minneapolis theater I will no longer be doing this if the police department is disbanded. So after 10 years of volunteering gone. Season ticket holder to Minnesota sports events gone I would not feel safe going into a city with no police department. I will also have to rethink my work as some of it comes into Minneapolis and I will not feel comfortable parking, walking, going out to eat, going to sporting events including sports on the U of M campus will now all be a think of the past. Since all this talk and pulling back and defunding and disbanding the police department the council has spent more tax payer money on security there have been a huge uptick in shootings, murder, car jacking and burglary so I will stay out of this city

6/29/2020 10:33:10 PM

The police department needs severe overhauling which none of the current CM's or Mayer have done one thing during their tenure. Much too worried about bike lanes and how to defund neighborhood organizations. They are all too eager to point fingers now! Overhaul police department and defund the

CC and Mayer. It is totally idiotic to change the charter now. It would give free rein for CM to do as they please. Hopefully, the year of community engagement will be more than post it meetings ala Bender and hiring a PR firm to shove it down our throats. What have the CC and Mayer done to this city? Please do not bring Rybak back for any part of this. He had 12 years and crawled in bed with the Police Dept. Not only did he do nothing but crawled in bed with them

6/29/2020 10:34:16 PM

I completely support the proposal to shrink the budget of the police and expand the budgets of those who can actually help, in many cases better than the police. I have been embarrassed and sickened by our police department for too long. The portfolio of things the police are trying to take care of is five times bigger than it should be. I'm very impressed by our city council and really hope our government supports them.

6/29/2020 10:34:19 PM

Better and more training.

Reform to hold police accountable for behavior, complaints and other factors that may show earlier signs of racial, homophobic problems.

Training to take down but not shoot.

Social workers for wellness checks. Less police presence to de-escalate situations.

Protest support. Talk to protesters. Show support when needed.

6/29/2020 10:34:22 PM

I don't even know where to start. Here are some thoughts:

1. If you really want to help the community, then instead of taking money from the police from social services, fund both adequately. How about taxing the stadiums?
2. I'm a social worker and am all about adding alternatives to policing, imprisonment or just letting people off. Restorative justice, for example is an excellent intervention for many and should be used whenever possible. Mental illness needs to be addressed. We need to rethink whether deinstitutionalization of those severely mentally ill who aren't compliant with their meds (often goes with the territory) really does them or anyone else a favor. We need to think about the fact that we don't have enough hospital beds for the mentally ill who need psych wards. We need to send trained workers into situations where someone is mentally ill rather than just sending police, who don't have the knowledge or skills to deescalate this type of situation. But don't forget that an unarmed social worker could be in danger if attacked by someone who is violently mentally ill or, for example, someone in a domestic violence situation. Don't expect them to deal with these situations without police backup. If you're having trouble with this concept, just imagine sending your young son or daughter who just became a social worker into a home where there's domestic violence occurring with no protection.

4. Consider the fact that both police and teachers are asked to deal with social problems that are way beyond their capacity. Consider that they are not paid well and get blamed by both the right and the left for problems they didn't cause and can't fix.
5. Is this society really prepared to start paying attention to supporting essential workers like social workers, others in the mental health field, educators or (dare I mention it) police? Is the City Council really prepared to do this or do they just want to punish the police without really coming up with a plan to serve the city effectively?
6. Address PTSD in both marginalized communities and in the police communities, members of whom react out of trauma triggers in these situations.
- 7.. Listen to ordinary black people not just activists. Read the two very powerful posts, by black citizens, attached below. Read some of the letters in the Strib like the one from the woman who has lived in the north side for 30 years and is appalled by the council's idea.
8. Read about the Police and Black Men Project <https://innovation.umn.edu/policeandblackmenmn/> and talk to their leaders, Guy Bowling, community leader in the Police and Black Men Project (Minneapolis); responsible fatherhood parent educator, trainer, consultant, public speaker and Manager of the FATHER Project. and Bill Doherty, facilitator of the Police and Black Men Project Minneapolis, professor of family social science and co-founder of the grass root anti polarization group, Braver Angels <https://braverangels.org/>. Talk to Cmdr Charlie Adams, a black Minneapolis police officer for 35 years, Commander in the Police Recruitment and Backgrounds Division; member of the Police and Black Men Project who says that if you defund the police the programs that will suffer are all those devoted to building community relationships.
9. Bottom line: We have enormous difficulty holding in our hearts and minds the concepts of both compassion AND accountability regarding the same person or group of people. We tend to err in one direction or the other (only compassion or only accountability), depending on our ideology and our personal experience. This is a huge problem and, in my opinion one of the primary causes of polarization.

6/29/2020 10:34:53 PM

No, we need the police more than ever! God bless those that protect and serve us!

6/29/2020 10:35:37 PM

This is the most radical proposal ever created. As a dem I will be going right down to the gun store for the first time ever and buying out the entire rack for my house and my car. I have heard the same sentiment from others. Instead of keeping guns off the streets you are now provoking people to go buy them. I will not loose safety over far left rash decision.

6/29/2020 10:35:45 PM

First of all. Thank you for taking my comments. I'd like to start off by saying that I grew up not far from where the riots took place and am saddened by all that has taken place. I also work off of 28th & Hiawatha helping folks in the community find gainful employment. I think it would be a terrible mistake to get rid of police completely. No one including myself will ever feel safe in Minneapolis if there are no police. The people that we help will no longer come for our services if they don't feel safe taking public transportation. As you know businesses will close and move out of Minneapolis if there is no law and order. Crime is already getting out of control even before the crazy idea of disbanding the police. I can tell you that most police officers do the right thing but feel betrayed by the mayor and city council. If you want the police to reach out and connect with communities, then you need to support them. It's a 2 way street. Please please stop putting out all of this misinformation that all police are corrupt. I agree that there is some corruption but don't try to say that everyone is. If you go with the decision to disband the police; no one will visit Minneapolis. If people lose their lives due to violent crimes, the accountability will fall back on you.

6/29/2020 10:35:50 PM

I have a design business on France Ave in Minneapolis and will need to relocate if this gets passed. I will not feel safe working in Minneapolis and bringing clients into my office without police. Please rethink for all of the business owners. So so many of us feel this way.

6/29/2020 10:37:52 PM

Don't defund the police department.

6/29/2020 10:37:57 PM

ABSOLUTELY NOT!

6/29/2020 10:37:58 PM

As someone who grew up in Minneapolis, I have grown increasingly Uncomfortable in going into the city especially downtown over the years. People openly smoking pot and dealing near Target Center and Target Field became commonplace and has emboldened folks to loiter and intimidate over the years. The police should not be defunded or eliminated as it protects law abiding people and keeps them safe or safer. The city council needs to look closely at police unions and be focused on its citizens as opposed to political agendas, bike names, lake names, etc. Residents and visitors pay taxes and safety is at the top of the list of what we expect. Minneapolis' handling of the last few weeks from the actions of a handful of officers and it's politicians has been deplorable.

Politicians are putting their citizens at risk!

6/29/2020 10:39:15 PM

Hello,

I'm a resident of Minneapolis, and I'd like to encourage you to send this Charter Amendment to the voters. As city council president Lisa Bender has articulated, efforts at incremental reform of the police department have failed. As a city we need to move quickly to transform our public safety system. I believe this charter amendment gives the city council the flexibility to engage in a public engagement process that will result in meaningful change. Without this change, the city council will not have the power to move forward on the changes that the public is urgently demanding.

Thank you

6/29/2020 10:41:17 PM

Police unions and the Minneapolis City Council have been the problem for decades. Shovel your sidewalk.

6/29/2020 10:43:09 PM

We normally visit Minneapolis on the weekends to go out for dinner and events. Our family has decided we will no longer do so as long as the violence is up, and especially if there is no longer a police department in its current state.

6/29/2020 10:43:25 PM

I am resident of Minneapolis and hope to remain one. Safety for all is paramount. The City Council is currently planning to trade George Floyd's life for many more in an attempt to rebrand policing. The problem is the MPD seems riddled with officers who behave however they choose with little accountability and punishment. Some choose to let their racism show in their policing. The racist views and behavior need to be removed from the MPD. That should not cost the entire city it's safety. A law-keeping body must be trained, fair, compassionate and armed. This city is armed. Every neighborhood from rough to posh is armed. A peacekeeping force has to be trained and ready to meet this match for the rest of us. That is by definition a police force. It can have different rules and oversight, but do not for one second believe that a police force is not needed. A Violence Prevention Department can be put in place now. It should be. But where it fails to prevent violence, somebody has to respond. They should respond fairly, justly, and evenly to protect all citizens of Minneapolis. But they must respond and be strong. The City Council has to be strong in explaining this to people on all sides of the debate. The most vulnerable to violence are the ones who lack the resources and flexibility to escape the city. Think of them. Think of me and my unarmed family with two young kids. Think of George Floyd and his killer. Then do the right thing and fix the MPD by all means necessary. But by all means, do not trade George Floyd's life for decades of more violence and decay.

6/29/2020 10:44:54 PM

Stop - Listen - Create the Plan that will replace what exists and, then and only then, put something on the ballot to change the Charter so people will know what they are voting for. You are putting the cart before the horse.

I have zero confidence that the current group of city council members have the intelligence, knowledge or experience to handle this complicated undertaking.

As it stands, I will vote no to change the charter this November and I hope that my fellow taxpayers will join me!

6/29/2020 10:45:36 PM

I work in Minneapolis and would seriously consider finding a new job if you get rid of the police. This is an insane idea that will lead to a very dangerous problem both in the city and surrounding cities.

6/29/2020 10:46:19 PM

My concern and hope is that however this department is designed or presented, that the individuals who are hired have the desire to work in this field and receive consistent and regular training for their area of work. The amount of use of force training that was routinely given to MPD officers is disappointing. I would like to see an increase in time spent in training and a focus on de-escalating situations.

6/29/2020 10:47:18 PM

I already contacted you and left a message on the board BM. I'm concerned about increased violence, have been doing service in the area as a licensed therapist. I will not provide therapy in Hennepin county without police. I've been doing Crisis work and police take calls with violence and I've already turned down a contract at Minneapolis public schools after they dropped the MPD. If police are no longer in Hennepin, I'll withdraw my services from the whole county.

6/29/2020 10:47:34 PM

Work together city council mayor and police chief. Come up with a plan that will make sense and keep Minneapolis residents safe. I would say right now you're all doing a poor job of doing that.

6/29/2020 10:48:03 PM

Twins games were dangerous to attend to last year....did the situation improve?

6/29/2020 10:49:49 PM

As a resident of Minneapolis, I strongly support the change to the city charter and deserve the right to vote on the proposed change. I have lost faith and trust in the Minneapolis Police Department. They have engaged in systematic, wide-spread racist policing. The union leadership of the MPD continues to deny any problem - the MPD is not able to be fixed through small reforms like body cameras or civilian review boards. It is time to end the MPD and start with a new system of public safety.

Thank you

6/29/2020 10:51:03 PM

Please release more details on what this new safety department would entail. I stand behind chief Arradondo, and his moves to reform, including changing union rules, to give him the power to fire to remove "bad apple" officers.

I am especially concerned, given the significant increase in violent crime and gunfire. A properly funded police department is needed to keep the city safe.

I would like the city council to focus more on partnering with chief Arradondo, to together resolve this crisis, and to focus less on abolishing the department.

6/29/2020 10:51:26 PM

It's already out of control and you've only suggested defunding the police. Stop now before the city burns to the ground! People need to be afraid of consequences, otherwise why behave??? This is the worst I've ever seen Minneapolis! Stop before it's too late!

6/29/2020 10:52:59 PM

In all sincerity, hope the Charter Commission has the full long-term vision to understand what this means. Budgeting 101 - if you defund or reduce you are eliminating; no matter how eloquently anyone tries to otherwise spin the process.

I find it ironic in a city when the Chief of Police recently asked for over 100 additional officers to keep pace with population growth (and were only granted 2-3 as I recall) now is being strategically dismantled. I also find it extremely hypocritical that some council members now have, or are afforded the ability, to have security...WHILE TRYING TO REDUCE POLICE. Does anyone see the problem here? Is it ok for the masses to fend for themselves like on Friday May 29th when you heard glass being shattered and businesses looted one block from my home?

I have purchased a house outside of Minneapolis and while this motion was not my primary driver, it sure made the decision easier.

As a current resident in Uptown you have had growing issues, pre-George Floyd, with persistent increase in more violent crimes. Why do I want to live here? Why would I want to work here? Does this help with the city's 2040 plan? I can imagine it does not.

As a Regional Property Manager for the Global leader in multifamily housing - Do you realize that your large multi family buildings in Downtown continue to trend downward in occupancy as residents vacate to leave the city?

This concern goes far beyond a bandwagon approach and power grab of the city council. This decision has far and long term reaching implications that, honestly, none of us are equipped to comprehend.

6/29/2020 10:53:01 PM

As a paramedic who responses to mutual aid calls in the city of Minneapolis I urge you to not get rid of the police force. I have been assaulted more time than I can count and the police are my only protection. I have knives pulled on me, physical attacks and death threats on myself and my family. Who is going to protect me when working? I know I would refuse to take calls if I didn't have an officer on unsafe scenes. What about threats at hospitals and large venues? The police who first respond to medicals get there before the fire department and initiate life saving measures which increases the chance of someone walking out of the hospital. You are only hurting your citizens and economy by getting rid of the police. I know I will never visit Minneapolis for any reason if you decide to abolish the police. The rich will be able to pay for private armed security leaving those who can't afford it to fend for themselves. If you want change the city needs to be focusing funds into more programs throughout the police department. Cutting funds but demanding more training is absurd. City officials have no idea how a police department works and yet can easily talk about how to run it. Take a look at other departments nation wide that have similar crime rates and look at what they are doing right and wrong and bring that back to Minneapolis. If you're looking to screw over your residents and visitors then abolish the police and let the city burn because that's what people will do.

6/29/2020 10:53:40 PM

We need the police, the police don't need to be protected by union. We need to get rid of the bad ones. And pay the good ones way more money. I'm an ex con and I know we need the police. All you who believe we do not either have lived very sheltered lives, or have anterior motives. We need to have transparency. I've been beaten by police and I've been treated very fairly by other police. The union protects the bad ones. Start the reform with their collective bargaining agreement and let them choose what to do next.

6/29/2020 10:55:18 PM

I think it's terrible that you allow criminals dictate this! Police are not out purposely shooting black people. Why can't the truth come out from you... Minneapolis will not be a safe place to live if you do this. I am putting my property on the market as soon as possible...

6/29/2020 10:56:09 PM

Do not remove police, remove the mpls council and replace with people who truly want to see the implementation of our constitution's fullest vision.

Liberty and Justice for all

6/29/2020 10:56:10 PM

Disbanding the MPD is the most ridiculous idea that one could conceive. Just weeks after being proposed, the city council members are already spending gobs of money on private security at the tax payers expense. The hypocrisy knows no end.

We need better training for our police officers, eliminate the union, fire the corrupt and lazy cops. Yes, reform not disband. Don't be fools.

6/29/2020 10:56:40 PM

We incarcerate rather than prevent and rehabilitate. I understand that some sort of peace force is needed, but it should be a smaller division in an entity designed by nature to work for the community rather than in opposition to it.

Incarceration, and profiling hasn't worked- we need support for the marginalized, and discriminated. That will bring good faith back into a community that sorely needs it.

6/29/2020 10:57:38 PM

I strongly disagree with the proposal set forth by the city council. I own five rental properties in Minneapolis and none of my tenants support the proposal. While they may not choose to comment, I am on their behalf. In addition I work downtown and do not support it and I know many business people and business owners do not support it. Respectfully, the police department is necessary to ensure the safety of citizens and the community and while reform and further oversight may be required, abolishing the police force is not the answer. If you choose to do so, many citizens and businesses will leave the city. This not only will impact the city negatively from a tax base but will also endanger citizens, businesses and those that work in the city. Crime was an issue prior to this proposal and is well documented from many incidents on innocent victims downtown and across Minneapolis in prior years.

I urge the city council to reconsider its proposal for the safety of the city, it's citizens, businesses and workers at those businesses.

6/29/2020 11:01:38 PM

I find this liberal progressive ideology absolutely insane. Crime has risen downtown in the upper double digits and you want to defund the police. Minneapolis has become a crime ridden shooting gallery in recent years.

The fact that the delusional Governor Walz, Mayor Frey, the entire city council are unfit to serve in any capacity that requires a spine. Wes Koostra the director of Metro Transit published an article on the company newsletter " Insights"

In this article he describes himself as a Narcissistic Racist and called every white employee at Metro Transit a Racist ?

The fact that several members of the city council have taken our tax dollars and spent it on private security for themselves is beyond hypocritical. I moved out of the city of Minneapolis three years ago but I'm forced to work in the city.

By letting the Marxist mob burn down most of south Minneapolis shows zero concern for the people of the city the business community and any future businesses that will not move here to have a city out of control and run by a group of unqualified liberals who will destroy what is left of this once safe and beautiful city.

I hope the people wake up and Vote out the entire lot of all of you.

6/29/2020 11:03:20 PM

Police are needed to enforce laws. We were taught this in elementary school

6/29/2020 11:03:39 PM

Minnesota needs police and law enforcement the criminals are waiting to strike the innocent citizens just because a few bad police did wrong doesn't mean all police are bad , the council does not have to eliminaste all police or disbanding is what they are saying Ms Bender doesn't live in our area, shooting is happening on my block, and we can't have lawlessness in Minneapolis it was bad before but now it is worse please don't disband the police because there's no protection from the criminals

6/29/2020 11:04:41 PM

I think this in totally insane! I read headlines everyday and so far all I read about are shootings,looting, grand theft auto, stabbings, theft of phones, and the list goes on, but the most important one was today when I heard because 4 city council members did not feel safe they were given private security guards!!! This shouldn't even come down to a vote, but rather YOU people need to stand up and protect all of us! Your life is no more valuable than ours and you have most certainly already proven that false with your private security!!! This state will look like Detroit in no time if you continue your ways, how about you all realize you're not capable of running this beautiful state and let others take control!? You are all cowards, and if you don't resign you will most certainly be voted out, so leave the police in place, you resign on your own terms, and justice will prevail! Option 2 you don't resign, people sitting on the outside get tired of this BS and take matters into their own hands, and much blood gets shed because people are tired of living in fear!!!! You have done nothing but allow a cult (BLM) to destroy a city while you all sit in your homes with your private security!!!! You are all cowards and have absolutely no right to decide what is good for a city!!! Resign or watch the blood flow, and the blood is in your hands... good luck!

6/29/2020 11:05:22 PM

Please do not abolish our Police Dept. If this happens I am moving out of this city, where I was born and raise myself and my daughter!

6/29/2020 11:05:30 PM

If you dismantle the MPD my family will never step foot in your community again.

Think very carefully about your choices before you kill existing businesses.

6/29/2020 11:05:31 PM

I approve of the proposed charter amendment. The current police department is infested by hateful, militaristic individuals who are not acting with the community's safety and best interest in mind. Bob Kroll and the 70% of Minneapolis Police Federation who supported him in the 2017 union president election support racist, violent, behavior.

End the MPD ASAP, I don't want disgruntled cops acting spitefully or choosing not to do their jobs at all for the next 18 months.

6/29/2020 11:06:08 PM

Although I believe that there have been incidents of Minneapolis police misconduct, corruption, inappropriate violence, and racism.... I also STRONGLY believe that removing the police department is a 'wishful thinking' response that is guaranteed to have nothing short of tragic consequences for the city of Minneapolis, its citizens, and all Minnesotans. Yes, investigate root causes and work to address them. Yes, hold officers accountable. But YES, hold the rest of us accountable, too! In the last month, the process of Minneapolis becoming a dangerous destination that my family and I will avoid has accelerated ten fold or more. We've had thee kids graduate from the. U of MN, but our two high school daughters will NOT be attending there if laws are not enforced in Minneapolis. We've enjoyed Twins and Vikings games as well as concerts downtown. We won't be back until we feel safe on the streets. Our favorite restaurants in Uptown, the North Loop and on Eat Street are out of the question at this point. You don't need a department to 'prevent' violence—you need to STOP the violence and disorder.

6/29/2020 11:08:17 PM

I will be moving blocks away from the city of Minneapolis after being away from Northeast Minneapolis for almost 13 years, honestly I don't feel safe without having police. Residents called the police to have them take care of things that residents are afraid of addressing themselves. There should be a public Review Committee that has the power to make change. We need reform, not abolishment of a police force. We need to fund basic Social Services, we need to provide educational opportunities, Healthcare opportunities, employment training and opportunities, on top of reforming the police force. Abolishing the police force does not solve the problem. Voting the people in office who are ineffective out and putting in people who we feel are effective solves the problem. Do not just provide your city with lip service. Actually do something to resolve the problem of systemic racism. The police are the bottom of the totem oh, and they are only the blame for their own actions and not the inaction and the poor judgment of a city.

6/29/2020 11:08:27 PM

The police department as it now exists is a threat to the public. Drastic measures are required. Only by starting over from scratch can you fix this.

You do need to communicate your message better. People here "remove the police" and they get scared. You need to explain to people what will replace the police. You should also publicize what has happened in communities that have already done this. I think if people see examples they will feel more comfortable with it.

Unless of course you are rushing to put this on the ballot in the hopes that it will be voted down and then you can say, :Well, we tried." In that case, my opinion hardly matters anyway.

6/29/2020 11:08:30 PM

I do not agree with this amendment. Do not remove our defund the police department.

6/29/2020 11:08:59 PM

- 1) The majority of police incidents involve someone breaking the law. Hence, stress obeying the laws.
- 2) Don't defund the police because some abused their power. Continue to train officers while letting the public know "law enforcement" is there to enforce the law. So don't break the law.
- 3) Use the \$790,000+ marked for art in the water treatment facility for social support in situations that the police could use the help.
- 4) Quit ruining our city.
- 5) Lobby to end things that emphasize race (a.k.a. Get rid of that question on all surveys).
- 6) Bring the people who stole (looted) and destroyed property to justice.

Another note: Because some police officers didn't do their job, your reaction is to defund all police. That's like someone caught spitting in someone's food at a fast food restaurant and then you trying to close all restaurants of that chain. Or if a teacher does something awful to defund all schools. More needs to be done with teaching kindness, respect, care for all people, hateful speech/actions being held on the same level as racism. That should start with you. I've heard some of you comment on politicians. Some of the words you speak, the things you post/tweet are hateful. That's wrong.

This move to defund police is very disappointing.

6/29/2020 11:10:14 PM

Please spend the time to properly research the resources required and service needs BEFORE making such amendments. I agree that we need major changes including reinvestment in public health, affordable housing, education, equity building and mental health, but the effect of such changes takes many years to see. I'm also supportive of social workers/addiction specialists taking some calls over police. But I won't be supporting any amendment until there is a clear plan that is well researched and presented clearly to the entire community it is designed to serve.

6/29/2020 11:10:36 PM

The city council is out of its mind, all you are going to do is drive people out mpls. it will become a ghost town!!!!!!

6/29/2020 11:10:47 PM

This makes no sense. Who's going to protect from crime or help when crime occurs? This will only encourage and increase lawlessness. I thought we were a nation that believed in law and order. This will only cause more chaos. We already saw that in the recent riots, looting and burning when the police let it happen and no one was safe.

6/29/2020 11:11:01 PM

This is such a bad idea to completely do away with he police department as there is no clearly defined plan for what will take its place and how that will look. The people of our city deserve protection from harm and crime. What will I do when I need to call 911? What will I do as a 26 year old woman in this city? Who will I call if there is no 911?

6/29/2020 11:11:05 PM

I am fully in support of reimagining public safety in Minneapolis. I would like the city council to be more vocal about the proposed plans so that residents who may be weary feel as though they aren't being left to fend for themselves-literally. I believe that there needs to be armed police who respond to limited situations but other than that money should be redirected to training other professionals who are better equipped to deal with particular crises. I want the process to be as open and transparent as possible. I want the mayor and city council to work together-both are responsible for the current situation, and both should work in good faith to move Minneapolis forward. Leaving the ultimate vote to the residents is a good idea. I hope Minneapolis can seize this moment and invent a system of public safety that works for all residents. The current system essentially works for no one so it seems like we don't have much to lose. My interactions with MPD have been unimpressive, and while I am a white woman who does not fear the police-the way I have heard Officers speak about members of the community is appalling. We love Minneapolis and hope for big things for the city.

6/29/2020 11:11:48 PM

No we need the police get rid of all the bad ones

6/29/2020 11:12:05 PM

We must completely abolish the police and completely reimagine our systems for protecting our community. Police are dangerous and the prison industrial complex is weakening our communities so corporations can profit.

The deepest cultural essence of the police is toxic, which means it cannot be reformed. Our police officers think they are at war with us when we are literally paying them for our own protection. Police should not be allowed to dehumanize the public.

The way our police responded to the George Floyd protests was horrifyingly stupid. We spent millions of dollars like we were at war with ourselves. The military industrial complex should not be profiting off the police.

Minneapolis needs to stop being a part of the problem and show the world what is possible.

6/29/2020 11:13:24 PM

I don't think it is necessary to wait for the full investigation outcome/report from MN department of Human Rights. Just watching the full video of George Floyd's killing (If you could) and how the police officers involved in his killing behaved and acted says louder than what I could write here. This means 100% of the police officers present at the scene acted unfairly. So, I can't think of this department keeping our communities safe. I would say go ahead with the new safety department.

6/29/2020 11:14:53 PM

Do you not abolish the police, we need them. Just retrain them and Demilitarize them. They're here to protect and serve that's what they need to do

6/29/2020 11:16:17 PM

I am against defunding of police. I believe what is being proposed is what should already be happening at the neighborhood or community level, and in conjunction not in place of the police department. We have seen great escalation in violence recently, I believe due to local politicians lack of leadership and support of the police to defend people and property.

6/29/2020 11:17:00 PM

To whom it may concern,

What the hell is wrong with you people?? Abolish our Police Department? You are absolutely nuts.

NO. I do not support this. We need protection .One bad officer does NOT ruin the whole Minneapolis Police Department. This is our city not yours!. You work for the Public. Please don't forget that.

This council has gotten power hungry and arrogant. Keep this up and many of you will find yourselves without a job in the Fall.

6/29/2020 11:17:17 PM

I lived in MN for 30+ years in the Twin Cities area! Defunding and disbanding the Police is like putting out a fire with gasoline!

DUMB!

6/29/2020 11:18:42 PM

I do not think you should move forward with the charter amendment. Reform the police department and disband the police union not the department. Amending the charter with no community engagement or plan of action is the wrong choice. Think clearly and logically. Don't let emotions control actions. The uprise in violent crime in the past 30 days alone should tell you we need our police department and we need community engagement. Do the right thing. Don't move forward with amending the charter.

6/29/2020 11:18:44 PM

I live in the NE suburbs, and I will never come to Minneapolis. I love spending time and money at local restaurants and breweries in Minneapolis (my family does monthly pub crawls). We will figure out something else. You will lose revenue because many of us will be afraid to come. You will turn downtown Minneapolis into a typical metropolitan city, where crime is rampant and downtown areas are no longer safe.

6/29/2020 11:19:06 PM

I believe in the dismantling of the MPD. I would like to see response to mental health crisis calls replaced by social workers & mental health care workers. I would like there to be much more extensive training for police officers as well as third party mental health criteria for officers with weapons. I would like a majority of the peace officers working in their own communities, including residents of Minneapolis. I would like more of our investigation budget go towards sexual assault cases. I think this amendment will do a better job of addressing the various crises that our community experiences and do a better job of keeping all of us safe.

6/29/2020 11:19:55 PM

What does this mean? It doesn't seem wise to knee jerk replace the existing system without a plan. Will oppose unless detailed plans are presented and opened for debate.

6/29/2020 11:20:48 PM

I would not feel safe for my family or I to go to Minneapolis if there is no police!!!!

6/29/2020 11:21:51 PM

I am a resident of Eden Prairie and think you have no common sense. The police are important for the safety of our citizens and you do not serve justice in doing this action.

6/29/2020 11:22:41 PM

What are you people thinking? I am not a resident of Minneapolis, but I live in Coon Rapids and a decision like this effects EVERYONE in the Twin Cities and surrounding suburbs. Minneapolis is a rough town in areas. Many people in the suburbs commute through Minneapolis for work or even work in the city. This affects us all.

I personally believe we MUST KEEP THE POLICE. In fact, I think the city could do with MORE cops. Already, Minneapolis is assisted by police from surrounding suburbs. The violence that we've witnessed in the past 6 weeks has been horrible. Your city council, along with the governor, ALLOWED the destruction of the city by doing too little to late. I agree that there are a few areas that could be better served by mediation but generally speaking we need trained enforcers to deal with all the crime in the city. The north side has been a terror zone. My daughter works in that area as a nurse, taking care of the elderly and handicapped. She's terrified to go to work as she has to maneuver through the streets off West Broadway and has been telling me about all the gunfire going on EVERY SINGLE DAY. If the city chooses to delete the police force, the criminal element will run amuck, and your bad decision will affect ME when you need help in nasty situations and you call police in from the surrounding areas to deal with your problems. That costs ME money in taxes and a possible slower response from my now overburdened city.

I think you should keep what officers you can (as I know they're quitting right and left) and spend money on body cameras for all police. The police deal with the dregs of humanity every hour of every day and that has to wear a person down. I wouldn't want that job.

Also, I think it absolutely disgusting that you talk about getting rid of the police but your own council members have taxpayers paying for security. Talk about having different laws and rules for the 'elite' politicians.

Lastly, if you go ahead and deprive us of police, when businesses won't move into the destroyed areas of the city fearing high insurance prices and no police to take care of the roving criminals, the rest of the state should not pay ONE CENT in extra taxes trying to redevelop the lake street area which already is pretty slummish. You've forced taxes on us for the Metro Rail that is used by very few and for stadiums that most of us don't go to or utilize. This decision affects ALL OF US - Minnesotans and indeed the rest of the country as liberal lackeys like yourselves attempt to follow suit and endanger the entire country. If you as our state government worry about people owning guns, then you need to know that we will protect ourselves from criminals. A lot of innocent people will get hurt.

6/29/2020 11:23:03 PM

A city with out police? I say lawless guns everywhere. I know I'll have mine. I will protect my family. Don't want this but it's what I see We need the police!

6/29/2020 11:23:53 PM

I live in southern MN and travel to Minneapolis/St Paul for most any shopping and day trips with my friends and/or family. If the police department is removed you will lose my tourist income as well as lots of other individuals that travel to Minneapolis. Without a police force I won't feel safe to shop with just myself or girlfriends and I definitely wouldn't ever bring my kids up there. It already makes me nervous to even think of visiting due to the unrest that happened and the leadership of the city not stopping it but encouraging that it was justified to destroy so many businesses and it makes me nervous if I could even feel safe to shop up there. It would be a shame to not have a police force be there so citizens and tourists up hold the laws.

6/29/2020 11:24:01 PM

Please take this step so we can build up community resources! Unraveling police presence can strengthen Minneapolis if we put OUR tax money in the right places.

6/29/2020 11:25:01 PM

We live in apple valley and have spent \$\$\$\$ in your city each year for restraints, games, theater and concerts. I'm not going to come to the city of mlps or spend any money in this city any longer. I am ashamed of how you are treating your law enforcement and I would not feel safe if you defund and remove them from serving in the capacity they are needed.

The city council should be removed for spending dollars on security guards and allowing this hatred to the profession of law enforcement to be allowed.

6/29/2020 11:25:25 PM

As a tax paying resident.. I can't believe I have to submit comments opposing the proposed dismantling of the Minneapolis police department.

As a resident, I depend, and have a right to public safety...PERIOD!

Trusting the cities public safety measures to our current collection of counsel members and their envisioned reform is the equivalent of asking life advise from a toddler.

If the police department is removed, I will also be removed, as I'm sure a large portion of your tax base will be.

6/29/2020 11:25:55 PM

NO! Absolutely do NOT defund the police. We need twice as many LEOs. We need judges who will stop ordering stayed sentences and downward departures. We need to enforce the law, and we need the penalties to have teeth. This plan is ridiculous! Have you seen what North Minneapolis has become? What about the rights of law-abiding, tax-paying citizens?

6/29/2020 11:30:37 PM

Please do not defund or abolish the police. Just make sure the very few bad cops are removed.

6/29/2020 11:30:54 PM

Please do not defund and dismantle the police. Rethinking police is what we need. Less public union control for police and teachers is good. But dont follow the recommendations of the city council

6/29/2020 11:31:04 PM

ARE YOU INSANE?!

6/29/2020 11:33:38 PM

If the City Council can guarantee Minneapolis residents that there will be no crime in the city, then defunding the police might seem worth considering. Recent gun violence seems to the contrary. On the Thursday night following George Floyd's killing I was on 27th just south of Lake St. trying to save an ethnic restaurant from the vandals/arsonists and looters. When the police abandoned the area around 10:30 pm I saw first hand what can happen when mobs with their imbedded rioters fear no consequence for their destruction. No police presence led to pure mayhem. Consider that when you continue your grandstanding on abolishing the police department.

I also ask if someone on the City Council could explain to me the logic behind, after the Wednesday night looting of the Minnehaha Liquor Store with far worse to follow, that you expected the MPD--the cause for all the anger and outrage--to be the people who could control the city after May 26th? How about the Hennepin County sheriff officers? National Guard?

I cannot believe with how horrible the video of Chauvin casually snuffing out the life of George Floyd over 7:46 with three other officers observing, that the prospect of a Ferguson like uprising was not contemplated. If contemplated, what was the plan of action? Surely the MPD was obviously not the right choice.

That error in judgment cost many small businesses along Lake Street their survival.

6/29/2020 11:34:12 PM

I am a life long resident of Minneapolis but have never seen it as bad as this. To get rid of the police would be the most asinine thing the city could do. The better thing to do would be to get rid of the city council. They cost the city more money than any other department.

6/29/2020 11:34:19 PM

Please vote no on the city council's proposed amendment. I believe it is not well thought out or even clear. It also appears to take away power from the mayor which is not good for our government having checks and balances. Thank you.

6/29/2020 11:34:56 PM

I'm a (white guy) and I am so sick of racist white people like POTUS, AMY COOPER and the COPS ...

- New Name (Protect & Serve) remove the name POLICE.
- New Uniforms Colors. Light gray pants, bright green shirt w/bright orange suspenders (no ties...)
- Taking away the authoritarian (blue/black) and making them look more like utility works. New theoretical colors will make (Protect & Serve) citizens know they work for the other citizens of the community.
- No guns, no gas, no tasers.

Each (Protect & Serve) citizens will have one not so obvious (utility that unfolds) if they should need it for their own protection if being attacked.

First and only in the case of extreme emergency or threat of a terrorist attack should we then use something like or what could be referred to as the (S.T.T.) or Special Tactics Teams.

And while the presence of (Special Tactics Teams) should be enough to calm any situation of violence. Second and only after the show of force by the (S.T.T.) has not worked, the (S.T.T.) would fall-to (Tactics) NO-GUNS. Special Tactics will be used to return control of the affected neighborhood and control will be given back to the citizens of all communities.

6/29/2020 11:34:59 PM

NO!!!! Minneapolis Police Department SHOULD NOT be abolished.

6/29/2020 11:35:27 PM

The council has lost its mind. Rather than work with the community and the police you are listening to a small group of anarchists. If the proposal passes the city will be over run with crime and will be an unsafe place to raise a family, work or visit. You will not find a person to take the job as a licensed police officer in the city or for the other made up positions. By the time you realize the mistake it will be too late to reverse order and the great city of Minneapolis will be lost forever. Get real and work with people for real change that helps everyone not a small select group of anarchists.

6/29/2020 11:35:47 PM

I do not agree with the proposed amendment to replace the police department with a community of safety and violence prevention department. We need a police department in Minneapolis. The Minneapolis City Council members are out of their minds and so are their supporters.

Their ideas are irrational and short sided.

6/29/2020 11:35:57 PM

I live in St. Paul. I have been all through Minneapolis my whole life. The problem with the way the police response is concerning. But to rewrite the way a city enforces the laws, or lawlessness within it, is a long and confusing task. You are rewriting structure that all cities in our nation function by. By undermining the officers that are not acting "bad or racist" to people, well you lose all credibility for greater good. It seems that you're catering to a mob mentality without taking consideration to the rest of the residents. You have dangerous criminals running whole neighborhoods yet you'd remove any sense of safety that weaker or older residents may have in. A force they can call for help or to patrol those blocks to deter criminal activity. This move is dangerous and I would move away if I lived there. I am even moving further out myself because your inability to show your guidance to keep residents safe is polluting the areas directly around mpls as well. Floyd's death was tragic and uncalled for but eliminating police or defunding will only create more negative situations. Fix what you have. Figure it out. You're all failing and making a mockery of Minnesota.

6/29/2020 11:36:03 PM

This is outright bull shit! Just because one person did something wrong. Yall gonna take the police? All the black lives matter is full of shit. My life dont matter any less because I'm white. He did wrong he should be punished. Makes no difference what color skin someone is!!!!!! God loves all. Jesus died FOR EVERYONE!! Everyones life matters!!!! I hear that Muslims and anfia is taking over? Crime is going HIGH and WILL spread all over the state? Im 5-3 and my ex put hands on me in the past. How can I defend myself or call my neighbor. What the fuck?!? Or a social worker? Or gangs or shit like that? And hearing that Minneapolis or MN wants to become their own country? I am 28 and grew up half my life in minnesota. I miss the minnesota I grew up in. KEEP THE POLICE DEPARTMENT!!! If you dont, crime will rise. Hell will rage over. It will spread to other cities in minnesota. Anfia terriost group to run? Are you kidding me? Muslims remember our country history. There are millions of good cops out there! One bad dont make them all bad!!!! Just retrain them and have them take a pass physiology and all that and have extensive training and if someone does wrong (we all are human) investigate and take stronger action!! How fucking hard is that??? I dont feel safe minnesota anymore. People will move outta state. That worsens the economy especially with covid!!!!!!

PROTECT THE PD AND BACK THE BLUE!!!!!! SAY NO!!!!!!

6/29/2020 11:37:44 PM

Minneapolis is the heart of Minnesota, because of that most people in Minnesota will travel to Minneapolis multiple times a year. My children both have special needs and because of this, and my own disability we end up in Minneapolis almost monthly. As tradition I take my kids to the McDonald's on lake street because it was where my parents took me after appointments.

If you disband the police I will no longer feel safe going to Minneapolis at all.

I have witnessed shootings, drug activity, prostitution, and other criminal activity but have never once felt unsafe. As a single disabled mother I don't feel able to protect my children in those situations without police available. Unless you want me to bring family with guns as my own protection I don't understand how you can plan to keep visitors safe. I feel your plan is reactionary and is not in the interest of public safety, once more putting women, children, and the disabled at the bottom of your priority list.

6/29/2020 11:42:34 PM

The current police department has deep and chronic problems which I first encountered in the 1990's. I am unable to open the amendment but I think that there are numerous situations that could be addressed by other groups/subgroups/departments with a more specialized lens and stop the one stop shop mentality with 911 and the police. There are few situations that require an armed and trained in force officer. A \$20 counterfeit certainly does NOT.

More specialization would naturally evolve more knowledge on the given area of specialty. For example with theft from home or a car, you do NOT need an armed officer to file a report of stolen items, an admin assistant can do that and perhaps more investigation could occur (minimal occurs at present). Homeless and those intoxicated would require a whole different 'department'. Different 'departments' could serve as a checks and balance System with one another. Investigation needs to separate from first responders as we currently seem to have very little investigation occurring. First responders/trained and armed individuals should be highly trained and paid accordingly, fewer but more qualified.

6/29/2020 11:42:56 PM

Dismantle the police. Now. We don't get another shot at this. Black lives matter.

6/29/2020 11:43:03 PM

This is ridiculous, you are fools thinking you should disband the police but yet you can force tax payers to funds armed private security. Sad.

6/29/2020 11:45:36 PM

Remove the gangs and most problems solved also train the Police not to use deadly force!!

6/29/2020 11:47:28 PM

I do not support the proposed charter amendment. An extra layer of bureaucracy will only exacerbate the problem of lack of accountability. Additionally, there is no clear plan for the scope of this new department and how it will be specifically implemented. This is too large of a change to be rushed without specific details.

6/29/2020 11:49:13 PM

Please disband the MPD and start a community lead solutions based department. We have seen enough violence at the hands of the MPD and I'm sick of my tax dollars going to them.

6/29/2020 11:49:21 PM

If the police department is defunded you'll have more crime than you can handle. Businesses will leave Minneapolis, property values will plummet. Maybe the met council can hold back dollars to Pay for projects in Minneapolis. Even though I don't agree with mayor fry On a lot of issues. He is correct that it's not right to defund the police. I live in Dakota county. Thank you for listening!

6/29/2020 11:50:21 PM

If someone gets violent or rude, we can call on professional snugglers. This is the quickest way to defuse ANY tense situation. Just snuggle it out. If that doesn't work, we could gently toss a cup of glitter on the perpetrator. Glitter is hard to get off and is pretty.

6/29/2020 11:50:43 PM

Do not remove the police department. This is an insane moral panic, blowing a handful of unacceptable cases entirely out of proportion. We need reforms to the current department, which may mean changing the relationship with the police Union to allow discipline of officers who commit cases of brutality. There are some cases in which other public servants could be more fitting than police, and thusly reducing the scope of police activity could be workable. This idea that we should get rid of the police is insane and stupid and will destroy our city. I grew up and spent my entire life here, and fear I will need to move away, because this will become a failed City that will make Detroit look like a sterling example. Do not do this, it is psychotic fear-mongering by lunatics.

6/29/2020 11:50:50 PM

Why should we pay for protection for the city council members if they are not willing to pay for protection for the people of Minneapolis? I won't step foot in Minneapolis if there is no police.

6/29/2020 11:53:13 PM

The fact that you think you should get rid of a police department in Minneapolis where violent crime and shootings, etc happen ALL THE TIME, is insane. Currently there is minimal police presence in uptown where I live due to the George Floyd aftermath and more violence has ensued over the last month than I've ever seen. I can guarantee you there will be a mass exodus out of Minneapolis of residents who can, for the lack of police presence, and you'll continue to see an increase in violence and crime as the city becomes overtaken by people who know they can get away with it. You can't fix a community by mental health professionals to intervene when youth are using guns and weapons to rob people or steal cars or shoot at rival gang members downtown at 2am post bar-close. Police DETER crime. That is a fact. It's

horrible that innocent people have died at the hands of a few police members, and no one is trying to argue that, but what about the hundreds of lives lost each year due to the hands of violence from residents in Minneapolis. This is decision a knee jerk reaction to the pressure of social media and BLM. Be smart, do the right thing, and don't get rid of the police department. More lives and safety literally depend on it more than the few that have been taken by the hands of a few bad cops.

6/29/2020 11:54:48 PM

With y'all decision to dismantle the Minneapolis Police Department is outrageous coming from a pour minded council members. As the city is going thru it's worse y'all wanna talk about dismantling of a police department I'm the type that believes in the system to bring great justice and peace. All y'all doing is adding fire to a fuel that began with riots over George Floyd death and now we got murders and homicides. I will not stand with this city council until they dismantle themselves from this city the poorest decision out of Minneapolis history y'all want to dismantle a police department. construction of desperate people fueled by bigotry and bias, who ignored the truth in exchange for easy solutions. It's this story about a horse with a group that was riding down a hill and this one man said wait wait for me where are y'all going that group said idk so that man said to the group grab y'all rope pull back from y'all horses riding y'all over the cliff and they grab there ropes and slowed there horses down and the man said where are y'all going so my question is where is y'all going where is y'all going. I will not stand with y'all. What needs to be on y'all minds is how to slow down these shootings on these streets of Minneapolis Northside y'all about the Northside be about it.

6/29/2020 11:54:56 PM

Please substitute my previous comment (delete it from the record) and I'll simply say, please don't defund the police. There are things we can do as a city/community to improve all the way around. Get them more help.

6/29/2020 11:54:57 PM

Keep the police department. There are many good cops & a few bad. Don't throw out the baby with the bath water.

6/29/2020 11:56:41 PM

This proposal to abolish the police is the most reckless idea this council has ever proposed. This will undoubtedly lead to more violence and death, especially among the communities that the council believes they are trying to protect. Please do not let this happen.

6/29/2020 11:58:40 PM

Your premature comments & emotional statements to defund the police are absurd. I'd love to know what your personal experiences are on the street dealing with violence that I have physically and personally observed while owning property in Mpls.

Kneeling to the likes of dirtbag George Floyd and the justice process had been taking place for officer Chauvin we're in play when all the nonsensical destruction was taking place on the Thursday it all began. I was working at 15th and Portland when everything started to take place & later I was at my property that night at 9:10 watching people driving on a I-94 with packages sticking out from their son roof, most likely Target.

Street violence has been a part of Penn Ave for too many years dating back to Jackie Cherry Holmes with city council calling me, personally asking why the dirt bag Jerome Scott "JT" was allowed to reside in my property. a good friend of mine worked in undercover narcotics and later as a homicide lieutenant confided that they don't care about me they don't care about themselves. Absolutely City council has no clue what goes on in the street and hides in their homes calling for private security, paid by the taxpayers. The whole system is a diabolical mess throughout the governing body of the state and City of Mpls. Sadly you look like a bunch of clowns and I can't remember a time that I've ever enjoyed the City of Mpls since playing hockey in 1976 when I was a high school player in hockey. Curtis hotel was a dump in Mpls continues to be a complete cesspool. I will also add the likes of inspections that is not consistent throughout the city when I do light ups and see the standards people are living in rentals.

Joy Parizek was a complete control piece of work when the city considers affordable housing building condos in downtown Mpls that are way overpriced absolute unaffordable. Once again I can sight property after property that has no business allowed to be a rental.

6/30/2020 12:00:02 AM

I have worked for 13 years repairing outside communication lines and equipment. With the current state of the city and the direction that it is heading I am going to push to suspend all network outages until daytime. Which means that people will be without their TV, Internet, and Phone until our workers feel safe.

6/30/2020 12:00:36 AM

Please allow me to share some things about myself so that you can understand where I come from and let me know if I can help in any way. I share you to have the facts from a long-time resident:

My perspective is as a parent living in Central Neighborhood on 3rd Avenue South, a couple blocks south of Lake Street. We are graduated to just me, my wife and son who is the only white boy attending Cristo Rey High School just north of Lake Street in 4th Ave. We are also blessed with three adult daughters who grew up here after we moved back from Peru 8 years ago. My youngest daughter ran the Youth Farm project in South Minneapolis next to Bahá'í and across from 38th and Chicago until she transferred it to Sister's Camelot last year. She helped plant those fruit trees. We have lived here and paid taxes for eight years. I grew up the son of International school teachers in Asia and Africa.

Qualifications: I do not come at these conversations lightly. Trained in Cristian Community Development, lived and worked on four continents, and experienced life here in the United States in Chicago, New York, and New Orleans before, during, and after Hurricane Katrina. I have run large-scale volunteer hurricane Relief efforts (10,000+). I am also trained by FEMA in the National Incident Management System and am certified in CISIM (Critical Incident Stress Management). My wife and I, along with our kids, were in Peru working among victims of sexual abuse and family violence as well as human trafficking. I am also a fellow with the International Academy of Apologetics, Evangelism and

Human Rights our of Strasbourg, France and certified in Christian Community Development philosophy as well as Christian Outreach. My master's degree is in missiology, the study of cross-cultural communication of Good News, with an undergraduate philosophy degree focusing on political ethics and a double major in communication. While in South Minneapolis I have particularly focused on working within the Somali community and taught Somali Adult Literacy Training courses on a weekly basis for four years. Last year I worked as a consultant for an agency that houses previously incarcerated individuals.

As of July 1, I will be coming on staff full-time at Bethany International/Global University in Bloomington. I have spent the last seven years teaching there a college course called "Seeking Justice in God's Mission."

So, That all said, I to make sure that what I am involved with is using global best practices. I know a number of police officers, some quite good. We needed a number of those officers to protect our family and rescue one of our family from tragedy. I am privileged to not know the particularly bad police officers that the current system has not stopped from their evil, murderous, racism (systemically allowed through a powerful infrastructure).

In Peru, and a few churches here in the US, I have given basic speeches on the importance of human rights from an American Christian perspective. My only published works are in missiology and Peruvian law journals but I have studied quite a bit and want to be involved if needed. I have spoken before in other settings, testifying on various issues like prison reform or housing for previously incarcerated individuals, at city, county, state, and national levels.

With a researched global perspective of local interests, my family and I want MORE officers with better training, and a meritocracy not union protectionism.

6/30/2020 12:00:49 AM

I live in the suburbs and have decided that I won't go into Mpls any more if there is no police department, or one that is so defunded as to not be able to protect me if needed. The riots, looting, and arson scared me. Why would I want to come to Mpls if a mob can interfere with my plans? I am white, and NOT a racist, but after seeing black on white attacks, I don't feel safe any more. The minorities in the suburbs don't act that way. I worship with, work with, and are friends with blacks, hispanics, and asians. I have never had a reason to fear them, but I would be a fool to go to Mpls w/o a police force to keep the peace. I won't even go to visit my brothers who do live in Mpls. They can come out to the suburbs where it is safe.

6/30/2020 12:01:20 AM

We cannot disband the police. We are all human and cannot judge everyone's actions on one persons actions

6/30/2020 12:02:13 AM

Grow up and try to be an adults. It's embarrassing. Forget this fruitless folly and maybe go back to creating more bike lanes and costs for bags. Even that is over your heads. Oh, and when the violence hits your hood, who you gonna call? Ghostbusters? Before you start the car should know where you're going. You people have no idea.

6/30/2020 12:02:27 AM

Please do include for voting the proposed amendment to remove the current police force and replace it with a community safety and violence prevention department. Police accountability is needed and it seems unlikely that this can be fixed within the current police force and the police union that backs them. The well-being and safety of Minneapolitans and visitors is at stake and I am hopeful that this is a first step towards the right direction.

6/30/2020 12:04:01 AM

I believe that this proposed amendment is an abuse of power by a select group of persons that have been elected to stand for a community and not just on the basis of their own agenda. This amendment is a direct threat to the livability, health, and safety of the city as a whole. This amendment would cause a mass exit of both persons and businesses from the city and would be the beginning of the end to a once great city. It is shameful to the community to be represented by leadership with such a disregard for safety and lack of interest in listening to the voices of their community. Violence is uncontrolled and running rampant in the streets without any true action by leadership. The root cause of violence is not the very people placing their life on the line so others may return home safely or receive assistance they need who are the root of the problem. The root of the problem is the culture that this leadership has allowed to fester and grow.

6/30/2020 12:04:44 AM

Do not agree with this plan, won't be visiting, shopping, eating and such if you go with this plan

6/30/2020 12:05:00 AM

You need to make changes in The police dept. Please don't get rid of them. The job is hard especially now and you can't blame all cops for the actions of a few. Living where they work would be great. Over 38 yrs we've had 3 different officers in our neighborhood and it's been nice to have them living here and a learning experience. We need reform and need to teach a lot of people who hate cops because they think by doing so they're supporting minorities. We need police we have and hold them accountable for their actions but also support them. But you do need to look at their record of complaints. Maybe ask some of the recent retirees an officers who quit for input. I asked an ex officer if maybe they could try to find a way to help find fixes and they said "They wouldn't listen to us before I quit, why would they listen now?" Which said a lot about what's going on in the whole infrastructure. Sad situation if they don't appreciate their officers suggestions. Do the even listen?

6/30/2020 12:05:49 AM

No! You will not remove the police. You will no longer receive private security protection, either.

6/30/2020 12:06:33 AM

I don't think it's a good idea at all to get rid of the Minneapolis police department. Yes, we can agree that the system, isn't perfect, but this will surely affect many here in Minneapolis. Many ways in which the department can be transformed that I believe benefits everyone would be the following. Adding more people of color on the force, holding officers accountable for their actions hitting them where it hurts their pension, giving out incentives or bonuses to officers who live in the city since only 10% of officers do. Many of these options would be very beneficial to the city of Minneapolis and it's people. Hopefully, my statement is read and outside of the loud voices, you can hear the ones who need the police the most thank you for your time.

6/30/2020 12:08:42 AM

Do not abolish the police. I back the blue. Weed out the bad apples. The city council is hypocrisy at its finest. Paying all that money for protection, the same protection they are trying to take away from it's citizens and businesses. How can you possibly think abolishing the police is a good idea? They are the people especially in lower income or communities of color that call/need the police the most. Good luck with the crime that will continue to grow in your lawless city. Good luck getting truck drivers to deliver to your city! I'm thankfully not a resident nor business owner in Minneapolis, however I am a resident and business owner in Fridley ... a very inner circle suburb and have ZERO interest of ever stepping foot in your city again if you abolish the police!

6/30/2020 12:11:01 AM

Organized crime will rule the city, BLM os a marxist movement, wake up!!!

6/30/2020 12:13:37 AM

Hello,

I am writing to say I support Minneapolis Community Member's proposal to vote on amending the charter on this November's ballot. This is only the first step to facing and changing the systematic racism within our politics. I want to see the city and state give its community members real power to make decisions for the way we keep our communities safe. Defund the police and use those funds to invest in our education systems, hire BIPOC teachers, truly affordable PUBLIC housing for the most vulnerable, free healthcare and Covid care, free housing for our homeless community! All this depends on revising the charter, so put that on the ballot for November.

6/30/2020 12:17:17 AM

I'm one of many who have already decided that they will no longer visit Mpls if there isn't reliable law enforcement.

6/30/2020 12:20:44 AM

Because I was born black; I am more than twice as likely to be pulled over by the Minneapolis Police department, 3 times as likely to be searched; 2 and half times more likely to be cited; nearly 3 times more likely to be arrested; and 7 times more likely to have force used against me.

It ought to be possible, in 2020, to be treated equally under the law without resorting to protests and demonstrations. It ought to be possible for our elected officials to act to dismantle the source of oppression in our city without people resorting to vandalism and looting; and it should be possible to feel safe in the City of Minneapolis while being non-white.

6/30/2020 12:24:25 AM

You should be working to help the police department do their jobs.

If there are no police, I will not come to your city. I grew up in Mpls and always felt safe and protected in the 3rd precinct. I was even able to walk/run at night or early in the morning. While I don't live there any more....I will happily spend my money supporting communities that support the hard working men and women of law enforcement.

6/30/2020 12:24:36 AM

I want to preface my comments with the fact that I \_was\_ a resident of Minneapolis for quite a while and no longer am. I have lived there for a good chunk of my adult life, and could imagine living there again. I've spent a lot of time there advocating for Minneapolis 2040, which is a framework of policy ideas developed around a shared vision of ending disparities (that's rightly the #1 goal, because racial disparities are the #1 problem). I am aware that the 2040 plan passed unanimously and in the end was supported by the full city council, and the mayor.

I'm glad to see real policies are now coming out of this process that reflect the views and goals: among the things, Minneapolis has begun strengthening tenant protections, and begun undoing the long legacy of racist zoning policies. There is more to do, but it's good to see the city taking its first steps.

Included in the Minneapolis 2040 plan is a policy section on Public Safety, which outlines the following goals:

a.) Follow a public health approach to ending violence by reducing the factors that put people at risk for being involved with violence.

b.) Expand the use of non-enforcement, community-driven public safety strategies and responses such as restorative practices that can address and repair the harm caused by a crime.

- c.) Proactively build trust between first responders and the community.
- d.) Ensure that first responders reflect the diversity of the city's residents.
- e.) Maintain and enhance a public safety infrastructure that improves response times to police and fire calls, implements new technologies, provides operation and training opportunities, and improves communication among public safety agencies.
- f.) Maintain the City's Emergency Operations Plan.

It seems that Minneapolis would be able to address many of these goals with the establishment of a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department. I realize the conversation and work won't end there, but I want my hometown to be able to have that conversation, and uphold its duty to the city to make real progress.

I am writing to wholeheartedly support the ballot question and charter amendment. I wish I could vote on it, and since I can't, I will do what I can to make sure my friends turn up and vote in my place. I am also writing to remind the City Council, and especially the Mayor, that they have all agreed on these goals at one point in time, and now is the time to follow through with meaningful and long-lasting action. The City of Minneapolis must remove the Minneapolis Police Department, and establish something better.

6/30/2020 12:26:57 AM

Please do not go forward with this idea. This looks to be, at best an overreaction to a horrific crime, and at worst a political stunt that appears to already be sending the wrong signal to wrongdoers.

We love this city but fear we will have to leave if these ideas continue to manifest themselves.

6/30/2020 12:27:34 AM

No, we should not abolish the police department. If a new department is to be formed, it should be brought up alongside the existing police department. I trust Mayor Frey's vision for police reform, and am very skeptical of the council's ability to oversee and take responsibility for such a large change.

6/30/2020 12:28:09 AM

Please do not defund the police department. You are throwing away the baby with the bathwater. There is much much good in the police and some bad. The bad is what needs addressing but you are trying to build a system from a ground up and the society will be the lab-mice. There has been so much violence and disorder and disrespect towards law -it's horrible. Obviously we do not excuse the actions of the bad police but neither do we burn places down and lash out and disobey the law and attack police when a murder is committed by a man without a police suit. A suit isn't the issue here. Men by nature will do evil and within this 'new system' you will likewise find evil men as well. Please don't destroy our city. Restore order. Restore peace. Justice and law. This isn't mercy and understanding when I have to hide in my house and fear to take my children outside. This is disorder and chaos. This needs to end. And by the way, how in the world does Minneapolis vote to get rid of police without the people voting? This is absolutely shocking to me. The city sends us letters and puts 'questions' on our ballots every couple

years to raise our taxes for schools and what not but somehow they completely decided to take over our safety without our input? Who are these people who decided to vote without hearing what I and my neighbours had to say first?

You are putting my children and our families in danger. This situation has gotten out of hand and someone has to restore things to how they used to be FIRST. We are not people pleases and we aren't going to stand for demands of any organization at the expense if my children's lives. Move forward. Create better accountability in the police force like national database where people can review cops and leave opinions, make a mandatory lie detective tests for every officer, hire more black cops and provide incentives to train young black men to be cops but restore honor and order to police. Law enforcement is good. Justice is sweet. And you people have no idea how to discern a difference between a protest and crime. Stop normalizing everything and not addressing and naming things as they are. Crime is crime. Crime is real. Drug addiction is real. Murder is real. We need laws and consequences. People are dying on streets while you are instilling in all the criminals that 'our city is no longer needy of police'. Well, they will respond, all the more better for me do exactly what I like doing : rob, kill, rape, and alike.

6/30/2020 12:28:21 AM

North side resident for over 30 years-saw the 2040 plan and needed to move. This new proposal is not thought out. The police have not been allowed to perform their duties to protect the community for many years. I left as I did not feel safe AT ALL, having been burgled several times, vehicle stolen and witnessing constant drug trafficking and reckless driving. The current it's council is Ill prepared or knowledgeable and they are trying to push their individual agendas. For the mayor to "allow" the rioting to escalate as it did is shameful. For the police officers to kill Mr Floyd is unfathomable how it occurred. Retraining is necessary, but police are needed and to be able to do their jobs.

6/30/2020 12:29:38 AM

I do not wish to remove the Minneapolis Police Department. I understand the need for other solutions to many of our concerns in our city, but the solution is not eliminating the police department. As it stands now our police department is understaffed to the point that our officers are often unable to respond to serious, in progress, crimes of violence. I feel strongly this proposal is knee jerk and potentially dangerous to our city. I also have a great deal of faith in Chief Arradondo's leadership and believe he can to do amazing things in the Minneapolis Police Department if given the proper backing by the city council, mayor, residents and the rank and file of MPD.

6/30/2020 12:30:31 AM

Please do not advance this amendment for vote. My ward, ward 6 has no CM so we were not represented during this process at all. We also have some of the highest population of people who are affected by police misconduct and abuse.

If the current city council was serious about community safety they have had YEARS to help reduce violence- we have been more violent every year.

If they were serious about police reform- they have the power to negotiate at contract renewal and could take on the police union.

This amendment doesn't do that

It seeks to consolidate the power in the city council. It's calculated and cruel to do to all of us at a time when we need real leadership. The current council president Bender is holding snide and insulting polls about this and our intellect on Twitter (see attached photo). It's demoralizing.

The council has not worked with North or my wards citizens to find out if we want this. They chose for us. That's not representative legislation, it's personal views- that doesn't feel democratic to me.

I support Chief Arradondo in continuing to make the needed and past due reforms in our police department.

I do not support this amendment, it is poorly thought out and not representative of our citizens wishes. It won't have the results we want and may have severe and lasting unintended consequences. Please reject it.

Thank you for your time

[←](#) **Lisa Bender** [Following](#)  
4,471 Tweets

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 **Lisa Bender** @lisabendermpls · 14h [▼](#)  
Have you ever read a city charter?

Yes, several	29.8%
Yes, in twitter posts	10.4%
??	37.6%
No but still know best	22.2%

943 votes · 9 hours left

[Q 46](#) [T 29](#) [H 92](#) [↑](#)

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 **Lisa Bender** @lisabendermpls · 13h [▼](#)  
Replying to @lisabendermpls  
Here is St. Paul  
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And Duluth  
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Read the zoning codes too! 😊

[Q 7](#) [T 7](#) [H 26](#) [↑](#)

6/30/2020 12:34:34 AM

We love visiting downtown Minneapolis but if you abolish the Minneapolis police dept we will NOT enter that city again. What your proposing is absurd!

6/30/2020 12:35:43 AM

Your proposed amendment is facile and irresponsible. There are no details about this new department or how it will function. It's incredibly vague, and with the track record of a city council that has been feckless and unresponsive to its constituents on so many issues, including responsible development, I will not give you a black check. Reform the police. Make them a part of a newly imagined department, but tell me exactly what that is and how it will all operate before asking for my support. You have not done the work at all to reimagine what could make all Minneapolis residents safe, including BIPOC. It's Shameful that you think this Amendment qualifies as good law. Do much, much better.

6/30/2020 12:41:49 AM

NO! By all means add a community of safety and violence prevention department (in the size and scope of the existing PD) to target pretty crimes (corrective action for these crimes outside of the court system) raise community awareness and forge links, as well as focus on mental health calls and support for those in crisis. This department should include ties to the school system. Let the PD get back to focusing on major crimes, dangerous deviant behavior and keeping communities safe. They are so understaffed is not even funny. Thousands of cases of property theft and vandalism go without investigation because the officers don't have time (along with a ton of other issues). Crime flourishes in an environment where there is no punishment or just a slap on the wrist. Invest in positive change with more training and support. Identify bad apples and behaviors earlier and take corrective action to retrain or terminate. Add more mental health support for officers! The system is broken! There's understaffing, a lack of support and respect for officers as well as way too high of tensions in the community and PD. When everyone lives in fear, hate wins and negative actions and reactions just escalate. It's a powder keg that got lit up. The city council is NOT the appropriate decision maker in this matter to abolish what little PD we have. There are a lot of changes that need to be made, but abolishing what is in place is taking it way too far. What happened should have NEVER gone down like that and no BIPOC should ever live in fear of interaction with the PD or other authority figures. Make positive change happen! Let's build up a better support system!

6/30/2020 12:43:53 AM

Absolutely ridiculous. The twin cities have become a warzone in the last month. Your virtue signalling is going to get more people killed (and not by the police). Just got my C&C permit and there has been a record number of carry and conceal permits with 5+ hour waits in line to get one and that trend will continue seen as TAXPAYING citizens that pay the city councils salary can't afford private security like those hypocrites can.

6/30/2020 12:45:14 AM

I think this is something people who live in the city should vote on. We currently do not have a system these is working for us when it comes to law enforcement. It should not be up to elected officials to make these decisions. Black/ brown peoples and Native America, should be part of any decisions or plans made about disbanding and defunding the police. I would like to see North Minneapolis and Powderhorn Neighborhoods included in how we can help improve safety in their neighborhoods too

6/30/2020 12:52:06 AM

I am in support of disbandment of the Minneapolis Police Department. They have shown a clear lack of care for the well being of the people they have sworn to protect and serve. Their actions over many years have caused a; well deserved, loss of respect from the community. When the community can no longer trust or respect the people charged with upholding the law the system has failed, and I strongly believe the only way forward at this point is starting from the ground up.

6/30/2020 12:52:11 AM

For nearly 2 decades I have working in the city of Minneapolis. Downtown was like a second home to me for 10 years. If I wasn't working, I was surely there to catch a game, a show, or just gather with friends at a local watering hole. Sure, there was crime. One might even argue that it was dangerous to be on the street after a certain time of night. But it felt safe to me. I then started working in uptown. It was quiet during the week and lively on the weekends. One thing it had that downtown didn't - it definitely felt like a neighborhood. It felt like home. After quite some time in uptown, I reluctantly made my way back to work in downtown Minneapolis, and to my surprise, I hardly recognized it. Apartment complexes had gone up on a number of corners. It was lively and bustling. People largely seemed to enjoy themselves. They looked at home, because they WERE home. Minneapolis had successfully made downtown feel like a warm, inviting neighborhood, much like uptown.

Fast forward a few years, and the city is in chaos. The murder of George Floyd has resonated throughout the country, but nowhere is it felt more than here, in our home. Crime is through the roof. Downtown is a rowdy, lawless warzone, full of shootings, stabbings, robberies. Large groups congregate in the parking lots, shooting off fireworks and starting fights with people who walk by. The police, who have put their lives on the line day in and day out to protect us, are now with their backs against the wall, unable to act for fear of retaliation from the citizens they have sworn to protect. It is absolutely terrifying the direction that things are going right now. Do we need reform? Absolutely. Something needs to change, and it needs to change NOW. But removing, or even thinning out those who would gladly put their lives on the line for YOU and YOUR FAMILY is not the answer. I am already nervous to venture into Minneapolis due to the unrest and recent violence, but I can promise you that if the police department is abolished or defunded, I will not be setting foot in that city from here on out. Please, do the right thing. Make the best choice for the safety of your citizens, not just their votes come November.

Thank you.

6/30/2020 12:54:53 AM

The proposed amendment is absolutely unacceptable. My friends, my family, and myself are in agreement regarding this amendment, in that we will be ardently voting against the proposal.

6/30/2020 12:57:49 AM

If there are INSUFFICIENT police in Minneapolis to insure the SAFETY of visitors, my wife and I will cease doing business in the city. Every good, service, or event that we might attend in Minneapolis has excellent competitors in the suburbs, free parking, open space, AND NO CRIME.

There is, for millions of suburbanites, simply NO reason to accept any risk to spend our dollars in Minneapolis when we can spend them for the same stuff, in safety, in the suburbs.

6/30/2020 1:00:40 AM

I am not in favor of disbanding the police force. While it is clear the Minneapolis police have had a history of excessive force, I believe having a police department is essential to maintaining safety for all Minneapolis residents as well as people who enjoy coming the city for various activities. I feel the move to disband the police is reckless as well as incredulous and puts many more people in harm, especially those in the neighborhoods in Minneapolis. I feel most police officers are good cops. I happen to know a now former Minneapolis police officer who is a neighbor. He decided to quit after all the chaos that ensued this last month and was diagnosed with PTSD due to the rioting. It is tragic that people are getting killed by police, but equally tragic we do not support our police. This isn't to say we don't hold them accountable, but to look at single acts of individuals and make blanket assumptions about the whole department is nearsighted at best. You are asking that these people act 100% without error and with perfect judgement under conditions and scenarios that the average person is not capable of comprehending. We expect them to be infallible yet I don't think any of the city council could do their job half as well. I would like to see the city council members actually ride along for a week and see what situations these people are put in day in and day out and see if they can so assuredly say that dismantling the police is the next logical step. I implore you to reconsider this step and look for more constructive ways to deal with police brutality without being utterly moronic.

6/30/2020 1:00:58 AM

First of all. THE MAJORITY of police officers are NOT racist.

Just because a police officer stops an individual who happens to be of color does not a racist make.

PLENTY of black on black stops are made daily. You can't be a black person stopped by a black cop and call that racist.

Yes a FEW new procedures and re training events should happen.

We also should put funding towards SOCIAL WORKERS who have a police background to FIND OFFICERS who are wound too tight. Like Ex Officer Chauvin.

NOW THEN.

HOW ABOUT A FRESH IDEA!

How about we start teaching inner city black youth to STOP RESISTING ARREST!

STOP RESISTING THE POLICE!!!!

If Floyd hadn't resisted arrest, FOR SOMETHING HE HIMSELF DID, he would have lived.

He would have lived and Half of Minneapolis would not have been burned down by Racist Liberal Whitr youth ginning up less educated black kids.

DO NOT PRETEND FOR A MINUTE this is not the TRUTH AND THE HEART THE HEART OF THE MATTER!!

Instead of community organizers running around calling even the alley cats racist... I know, QUITE POSSIBLY they could help by teaching inner city youth about God, Famiy, WORK ETHIC, how to finish school and get an education.

THERE IS WAY MORE funding out there for black kids these days than any other race.

That is, if, we are going to continue down the race road.

These are sound measures if put into action.

IF you rid Minneapolis of the police as we know it...

Who are you going to call when the next Sandy Hook event happens?

I'm ex military, conceal carry permit, and I know very well how, where and when to shoot.

But please, don't call me because I'm a so called racist white honkey devil, (inner city lingo).

SO DON'T call me. If I'm driving by, I'll call a peace nik social worker and that's about it.

It doesn't matter that myself and PLENTY others like me could end any given mass shooting in mere seconds.

So chew on that.

Let that all sink in.

By the way? I don't need to mention Church goers on any given Sunday Morning while the mob kids sleep it off. Just sayn.

History, which all these petulant young mob protesters HAVE FAILED TO LEARN, are sadly destined to repeat it.

6/30/2020 1:01:21 AM

As a huge Twins, Vikings and Timberwolves fan. I typically attend 30-40 events in Minneapolis per year.

My wife and daughter attend 2-3 concerts as well.

Don't think for one second that your decisions won't have ramifications reaching out to greater Minnesota and the Midwest. I will not be attending a single event in the city unless you reign in your socialist adjenda and put an end to this systemic attack on THE MAJORITY of the fantastic police officers in Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 1:04:49 AM

I think that defunding the police department is an absolutely horrible idea. I live in a what was a peaceful neighborhood that is now in shambles. The past two days I have almost been run over walking per careless drivers of Somalian decent and this is clearly intentional. There have been shootings and things are only going to get worse with this when a pandemic is happening as we speak. The whole demeanor of uptown changes around 5 to 6 PM and you absolutely do not feel safe. I have been mugged 3 times in this city, everytime of which someone of black decent (2 times a group of men.) One time in was hurt so badly and someone on a bike called the police. The police officer showed up and drove me around the neighborhood of Loring Park to try and see if we could find who mugged me. After about 10 minutes I was saying I do not think we will find this person and he dropped me off at home, which was very kind. I was punched in the eye and got a hematoma and concussion as a result to the blow to my right eye. That police officer did everything in his power to help me and today I am forever grateful for that. I am a member of the GLBT community and as a minority as well I feel the need for protections only a police department can provide. Only expect crime to get even worse if we go to this left wing nonsense. What happened on May 25th is a tragedy, but I cannot support the violence, burning of our city, and crime that is ensuing in our city. Clearly our news is not really nothing who the perpetrators are because they want to be "politically correct" and not offend anybody. I have many black friends that also agree with me on this matter. I am not a racist person I just am fed up. Our economy is already in trouble and because of violence more businesses are closing, remaining closed and some never to reopen again. We need to do what is right and wr need to keep our law enforcement- because without them there is no law and the anarchy will continue. Now I ask you, how does a Community of Safety and Violence Department deescalate what is happening right now? It would have to be a very convincing plan in order for me to even give this a serious thought.

6/30/2020 1:05:07 AM

This too dangerous for our beloved city!! we should trust the chief of police to do his job on reforming his department, city councils this really shows you don't care about our beloved city don't dismantle the Minneapolis police.

6/30/2020 1:05:24 AM

This too dangerous for our beloved city!! we should trust the chief of police to do his job on reforming his department, city councils this really shows you don't care about our beloved city don't dismantle the Minneapolis police.

6/30/2020 1:06:35 AM

I have serious concerns over the removal of the police department, the greatest of which is that it places too much confidence in the goodness of the human soul. Crime is up around the city. Rioting. Fear.

Yes, the police department has a culture problem. But other forms of "policing" would still have problems too, because it would involve people. Where there are people there is imperfection. There is no perfect solution. So, reform, but don't remove. I've lived in Minneapolis for 16 years.

6/30/2020 1:13:46 AM

someone once told me that whenever i was faced with a decision that i should think of the worse case scenario and then decide if it is really worth it.

do anyone of you city council members do that? you should try it. maybe then hair brained ideas like using the holistic approach to policing wouldnt be so appealing. especially to the 3 of your group who were scared and need protection. hypocritical.

here are several ideas to maybe consider:

1. completely review the file of each and every mpls police officer. have guidelines in place as to actions needed.
2. mandatory regularly scheduled pshyc. visits.
3. police must live in the city theyve sworn to uphold.
4. police attend seminars( sensitivity, racism, etc...)
5. morning gym use. (prevent stress)
6. accountability.
7. remove union support if any police officer is guilty or suspected of violence.
8. community involvement
9. continual training.

i disagree with v.p. jenkins comment about racism and to think that a miracle utopian society will exist with no police. think again. it will be a free for all of chaos and lawlessness.

and finally. if this materializes i will foreclose on my home and move.

6/30/2020 1:14:22 AM

someone once told me that whenever i was faced with a decision that i should think of the worse case scenario and then decide if it is really worth it.

do anyone of you city council members do that? you should try it. maybe then hair brained ideas like using the holistic approach to policing wouldnt be so appealing. especially to the 3 of your group who were scared and need protection. hypocritical.

here are several ideas to maybe consider:

1. completely review the file of each and every mpls police officer. have guidelines in place as to actions needed.
2. mandatory regularly scheduled pshyc. visits.
3. police must live in the city theyve sworn to uphold.
4. police attend seminars( sensitivity, racism, etc...)
5. morning gym use. (prevent stress)
6. accountability.
7. remove union support if any police officer is guilty or suspected of violence.
8. community involvement
9. continual training.

i disagree with v.p. jenkins comment about racism and to think that a miracle utopian society will exist with no police. think again. it will be a free for all of chaos and lawlessness.

and finally. if this materializes i will foreclose on my home and move out of minneapolis.

6/30/2020 1:19:07 AM

The idea to remove the police force and replace it is simply idiotic. My family and extended family will not step foot in Minneapolis ever again if such a stupid, short-sighted move is made. We will not attend events at any large or small venue events as you won't be able to guarantee our safety. No more going to US Bank Stadium or Target Center events; no more flying out of Mpls airport. Additionally, it's laughable the council members have received extra security as they worry for their safety whilst pondering disbanding police protection. What an embarrassment to the nation Minneapolis has become under your collective "leadership".

6/30/2020 1:19:27 AM

MPD shouldn't be defunded or dismantled. Police reform is more appropriate, realistic, and responsible. The majority of police serve and protect the community with full valor and put the lives of others before themselves. I have yet to see a logical, properly research or well thought out plan by the city council that would lessen crime or violence over reforming the police department. MPD needs more funding, not less and the city council is not on the right side of the issue

6/30/2020 1:21:52 AM

I completely support a redistribution of funds to direct funds/resources to avenues other than the police department. I fully support the removal of Bob Kroll and an end to the ridiculous protections that the Police Union has afforded many bad actors. I also completely agree that those protections have afforded the PD the space to grow a completely toxic, isolated culture in which they think they can freely make horrendous, discriminatory choices in the name of racism, sexism and other bad faith opinions.

However, I urge the Minneapolis City Council not to rush into decision on this. We need to make well-researched, well-informed decisions about how to move forward. Do not lose momentum but also don't completely lose what little stability we have left.

Every, and I do mean every, resident of this city should feel safe to talk to the Police. Or whatever we call them when we are done.

What we make out of the ashes of what we tear down must be as equitable, compassionate and effective as humanly possible.

6/30/2020 1:25:45 AM

Since George Floyd's death I have noticed a significant decrease in police presence in my neighborhood. And it is obvious that people have noticed this. We are constantly bombarded with fireworks, news agencies are reporting constant shot spotter activations, the murder rate seems to be skyrocketing, and drivers consistently endanger me and my family by driving like it's a third world country. How can you expect people to follow laws when there is no police force, when they obviously have no intention to follow the laws of public safety when there is a police force STILL in position? I'm all for trying it. Send your social workers to my street at midnight to stop the fireworks so I can sleep. If you can't accomplish this, how do you expect to accomplish anything else?

And yes I'm a resident of Minneapolis. How many sitting on our city council can say the same? That they walk to streets where the violence happens? That they live close enough to hear the shots? Come live in the North Side with me and see for yourself instead of going home to your sky rises or suburban homes.

1:17

1:15

1:15



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City leaders say officers responding to shootings have had bottles and rocks thrown at them. But at Broadway and Lyndale avenues, community activists urged people to partner with police. Lisa Clemons and Jamar Nelson are with the group A Mother's Love. They want to work with law enforcement to end violence and are upset that Minneapolis City Council members want the department disbanded.

"I absolutely disagree with saying abolish the police. Right now we are living in lawless territory because we have told people to not have respect for the police," Clemons said. "I think Lisa Bender, president of the city council, should step down immediately."

Nelson says Bender's call for disbandment is "irresponsible."

"To abolish the police department, to disband them irreparably harms the Black and Brown people," Nelson said.

WCCO reached out to Bender Monday about the increasing violence, but she has not responded.

Arradondo is not yet releasing details on who the shooter was in Uptown early Sunday morning.

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## 'It's Just Stupid': Police Data Shows 1,600 Minneapolis Gunfire Reports Within 30 Days

June 22, 2020 at 10:07 pm

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6/30/2020 1:30:24 AM

This is a really bad idea. In the past few weeks it has been proven a bad idea. This kind of thing is why I moved far far away from Minneapolis

6/30/2020 1:33:40 AM

I think that removing from the Minneapolis charter, the provision that the city must provide a police force, is a purely symbolic gesture to appease a vocal slice of the Minneapolis population. I would prefer that the city council focus on pragmatic changes they can make to the police department that is supported by the vast majority of the citizens of Minneapolis. If the city council must change the city charter, if only for symbolism, I hope that a robust force of peace officers remains intact. Before the death of George Floyd, I was hoping that the city would increase the number of police officers, commensurate with the increase in our city's population. I still think we should have more police officers, rather than less. A humble question I have is: do the Minneapolis police officers feel understaffed? And if they do, would helping to alleviate that feeling, lead to fewer mistakes being made by the police? Finally, I would like to offer a suggestion as to how we could bridge the divide of trust between the Minneapolis Police, and the community that it serves. I read an interesting opinion article in the Star Tribune that suggested Minneapolis police officers be mandated to perform a minimum number of volunteer hours per year of community service within the city of Minneapolis. The police officers should be paid their normal wages while performing their community service, and be allowed to perform their hours of community service on days, and during times, of their normal work shift. That way, the police would be less likely to feel resentment towards this policy. The officers would not be allowed to wear their uniform during their community service, in order to help put everyone at ease. And, the more time the officers spend their community service hours specifically working with, or around, young black men, the better. The number one stated intent of this program would be: Hopefully the experiences the police officers have would give them the skills needed to see, acknowledge, and manage any negative bias they have against African-Americans.

6/30/2020 1:34:37 AM

We need OUR police.

The men and women who responded when my normally quiet North Minneapolis corner when it erupted with over 40 gunshots on a Tuesday evening around 6pm as my family sat down to dinner - those men and women are essential!

Who am I going to call next time this happens? Who is going to protect us? Are the street gangs, criminal element, drug dealers, domestic abusers, etc. going to have free reign without the police?

Since the riots a few weeks ago crime had spiked and gun related violence is topping the charts - is this because those who are responsible know the police are walking on eggshells and are under scrutiny? Who are we punishing the police or the residents and citizens of Minneapolis?

Reform, more training, education, community review boards, so on so forth YES !

But to completely remove the police department - NO!

6/30/2020 1:36:45 AM

A technical comment.

Before you start writing an amendment please identify what outcomes you want to achieve, what metrics you will use to measure success, which resources you will need to bring to bear and what obstacles you need to overcome.

Example - high levels of public satisfaction with city quality of life - better health and safety measures - lower crime rates - low percent of suspects arrested without resistance - fewer injuries and deaths to suspects, bystanders and police, Fewer charges per offender with early arrest

Public safety department structure - all officers live in city or previously lived in city for at least 10 years, staff mirrors the community in terms of age, gender, race, national origin and other factors - police teams are mixed in terms of age, race and gender.

You will never get what you want if you don't have a lengthy discussion about what you achieve.  
Defund the police is a vague, confusing strategy.- you need more than a slogan.

Many have failed to reform public safety - a hastily devised solution is at greater risk of being rejected, which along with an acquittal is likely to promote more protests and community violence, exactly what this is trying to avoid.

6/30/2020 1:37:20 AM

There definitely needs to be change in how we enforce laws. I like some of the concepts that the council has alluded to. But I cannot vote for the amendment unless there is a concrete plan for how the new department will be structured, and run how laws will be enforced, who will respond to 911 calls, and how the transition will occur. With that information i can choose how to vote for what is best for our city.

6/30/2020 1:37:30 AM

Even if you ignore (as we white people have for so long) the disproportionate violence imposed on the Black community by the institutionalized white supremacy of the police, their reactions to even the slightest criticism (the storm of excessive violence in response to peaceful protest, both here in Minneapolis and across the nation being the most recent example) makes it clear that they do not deserve the place of esteem they have demanded from American society for so long.

From their roots as slave patrollers, the Klu Klux Klan, or paid mercenaries of private corporations, to their violent action against union movements of the 19th and 20th centuries, to the modern day, the American police have existed to be footsoldiers of repression, racism, and injustice. The fact that they do all of this evil with funds provided by the very people they repress, assault, and murder is an affront to justice and logic. They are an occupying army, trained to hate and fear anyone but themselves and their masters, and given free rein to vent their hatred on an undeserving public.

We, as human beings, deserve better than to be murdered by violent gangsters just because they wear a badge. They cannot be trusted, and must be removed for a just society to exist.

6/30/2020 1:38:44 AM

I agree with this proposal, as long as it provides for officers who take calls for violent crimes.

6/30/2020 1:43:01 AM

Do not allow the Minneapolis police department to be defunded, dismantled or diminished in any way. The city council has been defunding the police for some time, In 2006 there were 1000 police officers a month ago there were ~ 800. We have seen a corresponding increase in crime (enough so that it got the attention of the state legislature) and a demoralized, fatigued, overworked police force over that time. We need more police not fewer. Without police people will not come to the city. A huge part of Minneapolis' revenue comes from people coming into the city for sporting events, concerts, festivals, dining, the lakes, museums, theaters. etc. and spend the money that Minneapolis depends on. If it is not safe people will not come here. I have lived here a long time and have never thought of leaving. If the police department is cut in any way and in fact, not restored to a more realistic number I, and many others will be leaving the city. The most basic function of city government is protection of its citizens. That requires an adequately staffed, healthy, robust, well trained police department. I see this proposal as myopic at best and an attempted back door money grab at the expense of the people of Minneapolis and a power grab by the city council as it disregards the citizens. This movement is not based in sound data or facts . . . DO NOT ALLOW THE CITY COUNCIL TO DEFUND, DISBAND OR DIMINISH THE POLICE FORCE IN ANY WAY.

6/30/2020 1:48:05 AM

This is so very vague that it is impossible to know what it means. I want to know specifics. What do the council members mean by "holistic, public health orientated". That literally has no meaning. It is a phrase that can be defined by a million variables. Are you planning on hiring social workers and mental health workers? I am unclear what you would want them to do. I would say leave social work and mental health to the Public Health Dept and policing to police. Otherwise I would demand that the entire city council would stand and apologize to the city when a social worker or mental health worker gets injured or worse when "a client" gets mad and there is no backup. And who is going to be the leader? Is the city council going to lead? Well that is just asking for chaos. Let the Mayor and the police chief do their jobs. But I noted there was no defined police chief role. So what will that role be? I again believe that it should be well defined before asking citizens to vote. I also do not think it is fair to the citizens of this city to have to vote without knowing how many minimum police there will be per capita. I think we should know before voting. I want to know that police doing their job have enough back up to do their job without putting their lives at risk. I want to know police will not be mandated to work overtime because they city council fails them. And I personally do not think the city council should be involved in making those decisions.

Bottom line, right now it appears the city council wants to take over the Mayor's role in regards to leadership. I believe that is wrong and will only weaken our city, especially when the leader of the city council believes that policing is a privilege, not a right. If that is the case, then the city should just hire private police and those that can afford to have police come, get help. That is arrogant and wrong. If the city council would like to help further define what makes good vs bad policing, then they should do that in specific language. But to just put out a vague and undefined statement is asking me to vote with my eyes closed, my ears shut and ignorant. I need to know specifics. The guiding statement "holistic,

"public health oriented" does not tell me anything. Oh by the way, I am licensed by the State of MN as a public health RN.

6/30/2020 1:50:50 AM

I am a physician at a major metro hospital. I believe that the social programs which are being proposed to help underserved and minority neighborhoods are important and valuable. However, human nature is such that humans will perpetrate acts of violence and greed against each other and will not be stopped or more importantly prevented from doing so without knowing there is swift law enforcement that will meet them with force if necessary. We need a well funded police department. Invest in education and training for police. Enforce regulations on their conduct while preserving their ability to defend themselves and others. Take on the unions that obstruct the firing of officers that commit misconduct. But don't defund them.

6/30/2020 1:54:07 AM

My family went to breakfast after church 2-3 times a week in Uptown. BUT, don't worry, we cannot all go to church and the Uptowner Cafe is too close to a hail of bullets from unregistered guns and unlicensed gun owners. MINNEAPOLIS has become an anarchist's and gang wars dream. (Yes, the term that you know is happening but it's not going past the lips.) The situation of lawlessness is not going to improve because Council that asked for and got personal protection paid for by the taxpayers lest any entity appears menacing towards Council members.

THAT luxury is not afforded to citizens.

I will not be returning to Minneapolis to dine or for entertainment related to the lack of wisdom and concern of it's citizens and visitors.

6/30/2020 1:59:35 AM

I do NOT support any changes to the charter amendment for this purpose. As a business owner in Minneapolis, I will move out of the city if this goes into effect and the police department is removed, dismantled or defunded. Period. And I won't be the only one who goes.

Dismantling the police department doesn't solve anything. Go after the Union instead, which has systematically enabled repeat-offender problem cops to thrive unchecked for years. If you don't perform in the business world, you are held accountable and, yes, fired. If you fail to perform as an officer and have multiple write-ups and corrective actions stacked against you, then what happens? Not much if Derek Chauvin is a testament. He should have been terminated years ago but the Union prevented that from happening, protecting him and other bad actors while allowing them to continue the abuse and malpractice. \*That\* is the system you should work to change.

6/30/2020 2:03:09 AM

I support the amendment however,

If we cant get more funding for better trained police that don't accidentally kill our citizens. Then the only other option, is to establish another dept like a community safety dept.

Removing all police is a bad idea, keep most police, add a community safety dept.

To turn such a big ship it will seem impossible and like nothing is happening. Millimeter by millimeter it will turn, the really hard part will be keeping it on track.

6/30/2020 2:04:29 AM

When you do away with the police, Minneapolis is going to resemble Beirut Lebanon. What a shame that you're going to destroy what was once the "star of the North." Please be realistic,

get a clue, and do your duty for all who reside in Minneapolis!

6/30/2020 2:05:53 AM

Disbanding the Minneapolis police department is a dumbass decision and you morons know it. The simple fact that every shred of evidence points to having more police on the streets reduces crime significantly shows that you stupid fucks don't have any God damn idea what you're doing. Plus, you are going to get people killed, be they citizens or the poor bastards you send to deal with people who are mentally unstable or high as a kite. And all that fucking blood is on your hands. Oh, and how about you report the fucking threats to the police so they can actually do something about it, instead of acting like you have the moral high ground but then hiring private security to hide behind, instead of using the police department? Or are you too damn cowardly to look those men and women in the face after you've treated them like garbage?

6/30/2020 2:06:41 AM

My hope is that you take a more scientific approach to understanding the root cause of our MPD issues. The data is clear - there are systemic operational issues that directly and inequitably impact black people and many other minorities as well. And there are personnel issues who exploit those systemic issues to carry out police actions that also oppress and unfairly target black people and many other minorities. However, sound, ethical leadership would clearly choose to rewrite, reprogram, rebuild police policy and procedure to correct the systemic issues. And That same leadership would remove the personnel that do not fit with the revised hiring profile replacing them with new peace officers from the communities in which they live and serve. Our police chief is the person for this very job. The police union leadership (Kroll) is not.

We need our police. We need our public safety. We need to continue the process of rebuilding our police force around a new model of ethical peace keeping. Do not throw the baby out with the bath water. You will be committing a horrific injustice to our black, white, Latino, Hmong, and many other communities that need and WANT a reliable law enforcement presence.

Defunding is a short sided, I'll conceived, ignorant answer to our racism issues. There are 100 situations that the empirical evidence shows to support our dire need for strong law and peace protection.

Should you choose defunding, you will cost many many more lives and you will lose your tax base as your wealthier city residents will flee for the suburbs.

Do your jobs. Listen to the residents all around the city. Listen to 911 calls for a full week. Go out with officers for a full week. Witness the black on black, white on black, white on white, black on white Latino on Asian etc. crimes in our city. Recognize the good work done by our police department. Then help to change what's broken from within. You have a willing tax base, a super competent and progressive police chief and a mayor that will help you do the right thing.

So do the right thing and help fix the issues instead of creating a lawless city.

6/30/2020 2:11:19 AM

As a post-doctoral student at Louisiana State University, I teach and conduct research focused on organizational change and college success. I have experienced numerous educational institutions in my 13 years of paraprofessional and professional leadership, serving more than 100,000 students in five states and two countries. During this time I worked with campus and local police, fire departments, health centers, and local mental health services. From these collaborations, I have learned that the single most important strategy in assuring student circumvention of the criminal justice system is the privilege educational environments provide for those who simply hiccup over policy confusion, as well as those who are committed to causing controversy within their communities. I am sending a piece of my resolution for post police Services, which I originally drafted for an academic journal and then begin to share with stakeholders nationwide.

My idea for a post-police structure is community-based, leaning on the education and expertise of trained counselors, organizational consultants, human resources professionals, social workers, lawyers, teachers, and community organizers to develop the Lyft or Uber of community safety. Policing is outdated and ineffective. It has shown to preserve peace only for those who are deemed more valuable in society than others, based on the ownership of property. Property -

no matter how expensive, no matter how elaborate - is less important than human life; the criminal justice system as it stands today does not believe this. This ideology is reinforced by qualified immunity and the burden placed on taxpayers for financial settlements. We live in a state that preserves plantations better than it does neighborhoods of people whose ancestors were tortured on now manicured, commercialized properties. This state enjoys drawing in profits with tours of ornate mansions, which ignore the stories of those who suffered for generations upon it. We should not commend ourselves for having hundreds of these properties protected and only one being forward enough to mention the victims of a system we have not yet eradicated from our society.

Policing is an extension of the generational terrorism of enslavement and the state should not pocket funds off of that land. State entities, like our educational institutions and businesses, should not provide programming and events on this land, as many of these institutions themselves lay upon stolen lands, encrusted with the blood of those they still fail to educate and serve.

A resolution would be to create a phone application, where citizens can report suspected criminal activity, non-criminal disturbances, as well as a need for emergency assistance. This application would be able to provide particular expertise in the type of service needed by the reporter. For example, if a family member is having a mental health emergency, instead of calling 911, we can now report the health emergency to a system where someone who has years of experience with Mental Health crisis can intercede, and where family members can upload live data of the person's actions. This way we have an all in one way of showing proof that an occurrence happened, which is available to an expert consultant, who can provide live suggestions for de-escalation, as well as someone to come on the scene if necessary to rectify the situation face to face, in a manner appropriate to the level of need. Our citizens should not have to play expert by using Google to find out a resolution to an issue in a moment of fear. If the resolution involves the possibility of someone's safety being threatened, we should be providing services for our citizens to get help for free without feeling threatened or them second-guessing their reflex to get help. In addition, an application would allow us to gain analytics on the reporter and their level and quality of social engagement during demanding community episodes.

6/30/2020 2:14:04 AM

If the police are gone who will clean up after all the murders?

I am no a resident of Minneapolis but close enough to feel the effects if they disbanded the police.

6/30/2020 2:14:24 AM

Do not disband or defund the Minneapolis Police this city is too dangerous as it is.

6/30/2020 2:14:50 AM

man dont take the cops away! F#cked up sh@t will happen dude. Mf b runnin around doing all types of mf creepy wild goofy sh%t! Make cops police the areas they live in and the will have a better sense of respect for the ppl and the ppl will respect them. Also hold your officers accountable for there actions. Also fix the whole system the sh%t all f@cked up as we all ALL know. Boom shaka lack mfkas!

6/30/2020 2:22:26 AM

I think it is completely irresponsible to dismantle the Minneapolis Police Department. Most of the police force are good, hardworking people and i hate to see how they are currently being treated. Minneapolis residents have the right to feel safe and protected and police presence and their service is vital to Minneapolis. I lived and worked in Minneapolis for more than a decade and will always have fond memories of that side of the river. I currently attend dance classes in Northeast Minneapolis. If there isn't a police force there i will have to cancel my membership and visits into the city. I just won't feel safe traveling there anymore. Please be more respectful and appreciative towards your hardworking, dedicated police force.

6/30/2020 2:26:48 AM

I think the efficacy of this entire amendment hinges on how many "peace officers" will actually be a part of this "Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department". The physical safety of our entire community depends on how many brave men and women are willing to take up arms and put their lives on the line for someone who is almost always a stranger to them. The vast majority of us are not willing to live such lives.

I've seen many comments about this amendment which say such men and women will likely be moderately, or severely reduced in numbers... should the amendment pass. This would have a disproportionately dangerous impact on impoverished communities, wherein gang rule is always lurking just outside the walls of police order. If word got out among such communities that there are less armed officers patrolling, and less armed officers ready and willing to respond to calls... well, it would be quite fortunate news for the most criminal and degenerate among said communities.

I think if the riots showed us anything -- what with situations like 911 being unresponsive, only to return the call \*3 hours later\* -- it's that when a big surge of crime came in the form of violent riots, the city of Minneapolis was already underprepared with the number of armed officers available for dispatch. If there had been more officers available, perhaps fewer minority-owned small businesses would have been burned to the ground. Perhaps fewer jobs would have been lost among already underemployed communities. Perhaps less public transportation would have been rendered out-of-service, and more carless people would have at least been able to get out of town to where there were grocery stores and pharmacies that had not yet been destroyed.

So to sit here and hear people talking about how we need LESS armed officers, after witnessing the aforementioned suffering that was a direct result of having too few officers available to keep the peace during the riots.... it boggles the mind as to how anybody could think that LESS is the solution. After the heinous death of George Floyd, I think we all want \*better\* police. But you don't make the police better just by reducing their numbers. We want better police. Not less police.

Thank you for your time.

P.S.

It is also worth noting the importance of these officers \*being armed\*. Be it full-fledged pyromaniacal rioting, or a domestic abuse call... how exactly is any officer supposed to establish order and deescalate the scene without the suspects at hand knowing that he or she is armed? How is the officer supposed to know whether or not there is a firearm at the house, business, or even car that they are approaching? It's not pretty, but like it or not the firearm is a crucial element of what actually gets belligerent and violent men to stop, listen, and hopefully to cease & desist. Just asking nicely, while unarmed, won't go very far with a wife-beater... and it sure won't go very far with an angry mob. The officer(s) need to be able to walk in and immediately establish an alpha role, this is just how men operate. If they don't, or can't, then the violent and belligerent men in question will not respect them and continue to be violent and belligerent - thus escalating the scene.

Thank you for your time.

6/30/2020 2:35:05 AM

I am strongly against defunding the police. Minneapolis needs a stronger police force to combat the rapidly increasing violent crime in the city. Having said that, I do believe that giving some types of calls related to drugs and mental health could be handled by others in order to free up police to handle violent crime calls.

6/30/2020 2:36:19 AM

We have been putting our business plans on hold due to COVID-19. If there is no police department in Minneapolis going forward, we will pull our business and plans for any inner metropolitan placement for this franchise to open. Already with inner city business' closing and major Fortune 500 companies contemplate reducing their real estate to move jobs to home, Minneapolis will start to see a shift in money due to these unprecedeted times. As many Facebook residents of the Twin Cities noted specifically of the second precient and elsewhere see increase rates of crime, residents are starting to move out of the city and will continue to do so at a higher rate with no physical police presence as expressed on social media and internal personal work discussions. We will continue to see less jobs in the inner metropolitan area because of COVID, and what entrepreneurs like us watch rates of crime increase reducing likelihood of business potential. This reduction in jobs and inflow of money will likely add stress to Increases crime activity. Our future to even live in the metro area for business potential will likely change to another state if this happens as it would likely result in an increase in immediate suburb crime activity as well. We do not want our cities( both sides of the river) to become Chicago or Detroit. We respect the decision to onboard other professionals within the department but urge the continuance of active police departments/ precincts.

6/30/2020 2:37:55 AM

It would be absurd for the police department to be disbanded. There is already a complete lack of respect for authority in the community. To do so would only further convey to the criminal community that there will not be consequences for their actions and compound the frequency and severity of criminal activity in the city. If you want to do what is right for the community, you will not allow the police to be disbanded.

6/30/2020 2:57:06 AM

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. I am a victim of domestic violence. With no police presence I fear my abuser will return to shoot me, as he has pointed a gun at me in the past. You may review my open restraining order and all my 911 calls for proof.

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]

6/30/2020 3:04:46 AM

Please do not let city council abolish the police. There should be some reform within the police department, but the city still needs the police department. The beliefs of 12 council members should not outweigh what the vast majority of Minneapolis citizens want. I strongly believe this proposed charter change is a terrible idea and will lead to more violence in our city.

6/30/2020 3:15:11 AM

Please please give this a chance. Make sure this is on the ballot in November. It's what the people you serve want.

6/30/2020 3:15:30 AM

I would never live in a city that didn't have a fully staffed police force. I would move out of state before I accepted that. I want to feel safe & secure 100% of the time. If someone is attacking me or breaking into my home in the middle of the night, I want the police there NOW!

This is the most outrageous, insane proposal I have ever heard of!! It's forcing the taxpayers to arm themselves and you may now turn them into murderers as they struggle to protect their very own lives. There ARE other options, you know.

6/30/2020 3:17:04 AM

I'm disappointed in the concept of replacing the police department of Minneapolis has been taken this far. My friends are selling their houses in North East Minneapolis with no plans on where they'll be living, only that it won't be here in the city. My clients are not signing new contracts for work or travel here, as they worry about their safety and reputation. My coworkers are not renewing their leases in Uptown or Downtown this summer, worrying there will be another wave of riots.

I'm just as afraid of what this will do to Minneapolis' image just as much as I'm worried about my wife walking to the gym downtown by herself.

I've worked downtown Minneapolis for years and never felt unsafe thanks to the presence of the police. No police department is perfect, especially in a big city, but establishing a new department to replace them will be the final nail in the coffin for my family to leave Minnesota in 2021.

6/30/2020 3:20:28 AM

I am a person who welcomes change, especially change for the better. Removing the police department is not that. I love attending sporting events, concerts restaurants within Minneapolis. If this amendment passes I, and my extended family, will no longer attend those events within the city limits. I will not send my children to any college within Minneapolis where there is no formal police department. Nor will I recommend event locations for company parties, such as the previously done Budweiser deck at Target Field. The proposed is a reaction taken out of pain. Not one of thought out, data driven stats.

In addition, I know multiple MPD officers who do wonderful things for the citizens of Minneapolis daily. They've done more for their community members than any recent protest has. I hope the multiple good MPD encounters still stand for something when making this decision. Personally I know many parents already looking to move out of Minneapolis and remove their children from the schools within. Not only that, you will see a decline, and high turnover of teachers, if this passes. School incidents are not going to go away, you now will be changing who will now handle those issues.

In closing- my heart aches for the change that is needed. However this is not it.

6/30/2020 3:27:32 AM

So you're going to spend millions of dollars and 'rebrand' the police department, but continue to maintain law enforcement?

Your approach to this situation is doing nothing but driving a wedge into this country. As the violence continues and crime increases, please make sure to remember your roles in assisting the downfall of modern society in this country.

Your tax base is going to plummet as the suburbs start their mass exodus as well, good luck in all of the government funded social welfare you're planning.

6/30/2020 3:34:55 AM

I back our police, sheriffs and other law enforcement. Minneapolis would be insane to give into the mob's demands. We see what is happening. BLM funnels money to Democrats through ActBlue. It's a conflict of interest to say the least. Al Capone would be proud of Minneapolis' elected officials.

What is being considered by Minneapolis at the moment would be suicide for the city. Crime rates will skyrocket worse than they already have since late May.

The civil society needs law and order. These riots should have been shut down on day one to prevent it from further escalation.

Keep the police funded and shut down the riots.

Thanks

6/30/2020 4:10:00 AM

I am against strongly of defunding the police. I am for reforming police. I believe a police officer should live where they work so they can get to know the people that they are protecting.

6/30/2020 4:17:15 AM

Stupidest thing I have ever heard of!

6/30/2020 4:21:21 AM

I mean we might as well give it a chance. The current system is not working, so what have we got to lose? At the same time I haven't lived in Minneapolis for like 8 years so you probably shouldn't listen too much to me hahaha

6/30/2020 4:32:55 AM

Used to be mpls resident for 23 years. I find the city council to be incompetent and absolutely crazy to abolish the police department. They should be abolished themselves. Maybe abolish the union but the police. Come on now. I love what the majority of the police do. They do protect and serve.

6/30/2020 4:43:35 AM

This is not a utopia where we can keep criminal activity at bay by hoping people are nice and follow laws.

This action will push people out of the city; you have no clue what you are doing.

The tax revenue loss from businesses and from residents will leave you with far less funding for "change". Have you seen residential real estate trends in Minneapolis over the last month compared to a year ago?

Clueless, reckless, out of touch with reality

6/30/2020 4:46:08 AM

I live in outstate MN and I currently feel the Mpls area is unsafe. I typically travel to the area for sports, entertainment and dining. I will not risk my life for these recreational events in Minneapolis so as long as the mob mentality remains. It will take a lot of creative media and advertising for the majority of people to return to spend money in your area. Memories are long. Pictures of the burned buildings are vivid. Best wishes on turning public views positive. In the meantime I will travel to Duluth & Fargo which are equal distance to my hometown & appear to be safer options than Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 4:50:10 AM

I just "started" going back downtown last year particularly to get my haircut. I really wanted to go back but with parking being so expensive I was waffling if I really wanted to spend the money again. Because I really liked the haircut, I decided I would and I did. Now with all the unrest and this abolishing the police force, there is NO way, especially un-escorted. I know this sounds petty, but this is just one person among many who will also not go downtown because of the safety issues. In the olden days, my cousin and I would go school clothes shopping and have lunch and it was a really big treat. I beg you to consider what this move would do to commerce and events. Minneapolis "used" to be cool but now seems to moving in the direction of Detroit.

6/30/2020 4:55:39 AM

I oppose this. It is not a plan and has been hurried along.

When there is a solid plan in place, that will be the proper time to put it on the ballot.

6/30/2020 4:57:43 AM

I am a Vikings fan. I have been a season ticket holder for the past 25 years. If the MPD is disbanded or even defunded, I will never step foot in Minneapolis again, not even gor a VWO Kong's game.

6/30/2020 5:00:10 AM

I would never, ever, vote yes to remove the Minneapolis Police Department. I expect my tax dollars to pay for Police officers.

6/30/2020 5:04:06 AM

I have worked in downtown Minneapolis for almost 15 years. The only time I feel comfortable walking from my bus or car to the office is when I see police officers on the street and in the skyway around me. I have been harassed and threatened multiple times and coworkers have been assaulted, mugged and raped and because of this we are all encouraged to never walk alone to and from work. If police officers (who can strictly enforce the law) are no longer policing the areas where people just hang out, deal drugs, harass people walking by, etc. I will no longer feel safe coming to work and will plead to work from home permanently or find another employer outside of the downtown area.

Reform is needed, more training is needed, adding more social workers, therapists, alternatives to police are a good thing so it can be decided who fits each call coming in and adding peace officers to patrol along side the police officers is great. But placing people in the streets to be the friends of everyone isn't going to make the actual criminals stop anything, I would expect to see a much higher rate of violence when they have nothing to fear and have no consequences for their actions. My opinion is that highly trained officers should be added, who are specially trained to deal with the workings of inner city issues and crimes (but still actual police officers) be added, in order to make the city safe, reduce the amount of people hanging around the streets (not coming or going from anywhere) looking for opportunities to commit crimes.

6/30/2020 5:08:40 AM

I think you guys are really dumb! It doesn't matter what you call it. A police department is a police department. Is there going to be a transition period? Will old officers be hired back and what percent. Will officers who are Let go get severence pay? How much is this going to cost the city? How much is private security for counsel members costing?

6/30/2020 5:23:11 AM

I am 100% in disagreement with making any change this fast. To put this on the ballot of which will hopefully be the largest voter turnout ever is completely irresponsible. There is no way you will educate the public in this short of time. We do not want uneducated voters making this type of decision. I am also 100% in support of our current Chief. As a resident I am instead asking you to do what is necessary to give him the power to make the decisions he believes is necessary to take control of the police department. The 12 respected officers who spoke up in support of the Chief should be listened to. The power of the union is what needs to be resolved. Give the Chief the ability to do so.

6/30/2020 5:23:17 AM

I live on the border of Minneapolis and St. Paul. I work as a paramedic in the metro and work with police officers everyday. I agree with changing the roles of police officers and they should not be handling calls of mental health, minor domestic issues, and some non-emergent/emergent medical 911 calls. Dismantling the police sounds like getting rid of them entirely, which is dangerous, since we have already seen an increase in shootings since the death of Floyd. I am 100% on board with social workers or mental health experts to respond to those 911 calls of mental health. The problem now is that police officers are the only ones who can write a transport hold on non cooperative suicidal/homicidal patients to be taken to the hospital by ambulance. For this reason, PD are required to come to mental health calls. I think PD should have less on their plate for responsibilities so they can focus on crime issues that they are actually trained for in their academies. They do not get extensive training on medical calls or issues, and most of the time do not need to be there. As an extra precaution, when police are going to make an arrest, they should call for paramedics when they call for back up and their supervisor. This would ensure that suspects receive medical attention right away and even stop police from causing harm like in the instance of George Floyd. PD is necessary for safety, but take all the extra non crime related issues off their plates. Make them experts in their fields of crime with the focus on how to do those calls well.

6/30/2020 5:35:24 AM

I agree the police force needs to be revised however, it's not wise to get rid of the police or amend so quickly, rather than stages.. I am originally from the city of Detroit and Pontic, MI which is a suburb of Detroit. We didn't have police or a strong lack thereof and the violent crimes were ignored, more criminals moved in and the cities are in shambles. Also, I lived in Minneapolis from 2002-2012 and still have a business at Lake/Lyndale, though we currently live in St. Louis Park.

I'm all for revising however, would hate to see more crime and the businesses leave our beautiful city.

Thank you

6/30/2020 5:36:55 AM

I don't trust you at all, leave the city charter alone. You activists are great at causing division but you've never worked a day in your life. In your rush to remake Minneapolis in your image you've abandoned logic and embraced a mob mentality. Not only must this ballot initiative fail but you should all resign. If you want to change the charter in an honest way you need public comments for the next year, you need consensus from everyone, not just some bullshit that got rammed through on an election year. Quit your job and go eat rocks.

6/30/2020 5:39:26 AM

Good Morning,

I am not a Minneapolis resident but I participate in a lot of activities in Minneapolis as a Twin Cities resident. If you disband the police, I will not set foot in Minneapolis ever again. Yes, the police force needs to change but I fully expect a situation like what happened in Seattle or a heightened case rioting, looting, and worse than what happened after Mr. Floyd's death. I am already not spending any money in your town because of Mayor Frey's encouragement to tattle on people not wearing masks indoors. Minneapolis, you are an embarrassment to the world.

6/30/2020 5:40:10 AM

I would like to read the full proposed charter amendment before I comment. How the hell can you call for public comments and not publish somewhere . . . unless I missed it . . . the entire amendment?

As an observation . . . there's always an outcry for "public comment", but the details to make an intelligent comment are often buried somewhere.

I've watched the Mpls Clown Council diddle with inane non-essentials while people get killed and racism runs rampant for 30 yrs. Truly . . . I have never seen such incredibly foolish governance.

6/30/2020 5:40:45 AM

Please do not defund the police. Most Minnesotans support the police and do not want to live somewhere where criminals rule the land. Innocent citizens will find ways to protect themselves and more people will die because they know that there are no police to help them.

6/30/2020 5:43:34 AM

Dismantling the Police Force is a foolish decision that will only bring about lawlessness and disorder to the city of Minneapolis, that even with a current Police Force has high crime that disproportionately afflicts minority and poor people. How are you protecting your constituents?? As a Minnesota citizen I will never visit Minneapolis without a Police Force in place.

6/30/2020 5:46:52 AM

Yes, absolutely! MPD is a rotten apple barrel that will infect anything else put in it; it's time for a brand new organization. There are many excellent and admirable MPD officers; we owe it to them as well to give them an organization worthy of their value which allows them to show how much good they can really do. Anyone from the old organization who wants a job in the new one should have to apply and pass its actually rigorous requirements.

Important: if we are truly asking these folks to project and serve, then \*public\* safety (including criminals, as best possible) is 'job #1' , \*not\* their own. "I was afraid for my life" should be a defense or reasoning they give up a right to use when they take the job that's given the city sanctioned monopoly on use of violence. (This does mean we need to pay well enough to actually compensate for that expectation, to attract the best and the brightest, and to make sure our selection criteria is stringent enough. )

6/30/2020 5:49:13 AM

I think it would be a horrible mistake to get rid of the police. What we need is more order in Minneapolis. We need psychological evaluations sms some revision in processes for the police. We also need more funding to adequately go to proper places. I believe that residents attempting to play vigilante will cause more harm for the elderly, the disabled, and the children. Please don't do this terrible thing and ruin the good citizens out of the community. We need our police.

6/30/2020 5:49:47 AM

No, do not remove the police. Look at your council members receiving "security" at this very moment, taking our tax payer money and funding your own safety and you want to defund/remove the police and take them away!!!! Are you insane?!! That's so hypocritical!!! Leave the MPLS police where they should be.

Look at what Mpls is right now. It's a shit show. Leave the police!!

6/30/2020 5:55:59 AM

This is a terrible idea. The City Council is completely incompetent to handle this issue. Police reform is needed, not a half thought out idea, merely designed to garner headlines. Our city, already pushed to the brink though bad leadership will descend into chaos.

6/30/2020 6:04:33 AM

If the City of Minneapolis goes through with replacing police with community workers I will never enter the city again. How dare you take away security for not only the residents of Minneapolis, but commuters and visitors as well. The fall-out from this action will be devastating. You are turning our beautiful gem of a city into a no-go zone.

Angry in Apple Valley

6/30/2020 6:04:44 AM

This is sheer stupidity of the highest order. You will ruin the city, but I believe you already know that. Don't.

6/30/2020 6:08:42 AM

The majority of police are good people who perform well under challenging circumstances. Get rid of the "bad apples" who have numerous complaints against them, but keep and encourage the good ones. Do not act in haste. Publicly praise the good works of many Minneapolis cops. They are getting a bum rap.

6/30/2020 6:08:47 AM

You are failing this city and making ridiculous moves. The one place in America that did this ended up doubling the number of law enforcement personnel and their "improvement" in reducing crime was on Pat with the rest of the nation. In other words, it was a complete waste off tax dollars for nothing except pandering to the lowest common denominator of society.

Here's a novel idea. If you want to reduce negative police encounters, get people to stop committing crimes and when questioned by the police to stop acting like fools. I know, that sounds crazy. Expecting people to act like respectful adults instead of petulant children.

6/30/2020 6:10:15 AM

ARE YOU KIDDING!!! While I don't live in the city limits I travel there for business and pleasure all the time. I will NO LONGER be traveling there for any reason. Common sense is completely gone from the democratic party. I will no longer be voting that way ever again. You get rid of the police and you are welcome to live in the shithole you have created. You have completely failed the taxpayers.

6/30/2020 6:11:33 AM

Good idea, get rid of the toxic poisonous disease racist personnel, and start fresh. Mr Kroll needs to go first.

6/30/2020 6:12:14 AM

I grew up and lived in Minneapolis most of my life. Many of those years in the Lake Harriet, Lyn-Lake and Loring Park areas. The death of George Floyd is a tragedy of epic proportions for the black community and City as a whole. The riots and destruction of property are a result of many years of systemic racism, a pandemic, anger and frustration. However, removing the Police Department is not the answer. It's like throwing out the baby with the bathwater -- and, a knee jerk reaction. The City would be better off working to remove the President of the Police Union. He is a cancer to the City. There are bad cops, -- get rid of them - not those who truly do "Protect and Serve". I am sad to say, that for the first time that I am glad to have moved out of a City I have loved all of my life.

6/30/2020 6:13:28 AM

I'm not in favor of defunding the police.

6/30/2020 6:13:52 AM

I am 100% in favor of replacing the corrupt minneapolis police department with a system that actually works. The police are funded right now and arent doing there jobs or are overworked.

6/30/2020 6:15:22 AM

Do NOT Disband the police!!

As a licensed Substance abuse counselor for 13 years I think disbanding the police department is a crazy idea!! In all my years of acute, high intensity inpatient,/outpatient Working with men/women with high levels of mental health issues and on substances, I would NEVER advise a co-worker or Anyone in the social /helping services field, perform duties replacing Police! This is the most ridiculous idea ever to disband police! We need them! We want them! We need to get rid of the lawmakers that let the city burn!!!

6/30/2020 6:15:26 AM

I would prefer to see how this new system will handle violent crime. You can call the department whatever you want, but the underlying question is how will this be addressed.

6/30/2020 6:15:47 AM

We live blocks from the murder site and protests, and the destroyed neighborhood is where we go for everything. We are people of color. We are low income. I grew up in this country in a higher income bracket, in a suburb, and was still taught by my brown father not to trust the police.

We know the police are a relic of the need to enforce the legal capture, enslavement, and segregation of people of African descent, although their harm is not limited to Black folks. They continue to traumatize all peoples of color and indigenous peoples as we live our lives and fail to protect us when we really do need protection, as demonstrated by their response to George Floyd and to the white supremacists thereafter. But also whenever we have needed assistance with health, mental health, or domestic issues.

We want no reference to the police or their continued existence in the Charter.

With resources, including but not limited to street-level training, we can co-create another model of healing, care, safety, and violence prevention.

6/30/2020 6:17:14 AM

not so fast. who are we kidding? you can't live in any society much less a multi-cultural one and not expect the need for emergency protection services and other services. you might have got the talk but I gotta say you have gotta walk the talk. humble thy selves gentlemen like for just a few minutes and give everyone a break. the police also don't need to go bizzaro. got tabs on cars for reason. got brains in skull for use. always put off till tomorrow what will endanger people in the moment if possible. investigate later. one more thing.. judicial law. where is it. where is common sense. confine if need be, educate prisoners for transfer to tech. school to learn a trade that pays. then let free. this judicial rage throwing people in for life for misbehavior is absurd. female judges throwing the likes of bill cosby or movie mongle harvy Weinstein in for naughtiness while trying to help ambitious young girls is not right. out=ragious. thanks for letting me get that off my chest.

6/30/2020 6:17:17 AM

Please take the wind out of the sails of those who oppose this amendment by fleshing it out with details and timelines. It would be terrible to miss this opportunity simply because opponents were given the ability to spread fear and distrust by suggesting what might happen instead of having to defend their position of no or very limited change/reform. Please, fully design the new system in order to keep the process on track.

6/30/2020 6:17:45 AM

I deliver packages via Fedex to the community of Minneapolis and I am strongly opposed to the idea of weakening the police force. I see many drug dealers on the street already with Heroin being a major dealt drug. I certainly will not feel safe knowing the city is Facilitating illegal activity of drug dealers by crippling the ability of strong police officers on the street. Violence will become unbearable and the city will lose many silent residents who never had there voices heard. This is the wrong decision by the city council.

6/30/2020 6:19:53 AM

I will not patronize ANY metro businesses.. I will not travel to the metro at ALL if you remove the police... I will go to Desmond instead if need be

6/30/2020 6:20:17 AM

We need more, better trained police. Please do not remove the police department. I live at [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Crime has only increased since May. We have constant shootings, aggressive individuals (on foot and in cars), fireworks all night, car vandalisms and break ins, etc.. I've never seen so many cars speed down alleys and side roads—constantly. People have felt emboldened to disregard the law, and now this neighborhood is worse than before. Removing the police sends a tacit approval of increased crime. Multiple, law-abiding home owners are talking about moving away from this area. If City Council removes the police, this neighborhood won't recover. Dissolve the police union, but let the Minneapolis police chief enact reform.

6/30/2020 6:21:59 AM

I don't live in Minneapolis but because of COVID-19 I'll have to go there to renew my carry permit. As a responsible gun owner I've always preached the " if you think you need a gun to go there, DON'T GO THERE! Well I don't want to go to your crap hole city! I can't depend on the Mayor or City Council to ensure my safety! Defund the Minneapolis City Council! Reopen the satellite county sheriffs offices so I have a safe place to go and renew my permit!

6/30/2020 6:22:12 AM

If they dissolve funding of police force in Minneapolis, . I WILL NEVER step foot back in Minneapolis. And yes, that includes USBank Stadium.

6/30/2020 6:22:20 AM

I will never enter the city of Minneapolis again fro any reason if the charter is amended.

6/30/2020 6:23:24 AM

I work downtown Minneapolis and have watched the city become more violent over the past year or so to a point I will not stay downtown for happy hour and take the light rail home. You let this beautiful city burn to the ground by your inactions and now you want to take the one thing away that is keeping any semblance of peace?? Yes our police need retraining and reform. But most of our police are good and we need them. Take them away and I will never come to mpls again and spend my money as I will not feel safe. You should all be ashamed of yourselves for creating this monster for years. People need to be held accountable..that includes police, criminals and you!

6/30/2020 6:24:15 AM

Absolutely not!

6/30/2020 6:25:15 AM

Dear Council Members,

While not a resident of Minneapolis, I lived in Minneapolis as a child and up till 3 years ago as an adult and homeowner. I now live within a mile of the border, and frequent Minneapolis neighborhoods and businesses for the majority of my shopping, dining out, etc. That will end abruptly should you move forward with your "dismante the police" plans that would leave a city already crumbling under well intentioned but harmful progressive policy, incapable of recovery.

I cannot stress how vehemently I oppose your plans. They are not good for the residents of Minneapolis. They are not good for the businesses of Minneapolis. They will destroy the very neighborhoods you intend to help, especially those facing challenges already. They will deter trade and events coming to Minneapolis. And innocent people will die. That's the reality. I've read your ideas and policy surrounding

the issue and frankly, it naive and based on an urban utopia that does not currently exist. The reality is that crime is rising, gun crime is rising, and lawlessness is taking over. We need a LARGER police presence to deter, not a smaller police presence which will only embolden those intent on destruction.

Your ideas may feel good. But they don't do good. And that, equals bad policy.

Please do not proceed. The future of the city hangs in the balance. And not all can afford the private security you have employed to keep you safe. Most rely on the police. Please don't take that safeguard away.

6/30/2020 6:25:20 AM

I think this is a great idea. As long as we also have a carefully crafted contract with the police union to make sure they are unable to abuse their powers this will fundamentally change public safety in Minneapolis. I'm very excited for us to be a test case in police reform.

6/30/2020 6:25:40 AM

If you defund the Minneapolis Police I will not visit or spend money in your city. It is already not safe, more so following the riots and destruction the mayor, city council and governor let happen and continue.

6/30/2020 6:26:10 AM

I can not believe the city council are that stupid to want to disband the police department. This has gone way too far. What happened was a tragedy and the officers will be held accountable but to blanket the rest of the police force as bad due to that officer is outrageous. We have more good police officers than bad, we have more bad politicians than good.

6/30/2020 6:26:40 AM

Removing the police department is not a smart move. We need police protection and I don't believe the city council has thought long term about what is going to happen if they remove the police department. I don't believe a majority of Minneapolis wants to abolish the police department, they're listening to the loudest group of people who want to abolish. Look at the increased violence that has occurred recently, and work to fix that. Your police department yes, needs reform. Not to be abolished. I work downtown, and thank god we are working from home until further notice because I refuse to go downtown and honestly am terrified for when I have to return.

6/30/2020 6:26:44 AM

You are doing a lot of harm to Minnesota if this proceeds forward. Personally, I would not feel safe having to rely on peace officers for protection and would therefore no longer go into downtown Mpls for this reason. Mpls has become very unsafe and this move would make an already bad situation worse.

I do believe a lot of outside visitors to our beautiful State will feel the same. They will come to Minnesota as we have such a beautiful state but will avoid any time in Mpls. Tourism revenue would be a loss for Mpls for this reason.

6/30/2020 6:27:14 AM

They've already removed themselves. Bringing in social workers, Mental health professionals, and PEACEOFFICERS might be the only way to heal wounds of the nature that people have been hurt. Disband YES.

Bring in seasoned and trained officers that want to make a difference in community support for patrolling, different group for domestic assault, and so on, specialized and trained in the many areas and not quick to judge. look at the community in a different light.

6/30/2020 6:29:40 AM

This is insane. There is a reason we need police. Public safety. Throughout history, organized governments in municipalities have had police forces. Why are we so different?

Do we want to return to the vigilante days of the Wild West? North Side Black families are speaking up to request help after recent shootings. Social workers ain't going to do it in those situations. If you were a drug dealer with a gun you would scoff at that ..open season, right?

Reform, but do not abolish.

And instead tackle the real problem: the union contract that often allows the ability to retain fired officers!

6/30/2020 6:30:36 AM

I have a lot of work in Minneapolis and have great concern for this city. This move is literally a political move to get rid of a word (police). The city council is using smoke and mirrors to make a name for themselves while putting the city at risk. This is not only insane, it is completely irresponsible for any sort of leader to make such a knee jerk political move for their own benefit. With the exception of our "murderapolis" period, there has never been a time where we have needed police more. Mr Floyd was murdered and those officers should be dealt with. No question. But people calling themselves leaders are doing nothing but undermining any sort of public safety when you break down this force.

6/30/2020 6:31:29 AM

I do not want the MPD defunded. Expanding the MPD to include social workers for help with the mentally ill and domestic problems would be a good idea. Also more training for the current staff is a much better solution than getting rid everyone and starting over. I think the funding should be increased for the MPD.

6/30/2020 6:31:41 AM

Please Vote No on this amendment.

Vote No because the taxpaying residents of Minneapolis deserve a voice in this process and time to help create a meaningful plan before considering any amendments to its charter.

Vote No to help restore faith that process, laws, and ordinances are in place to protect ALL Minneapolis. Help stop the very irrational behaviors of what appears as secret backroom decision making by a few for attempted political headlines that only further silences and victimizes the resident taxpayers of Minneapolis--AGAIN! As if COVID, and Lake Street terror and destruction werent bad enough?!.Help placed-based LOCAL taxpaying residents have a VOICE by Voting No to this amendment.

The City Council by unanimously approving this amendment and then choosing to use a city recognized unrecommended process appears to be nothing more than an attempt to bypass residents and bypassing the City required due diligence of true LOCAL not National community engagement.

Choosing also to have the Charter Commission take on that role of conducting a public comment period with less than 36 business hours notice feels disengenuous and deceitful. To ask residents to comment on a moving target? Comment on an amendment that was created at great costs to taxpayers with legal counsel and stafftime that already has been altered from the first reading, has no supporting public input or public plan, that is a duplicitly posed question, and even as Mayor Frey stated the amendment "lacks clarity".

The City Council needs to do its work first and develop a plan by doing the LOCAL place based community engagement work first as a first step to restoring order and peace in this City rather than focusing on making decisions with an activist mindset that create chaos for the next headline on CNN--- or they wont have a city left to manage. Is that this City Councils intended "plan"? No one can say for sure.

I value my life too much and am afraid every day and night now for the safety of my coworkers, friends, and the families lives I work with in Minneapolis. I have no intention of returning to Mpls for my work or shopping, or other until peace and order are restored. Which now appears will take decades to recover from. It will take even a larger MPD budget and an even larger force to recover from the destructive and fear creating decisions these Council Members have made.

Demanding change without a voice, process and a plan only perpetuates fear and creates further chaos!

Please stop the chaos! Help restore the peace.

Please Vote NO!

6/30/2020 6:32:50 AM

This a horrible idea. Replace the City Council.

6/30/2020 6:33:59 AM

I will not be going to MPLS if you defund the police. It is bad enough that you let it burn. Now this!

6/30/2020 6:35:07 AM

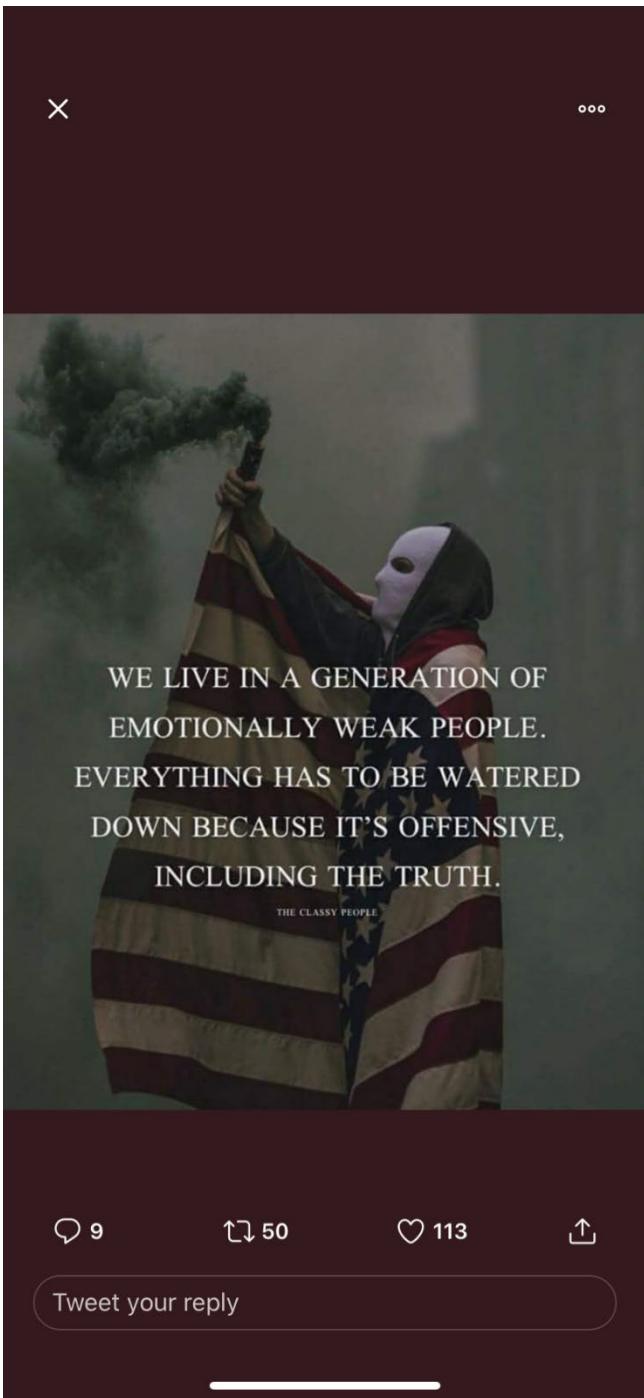
Replacing the police department is by far one of the biggest mistakes that could be made. It makes me wonder who is in charge of this decision because I think those individuals should be immediately removed. Law and Order. I absolutely do not support this decision. I live in Duluth Mn and this better not come to our city.

6/30/2020 6:35:18 AM

I agree with the new proposal. I want to see more extensive training and psychological testing with new and existing officers, to help predict behavior and to help them lessen the stress of the job. This may cost more, but it is less than paying out on lawsuits. Also if an officer received more than two complaints their position should be re-evaluated by a civilian board made up of Minneapolis residents. All officers HAVE to live in the city in which they serve.

6/30/2020 6:35:32 AM

Replacing the police department is by far one of the biggest mistakes that could be made. It makes me wonder who is in charge of this decision because I think those individuals should be immediately removed. Law and Order. I absolutely do not support this decision. I live in Duluth Mn and this better not come to our city.



6/30/2020 6:36:47 AM

i hope to see a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department implemented for the Minneapolis city. The cops have failed in their duty to protect Minneapolis citizens from harm they created when murdering innocent life like George Floyd.

6/30/2020 6:37:12 AM

My employer is in the heart of the city. I oppose of such an outrageous plan. This is not safe!!

6/30/2020 6:38:37 AM

Any changes made to the charter to allow for the defunding and dismantling of the MPD need to ensure that the current culture and practices of the MPD are not replicated in a new form. The new department should not be led by current or former law enforcement officers and the charter amendment needs to make this clear. Otherwise it'll just be a police department with a new name.

6/30/2020 6:39:46 AM

If there is not a police department in the city of Minneapolis, I will never step foot in that city again. I will not eat at your restaurants or attend any events.

6/30/2020 6:39:58 AM

If you remove your police force and replace with a department that is not sworn to protect the laws of this state and of the Constitution, I will not recognize their authority. Furthermore, neither I nor my family will ever visit your city or spend money there again. I pray that the citizens of Minneapolis vote against this stupidity and vote to remove the members of the council that put this forth. You can improve your existing police without damning your city to become another Baltimore or Detroit. Also, when your tax base implodes, do not come begging to the county or state for bail out.

6/30/2020 6:41:03 AM

My family is absolutely against this crazy proposal to defund and or abolish MPD. We hope this City Council is defunded!! They truly do not support anyone, only their current agenda to remove MPD. The Councilors do not reply to our emails or calls regarding this issue. Of course we can't show our disapproval because of covid19 restrictions at meetings. I've lived here 40 years and always had positive feelings towards the MPD. I work and live in Mpls and this idea of disbanding police is the last straw for us. We will take our money elsewhere, a community that's supports the Police and safety of its citizens. During the riots, our Elected Officials failed the law abiding and scared residents of Mpls. They were elected to do a job and they have failed us, and only support their crazy, far left agendas.

6/30/2020 6:41:34 AM

As a criminal defense attorney, I can say without hesitation or hyperbole that a vast overwhelming majority of the time a crime is committed ... armed, licensed peace officers with arrest authority are neither necessary nor appropriate responders to the situation at hand. We need bottom-up critical re-evaluation of how and when armed agents of the city/state should be called upon (if at all) to address complaints of wrongdoing. We should be restricting their use and authority to act only to situations where the threat of violence is immediate (e.g. 'there's an intruder in my house', or an active shooter at large). Otherwise they should be available to render assistance at a scene as a last resort when deescalation strategies have failed. We need to stop taking people into custody at the outset for all offenses where no violence or injury has occurred.

The decades-long expansion of 'policing' generally has failed as an experiment. It's time for a new approach. Our problems cannot be reformed. We need to start over.

6/30/2020 6:42:36 AM

If you have no police my family and I will never come visit your state again. We try and see you zoo the mall of America at least 2 time a year.

6/30/2020 6:46:29 AM

I live very close to Minneapolis and my business is located across the Lake Street bridge on Marshall Avenue. The Mpls city council needs to be abolished and not the police. Never heard of anything more utterly moronic in my entire life. Minneapolis is becoming the armpit of our nation

6/30/2020 6:47:22 AM

I live 2 blocks outside of Minneapolis, northside. I am an anti-racist. I am also someone who understands our desperate need for the third executive branch of our government, law enforcement. The violence in North Minneapolis has exploded ever since the cops became

overwhelmed with protests. I used to frequent Minneapolis and do my shopping there. I no longer feel safe. Teenagers with guns are stealing cars at gunpoints. Daily shoot outs are happening in the streets. We need police presence, or gangs will fully rule. It's just the way things are. If you remove law enforcement, you remove the law, and I am not interested in living in a city governed only by gangs.

6/30/2020 6:48:04 AM

Replace the normal police officer with an unarmed peace officer.

Get rid of the bad apples, thoroughly screen and go through every officer and axe all of the ones connected to hate groups or who post hateful messages.

Require more training for peace officers to help solve problems and recognize delicate situations.

Immediately punish current police officers who commit murder of unarmed people.

Legalize marijuana/cannabis use

Abolish mandatory minimum sentences

Reform/rehabilitate inmates through education

Stop locking up mentally ill people

End cash bail

Just to name a few things that could reform all of the justice system not just the police

6/30/2020 6:49:08 AM

I support law enforcement. Like all jobs, they are filled by humans. Humans make errors, humans can be wrong. We need to fix people, not get rid of a job that does so much good. I am from a small town and feel safe knowing my local enforcement is here if I need them or don't. My husband and I often dine in Minneapolis and are able to do so because we feel safe knowing if something happens, enforcement is there. I believe that without that presence, crime will rise and people may choose to act on criminal behavior that they otherwise might not. We've chosen to look elsewhere for dining options (hopefully temporarily) and miss the places we would go. I'd love for the Minneapolis police to remain funded and have the support of their city.

6/30/2020 6:49:43 AM

I was a resident of Minneapolis for many years and have thought about returning. I would never do so if you get rid of the police department. As a resident, we had a great relationship with the police. In fact we celebrated that every year on national night out in August.

Currently we attend events and establishments in Minneapolis frequently, whether that is restaurants, bars or concerts. I worried with all the crime downtown this past winter but did not stop, however if you get rid of the police department it would end any time we spend in Minneapolis.

Minneapolis is a great city and has always been a great place to visit. Please don't ruin a great thing.

6/30/2020 6:50:30 AM

I am a graduate student at the University of Minnesota. Although I reside in Burnsville, I spend the majority of my waking hours in Minneapolis. I have always felt safe on campus. However, since murder of George Floyd there has been a significant decrease in police presence and a sharp increase in violent crimes committed on campus. The unrest in Minneapolis has been trickling on to the UMN campus and without a police presence it will only get worse. Abolishing a police department would be so insanely detrimental to our city and the surrounding areas. There has been over 100 shootings in Minneapolis since Memorial Day. How can a "holistic, mental health-oriented" approach alleviate a violent crime when it is occurring? Show me a list of mental health experts who would willingly run towards gunshots to save members of our community. I don't understand how the city council think they could send non-police officers into violent situations to handle issues like active shooters or domestic assault. I wholeheartedly agree with Mayor Frey. It is clear that our Minneapolis PD needs to be held to a higher

standard and they are in need of more training. In order to achieve these goals we must not defund or dismantle the police department. The PD needs adequate funding for retraining. I also believe we should have more funding for community outreach programs, as we need to start mending the divide between law enforcement and members of our community.

6/30/2020 6:50:34 AM

It's absolutely crazy what you're doing! You'll lose business, and decent law abiding residents for gangs. You can see how many tents are already up. It's disgusting also how you get private security while your city is left to fend for themselves. Terrible.

6/30/2020 6:51:16 AM

Disbanding then police department is an absolutely ridiculous idea. I am not a resident of the city. However I visit often. Crime is going to rise and tourism is going to drop, significantly. If you want to create change you should facilitate conversation with the Minneapolis police department. There is focus on the military and PTSD for military troops. Why isn't there the same focus for police officers?? I should also note that city council having private security is hypocritical. If you move forward to disband the police, they should have to forgo their protection.

6/30/2020 6:52:23 AM

Replace MPD with a department of individuals with extensive training in crisis management, de-escalation tactics, and with a lot of empathy training to serve the public. Fund programs to help people at risk for turning to criminal activity.

6/30/2020 6:53:16 AM

I think disbanding the MPD is a terrible idea. The massive increase in shootings and violent crime that have been occurring over the summer should be an indication of why an effective police force is necessary.

6/30/2020 6:53:30 AM

As a Minneapolis citizen and social worker, I strongly support the proposal to remove the police department and establish a Community of Safety and Violence Prevention Department. As a mental health social worker I frequently work closely with police officers, and I see firsthand that they are not equipped to deal with what is often being asked of them. Divesting from the enormous budget that the MPD has and allocating that to services that support the community is a must. Black, brown, and low income communities need services and supports in place NOT more patrolling. The police are killing our citizens and we cannot continue to allow that to happen.

6/30/2020 6:53:40 AM

I beg you not to take away the police. You should actually be adding and training them better.

As a resident of the suburbs, I love attending sporting events and concerts. We ride the green line and because of the Metro Transit Police always feel comfortable. Being able to go to the Farmers Market, walk for coffee while my daughter practices at Vertical Endeavors and visit museums are all things I thoroughly enjoy. We occasionally splurge on high end restaurants.

If you take away the police I will not visit Minneapolis. I don't want to see social workers negotiating with mentally ill, deranged people. I am not okay with violent crime.

There are a lot of other really nice city's with great events and restaurants that still value their police force - that's where I'll be spending my time.

6/30/2020 6:54:23 AM

I do not live in Minneapolis but I own property there. I think it is a mistake to defund the Minneapolis Police Department and that this will lead to an increase in violent crime such as we have seen in the past couple of weeks. I also fear that this will make Minneapolis a haven for impaired drivers and increase traffic deaths.

6/30/2020 6:54:44 AM

It is absolute bullshit what you are doing to the city of Minneapolis. There is souch crime yet you choose to ignore it thinking peace officers will solve something. Do you know how many shootings happen? How many stabbings and rapes happen?

There is a reason the city council isn't respected and is called the city CLOWNcil because you do stupid acts like this and leave your city out to be gutted.

YOU ALL SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELVES

6/30/2020 6:55:19 AM

No, I do not support this amendment. All cities need a police force, but that does not mean reforms are not needed. Continuing this dangerous and decisive rhetoric is irresponsible and does nothing to address the real issues of racism or excessive violence. If this passes we will lose businesses, the drug problems will continue to get worse, and residents will be far less safe because of it. I agree that bad officers need to go, but this is a foolish proposal rooted in emotion, not logic.

6/30/2020 6:55:36 AM

I fully support defunding the police and creating a public safety organization that includes social workers and medics, etc. We have the opportunity to do something historic, innovative, and creative. Most of the police officers in the Minneapolis police dept need to go!

6/30/2020 6:55:51 AM

Without a clear plan to back the proposed changes, I cannot write a 'blank check' to the city council. Haste makes waste, and a thoughtful approach is preferred over 'winging it'.

6/30/2020 6:56:30 AM

There simply has not been ample time for the residents of Minneapolis to provide public input on this. Not enough time for our voices to be heard. Nobody will probably read this, given the short timeframe before your meeting, which is exactly why this is completely irresponsible of the City Council. Please be the checks and balance that is very much lacking in Minneapolis. A charter amendment that will remove funding from an already underfunded force without a plan to move forward is completely unacceptable.

6/30/2020 6:57:35 AM

As someone who visits Minneapolis, stays in hotels multiple times a year, as well as sends my employees to and through Minneapolis, I will be forced to change my personal and business practices if the proposed changes are implemented. These changes are knee jerk reactions from people who have absolutely zero experience in law enforcement. Instead of the knee here reactions with no experience or legitimate first hand knowledge, every council member should spend multiple shifts working along side the law enforcement officers of Minneapolis PD. If at that time, this same change seems necessary, so be it. However, if this change is implemented my and my families business will go else where (sad, we love downtown) and I will be forced to protect my employees well being and safety and not have them visit Minneapolis and enter Minneapolis while on company time.

6/30/2020 6:57:50 AM

I am STRONGLY opposed to fast-tracking the Charter change proposal based on ONE SINGLE PUBLIC HEARING and with NO EXPLICIT PLAN.

This amounts to a BLANK CHECK. Voting for it abdicates your responsibility as public representatives and sets very dangerous precedent.

6/30/2020 6:58:30 AM

Until the city council is revamped and held accountable nothing will change in this city. The council has had over 50 years to address racism and poverty in Mpls and look at the results we have. City Government isn't working and should be completely overhauled and then you can look at the police department along with other departments.

Shame on you for blaming the cops, when it is the council that is the culprit

6/30/2020 6:59:17 AM

I live about 30 miles from Minneapolis and love to come in to the city to watch sporting events, go to concerts, go to fancy restaurants, and see plays. I can tell you that the city will not receive any of my tourist dollars again if you abolish the police department. If you get rid of the PD, I would never feel safe there again. And most definitely would never even think of bringing my children there for a concert, play or dinner.

6/30/2020 6:59:39 AM

Its absolutely crazy and sends the wrong message to the residents of the city. I've lived in MPLS for the last 7 years and was just planning to buy a home in the city limits. That is now on hold due to these extreme politics. I am all for police reform, better training & removal of bad cops.. but this initiate will destroy the city... and promote lawlessness (happening already), and residents will resort to arming themselves for protection. WE NEED POLICE OFFICERS TO ENSURE LAW ORDER & SAFETY TO ALL. Put yourself in the shoes of a good cop & imagine how hard their job is now just to protect & serve. Its unbelievable to me that the city actually thinks this is a viable solution.

6/30/2020 7:00:36 AM

This is the worst idea I've heard. The city council has disgraced our entire state by pushing this agenda. The data doesn't support this drastic of a change and put law abiding citizens at greater risk! We need law and order to keep a civilized world. Although I am not a resident of Minneapolis, I can assure you that I will not come into the city for anything. I've decided to sell my season tickets to MN Twins and Gophers football. Without police, the city council can not guarantee my safety nor that of my family. We will take our business and investments out of the city. Good luck and will painfully watch this city continue to struggle and destruct from afar. More than sad and completely unnecessary.

6/30/2020 7:02:26 AM

I am very much against the proposal to replace the Minneapolis Police Force with any of the proposed public safety ideas. If anything I am in favor of increasing the Police Department, as the Chief of Police has requested, and increasing the salaries and requirements to be a member of the force. A city the size of Minneapolis needs a well trained, community active Police force to protect its citizens and to provide a feeling of security which in turn will encourage new businesses and residents to consider living and working in Minneapolis. If we want a vibrant attractive city we must have a safe city.

6/30/2020 7:02:30 AM

This would be the end of my visits to Mpls & St. Paul I would go to concerts in other venues instead. It is really sad I believe I am not alone in this feeling all of those businesses you are hurting by doing this. There were areas that I didn't feel safe before after all that mpls & St. Paul has let happen you'll be lucky to thrive again!

6/30/2020 7:02:36 AM

I feel that this is a HUGE step forward. Take some things off police officers hands and redistribute those things to the people who should have been dealing with them in the first place (mental health professionals, etc).

6/30/2020 7:03:03 AM

I do not support disbanding the Minneapolis police, but do support adding other resources to address the complicated situation. I am afraid to walk outside of our apartment building due to the increase in crime and violence. We are leaving Minneapolis in November.



6/30/2020 7:03:57 AM

Nobody who is thinking logically would ever agree to this, you think the crime is up now

6/30/2020 7:04:10 AM

I believe we can have both somehow working together. I believe that Minneapolis police officers should be required to reside within city limits so the officer can experience the city they are policing. I do not want to abolish the police department but I do want to have a Safety and Violence Prevention Department. Again, we need both half and half.

6/30/2020 7:04:13 AM

If you defund the police ,I will never step foot in your city again for a big event use to come yo back to the 50s and target center events. But if I can't feel safe in your city I and MY Family will NOT attend anything

6/30/2020 7:07:16 AM

I am a nurse at Abbott northwestern. I think putting more money into the police dept is a better idea to fix the problems. There are problems, there is racism. But every cop is not going to live in Minneapolis that works there. It is a hard job and the worst city to work in as as police officer. There are gangs, there are drugs, prostitution, many shootings. We need our best cops there. We as public need to have respect for what they do every day and support them . You are going to drive away the good police officers with all the craziness and things are going to get worse. Criminals are like heck yeah please disband the police department. Please do better things! The community itself cannot keep the community safe.

6/30/2020 7:07:46 AM

I think defunding the police is the worst idea. No one in Minneapolis has handled this situation well at all. Yes there was reason to protest, but no reason to loot and let them do what they want! The Powderhorn park situation is terrible and needs to be disassembled as well. To take the police and dismantle is the dumbest idea ever. Keep the police and reform what is broken in the first place. I will be moving out of Minneapolis and never bringing my business to it again, as well as making sure my friends and family follow suite if this is what happens. I say no to dismantling the police!

6/30/2020 7:07:51 AM

I think it's a horrible idea to dismantle the police. Stupid. Crime rates will rise and people will start moving out of Mpls. I have many friends who live in Mpls and I personally along with my husband will never step foot in there ever again. The city needs to get better control of rioters and crimes. Those people are not getting arrested but just a slap on the wrist. I have seen many videos of black people beating up random white people downtown. If that was me, calling whatever the supposed new name

would never be able to help me. Talking to a criminal will not get them to stop beating me up. No absolutely not do I agree with what the counsel is proposing. Explain to me why they want to dismantle the police but they have their own private security? Mpls is going down in flames. Thanks alot Frey.

6/30/2020 7:08:06 AM

I love MPLS. Used to go there weekly with friends then now with my family and little ones. I am a strong supporter of the 99% of law enforcement that engage criminals and keep bad areas safe. Our family has agreed to avoid MPLS if this were to pass or even be fully considered. This is our town too, we just don't live it in.

6/30/2020 7:08:16 AM

The move to do this is the most asinine move you could make. The tax paying citizens need the police department along with the protection they give. You will lose all of Minneapolis support if this continues. I for one will not go near the City , and St. Paul, well that's my temporary home if this continues.

6/30/2020 7:08:35 AM

If you vote to have no police force, you're voting to accept whatever consequences come with it. Such as increased crime and violence from those who now know they can get away with it, as well as setting a horrific precedent for other cities across the country.

6/30/2020 7:08:40 AM

Minneapolis Council Members:

Good morning. I am a longtime resident of Minneapolis, and I am also a Minneapolis Police Officer, and a person of color. I have been an officer for 27 years now, with almost all of that time as a street officer. I am currently in charge of our Community Service Officers, and I have worked as a Cadre Officer for our police academy for 10 years prior to that. During my time as an officer I have seen the ugly side of policing, but I have also witnessed the good in both the department and the community. I have always tried to treat everyone with respect and dignity, even under the harshest of conditions. Everyone, despite racial or economic lines deserves that.

What former officer Chauvin did was horrific, and watching that footage shook me to my core. We do not, and have never taught our officers, cadets, or recruits to place a knee on anyone's neck. Make no mistake, Chauvin deserves to be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, and Thao does too. Both of those officers not only failed the City of Minneapolis, they failed this police department, and most important, they failed George Floyd. That man should be alive and with his family now. I cannot express enough my condolences to his family, and deep horror and sadness they must feel.

Does this department need change? Absolutely. Does this department need some of its funding diverted to other resources? Yes, it does. Does this department need to be dismantled? No, it does not. You all have seen what the result of this tragic situation has caused. One City Council member called

this rise in shootings and homicides an "uptick" in crime. It is so much worse than that. We are already suffering under one pandemic. If this police department is dismantled, we will have another pandemic hitting our city. I can't even fathom the crime level spike this will cause, and the loss of life. We must maintain the police department, or some level of it at all costs.

In your plan, you talk about possible social workers replacing officers on some calls. I agree with this. If I might take it a step further, why not have a social worker partner up with an officer for all shifts? The accountability factor would be there, and a civilian social worker would bring a different facet to handling a call. A bulk of our call load involves a certain type of community interaction with our citizens, and not so much a law enforcement role. Save the officer only cars for those priority calls that need a level of enforcement or direct action.

I don't have much time left with the police department, as I'm closing in on 30 years, but I would like to see a department still exist for the newer officers on the department. Please bring the change this city is looking for, move funding around, but please keep this police department intact. They are needed, especially in these trying times. Also, keep our current Chief. Arradondo is a man of virtue and high character, and is the best Chief of Police I have ever had the honor of working for. Change begins at the top, and he is the man that can do it.

Thank you for your consideration. As a current resident that is proud to live in this city, and to serve it, I still believe that we can and shall be better.

6/30/2020 7:08:51 AM

I have lived in Minneapolis since 1997 so I am no newcomer. I am a former block club leader of some 7 years' duration until club members died or moved. I am more than a little familiar with safety, organizing, contact with the City departments, dealing with police officers and working with crime prevention specialists, and so forth.

That said, I regret to inform you that you cannot remove the police department altogether, lock stock and barrel. How does the city propose to deal with the rise in violence since making their announcement? The community at large perceived this as open season, free rein to do whatever they liked. Over 100 shootings took place in the last 3 weeks alone. This uptick in violence is well-documented, but there has been nary a peep from the council about it. Why is that?

In sound bites, Jeremiah Ellison claims "...I think that it's important for us to keep in perspective that most of what police do is not respond to violent situations." Does he mean that we have forced cops to take on multiple roles including that of social workers, mental health counselors, sleuths, inspectors, arbitrators, enforcers, bouncers, property seizures, and every other form of authority? Absolutely, we have done that. As a collective society we have invested in police all the negative, unpleasant tasks we'd prefer not to think about or do ourselves. Whether we realize it or not, whether we were targeted or we were the ones in power, this is what we did as a collective. Is it any surprise that it has evolved into a brutish business, attracting the worst elements in humanity, and poisoning everything and everyone it comes into contact with?

But the one incontrovertible fact that the council is apparently ignoring is this: crime exists, and will continue to exist so long as there are human beings. Remember what I said about the worst elements in humanity? Humans have done and will continue to do nasty, horrible things to one another, from time immemorial, out of fear, greed and malice. Until all of humanity rises above those traits, we will have

mean, violent and greedy individuals who need to be curbed and restrained from acting out their worst impulses, and punished if they do (and this includes police officers, as we know them now-- they are not exempt!).

That said, this means there must be some group that will accept the nasty, dirty role of playing the heavy. How do you propose to do away with this reality? If you insist on feel-good measures like installing someone who has no law enforcement experience to lead a department of safety, I assure you the criminals will not be quaking in fear but rather planning their next operations. It's simply the way it is.

Now, if this amendment passes, then I would expect this "Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department" to work toward ACCOUNTABILITY. Read that again, all of you: accountability, i.e taking responsibility for oneself and one's immediate environment. This applies to us all, not just a few of us. Accountability includes being civil, having an attitude of civic engagement, being productive in some way, and being constructively engaged, such as school, job or other meaningful structured activity. This includes changing the community's tendency toward splintered families and absent parents, and ensuring real, meaningful and constructive activities for young people after school and in summer. Drop the happy talk of "privilege" and "holistic" from all of your proposed charter changes, because by flinging such babble around, you're going to drive off support from the wider community that sees those terms as psychological twaddle and as flimsy excuses to let people evade accountability and just get "free stuff" that someone, I assure you, is paying for somehow, in some manner.

Like it or not, the City Council is going to have to include the input from the public who are moderate in their thinking, and yes, even conservative politically!

6/30/2020 7:09:29 AM

We avoid Minneapolis now because of crime. With no real policing we will simply never visit the city for entertainment, dining, etc. Seems likely this plan will kill jobs, raise taxes, property will lose value and before you know it it will look a lot like Detroit. Citizens will not feel safe period. I lived in Minneapolis years ago and never felt unsafe. Not true anymore when I go to see friends. Watching open drug dealing, seeing pointless vandalism and plenty of theft. Citizens will feel more compelled to arm themselves if they cannot count on policing. There is no doubt tragedy will ensue if this occurs. Sending social workers to deal with domestic situations sounds insane as these situations are known to be very dangerous. Unless you arm these responders there will be dead responders.

6/30/2020 7:09:35 AM

I used to live in Minneapolis until my divorce last year and hope to move back soon. I am thrilled to see the direction Minneapolis is moving in terms of community response.

In such, a great idea came from a friend: Treat emergency response like an IT support center. One number (911) to call and get routed appropriately. Setup simple staging of emergency of violence, physical abuse, robbery, fire; then a second tier emergency of physical health, mental health, mental/verbal abuse; then a tier of non emergency such as roadside assistance, city upkeep transfer to 411, or other services. I am sure you have call history which can be analyzed to show what types and how many calls are typical. You would not need to roll police, fire, and medical at all times.

I do call 911 regularly to report minor issues or suspicious activity. The above has been my experience.

I do believe a "peace force" of police who are still responsible to manage violence is necessary. The police I do know are skilled in this and is a niche that will not go away.

With that said, not all crime requires guns and K9s.

As a Burning Man type, I also want to see community rangers. People skills in de-escalation and medical to be initially involved in incidents and be a trusted bridge between city and community. There would need to be a vetting and continual monitoring system to ensure quality people. Rangers or other types could receive property tax breaks or Chamber of Commerce vouchers for their one weekend a month; like the National Guard.

Side note: How are you going to manage local terrorism? A friend's story (yes I spoke direct to him) is: Over this past weekend, a white supremacist from Wisconsin with "33" tattoo was throwing bricks at Cup Foods and a mourner. The community safety team subdued him. Then after 911 directed them to two drop off locations, MPD pushed my friend, refused to help, and then left without the guy even when there were multiple witnesses and video of vandalism and violence.

As long as these stories are planned for then I am excited for what your about to make the best city and communities I have ever known.

THANK YOU for doing this!

6/30/2020 7:09:43 AM

The police play an important role in our communities. If you take them away it will only be a manner of a few days before gangs and drug cartels take over the city. Gun violence has already increased. Why do members of the City Council need private security if the police are no longer required? Your idea is absurd and reckless! All of you need to resign immediately. Shame on all of you! Your plan will spill violence over to St Paul.

6/30/2020 7:10:14 AM

I work on the north side and I LOVE it when I see MPD hanging out by my office. I start work at 1:30am. I feel very safe to see them. They also are at fire hour #9. But since they are having a major remodel done. They still come and hang out to make sure we all get in to work safe! Even when I drive down broadway from Robbinsdale, I see the same cars out. Those of you that want to disband them are completely out of your minds!!!!!! Are you going to come and make sure that we all get into work safely 7 days a week at 1:30am?? I don't think so!!! And they have a great relationship with the homeless folks that sometimes hang around. Can you say that???? I'm even a proud member of the police reserves and we have a great relationship with the regular officers. If you get ride of MPD, I'll start to carry my 9 again. And I can't carry it while at work. Are you going to come and help us?? I doubt it!! I pray for the city, don't let one ASSHAT ruin it for the other awesome officers and staff! It's bad enough that the 2 rookie officers are getting screwed in this deal! 72 hours on the job and they did what they were told to do by 2 ASSHATS! Come on!! Use your brain!!!!!!

6/30/2020 7:10:58 AM

I am 100% on board with the the Minneapolis City Charter being changed so that it no longer includes having a Police Department. I want the current SYSTEM of policing abolished so that all Minneapolis citizens can be safer, especially our Black, Indigenous, People of Color.

I want funds going to having nurses and counselors in all school and not officers. I want properly trained non-violent professionals showing up to help those with mental health issues, or housing issues and other situations. Invest in Community, not policing.

Defund the Police, FUND the Community

Thank you

6/30/2020 7:12:15 AM

I am strongly against removing/disbanning/defunding the Minneapolis police. We need them to keep order and the community safe. With the rise in crime the past month, as a Minneapolis resident, I already feel uncomfortable being outside in the evenings. Without a police department; it would be terrifying. My family and I will be moving out of the city if this happens. And it breaks my heart because I love this city so much.

6/30/2020 7:12:17 AM

This has to be the stupidest thing yet this worthless city of mpls is trying to do. Getting rid of the police department? Stupid just like that Putzy Walz we have for a governor. Mpls is a dangerous place now what happens with no police? The gang banger low life's take over. Get rid of the gangs put them somewhere like in a hole 6 feet deep.

6/30/2020 7:12:20 AM

Mpls Public Schools have had social workers, crisis counselors, etc in place for years, however, the city of Mpls is still struggling with violence, perpetrated by younger residents. Dismantling the police department will only encourage more violence. I will not be spending my money in the city I have enjoyed and supported my entire life, if I can't rely on the peace of mind of police presence. As a parent of three children who attend the U of MN Twin Cities, I am struggling with the idea that their safety could be in jeopardy while they work and live in Mpls.

6/30/2020 7:12:38 AM

Council members use public funds to pay for private security while advocating disbanding the police! Ultimate hypocrisy. Why didn't the council members call their family and neighbors for protection:)!

It's time for a new city council.

6/30/2020 7:12:39 AM

If the City of Minneapolis is seeking funds from the State of Minnesota to help rebuild the damage caused by rioters and looters, then everyone in Minnesota should have a voice in protecting that investment. The Minneapolis Police Department obviously requires additional training in deescalation, alternative restraint techniques, identifying when citizens are in medical crisis. The Police Department should likely be increased in size. That is what they did in the well cited Camden Police defunding. How much will it cost to just rename the Department? Those millions could be better spent in other ways.

6/30/2020 7:13:12 AM

I am a St Paul resident. Your ideas of removing the Police from Minneapolis or seriously curtailing their numbers or ability to work will make out family think twice, no three times, before coming for an evening in Minneapolis. You will harm violent neighborhoods that need Police. You can achieve your goal of better Policing without such insane drastic measures. Your proposal is making Minneapolis the laughing stock of this country. Listen to your mayor, DO NOT DISBAND THE POLICE.

6/30/2020 7:13:14 AM

We need police reform not replacement. You will lose many Businesses and residents in Minneapolis and surrounding counties, crime will increase and the twin cities will be changed for the worse.

Instead put in place higher requirements for training, education and mental health evaluations for police officers.

6/30/2020 7:13:20 AM

It is totally and utterly irresponsible to seek disbandment of the city security force with no coherent, detailed thought as to how to provide safety to not only the community but other first responders. Businesses and citizens will leave Minneapolis in droves. The uptick in violent crime should show you, if you actually care about decreasing the destabilization of civilized society, that a police force is necessary. This irresponsible social experiment is a decades long undertaking. Minneapolis will go the way of Detroit. Please get out of your sounding chamber and understand the money and stability will leave. I am a high level employee for a Minneapolis business in charge of safety and security. I fear that my meager force will be left to fend for ourselves. The last few weeks have already demonstrated that.

6/30/2020 7:14:09 AM

Do NOT remove the police dept.

6/30/2020 7:14:12 AM

This city council has lost its mind. The current divisive rhetoric is unbecoming of leadership.

Watching our flagship city purpose such stupidity is making me rethink staying in this state. I plan to vote in the next local election and will definitely vote against anyone with a D next to their name if this is your new platform

6/30/2020 7:14:24 AM

Absolutely NOT! and I'm a Democrat. In the last two weekends there were 8 or nine shootings in North Minneapolis not by the police. Maybe we should defund the city council.

6/30/2020 7:14:37 AM

I'm very disappointed with the decision to disband the police department. I agree that change needs to happen. Maybe a greater emphasis on routing out the bad ones that ruin it for everyone. To lump all Minneapolis police officers in to one lump is wrong. In my opinion, you have let the mental patients (a small group of protesters) take over the hospital. I know I'm not a Minneapolis resident but I do work there. A lot of people only work in Minneapolis. Remember to think about the major companies that call Minneapolis home. They might tell their employees to not come to work and take their business to an area that can protect their assets and employees. Just my thoughts.

6/30/2020 7:14:58 AM

I do not feel this proposal is well thought out. I feel going forward with an idea with no solid plan to accomplish it is not good for the city. I feel there is too much to loose and too many vulnerable persons who stand to loose in this situation if the city moves forward without plans and methods. I also feel the city council is pushing this change to the charter quickly because they are riding on emotions and not facts and reality and want to push this through before the citizens can pause and really think about what is best for the city. I am also hearing from many Community leaders that the approach of defunding and or dismantling the Minneapolis Police department is NOT what they want, so, I feel the city council is NOT listening to the citizens of the city and making decisions on their own. This is NOT a good way to act as city council members and I do not feel like my City council has my best interest in mind. I feel they are grand standing.

6/30/2020 7:15:22 AM

The police are not at the root of the problem. You should have been working on fixing the issues that cause violence in Minneapolis. The data doesn't show in any way that police are the problem. You will have much bigger problems on your hands if you do this. Why haven't you been working on this with more passion before May 2020?

6/30/2020 7:15:42 AM

We need a strong police presence and authority in Minneapolis. This city has a history of high crime, gang warfare, terrorist recruitment and mob rule. None of those things are indicators that we should defund or reduce the police department. Police need accountability and support. Clean it up, but don't defund or dispose of it. The purpose of authorities is for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of them that do well. Our police need our SUPPORT!

DO NOT DEFUND THE POLICE

6/30/2020 7:15:50 AM

I live on the boarder of Mpls and bike every day around the chain of lakes. I also frequent businesses in Uptown regularly. Since the unfortunate death of George Floyd, I feel much less safe in Uptown than ever before. Additionally, I am now constantly on the lookout for homeless encampments around the lakes and parks. In passing the Lyndale Farmstead Park on 40th & Bryant and seeing about 10-15 tents set up yesterday, I did not feel safe and will not bike past this area again. During my time spent last week at Cedar Lake East Beach, when the Park Patrol truck was there, I felt less safe than when both the Park Patrol & Mpls Police vehicles were both there. I believe disbanding the police will only further the crime, violence, drugs, and homelessness. The mentality of the police department needs to change. Simply hiring "minorities" does not solve the issue. I saw this firsthand when I got to know a Mpls police officer personally and spent time with him for a few years. He is Asian and racist against the black & Somali population. He was also an avid Trump supporter. I ended up severing my ties with him as a friend because I felt his viewpoints were hypocritical of his job. He also did not live in Mpls. Perhaps requiring officers to live in the communities they serve would be more effective. In addition, the head of the police union is also a public Trump supporter and I feel he underhandedly supports and promotes racism. It's unfortunate that national political viewpoints have impacted our communities at a local level, but it is the government who is ultimately fueling the current racism, anger, and violence at a local level. People are also tired of being impacted by COVID-19 and patience is at a low point. I feel that these factors have further contributed to the unfortunate circumstances that unfolded. So dismantling the police force is not the solution. Allowing people to react violently against the police is not the solution either. Hiring more officers of color, providing proper education and mental health support for them, and encouraging officers to live where they work seems like a more effective approach. Lastly, homeless encampments in city parks does not promote safety in the community. It encourages congregation, drug use, trash and waste upkeep, and loitering. Look to other cities for homeless approaches. Evaluate city regulations and/taxes that are hurting local businesses and/or preventing them from being profitable (is the city over-taxing or regulating?) which is ultimately contributing to the creation of a homeless population. Are the homeless here legally to begin with? Is there more that the city could be doing to help people be employed and vital to the community than simply allowing them to camp in public parks and make these areas an eyesore and a safety issue? To be effective in regulating the community though, the city needs to have an actual police force in place. What are other city police (both locally and in other states) doing more effectively than Mpls?

6/30/2020 7:17:47 AM

My son is considering going to school in Minneapolis. I also come there very regularly to see my Dr's. I think defunding the police is just about the most ridiculous thing I have probably ever heard. You don't defund police when there is a problem. If anything they need more money. Tell me what social worker or any other agency is going to show up to these calls without police back up? Where is the money for both going to come from? I keep hearing all of you using Camden NJ as a model city. It's the most dangerous city in the US and most people there will tell you much of the crime is going unreported so they have no idea what true statistics are now. We don't have a big issue. We have an issue with crime in Minneapolis and it needs to be fixed. Start with home life. Not defunding police

6/30/2020 7:18:17 AM

No we should not get rid of the Police. That would be the biggest mistake you ever did if you get rid of the police.

Crime would go through the roof if you got rid of the police.

6/30/2020 7:18:24 AM

I think the politicians running the city should be removed. I pay a lot in real estate taxes and deserve security from these left wing anarchists. We need more not less police. Send the police where they are wanted and let the left wingers get their wanted community service persons. I am now a landlord in Minneapolis and no longer a resident because of its leftist culture.

6/30/2020 7:19:02 AM

I whole heartedly support the abolition of Police Dept. from the city of Minneapolis charter with the goal to create a more balanced community focused Public Service Dept. instead.

I also believe that this is the the only way to effect meaningful change. We will not tolerate cosmetic changes nor anything that resembles the "status quo".

This can be done without loss of public safety for white residents. That's the misnomer. That the current way keeps "us" safe. It does not. Either a public servant works for and treats all residents the same or the program is broken. The current Minneapolis police department is irreparably broken.

6/30/2020 7:20:42 AM

I am a MN resident living about 10 miles outside of downtown Minneapolis. With this change I will never visit Minneapolis again. My economic and community contributions will never provide benefit to Minneapolis. Community safety and violence prevention policies lead to circumstances such as George Zimmerman shooting Trayvon Martin. I want a community I can be proud of and can feel safe in - for my family's sake I do not feel Minneapolis is that place, and hasn't been for several years. This feeling of lack of safety and security and pride has never been caused by our police force.

The chief of police and pushover mayor who fail to weed out the very few bad eggs in our community shouldn't bring about these consequences to us or to the several wonderful members of the police force. These men and women now face mobs of people who view them as evil due to the failed actions of a terrible mayor when only 2 months ago were praised for their bravery in the face of a global pandemic and their ability to continue to provide a sense of safety and security to the community. Jacob Frey should be ashamed of himself. Keith Ellison should feel ashamed of himself for politicizing the situation and not recusing himself from the prosecution of Derek Chauvin despite his clearly politicized bias. He should also be ashamed for beating his girlfriend.

6/30/2020 7:20:51 AM

About the worst idea ever over reaction

You have got to be kidding

Hope residents fire all of the city consul

As a next ring suburb I'm glad we have police

Will not be coming downtown Mpls if you don't have police, including sport events

Mpls already has thugs downtown at night problem, if police gone guess who moves in to stay

Are there ANY grownups in Minneapolis government?..

6/30/2020 7:21:42 AM

Please reconsider the steps to remove the term Police from the pool of public terminology and focus more on true reform and systematic change. A rebrand would use up valuable resources and budget for something that is more of a formality. As a young citizen of Minneapolis I would like to see the resources allocated to idea change and accountability measures as well as mental health for officers. Not all of the police are bad, most aren't, so let us focus on creating a net to catch the bad apples and help to avoid having something as tragic as Mr. Floyd's death (R.I.P). I appreciate your work and look forward to hearing your decision.

Note: I wrote this within 10 minutes of waking up so I apologize for all grammatical errors and improper sentences that make no sense.

6/30/2020 7:22:20 AM

The proposed change is irresponsible of the city council. The police department should stay, it needs some reforms, but not replacement with an proven concept. Most policemen and women are great.

Cool-head should prevail.

6/30/2020 7:22:36 AM

I believe it's very important for us to have a more comprehensive Police Department, however the fact that we do not actually consequence individuals for low level crimes is a catalyst to other crime against the community. Such as vagrancy, pandering, hanging around corners, and two liquor stores parking lots of abandoned buildings. These types of petty crimes need to be consequence because over a period of time if the individual continues to display their behavior the consequences will increase

6/30/2020 7:24:21 AM

You need the police. If you get rid of them, I will avoid MPLS like the plague. I will not participate in anything that happens in MPLS. Examples:

No conventions

No dinners

No concerts

No Twins

No Vikings

No Timberwolves

No Gophers

No plays

No museums

No bars

No lakes

Nothing. You're making an incredibly hasty decision. Stop and think this through. You need the police.

6/30/2020 7:24:38 AM

I am in favor of reforming the Police Department but not abolishing it. Will changing the name really deal with problems that surfaced in the aftermath of George Floyd's death? Ban choke holds; fire police officers who have a documented record of excessive force.

Address issues within the community that:

1. Lead to criminal activity requiring a police response ( drug use, domestic violence). This will require input from many areas of expertise.
2. Weaken the family (fatherlessness, poverty)
3. Trap people in poverty (failing schools, unemployment).

These are the issues that need to be addressed and will require more than a name change to resolve. It will require hard work by the entire community over many years.

6/30/2020 7:25:27 AM

I'm to understand The City Of Minneapolis needs to go a Different Direction in regards to its Police Department???

Defunding Them ???

Mayor Frey and The City Council I'm sure will Love going over to North Minneapolis with Tamborines, Yoga Mats, Coloring Books And Incense Burners....

I worked in Downtown Minneapolis for 36 years in The Warehouse District, I won't even consider even a Daylight Trip Downtown.

Target Field, Target Center ?? Nope!!!

They had better lift The Weapons Ban at Both Venues.

Thanks to your Brilliant Policing Etc... Anywhere in Minneapolis is a No Go .

I go virtually nowhere unarmed !!!

Maybe get The Mayor And City Council some Potters Wheels, And they can do a Remake Of ThevScene from "Ghost"..... That's how Delusional they are in their Fantasy World!!!

6/30/2020 7:26:17 AM

This was my deciding moment. Red all the way. You are idiots.

6/30/2020 7:27:51 AM

I oppose the charter amendment to remove the police department and establish a Community of Safety and Violence Prevention Department. The proposals made thus far will not ensure the safety of citizens or effectiveness of preventing crime. It also fails to provide a clear line of leadership and accountability independent of the politics of an unelected body. I do not live in Minneapolis but I work there. If this proposal is made into law I will leave my employment in Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 7:28:37 AM

I am no longer a resident of Minneapolis. Both of my daughters are residents, we all grew up in South Minneapolis.

The police, nation wide must change. We need to require an education that prepares them to be in the role we expect. We want them to know martial arts. Be able to shoot the gun out of someone's hand, or precisely hit them in the knee cap. We expect them to be able to drop kick a suspect and never allow themselves to be overcome by someone. We need to provide this training. They can't be overweight, they can't have asthma, they must be physically fit.

We want them to be able to reason, de-escalate, bargain, out talk, and outwit. They have to be educated for this.

Our peace keepers should be an elite force that is highly trained so they are able to manage any situation without using deadly force. AND we have to pay for all of this elite training and they must be paid like the elite profession they will have invested a lot of time and work to become.

In Japan if you do not stop when a policeman tells you to stop you are going to spend some time in jail. There is zero tolerance for breaking the law, or defying a policeman on the street.

Being a policeman needs to be something for an elite few. Education and physical training are key, and only those who earn the right to be a peace officer should become one. We need to pay them for the work, commitment, and time this will take. It should be a coveted position like a doctor or scientist.

We expect a lot from our police force right now. We don't provide the education they need to be successful. We too often take the side of a law breaker because they lost their life, and we don't pay our police nearly enough to have the expectations we have.

We have 2 separate problems in society Right now. Inadequate policing. Financial inequity. One solution will not solve both problems.

6/30/2020 7:29:44 AM

Get rid of your private security you hypocrites! I do not live in Minneapolis, but my heart goes out to the residents you are endangering with your bigoted attitude toward them! You must have hate in your hearts to not want to provide more and better policing. Like crime is ok in 'those' neighborhoods.

6/30/2020 7:29:59 AM

If Minneapolis defunds the police, I will never visit that city again. All my family and friends that live in surrounding suburbs feel the same. This is ridiculous and the radical liberals on the City Council are a disgrace to the State of MN. I pray that the citizens of Minneapolis speak up because this will be the end of Mpls if it passes. So many businesses burned, so many businesses leaving Mpls due to violence...wake up Mpls City Council! Thank you for the opportunity to share my opinion. Praying for Mpls citizens.

6/30/2020 7:30:07 AM

This is very dangerous to replace the police i work in Minneapolis and do not want to risk my life.

6/30/2020 7:30:40 AM

If you took time to look at the statistics....you would see that police brutality issues are rare. This is the most ridiculous idea ever and you are making an embarrassing legacy for Minneapolis. Put money toward the police for training and equipment don't take them away. You are putting us at risk and just for your political agenda. Very disappointing ...

6/30/2020 7:30:45 AM

There must be community oversight of any public safety department for transparency and accountability.

6/30/2020 7:30:55 AM

The proposed is knee jerk and without a real plan to implement for safety. NOW is not the time for experimental ideas, we are already loosing our city to thugs who are operating w/o fear.

The police system WORKS! and can be worked on to improve.

6/30/2020 7:30:57 AM

We need to dismantle the Police Department and create a new system of violence prevention and community investment. This should have happened years ago. This city has allowed racism to permeate its departments for too long and it is your responsibility to change it.

6/30/2020 7:32:55 AM

No. Do not defund or change the Mpls Police Department. Enforce the laws, quit trying to make the police department a social service agency. If that's what you want do it separately.

6/30/2020 7:33:24 AM

If you defund the police I will be selling my house and moving out of Mpls. North and South Mpls are not safe places to live Anymore!

6/30/2020 7:33:26 AM

I am not a resident of Minneapolis; but I am a City employee, a person of color, am fully in support of BLM, and have recently begun the home buying process and am looking in Minneapolis. It is imperative that the overzealous and power-hungry MPD is dismantled from its current state, to one where they have less power to harm the citizens they are supposed to protect. By dissolving some of their funding into a new directive, the people of Minneapolis would have other options for assistance when certain situations arise, instead of a gun-toting barely-trained officer, who more often than not, works escalate the issue instead of breaking it down and actually helping. In addition, it's incredibly wrong that a teacher, an architect, a nurse, or even a lowly Public Works employees like myself, receives more training than the MPD - and they carry weapons and do their jobs with an aire of arrogance. They should receive more training than it would take a person to earn a license to draft plans for a home or building in an architectural profession - but this isn't the case. It's time for change. Make changes now.

6/30/2020 7:33:39 AM

This is one of the worst ideas ever in the history of our great state! You should be ashamed of yourselves!!

I am completely against this amendment being passed!

How dare you!

6/30/2020 7:33:53 AM

I am in favor of abolishing the current Minneapolis police department. I hope in the future we are a template for a system with better outcomes. People who are stuck on the idea of good apples, that there are good cops too, should remember that they can still have jobs. If they are truly good cops, they could work within a new system and be a positive part of change. I hope that by November there will be clear information so people will feel strong in their vote about this. Counteract the bad responses with information. I believe people generally act out of fear and keeping people educated on the subject will serve to decrease fear. There are also going to be people against this abolition for all the same reasons that we are trying to make this change. Bring those hateful people front and center so they can be the display of a clear misuse of power and further proof that to serve our whole community, there absolutely needs to be a better system. Change is scary to some people, but I believe it is more scary to not change. If we can't improve and act like it's actually 2020, we're failing and staying in the dark.

6/30/2020 7:34:17 AM

Get rid of the current union and do not hire anyone in a management role in the union. Create a new department and make current police officers reapply for a position in the new department. In order to be eligible for a job in the new department, the officers must not have any substantiated complaints (or certain number and certain level of severity) against them. There needs to be a rule of 2 substantiated complaints and they are terminated and go on a do not rehire list.

6/30/2020 7:34:30 AM

Keep the police department.

Educate the public to do what a police officer tells them to do, then if there is a problem it can be followed up on. Then make sure everyone is held accountable, All the way up to the city Council.

6/30/2020 7:34:37 AM

Minneapolis needs the police and Mpls should hire what the chief asked for last summer. Another thing get those homeless out of powderhorn park. Where the kids play the pedos prey!!! Here is an idea abolish the city council. The riots could have been stopped but city council and the mayor had police stand down! Shame on all of you!!!

6/30/2020 7:35:05 AM

As the son of a former MPD officer I am appalled at your thoughts and actions against the many fine officers of your city. My dad served 25 years and only pulled his weapon from his holster three times. Many nights were spent in front of the television when the news reported standoffs and the like while he was working, with us wondering if he was okay. (Pre-cellphones) He was once involved in a high speed chase in front of the former Pizza Shack, where I was working at the time.

Look, you can change the name of the police to whatever you want, at the end of the day though you will need police to take care of criminals without allowing for vigilantes in your city running things. But when all you do is call the vast majority of the officers vile names and make outlandish accusations about them, you will lose all the great officers and you will be left with the less than desirable officers. Some of whom should never have been let through to a police department.

Sure, you can change aspects of how the department works, have a social worker tag along with an officer if you wish. Just ensure that they are trained in all the ways it could go wrong when they go to a domestic call. Have the "nice" person be the first to contact folks if you wish, just make sure there is an officer there to protect them when/if things go south.

Stop being cheap with the people you ask to defend you from "bad" guys. Spend some money on them. Hire more so the existing ones are not overworked. Pay them so they don't have to pick up second/third jobs to make ends meet. (Mine worked four at one time period.)

6/30/2020 7:35:12 AM

Disbanding the Police department is an reckless, irresponsible and completely ignorant idea. Should there be Police "reform"? YES, absolutely. But disbanding the police will create Chaos, lawlessness and turn this city into a boarded up ghost town. No convention will ever come here, forget about special events such as the Super Bowl or Final 4 not to mention every restaurant and retail space will abandon and property values will plummet. PLEASE rethink this position and take another path.

6/30/2020 7:35:47 AM

Any changes should apply equally to government personnel. The Governor, City Council members, state legislators, etc. should be prohibited from spending taxpayer money on private security. If it's good enough for the people of Minneapolis it should be good enough for you too.

6/30/2020 7:36:32 AM

We do not need to waste time and resources by replacing the police force. We need to raise education standards (bachelors degree) race and ethics training, and better community outreach. If you abolish the police force and replace it with anything less than a policing force we will encounter rampant crime which will causes businesses to close and/or move out of the city, residents to move, property values decrease, and tax revenue to fall. Law abiding residents need to be confident they are safe.

We need a balancing act with reform/training/and police respect. If people have such a negative view of police and they are looked down upon, nobody will want to become a police officer and we will not have any officers willing to protect us.

6/30/2020 7:37:35 AM

This amendment is ridiculous. No foresight. No planning. Pandering to emotions of others in an attempt to politically manipulate a population of disenfranchised people. Shame on the council. They are out of touch with the people of their wards. We want change, not to abolish police.

6/30/2020 7:38:27 AM

I believe you need to slow down this process. You are responding to public demand (and rightfully so) however every story has two sides. All council members need to do ride alongs with night/overnight officers and really see what is going on in their city. Fix crime problems, issues and that would help. City council members shouldn't be making decisions on circumstances that they may never even seen in their own life, how can you understand anything you've never experienced. I also believe hiring more mental health workers and medical professionals to assist law enforcement.

6/30/2020 7:39:14 AM

I'm against replacing the Mpls Police Dept. I've lived in the city for over 20 years. I've witnessed what a decline in police presence looks like. (The city has become unsafe.)

Give the Chief a chance to reform. The city & its officials need to stand behind the police.

If the Police Union is able to get "bad" cops their job back and the the Police force & Union for that matter think that's right, maybe that's an issue. We used to have a commission that would review police shootings and offer recommendations - What happened to that impartial group?

We've seen and are currently witnessing what this city looks like without a strong police presence, the destruction and mayhem, the uptick in gun violence recently. (The City Council should be concerned that if the violence continues and the police can't do their job - what the vacating rate might look like.)

If better training and a change of culture is needed. That needs to come from within.

It needs to be said also that during the riots & demonstrations we sure witnessed a lot of patience and poise by our police and National Guard.

I think what the city needs is more of a police presence not less.

6/30/2020 7:40:21 AM

This is a bad idea for so many obvious reasons. What is a "Community of Safety and Violence Prevention Department" anyway? How would that work? I would like to know how many large metropolitan areas have utilized something like this, and what were the results. No, I am not a resident of Minneapolis, but I do go there for entertainment occasionally - mostly Orchestra Hall. As much as I love the orchestra, I would no longer be attending any concerts if the police department is abolished. The crime and violence in Minneapolis is increasing exponentially, and a "Community of Safety and Violence Prevention Department" is not going to protect the average law-abiding citizen from those who are motivated by evil, greed and destruction. Are we moving towards a society where a person needs to hire their own security and bodyguards in order to venture into the cities? I am appalled at the actions of the City

Council. Like any other organization the MPD has issues and problems that need to be addressed and corrected. That doesn't translate into throwing out the whole thing. Does the City Council's flawed logic assume that this "Safety and Violence Prevention Department" is going to prevent and eliminate the gangs, drug-dealers, sexual predators, thieves and murderers? I am certainly aware that the MPD cannot prevent them either but, you can bet that without the police department these bad elements would increase and have free-reign of our cities. Let's come together, look beyond our differences, and improve what is already in place. Let's not move towards anarchy and chaos. Please reconsider this misguided notion and let common sense prevail.

6/30/2020 7:40:42 AM

I am very supportive of the proposed amendment and am glad that the people of Minneapolis will have the opportunity to vote on it. I moved away from the Twin Cities a few years ago, but I did not trust the police and would not have contacted them if I was in danger. A new branch focused on community health and prosperity, social services, and crime prevention would greatly benefit the city and its residents.

6/30/2020 7:41:26 AM

This is the most ridiculous idea known to man. We'll turn into Chicago in no time.

6/30/2020 7:41:45 AM

The only information that I can find out so far about the proposed change is the new title and the overall issues that led to it. I don't feel that the community has been widely engaged and consulted about this change. While I support the overall idea, I'm also in a neighborhood that has seen a return to the gun violence levels we had 20 years ago and I want our community to be safe. We also have lost our commerce center and have 500 people experiencing homelessness in the neighboring park. What's the plan? This seems like it's being advanced without sharing a clear sense of the next steps. I can't support something if I don't know what it is exactly.

6/30/2020 7:42:29 AM

I guess I will no longer be coming into downtown Mpls. Have you idiots ever heard of the saying "the fox is ruling the hen house". Nice job of trying to destroy what was once my favorite place to come for entertainment and dining. See ya!!!

6/30/2020 7:43:44 AM

I grew up in this country as a foreigner with the security of feeling protected by law enforcement who are authorised to act for me when I am incapable to protect myself.

Removing that authority today because of a race issue and one man violence, is making me feel very unsecured for my future safety.

Removing all of the historical status made me feel this country has no roots; now removing authority led me to be afraid of living in danger daily in the Gotham city.

Are we punishing the people? Or are we punishing tradition that has built hope, security, piece of mind ?

6/30/2020 7:44:15 AM

I think disbanding the police and replacing them with a community health focused policing strategy is the right thing to do. Get rid of the union and Bob Kroll, a clear violent racist, and do something about this problem or else we'll just have riots again because nothing was done when we had the chance!

6/30/2020 7:47:04 AM

I live in a Minneapolis suburb, and USPS address is Minneapolis. This decision affects my family but unfortunately I don't get to vote.

If you want to dismantle the police, and instead rely on your neighbors and counselors to call when there is a problem, why do your city council members need their own private security detail, paid for by the citizens?? Does that come from 'a place of privilege' perhaps? Most people can not afford that luxury, that is why we need something called 'police'.

I have seen that you claim the recent violence has been happening even with the police. Actually, it's because you have given the criminals a green light. That's on you.

If this passes my family will never spend another cent in the city of Minneapolis. No sports games, no dining, no shopping. The businesses will die. I know you hate capitalism so you probably want that. But good luck finding funds to support your socialism when there is nothing left but rampant homelessness.

DEFUND the Minneapolis City Council.

6/30/2020 7:49:54 AM

Common sense needs to win out over the political pandering. Every one of you knows that laws and their enforcement are a critical part of civilized societies, and if you don't you probably shouldn't be in the position that you are. I understand feeling a need to make changes within departments where there is trouble, but supporting community policing and the hundreds of really good officers who have sworn an oath to protect only to be vilified by you is an absolute embarrassment.

No, I'm not currently a resident of Minneapolis. I've worked in the city for many years. I've attended college in the city. I enjoy visiting many businesses of friends in the city. I also have a child who is currently living in and attending school in Minneapolis, and her younger sister had been considering doing the same until a lot of this nonsense began.

I don't have a vote at the ballot box, but I can absolutely elect to stop going to Minneapolis. I'm sad I'll miss attending Twins games with my friends and family, but other than that I prefer knowing my family and friends will be protected from violent crimes.

Sure, you can disregard everything I say if you want. After all what can a guy living in the suburbs possibly know? Well, I grew up on the Eastside of Saint Paul. I watched as one of my best friends received

consecutive life sentences for his role in a gang shooting during my senior year of high school. I've been shot at, and witnessed my best friend take a bullet to the face...

A few years back I was physically assaulted by a deranged man and told to "go back to my own neighborhood" while visiting the coffee shop next to my school in Minneapolis. Thankfully other members of his community were there to get him under control, but this could have had a much worse ending if not for the local police. I don't blame that man for punching me unprovoked, if I did he would have been hospitalized. No, I blame your style of divisive politics for getting this man so enraged that he thought punching a man twice his size was a good idea.

I understand the importance of effective law enforcement and what crime does to communities and local economies. I'd prefer you admit you have no business holding the elected offices you're in before destroying a great city for political reasons. There is a solution, but what you're doing will end in disaster where innocent people, not you, will be forced to pick up the pieces, if they even can.

6/30/2020 7:50:37 AM

Minneapolis resident since I came down in 2008 to attend the University of Minnesota. This is a proposal based in fear and emotion and not a safe idea. The council needs to work with the police department and not against them.

I have requested a month-to-month lease and have received approval from work to work-from-home permanently. If this passes I will be living outside of the MSP metro within the month.

6/30/2020 7:50:40 AM

I do not support these changes.

6/30/2020 7:51:14 AM

I will not come to Minneapolis if you defund or transform the police department. No to dining in Mpls, not to sports, Twins, Vikings, no to the parks, museums. This is a ridiculous idea and spending tax payer funding for some to have protection while threatening others to go with out is moronic.

6/30/2020 7:51:50 AM

I am all for change. It is absolutely necessary, however I do not believe a complete dismantle of the MPD is the solution. We need a police dept that is better trained, but also not spread so thin. Let's spend some of the city's budget (not only the police) and get a team of social workers, mental health professionals, etc to help in instances that the PD is not as qualified/trained for

6/30/2020 7:52:25 AM

Yes, we need to dismantle the existing corrupt MPD, get out from under its white-supremacist union and replace it with a new public safety agency focused on crime and violence prevention - but as I'm sure you have figured out, it still has to have some police in it!

We will still have rapists and muggers and murderers and gang wars and not-so-petty thieves. Maybe we could do without armed officers in a nicer world with less poverty and the crime and substance abuse driven by poverty, but fixing that is beyond the scope of a public safety agency or even the city itself. I strongly support bigger societal changes to reduce those inequalities, but until we actually get them we will need police.

We do need a better policing model, one where cops are closer and more involved in the neighborhoods they patrol. There are better models than the broken "broken windows" approach apparently followed by MPD.

6/30/2020 7:52:51 AM

This is the most ignorant and cowardly decision, to remove the police, I have ever seen.

6/30/2020 7:53:01 AM

I think it's a utopian dream! Bad idea! The city council is being reckless with our security. Reform is needed, but their proposal goes to far. We see already that bad people are being emboldened by the careless, thoughtless knee jerk reaction of the city Council. Un-armed community service people won't deter the bad elements of society. This city council is out of control!

6/30/2020 7:53:33 AM

Not a resident now but lived in Hennepin County. for approx. 20 years. I would like to know what these people with these ideas are smoking. Some other type of (Law enforcement?) wouldn't change anything as people seem to expect no punishment for breaking laws. The killing of George Floyd was awful of course but get real, no PD? I wonder, did anyone call 911 during those 8 minutes to report to the PD that a murder by a police officer was in progress?

History, statues, flags, etcetera, there is much of that being destroyed now like it is going to change the past. Some people need to study the history here in the USA. How were things in the "Wild West" before law enforcement was established? Think of the terrible things that were inflicted upon, done to, good WOMAN, CHILDREN & Men!!! I said to someone a while back, some things/ideas are so ridiculous that thinking them is one thing but saying them out-loud is a no-no. This is one of them!!! I don't think it's a secret that Children of criminals of any race in many cases are taught that the Police are bad guys and to hate them. I don't worry about the Police as I am not breaking the law on a daily basis. In general, it pretty much comes down to this once a child is old enough to know better, when Mom or Dad say stop, you stop. When the teacher or the girlfriend & on & on & on say stop, you stop. Last but not least, when the Police say stop, YOU STOP. The murder of George Floyd cannot wipe out law enforcement. Why don't all the Politician's in all the big cities in the USA be required to live in the SLUMS, we'll see if they would like some law enforcement then!!!

6/30/2020 7:54:05 AM

Greetings, I am in favor of substantial changes to policing in Minneapolis. However, before putting such a measure to a ballot, I would like a well defined plan. Presenting the issue to the public with out a clear, comprehensive description of what would replace aspects of policing and which aspects would remain (an important component given the rise in violent crime) risks the ballot measure failing. Do the work of planning And designing a replacement up front before you ask citizens to decide if they agree with you.

I thank you all for your service, particularly in the troubling time.

6/30/2020 7:54:06 AM

The city of Minneapolis requires a complete overhaul of its public safety system. The police are called into too many incidents and situations where armed police are not the solution. In fact, the presence of arms in many such incidents merely serves to stress the involved parties, often resulting in catastrophic consequences. The lack of adequate support for social services, mental health resources and crisis negotiators in tense situations is disturbing. This is like trying to prune a shrub using a chainsaw, the police are not a one size fits all solution for every public safety crisis. I fully support the city's mission to defund the police in its current form and work towards an alternate public safety ecosystem. I sincerely hope that Minneapolis paves the way for sensible changes that will influence other neighboring cities, including my own, Plymouth.

6/30/2020 7:54:46 AM

I propose not giving leaders from the 38th and Chicago police exclusion zone a seat at the table in drafting this proposal. They made a deal with the devil in designing the security for the area. Aunty (the matriarch of "the Family) holds the real sway in decisions about security but a 21 year old kid has been given the "role" as head of security. My brother owns a home on 37th and Bloomington av. . It's no secret to those familiar with the area that the Family (the Bloods) have owned that intersection for the last 40 years. The leaders of that area have ceded control of the alley on 38th street next to the mural of George Floyd to the Bloods where they are free to continue selling drugs completely unhindered by the police. If I am aware of this you can bet that Lt. Kroll is aware of this. In spite of his public persona as a bumbling fool (I liken him to Hochstetter on Hogan's Hero's) he is wicked smart. How else could he become the most powerful person in the Minneapolis police in a city that elected Ilhan Omar? I imagine about the time this goes on the ballot he will bring Fox News over to the alley to demonstrate how the local leaders planning our replacement for the police put the Bloods gang in charge of security. Please don't make my name public in connection with this information, I have a family.

6/30/2020 7:56:07 AM

The MPD historically and continually enforces racial and economic disparities among the wider Minneapolis community, and while their purported prerogative is to serve and protect, they do neither. They do not live in their communities, and they police them with limited training and unlimited bias and racism. Black people in this city face systemic violence and hatred against their bodies, lives, and communities, and this is just one step to fighting for equity in BIPOC communities. I live about five blocks out of the City of Minneapolis proper, and I see weekly, sometimes daily examples of police bias

and racism. I personally, and members of my community have had to stop and observe police conduct as it concerns their policing of Black people in my neighborhood, as we have come to the conclusion that we cannot trust police to protect those members of the community. I support the Minneapolis charter amendment wholeheartedly. Thank you for your time.

6/30/2020 7:56:28 AM

I would rather see an improved police department rather than the unfortunately named "community of Safety and Violence Protection". The past few months have been terrible with crime in Minneapolis, drag racing at all hours, cars flying down side streets at 60+ mph, people running stop lights, stop signs, disobeying all traffic laws. I hear gunshots every night, fireworks every night. Nobody's doing anything about it.

I used to work downtown at MacPhail. One night about two years ago a disturbed, mentally ill and possibly drunk guy came into the school and said "gangs" were chasing him. He pointed them out, and nobody was outside. Employees had to lock themselves in an office while I tried to reason with him, he finally agreed that I should call the police. I called 4 times in an hour while he became increasingly agitated I was told "It's Saturday night, and we're really busy". There were dozens of children in the school, just as many senior citizens. Police never came, an ambulance did and they took the guy. I have many more stories like this.

6/30/2020 7:56:38 AM

As a resident of a suburb to Minneapolis, I hope that our police department is able to keep us safe from crime bleeding from your city in lieu of a real police department. I fear for my town, but I fear more for the poor residents of your own city. Why are black women always the last considered? Don't forget about black and brown women. Please consider protecting my sisters and do not make this decision. We need real protection that your well-intentioned "solutions" simply cannot substitute. Your ideas are designed to protect the men who commit crimes against us.

6/30/2020 7:57:05 AM

My family will not be going to any events in Minneapolis if you defend or dismantle the MPD. Our safety is our first concern. As you know crime is already up due to your inability to handle the riots with police. Rethink your position or it is good bye Minneapolis for us and many others I know.

6/30/2020 7:57:50 AM

I am against the proposed charter amendment crafted in what seems like record speed by the city council. perhaps over time this change will be valid but maybe we should take a pause have a plan before changing an important document like the charter.

6/30/2020 7:59:13 AM

The city of Minneapolis needs the police force at full funding. Does reform need to continue, YES, but the city of Minneapolis will be hurting even more if the force is lost. Minneapolis has put a lot of effort into bringing new stadiums and events into the city. Who will want to go downtown if their safety is in question? Many people already feel this way and this will only continue. The desperately needed tax revenue will be lost. It is already happening as the council members that want private security are using tax dollars that could go to programs to help the police department or the homeless in Powderhorn Park. Do you see what is happening in Seattle?

6/30/2020 8:01:24 AM

Whatever became of the vibrant city of Minneapolis? Your Marxist approach to governance has stripped it bare, and now you want to leave its residents without police protection. Good luck. Send a social worker with a clipboard to a volatile domestic situation where the perpetrator has a weapon. See how that plays out. Oh, and by all means, be SURE your own asses have private security! WITH firearms, to boot, which you would love to see banned for "commoners". I hereby boycott all shopping, medical treatment, museum visits and concerts (and yeah, that one hurts), dining, airport usage, sporting events, lectures, etc. I will not visit your pit of a city; it will for me and mine be a "flyover" on our way to other places. I pity the people trapped there under your ridiculous "rule". We moved one of our immediate family members and his family out of Mpls. last month. Enjoy the mass exodus of rational folks. Enjoy chaos. Enjoy insecurity. Enjoy violence and more losses of property and lives as the anger you've stirred intensifies. But just remember, what you sow, so too will you reap. Good luck.

6/30/2020 8:02:01 AM

Instead of trying to get rid of the police we need to add to the force as the Chief of Police ask for. While we're at it we should have the city attorney & the court actually have criminals do jail time instead of a catch and release policy that seems to be happening now

6/30/2020 8:03:26 AM

I can't believe this is even being discussed. Law enforcement is an essential part of any community. I'm certain that removing ours would turn this city into a nightmare. I don't live far from Lake Street and was able to witness first hand what lawlessness and lack of enforcement brings.

If anything I would like to see more enforcement along side accountability in the department. There was a track record of issues with the officer that started this and had he been held accountable by the department I believe this would have been avoided. Better to fire a bad officer early than deal with this.

I along with many friends in the area are looking to the outlying suburbs and considering a move. It was fun while it lasted but I'm not interested in living in chaos. Allowing good people to feel unsafe will cause them to leave, destroy the tax base and cause long lasting issues that will be hard to overcome. I don't believe this will end well if the police are not allowed to do their job!

6/30/2020 8:03:37 AM

I am absolutely in favor of placing this amendment on the ballot. The MPD is an out of control gang of thugs. They have proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that they cannot be reformed as currently constituted. They need to be disbanded and we need to start over.

6/30/2020 8:03:40 AM

I do not live in Minneapolis, however, I do work in the area. I would no longer feel comfortable going to work without a police presence. I have been mugged several times and have been lucky to not have had situations escalate worse. I would literally rather quit my job and risk my livelihood than go into Minneapolis without police presence. Are you even talking to citizens in this area? Maybe consider providing more funding for the police department rather than continuing to cut funding so they cannot get the necessary number of officers, the necessary trainings, and additional staff (like social workers) to do outreach.

6/30/2020 8:04:05 AM

I am absolutely against the removal of the Minneapolis Police department! Police reform can and should be accomplished without defunding the police.

If I knew the city council had desires to defund, remove, or abolish the Minneapolis Police, I wouldn't have moved to Minneapolis with my wife and three kids in January 2019!

6/30/2020 8:04:12 AM

I believe this is a knee jerk reaction by certain individuals who are pushing their own personal agenda with no specific plan in place. It is a disservice to the residents of Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 8:04:38 AM

Regarding the proposed amendment would remove the Police Department and establish a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department:

1. Please provide MPLS residents the documented investigation findings that demonstrate the EXISTENCE of the MPLS Police Department is the root cause of the problem. (The proposal to eliminate the department indicates the City Council (CC) believe the existence of the department is the root cause.)
2. Please provide MPLS residents documented evidence based on scientific research that the proposed model will solve the problem and provide the most benefit to all MPLS residents. Also please provide the alternate models that were considered and reasons for rejecting them.
3. Please explain the defined role of the CC and then explain how transferring authority over MPLS security from the Mayor's office to the CC aligns with the defined role. Also please explain the necessary credentials of the current and future CC members necessary to successfully carry out this responsibility.

4. Please allow more time for MPLS residents to consider this proposal. A couple weekdays is hugely insufficient.

5. Please create a web site to provide all of this and other information related to the proposal so that MPLS residents can make an informed decision.

6/30/2020 8:05:22 AM

YES to Reformation & Restructuring of MPD

YES to residency requirements of MPD

YES to Chief Arradondo & Mayor Jakob hire/fire authority

NO to the UNION Thugs like Bob Kroll and their reichving agenda

NO to UNILATERAL power of BENDER and City Council

NO to Defund-Defrock

YES to TARGET FIELD, US Bank Stadium, and Target Arena becoming HOMELESS shelters. OUR TAXES paid for the BILLIONAIRES personal parks!!!

RLTW

6/30/2020 8:05:24 AM

I am very disappointed in how the city is handling the violence and unrest. Our neighborhoods are being trashed and terrorized, and no one is doing anything about it. We call 911, and often no one comes and no one seems to care. Before George Floyd was murdered, our neighborhood was actually pretty peaceful. We didn't hear gunshots all the time at night. We weren't afraid to take walks and didn't worry about getting mugged in broad daylight. We have people shouting through megaphones for hours and hours without rest, which makes it hard to get work done during a pandemic, but more frightening are all of the gunshots and arson attempts. We have people routinely driving down Park Avenue at highway speed, and it's dangerous, and should be pretty easy to fix if police were here to pull them over. What is needed right now is more good, well trained police presence, not less. While I do see a role to play in incorporating people with different skills and having someone with more experience in addiction and mental health issues responding to some calls, that's not what we're often suffering from right now. We need better trained police with deescalation training, and a department culture that takes it seriously from the top down, and recommends non-violent responses whenever possible. We are being terrorized in our neighborhoods with violence right now. We need a law enforcement response. It feels like right now no one is speaking for the residents, and instead, our leadership is reacting out of fear of more demonstrations. It feels like a knee-jerk reaction instead of a solid long-term plan that would include, at least for now, a solid law enforcement response to stop the violence and chaos now. Maybe long term defunding could be talked about. But right now, you need to stop the bleeding, or our neighborhood will no longer be safe and livable for its residents.

6/30/2020 8:06:01 AM

It's appalling and embarrassing to think this idea is actually being considered. Why dont you choose to fix the actual problem? Everyone with half a brain knows the police union is a big part of the problem. The system needs to allow for the "bad" officers to be terminated without fear of legal action. The other major factor is how most are portraying the idea o racism. I understand it exists but there are also many black citizens who understand they need to be responsible to change their own culture from within. Why dont leaders choose to listen to those people? It's because they dont scream as loud. When Justine Damond was killed, you didnt see white people lash out in a violent frenzy yet violence seemed to be the first guy reaction people had when George Floyd was killed. I'd love to have someone examine why that difference exists in our cultures--fix THAT instead of spending time and money to only make things worse! Minnesota is the absolute laughing stock of the country right now...a global punchline! Wake up and fix the actual problem!!

6/30/2020 8:06:08 AM

To "De-fund / disband / get rid of" the police shows the lack of intelligence of true leaders. If anything you need to increase funding for police for better training. Longer academy time that stresses deescalating scenarios and annual training requirements for every officer. Along with PTSD therapy for officers so they can lean more on getting help rather than acting out on it. Finally to have officers to get out in their communities and show that they are there for us not against us.

I am so very disappointed in my city and the sure stupidity we have shown.

What is amazing is that we have had "democratic" mayors running our city for over 40 years and city councils that have been predominantly the same and yet these people have done nothing to change things for the "people" they say they represent. Instead we get reduced roads, bike paths, fines for not shoveling (which the president can't even follow and feels she doesn't have too) and a slow destruction of small business's. This is why I have no faith in our leadership.

6/30/2020 8:06:31 AM

I like to visit Mpls for the restaurant's, bars, plays and sports. If it is not safe, I will not come to Mpls.

Thanks

6/30/2020 8:07:25 AM

I am not from Minneapolis. However, I do enjoy going to Minneapolis and enjoy a lot of what Minneapolis has to offer. I have typically felt safe in Minneapolis. I believe that if the city of Minneapolis and its residents do away with the police department and convert to a Safety & Violence Prevention Department(that will not Prevent anything) I will no longer be going into Minneapolis. I understand many of the issues the city, police department and citizens are facing. I am all for changing a system that has many issues. However, please keep in mind there are ripple affects to doing away with the police department. I do feel it would have a large economic impact of funds coming to business and community. Please don't let some officers who do not honor the badge they wear wreck the city and

rest of the police department. I know it is hard to see the forest through the trees sometimes, however, I do believe the majority of police in Minneapolis are there to protect and serve.

6/30/2020 8:07:37 AM

One simple comment. If the police is defunded or disbanded in Minneapolis my family and I will never visit there again.

6/30/2020 8:07:57 AM

I'm excited about the prospect of investing more to improve the lives of the most vulnerable in our community, rather than investing in police that tend to harass and target vulnerable populations. I think there is still a place for peace officers, which are contemplated in the amendment, but they should be deemphasized in favor of social workers and community programs. I am grateful to our leaders for taking bold and meaningful steps towards a brighter future for Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 8:08:53 AM

This council is NOT representing the majority of people who think this is the most senseless, ignorant idea. Why don't you listen to someone other than those at demonstrations or at Powderhorn Park? "REAL' people are too busy working and paying taxes to be heard. There is a huge silent majority out here in this realm that are rolling their eyes & deeply disturbed by your actions!! Listen to them!! Ironic how some of you can hire security while you suggest defunding & reimagining, renaming or whatever it is you think you're doing is the right course. How misguided you are. There ARE wonderful folks in blue that deserve your respect & you have thrown them out with the trash-perhaps the answer is to gather the other trash; thugs, criminals-of ANY race-off the street & stop this lawlessness you seem to fuel. History will judge you & may God above have mercy on your soul; I however am not as generous. Do the right thing and stop this foolishness and stand up for the majority here!!

6/30/2020 8:09:10 AM

Great first step - especially for our POC. You better get some better info out there for all the scared white folks think this means they won't be protected from the "bad guys" anymore or they'll band together and vote this down in a heartbeat.

6/30/2020 8:09:35 AM

This is insanity and I cannot believe you are risking the lives of the people who live and visit Minneapolis.

Changes must be made for our law enforcement, of course, but your proposal has not taken in so many considerations and it shows.

Do NOT dismantle the police, but rather institute mandatory ethics training, de-escalation training, CIT, mandatory oversight for officers, strict supervision.

6/30/2020 8:10:10 AM

This is a huge change to the city charter and should not be done lightly or without a plan. I urge the council to drop this effort, spend the next year developing a plan with full public input, and then put it on the ballot in 2021.

It should also be noted that 120 people have been shot in the city in the last month. The city already does little to nothing to combat property crime (even telling people on the city website to call 311 instead of 911). Provides no traffic enforcement. And the Chief of Police has already asked for a major increase in police officers. The city is failing to keep us safe.

6/30/2020 8:10:16 AM

Most of us are now getting a taste of what it could be without a police force. Its not pretty. Like having kids and letting them run as they please.

There needs to be structure. Reeducate the police. Do not disban them. Just remember, they were trained to do what they do. Maybe the trainers need education too. Training does need to change with the times.

6/30/2020 8:10:31 AM

If you want to create a new department for public safety that involves mental health, drug issues, domestic violence, fine. But please do not abolish the police as an organization. Also, not in favor of moving control of the police chief to the city council.

6/30/2020 8:10:33 AM

I don't see the survey.

I like to visit Mpls for the restaurant's, bars, plays and sports. If it is not safe, I will not come to Mpls. We need appropriately trained police officer for the safety of all colors of people.

Thanks

6/30/2020 8:10:47 AM

I think we seriously need reform of the MPD and there are cops that should likely not be on the force. I am worried about there not being a plan in place of the dismantling of the department moves forward. I feel for those that live in daily fear of police and that should not be the reality. There should be more officers that live in Minneapolis and care about the community and not see it as a military zone.

Please look into options of serious reform and weeding out racist and problematic officers. I do think we need policing in the community but not in its current state. I think the chief does care and would be proactive in rebuilding but Bob Kroll will stand in the way of any progress and needs to go.

6/30/2020 8:10:57 AM

I am a property owner in the City and am appalled at the idea of "Defunding the Police". While violent crime is on the rise, people and businesses are being told that we are on our own and while I agree that an individual is responsible for their own safety and that the police do not have a duty to protect, there must be a large, visible presence in some areas of the city to ensure that order is maintained.

6/30/2020 8:11:11 AM

We've lived through the riots, and the violence since (at least so far.) Violent criminals are not poor misunderstood children, and they won't be stopped until we stand up and enforce our laws. It is time to make Minneapolis safe for our children again. Because right now Minneapolis is an extremely dangerous place to be. And if individual citizens are forced to protect themselves and their property, things are going to get a whole lot more violent.

Let's start by taking away the City Council's security guards, effective immediately. Let them feel what it's like to not have protection. Then disband the City Council. Save that money, and put it into better policing. Our city council incited riots and created destruction, they should be immediately kicked out of office, without waiting for an election in November. They have made a laughing stock of Minneapolis on an international stage, as they sit there cowering behind their security guards. But worse, they have made Minneapolis unsafe for everyone, including the minorities they claim to support. Every citizen in Minneapolis should get better protection than these hypocrites are demanding for themselves.

Wake up. These riots were not peaceful protests. Stop encouraging more violence. Get these people out of our city.

6/30/2020 8:11:48 AM

Here's the thing. It needs to go farther than the police department. It's our whole legal/justice system that is failed everyone. so without that police report I can't do anything for my insurance or anything to protect my family or kids. Without physical proof. I can't protect anything or defend or give proof to anyone about anything. An abusive parent can still have time with their kids because there is not physical proof (aka police report/police taken photos/evidence) to show a court. I have had lawyers tell me a father abused one kid can't see that kid but can see their other kid because there is no proof he hurt that kid. How messed up is that? They system not just police has failed families over and over. And who is to say a therapist is going to protect the domestic violence call even when there is no imminent threat to danger present. It only takes one second for an abuser to go haywire or be triggered into anger and bam someone would be dead. But oh no the wholistic approach was supposed to work right??? All it takes is one minute for a person who was doing ok to grab that kitchen knife or strangle someone.....a counselor can do that and take care of that situation??? this is so wrong and I am scared for our future. the therapist is trained in first aid/emergencies/can tackle someone/use force

if need be as peaceful situations can turn deadly in an instant. Very very scary. And to eliminate money that should go into training and training and training and training.....

6/30/2020 8:12:17 AM

I refuse to go into Minneapolis if there is no traditional police dept. I will NOT spend any money and my office will relocate to outside downtown. Our lease is up this year so we will move where our employees won't be in danger of having no protection against criminals.

6/30/2020 8:12:19 AM

I hope this is the first of many steps, and as the name implies, the plan is to incorporate more social work initiatives to replace aspects of traditional law enforcement. We need an elected board of community representatives that have ultimate oversight over police policies and personell hiring and firing. We need requirements for a majority of police to be residents of the city.

I appreciate the steps I've seen so far but I hope we don't stop short of meaningful and lasting law enforcement reform.

6/30/2020 8:12:23 AM

As a citizen who works in Mpls and visits frequently quite frankly the Mpls Council has presented no logical, well developed plan for true consideration. Instead they have provided knee jerk emotional reactions. Instead of dismantling or defunding we should be looking at ways to provide well researched training to our Police Departments while also expanding services and support of social services, health care, etc to those in need. We also need to be looking at the Judicial system that takes lineancy on repeat or violent felons. Reform is necessary and needed but that is not what the Mpls Council has proposed. Thier lack of plan leaves citizens unprotected in uncertain times.

6/30/2020 8:12:50 AM

As a long-time resident of Minneapolis, I am absolutely shocked that this discussion is continuing to move forward. I absolutely agree there should be reform and it appears that the mayor and the chief already putting out ideas and moving on them. The city council however is basically throwing out ideas, with no concrete plans, and in the time where things are very much in turmoil I fear is just continuing to put gas on a fire and leading to this uptick in violence and crime in Minneapolis. I have lost any interest in going to downtown Minneapolis or even uptown now for fear of safety.

The city council keeps mentioning one town Camden that has done this. I'm sorry but in a town of the size of Minneapolis I need to see a many more examples of where a community-based approach has worked not just one location.

I do not support removing the police department for the City of Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 8:13:14 AM

If you think for one minute that you can do away police and protect the people of Minneapolis, social workers, mental health people you are sadly mistaken. Just look at what's happening all over are cities with violence now. You should all be held accountable for the death of people because there aren't going to be enough law enforcement people to help the innocent while the violence and thugs are running rampant in the street. What happened when a social worker is hurt or God forbid killed and a police officer has to respond to that. How about spending that money on training the great men and women of law enforcement. Work on getting people jobs rather than sitting at home. How about some Gun Control? Thank you for listening. I'm disabled vet from Vietnam and a proud military police and K-9 handler. I was a resident of Minnesota for 65 years now a winter Texan s and summer Minnesotan

6/30/2020 8:13:44 AM

What an absolute joke. New proposed sign, "Welcome to Minneapolis. Criminals, have the time of your life." I will no longer be supporting businesses in Minneapolis and therefore no more of my tax dollars will be going to your city.

6/30/2020 8:15:38 AM

You people are insane!!!! Stop acting like children. The man that violated the law and policy is being dealt with. The people that tore apart your city are ANIMALS and are rewriting your history because your allowing them to do so. Your catering to the small percentage of people who use violence and intimidation because they have nothing better to do. When the majority of real citizens vote you out and this stupid ballot question down you can sit there and wonder why as you look yourself in the mirror. Police work isn't pretty. It's a tough job to do day in and day out. I'm guessing most of you have never seen the inside of a squad car, been spit on, shot at, threatened, have your family threatened.... Try that every other day for the next 30 years or even every day depending on where you work.

6/30/2020 8:16:55 AM

I will vote against this amendment. We need police and we need MORE if them.

Please redirect your efforts towards reforming the police union.

6/30/2020 8:17:45 AM

I am in favor of any plan that makes the Minneapolis Police subservient to the polity that pays their salaries. Their budget is out of control, and their abuse of overtime provisions harms our community funds. They commit illegal work slowdowns to harm politicians they disagree with, and collide with out state politicians to undermine local control. They have no willingness to reform, and treat Minneapolis like a hostile territory in which they are an army of occupation. Until they learn to respect and love Minneapolis like we citizens do, they can stay home in their all white exurbs. We can keep the peace ourselves. I fear police retaliation for having a difference of opinion. They have proven their propensity for violence and lack of respect for the rule of law.

6/30/2020 8:17:48 AM

This is a horrible idea. Reform the police, but throwing everything out, or pretending to - while costing taxpayers millions is dumb.

6/30/2020 8:17:55 AM

I think it's time! Thanks for listening to your constituents!

6/30/2020 8:17:58 AM

If your plan to defund/disband the Minneapolis Police department comes to fruition, I will not be going to Minneapolis anymore. Police play a vital role in keeping the community safe and taking them away will just cause even more crime. Many restaurants and businesses will suffer and may even close due to this. Minneapolis will no longer be a place people want to come visit due to no police presence. I fully support the Minneapolis Police and the thankless job they do.

6/30/2020 8:18:22 AM

Please do not get rid of the police department or defund them. Please stop trying to be political activists and actually listen to what the residents of your city want/need (govern the city). Go knock on doors and talk to people instead of isolating yourselves from your city. You lost control of the city following the murder of George Floyd. You need to restore control and confidence of all residents, before any policy changes can occur with any degree of confidence. You can't do that without police. What does getting rid of the police department accomplish? Does it solve racial inequity? It is an extremely knee jerk reaction, and it is painfully obvious that you are all in over your head and making this "plan" up as you go along. Stop. You may be privileged enough to have private security, but most of us are not. Get rid of the security and come talk to your citizens. I saw Andrea walking down my block a couple days ago, and was going to go outside to talk to her. I stopped when I saw the clearly armed guard walking a few steps behind her. Having armed guards, with no uniform walking our otherwise safe city streets creates a very eerie/scary backdrop to try to engage in discussion about the future of our city. Get rid of the police and you are going to have lots and lots and lots more people walking around armed, which is not ideal when you already have a high degree of tension and fear gripping the city.

6/30/2020 8:18:36 AM

Rushing this they is not a good thing. It will only create more havoc in the City of Minneapolis. A change like this needs to be thought out carefully so that it will work. This is right now a knee-jerk reaction to what happened in May, and will only make things worse.

6/30/2020 8:19:04 AM

This proposal will result in wasted time and money. The problem is, and has been for decades, the inability or unwillingness of the city to set standards, establish policies and procedures, and enforce them regarding the police department. The lame excuse that the police union is in fact running the police department, or at least preventing effective management of it, doesn't hold water and never has. We are to believe that this particular union has powers so daunting that the city cannot identify and remove bad actors. I'm not buying it. If arbitration has to be restructured, now is the time to do it. Why should any citizen of Minneapolis believe that the city can somehow manage a new 'public safety' organization, including law enforcement people, any better than they have managed the current police department. While you're wasting your time with this the city needs effective policing. The people who need it the most are the ones in the highest crime areas. You had better get a move on, rather than kicking the can down the road. The mob is still out there, waiting for the next atrocity, real or perceived, to trigger their rioting, looting and arson. I have zero confidence right now that the city government is up to the task of suppressing that, let alone fixing the underlying problem: managing the police department.

6/30/2020 8:19:44 AM

I am against removing the police from our city. I never would have moved here if I knew the police would be removed. I believe improvements can be made to the police force without getting rid of them. I value and appreciate their service and want them to remain in our City.

6/30/2020 8:20:40 AM

Absolutely do NOT remove the police department. I want to feel safe visiting Minneapolis especially with my children hence there was an emergency. I would not feel the slightest comfort visiting or bringing in family or friends knowing there's no protection. Please. Please work out the kinks in the system and keep the police where they belong. Thankyou.



6/30/2020 8:21:32 AM

I 100% support this decision. Cops have been tasked with too many roles to fill. Rebuild a much smaller police force with people from the communities they will be working in who pass bias training and only make them responsibility for what they should be responsible for. Spread the rest of the money out to other community areas that will then be able to support the rest of the needs.

6/30/2020 8:22:35 AM

I think that the police in Minneapolis should be structured as peacekeepers of the city not the military type policing that has caused harm to its residents especially of color. There training should be different than what they are doing now. There should be training for emotional mental also a facet of training to know when other agencies should be called in at the same time they are so it can be handled without escalating to the violence I have seen on the streets of Minneapolis. At one time I was becoming a probation officer for Ramsey County. Even though I finished my degree in Human Services/Corrections I did a drive along with a police officer; I worked 6 months in Ramsey county juvenile detention center; I worked in a treatment center for 13-18 year olds; I found that what they were asking of me to do - the type of training to be effective in keeping myself safe and the client was more than I could handle. It was not in my nature to treat people that way. So I walked away from it.

I think that the whole country as a whole needs reforming. They are supposed to be protecting us from harm yet they are causing more harm. There are a few bad apples in society yet there are some in the police who should be police officers. Better screening needs to be done for their mental health their attitudes towards people of all cultures especially those of color. We need officers who become part of the community live in the community so they get to know their neighbors like I remember you had to live within city limits in order to work as an officer of that police department. Life was less violent and people knew they could trust the police. Now it's a different story. The name law enforcement needs to be changed so that it represents peacekeeping of the peace in the city. I remember when the police used ride horses around the city made them easier to talk with and get to know them. With them in their cars it's harder to know them more afraid to approach. It makes for a scarier time when you need help. Being pursued by the police being stopped for something because of the color of your skin and them assuming have committed a crime before getting the whole story and then end up dead is awful. Things need to change in the way people are treated. Where is the fact that you are innocent until proven guilty. Thank you for allowing me to send in my comments even though I am not a resident of Minneapolis. I have friends who live there.

6/30/2020 8:22:41 AM

I live in Bloomington, so my opinion technically doesn't count, but I would never move to a city that did not have a fully staffed police department.

Don't get me wrong I'm all for reform - longer job training, continuing education credit, maybe even mandatory community service to stay engaged with communities that are struggling.

But when a city had 100+ shots in a short time I'm not sure the answer is to have less police activity.

6/30/2020 8:22:56 AM

A "safety and violence protection department"? Can we have some details, or are we just renaming the police department? Is this going to be some sort of lackadaisical security program with whistles, or will these individuals armed? Do the leaders of Minneapolis understand what they're up against? Highly organized, violent crime units will find Minneapolis as their kush nesting zone. In just a couple years I see Minneapolis relying on military support to police it's everyday activities. Dismantle corrupt police unions. Research complaint history on individuals within the police force and eliminate them. Hire diversity, retrain, do not let your city suffer long term from knee jerk, political responses that are simply bandaids.

6/30/2020 8:23:03 AM

I do not support dismantling the police. I do think there should be some reforming of what we have, but I also think that should take time. It should not be rushed like the city council is trying to do. There are everyday lives at stake and the council is rushing these decisions to make themselves look good, meanwhile they are sitting in their comfy homes with private security. I do not live in Minneapolis, but I do work in north Minneapolis and I do have family that live there and I'm scared to go over there because of all the crime.

6/30/2020 8:23:30 AM

I am both a Vietnam combat veteran and an attorney in Minneapolis. I think it would go a long way to change the tenor of the individuals that are hired as police officers. A lot of them are former combat people who come back from the Middle East. Approximately 26-28% of those that come back, are treated for their PTSD leaving about 70% of those combat veterans, almost all of whom have PTSD untreated. The pool from which police officers are selected, needs to be examined. If they are not treated for PTSD, the Minneapolis are inheriting the problems that come with that. Most of that comes from fear and trigger happiness. The hiring body for police officers should consist of a variety of different people - including administrators, and former veterans that are being treated. There should be a panel that interviews the potential candidates that check to see if there could be a rogue officer

6/30/2020 8:24:13 AM

NO on disbanding the MPD! Are you out of your minds? No one will want to visit Minneapolis or attend sporting functions or concerts...WHO WANTS TO RISK THEIR LIVES? I was mugged in Minneapolis in broad daylight by two black thugs, my neice was mugged at GUNPOINT TWICE by black thugs, my coworkers husband was jumped in January by 6 black thugs, beaten, robbed and left to die on the sidewalk on cold winter night. He would've died if the police had not FOUND him. SHAME ON YOU FOR IGNORING ALL THE BLACK ON WHITE CRIMES LAW ABIDING CITIZENS HAVE TO SUFFER FROM - SHAME ON YOU!

6/30/2020 8:24:20 AM

Keep the Police and get rid of the city council and all the judges that let repeat criminals out of jail.

6/30/2020 8:26:24 AM

This is the right decision. We must create a community force that holds citizens who break the law responsible, but WAY MORE importantly we must create a group of people that protects and serves the people more than they damage and hurt.

6/30/2020 8:27:23 AM

Yes, I support reallocating police resources/funding to more appropriate groups with expertise in those areas. In addition, I strongly support removing Bob Kroll and the police union. We should maintain a division responsible for law enforcement, but with a more clearly defined area of responsibility

6/30/2020 8:27:37 AM

I feel this is a bold step in the right direction and I commend the city council for taking such a risk, and for listening to the people who have been calling for change. I'd like to see the major issues with police addressed in the plan -- like police unions and qualified immunity which protect them, and insufficient training that give young cops power and weapons but not the wisdom and fortitude to wield them

responsibly. I understand the need for law enforcement as a division of the new proposed plan, and want to understand what that would look like, how it would be managed and carried out, and how to have an effective but transparent way of dealing with crimes ranging from petty to serious. I don't know that we will "get it right" on the first try but I am hopeful to see a city moving towards something drastically different than what we currently have. I am especially heartened to know that more of the budget will go towards programs designed to support the community and prevent the need for policing as we know it, and I look forward to hearing more about how this plan will play out.

6/30/2020 8:29:06 AM

One can change the organization structure and change the laws, that may help for a time. We are talking about people that are human and like all humans have bias, and other undesirable tendencies. A layered oversight organization and punishment doubled for any abuse and misconduct. The police are not God and should be accountable for their actions. Punishment should be doubled because they are in a position that is suppose to keep peace not destroy it. They should be aware of the power they have and be responsible for what they do.

Also, the culture needs to change, rewards for deescalating situations, living and meeting the people in the same area they patrol etc.

In this era of technology, there is no need to shoot someone in the back. The police force used should be aligned with the crime being committed.

6/30/2020 8:29:32 AM

I am totally OPPOSED to the City Council's proposed Charter amendment to remove the police department and to put

Do NOT abolish the Minneapolis Police Department. Make reforms and keep Chief Arradondo. He is smart, has all citizens safety in mind, and understands the kinds of reforms that need to take place.. We need leaders like him who are willing to meet with all groups, understands research and reforms are absolutely necessary. Abolishing the police department without a thorough plan to replace it is very shortsighted and can lead to years of unrest and lawlessness ( even if you don't acknowledge this), citizens and businesses leaving Minneapolis, and a disservice to ALL citizens now and in the future.

This is a reactive plan with little substance. To say we will do it as we go along is so RECKLESS and REACTIONARY. You may not be on the City Council in a few years to take responsibility for the outcome of this reactionary plan, but what happens to Minneapolis will last forever.

I am AGAINST having the city council wanting to amend the Minneapolis Charter. We need a well thought out plan with ALL stakeholders to ensure justice and safety for all by REFORMING the Police Department.

6/30/2020 8:29:34 AM

While I don't live in Minneapolis, I frequently visit there. I love the idea of community based safety. Cops have their place. A mental health crisis isn't that place. Seeing the person in need getting what they need in the moment would be amazing! And if you can make it work, we should be able to replicate it in St. Cloud where I live. This can be the best thing to happen to Minneapolis in a long time.

6/30/2020 8:29:40 AM

Yes. Please abolish the current police department and start over. I will vote yes on the amendment.

6/30/2020 8:29:56 AM

Placing political correctness over public safety is never the answer. Weeding bad cops out of departments is crucial but disbanding the police will put all city residents in unnecessary danger.

6/30/2020 8:30:18 AM

I wish to remain anonymous for fear out retribution from the public and the council.

Defunding the police darpartment and setting up this new, sensitive, "community based" system is wrong and shameful. Were you all asleep or in a bunker during the riots? Perhaps out of town? Maybe you participated in them yourselves? How about over the last few weeks, when crime has gone up in the city - do you honestly think this is good idea? You must not, because councilmembers have requested armed security. If you are scared and don't enjoy the environment that you have created, imagine how your citizens feel....

I submit that we should defund the council or at least replace the counci members with people that do not have radical agendas. Honest, hardworking citizens without bias - not political shills that believe it's a "privilege" to call the police. These officers lay their lives on the line every day. They and their families sacrifice so much- so you can spit on them. You should be ashamed of yourselves.

Since we know that you don't listen to your community, Their voices will be heard during the election cycle.

6/30/2020 8:30:22 AM

This is a mistake...clearly, a major mistake. While almost everyone (unfortunately I have to say almost) is saddened by the murder of Mr. Floyd, the action that the City Council is looking to take is a knee jerk reaction.

There is no true "plan" that has been set forward for the public to see. The Mayor (who doesnt want to ruffle any feathers) also says that it leads to more questions than answers. Doesn't that tell you something?

Recently, it was reported that City Council members have hired private security detail at the rate of \$4,300 per day! Couldnt those funds be used in a better manner? Did the tax payers have a say in that? The answer to that second question is NO.

If you believe that a "holistic" approach is the way to go, why not show the city, the state, the nation, and the world that it actually works?? That's right, it doesn't work.

Where was the security for the SMALL BUSINESS owners on Lake Street? These business provide for their community members.

The council members make \$96K+ per year...and most of them have other businesses/careers. Thats \$1.248 Million per year. Why not make the salary \$20K per year and move over \$1M to other entities that need the \$\$\$.

6/30/2020 8:30:45 AM

Abolishing the MPD is wrong. We need our police to keep our communitiea safe. Tracking bad cops and doing retraining would be a better option. Don't have a knee jerk reaction over just a bad cop. Look at all the good the police have done. Much more good than bad. Community crime is up. You cannot have social workers face bad guys. You must have law and order. Many, if not all of the incidents have been started by someone doing something illegally. As a taxpayer, I am afraid to go downtown for services or to eat out due to the violence going on down there. You must restore order, lock up the looters and people that are inflicting violence.

6/30/2020 8:31:27 AM

Witnessing a horrible/traumatic event primes people to make rash decisions out of emotion, not reason. The idea that racism was even a factor in the death of George Floyd is unfounded. The same goes for Rayshard Brooks. This proposal seems primed to increase crime, not reduce it. I am for reducing police brutality by increasing transparency and changing rules on techniques like knees on necks, but I don't support reducing the numbers of police in the city which is what this change seems to be aimed at doing. Using the Rayshard Brooks case as an example, it is tragic he ended up getting shot, but it is not my belief that a peaceful officer could be dispatched to handle a guy reportedly drunk driving. Drunk driving is deadly dangerous to the community, so an officer authorized to use force should be dispatched, and if the suspect resists arrest, I believe they should be forcefully captured to be processed through the system. In the case of George Floyd, I don't know enough details of what happened inside the store to comment on the type of officer to deploy. However, I'm totally a fan of someone being present that can use force. Otherwise, we are going to see people just running from your 'peace officers' and getting away with things. Then they tell their friends, and more crime happens. This is likely to hurt the black community more than it helps. Please, at least include some objective markers for success and failure with your plan ahead of time so you can objectively assess it after 6 months. For example, if crime percentages go up in those 6 months, you're doing it wrong.

6/30/2020 8:31:42 AM

I am absolutely against replacing the police department in Minneapolis. I think it's insane. FIX the issues, yes. Disband, NO.

6/30/2020 8:32:03 AM

Absolutely not. If you remove the police department, crime is going to SKYROCKET. What a joke. Establish a better training system and check in on your officers and their complaints more often. Weed out the bad, negligent and racist officers and coke up with a better system to stay on top of it.

6/30/2020 8:32:56 AM

We are currently working on buying a house. We always saw ourselves living in the city, but with this move to take away the police, we have moved our search out to the suburbs. I will not live in a city where I don't feel safe. I believe you will see a mass exodus like Detroit if you do this. It is already bad as it is here.

6/30/2020 8:33:13 AM

I am a real estate lawyer working in Downtown Minneapolis. I was born and raised in the Twin Cities and am currently raising my 3 children here. Let me start by stating the obvious - It was disgusting to watch Officer Chauvin's actions that day. What he did was wrong - no doubt.

That being said, our City's leadership has failed to rise to the challenge in the wake of this tragedy. It was incredibly disheartening, gut wrenching and sad to watch our beautiful and beloved City burn in the days following Memorial Day with no leadership to be seen or heard. No meaningful deterrence was made until it was too late. Too many businesses were lost or damaged. And worse, the failed leaders set the tone for the months of extraordinary violence to follow.

Do we need change in the Minneapolis police? Yes. I have no doubt the City Council wants what is best for its residents and daily commuters. But what the City Council is proposing will cause irreparable damage in the long term. Rather than abolishing/defunding/disbanding the MPD, I challenge this Council to create the best trained, highest paid, and most technically proficient and effective police force in the country. To do this we need better, more qualified officers with higher funding and more consistent and mandatory training. No more officers with only 2-year degrees. No more officers hiding behind their police union. It starts with quality hires, increased funding, increased training and end with accountability.

Please also offer training for the public on how to react when encountering police.

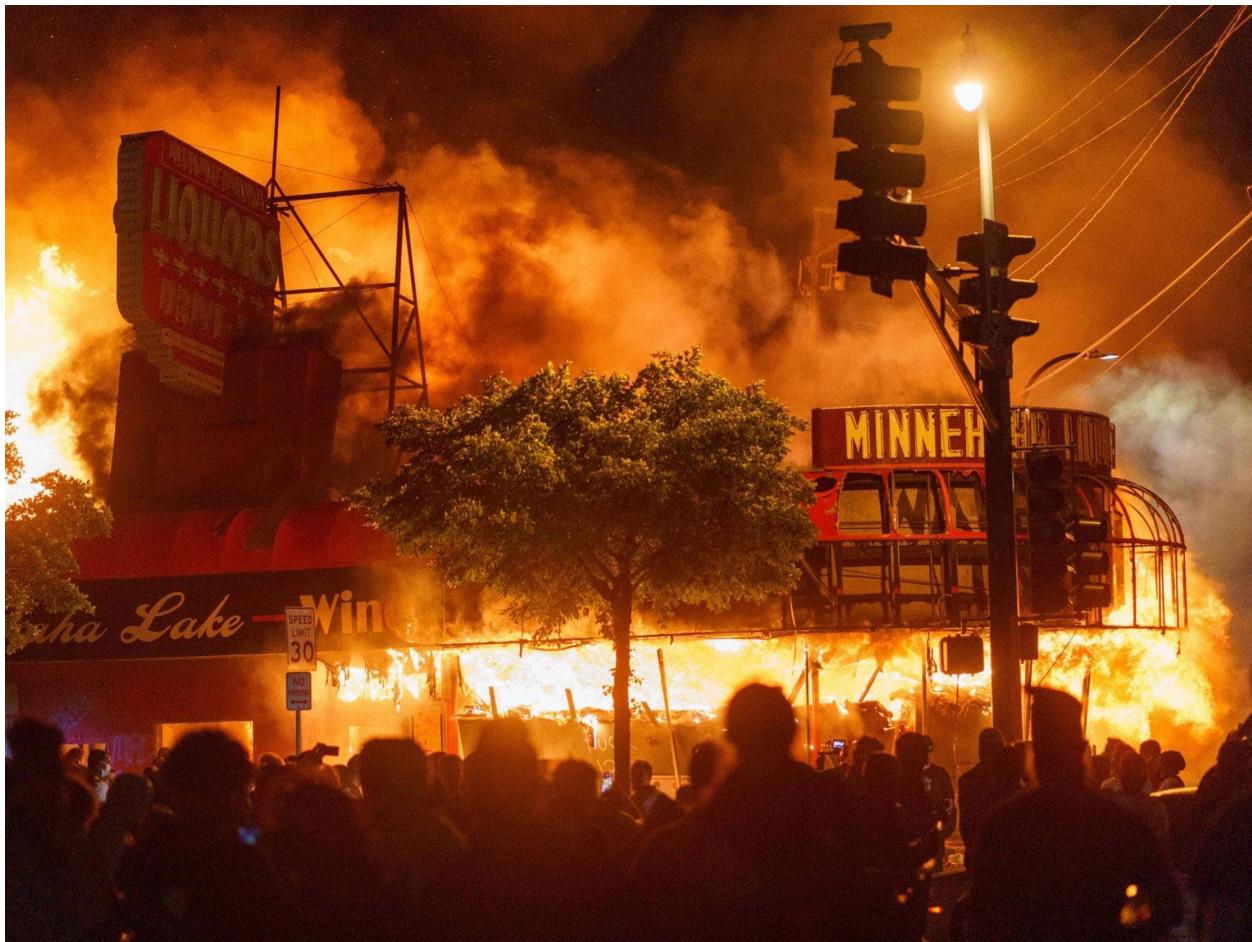
6/30/2020 8:33:53 AM

My kids live in Mpls....but not for long....looking for a home in the suburbs where there is police protection.....too much violence and will only get worse. They ride the light rail to their jobs in downtown Mpls--not safe before and certainly not now....absolutely no comfort in having social workers called to a dispute/crime/accident. What are you thinking? Stupid. We will not be supporting our usual trips to Mpls for Twins games and theater. Loss for businesses because of your knee jerk reaction

6/30/2020 8:33:56 AM

Mpls is dying. Get a hold of yourselves. I won't set foot in the city, even for my beloved Twins, until you RESTORE ORDER. Oh, and why do council members get private security?

Finally, rebuild with a Mpls tax ONLY. I'm not footing the bill for your collective incompetence. You are the weakest link!



6/30/2020 8:34:23 AM

I am not a resident of Minneapolis, but I work there and go to the city for sporting events, dining, and other entertainment. Like everyone I was distressed at the deaths of George Floyd and Rayshard Brooks. But I think eliminating or defunding the police department is going way too far. What I do think needs to happen is a change in the culture of the police department.

In the case of George Floyd, the culture that 3 other officers would just stand by and allow him to be killed is unacceptable and the culture that allowed that needs to change. We all have a responsibility to do the right thing and when those around us are not doing the right thing we need to take action to stop them! That those three officers did nothing says to me the culture in the department is wrong and needs to change. are part of a "pattern of excessive police violence toward Black people," a poll released Tuesday shows. In the case of Rayshard Brooks, the culture needs to change from "Law Enforcement" to "Keeping the Peace" Rayshard posed no threat to anyone, he had a little to much to drink. If the officers had been focused on "Keeping the Peace" they would have call someone to come get him, call a cab, or even taken him home themselves.

6/30/2020 8:34:26 AM

I believe that the Minneapolis Police Department has lost its way. I believe unequivocally that it has in the past, and continues today, to discriminate against people of color. I believe that Lt. Bob Kroll has been a main part of the roadblocks to rehabilitation. I do not believe he is solely responsible. He was elected by his peers and continues to be re-elected by them, therefore they share in the culpability.

I do not see a way forward with the current police federation or the department as a whole. I believe in defunding and reallocating many of the resources that are currently invested in the MPD, and I believe a new department should be formed which includes officers of the peace for emergency response, working in conjunction with mental health professionals and social workers. I believe that these officers should be required to live in the neighborhoods which they patrol.

I believe the department should be disbanded and reformed from the ground up, with all personnel being required to reapply for their jobs, and approval being given by a citizen-led commission.

I agree that there are needs in the community that would be better served through mental health care professionals and I also believe that community outreach should be a major source of investment to help break the institutional and systemic racism that has a foothold in every aspect of society. We need programs for the underserved, particularly people of color.

However, I also believe that a well-trained police department does serve a purpose. I believe that a new department should be de-militarized and I think extensive training in deescalation should also be a major component of the department culture.

I wholeheartedly disagree with the notion that the department should be abolished and that citizens should fill in the void. While new social programs will help to slowly change the paradigm of the situation for people of color, there will always be violent criminals, rapists, drunk drivers, and opportunists from all walks of life.

Community patrols cannot and would not be effective in deterring or detaining these people. I think an armed civil patrol would be a nightmare and an unarmed civil patrol would be worse. If my home is

being broken into by armed robbers, it is insane to think that my only course of action is to call a neighbor. And then what?

We do not live in a utopia.

How do you suppose businesses would get their insurance underwritten if there is absolutely no police force? You would automatically have a mass exodus of businesses for that reason alone.

I have seen so many points of view on what defunding the police means, and everyone seems to assume that everyone shares the same belief.

So we need to be careful and clear about what this new vision is. It needs to be in writing, with discussion and input from everyone in our city. And it needs to happen before the charter is amended. You cannot remove the police department without a robust plan in place, and what we've heard so far is that November is too soon to both come up with a new plan and amend the charter.

The world is watching and political posturing does not score style points if the ballot measure fails because this city rightfully thinks it is insane to remove the police without a plan.

Businesses will leave en masse, either because they don't believe their assets will be protected OR because insurance companies will not insure them without a law enforcement presence. And people will also leave, making real estate prices plummet, which affects the property taxes that you depend on.

This is an almost certainty, and it does not need to happen. You can avoid this by coming up with a plan first. Do not try getting the cart ahead of the horse - the majority of us want change... real and lasting change. But we need to be smart about it or nothing will happen.

6/30/2020 8:34:30 AM

This is without a doubt the dumbest thing I have ever heard of. You have one rogue officer who committed a truly offensive act and, your solution is to eliminate the entire Police Force?

My grandchildren live in Minneapolis and I don't want less Police. I want more Police.

6/30/2020 8:35:02 AM

Worked in Minneapolis for 40 years. Thank God I'm retired. Will never set foot in Minneapolis again. Cancel the dentist, Doctor and hair appointments and everything else. That worthless mayor allowed a beautiful city to be destroyed.

So if we have a problem we're supposed to call our social worker? Who the hell has a social worker? Except the people in the streets protesting and of course our esteemed Washington representation. What a joke!

Too embarrassed to be from MN with that worthless governor and our representation in Washington DC. Wr state we're Canadian whenever we travel.

The whole county is LAUGHING AT YOU!!!

6/30/2020 8:35:56 AM

Dismantling instead of improving the police department is irresponsible. Thinking that social services can replace police in violent domestics is living in lala land. Give Chief Arrandondo the right tools to work with so he can change the department. A lot of really good police are quitting because of the council's attitude. It's very disheartening.

6/30/2020 8:37:12 AM

Instead of dismantling the MPD, I think it would be mode beneficial to increase the allotted budget of MPD and put in place better training to handle difficult situations without using deadly force. Or spend some money de militarizing the MPD and use that money towards training. Also, require every officer to spend some time in the schools, meeting the parents of some of these kids, monthly. I think the precedent of "dismantling" the MPD would do more harm then good. Thanks for your time, God Bless.

6/30/2020 8:37:23 AM

The clowns are running the circus.

6/30/2020 8:38:05 AM

It's disappointing we get such poor decision making representation on the city council. Minneapolis has turned into a lawless chaotic disaster. Don't be so easily persuaded into radical decisions because of the media. There has been no evidence that I am aware of that race was a factor in the George Floyd killing. It's a training issue and an aggressive police culture issue, those can be changes much more easily then trying to reinvent the wheel.

6/30/2020 8:38:31 AM

If the money will be allocated to the places it should be, this will work. Put that money in to less fortunate education systems, homeless housing, rehab facilities, medical offices, jobs! Help those who actually need the help instead of militarizing men and women with a badge and use it like some sort of invisible cloak and force field.

6/30/2020 8:39:35 AM

As a Minneapolis resident I am highly disturbed by the comments of the city council members to "disband" the Police yet offer no guidance what if anything would replace them. That being said Police reform is absolutely needed. I approve of the desire to change it where Mental Health Professionals and Paramedics are dispatched to the appropriate situations in lieu of the Police. The personnel levels of these additional professionals should be spelled out within the updated department charter and approved by popular vote much like the current Police personnel levels are so as to prevent future political desires to shift those resources back to the Police.

One thing not talked about that should be considered is shifting the liability of Police lawsuits to the Police Union should they refuse to allow proper personnel management of officers - i.e. the City/Police Department is unable to terminate officers or forced to accept their reinstatement after arbitration. Separately but related, I would support a city charter amendment that prohibited anyone negotiating or accepting union agreements that allow for those types of job protections in the contract.

6/30/2020 8:39:38 AM

The city is already struggling with violent crime including a significant increase in gun violence throughout the city. I also think downtown keeps deteriorating and is less and less desirable to visit. With all of this going on in the city, defunding the police seems like a horrible idea. I was a former home owner in the city and currently rent in the city. I don't think I am going to purchase another house in Minneapolis and will most likely move to the suburbs in the near future due to the uncertainty about what will happen. My feeling is that if I need the police in the future, they won't be available and I will be forced to deal with whatever problem I'm facing personally which may not always be appropriate.

6/30/2020 8:39:40 AM

This is the dumbest thing I have ever heard. If you make this change I will never step foot in Minneapolis again. God help Minneapolis and the people of the city.

6/30/2020 8:39:44 AM

This proposal is moronic & INSANE! This city has gone to HELL with the leadership (or lack thereof) , NOT the police. The real estate market will be FLOODED, thereby lowering property values. How will you justify the already bloated taxes? Business will also flee, that have't already been destroyed by the riots ALLOWED to occur & COVID. MPLS will be known as the City that RUINED America!

6/30/2020 8:40:44 AM

No every city and state needs law and order. When you remove it your create chaos along with individuals learning they do not need to fear consequences because there are no authority figures to implement them. It's like having kids in a home and removing the parents. They will not learn respect, discipline, how to take direction, how to be a good follower, how to treat others as you'd like to be treated etc. you will see entitlement grow, you will see a free for all with no police force to keep law and order. Having law and order is healthy.

6/30/2020 8:41:58 AM

The proposal to disband the police force is pretty crazy in my opinion. I don't live in Minneapolis but I did like going there to eat at restaurants, shop , go to sports activities, concerts, plays etc... Unfortunately I won't be doing those things in Minneapolis going forward due to the current environment including the council's decision to get rid of police. We will be spending our time and money in other cities from now on.

6/30/2020 8:43:06 AM

The problem is not the police. The problem is poorly trained police. Police need to be trained to de-escalate situations. Subordinates need to be confident that they can stop a situation that they believe is being mishandled by a superior. Non lethal force needs to be the first solution.

Rest assured though, if the police are defunded and de-established, I will NOT, ever, bring my family to a Twins game, to a Wolves game, to the Guthrie, to anything in Minneapolis. EVER. The murder and crime rate will go through the roof. Minneapolis will be a cesspool of crime. People And companies will flee to the suburbs By the thousands. Hence, you will have made the problem much, much worse. Not better.

6/30/2020 8:43:55 AM

While I am in support of replacing the police department, I am concerned about the Council's rush to do so without providing concrete details on what the new system of public safety will look like. I would feel much more comfortable voting in favor of the amendment if the Council presents more concrete details on their plans for replacing the MPD ahead of the vote in November. In light of the recent spike in violent crime and shootings in the city, I want to feel confident that any plans to replace the MPD will ensure greater safety for all residents.

6/30/2020 8:44:05 AM

I am excited to see the City Council taking the initiative to enact lasting change in the Minneapolis Police. To make such change successful, however, it is necessary to outline how ALL aspects of the police will be replaced. The shift toward public health and mental health services is fantastic, but the need will also remain for armed responses in the event of violent crimes such as hate crimes, mass shootings, and murders to name a few. I am glad to know that armed officers will not be present more often than necessary, but I implore the Council to lay out at least a draft of how the new policing system could look. Would armed officers be local or would they be dispatched from the County Sheriff or State Patrol? Sketching out some of these plans would go a long way toward fostering unity behind the replacement of the police. Most effort has been spent convincing opponents that it is RIGHT. I believe that the next important step, which has been missing, is to show that it is POSSIBLE and that it is SAFE. Then, we can move forward together. And to do so, it is imperative that the Council bring to the table the local NAACP chapter and other members of the Black community rather than listening only to a few. Thank you for your attention.

6/30/2020 8:44:30 AM

I agree with Andrea Jenkins in that you can change the name, the organization and responsibilities, however if you don't actually change the culture of racism then what are you really accomplishing besides saving face?

I believe that any police officer (or whatever there new name is going to be) who is going to be called on to "police" our Minneapolis communities needs to be apart of these communities. I feel very strongly that if they were to be involved with and become ingrained into the same communities we need them to protect, they might treat their neighbors differently when called to intervene.

Just like some outside influences turned the protests violent weeks ago and burned down my neighborhood, the same can be said of cops who live outside our communities and go to work with no connection or care for the communities they patrol. The people living there are seen as criminals first, suspects first instead of neighbors first.

I would caution against eliminating the police department entirely. It would be a very slippery slope to try and walk back up if proposed community responses, social workers, mental health workers and others are either unable to perform how we ideally would like them to or if they are met with force and resistance to take advantage of their lack of power and enforcement.

This is a tough task and fine line that needs to be walked. I think any radical change that is pushed through quickly will be met with a lot more resistance even from those who might support it because of the fear of uncertainty. Let takes it slow, push incremental change but keep pushing. You need to show us that what you're saying and doing is actually working and not just words for print.

6/30/2020 8:44:38 AM

I think they are moving too fast without enough experience in life in making this decision. I have lived in Mpls. For 50 years and have worked as an RN in HCMC for almost 40 yrs. I have had many police contacts. Minneapolis Police appear to have a chip on their shoulders, but are caring people when you see beyond the chip and they have a lot of experience.

I have worked with social workers and feel they cannot begin to deal with some of the problems the police deal with. Why not clean up the police and keep them.?

I feel this young city Council is way off on their plans and pray they are stopped.

6/30/2020 8:45:04 AM

This is sheer lunacy. The main purpose of government is to keep the citizens SAFE. Eliminating police sounds nice and warm and fuzzy, but it's going to devolve into chaos and anarchy very quickly. I am 100% against this proposition.

6/30/2020 8:45:36 AM

I strongly object to the current proposal as I understand it. It is a too-rapid response to political situation, even political pandering that is not yet thought through. I agree with the need for a radical cultural and procedural change, but not at the expense of public safety. This is a primary responsibility of city government.

We must have a plan for what will replace it that we can all weigh in on and feel that our safety won't be compromised nor the well-being of African American people.

Right now there IS NO PLAN TO REPLACE POLICE. The City Council has said that will take a year to develop. Therefore, I urge the Charter Commission to vote 'NO' to changing the city charter NOW, especially in light of all the community violence we are experiencing each and every day.

1. There is no plan to replace the current police department to provide security to citizens and business.
2. A disproportionately white population of folks who don't live in North Minneapolis and non-Northsiders are behind dismantling the police. Most African American folks I know demand that the police radically transform by any means necessary but don't want announcements about getting rid of the police now. Our children are being shot and killed on our streets. Protecting them is our #1 priority—Not politics!
3. The City Council's announcement that it plans on dismantling the police is immature, premature and dangerous. We are in the middle of the greatest crime and violence spree in our neighborhood since 1996 when Minneapolis was known as 'Murderapolis.' Now is not the time to tell those committing unchecked violence daily that we are getting rid of the police. This has become a license to kill and shoot.
4. Under the new charter the new 'department of safety,' would report to 14- Council people who are responsible for different parts of the city that have different needs. Currently the police are held accountable by the Mayor and Police Chief. 14 bosses are too many!
5. We haven't fully supported nor given a real chance to the first African American police chief, Arradondo. He has already stepped up and refused to negotiate with the police union— something which no other chief has done before.
6. The timing on this is just bad. Let's get a plan and possibly put something on the ballot next year. Not now.

Copy all messages to: City Clerk at [casey.carl@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:casey.carl@minneapolismn.gov). AND Charter Chair Barry Clegg.

Charter Committee members:

Clegg, Barry

Sandberg, Jan

Ginder, Peter S

Abbott, Gregory

Cohen, Dan

Smith, Christopher

Garcia, Jill

Schwarzkopf, Lyall

Giraud-Issacson, Al

Kozak, Andrew

Lickness, Barbara

Metge, Jana

Newborn, Toni

Perry, Matt

Rubenstein, Andrea

Thank you.

6/30/2020 8:45:45 AM

This is one of the most irresponsible things the council has ever done. And that is saying quite a bit. To move to dismantle the MPD without a plan in place but to "figure it out at a later date" .... that is nothing short of insane. As a resident of downtown Minneapolis this makes me very nervous. To the point I am considering the need to get a gun of my own. I do not support this at all and will vote against and campaign against it. I also find it interesting that on one hand you want to disband the police with no plan which clearly shows a very cavalier attitude towards our safety your own members have personal security. Walk your talk. If you so want this new Wild West, you as well should have to live with and in the consequences. All the shootings and stabbings going on and yet you still think this is a good idea??? This is a knee jerk reaction to recent events which will only give the green light to the people already committing crime. I would invite all of you, particularly Lisa Bender, to ride LRT very early in the morning or very late at night. Alone. Even waiting for the train is an adventure. Or just navigate downtown without being harassed and accosted. Before this we didn't have enough police presence to rein in the crime downtown and now you want to get rid of it completely. Downtown will never bounce back with this "plan" or I should say complete lack of one. Give up your private security and walk your talk city council. While you can before you are all voted out. I've already sent you an email expressing my concerns and never got a single reply from any of you. Clearly I need to be more vocal with my opinion and trust when I say I am not the only one who feels this way. People are already scared to come downtown and with this new "no plan" have said they simple won't ever. Good job on killing my neighborhood.

6/30/2020 8:46:42 AM

The proposal related to Establishing Community Safety & Violence Prevention Department is as vague and undefined as the current charter provision relating to Police (Section 7.3). Under current section 7.3, the Mayor is given considerable power to make rules and make special orders. Is this charter amendment necessary to achieve the presumed goal of changing the culture of the police department and providing a change in who would respond to particular calls to 911 for citizen assistance? I urge the Mayor and the City Council to work together under the current charter to these ends. Either way, please provide definitions for key terms - such as "police".

6/30/2020 8:46:44 AM

I support this charter amendment as a step toward creating a community safety system that better meets residents' mental and physical health needs and finally addresses ongoing human rights abuses by MPD.

Our family lives just across the river into Saint Paul, but my husband and I both work and go to church with our two children in Minneapolis. We also spend a significant amount of time shopping, dining and socializing there.

Even as a white woman, my interactions with the Minneapolis police have demonstrated that MPD is not making Minneapolis communities safer. Instead, as the video of George Floyd's murder shows, MPD seems to take pride in disrespecting and at times terrorizing citizens. My white husband and I experienced this recently on the 35 W bridge as MPD fired rubber bullets at a group of us attempting to flee to safety after a tanker truck was allowed to enter a closed freeway and almost slammed into a peaceful protest we were part of. Our friends up ahead were sprayed with tear gas by MPD as they stood on the side of the highway - already traumatized by the tanker truck - waiting to figure out how to proceed. Instead of helping us, police further traumatized us. My husband and I left accepting that we live in a failed state where the National Guard was called in to protect police in their efforts to terrorize peaceful protesters voicing heartache over the murder of yet another resident at the hands of the police. Isn't this the kind of conduct we demonize authoritarian regimes for?

I'm a licensed mental health provider and know so very many of the tragic situations that have escalated into violence because police were called in could be avoided and residents could get the help they need and deserve by an array of other service providers. I want community cultural healers, social workers, drug and alcohol counselors, employment coaches, youth mentors and more to be included in our vision of what community safety means. Imagine reallocating even just the amount the City pays out in settlements to address police brutality lawsuits to actually meet residents' mental and physical needs - housing, food, education, employment opportunities, counseling, access to arts, libraries, parks and investment in the areas of our cities most impacted by redlining, racial covenants and ongoing disinvestment. This is the kind of community I want to work and worship in. In fact the predominantly white neighborhood in Saint Paul where my family and I live is already virtual free of any police presence because we have access to all of the above and have been positively impacted by racist systems that advantage us as white people. We can look to neighborhoods like ours to see what resources are required for people to live in virtually police-free communities.

Thank you for reviewing this charter amendment and taking this necessary step toward creating a safer future for those of us who work, worship, play and live in Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 8:46:53 AM

We don't need to change the charter but we do need to change the mission and make-up of our police force. Police should be required to live within Minneapolis. We need more minority police officers, and they need to be out working and interacting with the public they serve. In addition mental health workers should be part of the teams.

The control of the police federation must be changed. Police officers work for the city not the federation. They don't pay their salary. I do and all residents of Mpls do in our taxes. This must change!!!

We need more money spent right now to make the changes we need not less!!!

6/30/2020 8:47:02 AM

While I have been an advocate for and proponent of change to our city's police department as it stands today, reading the proposed charter changes left me very concerned. The vague language around "police" requirements and the change to grant full power to city council gives me significant pause. Where does oversight and governance come from? What would stop city council from disbanding our police department without a proper and well-planned out alternative? What avenues do we have to stop the changes that city council would now have full power to make should we find them to be ill conceived?

I understand this vague language mirrors that of other departments such as public works, who also have high budgets. This; however, is a poor comparison. Enforcement in any jurisdiction is important to be well-defined for a multitude of reasons, not the least of which is to ensure government is appropriately LIMITED. Further, departments such as public works are heavily regulated via other means such as budgets, capital planning, zoning, city codes, utility policies, city economic development policies, and additional regulations that are too many to list. Again to my earlier question – where does this oversight and regulation come from related to the police department other than from specific language in the charter?

Given that Camden, NJ was spoken of as an example with regards to the path Minneapolis is considering, why do we not acknowledge that this proposed amendment goes much further than the City Code of Camden with regards to the management of the police force? In fact, Camden made nearly no changes to their charter when they changed their police force.

As it stands, the language allows for any action to be taken, by city council or for a reactionary move by those that come after the current city council. I support change. But I want the best solution for Minneapolis, not the fastest.

6/30/2020 8:47:24 AM

Please do NOT defund the Minneapolis Police Department. I work in downtown Minneapolis and I do not want to see this happen!!

6/30/2020 8:48:13 AM

Hello there. I live in Kingfield, Minneapolis and also own 2 other properties in the Lyndale neighborhood. I am concerned that removing the police department will result in more crime in my area. I believe we need reform and mental health counseling for our officers. I believe more officers need to live closer to the community they serve. I'm just not sure this is the smartest move, and am concerned as a citizen and an investor in Minneapolis property.

6/30/2020 8:48:38 AM

I believe you are making a terrible mistake , no i do not believe you should remove the police department and replace it. We need our officers on the street, to protect us you are here to protect us and by dismantling our police departments you in fact are putting us all at risk. Let me ask you this . Do you live in mpls in the areas where most of the shootings happen ? are you afraid to walk down your streets even during the day? Some of you that voted on to dismantle the police I hear are receiving threats . And now us taxpayers are footing your bill for private security.. how is this fair to us the taxpayers..why are you entitled to security to protect you as you take our protection away. You are saying to us that you dont care about us. We dont have the luxury of living in nice areas, or hiding behind our gated community or having private security. You all know your safe. We dont , we live every day in fear. So I'm saying leave our police departments alone we the American people deserve to feel safe just the same as you.

Thank you.

6/30/2020 8:49:05 AM

Are you all absolutely crazy? None of you live in a district where the police are actually needed on a day to day basis to keep people safe. You all live in a nice cushy house in a neighborhood you can walk around at night with your dog. Your going to abolish the police department for neighborhoods that act like they don't want it but in hindsight need it the most. Watch as crime skyrockets and your city is filled with drugs. The crime will migrate farther and farther out to your homes late at night as you wonder why won't 911 come to save me. Your city will turn into Detroit a pure laughing stock of America.

6/30/2020 8:49:14 AM

The radical decision to disband the Minneapolis Police Department is the worst most irresponsible idea I have heard. There are many good policemen and they have to deal with many bad people who are at least evading arrest. Police men's lives are threatened daily. Black children are taught to fear policemen by their parents so of course they are going to run and refuse to listen when they are stopped. You have heard parents speak of having the "talk" with their sons. This is not just a police problem. We need to work with Black families to change their perception of the police department and provide opportunities for positive interactions. People need to trust and respect the authority of the police department. All lives matter. It is absurd to say otherwise.

6/30/2020 8:49:25 AM

I understand the people's anger, but abolishing the police isn't going to fix the issues. Having a community of safety and violence prevention isn't going to scare a real criminal like the police do. If a woman gets rapped or a home gets robbed or a business gets broken into the big bad community of violence of safety and violence prevention isn't going to scare a criminal. The reason why criminals try to cover their tracks is so that the police don't find them. If you abolish that a person can go out in broad daylight and commit crimes because there's no one to stop them or take them in for real crime investigation. There needs to be reform within the police department, but abolishing it is just asking for

a purge. It may be great and peaceful at first but one argument breaks out and people are going to start committing crimes.

6/30/2020 8:49:32 AM

Things have been deteriorating in the DT area noticeably for me the past 18 months prior to GF I get it is an urban area but it has been changing. It would have to be really challenging to patrol these areas. That being said law enforcement has to be better. We have to be better than what we witnessed in that video. They need more modern training for what is going on in today's world. More effective methods to handle those challenges. Does that require less money? No, unfortunately it needs more. The department needs to hire better officers. Those individuals will (and should) demand more. Honestly, I do not want to participate in a sociological/societal experiment here. I don't believe in pixie dust and unicorns. City wants to go this direction my first course of action will be giving my building a vacate notice. The second will be talking to my employer about a different location. I think the employers in the DT area need to express their concerns here because they will have some employees saying F that I'm not going down there. That would have some serious small business ramifications.

Stay safe

6/30/2020 8:49:42 AM

You should definitely have LONGER training. There are other countries that have four year degree is for police officers and I think we should do that. I also think that peace officers should be required to carry their own insurance so that taxpayers can stop paying for their mistakes. I think there should be different departments for mental health, sexual assault and calls of that nature because police are definitely not the answer in that area. I am a white woman who is 48 years old and I have been assaulted by Minneapolis police three times in my life the first time when I was 14 years old. DO BETTER Because I can't imagine what it's like for a black person, when a white woman is afraid of please

6/30/2020 8:50:31 AM

Police are needed for safety and to respond to emergency situations. Look at the spike in gun shots and crime since George Floyd was killed. A few bad apples doeant mean the whole thing should be abolished. While I don't live here we frequent for the restaurants and entertainment at least monthly. We no longer feel safe to travel to Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 8:51:06 AM

I find the desire to disband the police department naive in the face of rising crime. It's obvious the department needs complete reform, but we mustn't let the obvious nature of that need overshadow the fact that we still live in a society where any individual can easily access a firearm and and create havoc across our society.

We should instead move to create a highly trained force ready to respond to the violence that plagues our city instead of bringing in trigger happy children from far flung suburbs who do not get proper training and end up harming the people they need to protect.

My city council member will not receive my support in the upcoming election if he chooses to disband the department.

6/30/2020 8:51:11 AM

Please modify this feedback request for to include a link to, or the text of, the amendment.

6/30/2020 8:51:22 AM

I think the City is irresponsible with tax payer monies, my taxes are going up by \$1K next year and I don't see that I'm getting \$1K worth of addl or improved City services. I see no need to replace something that already exists, as with all things (including City Government /Council) there is room for improvement . There has been a committee to review policing for three years chaired by Keith Ellison, what have they done other than use up tax payer monies, a perfect example of city leadership wasting money with no results. Replacing means hiring training and deploying something new, the cost will be enormous and what would be the time to implement? How would the safety and security of the city to be managed in the interim? My suggestion the mayor and governor submit resignations for allowing the city to be looted and burned! Their inability to provide safety and security to all the residents they serve is shameful and appalling. This knee jerk and thoughtless replace idea seems like pandering to a radical element that is obviously not a positive contributing factor that lives and works in the city to have a stake in making this city a safe and better place to live for all tax paying residents. Let's start at the top and vote to replace a failed City Government then hold public forum discussions with referendum voting to make improvements to the other departments as deemed necessary by residents not fringe elements in the City Government/Council that clearly do not have the best interests of all Minneapolis residents at heart

6/30/2020 8:52:19 AM

Mandate that officers pay for their own insurance -- and use black-owned insurance companies. I have a group that can help with the latter requirement.

6/30/2020 8:52:23 AM

I was born and lived in Minneapolis for 33 years. Removing the Minneapolis Police Department is a very bad idea. There may be a lot of issues with the department, but I think funding should be increased for changes to the department to fix those issues.

6/30/2020 8:53:41 AM

Even if you change the name, I do not wish to see you abolish the ability to police your city, especially as it is needed to protect those who rely on the police to deter violence, protect victims, maintain order, and investigate crime. Unfortunately, if you cannot maintain order in your streets, businesses, and residences, people like me are less likely to visit and spend time in your city, and will see it less favorably. My concern is that you will drive inequality higher, as people who can afford to vacate your

city will, then housing prices will drop if people don't feel their property or safety are protected, and those who are left will have violence done to them by their own government ignoring its need to provide for public safety. Tread carefully and consider all the consequences of your actions. The loudest voices in the room may not be the most thoughtful or even the most plentiful viewpoint on the issue.

6/30/2020 8:53:44 AM

As a business owner, with recent issues in MPLS I gave up my lease. I have loved having my business in MPLS and bringing my clients to the city from across the state. As we adventure the great city of MPLS. Sadly with a rapid decline of interest in exploring MPLS, my business insurance company informing me certain coverages would be more expensive and some things not covered at all if this goes through, as calls and violent crime have been on the rise rates were already increasing, and with calls taking far longer, shot spotter revealing the volume of shots fired, I cannot in good conscience continue to support the city, the local businesses, or put my clients in harms way.

I hope calmer clearer minds prevail as I know Saint Paul has social workers and homeless teams etc. they are asking for additional officers as they all want uniformed officers with them. Social workers have been assaulted and are declining to go to calls without officers.

I believe changes in MPLS are needed. But not by defunding. I think we need to pour into the Department. Increased educational requirements for new hires, increased pay to attract the best away from the suburbs who are paying much more for far less calls and risk. I believe with more officers you could respond more quickly to incidents, regain public safety and could accompany specialty services to calls when needed for mental health needs, social work, drugs etc.

I know the police chief asked for several hundred additional officers last fall. Everyone seems to respect him. I don't understand why he was declined since there is a great need.

From my understanding, a department that doesn't have enough officers can't engage in community outreach and community building when they are too busy handling calls.

I would love to see Police in the community of my business when NOT on a call, simply engaging with their community as I have seen in Saint Paul. I know they have done lots of changes in the past few years with engagement and outreach as I do lots of work there too. It is evident. I do miss the horses as I thought they were a positive police engagement.

Saint Paul will be my new hub for my business,, unless, they too make irrational decisions, while I await MPLS And their decision. I know Many of my clients have made it clear with the current climate and direction they won't go to MPLS for now. This makes me sad to leave the city I love. To uproot my business.

6/30/2020 8:54:23 AM

I am appalled at the abject mayhem that has overtaken Minneapolis and our state. I am dumbfounded that the approach to the riots was to allow them to burn down the city. To think that defunding the police is a solution is asinine. Criminals have ramped up their bad behavior just with the knowledge of knowing this is the mindset of Minneapolis leadership. I can only imagine how much worse that is going to get. My daughter attends the U of M and I am very nervous about it. I am connected with Gopher sports and am already hearing how this proposal is influencing student athletes who are considering

committing to the U. Who wants to send their child to live in a lawless city? Where people and businesses are not protected? On that note - who is going to want to operate a business in Minneapolis, especially downtown? I can tell you I will no longer be going to restaurants, bars, sporting events, concerts downtown if there is even less of a police presence there. I was already apprehensive about it. My stepdaughter works downtown and she has said she won't even feel comfortable going to work anymore. I am a die-hard Minnesotan, but I am embarrassed by how Minneapolis has handled this murder and the fallout from it. We are considering moving out of state depending on how the situation is handled from now on. I know many people in Minneapolis who are planning to move. And the fact that 3 city council members get private security is the most asinine, hypocritical thing ever. Just WOW. They want to get rid of police so the rest of the city isn't safe, but Minneapolis pays for them to have private security? That's going to go over like a pregnant high jumper.

6/30/2020 8:54:42 AM

Instead of reinventing the wheel and trying an experiment on a half million people, why not use a program which has been proven to work in Camden, NJ? They abolished their police department and union, and replaced it with one with better rules surrounding use of force and community policing.

What you are proposing has never been done. If this is a route you demand to go, it would be better to trial it on a segment of Minneapolis first to see if it actually works. Otherwise use Camden's formula, since we have real life data about its efficacy.

6/30/2020 8:55:28 AM

This is single-handedly the worst idea to come from the city council in the entire history of the city.

6/30/2020 8:56:12 AM

I support this amendment and will vote for it.

6/30/2020 8:56:14 AM

Ridiculous & Unsafe for the community, your new smaller police force & your new idea of social workers, EMT's & others to fill these roles. Who would want those "new jobs?!" You will lose businesses, tourism, residents and RESPECT from this. I, along with many (probably most) others will no longer be frequenting Minneapolis. This is not the answer! You can reform the Minneapolis police department WITHOUT defunding them! How about add funds, add police officers? Do you not realize that there are known gangs & criminals in your city more than others? Gangs will probably come here knowing there is now less policing! Your idiots who are trying to be politically correct at the risk of safety for everyone that is a law abiding citizen. Your more worried about protecting criminals than you are the rest of us! Including the police who put their lives on the line everyday defending us! Good luck watching your city be destroyed over your decisions!

6/30/2020 8:56:27 AM

Lisa Bender has to go!

Support the police you dumb bitch!

6/30/2020 8:57:23 AM

The Minneapolis police should not be abolished. Our impoverished and crime ridden communities in Minneapolis need the police department to protect them. Look at the sharp uptick in shootings in Minneapolis since George Floyd. There were more than 100 in less than 2 weeks. These communities need the police to protect them. They can't do it on their own.

6/30/2020 8:57:26 AM

I do not feel safe at night knowing the police are under attack by the city council members. This new proposal does not have any specifics.

6/30/2020 8:59:32 AM

It doesn't really matter what you call this group, police or public safety officers etc.

What matters is that this group has the job to ONLY: protect citizens from violence and theft. They are highly skilled, trained, and knowledgeable in deescalation.

They must be residents of Minneapolis. We need more frequent voting for what they should do, and encourage all citizens to vote.

6/30/2020 8:59:39 AM

While I support shifting some police funding into social work/EMT/community outreach to help solve some of our non-violent social issues, I do not support abolishing police completely in Minneapolis. There are far too many violent crimes/gun violence in our city as it is, we need the police to solve these issues. Police brutality needs to be addressed and a restructuring of our current system should be a priority. Please do not remove police completely, I want to feel safe in the city where I live and work.

6/30/2020 9:00:00 AM

My first concern is that the city council listen primarily to the numerous abolition activists, particularly those in the Black community, who have been pushing for this for YEARS. I am certain they have ideas in place to answer to virtually every question a nervous public might have concerning the abolition of the police force.

Second, the police must be defunded into complete and total abolition--this does not mean reallocating money to "community service officers" or increased surveillance cameras and/or facial recognition technology. It means a fundamental shift from a culture of policing and punishment to one of early

intervention and prevention. ALL of the money from the police department should be focused in increasing social support services in communities most affected by crime and therefore with the most police presence. Do not allow this to become a fight over funding for certain neighborhoods over others. We need to invest in the most at-risk neighborhoods first and foremost, as they are going to feel the difference from lack of police in both good and bad ways. Let the council members of color and communities lead the way--white MN politicians often take a paternalistic stance over marginalized communities and while those intentions may be noble, it's incredibly patronizing and just further removes the power these folks need to direct their own lives the way the rest of us have a right to do.

Please be transparent. Admit your own personal weak spots and biases. Please speak often to the concerns raised by community members who are uncomfortable or opposed to the idea of a city without police--they are your voters and they are community members too. Please allow POC to take the lead on reforms and make it clear through your actions that you are working with the community, not against it or above it or outside of it.

Lastly--y'all are doing the right thing in removing the police and I believe that with my whole heart. Let Minneapolis be an example to the rest of the nation that a place without policing as we know it IS possible.

6/30/2020 9:00:18 AM

Makes no sense to "throw the baby out with the bath water". We need to clean up the MPD but also to maintain a sense of security. Mayor & MPD chief seem willing & able to institute immediate changes. I support continued MPD operation & protection

6/30/2020 9:01:03 AM

I'm against defunding the police. There may be a few bad ones but most police officers are good. I'm just glad I don't live in Minneapolis because it's the most ridiculous thing I've heard. And those 3 council members who are using taxpayer money for security should be voted out. The average citizen can't afford or have the means for private security. What Hippocrates are these council members. I know I won't be visiting Minneapolis just because of this and won't attend any Viking games without police in that city.

6/30/2020 9:01:26 AM

I grew up in NE Mpls and now live in a suburb. The idea of not having a police force in Mpls will impact many who will stay away from your / our city. We NEED law and order to prevent and respond to criminal activity.

Calling a neighbor, social worker or any other deemed source to put their lives on the line is absolutely absurd. Criminals will have no reason not to step up and take over.

Do not let 4 bad cops take away our protection.

6/30/2020 9:01:28 AM

I think removing the police dept is going to hurt Minneapolis. There is too much crime in the city. Citizens and businesses want to be protected and feel safe. People will leave MSP, home values will depreciate, businesses will leave.... There will be a cascading effect. Police put their lives on the line every day. Most are good cops, there are a few bad apples. So instead of doing away with the police, why not make sure police stop using choke holds and have a Community of neighbors take care of the incidental calls instead of police. If a shooter was in a school, would a community dept. be willing to go in and risk their lives? I highly doubt it. Use common sense.

6/30/2020 9:01:32 AM

I think that's absolute stupidest idea I've ever heard and I will never go to Minneapolis ever again if that happens it'll become a wars zone. Anything nice down town will be totally lost. 

6/30/2020 9:01:43 AM

This is the dumbest thing I have ever heard of! I agree we need some policy changes within the police department to help weed out the very few bad cops within its ranks but much more importantly we as a city should be responding to the issue of why is there an increasing crime rate here! It is my taxes that pay for this police protection and I adamantly disagree with your current policy changes! Also if the MPD is defunded I do not want to see my tax dollars paying for private security for any government officials including the city council! If you continue in your current direction the citizens of Minneapolis are going to speak very loudly come election time!

6/30/2020 9:01:52 AM

I am absolutely thrilled to see the city council taking steps to make this city a better place for everyone. I absolutely support this measure and the safety of our BIPOC brother and sisters.

6/30/2020 9:02:08 AM

I fully support the proposed amendment and stand with Councilwoman Jenkins in calling for a re-envisioning of community safety. Most of the folks resistant to this new future are folks who do not fear for their lives and safety when they see a police officer, just because of who we are and who police traditionally treat with lesser regard. MPD has shown that even with body cams, even with implicit bias training, that officers will continue to use practices that do not keep our citizens safe. Let's work together to create a more collaborative future. One that strengthens communities, rather than breaks them down.

6/30/2020 9:02:10 AM

Disbanding the Mpls Police and replacing it with a community service holistic approach is the most irresponsible dangerous action the city could make leaving the residents subject to lawlessness and rise in crime. It is already happening since the city Council made their desire known. If the response to the rioting and destruction of property is Amy indication of how laws will be enforced I pray for the people of Mpls and their lives. The reprehensible action of one police officer has put our country into chaos. And though certain procedures need to be improved this is no longer about BLM but Anarchy. Where is the outrage for black on black murders! Was a previous resident until 4 yrs ago and so sorry to see a great city in decline. I fear for the people.

6/30/2020 9:03:04 AM

We need our police department! We don't need a city council. Public safety comes first.

Our MPD is starting to fix the problems within it. Not all cops are "bad". Maybe we need to fix our city council too!

I want to know when I call 911 that a police officer will respond to protect me, not some social worker.

If the police are defunded, I For one, will be moving out of Minneapolis.

By the way, I am a woman of color and proud of it!

6/30/2020 9:03:31 AM

I am a white male. I am not an authority on racism. I learned as a child that every on this Earth has hopes, dreams, fears, triumphs, and that we are all in the game of life together. That said, I am no stranger to discrimination. I have Cerebral Palsy. I have been bullied, I have been looked down upon as "stupid" and "less than normal" I was told growing up that the world was not made for me and I was destined to fail in it.

There is a parallel here, While I am not discriminated by race, I have seen my own version of it because of my disability. While I do respect, and rely on the police...I do fear the police. With all the negative media coverage; with all the interviews, stories, and videos of police abusing, belittling, and killing the people they have sworn to protect, I am afraid. I am afraid of the time where I will need to scream "I am not resisting I have Cerebral Palsy!" I am afraid of the one day I will stumble in front of a officer, and get shot as retaliation for a perceived attack. These are my fears, these are fears that have also been met with "you're just being dramatic" "it wont happen" and "they're trained better than that." There are parallels here.

As far as a solution, The police do a job that we are too afraid to do ourselves, they are the heroes. They -are- the ones we call when we do truly need help. I believe it is very unwise to feed the current state of negativity, with a negative response. We need a community centered, non union regulated solution. We, as citizens deserve the right, to influence who we have protecting us, and relieve those who dont. It is my belief that while a side arm or a rifle is a tool to protect, it is too readily available to be used as the "first and only solution" It is my hope that more reliance on less than lethal options will one day be seen as the standard tool.

I believe more community outreach is necessary. Police are always shown as figures of power and authority but no one knows the person behind the badge, after the end of their shift. It must be very...lonely as a officer. If they try to be friendly to a person, that same person thinks they have committed a crime, and will get shot.

If a large number of people are saying the same thing there has to be truth behind it, I hope that all the - appropriate- actions will be taken.

Thank you for your time.

6/30/2020 9:03:38 AM

Dear Minneapolis Charter Commission,

I am writing to you as someone who currently works in Minneapolis. For 20 years, I lived in the Stevens Square and Whittier neighborhoods (just south of downtown Minneapolis), where I witnessed police misconduct on many occasions.

The Minneapolis police have a history of violence and corruption that goes back for decades.

How many scandals do we have to endure before the city finally agrees to make a change? The police are supposed to be protecting us, but who protects us from them? George Floyd was murdered in cold blood, live on camera, because the cops thought that they could get away with it.

A badge shouldn't be license to commit crimes. Does anyone remember the multiple scandals involving the Vice Squad? Does anyone remember the Metro Gang Strike Force? --these were cops who stole money and cars from local residents, and most of them are still on the force!

We all know someone who has been beaten without provocation or hospitalized as a result of police brutality. The MPD cannot be reformed, it needs to be dissolved, and the officers should be forced to re-apply for their jobs under a non-union contract. It is time for police to face some real financial consequences for their behavior. The thin blue line cannot stand.

I support efforts to create a new department of public safety in place of the current MPD. Peace officers are needed to help protect citizens against violent crimes, but they should not be doing mental health checks or performing other services that are better left to trained professionals. Citizen residents will be better served if the City redirects our tax dollars away from policing towards other social service agencies and other public services.

6/30/2020 9:04:15 AM

I DO NOT support dismantling Minneapolis police department!!! Clearly the criminals have become emboldened and the crime has skyrocketed in our city. I am against the bad, racist cops but know in every profession you have bad people. Why not create a dept. to oversee police or create a better checks and balances system. Let's make our police force a positive thing for our community. Let's have police officers our kids can look up to and strive to want to be someday. If you abolish police force I guarantee the residents will vote you all out ASAP. We will not be safe and you will see what a great mistake you have made. Please do the smart thing... let's come together and not let the bad guys win. We can be smart moving forward and keep Minneapolis a beautiful, safe place to live. Thanks

To the Minneapolis Charter Commission,

As a resident of North Minneapolis, invested in my community as a coach at Harrison Park, business owner with my primary location in Minneapolis, and having read the full text of the proposed amendment to our City Charter, I am pleading with you not to move forward with the Council's amendment to the City Charter that would allow for the removal of the Police Department in Minneapolis.

Personally, I am not opposed to reforming, or even rethinking, safety and law enforcement in our community. As a Native American, I have experienced my share of inequalities in various forms, including some of my past interactions with law enforcement officers. Change is due. I am convinced of this. Having said that, I am also convinced that our City Council members have forgotten that they represent the people of this City. They have forged ahead with this proposed amendment to the City Charter with little to no input from their constituents, and with no regard for how their public comments have affected the rest of us. Our police department needs change, but the speed at which our Council has moved, their lack of an earnest attempt at gaining community feedback, as well as their apparent lack of regard for accountability of their actions is irresponsible, inconsiderate, and arrogant.

On the day that George Floyd was killed by police officers in South Minneapolis, I was having a different experience with officers in North Minneapolis. I would encourage each of you to watch this 4 minute video ([https://www.dropbox.com/s/2f36bbe2zf1yuxk/memorial\\_day\\_2020\\_RIP-GF.mp4?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/2f36bbe2zf1yuxk/memorial_day_2020_RIP-GF.mp4?dl=0)) taken from my security cameras on Monday, May 25 at 14:33. Don't be fooled by the seeming peacefulness of our lilacs in bloom or the group of bicyclers passing in the first few frames. Very shortly a group of young men will walk by. One will continue on to a duplex only 3 doors down from where I am with my 7 children in my backyard. After spending a few minutes in the duplex, the young man comes off of the porch backwards and pulls a gun from his pants and proceeds to let off at least 10 shots into the duplex. You'll see his friends scatter at the sound of the gunshots. He also turns and runs. All of these young men run for at least one reason, none of them wants to be the recipient of one of the gunshots. But there's a second reason they all run. They know that it won't be long before the police arrive, and if they are still onsite when they do, they will very likely go to jail. They don't want that.

This restraint that comes from a knowledge of consequences is a blessing. Councilman Ellison is fond of pointing out that our current department is still funded and failing us (<https://twitter.com/jeremiah4north/status/1275596596110151680>). Despite proactive measures they may take, the police are obviously not be able to prevent the initial act of most crimes, but the simple knowledge that they exist and will be on the way shortly goes a long way in restraining the measure of violence that most individuals are willing to commit simply due to time constraints. And the past month, with it's 100+ shootings and accompanying murders — most after the Council's reckless public statements — prove that when people, already bent on committing violence, even conceptually perceive that there may be a reduction in the consequences for their lawless acts, they commit their lawless acts with virtually no restraint.

Take the recent incident at Jordan Park as an example (<https://kstp.com/minnesota-news/boys-football-team-runs-for-safety-after-gunfire-erupts-near-minneapolis-practice-field/5769811/>). Listen to this mother (<https://kstp.com/minnesota-news/boys-football-team-runs-for-safety-after-gunfire-erupts-near-minneapolis-practice-field/5769811/>) describe the seeming unending nature of the shootout as the perpetrators circled the block multiple times to continue their violence, all while 50+ kids were trying to dodge bullets and the adults in the park

6/30/2020 9:04:45 AM

I do not think the police need defunding. We need our police depts. It does, however, need to be re-formulated. More training, understanding differences and solutions to situations. I pray for all the officers to remain safe.

6/30/2020 9:04:55 AM

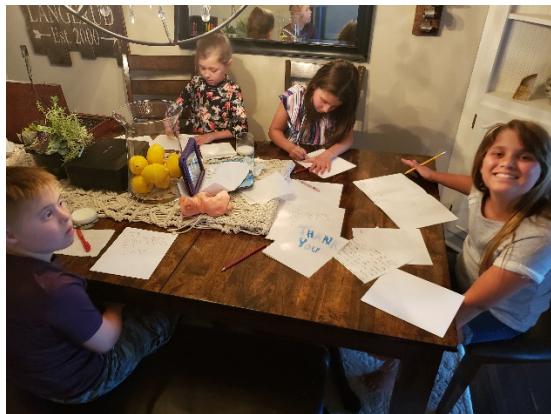
Absolutely crazy, leave the Minneapolis PD alone, stop hiring bad cops and have more training and better psychiatric testing... Who is in charge of hiring? They need to be accountable for this problem also....

Increase salaries so the cops have higher standards and are more qualified. Get rid of the council and mayor, they let the city burn and turn into a war zone following George Floyds death ...And they now need protection and we the people are paying for it. Are we going to get private security when the city continues to get worse? Also, allowing homeless people to camp in all Minneapolis parks, how crazy and irresponsible is that? If this was going to happen at all, you would think they would pick one park. Homeless camps = drugs, needles, increase in corvid, higher crimes, chaos in city, decreased property values... Just look at Seattle and LA...

No police = higher crime rate = property values decrease = higher taxes.... Who's going to buy real estate in Minneapolis if these democrats/liberals keep ruining and changing everything?

6/30/2020 9:05:00 AM

My kids asked if we can deliver thank you cards to the police and fire departments. So one Saturday morning we went to all the precincts in mpls. I wanted to teach them that the law was on our side and that no matter where you work there will always be flaws. The men and women of law enforcement need our support. I cant imagine going to work each day knowing I'm not wanted or needed. We need to lift up the ones who keep us safe, not tear them down. Please reconsider your views on our police department and find a way to teach them not forsake them.





6/30/2020 9:06:06 AM

Every shooting, stabbing, rape, assault, robbery that happens now is on you all. Their blood is on your hands.

A 5 year old boy died in north because of your poor excuses for leadership. The cities businesses and tax revenue fled because of your poor excuses of leadership. You have hollowed the city out of growth for years to come and set up plans for the south side of chicago and a replay of detroit.

Remove mayor frey, then remove yourselves. You are not representing my city, just your failed and selfish political ideals. If you still pretend to know better, its because you know nothing. Sacrifice yourselves, your jobs and your aspirations before the city sacrifices you.

Because if you get rid of the police, your private security isn't going to dodge bullets from a mob for you without backup. #cowards

6/30/2020 9:06:08 AM

Please end the Minneapolis police department, people need to feel safe. Even when they have been arrested.

6/30/2020 9:06:19 AM

Without a law Authority The Gangs will have field day on gun violence and doing what they want because they think the police department could not reach them or touch them it would be a huge mistake to get rid of the authority that helps population follow the rules in the laws.

6/30/2020 9:06:29 AM

"If this happens we will not go to any part of MPLS for any reason. No market, no sports, no shows, no restaurants ect... not worth the gamble without safety of the police. This is a major city. There's a reason we have police. There's a reason we need them. While I never never want anyone to be killed. Ever! To not have police being able to do there job is ridiculous. Looters and rioters are just ONE example of why we need them. Yes, retrain. But do not disband or defund! Do we defund teachers because of the bad ones? No! And we shouldn't. Do we defund the church for the bad pastor doing terrible things? No! And we shouldn't." This is 100% what will happen if you defund the police. Minneapolis economy will crash, there are thousands and thousands of people in the close suburbs that feel the exact same way. If you defund the police it will become a city of crime and will be the laughing stock of Minnesota.

6/30/2020 9:06:31 AM

Abolishing the police is a terrible idea. The lack of protection and intervention available in dangerous situations would certainly affect the groups you're trying to protect disproportionately. While police brutality certainly needs to be addressed, this is not the answer.

6/30/2020 9:07:09 AM

Absolutely crazy, leave the Minneapolis PD alone, stop hiring bad cops and have more training and better psychiatric testing... Who is in charge of hiring? They need to be accountable for this problem also....

Increase salaries so the cops have higher standards and are more qualified. Get rid of the council and mayor, they let the city burn and turn into a war zone following George Floyds death ...And they now need protection and we the people are paying for it. Are we going to get private security when the city continues to get worse? Also, allowing homeless people to camp in all Minneapolis parks, how crazy and irresponsible is that? If this was going to happen at all, you would think they would pick one park. Homeless camps = drugs, needles, increase in covid, higher crimes, chaos in city, decreased property values... Just look at Seattle and LA...

No police = higher crime rate = property values decrease = higher taxes.... Who's going to buy real estate in Minneapolis if these democrats/liberals keep ruining and changing everything?

6/30/2020 9:07:14 AM

Train not defund. Do not take away the police .

6/30/2020 9:07:27 AM

I am concerned about social justice in Minneapolis. The barriers to buying homes, groceries, and other racially impacted systems is unjust. However, I am still pro-police. MPD needs a total culture rehaul (better screening of field training officers, replace Bob Kroll, increased diversity, harsher punishments for the "blue code of silence, etc.), but totally defunding them makes me concerned. If someone is breaking into my home, I would like to be able to call 911 and get assistance. Dangerous traffic decisions around Penn and Osseo has increased dramatically. Car jackings have increased across the metro. The increase in crime in the area is what concerns me. If I am still misunderstanding the desires of the city council, they are not doing a good enough job of explaining their intentions.

6/30/2020 9:08:21 AM

Completely dismantling the police is not the answer. Work with Chief Aradando to make a working plan of new much longer training, policies and procedures. Get a civilian review board for misconduct charges, make the record of each officer more transparent, make the new police moving forward be Minneapolis residents, hire and train social workers

6/30/2020 9:08:46 AM

If you disband the Minneapolis police department I will not go to the cities. I agree change is needed but not a disband.

6/30/2020 9:08:49 AM

If this passes and you move forward with this plan, many from outstate MN will not attend functions in your City. The safety of your residents is at stake. We are canceling any future events in all Twin Cities locations if this is your method of control over the people you swore an oath to protect.

6/30/2020 9:08:53 AM

I think it would be ridiculous to get rid of the police department. Then we would have lawlessness. There's always gonna be a few bad police when they only have a 2 year junior College degree. They do need to do more training and extend the training to a 4 year degree. Or at least one more year of Social training. I do not like that they're acting like the police murdered the man in Minneapolis. Maybe manslaughter or maybe accidental killing but it was not murder and I'm tired of fear and I'm calling it murdered him. Look up the words they're using. The man was cashing fake money and had already been in trouble in the store before that's why they called the police. He also fought with the police officers putting himself on the ground basically. He also apparently had a heart condition and the people leaning on his back were just as dangerous as the one leaning on his neck. There is no crew that leaning against his neck killed

him. Will you have not seen all the body camera footage and all of the recorded footage he fought getting in the car they had to restrain him somehow he was a very large man and he also possibly was drinking. The coroner said he had a heart condition as well. The so I would not have put any police officers in jail for this may need to let it all come out in court I think they will be not convicted of murder. I probably would not even convict them of a lesser crime simply because they were doing their job. Yes one of them have had some past problems and I remember him. I have lived in meeting up was for more than 30 years. Minneapolis is the least racist state almost in our country. If America is racist we would not have elected Barack Obama to president twice they even voted for him in swing States. So I hope this guy's now the protests were big because nobody's working and there's that certain element that just wants to raise hell no matter what. I do agree black lives matter but there is a criminal element amongst all races. If you disband the police you have to remember there is always a criminal element still out there the just wants to do damage. Thank you tree person

6/30/2020 9:09:19 AM

The mere thought of how absurd this idea to defund or dismantle the police is so bad that even a liberal like me is in complete shock. Yes SHOCK that the council would be so irresponsible to consider it is beyond civility. I think reform has to happen, change and accountability for police and community needs to change. But you twelve councils will have the blood of many on your hands once this city becomes a lawless pit of anarchy. Minneapolis will be known as the crime an violent city that is worse than Chicago.

6/30/2020 9:10:01 AM

I live and work in South Minneapolis, and have for 20 years. Let me start by saying I am not a racist and think all police brutality is wrong. And that it's real. To put it into perspective, I am liberal and voted for Bernie. However, I could not disagree more with the way the city council is handling this issue. Our city government has failed us this summer. Shootings have skyrocketed since calls for the abolition of the police. I am the head of maintenance for a 223 unit apartment complex. We work our butts off 40 hours a week to maintain affordable and safe homes for over 350 Minneapolitans. What you have done is put our residents (of many colors, genders, and nationalities) in danger. Does the city provide housing? No, you make laws that tell us how we need to provide it for you. Yet you won't protect the very people that live in this city. I feel the city council is not representing all of its constituents, only a (very) vocal minority. We will see when you put this on the ballot. Could you write into the referendum that if the citizens of Minneapolis choose to keep the police, that everyone on the city council will leave their seats? We do need serious reform and accountability from those who are sworn to serve and protect us. And from those we elect. If you would like to actually address the problems we have, and not just get a sound bite in the paper, I have many real and lasting solutions that would make the city a better and safer place to live for all but especially low income residents and people of color. Your proposals have not even begun to address the basic needs of the people of this city. And don't even get me started on Powderhorn park. Those sexual assaults are YOUR fault. You've had years now to work on that issue and have done literally nothing. Is it complex, yes of course. But is your solution to homelessness seriously to have them camp in the park? How inhumane. You should try living there for a week. We COULD house every homeless person in this city, but that's work not talk. If you want to make actual progress and be leaders, feel free to talk to me, I feel that I really have some great ideas. I know this is somewhat of a rant, but it's been a long summer already here and I am angry. I want to be part of the solution, but you

have not proposed a solution, just an elimination. Hopefully we can come together as a city to solve these issues now, because I don't think we get another chance in this.

6/30/2020 9:10:35 AM

We need police. We need More police. This move is political and reactionary. You need to respond with a plan. Moving forward with this without a plan is more disappointing than Donald Trump. Who I did Not vote for. I won't vote for you either if you go through with this.

6/30/2020 9:10:44 AM

What you need is More Police.....not less!!!!!!! How stupid are you fools? I live downtown Minneapolis and do not feel safe to be on the streets at night. Hennipen Avenue is one of the unsafest streets in the US. We have amazing police officers and if people would not resist arrest we wouldn't have these problems. I was taught to respect police as a young child! If you respect them they will respect you!!!!

6/30/2020 9:10:54 AM

Absolutely NO. I will not continue to live or work in Minneapolis if this goes through and the MPD is defunded.

6/30/2020 9:11:00 AM

You are completely out of your minds!

If you think you'll have visitors for various sporting events and vacationers to support the downtown area, and along with business to operate you are fooling yourselves!

6/30/2020 9:11:01 AM

Overall the changes seem okay but are very vague. Before anything is settled on, a firm plan needs to be in place. This cannot be a swift change. I'm not willing to be a guinea pig for some program.

I would like the below statement to say "SHALL maintain a division..." instead of MAY.

(b) Division of Law Enforcement Services. The Council may maintain a division of law enforcement services, composed of licensed peace officers, subject to the supervision of the department of community safety and violence prevention.

I would also like to see neighborhood specific officers whose contact information is widely available. Also, I have concerns about how this would be funded as the previous charter spells it out exactly.

6/30/2020 9:11:17 AM

After reading the proposed amendments to the Minneapolis city charter I am of the opinion that the Minneapolis city council is putting the cart before the horse. You are endeavoring to change a legal document with only a vague idea of what you plan to do with law enforcement. This is dangerous, as it will give you authority to make changes you haven't made clear to the public. Changes you can't make clear to the public because you do not yet know what that are. This strikes me as irresponsible and more than a little dishonest. You have fearful sections of the population who are buying your vague plan because they in turn fear the police. This guarantees their vote without them being truly informed. That's the dishonest part. Others fear abolishment because of the recent rash of violence that has sprung up in Minneapolis' new "wild west". If you want my opinion, this move looks like an election day ploy. My suggestion is you present the public with some real data and models before presenting them with a ballot that they don't understand. Please don't take my resistance to your proposal as support for past behaviors of the MPD. I'm neither red nor blue. I am a pragmatist. That is my political stance. Until you can present an actual working model of your new law enforcement, rather than generic terms describing your utopian pipe dream, I will not vote for charter reform and will do what I can to dissuade others from voting in favor.

6/30/2020 9:12:05 AM

Though I don't live within the city limits of Minneapolis, I do live in Columbia Heights, 4 blocks outside the Minneapolis boundary. What Minneapolis does with their police will have an effect on Columbia Heights, due to the close proximity.

I believe it is a mistake to disband the police department. The Minneapolis Department and surrounding communities often work together when situations require that cooperation. Having a centralized department with trained officers and communications that are connected statewide for emergencies is important.

Right now, Minneapolis is experiencing a dangerous spike in shootings, giving Minneapolis the nickname "Murderopolis" around the rest of the United States. Disbanding the police department now is the exact opposite of what you should be doing. Instead, train officers, make changes within the department to better address community needs, but don't throw out the baby with the bath water.

If I were an MPD officer right now, I would be looking for another job. These people put their lives on the line, and policing is their career. When their jobs are threatened, both due to lack of backing from city officials and the threat of restructuring, there is little reason for the best to stick around.

You are making a serious mistake, one that it will be difficult to recover from in the future when you finally see that and decide to rebuild the police department. It may well be difficult to attract qualified candidates for those jobs at that time, given what has been happening to the department.

Thanks for reading

6/30/2020 9:12:08 AM

I do not like the idea of getting rid of police. This should not be a choice of just a few people. Reform is fine but dismantle, my house will go up for sale and leave, but before that I will vote.

6/30/2020 9:12:12 AM

I am strongly in favor of establishing a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department. I believe the current MPD has a deeply rooted culture of racism and protecting officers who use excessive and/or deadly force. This is enabled by the current union leadership. We need more preventative programs and types of emergency resources like social workers and mental health professions to work for a safer Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 9:12:23 AM

I like the idea of replacing the Police Department with a Department of Public safety. We don't need police officers responding to things like broken tail-lights, people being drunk in public, most mental health problems, etc. Police officers generally don't have the skill set to handle many of these situations, and just their presence can escalate things.

I also do believe that we need a law enforcement arm of the department, as the charter lists, for things like armed conflicts, hostage situations, violent crimes, etc, as it would be unfair to send public service workers and socials workers to these situations where they are unlikely to accomplish much and could be seriously injured or killed.

One thing that is important to me with this development is whether or not the police union would retain any oversight over the police officers in the law enforcement arm of the department. The union has gone to great lengths to protect police with a history of excessive violence and has created a culture where police are not held accountable for their actions. This in turn has increased excessive violence by the police, particularly towards members of the black community. I think the police union needs to be removed from this situation so that officers who are excessively violent or racist can be held accountable. I think by doing this we can help restore faith in the policing system and also weed out bad cops so that eventually (if trust can be established) people of all backgrounds and races can feel safe in calling upon them for assistance. Unfortunately a lot of the members of the community feel like the police are more likely to harm them than help them and that has to change.

In short I think having the majority of issues handled by people who are more specialized in dealing with them, and who do not bring a threat of violence will go a long way to reduce harm towards members of the community.

6/30/2020 9:13:25 AM

We need our police departments in every city in MN. Minneapolis/St Paul has seen increased violence in recent years. How will you protect the folks that live there? Who will visit and spend their money in Mpls/St Paul? Without police protection, businesses, restaurants, retail will all close. Property values will plummet. More violent gangs will move in, without law and order. As more empty buildings are created, more violence will ensue. It's a roller coaster.

Without businesses, restaurants and retail, where will your tax dollars come from to run the city and/or fund the police department. Soon Mpls/St Paul will be come Chicago. A place with such a high crime and murder rate, no one will want to visit. I certainly won't attend a Twins, Vikings, Timberwolves or Wild game. I won't attend the theatre. I won't go out to dinner. I won't shop there.

6/30/2020 9:14:22 AM

One of the dumbest ideas ever what wrong with you people

6/30/2020 9:14:29 AM

Living on the front lines of both the murder of George Floyd, the protesting turned rioting and looting along lake street and now the growing homeless and drug encampment in my neighborhood park I see the many facets of this idea and have looked into what is being proposed. While I agree there needs to be substantive change in the way the police department operates specifically with regards to disciplining/firing officers, this should be coupled with more resources for enough officers to do the community policing and other engagement with the public that will be needed to build back trust. This is incredibly important because if we are going to stem the tide of gang violence and crime in this city we will need a majority of our citizens to trust the police and have a police system that will both preemptively engage to stop crime as well as quickly respond when it's reported happening. In addition, those advocating "defund" or "abolishment" or whatever the new phrase have close to no details except mental health workers showing up for mental health crisis. I say great let's do it, but if you think this coupled with more jobs programs will deter all crime I think you are misunderstanding human nature. We will always have a segment of the population who does not follow or care about its laws and will need to be taken care of for the benefit of the rest of us in society. The details on this is what we decide in our legislative chambers and ballot box, not by fiat from this council. While I could say more, I'll summarize with this: if you don't have details on EXACTLY what this new "Community of Safety and Violence Prevention Department" would look like then you will get a clear vote of NO from me and I will actively petition others to do the same.

6/30/2020 9:14:42 AM

I stand with the chief of police and believe that work through his processes is the best way to handle this. Yes, I feel that there should be change but not in the manner that this group suggests.

I also feel that this commission should be ashamed of themselves for the animosity they have sowed in the city towards the police department making it hard for them to do thier jobs.

6/30/2020 9:15:46 AM

I think that abolishing the MPD is a huge mistake! It seems as if it is a knee jerk reaction to something terrible that happened and has been happening. The council is proceeding with NO plan. I hear a lot of words, representatives are all saying good things, but what's the PLAN. This is a monumental task . Put into action whatever you're saying which sounds good but WE NEED OUR POLICE !

Mayor Fry lost the Police department when he gave up the 3rd precinct. However the best part of all these riots was that nobody got killed.

Changing the title of the department is ridiculous. The City Council seems to be micro managing this situation. What is the overall PLAN. Renaming is not the answer! Mediate, re-train, the officers, cross cultural training...community outreach.....WE NEED THE POLICE!

6/30/2020 9:15:54 AM

I believe that the amendment process is moving to fast and need More time and input before it is on the ballot. The amendment needs to have a mandatory requirement for a police force funded by the city not leave it as an option. I believe the city council needs to have a clear and detailed plan that has input from ALL its residents.

6/30/2020 9:15:58 AM

This is insane. Of all places in MN, Minneapolis needs the police department the most. You're asking for major trouble without it. What happened was horrible, I think we all agree but that doesn't mean you go to extremes and disband the whole department. Not to mention business would drop significantly, no one would feel safe visiting. I wouldn't bring my family near Minneapolis which is sad because we love going to restaurants, hotels and events there. Please don't take away our police who protect us.

6/30/2020 9:16:08 AM

Hello neighbor, just to change the name of the department is not enough to enact real structural change and end the violence MPD facilitates on to poor communities of color.

This is step number one, we need radical actions to follow.

6/30/2020 9:16:20 AM

This process is far too unclear to bring to a vote. Council members have been completely vague about their supposed plans to replace the police. If you actually have a plan, then explain what the response will be to future crime--how will crimes be investigated? If you think there will no longer be crime, then you're in fantasy land. There was already slow and inadequate 911 response--this council launched a year-long investigation into just that issue. Not one council member has explained specifically how the rising crime would be lessened by defunding the police. Obviously this police force is in need of massive reform, which you could have addressed sooner, by the way. Now you want to replace the police department after an online commentary, no plan, and a quick vote. This is irresponsible and careless. The New Jersey example is not a good comparison as a much smaller town. Share your actual plan by outlining what we can expect for public safety when you have shoved this down our throats. Then at least we can decide whether or not to move before our home values disappear through the ground. It is profoundly unhelpful that the council president states that it is privileged to be able to call 911, privileged to expect a response to garage break-ins. Every single resident of Mpls should feel confident calling 911 and reporting theft. Clean up the existing department! Also--the hypocrisy evident in taxpayers paying for paid security for council members who want to deny our ability to expect the same

is staggering. As a homeowner I know my voice is not valued by the city, but it should be remembered that we pay high taxes and played our part in making this city the beautiful place it is/was.

6/30/2020 9:16:31 AM

The idea of stripping the police requirement from the city charter of Minneapolis is irresponsible, childish, and irrational. Reforms are obviously necessary and reprioritization of funding can be addressed as well... but this "defund the police" campaign is politicized pandering to a few. Tax payers and tax paying businesses want to know that they are safe to do business and carry out day to day activities and a social worker or psychiatrist cannot make it so.

I believe three of you city council members are aware that services such as those offered by the police are absolutely necessary, as you have your own private security protecting you now. It is confusing that all citizens of Minneapolis should be ok with getting a social worker or therapist when they feel unsafe but City council members get personal security details courtesy of the tax payers. Why not just have a social worker accompany you and your family throughout the day?

6/30/2020 9:16:35 AM

I am a long-time resident of south Minneapolis, and I don't want to fill in my real name because I fear retaliation from our current police department. That in itself demonstrates the trust I have in what has been a system of profit and oppression, not peace-keeping, in our city. I fear the police, and I'm a middle-aged white woman who has never been arrested and is/has always been completely drug free. I've seen the inequities in our neighborhoods. Inequities and low-access to services heighten "crime", mostly out of necessity, sometimes out of rage. Our current police force are operating on treating the symptom. We need to treat the disease. We do that with better funded social programs, better jobs, affordable housing, de-escalation of domestic disputes, and social work resources. These are the skills that our under-educated police force should be learning. We also need personality test screens. Weed out the power-hungry sociopaths, and keep the folks who are earnestly committed to protecting and serving. They would have so much more support in the neighborhoods and might really enjoy their jobs!

6/30/2020 9:17:09 AM

I, like MANY MANY, people have much appreciation for the tremendous task the majority has taken on. There is much frustration for the fact that it seems that the council has pretty much thrown all cops under the bus. Perhaps we are mis-reading that intent but nevertheless I would like to see and hear apologies to the great majority of cops .....and to the Police Union.

There should be changes in the form of extra ways of dealing with the myriad of issues they face every day. Mental health being a major issue that they face most every day. Find a way to filter out the bad cops but for sure find a way to keep the good ones. In a fair way investigate Bob Kroll's part in the future's new look.

The school board's knee jerk was disastrous. We need representation in our schools but we need carefully selected people to bridge that gap that now has been made worse due to that knee-jerk decision.

6/30/2020 9:17:18 AM

Keep our police force as is just because we had a couple bad seeds doesn't mean the whole force is bad. Take a real hard look at places like Camden, New Jersey. Their property value tanked due to the mass Of people leaving the city after the police was defunded. Plus crime rates didn't even really lower and if you talk to the few people that still live there most of them will tell you it's the worst thing that happened to their city. Minneapolis is a beautiful city filled with diversity and we need a police force to keep order.

6/30/2020 9:17:33 AM

Does something need to be done? Yes. Disband or defund(?)..cmon. You are turning a once beautiful city into a wasteland. Businesses will be gone. People will not come downtown. Do you want what Detroit was(?) Or is? There are bad employees everywhere. They need to be fired immediately when their job in not done right, according to their companies guidelines. As an outsider from the suburbs looking in...the city council should be completely replaced. The comments and decisions they have made thus far, have embarrassed an entire state. A once pretty good place to live and visit. We are a laughing stock now. Do your job and take pride in your city and state. Defund or disband is not the answer. Find the correct answer. We are watching.

6/30/2020 9:17:39 AM

I think it is premature to amend the city charter at this time. I encourage the Commission to deny this request. If on the ballot, I would vote against the proposed change.

6/30/2020 9:17:55 AM

First of all I want to say that what happened to George Floyd was a tragedy. However I believe that defunding or eliminating the police department would be a huge mistake. While I believe that most people I society are good honest law abiding citizens we must have law and order to have a properly functioning society and keep all residents safe.

6/30/2020 9:18:03 AM

I am in total disagreement with the removal of the police department. I am in favor of establishing a community safety and violence prevention dept. but am very upset that the Council would even consider the removal or abolishment of the police department. I agree that the police department needs to change and there are many things that they Counsel can do to change the department for the better. Without having any police service I am sorry to say that I will never visit Minneapolis again. I will not shop in Minneapolis, go to any events downtown or frequent any establishment ever again. How will you prevent the crime mobs, which incidental there is intel on the streets, from coming into Mpls to reestablish their territory since all their places were burnt down? Has anyone learned from mistakes in the past and looked at other places like in Europe for best practices? Have you looked at the Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies? Have you looked at revamping training for their police officers like they did in Germany? Have you tried to work for National oversight authority? I

believe the Council owes it to the public to do significantly more research and take time to build out a better process and system and not be short sided to disband and or abolish the police department. If this happens it will be a very sad time for Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 9:18:28 AM

I want to retain Chief Arradondo. I want all the other cops who don't live in Mpls fired. NOW. I want the State Police to patrol Mpls until the new police are hired, which will take 5 years. The new police HAVE TO LIVE IN MPLS. The new police should be BIPOC students from Mpls high schools. Their college tuition, books and room and board should be completely covered, as well as the Police Academy. The union needs to be immediately disbanded. No union should be allowed to form right away. I don't care how you reach these goals. I don't care if you put the police under some other umbrella. I just want it done. IT IS TERRIBLE TO BE POLICED BY PEOPLE THAT DON'T LIVE HERE. PEOPLE WHO ARE TERRIFIED OF THE STREETS THEY PATROL.

6/30/2020 9:18:32 AM

I am Not in favor of the City Council's proposed charter amendment. I agree with Mayor Frey in that we need to make changes with our current police system. I believe the City Council is acting too fast and recklessly and needs to slow down and think things through and develop a sound plan.

6/30/2020 9:18:41 AM

DEFUND YOUR PRIVATE SECURITY HYPOCRITICAL FUCKS!! DEFUND YOUR PRIVATE SECURITY HYPOCRITICAL FUCKS!!

6/30/2020 9:20:10 AM

This is a terrible idea. You should all be ashamed of yourselves. You get private security on top of that! Embarrassing. Please resign. All of you.

6/30/2020 9:20:45 AM

Thank you so much for taking this bold step! While change is hard and there are still a ton of details to be worked out, it is clear that policing in Minnesota (and the US for that matter), is broken. How a simple traffic stop, a sidewalk encounter, or a cry for help from someone in mental distress can turn into the death of a citizen is beyond the pale. The claim that a police officer 'feared for their life' is a crutch; if we let firefighters claim the same, our city would burn down.

The proposed department name change, "department of community safety and violence prevention," is an important step as it refocuses the core mission of this new department. Especially, adding the phrase violence prevention includes not only violence on our streets but from the department itself.

Continue to fight the hard fight and Minnesota and Minneapolis will come out of these troubled times in a stronger and more united city and state.

thank you

6/30/2020 9:20:58 AM

I truly believe this charter amendment is the only way forward for us as a city. Even if we do nothing more than disband the current police department and rebuild it with different folks, different leadership, a different accountability structure, and a functional internal culture, it will be a vast improvement. But I think there's a lot of potential here to redefine the role of police in our city in a way that will actually serve all of us better, rather than using police as a one-size-fits-all solution to every issue. (I am not supportive of abolishing the police altogether, and I don't think most people are; I don't believe this amendment will result in anything that drastic.)

I live three blocks from the epicenter of the third precinct protests/riots. I cannot capture in words just how stressful and destabilizing living through this has been (and I have resources that many of my neighbors do not). I would not wish this on anyone - and yet, if the MPD manages to murder yet another citizen, I can't see how this WON'T happen again, somewhere in the city to some other neighborhood. It's imperative that we TRULY SOLVE THIS ISSUE NOW. It's time to break out every tool in the toolbox.

I strongly encourage you to allow this charter amendment to be put before voters, so that we may decide on our own fate for ourselves.

6/30/2020 9:21:16 AM

Community "policing" needs to include helping people with mental illness as a means to keep everyone "safe." Adding trained professionals in the Mental Health field as another resource to aid "policing" policies and procedures could go a long way to inspire safety within oneself and the community at large. Additionally, adding members from communities to be a part of the policing efforts humanizes community safety measures. Adding members representative of people living in the community could add another layer of information to helping keep everyone safe. Status quo needs to change with a focus on changing the current culture of police forces. Small steps could go a long way to create these changes. Best of success to all of you as all of us need you help us help each other to create a sense of safety within all communities in our city.

6/30/2020 9:21:23 AM

We need big police reform but what the city council is proposing is a dangerous, terrible idea. Just them mentioning it and people think its a free for all on crime especially in North Minneapolis. This is such a short amount of time to have a good thought out plan. I want big changes but this is not the way to do it. In north Minneapolis where I live, I already thought there was not enough police. you cant get them to show up and do anything when its not life or death. Had someone try to break into my house and it

took them 30 min just to come and do a drive by. This is terrible policing. The police need more resources and more specialized training and more thorough vetting process but not what the city council is discussing in such short term. Start by having police officers that look the neighborhoods they are working in and forming some better trust. The police department have no accountability now but we need them and the city leaders need to do a better job of holding them accountable.

6/30/2020 9:21:45 AM

I want more officers, better trained. I want social services involved. I want officers placed in neighborhoods to learn who the residents are and develop relationships with them. I want well trained, well funded officers. I want to demilitarize the force, not 'defund' them. I want a union that supports the peace, is merit based, is standards and best practices based.

6/30/2020 9:22:34 AM

I will leave if there isn't any police. I won't put my kids though school here.

6/30/2020 9:22:37 AM

I think this would add immense value and help community residents feel safer requesting help. In my neighborhood, I often see individuals who may have overdosed on the sidewalks or light rail shelters. I am always hesitant to call 911 because they always send the police, and I am left wondering if I might start a chain of events that will end in more violence or harm than the original situation. We should be able to call for help for our neighbors and focus on getting them help as quickly as possible - not afraid to call for help.

6/30/2020 9:23:07 AM

I do not want the police defunded. Reformed, yes. Defunded, absolutely no.

6/30/2020 9:23:11 AM

As a resident of north Minneapolis and mother of 3, I am not comfortable with the removal of the police department. I agree that change does need to happen, however completely removing the police department is not the answer. If this does pass, we will be moving from Minneapolis. Also I feel that anyone that does not live in Minneapolis should have no say in this matter. The residents are the ones that will have to live with the consequences.

6/30/2020 9:23:13 AM

Yes, the police department needs to change, reform, remove the violent cronyism but not be disbanded. In all the new PC names for the group, there is one word missing...Protection.

You can soften the connotation of the department name by calling them safety or peace officers, but that is simply semantics at it's worst. There needs to be new leadership, trained to use the methods developed by Newark New Jersey to serve rather than enforce. This does not allow for totally dismantling the department but bringing in new leadership, training and community resources.

I want the police to aid citizens when help is needed and there are still is a huge criminal element to deal with which needs police officers (and not merely social workers) as deterrents and crime solvers.

I want to be protected. I want criminals stopped and dealt with in a process, not just a showing of guns. Also not simply slaps on the hand and counseled to do better.

The entire system needs to examined from family education on parenting and values to education, job preparation, etc.

Progressive City Council members can NOT solve the issues of this city by merely placing all the blame on the police. Do your real job of helping the community to prosper and not setting us all up for failure.

Note that in cities where the police pulled back as protesters screamed for, crime quickly increased. We can't take a utopian point of view that if the police are dismantled we will all be happy and peaceful, but truly analyze what has worked and what has exacerbated crime. This has to be looked at rationally and not emotionally as I see the City Council doing now.

6/30/2020 9:23:27 AM

Apologies for a second feedback form.

To expand on what I suggested in my first form as to "create the plan before asking citizens to vote", here is what I mean. I think it would help citizens decide if they can get on board.

- Identify the categories of calls officers respond to now. I.e., domestic abuse, drunken and disorderly, etc.
- Identify/propose who would respond to each of those categories, what their experience and training will be.
- At least one category should be responding to violent crime. That should be addressed by an armed police force. If not MPD, propose solutions like Hennepin Cty Sheriff's office
- All respondents should have "de-escalation" training.

Make sure there is clear reporting and accountability. We need a fairly consolidated reporting structure.

Thanks for accepting my feedback.

6/30/2020 9:23:32 AM

So you want to defund the police? Why are three council members having private security paid by Minneapolis to protect them? That is so hypocritical. Let the people vote in November. Have a concrete plan in your proposed alternative, how it will be implemented, and the cost. This is what leaders do. Words mean nothing without concrete plans.

6/30/2020 9:23:55 AM

I will not be visiting or associating with the Minneapolis St. Paul area from this point forward. Your spineless politically driven actions are ridiculous and irresponsible. The once beautiful and well respected cities will suffer great losses in the years to come.

6/30/2020 9:24:00 AM

I am terrified. I am terrified for the safety of all Minneapolis citizens. I am terrified for the safety of our school children. I am terrified for the business owners in Minneapolis.

This amendment leaves too many questions unanswered and has the potential to allow the Minneapolis City Council to do whatever they want in the future. Have any of these City Council members spent extensive time shadowing police? Have they seen what officers encounter on a day to day basis? Have they asked social workers if they would feel comfortable responding, alone, to the many instances this City Council feels are appropriate?

I do not want someone overseeing my children's education that has no experience in day to day classroom teaching. Just as I also don't want someone overseeing a Police Department that has no experience in law enforcement. The vast majority of officers are good. They do good work, they engage with the community, they protect and they serve day in and day out. They take an oath to do this.

We have seen crime rates spike in recent weeks when people feel they are entitled to commit crimes. When they feel that police may be taking a back seat. This is not the answer.

I am deeply concerned at the decisions of our City Council.

6/30/2020 9:24:15 AM

Send mental health pro along with police on domestics and calls involving odd behavior. Use trained paraprofessional to take reports e.g. robbery, accidents.

More cops walking beats in problem communities building relationships with youth workers, community leaders etc.

Less macho aggressive treatment of non violent offenders

Use force when called for.

More minority cops in minority communities.

6/30/2020 9:24:19 AM

Dear Charter Commission,

I am opposed to putting this amendment on the ballot for voters because I will be forced to vote against it, and urge all of my fellow residents to vote against it as well. I thoroughly support the goals of the city to redefine our system of public safety to equitably protect all of our citizens, promote de-escalation of violence, and provide the appropriate resources when responding to a crisis. Unfortunately, this amendment doesn't accomplish any of those goals, nor does it even require the City Council to put in

place a plan that accomplishes any of those goals. Rather it gives the City Council a blank check to do whatever it sees fit, whenever it sees fit, and offers no system of accountability for them, or for any other official or department that may be providing public safety services. The Council appears to be interested in grabbing quick headlines and more power along the way, rather than engaging in the tough conversations with all parts of our community required to develop a fair and thoughtful public safety system that provides racial equity. I urge you to force the Council to do its job, engage in the hard work required to put develop a Plan that actually will create equity and hold people accountable to that objective, and then put that proposal before the voters, because only then can we make meaningful progress on the grievous disparities we currently have.

6/30/2020 9:24:35 AM

The city of Minneapolis has become less and less safe over the years, to the point that I will no longer venture there for any reason and am looking into moving away from the area, even the state. Visitors need to feel safe. The city is crumbling.

6/30/2020 9:24:49 AM

The proposed amendment to the charter is incomplete, hasn't been thought through, and terrifies me and the public for our safety in a time when violence has spiked in our city. The City Council has done no research and has no ideas or proposals as to what this new system would look like. It allows for only 6 months before going into effect, meaning an entirely new system of safety and crime prevention will need to be invented and implemented from scratch in less than a year. This is an incomplete proposal that puts the community at risk. Other cities (Rockford, IL, Camden NJ) have put in place community based policing efforts which take years to design and roll out. By rushing to implement this "band aid" the city council is putting lives at stake. I STRONGLY oppose this amendment and am insulted that the City Council thinks they can throw something this incomplete at the citizens and expect a positive result. It is lazy and reactionary.

6/30/2020 9:25:02 AM

Absolutely not! Just have Arandando really tighten and enforce how to be less warrior and more guardian. Stop with the police union and follow through with determining any police brutality.

6/30/2020 9:25:42 AM

While I support structural reform, it's really hard to vote for something when no outline of what/how this switcheroo would be achieved exists. Right now, as far as I'm aware, police and ambulances haven't been coming to my block when called, there's an 'autonomous zone' two blocks away and a 'sanctuary' 4 blocks north with traffic in between the two sites that is getting more complicated by the day.

With the shootings spiraling out of control and mutual aid networks stretched to their breaking point, this discussion feels like it needs to be couched within this context. I'm really confused why all the public meetings I'm seeing are about each individual issue and not the complex as a whole. I support change, I support the movement but this seems like more of a knee jerk reaction than a plan. Give me a plan.

Also, the city is doing a shit job of informing citizens about what's happenning on the street right now. Even local news isn't covering a lot of what I'm looking for, neighbor to neighbor conversations are the only way we're getting a picture of the state of affairs. Who's gonna wanna pay taxes here when we aren't even being informed when the EMTs aren't gonna willingly show up for an assault in my alley. Once July hits and covid unemployment checks stop and mutual aid dries up in the heat of summer even more this cluster will explode.

How do you vote on this issue with what's going on right now without a plan? This is not safe, what's the bridge between the present and the future? It feels not just like a gap but a chasm threatening to swallow neighborhoods. Is this leadership right now? I don't feel led, just confused. Thanks

6/30/2020 9:25:49 AM

While you guys experiment with new ways of policing, our family will be steering clear of Minneapolis. We will avoid going anywhere near the city until any new policing or community service teams have proven effective.

6/30/2020 9:26:07 AM

I envision a multi faceted team approach to deal with the issues in our community. This would be let's say 5 different groups of professionals with different skill sets including a licensed police unit. Social workers, counselors(crisis intervention, mediation) chemical dependency responders, safety and security officers.

The calls coming into the 911/department would be routed to the specialty support teams that would provide onsite intervention. Their job would involve follow up; possibly referral to further services provided in the community ongoing.

These teams would interface with regularity maybe share space and have regular sessions of support ; problem solve etc ..

Most importantly these job positions would require training and be well compensated given the nature of the important delicate work/hours. And to attract those that are highly skilled individuals. The individuals race and gender should reflect that of the community they are serving. Scholarship training given to those who display superior skills but lack funds /training. Being a resident of the community you serve in this professional is mandatory.

6/30/2020 9:26:18 AM

I have a lot of questions regarding what the "new" department would look like. Living in North Minneapolis, I find that there has been little police presence because of hot spots in other parts of the city. With fewer officers I feel North Minneapolis will get even less attention. Can anyone address how this new department will improve my neighborhood's safety?

6/30/2020 9:26:41 AM

Please do not do this. It is an overly drastic, irrational move that will destroy our city

6/30/2020 9:26:56 AM

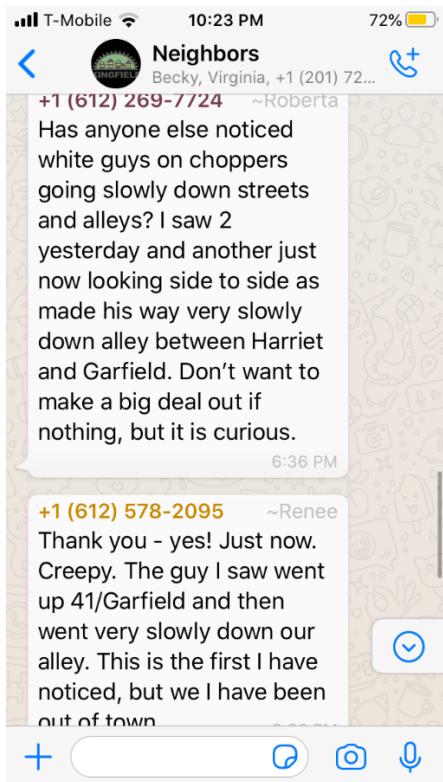
THANK YOU City Council for following through and listening to us!

I am ready and willing to vote for the charter amendment to create a new department focused on community safety and eliminate the Minneapolis Police Department.

I look forward to staying engaged as we chart a new course for the way we handle public safety and redistribute the excessive MPD budgets to the community they have terrorized for far too long.

6/30/2020 9:27:04 AM

The proposal for how to replace the police department is very vague and not thought out at all. You have to remember we live in a country where guns abound and we saw just last week, drive by shootings can happen anywhere, including the center of Uptown where we go to watch movies and eat-not anymore! When the community is in charge of safety, more panic ensues--see attached from my neighbors who now feel like they have to watch out for our South Minneapolis neighborhood. Police have responded to our alarm going off within less than a minute the 27 years we have lived in the city and this makes us feel safe, particularly when alone due to my husband's travels. More training, background checks, etc are needed instead of replacing the police. Such a decision will impact many of us and we decided we will be moving out of Minneapolis even though we love our city and do not mind paying the high taxes it takes to live here. And, remember that as a city and state we have trouble attracting talent. Who would be moving to Minneapolis when they do not feel safe? I have worked with the police dept as a professor at the U, in particular the sex trafficking unit, and have always valued their commitment and hard work when underfunded and understaffed. We need to support the police and find ways to strengthen their work and community engagement rather than rely on the community for public safety. Where in the world is there a place that relies on community for policing? And do not mention Scandinavian countries again--no guns, more homogeneous societies, a sense of collective thinking. Would be happy to talk more but given all that is going on and the anguish many of us feel, Minneapolis residents deserve a much more thought-out plan to look over rather than what is presented.



6/30/2020 9:27:07 AM

What will replace the police when it comes to gun violence, human trafficking, and sexual assault in our city? I'm for them going but what will replace them and how will they function?

6/30/2020 9:27:25 AM

If you guys could find a way to criminally prosecute Bob Krol as well, that would be great. Resident of Lakeville who spends a fair amount of time in the city of Minneapolis. That internal Mpls police mail open lawsuit when Arradondo was only an officer is a start.

6/30/2020 9:27:35 AM

Fuck City Council. You are all a bunch of worthless fucks that have no experience leading and don't care about your people. Take a dick up the ass and go fuck yourself you poor excuses for life. You're all a waste of air.

6/30/2020 9:27:38 AM

I wholeheartedly believe the police department should be reformed, but I don't believe it should be replaced/abolished. I've been a resident of Minneapolis for over 20 years and I love this city, but I would not feel comfortable living here anymore with only a small level of law enforcement left in place as what's being proposed by the City Council. I believe the City Council is being reactive and short sighted.

While I like the ADDITION of a Safety and Violence Prevention Department it should be separate from but work in conjunction with the Police Department. I don't believe a small enforcement division within the Safety prevention department should replace the current police department. I also feel removing the Police Department from the city charter will have an enormous economic impact to the city. National conferences, sporting events, companies will look at that when considering to do business in Minneapolis, and I feel they will choose not to. Reform is needed, no doubt, like the removal of the police union, particularly the head of the union Bob Kroll, but abolishing the police department is not the answer. I also believe all of this is being too rushed just to make the November ballot. If this is truly something the City Council wants to consider they need to take their time and actually have public hearings to listen to their constituents before pushing through a reactive agenda. Please do not amend the City Charter to remove a police force.

6/30/2020 9:27:52 AM

Please do not get rid of the Minneapolis police department and replace it with community led programs, violence prevention programs or whatever nonsense you intend to replace police officers with. There's no reason why we can't have it all. We just moved to the city of Minneapolis and if the police department is dismantled, it will cost our city millions. No one will want to live there, everyone will move out, businesses will move out of city limits, no one will want to travel here, the list goes on; all because they will fear for their safety.

Please. Do not get rid of the police department. Thousands of us depend on them every day.

6/30/2020 9:28:10 AM

Please move forward with revising the charter and finding a safer way to serve and protect our city!

6/30/2020 9:28:15 AM

I think it should be mandatory that anyone who works for the police or in this new department has to live in Minneapolis in order to work there.

6/30/2020 9:28:46 AM

As a resident of MN abolishing the any police department is a grave mistake that will allow criminals to roam free and unchecked. I do not support any public official that supports defending any police agency in the state of MN

6/30/2020 9:28:48 AM

Please rethink this!!! While I understand and sympathize with the idea of making changes to law enforcement to better serve all citizens, this seems to be an emotional decision that has been fueled by trying to appease a mob. Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater. Educate, retrain and involve the citizens. Let emotions cool and then make changes to the system needed to help minority groups feel

safer. Disbanding the police doesn't cut it. As a citizen of the Twin Cities, I look forward to venturing downtown Minneapolis to take part in all that it has to offer. I no longer feel safe going there for fear of the parks being used as homeless shelters and the stepping back of police presence. My money may be a very small part of the Minneapolis economy, but I am not alone in my feelings that I will no longer want to support businesses in a community where safety takes a back seat to pressure from a few. Thank you.

6/30/2020 9:29:22 AM

I fully support the immediate defunding and dissolution of the Minneapolis Police. Time and again they have shown themselves to be disconnected from our community, and scornful of our rights. They mace and shoot rubber bullets at peaceful protesters with impunity. Humiliate, terrorize and kill people of color for no reason. The thought that they might murder one of my former students using my tax dollars is abhorrent. This behavior cannot continue, not in my name.

6/30/2020 9:29:23 AM

What makes you feel entitled enough to use tax payer dollars to pay for your own personal security while de-funding the security of the people paying for your security? Why is your safety more important to everyone else?

6/30/2020 9:29:25 AM

I do not agree with the city council's request to REMOVE the police department and replace it with Safety and Violence Prevention Department! Why is the City Council currently hiring an outside firm for \$63k ( current figure) for protection????? Because we have violence in the city. Leave the name!! The dollars you save w making the name change put toward a mental health program!!

You're focusing on the wrong thing!!! How many blacks kill blacks vs how many officers kill blacks?? 95% of blacks kill blacks!!!! Correct the rule of letting go of bad officers/multiple offenders so, you can remove them from the department sndvthe can never return back to work! Look at the system/union rules to make your changes!!!!

I hope the item on the ballot isn't just a name change question!!!! If so, that's a waste of time

6/30/2020 9:30:53 AM

I thought this policy proposal was a joke at fist. This would be the worst decision in the history of the city. Do not do this and maybe give up your private security.

6/30/2020 9:31:09 AM

If you defund the police, our family won't attend Twins, Vikings games. Wouldn't attend concerts, visit one of many breweries, or go downtown for dinner or to shop!

The Cities, was up and coming, now you want to go back?

This is sad

I'll stick in the "Burbs" then

6/30/2020 9:31:10 AM

Disbanding the police is crazy. I do not support this. As a permanent resident of Minneapolis/ St. Louis park for the past 35 years i strongly voice my opinion that we need to support and maintain our police for our own security and well being. We have a right to be heard and this decision should not be made by council but by the public

Do not disband or defund the police!

6/30/2020 9:31:24 AM

This proposal to vote on the future of the police department feels like throwing the baby out with the bathwater. If we had a couple of bad teachers, would we disband ALL public schools? If we had a few bad CEOs, would we disband corporate America? I do not think we would. This feels like a very quick decision, made without a plan (the City Council said they have no plan), that now puts the City Council into a position where they don't want to go back on their word, but that puts lives at risk.

As a parent of young children, I am concerned about our safety and about police being disengaged if they find out they won't have a job soon. We may even move out of Minneapolis. I have to believe there are other things that could be done. Maybe more training. Maybe changes to the rules for what can happen to a police officer who uses too much force. Maybe do an assessment of current officers and remove those who have a bad track record. This feels like a compromise that considers the fact that not all officers are BAD and focuses on those who have usurped their given authority.

I do not think this should be voted on by the community until it is very clear what the plan would be for public safety and now feels too soon even though there are many pushing for a quick decision.

Thanks for letting me share my comments!

6/30/2020 9:31:45 AM

Historical facts - In 1933 Adolph Hitler (leader of national socialists) defunded and disbanded the police in Germany. He replaced them with racist brown shirt goons and worse. Minneapolis - home of affirmed anti-American, anti-society, anti-family values - radical socialists ! For all of recorded history - civilizations have had a police force - after 40 years of Democrat and minority lead governments - there is still a huge police problem in Minneapolis and an underlying layer of lawless behaviors condoned by godless creeps - incompetence and/or corruption is the only conclusion. Why do you think that

obviously corrupt/incompetent leadership will find a good solution to quality policing solution in the next 40 years? They won't! Pathetic!

6/30/2020 9:31:48 AM

Hello, Thank you for allowing public comments on this issue. It frankly frightens me that the council has passed a measure to disband or defund the Police Department . If this resolution is put in place, I'll be less likely to shop and eat in Minneapolis or come to events held there. I certainly won't be there after dark. There are bad police and good police, just as there are variations in all professions. I think that retraining and changing the internal culture is a better response.

Thank you again

6/30/2020 9:32:17 AM

I am. FIRMLY AGAINST removing our Police Department, as I know hundreds of others are!! WE NEED our officers. We NEED to be assured our citizens, our families, and all our loved ones, are protected by trained professionals that have the education, background and knowledge of how to properly handle the worst of criminal situations!! I have lived in Minneapolis for 52 years, and while I believe there needs to be some changes made internally within the Department, I am AGAINST the removal of the Department!!

6/30/2020 9:32:27 AM

I am not happy with the city council. I think this is not thought out and premature.

Yes, MPD needs reform. Chief Arradondo is the one best positioned to do this. He already has made reforms and fired officers. Give him a chance. He can't change 150 years old culture in three years.

If this is on the ballot this fall, I will vote out my council person.

6/30/2020 9:32:31 AM

Defunding / dismantling the Minneapolis Police Department is a terrible idea. There is absolutely ZERO benefit to the people and businesses of Minneapolis and the neighboring cities to remove the MPD. Since the riots have happened there are multiple businesses who have stated they will be relocating to a new city because they don't feel the Mayor and City Council will protect their businesses when needed. Additional businesses will continue to do so if your council moves forward with dismantling / defunding the police and the City of Minneapolis will suffer by losing tax revenue. The defunding / dismantling of the MPD will lead to more and more crime, which Minneapolis has already seen over the past month. Over 100 people have been shot in Minneapolis alone since Memorial Day weekend and that is not solely because we're getting into summer. The Mayor and City Council have lost control and criminals know it. Criminals will continue to take advantage of innocent people because the police force has had their hands tied behind their back.

If you move forward with dismantling / defunding the MPD I will put every vote I have against all active members of the Minneapolis City Council. You have become the laughingstock of the United States. The fact you're calling for dismantling / defunding the MPD yet have spending \$63,000 on private security proves that you're scared of the violent crime that is now happening in Minneapolis under your watch.

6/30/2020 9:33:08 AM

Removing the MPD is a huge mistake, especially for a city the size of Minneapolis. This isn't Camden, New Jersey. Reform can truly come from inside the MPD, primarily because command staff in charge at this time, including Chief Rondo, is the entity that can affect change through changing policy. Those officers who don't want to comply with new policy can find another job with another department or retire early. The vast majority of MPD officers are good cops and should be retained. They still have to ensure public safety, which is exactly what we need right now. I've been a prosecutor for the city of Minneapolis for 22 years and I've been a Minneapolis resident almost as long. I don't want to remain a resident of a city who does not have a police department. We're moving out of the city if the MPD is defunded and a new "community policing" model is adopted. I know what that looks like and it will not protect Minneapolis residents or businesses.

6/30/2020 9:33:19 AM

This is the worst thing that you could do at this moment. It is reckless and ill measured. There is no wisdom to pushing this through as a knee jerk with ideologies but no fact in the middle of a pandemic where unemployment is at an all time high. I have lived in this city most of my life, born and raised. What you are doing and attempting to do is uniquely and truly damaging and reckless.

The north side badly needs officers. I am a north side teacher as well. I have worked very hard trying to combat gang activity in my school and with my students. There are so many agencies involved and people long before things get bad- but we STILL need police. This is reckless and I find it disturbing that most of you likely have no clue. Many of my students of color want to BECOME police, to help their community and earn a steady paycheck. An activist told me they had been "brainwashed" to think that when I gave push back. How easy to say when you are not here Day in and day out as I have been for years. You as a council are not getting info, not connecting with community and not doing anything of note. This survey is also very easy to lie on. I live in Minneapolis and have worked for the park board also for years, but my suburban friends or outstate or not even state residents could simply lie and click the "yes" box. This data is useless without holding public face to face forums like a caucus. But you won't take the time for that because you don't actually want to know. Never have I seen more singular arrogance congregated than when I watched your zoom council meeting last week. I'm sure you all know most of you will be voted out next year. Home Owner's don't want this. Of course, you have poached the city of that intentionally for a slum tax base. You don't seem to know that two and two is four. 

6/30/2020 9:33:31 AM

The charter amendment as proposed should be turned down

- 1) at a time when violent crimes and burglaries are rising to high levels this proposal has no plan for how crime will be addressed.
- 2) we should be giving chief Arranado the support he needs to make the reforms needed.
- 3) the police chief or head of crime prevention and enforcement should report to the mayor, not to 13 council persons, not to the council President who is not elected by the citizens

6/30/2020 9:33:35 AM

I am a 20 year resident, homeowner, and public school teacher in Minneapolis. The people of Minneapolis have the right to decide whether or not to amend our city charter. The amendment to the charter, as written by our elected representatives on the city council, should move forward to the November ballot. The democratic process should be allowed to play out.

6/30/2020 9:33:38 AM

I like the idea of social worker type people respond to many of the social work related things in the community. While protecting people from police brutality, people also need to be protected from each other's brutality. We still need to feel safe from all threats in our community. I'm in favor of having a smaller yet better trained police force that is held accountable at all times. The new public support system needs to be equitable for all people, not just white people. Thank you for taking action on this issue.

6/30/2020 9:34:07 AM

Keep the police. We need them. As a whole, they are not the problem.

6/30/2020 9:34:22 AM

We need the police. They just need better and more thoughtful training. They need to use night sticks etc not shoot first or unusual restraining methods. If they need, handcuff them and then process them, not excessive physical abuse. DO NOT disband the police force. That is unreasonabl. We need a good police force. The head of the union needs to resign and get new leadership. Keep the police force.

6/30/2020 9:34:43 AM

Please do not be bullied by people who don't even live in Minneapolis who are potentially filling out this form and freaking out thinking that the charter Amendment means something that it does not. It is very important to pass this Charter amendment so that we as a city can have as many options on the table as humanly possible in order to drastically rethink Public Safety in our city. Please take this bold step.

6/30/2020 9:35:25 AM

As a longtime resident of the Minneapolis area, I'm thrilled to see our city take the first steps towards managing our society not with guns, handcuffs, batons, and prisons, but with outreach, understanding, and a community-based approach that doesn't criminalize public health issues and poverty.

So many reforms have been tried, and have left us with more dead community members and murderers that have walked free. It's time to cut to the root of the problem and stop making minor, token changes that accomplish nothing other than appeasing those who are sick of racist violence at the hands of the MPD.

6/30/2020 9:37:43 AM

is a ridiculous idea. you are doing nothing more than pandering to snowflakes. I used to do business and live in Minneapolis and right now if you gave me a house on Lake Harriet I'd tell you to keep it. will not be going into Minneapolis ever again if I can help it.

6/30/2020 9:37:50 AM

If the police department is defunded we will no longer venture to Minneapolis. We love the restaurants, shops and entertainment that Minneapolis has to offer but I am not willing to put my family's safety at risk.

6/30/2020 9:38:00 AM

Your idea to do this is LUNACY!! I live in a very close suburb to Minneapolis proper and will AVOID Minneapolis at all costs if this passes (as I've heard from many, many people who live in this state). Your personal vendetta and opinions will cause Minnesotans not to attend sporting events, concerts and downtown venues totally as they will fear going into Minneapolis.

You will deplete the property values of those owning homes and they will not be able to sell their homes as no one will want to move into Minneapolis. Perhaps your goal is (which it appears it may be) for those who have worked their entire lives to be forced to vacate their homes so you can give them to those who refuse to do anything but complain, riot and never work -- if so...again, you will be ruining the entire city and running it to the ground and will have no taxes coming in, etc to pay for anything. People already want out of Minneapolis as you have been raising the taxes and raising the taxes constantly.

All I can say is IF you choose to go this route...good luck. We will all be watching as we see our beautiful city turn into a crime infesting area such as Chicago. AND, as a Minnesotan who has a voice -- the citizen tax dollars you are using to pay for your PERSONAL protection better be CUT OFF if you are not allowing the citizen's to have the protection they deserve!

I appreciate the efforts the City Council has undertaken to reform the Minneapolis Police Department to create something better out of a system that is very broken. After reading the proposed Amendment altering the City Charter however, I have some key areas of concern. In my opinion, this Amendment does not address the root of the problems or create an environment for a successful outcome if this Amendment passes.

I think one of the most important things we need to address is a specific Charter Provision that outlines that police officers should be hired from within the City of Minneapolis and more specifically within the precincts that they will be employed in. I think this is a very important part of creating a successful community-oriented police department. This is also a popular idea across the political spectrum that increases the likelihood of an Amendment such as this passing. This should also be specifically defined in the Charter, emphasizing the commitment to a community led police department.

Another concern I have is removing the language that identifies the quantity of police officers that Minneapolis is required to have and the sources of revenue that are to be allocated by the City Council to fund a police department. I think these are both important areas that need to be identified explicitly in this Amendment, and I think that leaving these details out is problematic. This effort should be completely transparent, and all aspects should be able to be scrutinized by the citizens of Minneapolis. I think we have a right to know exactly how many police officers Minneapolis should be expected to have at a minimum, and how much of our property tax money is expected to fund such a department. Removing this language hampers a robust debate on what we as a community can expect out of a reinvented police department. Without a proposed number of officers, or a proposal for a maximum property tax levy to fund this change, the Amendment grants the City Council too much unchecked power and a blank check to create and fund a new department. I think there needs to be a provision where this power is checked, and I think that including language for a minimum police department size, and a maximum funding amount is necessary to make this a successful amendment.

My final major concern is semantics. Renaming the “Police Department” to the “Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention” is an empty symbolic gesture. If we really want to address the underlying issues that the City of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Police Department are facing, we need to dig deeper than the name of what we call the police and work to fundamentally change what a police department looks like, and how they are expected to behave in a more community aligned style of policing.

As written, the proposed Amendment does not address hiring police from within the community they are hired to serve, or what a police force looks like in terms of number of officers, or how this police force is specifically funded. The Amendment merely changes what we call the police, removes the Mayor’s oversite of the department, and removes the confines and definitions that the City Council needs to operate within to provide a police department to Minneapolitans; eliminating accountability.

These are major concerns that are not addressed by this Amendment, and in a fair and transparent process, the citizens of Minneapolis deserve to know in more substantive detail how we are planning to fundamentally alter our police department. These details begin with the City Charter Amendment, and I think a more detailed Amendment proposal that expressly addresses these concerns is required. Without these details, citizens do not have the tools for a constructive debate, and this does not provide the best foundation for an open and informed community led effort to reform the Minneapolis Police Department.

Thank you for taking the time to review my concern.

6/30/2020 9:38:49 AM

I believe the Police Union is basically corrupt and must be replaced.

Police officers need MUCH more training, especially in psychology and de-escalation techniques. (most officers have so much less training than their job really requires. And most of that is of a paramilitary style. Police are suppose to ' protect and serve', NOT 'subdue and conquer'.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/06/police-academies-paramilitary/612859/>

LESS emphasis and spending on military type tactics and equipment.

MORE training of people who would be First Response Evaluators,

( who would be one of the first on the scene to determine what type of help is needed:

getting people to drug/alcohol support situations

removing people/children from abuse environments

calling for help for accident/trauma scenes

arresting those of actual crimes (assault, burglary, murder, etc.)

Those First Response Evaluators would be trained in evaluating situations and calling for the appropriate response/aid.

MUCH more community outreach. Officers WALKING a beat, assigned to specific neighborhoods that they can become familiar with. More substations where people can walk right in with, and register their concerns.

6/30/2020 9:39:16 AM

You all should be ashamed of yourselves. This is the worst idea. Crime is so high and you want to put the police on minimum numbers. Give up your private security and don't be hypocrite also.

6/30/2020 9:39:39 AM

I think that we should support the Mayor and Police Chief.

I'm sure the city counsel has good intentions, but I think that the Mayor & Police Chief can reach the needed results in a more efficient & faster manner.

I think that there should be actual mental health professionals on the police force that will show up to a call when the reason for the call is a mental health break down.

6/30/2020 9:39:52 AM

Dear City Council,

I am opposed to any measure, amendment, or proposal to disband, defund, or otherwise eliminate/alter our brave MPD. I find it appalling that this is even under consideration. If the measure passes I will sell my home and move to a more safety minded community, removing my family, the taxes I pay and money I earn and spend in this community. You are all shameful examples of the push over weak leadership that has led to the very problems you claim to be addressing with this proposal. Mark my words, you will be held accountable come election time and in my opinion should be held both criminally and financially accountable for the damages caused to our community by the lawless actions of the rioters and criminals allowed to destroy our fair city.

Thank you for your time and I hope you all lose your jobs and find nothing but misery and misfortune from this point forward.

Your bitter enemy for life

6/30/2020 9:40:05 AM

HAHAHAHAHAHAHA THIS IS A FUCKING JOKE!!! HAHAHAHAHAHAHA THIS IS A FUCKING JOKE!!!HAHAHAHAHAHAHA THIS IS A FUCKING JOKE!!!

6/30/2020 9:40:07 AM

While I'm glad that we are amending the charter, I believe the current changes are just renaming the same police department. There is no outline for oversight. We need an elected council of civilians with the power to hire, fire, and prosecute officers. I wholeheartedly support the proposal by Twin Cities Coalition for Justice 4 Jamar

6/30/2020 9:40:10 AM

I support restructuring the police department, of course including a specified group of people to intervene with violent crimes in progress.

I hope that because we are a model for the country that the best & most experienced social scientists will be involved in the process.

I hope that there will be an emphasis on hiring social workers of color since social workers have a historically been used against black people.

6/30/2020 9:40:38 AM

Do not take down the Minneapolis Police Department. They serve and protect, they need better training And education on how to do that. We need them. People will not want to visit Minneapolis and this will hurt surrounding communities.

6/30/2020 9:40:49 AM

You need to have more details on what this will look like. What has been communicated so far sounds like a knee jerk reaction and that is causing knee jerk reactions from all sides. Change does need to occur but needs to be done in a thoughtful well laid out plan. Take your time and get it right. Be mindful of the words you are using and communicate clearly. The country has an image that the police department won't exist and there will be no law enforcement in Mpls at all. Everything will be handled by social workers. Welcome to serious criminals taking over our city. This impacts more than Mpls. Folks that live outside of Mpls will stop coming to the city which will just cause a ripple effect of loss of jobs, home devaluations and those that actually pay taxes leaving the city. Then who will pay for all of the services. They are not being provided free

6/30/2020 9:41:10 AM

I strongly disagree with this proposal.

6/30/2020 9:41:12 AM

Please don't demonize the entire MPD for the actions of four officers. Why does nobody in the city council EVER point out the great, courageous work of 99.7% of our brave officers? The officers come in all races & colors. Stop this insanity. This war on cops must end.

6/30/2020 9:41:16 AM

My family business has been in MPLS for 36 years. I was planning on taking it over when my parents are ready to sell. If we have no police here in Mpls i will not be buying the business and we will close our doors. We do believe there needs to be some reform but not defunding or abolish. I know we wouldn't be the only business that would leave if you go this route. My employees now don't feel as safe as before all the riots happen and if you disband the police I don't know if we'd be able to keep employees or find anyone willing to work in this community. Reform do not disband

6/30/2020 9:41:22 AM

I think it's horrible to punish the entire mpls police dept for the tons of a few. The schools dropping their ties with the MPD is saying to the kids police are bad and that's not true. We need to have the police presence in schools to help build positive relationships between kids and police, to show not all cops are bad, to show not all minority kids are bad-it goes both ways. All this negative press is teaching young kids to not trust cops. How can we do that if the kids don't have positive interactions with them in

a safe environment like school. We need the police out doing good things, positive things in the community. But we also need the community to step up and give the good cops a break, do what they say. It's not easy. But both sides need to bridge this gap before all hell breaks loose. Again, making an effort, showing both cops and the community coming together as one, good PR. I agree the MPD needs reform. But the politicians voted in didn't do anything, they didn't reprimand bad behavior and even hired bad people to be a cop. Perhaps we need to look at who was in office and get rid of those people. It doesn't all fall on the police themselves or the community, the past government had their hand in not doing anything.

6/30/2020 9:42:09 AM

Are y'all on crack. I like my police officers.

6/30/2020 9:42:21 AM

I am in favor

6/30/2020 9:42:24 AM

We need a new system in place that prioritizes the well being of the city of Minneapolis. Police officers need not respond to every 911 call. Send in professionals to handle situations that they were trained to handle. Police are not fit for every 911 call.

6/30/2020 9:42:26 AM

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 world's 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.

6/30/2020 9:43:05 AM

I strongly oppose the proposed change in the Mpls. charter. I agree that the Mpls. police department needs to change. Holding officers accountable and training will bring the needed change without changing the charter. I strongly oppose giving oversight of the police department to the council. Our system of governance already is council heavy. The mayor needs to retain his power. The council can

still influence police department without changing the charter because they approve the police department's budget.

6/30/2020 9:43:21 AM

I live in North Minneapolis. The crime in my area has severely increased. If you defund, scale down or even remove Peace Officers for our city it's only going to get worse.

Business are afraid to be open, people have to leave our city to get basic needs.

We can not function in this lawless manner. The number of shootings has sky rocketed. People are already proving we need our Peace Officers.

I'd rather see our officers have better training, more education in handling individuals with mental health and more community outreach and development.

6/30/2020 9:43:34 AM

I am for major reforms but not dismantling the police department.

6/30/2020 9:43:41 AM

I think it's horrible to punish the entire mpls police dept for the a tons of a few. The schools dropping their ties with the MPD is saying to the kids police are bad and that's not true. We need to have the police presence in schools to help build positive relationships between kids and police, to show not all cops are bad, to show not all minority kids are bad-it goes both ways. All this negative press is teaching young kids to not trust cops. How can we do that if the kids dont have positive interactions with them in a safe environment like school. We need the police out doing good things, positive things in the community. But we also need the community to step up and give the good cops a break, do what they say. It's not easy. But both sides need to bridge this gap before all hell breaks loose. Again, making an effort, showing both cops and the community coming together as one, good PR. I agree the MPD needs reform. But the politicians voted in didn't do anything, they didnt reprimand bad behavior and even hired bad people to be a cop. Perhaps we need to look at who was in office and get rid of those people. It doesn't all fall on the police themselves or the community, the past government had their hand in not doing anything.

6/30/2020 9:43:55 AM

It must be so nice to have private security while there are shootings almost every night.

You are the most worthless politicians to ever come out of minneapolis. I hope you all resign. Go fuck yourselves you cowardice hypocritical cunts.

6/30/2020 9:44:08 AM

Do not remove the police from the city charter - keep the original language in!!!

Do not give in to the few loud activist voices to make the city of Minneapolis even more dangerous by removing that language to enable the corrupt council and mayor to decide policing for the city.

Worst idea since undemocratic and corrupt ranked choice voting!!!

The city of Minneapolis and the state of Minnesota have a duty to protect us citizens by way of a police force that desperately needs support, funding and more officers to combat our horrific crime. Will you be a part of making that work or will you vote to be a part of a progressive social experiment?

We need you all to not turn over power to a council of corrupt rank choice representatives who make too much money and hide when the going gets tough. Don't do that to us, we deserve better!

6/30/2020 9:44:11 AM

Please do not defund the police. Put more money in, add appropriate staff, and more training. The police can work side by side with support staff and social workers for the betterment of all people who live and visit there. I don't live right downtown, but we go there for events, work, travel and the restaurants occasionally.

6/30/2020 9:44:25 AM

I am against this. There are neighbors that are really against this idea also. We are afraid of what is happening right now with the explosion of gun fire and crime throughout the city. We don't feel safe and disarming and tying the hands of our law enforcement is not the answer. Don't go off half cocked from a knee jerk reaction. Think this through!!! Listen to us that need the police, neighborhoods, businesses and those of us who want to keep doing business in Mpls instead of abandoning the city and taking business elsewhere.

This is not the answer that law abiding citizens are in need of.

I was wondering if the Mpls city council is so against their police force because of the poor actions of a few then why are they spending so much of taxpayers money for private security? Why not make private security available for all citizens of Mpls?

I vote no on this idea and pray that you don't throw the baby out with the bath water because of a few bad apples.

6/30/2020 9:44:37 AM

If you move ahead with defunding police, I won't feel safe in Mpls. That means:

- I won't work downtown
- I won't attend sporting events
- I won't shop downtown

- I won't eat downtown

Simply put, I'll go where I feel safe. I'll spend elsewhere. Businesses will suffer. The economy will suffer. Home values will fall. And the cycle continues...

My point is, you will have started a long term cycle of decline for the city of Minneapolis. People have choices and will modify their behavior based on your actions.

6/30/2020 9:45:09 AM

I grew up in Minneapolis but live in a suburb now. I worked downtown Minneapolis for 40 years. I think the leaders are idiots. Talk of Defunding police has already shown the lawless people they have the ability to create crimes. I don't understand how private protection at the tax payers expense is okay for council members but reduce police protection for citizens is Wrong. I will never come to the city for theatre or sports shows. Who would want to have a business convention in a lawless city.

6/30/2020 9:45:33 AM

WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?! Has the past few weeks not proven anything to you? If you defund the police the crime rises. I live in the suburb and have frequented the city many times for sports, bars and restaurants, breweries, etc. I will not step foot in or drive through without the police in place.

What Chavin did to Floyd brought this state and the nation together. Everyone that saw the video knew what he did was wrong and he should be prosecuted. What was allowed to happen with burning down the city and now all the crime in once very safe places has destroyed all that the Floyd killing did to bring us together.

6/30/2020 9:45:42 AM

see attachment –

Barry Clegg and Members of the Charter Commission -

While reform of the Minneapolis Police is essential and urgent, I think it is not so urgent that we should rush through an ill-conceived and muddled charter change. If we don't have time to do it right the first time, how can we possibly afford a second try. The current timeline does not allow for significant consultation with the community nor does it allow for education of voters and the development of understanding.

I am opposed to the Minneapolis City Council action to amend the Minneapolis City Charter. My reasons are similar to those noted by others, including the signers of a recent Op-Ed piece in the Strib.

To wit the proposed charter change:

1. Would eliminate the police department without substitution. Right now the Council does not have a plan. It only promises to develop the plan and implementation strategies in the future. When, how, with or without community input, with or without examination of successful strategies used in other communities.

2. Would demolish clear lines of accountability. It eliminates the authority of the Mayor and places control in the hands of the council. When there are so many bosses, there is no one in charge.
3. Doesn't ensure that there would be actually be a police function within the city. It gives no indication of how this function could be fulfilled.

While in the long run charter change may indeed be needed and should not hamstring the city in making necessary changes in the future, I do not believe the current language provides adequate assurances that this would happen.

I hope the Charter Commission will exercise its responsibility to make sure that the timing and language of any proposed charter change related to policing is clear, flexible and forward-looking. The council can do much to transform the policing function in Minneapolis, improve public safety, address racial inequalities and remove social and policy barriers without the proposed charter change.

Thank you for considering this.

6/30/2020 9:45:47 AM

While a new focus on public health and welfare is good, preventing problems and violence before they happen- feeding people and getting them jobs to diminish desperation, please do not take public safety out of the picture. It takes time to correct the social inequities that exist. Spend the time and money on changing policies that cover up bad police techniques. Be realistic. Be sincere. Our children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews live in Minneapolis and suburbs. We care about the quality and safety of life. The world is watching what you do. Make real change not political appeasement.

6/30/2020 9:46:02 AM

I fully support defunding the MPD as it currently stands and replacing it with a variety of resources that would better support communities. I do not want a dept that doesn't say "police" but acts like the police, but for additional resources to help with the types of issues that our citizens actually need help with, i.e. mental health crises, housing, sexual violence. Having the police respond to the variety of calls that get made to 911 is like treating everything like a nail by providing a hammer. Sometimes what is needed is a mental health counselor, a temporary place to stay, an abuser to be removed from a home. These things cannot be provided by a police response.

I imagine 911 being expanded to a variety of services, not just police, medical or fire. Let's get imaginative and make a response system that actually works for Minneapolis citizens!

6/30/2020 9:46:22 AM

Hello,

I think defunding or removing the police is a mistake. I personally wouldn't want to live in a neighborhood that had no police. Having the option to call the police isn't white privilege, it's common sense. I'm not ashamed of who I am and have worked hard to have the life I have. At the end of the day, you are responsible for your choices. I think every system has room for improvement, and no system or program is ever perfect. That's the point, isn't it? To always have the chance to change or work to be

better? But to get rid of a program just because of a few bad apples in the department is ignorant and simply the wrong choice. Minneapolis will be worst for it and crime will not magically disappear. Humanity is capable of anything, looting, rioting, and distorting their own communities? In the name of racial injustice? I hope it was worth it because I simply don't understand how homeowners & businesses will want to come back to a city that left them to the wolves. And if there is no police, do we hire private security? How can the average American, no matter the color of their skin, afford that when they don't have the taxpayer to pay for it? If another "community led program" is in charge of keeping the area safe, how do you know the treatment will be fair and not unjust? A police officer made an oath to protect the city, when they break it, they are punished accordingly. Who will be policing those who are supposedly going to keep us safe? Is it going to be the city? Am I supposed to have faith in my city officials to keep me safe?

I just don't believe you.

6/30/2020 9:46:34 AM

Absolutely stupid idea. If you want the war zone of Minneapolis to get worse, then follow through. But it will be guaranteed that business' will leave and turn Minneapolis into Trasheapolis because there will be no income coming into the city. Also it should be that if you follow through, the City Council cannot have private security (especially on the people's dime) and they are required to start responding to police like emergencies, especially the most dangerous ones.

6/30/2020 9:46:49 AM

I believe the aldermen and or city council should be removed from there positions due to insanity and a special election should be granted immediately to clean up this terrible situation that they have created!

1

6/30/2020 9:46:58 AM

I do not support the decision to remove the police and replace it with whatever the city council has in mind and here's why:

1. Mpls city council is inept. They failed to keep our neighborhood safe (Longfellow) and cheered on rioters who burned down our local businesses and terrorized our streets for a week. This demonstrates not only their ineptitude in leadership, it's proof that they simply do not care to keep its citizens safe. Our business owners had to sleep in their businesses to keep watch over them and ensure they were safe from looting and burning. They did not receive tax funded private security even though they suffered actual threats of violence which were carried out on other businesses, (see Town Talk Diner, Ghandi Mahal, El Nuevo Rodeo, Minnehaha Liquor. Cadillac Pawn, etc. all of which do not exist anymore as they were burned to the ground. Oh, and we no longer have a post office.) You can't blame the police for this because the city council and mayor instructed them to stand down.

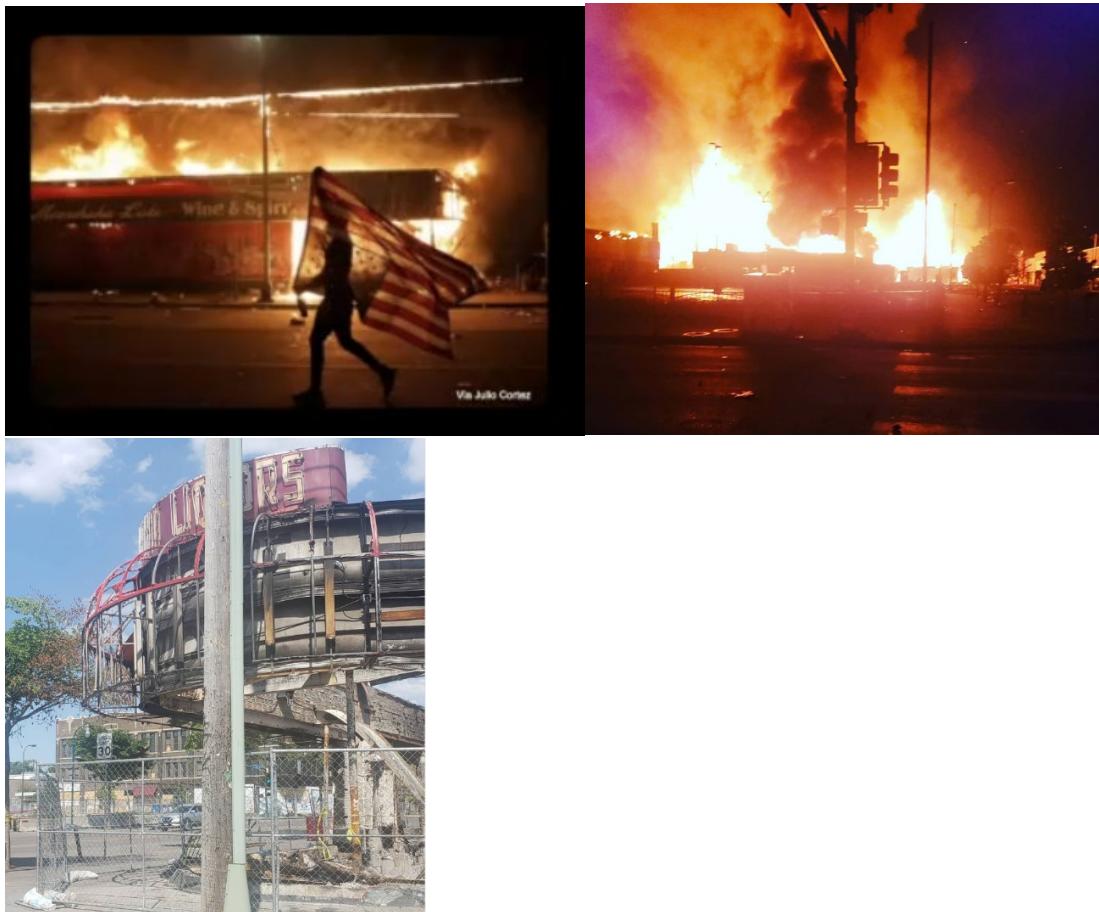
2. Double Standards: three council members have used our tax dollars for their own private protection. So while we'll get basically no protection (except what we do for ourselves) they will plunder the coffers to keep themselves safe, (and we've yet to see proof of these so-called death threats, btw). They do not

seem to understand the basic concept that they work for us, they are employed by us, therefore they serve us. They care about their own safety, but not ours as evidenced this past month.

3. It's political posturing. Having grown up in the DC area (not very far from where Mayor Frey grew up,) in and around politics and politicians, I've come to recognize when they are "having their moment" and that's Minneapolis right now. I don't think our city council cares about resolving any issues (since they're not good at it and this group never has been,) as much as they care about the spotlight they're in right now. They want the attention. The more "radical" they seem, the more they pander to the fringe, the more national attention they get.

There are corrupt police officers, and that should be investigated. There should be reform and harsher penalties for offenders who are there to serve and protect. They should be fired after the first incident of corruption of any kind. But I do not trust our inept city council to come up with anything close to being effective in keeping us safe. They've proven that they won't. They've proven that they don't care. They put their own self-interests first. They feel they are above the rest of us.

All someone has to do to see how the city council would keep us safe is take a look at what's left of the Minnehaha/Lake corridor. The rubble that remains there sums it up perfectly.



6/30/2020 9:47:02 AM

I do not support the proposed charter language and encourage you to vote to not approve the amendment for the following reasons:

1. I do not support the striking of the police department and replacing with a department of community safety and violence prevention.
2. I am NOT in favor of "b) division of law enforcement services" which states the "Council MAY maintain a division of law enforcement services" when it should say "WILL maintain a division of law enforcement services". A city of this size must have a law enforcement department.
3. There are not enough details in the proposed amendment that adequately address the day to day workings of this proposed new department, especially compared to the striken language and the remaining fire department language.
4. Why is not the fire department a part of the community safety department? Most jurisdictions that have a public safety department do so for cost savings to combine law enforcement and fire.

I, too, want reform and I want changes in how the police department functions, how officers are disciplined, and funding levels spent. I want to see specifics about how any new system will work before I can consider myself informed enough to support any reform. I want the opportunity to provide comments on proposed changes. The timeline of this amendment and rush to get onto the November ballot does not afford this opportunity. Please consider not approving.

Thank you for your service on this Commission.

6/30/2020 9:47:53 AM

I am a mental health provider who has worked with people in every point of the judicial system. My significant experience providing mental health services to both victims and perpetrators of crime has also involved collaboration with various law enforcement entities. After reviewing many proposals, such as MPD 150, including the city council's proposal, I strongly disagree with abolishing the police.

First, none of the proposals include actions steps or details on what would replace the police, functions, etc. Frustratingly, the proposals fail to acknowledge reality of the current environment (e.g., mental health services are limited, providers are underpaid, safety is a problem/ongoing issue). These proposals assume crime occurs purely out of necessity, which if criminology research was referenced one would know that is not entirely accurate.

Many of the people identified to respond in lieu of the police, like mental health providers, were clearly not consulted about their proposed role. The majority of mental health providers are not trained to provide crisis services, do not have the resources to safely provide crisis services without police support, and the various core issues in the proposals (i.e., crimes, mental illness, homelessness, prostitution, sexual assault, etc.) require a safe, stable environment to address the problem behavior, when it is not currently occurring.

Additionally, the city council's proposed amendment fails to prioritize the community's safety by putting someone in charge who does not understand nor have experience with law enforcement, by not identifying supervising entities, clear parameters of what is needed, and overall lacks essential details and understanding of how both law enforcement and various community services actually work. One

person should not be solely in charge and that individual would not be able to effectively perform their job due to having too many competing demands. Rather than eliminating the system, it requires intense review to ensure the right people are placed in positions of power. Significant changes need to occur within the police department and the Minneapolis police department should be held to a higher standard, but refusing to fund a data driven system that would utilize data/facts to create change (i.e., which is important because it would eliminate emotions/biases) is a problem, as this would produce unbiased information which could have produced effective change.

Furthermore, eliminating the police would further worsen the economy (i.e., businesses would move their businesses out of town). These proposals are short-sighted and fail to appreciate the ripple effects of actions/decisions. By creating a further economic problems, crime would undoubtedly increase and cause significant consequences. I work with underserved clients because I want to create change, but my ability to do my job is limited as there is not enough funding for security staff (placing me in imminently dangerous situations), but it is shocking and appalling that city council members would continue to push to eliminate my safety/protection (i.e., police), while they use taxpayer money to fund their own private protection.

Therefore, I do not support the police being abolished. The communities are traumatized and by eliminating the police, further trauma and problems will be created. Whatever plan is implemented, it should involve changing law enforcement, holding everyone to a higher standard, be detailed and involve content experts, work from reality (not ideals), be factual/statistical/research driven, incorporate restorative measures for police/community/and between both groups, hold law enforcement to a higher standard, fund necessary services (mental health), ensure necessary training is regularly provided, be fairly applied to all (i.e., no public funding for private security), the solution comes from working together and the solution shouldn't be worse than the problem.

6/30/2020 9:48:11 AM

Police reform is necessary. Police are necessary. Get rid of the police who are brutal and hateful. No arbitration so they never work in law enforcement again.

We need law and order. The community cannot enforce the laws. I want police to come to my aid when I need it! It would be nice to see some good stories of the everyday cop doing good.

6/30/2020 9:48:13 AM

The council/mayor are such poor leaders. After 10 years in the city I've had it. I'm moving when my lease is up! I've never seen such idiocy. Minneapolis can deal with murder, homelessness, and your budget shortfall without any of my help. I'm boycotting Mpls! Not another cent from me. Mutual break-up here I'm sure. Good riddance Minneapolis, thanks for the good time and have fun sweeping up your ashes.

No cops! Lol! Peace out! 🖤

6/30/2020 9:48:16 AM

I support the amendment to remove the police department and establish a Community of Safety and Violence Prevention Department. I believe this will make our city safer for all.

Hello. My name is [REDACTED] I have been a resident of Minneapolis since I bought my home in January 2014. I grew up across the river in Saint Paul and have been born and raised in the Twin Cities. I love the Twin Cities. I am writing to urge the city - Charter Commission; City Council; Mayor; anyone else in a position of authority - to not take any further action supporting the abolishment or disbandment of the Minneapolis Police Department. I urge the Charter Commission to reject the initiative to amend the City Charter to remove the Police Department.

When I was 24 years old and was looking for a house to buy, and a place to establish myself, I was very excited when a property became available in South Minneapolis. Were I in the same position today, I would probably not purchase a home in Minneapolis knowing that there is a serious possibility of the city removing the police department. The city and the powers that be in the city need to reflect in earnest on what our city would look like without a police force. The City of Minneapolis will be far worse off without the Minneapolis Police Department. The unfortunate fact is that there will always be people in the city looking to commit crime. The citizens of Minneapolis need a robust, fully funded, well trained professional police department to check the threats and problems from criminal activity. Removing the police department will not remove these problems in our society, if anything, these problems will likely become exasperated with police removed from the equation. Throughout human history where ever people have lived together there has always been an apparatus for dealing with criminal activity, or behavior against the norms of society. All functioning societies have had mechanisms for dealing with those who break the law. The City has acted ignorant of thousands of years of recorded human history in thinking that the City can somehow create a new way of public safety that transcends the basic need of law enforcement. Thankfully in the 21st century there are now more humane ways of enforcing the law than some ways of the past. I do also fully acknowledge that there are problems with the Minneapolis Police Department. The presence of problems does not justify removing the police department all together. The department needs to be reformed, not removed. By turning away from the police we will be turning towards a system where lawlessness, crime, and anarchy are much more apt to thrive. That is a world that I believe is in not in anyone's interest for the future of the City of Minneapolis. I do support structural change to the existing Minneapolis Police Department to provide for better trained officers. I do not support the city moving to remove the requirement for our city to have police. I fully understand that I am only one voter, one voice. I feel it my responsibility to reach out and voice that it is inappropriate and a total disservice to the citizens of Minneapolis to potentially remove the requirement for the City to have a police department.

What I want to let the city know is that I will be voting no for any amendment to the city charter removing the requirement for police. If the city were to successfully pass this amendment, I will unfortunately likely be moving out of the the City of Minneapolis as well due to the lack of police in the city to maintain law and order.

I therefore urge all in positions of power in the City to take action to reform and fully fund the City of Minneapolis Police Department, and to stop wasting time and tax payer money over talk of abolishing the police. It is truly a disservice to all.

6/30/2020 9:48:24 AM

While I agree that a radical transition is required within the police force, I disagree that a rebranding of it would accomplish anything other than a 10 second national news clip to be used solely for political grandstanding and reelection. In fact, I would say it is avoiding the issue by shifting the narrative away from systemic racial injustice and onto an "Us versus them". A rose by any other name after all, is still a rose.

The remit of the police force is to Protect & Serve, I would suggest our counsel spend its time and money helping to figure out a way to do just that in a manner respectful to all citizens, including our black neighbors, as their lives matter as well.

6/30/2020 9:48:40 AM

I reach out to you today as a very concerned citizen - and home owner - from Northeast Minneapolis.

Like the entire city, I am shocked, angered, and appalled at the killing of George Floyd at the hands of the Minneapolis police department; however, I firmly believe the actions of a minority do not warrant disbanding of the entire Minneapolis police department.

Last week's city council vote worries me. Their vote to disband the police was a knee jerk reaction to a very vocal minority - or perhaps plurality - or citizens, without having a concrete plan as to what the next steps look like. This "ready, fire, aim" approach rarely works - and I'm afraid public safety will one of casualties.

Rather than putting a city charter amendment on the November 2020 ballot, I would like to see a public debate / discourse about deep and significant structural changes to the Minneapolis police department. Neighborhood discussions, similar to what was done by the park board as they solicited input on park proposals, would be hugely helpful and would allow members to hear directly from their constituents. Having a short "cooling off" period before those meetings would allow cooler heads to prevail and a more thoughtful discussion to occur.

I understand the urge - and necessity - to act. But this rush to action without a plan is not the way to do it. I cannot, in good faith, agree to a change as significant as disbanding the police without a detailed understanding of what will replace them.

Please, stand up to Councilwoman Bender - and the other members of the city council - and force a larger discussion about the future of policing in Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 9:49:57 AM

We need to reorganize the police department, not replace it. One of the first steps should be to get completely rid of the union. Without a union, you can then more easily respond to complaints against individual officers so that they can be disciplined and fired. If an officer uses excessive force, that should lead to dismissal, not repeated tolerance of that behavior. Also, the city needs to change the level of immunity these officers are given when a lawsuit is filed. It angers me, as a tax paying citizen, that I am paying for officers' bad behavior. They should be held legally and financially responsible.

6/30/2020 9:50:38 AM

Please do not approve the charter proposal as it is currently written. I believe that further study is needed before something this important is put before the voters. The current proposal is vague and smacks of a political power grab. A change this huge requires a specific proposal before changing the charter.

Thank you for allowing my input.

6/30/2020 9:50:41 AM

I think that you will find Police Officers in General are pretty Good at following directions and following Policy, Reform and tightening of regulations would be much better than doing away with and trying to rebuild something else. I will not be coming to Minneapolis if the Police

Dept is done away with for lack of feeling secure. I think you might find that such things as conventions will also stay away. Your decisions affect more than just those that are within the city limits. I also believe that in a short sentence, the idea that you have to be progressive to be successful is a pipe dream. You have to be fair, and Justice needs to be swift and sure, and that has not seen daylight in Minneapolis, or Minnesota for years.

6/30/2020 9:51:15 AM

I feel the proposed amendment is ridiculous! Leave the police department intact, the way is.

6/30/2020 9:51:20 AM

I have been a resident of Minneapolis up until a few months ago, and I would like to say that the Minneapolis police department has never made me feel safe. They never have their weapons fully holstered and tend to bring more violence into domination abuse situations, and their responses to the recent protests honestly just make me happier that I left.

6/30/2020 9:52:31 AM

I think the police department should stay in place!! Do not defund/disband them.... support them instead. They have a very hard job and need help. Weed out the bad officers, but keep the department.

6/30/2020 9:52:34 AM

Clearly the Minneapolis police department requires a reset when it comes to setting expectations for police behavior. Minneapolis needs to be safe for everyone and a successful police force is part of that goal.

If the police union insists on being able to put fired cops back on the force through arbitration, then the governor or the attorney general should be given the final opportunity to restrict whether a fired police officer can return to work.

The police union or pension should be partially or fully responsible for paying settlements against police officers who don't follow policy.

New police officers should be required to pass an aptitude test that includes psychological profiling.

Police officers should be required to have body cameras running at all times when interacting with the public. No exceptions. Failure to turn on body cameras should be subject to immediate dismissal.

Fired police officers should lose their pensions or at very least a significant portion of their pensions.

Policy reform should be subject to community review and approval.

Minneapolis/Minnesota should create a database of police officers with a grading system that is open to the public.

The police work for the people. Anything short of establishing that as that as the primary goal for the police force would be a failure of setting correct expectations.

Police officers should be provided the opportunity to increase their pay with a bonus system that is measured against a variety of achievable expectations. Failure to achieve minimum expectations should be grounds for dismissal. In corporate America this is called force ranking the value of the employees and its used to weed out bad employees every day.

And finally good police officers should be celebrated and held up as examples for other officers to follow.

6/30/2020 9:52:41 AM

I appreciate the Council's commitment to developing innovative approaches to safety that work for all Minneapolis residents. I do, however, share many folks' concerns about the lack of specifics regarding what a replacement for MPD might look like thus far. Given the gravity of the changes under consideration, I would need to see a detailed plan, developed over a significant period of time in collaboration with the community and vetted experts PRIOR to voting for a charter revision. I understand that this would mean investing a lot of folks' time and energy into a plan that might not ultimately come to pass, but I don't think it's fair to ask Minneapolis residents to vote for an alternative public safety model without knowing exactly what the proposed model entails. Clearly, the changes being considered have dire implications for Minneapolis residents, particularly for the less-privileged among us for whom relocating is not an option if things are implemented ineffectively. This is an extremely important and delicate undertaking, so please give it the time and attention it deserves.

6/30/2020 9:53:04 AM

Please move this forward. The Minneapolis police department is beyond reform and must be rebuilt from the ground up. The current police department does not protect or serve the community, they enforce their will and keep the community in fear. The Minneapolis community needs and deserves something better. This must be put on the ballot this fall.

6/30/2020 9:53:07 AM

Abolish the dirtbag criminals and people who cause problems. If you get killed by the police you probably deserve it.

6/30/2020 9:53:16 AM

DeFunding the Minneapolis Police Department

And abolishing them is the dumbest idea I've ever heard in my entire life

6/30/2020 9:54:00 AM

I have lived all of my life in South Minneapolis. Grew up on the 3800 block of 15th Avenue and raised my family on the 3700 block of 1st Avenue. All this to say I've been a long time resident, supporter and cheer leader in Minneapolis. For many years I have worked hard to improve the quality of life in my neighborhood and city. I have been disappointed for some time now with the focus and direction of city leadership. A cities strength is in it's residents. Residents who are diverse economically and racially. I grew up in a city with an incredibly mix of industry, jobs, rich, poor, races, immigrants and arts. This can no longer be said of Minneapolis. We have become poorer in so many ways, our middle class is hollowed out, and I am no longer as proud of my city as I once was. I do not accept our decline as the inevitable result of globalization. Plenty of other cities have done better and we should have too.

I don't want to be insulting, but I do not understand the reality the city council lives in. It does not seem to be mine. The police have been the only protection we've had over the years, helping and guarding against the many predators a declining city creates. I can't count the number of times my garage has been broken in to or spray painted with graffiti. That's my experience and my reality. I don't really like the police all that much but I fear much more a progressive alternative. Sorry to say the progressives haven't gotten all that much right since the civil rights movement of the 60s (which I was a part of and remember well).

My suggestion for city leadership is to stop working on easy silly, and in the long term mostly worthless initiatives (like bike paths). We have bigger problems than that. The more important (and harder) quality of life issues are simply jobs, education, drugs, mental illness, and the homeless. And top among those are job creation and public education. We cannot keep or attract middle class families without good jobs and a good education for children. So work on the hard important stuff and quit wasting time on the silly stuff like defund the police and other social experiments.

Be national leaders in actually finding real long term solutions, not just doing copy cat "flavor of the day" initiatives that only "kick the can down the road." We've wasted enough time on that already, and it's not working.

6/30/2020 9:54:05 AM

I am in favor of this amendment. This is an important amendment that would move the City in the right direction towards bringing a smarter, more appropriate response to public safety and enforcement situations, versus the current police department response which is clearly flawed with multiple issues..

6/30/2020 9:54:08 AM

I agree that changes in police training and other areas are needed. I am not comfortable, however, with disbanding our police force without other detailed plans for providing for safety and security are established and approved by key decision making bodies. I like the name of the proposed new department and what it signifies. We need to learn from St Paul and other cities that have made substantial changes to improve policing and implement proven/tested approaches. I think a root cause of problems now is the lack of meaningful gun control legislation in our country. When police must go into settings every day where their lives are at stake we are not setting them up for promoting safety and preventing harm, as they must always be on high alert against being killed.

6/30/2020 9:54:10 AM

If the city council goes through with this I will do my best to never step foot in Minneapolis again. I am a die-hard Vikings and Twins fan and usually attend multiple games each season, but I will never do that again if the police department is removed. I will also never attend any other events at either stadium, theater, or eat at any of the restaurants, nor will I stay in any hotel. While my job forces me to be in Bloomington, that is the closest I will EVER get to Minneapolis again. I would even contemplate moving my family out of the state

6/30/2020 9:54:46 AM

I am terrified for my 87 year old mother that lives N.E. She has lived there all her adult life, her church is there. Those are her reasons to stay. She is used to going out for a walk every day. She can no longer do that due to crime as it is today. I can't imagine without police what it will get like.

My clinic on Lake street is not re opening, I've gone there for over 30 years. I will now have to drive to Edina to see my Dr.. I'm lucky I can drive unlike most others I see in that clinic.

I take my mother out of Mpls to shop due to it being so unsafe now.

Please do not get rid of the police that protect! Increase the department and get a grip on the terrible crime that is already there.

6/30/2020 9:55:00 AM

This is absolutely ridiculous. If something happens, you call the police not some community group. This is going to turn out very badly letting people walk all over authority. People need a backbone and need to say NO this isn't happening.

6/30/2020 9:55:10 AM

DEFEND THE POLICE!!

DEFUND THE UNION!

Law Abiding TAX PAYERS should NOT be responsible for funding "private security" for those FAILED LEADERS ACTIONS! You choose to DEFUND POLICE and leave the Citizens unprotected, choosing to side with the Democratic funded BLM, Then you should live with the SAME lack of protection you ate leaving the LAW ABIDING TAXPAYERS! Those choosing to DEFUND POLICE are the same FAILED LEADERS that ALLOWED THE DESTRUCTION if the City! Taxpayers monies should be used to help the RESIDENTS and BUSINESSES affected by YOUR FAILED LEADERSHIP! NOT to PROTECT THEE, BUT NOT ME!! I SUPPORT POLICE! The Union was RESPONSIBLE for PREVENTING the firing of CRIMINALS WEARING BLUE, giving a BAD name, causing HARM, to the many HONORABLE Men, Women and Canine in Law Enforcement ! !

6/30/2020 9:55:21 AM

Being a very frequent visitor, and business property renter for years in Mpls I have a comment.

Your attempt to change the Charter is a knee jerk reaction to a series of events thst should have been handled much different by all concerns. Especially the non action by the CCofMPLS. And from your inability to perform you blame the police.

Most city council members have shown nothing but disdain for MPD. The council approved for union contracts to be signed.

Revenue to the city from sales tax has drastically decreased based on crime in the city and North loop area.

And now you wish to further that decline by less protection. Makes no sense

Let's first try and resolve all the crime that u have left get out of control by your community resolve.

Protect the city and residents, due your job.or leave the council.if u can't be effective

6/30/2020 9:55:34 AM

A strong police department is the foundation for a safe and orderly civil society. Social workers and peace officers will not have the authority to stop many law-breaking citizens. What we need is accountable police officers, made evident by the thousands of complaints about officers that have gone undisciplined over the years. We also need to diminish the power of the police union. Even so, officers (in their current state) provide a very valuable service to our city. Based on comments to national and local publications on this topic, changing the charter and giving the council broad authority to wipe this service out without a clear and specific plan is largely regarded as senseless. As it stands now, this seems like a grand plan to change the name of the department. No thanks. We pay a personally massively burdensome share of property taxes annually. As such, I expect to feel safe and be protected by capable, fast-responding, and authoritative police officers.

6/30/2020 9:55:59 AM

I would discourage the use of dismantling and defunding. That is a scary use of words that can destroy property values and livability. But I am open to a better system.

6/30/2020 9:56:12 AM

There is not enough information here for people to reasonably change the charter. Furthermore, the dismissive handling of 4020 plan makes it hard to believe the council listens to the city residents.

6/30/2020 9:56:18 AM

Being a very frequent visitor, and business property renter for years in Mpls I have a comment.

Your attempt to change the Charter is a knee jerk reaction to a series of events thst should have been handled much different by all concerns. Especially the non action by the CCofMPLS. And from your inability to perform you blame the police.

Most city council members have shown nothing but disdain for MPD. The council approved for union contracts to be signed.

Revenue to the city from sales tax has drastically decreased based on crime in the city and North loop area.

And now you wish to further that decline by less protection. Makes no sense

Let's first try and resolve all the crime that u have left get out of control by your community resolve.

Protect the city and residents, due your job.or leave the council.if u can't be effective

6/30/2020 9:56:23 AM

Your "plan" is foolhardy, rash, childish, and will lead to nothing good. This will only result in more crime, more businesses and residents leaving and MPLS looking more like Chicago or Detroit. Not to mention your vast hypocrisy by hiring for yourselves armed security while you hide from your votes. In addition you don't even have a plan in place once the police are disbanded. This is idiotic at best. Shameful.

6/30/2020 9:57:14 AM

In my opinion it is not a good idea to disband the police. Crime rate will increase. Security for public citizens, families and businesses will be gone. People will move to towns and cities that have police. Businesses will move out of town and Minneapolis will deteriorate. The history of policemen saving lives has been proven over the years. Having no police around will give criminals free reign.

6/30/2020 9:57:27 AM

I think it's a huge mistake to Defund the Police Department. Additional training should be provided to officers regarding approved techniques. Also, it's time to rid the department of 'bad apples.' When a case is brought to the court system, other police shouldn't be the ones to make the decisions regarding an officer's indictment/acquittal.

There are incidences when cops have to make split-second decisions. POLICE LIVES MATTER TOO!

6/30/2020 9:57:33 AM

KEEP the POLICE if you don't want a mass exodus of businesses & tax paying citizens. No one will visit the downtown area without police. The crimes have already begun to skyrocket out of control. The Minneapolis City Council think they deserve protection by private security but the citizens can go without any protection. Do the right thing for everyone & keep our hardworking Police force working!

6/30/2020 9:57:49 AM

I understand the council's response suggesting banning the police. There have been numerous attempts to change the police and bring more accountability. It is also clear that there are things that need to change and the level of frustration runs high and deep.

I do believe however the suggesting banning the police is very irresponsible and sends the wrong message. I also believe that if we were to disband the police it would be a disaster in terms of the rise of crime to all people groups. Many if not most of the police have served this city very well.

I would also say that I have had numerous interactions with police throughout the years as we are involved in active Street ministry in downtown Minneapolis and the surrounding regions. The police have been of great assistance and there have been a few instances what protection was needed. The actions in the behaviors that we witnessed of the police was appropriate, helpful and appreciated.

I believe then at least in part the strong police Union defending police officers when they are being disciplined should be strongly looked at. I truly believe that accountability is a must and the union should have little to no say over appropriate disciplinary action taken toward the police. There would also need to be accountability for this review board process. One suggestion would be to have a review board made up of citizens with the appropriate demographics of people living in the location of the police jurisdiction. Police should not be allowed to even develop a history of abuse. One offense should bring this to light with a second infraction leading to termination. I work in healthcare and one allegation of sexual misconduct or physical abuse if proven is enough to terminate a job and end a career.

Thank you for your consideration,

6/30/2020 9:58:01 AM

The police officer, Derek Chauvin, said no racist comments during the video of the act of him placing a knee on George Floyd's neck and back. If fact this police officer has had other accounts in the past where he has killed civilians. This officer should have been fired from his job long ago but the union stopped that from happening. My input is to get rid of the police union so that the hierarchy of the police department can do their job and get rid of bad police men and women when needed.

6/30/2020 9:58:16 AM

We need the police. Without them, many people will suffer from crimes and not have protection. Maybe do more community work and keep police. Don't get carried away and get rid of police because of a couple bad police. It will be a great mistake you'll be sorry you made. Violent crime will surely increase. You'll regret the decision.

6/30/2020 9:58:19 AM

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6/30/2020 9:58:21 AM

I disagree with the City Council's vote to dismantle the police department. Reform is one thing but abolishing the police dept is impulsive, ludicrous and a direct threat to me, my family and the safety of all Minneapolis residents! The City Council's vote to disband without a clear plan in place as to how to protect our community is reckless. What happens when the average citizen is threatened? Do you suggest we too hire private security at the rate of \$4500 a week? Who's going to eat those costs?

Right now the police have their hands tied because they aren't being allowed to do their jobs, therefore, shooting, robberies and the like have all risen. It's like the Wild, Wild West out there. Since May 25th, over 100 people have been shot. I have not heard a peep from the City Council about this spike in violence since their pledge to dismantle the police! Is this what our community is going to look like without police? I don't like it!!

I also dont agree with how the City Council is back dooring the MAYOR, taking away his Executive power to VETO with this CHARTER AMENDMENT because he disagrees with this asinine idea of dismantling the police department. There are clear rules in local government and the City Council is overstepping their boundaries. The City Council is not authorized to interfere with the administration of city government. Council members may not give orders to department heads or to other city employees, they are policy makers not the administrator! This Charter amendment gives the City Council way too much power that may cross over to other areas of the City Departments!! The City Council is trying to hijack the City by taking away the power of the Mayor and City residents! Just like they (City Council) are now, making us residents pay for their own private personal security, while we live without "security" of the police!

6/30/2020 9:58:52 AM

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6/30/2020 10:00:11 AM

I've lived in Minneapolis for almost 10yrs. I have loved being a part of it and building a small business that's thrived over the last 5yrs, which unfortunately was lost during our shut down. One of the many things that helped that shop be such a success was it's ability to bring folks together, regardless of race/creed/religion/sexual orientation/job.

I'm concerned that the city counsel is actually doing the exact opposite of what my little barbershop managed to do. It's causing great divide. It's short sided for the economy, and more so for its residents. Businesses don't want to drop their anchor in a city that's being ran on radical ideas. They will pack up and leave. The hot housing market will not be hot much longer. The very things that we have available in use and help folks out of poverty, will go away.

Defunding and abolishing a police dept in a major metro area like Minneapolis is like removing insulin from a diabetic and replacing it with essential oils.

I beg of our counsel to please listen to the overwhelming majority. We aren't racists. We love our city. We love our police officers, and are hurt with the pain the city has been in these last few months. It won't get better by removing a group dedicated to serving and protecting others.

Focus on building up our police. Supporting our communities doesn't mean you have to choose cops or civilians.

Be realistic in your approach.

You have a community of almost a million people that I guarantee you can ask for help from. I am one of those people.

6/30/2020 10:01:11 AM

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6/30/2020 10:01:23 AM

I'm against disbanding the police department. The proposal states they "may" have a group of armed officers, but I don't want "maybe". We need to have reform, build community programs, offer counselors and de-escalators for many situations, however there is always the danger of people who are under the influence carrying a weapon. Domestic abusers may attack a social worker, people who are just arguing may pull out a knife or a gun. We need tough laws protecting citizens from police abuse and profiling. We need to get rid of officers who can't treat everyone equally. We need to get Kroll out of the union. If the police disband and crime drastically increases, how long would it take to rebuild a police force? It would take years. Nobody would want to apply for the job after the city disbanded them. What would citizens do to stay safe in those years of rebuilding? There would be chaos.

6/30/2020 10:01:29 AM

The council needs to be much more clear about what these changes entail. We have no idea if you are abolishing the police department or just giving it a fancy name. People need to be able to call 911 in an emergency. It is not a privilege, a privilege is some of you councilors having private security protect you because you are afraid. There are areas in North Minneapolis where people are afraid that their homes will be broken into and they will be killed or robbed or raped. I know, I have lived there for 15 years. If you take away the police, you take away our protection. Then people will resort to taking the law into their own hands. Do you want to see people shooting each other in the streets? I think you do honestly. Democrats are dividing us more than ever. Trust me, disbanding the police will help no one, not innocent people, black people, white people, Asian people, etc. It will only bring chaos.

6/30/2020 10:01:41 AM

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6/30/2020 10:03:06 AM

This is the worst idea ever

6/30/2020 10:03:17 AM

I do not support the defunding of the Minneapolis police department. The amendment changes the requirement of a mandatory police force to an optional police force. I cannot imagine the flight out of the city if the council is successful in this fools errand. This will result in a replication of Detroit. I won't re-elect Steve Fletcher and will in fact, actively campaign against him. If you believe Minneapolis is safe enough to abandon the police department, give up your personal security detail. And Lisa Bender's public comment that she could see a future without police and we should call our friends and neighbors for defense; I will not protect anyone else's body or property from injury. If this becomes a reality, I predict there will be a lot of armed citizens involved in "shoot first ask questions later" situations. Not to mention the abandonment of the downtown businesses. This is the best way to erode the tax base and ruin the city. But I'm sure all of this will fall on deaf ears.

6/30/2020 10:03:44 AM

Reform yes. Dismantle no. Yes, get rid of the "bad" officers. It is ignorant and irresponsible to replace the Minneapolis Police Department with a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department. Add the department, sure. Reform yes. The immediate changes that have passed are good. The authority of a Police presence brings more comfort and security than it would be to see personnel in a Safety Prevention "uniform." It'll be a security guard without authority. More will happen with out of state and local "thugs" who think, "Yes, lets go to Minneapolis; no police there!" And, it's a fact not often mentioned blacks killing blacks, white killing white, etc. The City Council did not intelligently think this through and acted in haste to say dismantle without a parallel plan. For example, you don't run a new software program without running a simultaneous, parallel with the older program to work out the bugs. Preventive counseling and education won't singly fix human nature. It should be said, "Yes, we have a Minneapolis Police Department with ongoing changes and reform. We've added a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department to assist our proven, selfless, dedicated-to-upholding-the-law police officers. You are still safe." Ha, I won't visit Minneapolis functions for quite awhile under the current circumstances. Community is essential, but I'm not going to call my neighbor when I need assistance in a dire situation. I could say more; but bottom line it is wrong to dismantle MPD. Thanks.

6/30/2020 10:05:19 AM

The public needs a police force. It can be very similar to what we have but the mental health reform needs to be done for the police force on a regular basis. Screenings for issues and help given regularly. If any mental health issues are developing or aggression issues towards anyone on the job OR in personal life are found the officer is taken off the streets permanently. Without the force we will have a bigger gang problem and we can't handle what we already have developing. I have worked with children who have mental health issues. Yes they need to be treated as such. However that situation can change to a violent and aggressive situation on a dime and will need restraints to protect others and themselves. I don't live in MPLS. And I won't go there without a strong police presence. Businesses will suffer and crime and violence will creep.

6/30/2020 10:05:24 AM

If the MPD gets replaced by this so called Violence Prevention Dept. I will never or will my family ever step foot near Minneapolis again. This has got to be the most ridiculous idea I have ever heard. Has anyone on the city council ever been a police officer? Why is the council kneeling to the protesters? MPD needs change but replacement is not an option.

6/30/2020 10:05:27 AM

Please do not defund the Minneapolis Police Department. I understand the need for reform but removing them completely shows that we do not respect the good folks that work hard and I think risk losing those good officers and veteran officers. It potentially will leave Minneapolis with more inexperienced community safety officers in a really tough role that they may not be prepared for. Concerned resident!

6/30/2020 10:05:35 AM

We dine downtown several times a week. Based on the events that have taken place and the reaction and proposals being considered we will be spending our money in the suburbs.

6/30/2020 10:05:38 AM

Please do not defund the Minneapolis Police Department. I understand the need for reform but removing them completely shows that we do not respect the good folks that work hard and I think risk losing those good officers and veteran officers. It potentially will leave minneapolis with more inexperienced community safety officers in a really tough role that they may not be prepared for.  
Concerned resident!

6/30/2020 10:05:41 AM

I appreciate the spirit and intention behind the changes; however, I have concerns that changes are being suggested are reactionary/knee-jerk responses without sufficient input from the broader population of Minneapolis. Asking for online feedback limits input to those with access to technology and providing in person discussion forums during a typical work day with minimal notice on the specifics limits access by individuals with limited transportation, childcare, and flexible work arrangements. I would like to see considerably more in person efforts being made to get input so that ALL voices are heard - taking into consideration the various languages spoken by our community as well.

As to the specifics of the charter:

7.2 - renaming the police department - it's a start and directionally correct in my opinion

7.3 - I believe the mayor still should have power over the department - in my experience if everyone is in charge then nobody is in charge and accountability diminishes. We NEED accountability DESPERATELY

7.3a - I'd like to see the details behind "adequately fund" and how the department will "consistently engage" the public - see previous concerns about how voices in our community are consistently overlooked. I would also like to see details here about what types of public safety services are included.

7.4c- I appreciate the removal of the fire police; and would like to see what is proposed in place of that role being eliminated. We saw during the nights of violent protests that fire was a significant factor in public safety and many fires went unattended with average citizens banding together to limit the spread of the fires but without sufficient resources to do so

8.4.4 - I see the removal of the police chief in this section. If you are proposing in section 7.3 that the police chief is replaced by the Director of Law Enforcement Services Division, this section should continue to reflect that this role cannot go vacant for more than 30 days. I would suggest keeping the language of "or 30 days in the case of..." and adding "the Director of Law Enforcement Services." We simply cannot go an entire quarter without this critical role being occupied.

6/30/2020 10:06:01 AM

Please do NOT do away with the Minneapolis police.

I am long term resident of north Minneapolis. Every night there has been a shooting on the city's north side and the city council doesn't even seem to care. We, the tax payers, Are paying for their private security but that doesn't seem fair when residents no longer feel safe in their homes.

6/30/2020 10:06:15 AM

This is the most ridiculous , poorly thought out decision-ever. I would disband the entire city council.

6/30/2020 10:06:46 AM

I am reaching out today as a concerned citizen, Minneapolis resident and longtime Minnesotan. As the council and its proposed charter stands today, there is nowhere near the amount of detail, educated and research proposed reforms, and measurement of progress needed to make this a success. Toppling the status quo, for better or worse and rushing to put in place a half-baked set of actions is not progress and not what the city and it's leaders owe the residents.

I expect better of our council and politicians. There needs to be a dedicated group of individuals overseeing the gradual (not immediate) implementation of new tactics and measuring there initial and long-term effects. Furthermore placing the power to enact this upon highly emotional, easily skewed voters is reckless. We elected our leaders to lead, now is the time to do so.

6/30/2020 10:07:47 AM

Please don't disbanded or defund the Minneapolis police , not all of the police are bad . So many of them love the children and help show it's ok to like them

6/30/2020 10:08:23 AM

it is absolutely OBSURD to even consider disbanding the police department.

We just went through this a couple of years ago with Forest Lake.

The LARGEST city in the state NEEDS the police department .

As a citizen of Minnesota I am 100% AGAINST this idea..

6/30/2020 10:08:26 AM

City council needs to be audited. Disgraceful how CC has used tax payers money for private security, without proving proof via a police/sherriff/FBI report. The citizens have lived in constant fear for the past month as our city was looted, burned to the ground as the government enabled and encouraged the destruction. We can't even go the grocery store without the fear of getting shot, robbed or ran over. We need our police department but we're terrified to voice our needs out of fear of being killed

for expressing our support. I moved to Minneapolis because of the police department. It was the first time in my life that I felt safe, until politicians used them for their own political agenda in an election year.

6/30/2020 10:09:40 AM

I think it is a very bad idea to disband the police department. Who is going to protect the citizens from mentally unstable individuals that may be armed. Or from armed criminals that are intent on stealing from honest citizens. Bad idea.

Attached:

Friends and neighbors, please read what I am about to write.

George Floyd's murder is deplorable, and I pray justice is served. I think that, my husband thinks that. The world thinks that. I will continue to support the protesters and the community as it grieves. My heart breaks for his family, and I listened as they decried the violence that arose around the periphery of what was otherwise a powerful, peaceful demonstration that spanned multiple days and nights. They are incredible.

I would prefer to talk about nothing else other than that tragedy. I do not want to distract from what matters.

But the city council has apparently resolved to disband the MPD. And so I need to briefly address what that means.

I am sitting a few feet away from the plaque on the wall commemorating my husband's 2017 1<sup>st</sup>-precinct officer of the year award. He was given it for a demonstrated pattern of selfless and professional conduct, but in particular due to a specific call where he risked his life to save a woman who was being sexually assaulted downtown. He tackled and fought with her assailant. She crawled into the squad car and pleaded for help on the radio. My husband's coworkers assumed he was dead.

Not far from that plaque is the letter the victim wrote him afterwards, thanking him for what he did.

We were notified he was given this same award for 2019, and thus nominated for overall officer of the year. We would have found out if he was given that award at a ceremony that was postponed due to Covid-19, and now I presume forever.

That is fine. This year has been indelibly marred by a horrible killing. We don't need to give out awards. He would tell you that it's silly to give him an award because he works with people who save lives every night.

You wouldn't have heard about the call above or any other case like it, because it's a private matter for the victim. But also we can't count "lives saved," only lives lost. Most of my friends are completely unaware of the number of incidents every night—some routine, some life-and-death. Some of my friends are urging that Minneapolis defund or disband the police, online from their developed community in a suburb.

They wouldn't see that the overwhelming majority of the calls for help he responds to every night are from communities of color. And he goes because they are our neighbors and he wants to help them and protect them. Minneapolis itself is a community of color, and he works here because he loves

Minneapolis. If he wanted to collect a paycheck and kick up his feet, there are plenty of affluent suburbs in which he could do that.

That's every year. Every week. This past week has been extraordinary. He worked 105 hours last week. He came home with bleeding scrapes and bruises from rocks and moving debris. He had piss and molotov cocktails thrown at him. I waited up throughout the night worried that he would be the next officer killed in this country-wide violence.

So.

If you know us and think he is irredeemable and should be fired, I am asking you to tell me that now. Here or to my face. Don't hide behind a retweet or a hashtag.

If you think the MPD must be disbanded, you need to say that to your supposed friend and his family. Because that's what this means. MPD is not a faceless bogeyman, although if you are only looking in from a safe neighborhood or suburb, I understand why you might think that. MPD is people. Sons, daughters, husbands, wives, people of color, immigrants, indigenous people. People.

Like any organization, some officers are a disgrace and should be punished. We saw that in Derek Chauvin this past week. We know that there is systemic racism in *all* of our institutions—the legacy and wounds of slavery and segregation run deep. We need to expose and acknowledge the lingering poison of our history.

That poison, that systemic pain *is* real. But we are all part of that system. Every cop, every teacher, every government official. Me, you.

The way we move towards justice is by taking the hands of those within those organizations who want to do the right thing and by walking forward with them. Not by pointing fingers and saying “one bad apple spoils the bunch.” Were that true, we would have nothing at all in Minneapolis. No schools, no city council, no social services.

We need to implement reforms that work. We need to talk openly about the problems and make changes. We need to remove those officers who will not walk forward with us.

We must not make ourselves feel righteous by obliterating a group we see as outside ourselves. We need to think and be deliberate, not rash. Otherwise we will march into a future where affluent communities hire armed security forces, and our underserved communities burn to rubble. We've seen a glimpse of what that could look like.

I understand that I am coming to this from a biased place. My husband is a cop. But believe me when I say, if his time on the force ends, my life gets easier. My blood pressure goes down. We're both college-educated professionals, we'll be fine physically and financially. But his heart will break because he loves Minneapolis. He didn't get into this for money or power or fame.

And despite what makes the news, he is not alone. I know many others on the force just as dedicated and just as brave and just as honest as he is. Don't throw them away.

6/30/2020 10:09:44 AM

I oppose this amendment. I wrote a letter to my friends and neighbors, as my husband is an MPD officer, and we are residents of Minneapolis. I would ask the council to please review that letter in their consideration of this measure. Thank you.

6/30/2020 10:09:58 AM

I do not think this proposal is a remotely good decision!

6/30/2020 10:10:27 AM

I think it is a very bad idea to disband the police department. Who is going to protect the citizens from mentally unstable individuals that may be armed. Or from armed criminals that are intent on stealing from honest citizens. Bad idea.

6/30/2020 10:11:01 AM

start with trying to reform the police department before you decide to remove it

6/30/2020 10:11:33 AM

City Council -

The Minneapolis Police Department without question requires massive reform. It has repeatedly failed in its most basic duty to serve and protect.

As the City Council is also now failing in its most basic duties to provide leadership and direction to Minneapolis.

Your collective actions and inactions recently have been an embarrassment to yourselves and the city. My political views are left of center and I vote primarily Democratic, I own property and pay taxes in Minneapolis, and I find this proposal to be ill-considered, juvenile and dangerous. This is the time for actual leadership, not pandering.

I strenuously DO NOT SUPPORT this proposal and will actively work against it.

6/30/2020 10:12:02 AM

I totally support this idea. I participated in a webinar last night on abolition presented by Standing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ). Simply "reforming" the police does not make anyone safer! Take the money we "invest" in more police, more tasers, more weapons, more training (which doesn't seem to work) and put it into areas of the City that need it! More after school programs, park programs, youth mental health services. We under-resource poor communities and then think policing is going to solve that?

After everything that has transpired with police killing of black people across the country, the police are the LAST resort that I will call for anything I see or witness until we have more resources!

6/30/2020 10:12:37 AM

Before you put this on the ballot can you give specifics of what your changes entail. I would like to see an end to drug dealing, public drunkenness and prostitution in my area. It has been prevalent for years with officers driving past and doing nothing. How can we be assured that these crimes along with assaults and other major crimes will not increase and make the lake street area even more unsafe?

6/30/2020 10:12:43 AM

Although I live in Bloomington, I lived in South Minneapolis for 40 years and still work for a church that is 3 blocks from the 3rd Precinct police station. Many of our members are minority members of the community near there. Instead of defunding the police, we need to give them MORE funds so they can continue to protect us and also create more community involvement programs to connect with them. There is not any organization that does not have some bad people, including the church, but to dismantle a vital service like that to cater to the loud voices of a few violent people who don't even represent the community is a very short-sighted and disgraceful disservice to the community at large. Why don't you consider supporting the good instead of catering to the bad?

6/30/2020 10:12:58 AM

I am disappointed with the lack of wisdom and discernment the Minneapolis City Council members are showing in this quick act to defund and/or abolish the police department. It appears that decisions are being made without any feedback or communication with the people living in this city. It also appears that there is hardly a plan for what is to take the place of the police. We live right in the thick of all that has been happening. I feel that this Powderhorn neighborhood has been either completely abandoned or severely unsupported by any form of law enforcement. How is anyone to feel safe if there are no consequences for harming people or property in this neighborhood? You are elected officials. You are the leaders here. It is your responsibility to come up with a real plan to keep order and build this community.

6/30/2020 10:13:06 AM

What's the actual plan for a Division of Law Enforcement Services? It's absurd to think that elected officials are calling on the public to disband/defund a major metropolitan area's police department, and not have a feasible, written, clear cut plan in place.

1. Number of POST licensed, sworn peace officers
2. Number/qualifications/on-call/available status of crisis/mental health emergency responders
3. A definitive action plan
4. What is the plan to coordinate with medical emergencies in a possibly dangerous, unsafe area. See "scene safety" as defined through the NREMT (National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians)

Since none of this is even mentioned in the proposed charter amendment, or any other conversations coming out of City hall, I would most certainly vote "no" to defund MPD.

6/30/2020 10:13:12 AM

While I'm all for directing my tax dollars to social service entities that work to solve problems specific to the spectrum of issues within our city NOT related to violent threats or issues (as opposed to the police being called for everything), I would like to know specifically 1.) what these new entities are/will be 2.) how will those entities, as well as the "Division of Law Enforcement Services" be managed, and by whom 3.) and most importantly what types of procedures will be in place in order to avoid the same problems the Minneapolis Police Department currently struggles with as it relates to the shooting of unarmed citizens and police bias?

In regard to the "Division of Law Enforcement Services" - I hope change is not limited to changing the usage of the word "police" to "Division of Law Enforcement Services". If that is the case, it seems like nothing more than a political gesture lacking sincerity. Some might even call it pandering. How will you work to make sure that organization doesn't repeat the same problems as the current set up?

What will become of current police employees? In addition to them being employees, some of them are also your constituents and residents of the City of Minneapolis. If they are laid off, what benefits are they due? What types of binding contracts with the police union are there, if any? Will this change subject the City (and its taxpayers) to lengthy and expensive lawsuits.

6/30/2020 10:13:15 AM

I recognize that I live in a relatively "quieter" part of minneapolis and as a white woman, don't have the same experiences or discrimination that my black neighbors may face on a daily basis. I am interested to see what this new "public safety" crew could look like. I agree with having money funneled towards other mental health or social worker departments. There have been times I've refrained from using 911 because it felt like too much, but it was after hours and 311 sometimes seems like a joke. Why does it take 25 neighbors posting daily on 311s website to get a dangerous pothole filled or someone to come talk to a neighbors shooting off illegal fireworks daily? I wish there was someone else to call in those less emergent cases. I think there is a lot of fearing around "defunding police" right now because people don't quite understand what the violent emergency response team would look like. The problem in the city to me has been the immunity police officers feel because of the union and lack of accountability. I do believe we have good officers therefor this mentality of FTP is something I cannot say. And I also believe that my Black neighbors and friends' Lives Matter! They have seen and felt terrible oppression at the hands of the police, school issues, and housing problems. We're talking primarily about police now though. In my perfect little world, we would have a department that can have unarmed officers/peace keepers that could respond quickly to less dangerous calls AND officers that are armed to respond to violent emergency calls. But 100% accountability just like with any other job! I recognize that their job is more dangerous, but they still must be held accountable. I'm worried that if we don't have officers patrolling the streets, that more crime will continue/increase because people can get away with more. But I also don't want my bipoc neighbors to feel fear at armed officers patrolling/being a presence. I seriously think this can largely be fixed with true accountability measures. I think officers should be required to meet the people they serve. I'm open to this new "force" but I'm also hesitant to completely reinvent the wheel in my own backyard. Other US cities have NOT done it successfully. Pushing the power and responsibility to state/county officers doesn't actually fix the problem. It just shifts the blame. Don't shift the blame/responsibility. Make officers take responsibility. Give police or this new force way more training with mental health scenarios. More support for their own trauma. Fewer weapons. I could say more, but I think I've already droned on long enough.

6/30/2020 10:13:31 AM

All I am seeing in this proposed amendment is some name changes. I do not see any reference to numbers of the law enforcement division- licensing- governing body- funding etc. the precious charted describes all of that. In addition why would we want someone without law enforcement experience? Does this mean they can't have LE experience or just that they also need additional experience. I feel this change is short sighted and ill thought out. I will vote no.

6/30/2020 10:14:51 AM

Reducing funds for the police department is fine, if you abolish them and think citizens will self-police, you're not thinking right.

6/30/2020 10:14:54 AM

If you are putting it on the ballot you need to have actual plan in place so people know what they are voting for. Are you having police officers and just putting a different name for them? How about murder investigations? If people from suburbs work in Minneapolis and are victims of a crime can they call 911? What are peoples recourse for all types of crimes? Do they call 911 still and they will be forwarded to different departments? I think there are a lot of issues that need to be explained to the public before putting on the ballot.

6/30/2020 10:15:11 AM

I work downtown and will be looking for employment elsewhere if you dismantle the police. You yourselves have private security protecting you but plan to take the police presence away from the average person? The police help with traffic downtown, crime, shootings, etc. Maybe you're unaware but we have a crisis response for Hennepin county already. Maybe promote that more for crisis calls. The police also have resource workers to help with domestic violence and crime victims. This was newly created to meet community needs. It seems you are trying to punish an entire organization, and citizens, for a horrible crime of a few. Shame on you.

6/30/2020 10:15:16 AM

I do not see the need nor do I want to the Police Department disbanded. Let's make it better, not start over. I could give many suggestions, but let me focus on just one, residency. I had a policeman live in the apartment complex behind me for a few years. Crime in our neighborhood went down to almost none when he lived and often parked his vehicle there. On the other hand, I spoke with a young, single police officer at our block party who lived in Woodbury, and I asked him why, and he said in so many words, that he wanted to live somewhere safer. That is the wrong attitude and he should be made to understand why Minneapolis is a wonderful place to live, else leave the force.

Add a Residency Clause to the Police Force Charter:

The police chief and higher ranking officers must live somewhere within the borders of Minneapolis, just like the mayor and city council do. Those who currently do not will be grandfathered in. Then create

incentives for the rest of the officers to live in the city: a) offer partial housing stipends to encourage residency. We will save the money in lawsuits in the long run. b) make promotions take into account whether the officer lives in the city or not. All things being equal, promote the officer who shows their dedication to the job by living in the city.

6/30/2020 10:15:34 AM

I would prefer keeping the Police Department and changing necessary practices. I like going to Uptown and Downtown. I just feel our Police are the answer to our safety.

6/30/2020 10:16:40 AM

I grew up in Minneapolis and had a great childhood and enjoyed the city and what it had to offer. I no longer live in Minneapolis at this time. In the past, I would attend sporting and concert events in MPLS. In recent years, I have been hesitant to attend the same events because of the concern for my and my family's safety in Minneapolis. I'm not sure how defunding the police force will help solve my safety concerns but I hope that it does so I can enjoy many things I enjoy about Minneapolis. Good luck and God speed.

6/30/2020 10:16:49 AM

Members of the Minneapolis City Council,

I support the proposed charter amendment to replace the Minneapolis Police Department to establish a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department.

Years of unfair treatment and several high-profile killings of unarmed black people have shown the MPD and other urban police departments to be instruments, intentional or not, of white supremacy.

The MPD's violent response to largely community unrest following the murder of George Floyd by its officers has laid bare a thinly veiled disdain and fear held by members of the department for the citizens of Minneapolis. The MPD spent roughly 10 days rioting in the streets of multiple neighborhoods with the acquiescence of the Minneapolis mayor and the governor. During this time they, in many well-documented cases, violated the rights of protestors, incited conflicts and did not attempt to de-escalate them, did not offer aid to bystanders or nonviolent protestors injured by their extreme tactics, and even attacked people attempting to offer medical help to the injured (which would be a war crime, if this were a war--many officers seemed to think it was). This disdain crosses racial boundaries and may be related to tension created by the distance between the most widely held political views of police department members and the most widely held political views of the people protesting in the city. Even if returning to the status quo were desirable, I don't believe it is possible after all that has happened in the last month. The existing Minneapolis Police Department, of which 92% of officers do not reside in Minneapolis, does not belong in this community; in fact, they are actively hurting the community with their presence.

In replacing the police department, I think it would go too far to entirely bar the involvement of former officers in the new department(s) that will take its place. However, I do not think it would be going too far to say that MPD officers who do not live in the city should be involved in the replacement;

they should find something to do in their own communities, or if they must work in Minneapolis, they should find a position that does not require a sensitive understanding of this community. I also do not think MPD officers, whether they live here or not, should be allowed to hold prominent leadership roles in the new department(s); they could be rank-and-file, but they should not be heavily dictating the new direction we head in.

Thank you for your time and consideration

6/30/2020 10:18:56 AM

I am 100% against the city council's proposal to amend the city charter and will vote accordingly in November if this is added to the ballot.

6/30/2020 10:19:38 AM

I think the Minneapolis city council needs to calm down and not take such radical and UNPROVEN steps with defunding the Police Dept. The rhetoric coming from the council is dangerous and your plan is not even detailed to any level sufficient to propose such a measure so your comments and steps are irresponsible and premature at best to say the least. It is not lost on the public that this situation happened on your watch and evolved during your tenure. You have sat by and approved settlements for the department for years and were knowledgeable that a problem existed. Your attempts at defunding appear to be your ducking your role and responsibility for the current situation.

What you do in Minneapolis will affect every community surrounding Minneapolis boarders too and must have neighboring community approval and support. You may be appeasing some member voices in your community, but I doubt you will be able to get majority voter support for such revolutionary ideas when evolution of department policy and legal/judicial system is all that is needed.

6/30/2020 10:19:41 AM

Hopefully the amendment to the charter regarding disbanding the MPD will not pass. Changes can be made without doing this. There are many good officers in the MPD...not all are like Chauvin and the other 3.

This amendment change would give the council way too much power and this is not what they were elected for. In my opinion they are clearly too enamored with their positions. Once the charter is changed (hopefully it won't be) it will be very difficult to do a re-do at some other point!

DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN!

6/30/2020 10:19:44 AM

Being a very frequent visitor, and business property renter for years in Mpls I have a comment.

Your attempt to change the Charter is a knee jerk reaction to a series of events thst should have been handled much different by all concerns. Especially the non action by the CCofMPLS. And from your inability to perform you blame the police.

Most city council members have shown nothing but disdain for MPD. The council approved for union contracts to be signed.

Revenue to the city from sales tax has drastically decreased based on crime in the city and North loop area.

And now you wish to further that decline by less protection. Makes no sense

Let's first try and resolve all the crime that u have left get out of control by your community resolve.

Protect the city and residents, due your job.or leave the council.if u can't be effective

6/30/2020 10:19:52 AM

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6/30/2020 10:20:05 AM

This proposal has no concrete plan for how it would work, what the Safety and Violence prevention department would entail. How would it be different than the police? This is clearly a knee jerk emotional reaction, and honestly quite a lazy and low effort one at that. Policing is a fundamental function of government, throwing that out and with a solution that has no proven track record or plan is a recipe for disaster. A much better solution would be to de-unionize the police to allow for better control over the staffing and conduct by the city; and make the chief of police an elected position and have more accountability and control over the conduct of the police dept.

6/30/2020 10:20:12 AM

While I do believe we need deep structural change to the MPD, I do not support this amendment. It is not well thought through, there is no plan for how to replace the MPD and it is being rushed in the challenges of the moment. Voices of those most negatively impacted - people of color - need to be thoughtfully listened to, and that has not occurred. Please slow this process down. If it makes sense, it can be on the Nov 2021 ballot when there is a solid plan for how to proceed with these major changes. Meanwhile, systemic racism runs much deeper than the MPD.

6/30/2020 10:20:18 AM

Absolutely need police. How about spending on new officers who are trained correctly and get rid of officers who have more than 1 or 2 complaints against them. Incentive do police correctly or lose your job.

6/30/2020 10:20:50 AM

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6/30/2020 10:21:06 AM

I am an ER RN. Social workers and mental health workers work in control environments Dealing with mental health issues outside that environment endangers their lives. Trust me things can go bad quickly and unexpectedly Your ideas are good supporting the police. But won't replace their job. Take the time to walk projects at night and day. Confront gang members and drug dealers. Confront a disturbed alcoholic or homeless man with mental health issues they carry knives guns Patrol with the police. Scary stressful job Their are bad cops just like bad nurses No protest to stop young black gang members killing raping stealing. No protest against white and brown gang members doing the same. No protest against drug dealers. There will always be evil You can't stop it. But police can protect us from it. Take them away the evil will prevail. When the middle and upper class leave your city who will pay the taxes to pay for your programs. The poor left behind can't. They will be hiding from the evil so will the social workers

6/30/2020 10:21:14 AM

I am for this charter amendment, and hope to see it on the ballot in November. Please allow the people to have a say.

6/30/2020 10:21:16 AM

Yay! With no police, I can start making and selling machine guns in my garage! This is going to be awesome!

6/30/2020 10:21:19 AM

Being a very frequent visitor, and business property renter for years in Mpls I have a comment.

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6/30/2020 10:21:22 AM

I no longer feel safe in the city. I will spend my money at other stabile locations and give them my business. it makes me sad to know there will be no police protection. What good will come of that?

6/30/2020 10:21:26 AM

Do NOT disband the MPD!!! I am furious with our city council members for suggesting this and attempting to move the idea forward. They are clueless!

And on top of it - we, the residents of Minneapolis, are paying for THEIR PRIVATE SECURITY 

6/30/2020 10:21:46 AM

I support police reform. Get rid of the rouge officers who give the whole dept. a bad reputation among the public they are to support. Get rid of Kroll - he is fueling bigotry and white supremacy within the ranks. Ours is a very diverse city and this mindset is destructive and must be stopped.

6/30/2020 10:22:20 AM

Safer, I go in all the time.

6/30/2020 10:23:33 AM

Hello,

With the already huge increase in gun violence in Minneapolis in the last month and rise in general crime, my company is considering leaving the city already. If the city does disband the police, my company said they will guarantee that the company moves out of Minneapolis to ensure the safety of the employees. This would mean all the money spent on rent for our offices, parking, client entertainment, employees buying lunch, etc., will all be going away from Minneapolis and taken to a city that has police to help ensure the safety of the employees.

I did also hear from multiple other companies in our building that are planning to do the same because their employees are frightened to even come to Minneapolis already. All the dollars going to Minneapolis would be lost from these companies as well if they were to leave due to the police being disbanded and raise of crime.

This should be something to consider when looking to take away the safety for all these companies and all of their clients that come to Minneapolis. Everyone already sees the huge increase in crime with the current police and everyone is saying that if the police are gone, they know it will be worse and all the companies I have spoken with, guaranteed they will be leaving the city. With the national news about over 118 people shot in the last month, all of our clients are already refusing to come to our office because they fear the violence is already to high to bring their employees into the city.

I hope this helps.

6/30/2020 10:24:04 AM

WE have a police dept trained to do a varity forms of problems. They take the most serious problems first then on to other issues. To eliminate this dept is not in the best interest of the citizens. Business leaving the city by the droves. Loosing a tax base now will have to be shifted to the homeowners who have a high enough taxes to deal with. I know that if this charter change goes through I will be looking to move to a suburb location that I will be more safe and affordable . Downtown Mpls will look like a ghost town like Detroit and other crime ridden citys.

6/30/2020 10:24:16 AM

Nice euphemism: "Safety and Violence Prevention Department." So much for safety and violence prevention. Since when is calling the police when our property is being violated by break-ins in the middle of the night is a "privilege?" According to Linda Becker it is. She and the rest of the council pander to the worst ideologues in our community--or perhaps they are the worst ideologues. Safety and security is a right, not a privilege. This is madness. We're are going to become a hybrid of the worst of Detroit and Seattle when the city council is through with its crazy social experiment. I'm sure the council will never take ownership of the certain failure this will become, but simply move on to the next city to ruin as the criminals remain to enjoy their newfound free reign in this declining dystopia.

6/30/2020 10:24:26 AM

I object to the proposed amendment you are trying to pass. You take care of your own, but not us. The election is coming up.

6/30/2020 10:24:32 AM

I am 70 years old and have lived most of my life here in MPLS and suburbs. We do need a Police Force for protection and control in our city. That cannot be removed. In turn, the policing must be controlled based upon the situation. Our Black families and people are not the problem though forced to disrespect due to their living situations. Right now they are finally acting/speaking out about how they and other minorities are being treated by the police. Respect all people, be cautious based on situations, but DO NOT KILL SOMEONE YOU ALREADY HAVE IN CUFFS!!

6/30/2020 10:25:25 AM

As a paramedic working in Minneapolis and its surrounding suburbs I am at a loss as to why the city council would want to disband the MPLS PD. The officers work tirelessly to ensure safety and uphold the law for all of the citizens and visitors to this city. Cutting an already deprecated police force is dangerous, well over half of your calls in Minneapolis are dealing with intoxicated or overdosing individuals, law enforcement is there to ensure the safety of the EMS crews but also to protect patients from themselves.

I urge you to reconsider this decision, invest in de escalation training for law enforcement, and encourage the officers to get rid of their bad co workers by supporting them.

6/30/2020 10:26:17 AM

The Minneapolis police department requires changes when setting expectations for police behavior. Minneapolis needs to be safe for everyone and a successful police force is part of that goal.

A big change I feel is necessary is that officers should have to carry personal liability insurance such as doctors have to carry malpractice insurance. They may not act as police officers without this insurance in place. When they misbehave (such as excessive use of force), their insurance pays for this. If they have too many misdeeds, they become uninsurable and thus unemployable.

If the police union insists on being able to put fired cops back on the force through arbitration, then the governor or the attorney general should be given the final opportunity to restrict whether a fired police officer can return to work. (Again, if they can't get personal liability insurance due to these acts that initially resulted in firing, they can NOT return to duty).

The officer's pension should be partially or fully responsible for paying settlements against police officers for offenses not covered by their personal liability insurance. This would help to reinforce that their actions outside of allowable actions have significant consequences. Their actions will impact their livelihoods and futures. Fired police officers should lose their pensions or at very least a significant portion of their pensions

New police officers should be required to pass an aptitude test that includes psychological profiling. Look at other countries who require significantly more training. They have significantly fewer issues to the degree of our police force. Let's increase training in ALL of these areas.

Police officers should be required to have body cameras running at all times when interacting with the public. No exceptions. Failure to turn on body cameras should be subject to immediate dismissal.

Minneapolis/Minnesota should create a database of police officers with a grading system that is open to the public. High performing police officers should be celebrated and held up as examples for other officers to follow. Police officers should be provided the opportunity to increase their pay with a bonus system that is measured against a variety of achievable expectations. Failure to achieve minimum expectations should be grounds for dismissal.

Policy reform should be subject to community review and approval. Law enforcement officers work for the people. Anything short of establishing that as that as the primary goal for the police force would be a failure of setting correct expectations.

6/30/2020 10:26:48 AM

I will firstly state that I am NOT for the de-funding or abolishment of the Minneapolis Police Force.

The police are in place to protect the people and the businesses of the city in which they reside. A city without the police force is a call to all criminals to take advantage of the situation and manipulate and exploit the city and its citizens, and place them in harms way. You cannot trust people to be inherently "good" in order to reduce crime, this is a fallacy. You can already see this violence occurring, and increasing around all of Minneapolis. With the report of 1600 gunfire and tens of shootings reported over the past 30 days, it is a sign that police need to be in our communities to protect its citizens.

Police are here to maintain peace and handle multitude of situations in a moments notice before incidents become dangerous. Relying on "Community Safety" or social workers to diffuse potentially dangerous situations safely and quickly without force is a pipe dream. Sometimes the use of force is the only way to subdue criminals before they can cause great harm to others.

What I am I supposed to do if some one enters my home when the police no longer exist? Hope a social worker or safety officer politely asks them to leave? It just doesn't work. Citizens will soon be asked to take measures int their own hands in these type of situations, and in turn result in even more unnecessary blood shed.

6/30/2020 10:26:51 AM

I believe this is positive and transformative legislation. Thank you for hearing the people throughout the metropolitan area that are calling for leadership and decision making on the issue of elevating community policing to refocus on community safety and violence prevention.

6/30/2020 10:26:53 AM

IF THE CITY COUNCIL IS GOING TO DEFUND THE MINNEAPOLIS POLICE, THEN THEY SHOULD NOT HAVE THEIR OWN PRIVATE SECURITY, FUNDED BY THE TAXPAYERS! THIS IS WRONG. THEY ARE HYPOCRITES. I AM NOT IN FAVOR OF ELIMINATING THE POLICE. ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY OF SAFETY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION DEPARTMENT IS NOT GOING TO WORK. IT IS UNREALISTIC THAT SOCIAL WORKERS AND PEACEMAKERS ARE GOING TO DEAL WITH CRIMINALS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ISSUES. THE MINNEAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL IS AN EMBARRASSMENT.

6/30/2020 10:26:59 AM

I do not support the City Counsel's proposal on changing the city charter. They should be working with Chief Arradondo to implement improvements to the MPD. He has the experience and expertise to help move our department forward. The Counsel should be more focused on finding solutions to a broken Police Union which needs to be addressed in concert with whatever support the Chief needs.

6/30/2020 10:27:17 AM

Do not disband the police in Mpls. Live out in your own lives in the way that you promote for other Mpls residents to do! Stop using tax dollars for paying for Mpls City Council's security (per Mpls Star Tribune: \$63,000 for 3 weeks). If you are going to disband the police department-then pay for your own security expense just like what you expect the Mpls residents to do. We are not interested in Sharia law or Antifa to rule any city in the state of Minnesota. Out of state friends/relatives have no desire to come to Mpls for any events if the Mpls police are disband. Say what you mean and stop being vague with your wording! I agree changes need to be made. Anytime something as important as this is RUSHED-something isn't right. Please do what is right for the city of Mpls and the state of Minnesota.

6/30/2020 10:27:48 AM

I support the charter amendment as it appropriately redefines law enforcement as community safety and violence prevention activities with impact on community health and well-being.

However, I have two concerns:

1. The amendment does not specify how the Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department will be funded. 7.3(a) specifies that the City Council "adequately fund" the Department, but this leaves the funding open to the whim of City Council members. 7.3(c) which is proposed to be stricken could be re-written to specify the approach to funding and staffing the proposed Department.
2. Section 7.3(b) outlines that the City Council may maintain a division of law enforcement services, composed of licensed peace officers. My opinion is that the language should say "must maintain", making it a requirement for the city to have law enforcement services, regardless of calling it police force or any other name. I think by making law enforcement completely optional, the amendment goes too far, making it also possible to have zero public protection of our persons and enforcement of our laws when needed, which could be detrimental to our constitutional rights.

6/30/2020 10:28:19 AM

Please de-fund the police and set up a Safety & Violence Prevention Dept. We need more oversight and training for police officers in the City of Minneapolis. We need a community force to assist people, rather than scare and hurt citizens, especially black people and people of color. We need a system that breaks down systemic racism and narcissism within the police force and city leaders as well.

6/30/2020 10:28:25 AM

The grisly work of the Police Department cannot be replaced unless you magically eliminate the ugly side of life. From car crashes, assaults, suicide attempts, burglaries, rapes, murders, domestic abuse, and a range of other traumatic events, only the properly trained and vetted police officer has the stamina and mental toughness to do his/her job effectively.

The biggest problems are insufficient training and inadequate background checks for new police officers. If our police officers are thoroughly trained in all aspects of non-fatal apprehension, mental health, and cultural diversity and if detailed background checks are conducted for new hires, I guarantee you that incidents like the George Floyd incident will not occur. There is ample research which supports my recommendations.

6/30/2020 10:29:02 AM

Nice euphemism: "Safety and Violence Prevention Department." So much for safety and violence prevention. Since when is calling the police when our property is being violated by break-ins in the middle of the night a "privilege?" According to Linda Bender it is. She and the rest of the council pander to the worst ideologues in our community--or perhaps they are the worst ideologues. Safety and security is a right, not a privilege. This is madness. We're going to become a hybrid of the worst of Detroit and Seattle when the city council is through with its crazy social experiment. I'm sure the council will never take ownership of the certain failure this will become, but simply move on to the next city to ruin as the criminals remain to enjoy their newfound free reign in this declining dystopia.

6/30/2020 10:29:37 AM

Minneapolis has a history of violence, especially deadly violence. If you choose to disband the police, citizens like myself won't feel safe in the city. Eventually the city will lose money because people will take their business elsewhere due to safety concerns for themselves and their family. This effect will force businesses to close and move out of the cities, and will eventually trickle down and affect youth programs. Example: Minneapolis continues to have violence in the city on a daily basis.

Minneapolis police reform should take place instead of disbanding the police. Mental health is a big issue for both citizens and police officers who deal with crime or commit crime on a daily basis. When a police officer performs his job day in and day out, he loses the ability to rationalize situations without bias. When a perpetrator is on the ground, choke holds or knees on the neck should not be used. The ability to reprimand bad police officers with the support of their union is necessary. Mandatory testing before hiring a police officer to find out if he/she has traits that may lead to violence. Training for officers on mental health situations and domestic and social violence on a weekly basis. If the officer has all the information they require and a mentally ill or drunk person runs from them don't shoot them in

the back (shoot in a leg or don't shoot at all), pick them up later but call in the crime. Don't have high speed chases in which some innocent person could be killed, get the license number or call in for backup. Hire social workers who deal with mental health and social issues as partners for police officers, but make sure they have firearms training and a concealed weapon to use in case of an emergency. Example: Three council members need security because of threats that are being paid with taxpayer money. What hypocrites.

6/30/2020 10:30:04 AM

I was once a young woman attending Hamline University in St. Paul., cocktail waitress on 1st Ave, downtown Minneapolis, and occupied a studio apartment in Uptown Minneapolis (where a group of 12 people were just shot at). I would not go near the metro now. Not by myself and certainly not with my family. The absence of police scares me more than the possibility of contracting covid-19 to the point where I'm uncertain if I would go to the airport. I certainly would not leave my vehicle there because I just plan on riots on this current day. This is not ok. I want to feel safe in my state, and in my country. I do not feel safe. Bring our police back. Call the military if that is what is needed. Do YOUR job. I get paid to do MINE. YOU do YOURS, because you are failing right now!!!

6/30/2020 10:30:24 AM

Removing the Police Department is too much. For the first time in 10 years of living in the city we are afraid for the future if the department is removed and questioning whether to stay or sell now, along with multiples of our neighbors. The Department needs much more clear guidelines on what to do in most situations, with actions to be held accountable if officers are not following those specific rules.

The police are needed, but need better direction, not removal. They also need to be able to call in for help with mental stability issues outside of what a peace officer is charged to do and in other situations.

Get the police help so they can avoid situations taking them out of their specified duties, discipline the outliers and on conformers publicly, and remove the umbrella safety net of the Police Union arbitrators.

6/30/2020 10:30:39 AM

As a homeowner, local business owner and long standing resident of Minneapolis, I am appalled at the egregious disgrace this city has put upon itself. Disbanding the police, defunding, or any half-cocked jump to appease these ludacris requests, is both short sighted and will cause ripples through our local economy. Forcing businesses and investments to fade away, homeowners will abandon the city life in search of stability, protection and enforcement of law!

I am sickened to know that the city I have so loved and supported will no longer have the appeal, excitement and attraction it once did. I do not feel safe on our streets, I do not feel safe in my home, I do not feel safe traveling, conducting business, shopping or walking my dog. What will the city do to protect my freedoms, my liberty, MY CITY?!

If the charter vote is listed on the November ballot, you can guarantee, my vote, my neighbors' vote, and the city of Minneapolis will wholeheartedly vote a resounding NO to the disbanding, defunding, reformation or reform to the existing MPD as we know it. You have not protected my freedoms, you

have not provided businesses, investments, homeowners or residents of our City a single reassuring effort to protect lives and our community.

6/30/2020 10:30:48 AM

I think you are beginning a good plan for change. I think to get the support you need more of the details need to put forward. Most people don't understand what defunding the police looks like and are scared. Give plans and options. Your saying data based best practices will be used. Please give examples. I know this needs to change and I want this to change. The council needs to give more of a foundation of where they will go. Also the the name is too long Public Safety and Betterment Department might be better.

6/30/2020 10:31:43 AM

Everyone needs to read this article which was in the Washington Post on how police officers spend their time. Perspective | Five myths about policing

No, officers don't spend most of their time fighting crime:

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/five-myths/five-myths-about-policing/2020/06/25/65a92bde-b004-11ea-8758-bfd1d045525a\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/five-myths/five-myths-about-policing/2020/06/25/65a92bde-b004-11ea-8758-bfd1d045525a_story.html)

I am in agreement with Mayor Frey that we must NOT have knee-jerk reactions but think about how best to reform the existing police department structure—including taking away some authority that the police union has right now. Crime is up in Mpls and I do not understand how abolishing the police dept. is going to magically correct that. And I also agree with the Council President that the issue here is addressing cultural racism or nothing much will change even if we throw out our police dept. and put in place whatever seems to be the flavor of the day. As things have been presented thus far by the council members, I absolutely will not support defunding the police department.

6/30/2020 10:33:16 AM

I write this anonymously as I am a participant of theSecretary of State program called Safe at Home. This is a confiedntiality program for victims of abuse or those living in fear of their abusers.

My main concern with the proposed abolition of the police department leaves people like me in a desperate and dire situation and completely vulnarable, we rely on law enforcement when the abusers violate the OFP's in place or when the safe at home act is violated. I cannot rely on social workers and pyshictrists or community advocates when I have my abuser in my door step threatnring my life and my childrens lives. Law enforcement plays a significant role in enforcing these orders.

I fully agree that that there needs to be transfomaron process withing the police department, the main concern is that the current MPD does not even begin to represent the demographics they currently serve. Being a police officer is a selfless proffession, our community needs to be served wth humity and dignity. Tranform the police department by including people of color/mionirities served by MPD.

I know as city council members this is not something you want to hear as the media has shown us, your minds are made up about MPD, think of the lives your decicions will affect by getting rid of MPD

For my safety- I am unable to share my name and my email address.

6/30/2020 10:33:19 AM

I am for police reform but I am NOT in favor of replacing the police department. Its rather unclear what the community based system would look like and whether it could be effective. Would they be armed? What training would they have? What range of issues could they even address?

6/30/2020 10:33:55 AM

I think that this survey is just going through the motions, as I have previously expressed my views before on everything from bike lane proliferation, to property taxes, to light rail municipal consent, and only to be ignored

My firm opinion is that the city needs a trained, experienced, police force or chaos will ensue

I believe that because the city council has already said "disband" it fully intends to change the charter and disband the force,

The city council has fanned the flames of hostility towards the police

Prove me wrong that you will actually listen?

6/30/2020 10:34:20 AM

You All of failed as elected officials. You've lost your moral compass and will ultimately endanger and harm innoylibes of American men, women and children!!

Shame on All of You!!!

Cowering to the Mob, cowering to Antifa, cowering to the extremists that want to take away our rights, our freedoms that so many Americans have fought And died to defend!!

My son in-law died fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan for our freedoms!!!

You All of you Cowards want to just throw away American rights!!!

When you compromise the safety and well being of innocent Americans it's time to stop, think rationally and do the Eight Thing. Stand up against the Mobs!!

Put into practice logical methodology into policing aligned with more money for training, social interventions and accountability.

But to do away with Police is insane. Shame on all of you!!!!

6/30/2020 10:35:02 AM

The Minneapolis police department needs reform but we need them to keep us safe. We don't want them to be replaced with something else. Retrain them and hold them accountable to the rules but don't replace them.

6/30/2020 10:35:08 AM

This notion is as ludicrous and dangerous as it is wacky. If this proceeds, count one family among the many who will find another city to reside in.

6/30/2020 10:35:25 AM

Police Restructuring: Something has to be done, but " calls for "abolishing police" and defunding police have emboldened criminals and caused a rise in violent crime and lawlessness that damage the communities we hope to protect. We still need police and it is short sighted to eliminate them without a solid plan to replace them. Restructure the Police Department to work with Community Partners.

Why did police abandon the community they were hired to protect? They were not doing their jobs. Peaceful Protesters should be protected, arsonists and looters should be stopped.

End qualifying immunity. No one should be above the law. Police need to be held accountable for their actions. A Permanent database should be kept of all use of force or misbehavior that can be shared nationally to prevent the hiring of fired officers.

Other officers at the scene are required to intervene and report misconduct. They need to be trained to do so. Some cities have this training. Whistle-blowers needed.

Officers are supposed to respond and protect the communities they serve. If they do not they don't deserve the job.

Demilitarize police. Training should emphasize negotiation and safe de-escalation. What to do instead? The Police Federation should not be allowed to offer military tactic training that was eliminated by our last two police chiefs. Guns should never be used on unarmed non-violent people. After each incident the actions should be reviewed. Police who don't play by the rules should be fined and eliminated.

Police should live in the cities where they work. Those who cannot must do unarmed community service in those neighborhoods and paired with community partners like social workers or mental health workers while on duty.

Ban choke holds, teargas, and rubber bullets.

Hire more minority police.

Keep body-cameras on and recording. Police should make their statements immediately after incidents and before viewing their videos.

Why did the 3rd Precinct abandon their post and allow the destruction of the community they were hired to protect? Who made that decision? We need answers.

6/30/2020 10:35:37 AM

I oppose and will vote against the the change to the Mpls Charter. There is no plan going forward and even less confidence in the City Council in regards to maintaining a safe and secure Minneapolis. I am so disappointed in the Council, and am very worried about the City we are leaving to our children.

6/30/2020 10:36:16 AM

Your plan to abolish the MPD is reckless and asinine. Crime will increase in the city. Any belief to the contrary is disingenuous. If crimes are not being reported, you may see a drop, but this is nothing more than a false positive. Criminals will be criminals. Violent crime will still occur. Sworn peace officers are needed to protect the citizens of Minneapolis and enforce the laws of the state. Anyone who thinks otherwise should resign immediately.

6/30/2020 10:38:28 AM

It is the job of our elected officials to keep us safe! Abolishing police is going to leave us citizens in extreme danger. We would basically be giving criminals the freedom to hold all of us hostage through fear. Cities have allowed people to take over their entire town. This includes people who have worked their whole life to build a business and criminals have been allowed in to destroy and take over those good citizens life's work. POLICE should be in there protecting those cities, people and businesses.

Politicians, do your job and protect us!!!

As we teach our children actions have consequences.

6/30/2020 10:38:46 AM

1. You have overreached your job description and caused negative judgement from the rest of the country. It is now an embarrassment to be from MN, and certainly the last city anyone is going to move TO is Minneapolis. Next would be St. Paul. Have you even considered the impact on what you've done to the fiscal decline of Minneapolis? I highly doubt it.
2. Living in rural MN, I expect that you want ALL of the state residents to pay for whatever BS you come up with. I'm not standing for it - we are already OVERTAXED - check it out compared to any other state in the union. Enough is enough.
3. You have, as a group, along with our Governor, now shown the country, and the world, how awful we are as a people to our own OFFICERS. These are the same people who protect our children from pedophiles, rapists, and physical abusers. NO OUTSIDE PARTIES ARE GOING TO ALLOW THEIR EVENTS IN A CITY THAT CAN'T SUPPORT LAW ENFORCEMENT. They will take their business to ANY OTHER CITY/STATE. So long to any revenue expected from venues - it is GONE. You have yourselves to thank for that.

I am appalled, disgusted, and angry at your actions and words, neither of which represent anything I stand for. If I had the financial means, I would leave this state. You do not represent me, and I am very thankful for that.

6/30/2020 10:39:15 AM

I am Not in favor of Defunding the Police Department!!! I think changes need to be made but I believe that Chief Arrandondo knows better than CC members what needs to be done. He should not report to the CC but to the mayor. He is our highest elected official in the city. I believe more training can be done with the way the police department is set up right now. Where I live, people are talking about moving

out of the city if this happens. I've heard of people who will not come to the city to restaurants, theater, etc. I will not vote for an amendment that isn't clear. Non of the CC members I've seen interviewed on TV can give a clear vision of what they plan to do. That's immature planning. I believe in this city. Work with the mayor and the police chief not against them!!!

6/30/2020 10:39:18 AM

Dissolving the police department is a terrible idea. Reallocating funds and demilitarizing the department makes sense but not having police will make the city a more dangerous place than it already is. We need to be able to get ride of bad cops and ones that have a history of complaints filed against them and that should be reviewed by an independent board (not the police union and not the city council). If this passes you will see a mass exodus from the city or a much larger number of people walking around with a gun to protect themselves since you have already demonstrated that you cannot.

6/30/2020 10:39:22 AM

Living downtown is both wonderful and terrible. The loitering, crime and safety are out of control and will drive myself and many others out of the city. People that have nothing to do but cause trouble are ruining the city and public safety. The police are not friendly (in general) and do not present a welcoming "public servant" environment either. We need police, no question, but they need to be used in a more effective manner, as well as other public services that will help people that need help, rather than discipline. Hold people accountable and have a positive presence and things will improve.

6/30/2020 10:40:00 AM

I have lived and worked downtown for over 25 years and in uptown prior to that. In 2018 we sold our loft in the NorthLoop because of increased crime and property taxes. I still work downtown and do not feel safe. This makes me sad as I have always loved Minneapolis. I no longer use the light rail, I no longer go to events downtown, state theatre, us bank stadium, target center or target field. With COVID, I've been working from home and I will definitely have to reconsider returning to the office. I do not feel safe walking from the A Ramp to my place of business. If there is no more police, I will not return. We spend a considerable amount on entertainment and dining downtown, it will be gone. Yes, we are just one family but I know many others share my sentiments. Downtown will become a ghost town generating zero income/taxes.

6/30/2020 10:40:42 AM

I greatly appreciate this amendment. The Minneapolis police department should stop existing. The following must be met for the new department to have credibility and function to benefit the people instead of impressing them.

1. All current police officers must be banned from being employed in the new department.
2. All future officers of the new department must live in the area they work in.

3. All future officers of the new department shall never carry guns. The rare instance where a gun wielding criminal is active, sheriffs or other organizations can be called in. The new officers must never have access to guns so when a person seems them they will not become fearful of being shot.

4. All future officers of the new department must be licensed by a third party organization. And any infringement of a citizens rights or example of racist, bigoted, or homophobic actions or speech will result in the permanent revoking of that license.

5. All future officers of the new department must meet education requirements at a recognized college or university. 2 year degree in deescalation and community service or perhaps a specialized community safety program at a third party establishment.

6. All future officers of the new department agree upon hiring to never unionize. Any infringement of the rights of citizens will be met with immediate termination.

This is my 2 cents, thank you for reading. I'm certain there are other items which I have missed, but together we can come up with a sufficient plan. Thank you for listening.

6/30/2020 10:40:44 AM

I will not come to downtown Minneapolis at night until you provide safety to someone who is not a thug.

6/30/2020 10:43:30 AM

I think it would be a huge mistake to disband the Minneapolis police department. I think there needs to be better community relations between the police department and perhaps increase socialization between the police department and residence of specific neighborhoods.

I think to disband the police department will cause a significant increase in crime rates. The people who will take the most advantage of this would be the criminals which then puts the taxpayers at risk. As a high-paying tax payer, I would not feel nearly as safe as I currently do.

If there are specific neighborhoods that prefer to disband the police due to poor relations, statistics or current outcomes, the police can stop responding to phone calls in that area and those specific neighborhoods can implement the new "plan" from city council.

6/30/2020 10:43:32 AM

The changing of the police department to the department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention is a step forward from only the police department. However, the charter fails to address the reasons of the need for change.

Dismantling, defunding, and abolishing the police and the police system within a hierarchical power system of government is the goal. By rebranding the police department into a community safety and violence prevention department, you bypass that change. Police officers (also known as peace officers according to the code of ordinance for many years) would still be part of the new department. This is unacceptable, as the reason to change the department is to not have police officers present. Changing

their title and having them still present is the antithesis of what community safety and violence prevention promotes, as police are the violent threats to communities in Minneapolis.

On top of this, I worry about the funding that will be given to this new department. The hope is that the department will get all or the majority (after careful redistribution to needed programs) of the police budget; all \$193 million. On the proposed 2020 budget, the Office of Violence Prevention only receives \$2.5million, the neighborhood engagement and support \$11million, youth violence prevention only \$1.5M, and the police conduct review only \$1M. The charter must address this financial and budgetary disparity, and understand that the money must go to programs that do not involve the police, and that the new department cannot be underfunded to provide the argument of its failure.

As we know, the police department for years has been over funded and still is a failure. With almost 100 complaints against officers per quarter, lawsuits for force and racial slurs by officers totaling close to \$10 million every 5 years, and the use of body cameras, early intervention systems, and other changes to the department have all resulted in continued failure and repeated harm/killings of Minneapolis residents.

In conclusion, this charter amendment is a good first step, but it vague in its goals and ideals, which allows for the underhand continuation of the corrupt and harmful police to continue in this city and act as tangible threats to community members. The amendment to the charter must be explicit in the removal of police officers, the power structures they uphold, and the must focus solidly and concretely on the development and strengthening of the new department that prioritizes community members, de-escalation techniques that never include the presence of violence or weapons or officers, and restorative and transformative justice, in all aspects of its day to day operations.

6/30/2020 10:43:33 AM

The proposal is flawed and you can bet that "thousands if not millions" of people around the world will opt to go elsewhere than Mpls because of it. Under the premise there is a reason to address police issues (and there definitely/clearly is), what about sitting down and fundamentally discussing the issues with all parties to arrive at steps to begin to resolve the challenges versus a knee jerk, emotional and irrational decision? Additionally, under the brush that the "whole" police department needs to be eliminated, can you state for the public and rationalize the same could be said for politicians given there have been numerous examples of "crime related" issues within your profession? Seriously, defunding the police equated across professions would mean:

- 1) Defunding of all politicians (and lobbyists for that matter).
- 2) Defunding of all businesses who misled others (Enron example)
- 3) Defunding of all teachers and education orgs who have misled the public and in the worst of cases taken the innocence of our children.

To be 100% clear - I support systematic changes to the methods of policing and the absolute and full prosecution of the officers involved with Mr. Floyd's death. But what I will not support in any way, shape or manner is a city who now believes that the way to solve this is eliminating law and order AND failure to enforce it (i.e. precincts, riots, etc). And you can bet (with full vigor) that I (or my family) will not frequent your community > and that I will advise others to go elsewhere. Those voices, if you've noticed, are already further damaging the image of Mpls and it's about to get worse if you go thru with this plan.

The solution lies within your means and requires patience, process and determined resolve. The solution does NOT require absolutely and complete disbanding. Those are traits of obstructionism and dictatorships - neither of those for which were elected in a democracy to do.

6/30/2020 10:44:05 AM

In general, I support this charter amendment, but I have questions that I would like to see addressed:

\* Is it necessary for the Director of the Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention to specifically NOT have a law enforcement background if there is already oversight by the City Council in appointing them? I personally don't think law enforcement background should completely exclude an otherwise strong candidate (think of someone who maybe was once a police officer but now leads a community social justice organization, for example).

This is perhaps not included in the charter itself, but in regards to how this new Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention will function:

\* For the remaining Law Enforcement Services arm, how will we ensure those peace officers don't fall into the same biased policing practices as before? Will there be more community oversight for complaints against officers?

\* More transparency needed on how services will be funded by the City of Minneapolis

Thank you for serving on our city council and thinking of how we can make ALL our residents and communities safer!

6/30/2020 10:46:34 AM

The removal of the Minneapolis Police Department is a danger to the residents of that city and the surrounding communities.

Instead; a reassessment of practices, policy, and procedures should be done and a evaluation of individuals on the force and coming on the force should be assessed and changes should be made.

What is happening in the community of Minneapolis is not the complete fault of the individual choices of the Police Officers but also from the generational structure of negative cultural norms that have been passed down from generation to generation in some historical neighborhoods in Mpls.

Individuals of all color and cultures are responsible for their own actions and the consequences of it under the United States & State of Minnesota laws. Laws need to be in place and followed! Although, some compassion in those laws needs to be viable because people make mistakes and need to be able to make amends for them to learn and choose to do better.

To abolish the Police Force is asking for more problems and more degradation of the communities mental standards of what is right and wrong. Creating community groups with social workers & Psychologists should be secondary to police.

Social structures need to be offered to assist in helping these communities have better opportunities for their people and better mental health support for all so they can have a choice to better their lives and not fall into the lifestyles that are negligent of the laws. Trust needs to be restored to help the people.

Dismantling the Police Department will not help it will only create more trouble. Making Minneapolis like it is its own country is going to be troublesome for its residents. The population diversity will shift drastically. The surrounding communities will suffer from this bad decision. Minneapolis will become more poor with less businesses, less stable income. Poverty will attract more poverty, your crime, sex crime, drug crime, physical assaults, and lack of prosperity will increase because there will be no fear of Law Enforcement. I believe the community and has a psychological problem. Hire some reputable Psychologists to help find answers to fix the social issues in Minneapolis. Understanding the how, why and what can be done may help.

Also, some people you just can't help because they don't want it and/or don't see their own destruction. You need to enforce laws for these people or just let them be their own demise as long as they aren't destroying other people's lives. There is NO WAY to make everyone happy.

6/30/2020 10:46:56 AM

- 1) what is a "holistic approach" this is a vague term that has no place in a city ordinance.
- 2) I STRONGLY disagree with the wording "City Council MAY maintain a division of law enforcement" The word may means may, or may not. I STRONGLY disagree with the attempt to remove law enforcement from our city.

The City Council's proposals, statements and intentions related to the removal and/or dismantling of law enforcement will turn Minneapolis into a 'wild west' town. Where anything goes and you are on your own in protecting yourself, your property, your business. Exactly what happened during the civil unrest. Exactly what is happening now. It may be a lovely ideal to create some kind of British style community policing model - but no one in Britain has a gun. That is certainly not the case here. And if you don't already own a gun - the current rhetoric coming from the City Council suggests I better go get one. This is no way to run a major city in the 21st century. I STRONGLY oppose the proposed amendment. The lack of funding and support from the City Council has already gutted the Police Department. Financially and morally. There is no longer a traffic division. This is obvious by the complete free for all behavior exhibited on our streets. The City Council's negative rhetoric denigrates good officers, reinforces the entrenched behavior of bad officers and promotes the "us vs them" sentiment that supports the 'blue wall'. These tactics do nothing to move us forward in a positive way in any shape or form. But rather divide us farther and farther apart. The City Council's negative rhetoric only emboldens people toward criminal behavior. As we are seeing. It is going to be a very long, very violent summer. And it rests squarely at the feet of this City Council.

6/30/2020 10:47:38 AM

Please do not get rid of the police. With the violence going on I'm scared to even be in this city. Without the police you plan to take away our safety and continue this reckless behavior of the idiots who keep traumatizing the people of this city! If you get rid of the police I will no longer feel safe and have to move my children and myself! I love this city please reconsider!

6/30/2020 10:47:56 AM

I have hard time providing comments on something that doesn't have a clear plan in place. The move to defund the MPD seems like a rash decision based on feelings. I think there needs to be more conversations with the residents, who are ultimately going to either be hurt or helped by this. Without a clear plan, how do you expect people to understand what you are trying to do? A few loud voices do not speak for the majority and a few bad cops don't represent an entire department.

6/30/2020 10:49:28 AM

Dear Charter Commission,

As a resident of SW MPLS, I strongly urge you to allow the life-and-death issue of the charter amendment to be placed on the ballot this November for we, the people, to decide. If you, as a disproportionately white body, decide to keep this amendment away from us, you will simply reinforce the perception that "the system" works only for whites. Are you willing to take responsibility for the consequences of such self-dealing?

6/30/2020 10:50:59 AM

I am AGAINST the removal of the Minneapolis Police Department. I am also AGAINST the establishment of a Community of Safety and Violence Prevention Department.

6/30/2020 10:51:27 AM

I am NOT IN FAVOR of abolishing the police. I AM IN FAVOR OF REFORMING how the police operate as a whole. The police union needs to be reformed. The police need far better training, and a meritocracy not union protectionism. accountability and investigate deficiencies in current policy.

6/30/2020 10:51:58 AM

Outrageous to even consider eliminating the Minneapolis Police Dept. I strongly believe every council member should be required to do a ride-along with an officer for a week. At the very least, they should do a ride-along in their ward, but ideally they should do the entirety of our city.

How can any council member make such a monumental decision about our Minneapolis police force without experiencing it.

Changes need to be made with our police force but we need them.

6/30/2020 10:52:08 AM

I like this idea and would like to learn more

6/30/2020 10:52:57 AM

Hello,

I'd like to preface this by advising that I'm an employee of Hennepin County, and typically work downtown Minneapolis at the Government Center. I also take Metro Transit to/from work 2-3 a week (outside of COVID-19). I have a background (e.g. Bachelors & Masters degrees) in Sociology and Criminal Justice. I am a Steward and proud member of AFSCME Local 34. I attended George Floyd's memorial service and the memorial at Cup Foods. I recognize the oppression the Black community has undergone in America and the world over, and understand that I will never understand.

I recognize that change NEEDS to happen in Minneapolis, the United States, and all over the world in the way of law enforcement reform. I am not certain as to the best way to go about effecting this change, but I am certain that it is NOT by disbanding the MPD. Review hiring protocol, review current officers' records, make judgments as to whom stays and goes. Start by taking a close look into your contract with the police union.

We (Minneapolis and the surrounding communities) have seen violent crime increase considerably in the past month, especially the last couple weeks. A city I once loved to frequent is now a city I fear to enter. While I recognize my privilege in being able to say such a thing, my fear would be that much more amplified if the MPD were to be disbanded.

Community members, social workers, psychiatrists, etc. are not cut out nor trained to respond to 911 calls on their own. Community watch is an accessory to a well-functioning police department, not something to serve the same role as the police. Sex assaults, murder, trafficking, rape, and similar violent crimes are not going to be effectively nor well-handled by laymen.

"Community-based policing" is the organizational strategy that should be employed here. It's time the MPD and the various communities it serves come together.

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in. Please, do not disband the MPD.

6/30/2020 10:53:02 AM

We are retired and travel now. But we will not be going to your state or your city because we would not feel safe at all

6/30/2020 10:54:41 AM

Please do not defund and get rid of MPD. The crime by our house on Xerxes Ave North was why we left North Minneapolis. Getting rid of the police will only make crime worse. Also, the Msp city council is an absolute embarrassment for the people of Minnesota. Shame on you all.

6/30/2020 10:54:42 AM

If this silly idea is passed in November I will not do business or visit MPLS. It's not a big deal for you, but the opportunities that MPLS receives will be drastically reduced. Remember you get what you pay for and shifting money to another public safety system will not keep the peace - a.k.a: Law & Order. Maybe

the amendment should increase funding which could be used to pay for additional training, more accountability and a larger MPD staff. BTW - I thought the knee issue was addressed in an lawsuit MPLS settled several years ago. If so there is an accountability issue on the table.

6/30/2020 10:55:28 AM

I strongly support the establishment of a community safety and violence prevention department. It is important to me that this department operates with recognition of systemic issues that contribute to crime. I believe that only a small task force should be equipped to handle truly violent situations, and that the majority of law enforcement must be specifically designed only to carry out a specific task (traffic enforcement being specialized, much like parking enforcement, etc.)

I also believe that policing should reflect the community being policed, that extreme measures are taken to reduce gun violence and dangerous situations, and that preventative and rehabilitate measures are prioritized over retributive measures.

These programs will be more successful with broader social support implementation. Minneapolis is a great American city, and I moved here because of its high quality of life. It is in the long term interest of the city to implement experimental and creative solutions to modern problems. This should mean innovative climate change measures, radical public health/outdoor rec prioritization, socialized services, and high minimum wage in the coming years.

6/30/2020 10:55:59 AM

I am a senior citizen that has owned my home in South Minneapolis for 34 years. With the recent social unrest, property destruction, and gun violence in Minneapolis, I am starting to fear for my personal safety. To propose dismantling the Police Department in this time of instability is such a radical idea. I fear for the further destabilization of this city and along with that, loss of businesses and property values. I feel the current city council is made up of inexperienced, social activists that lack the talent to run a large city and that do not represent my interests.

6/30/2020 10:56:36 AM

As an ongoing visitor to Minneapolis our visits to Minneapolis would become very infrequent and as on a need basis only with the stay being as short as possible. Defunding of the Minneapolis Police department or elimination of licensed law enforcement personnel will make our visits and attendance to professional games and other entertainment sites a high risk personal activity. Reduction of the Police force also will tie the hands of all other Minneapolis emergency services of fire, ambulance, etc. as these personnel require police security for access control, street rerouting, crowd control to perform their work.

6/30/2020 10:57:20 AM

I'm all about police reform and accountability but I think defunding the Mpls Police is a terrible idea and we will consider moving out of Mpls (our life long home) if that ever happens.

Mpls will lose businesses and long time residents who pay the high taxes to live here because we will no longer feel safe to live in the City which we love.

We've also talked to many of our neighbors who feel the same way.

Do not defund the Police!

6/30/2020 10:57:29 AM

This is a bad idea. It has been tried and failed in other cities. Abolishing the department is NOT the same as reform. There are obvious issues with the MPD they need to be addressed but abolishing the department will not fix them. You have not even provided minimal information about what the fairy tale world Minneapolis will become under your plan. A social worker will respond to an active shooter situation? I think not. What happens when a non-licensed and unarmed individual responds to a domestic abuse call and is assaulted and shot when responding?

Do you people even care about this city?

6/30/2020 10:57:37 AM

Hello Charter Commission, I have read the new proposed charter and I and a number of our neighbors are not on board with changing the charter to remove the police department. While we all support major reform we do not support the departments removal. I do believe you are creating a whole new set of issues with removing the department that you will not even be aware of until it's to late. Please make a very educated decision by contacting all leaders in the public, private and local sectors to ensure you have really researched what this will do to all parties involved. I stand with reform and not removal. Thank You

6/30/2020 10:57:42 AM

Agree! Great initiative- all for it. It's been long overdue.

6/30/2020 10:58:22 AM

Although I am disturbed with the deaths of people of color, I do not think defunding the police. With the attempt to create a Community Safety & Violence Prevention Department. and remove the Police Department from the Charter. I am sorry extremely alarmed. I think if this went through the would be many scared taxpayers moving out of the city and thus affecting tax revenue. I think MPD has made some positive steps with coresponders and CIT attaining. It is the first step in correctly and wisely. Please do the right thing and do not approve these changes

6/30/2020 10:58:58 AM

Me and my family will never go into Minneapolis again if you eliminate the police department.. because it will not be safe with out the police.. I have already stopped going to Minneapolis until you let the police do there job and keep it safe again.. this is so sad that you are even letting this be in consideration.. we have police officers doing jobs we would not even want to do.. because of how dangerous it is they never know each day they put on that uniform if they will see there families again.. but yet they still put it on to protect the all of us and our city and homes.. you eliminate them we then will all be in living hell.. I will be always for the police so coming election I will vote for them.. I understand there are some bad cops but majority of them are good.. yes I have been pulled over and gotten tickets but the way I see it if I would have not been speeding I would have never been pulled over and gotten a ticket.. May God Bless every police department and police officer and are Army no matter what race they are.. they all protect us.. I am so tired of hearing and seeing all this crime and violence because they are not allowed to do there jobs with out being penalized or called racist for it seriously.. we as citizens now have to try and defend our selves and are families from these criminals that's all I have been seeing is pure violence and crime daily day and night ever since you guys don't let the police do what they need to do.. so this truly has nothing to do with bad police or changing for the good it actually has to do with criminals doing what they want with no consequences or being stopped by the police.. why are all these criminals getting by with what they are doing to our city and our community and our police officers and everyone with authorities have no problem with it or consequences killing our police officers and innocent people out and about and children and destroying private property is a crime so my question is why ain't they being charged but yet they want high consequences for the bad cops but these criminals get a slap on the wrist makes no sense to me and all us non criminals have to pay for there distraction with our taxes they should be paying for it they did it not all of Minnesota.. if you ask me all 3 officers should be released and if that one officer is going to get charged then he should get charged like every other American who committed murder there sentence is pretty much a slap on the hand 5-10 years for killing someone brutally..

6/30/2020 10:59:51 AM

I have 2 daughters living and working in Minneapolis and I expect them to be safe.

You can train police to de-escalate and offer more mental health services, but defunding the police is absolutely idiotic.

Violent crime continues to soar.

Focus on facts.

6/30/2020 10:59:54 AM

Why doesn't each of personal sitting on the commission who wants to remove the police dept. ride along with them for a week and see what they have to deal with. The public no longer has respect for any authority and questions every thing the police do to enforce the laws that the government has put in place. If you don't want the police to do their job change the law and stop blaming them for enforcing it.

Start putting people in jail who are blocking our streets, tearing down our monuments and throwing bricks and bottles at our police.

6/30/2020 11:00:15 AM

This charter amendment is the first step towards the vision of a Minneapolis where all communities can feel safe and we don't have heavily armed police responding to every call for public safety. If we want to put action to the words of wanting a Minneapolis where black and brown people can expect the same level of safety, privacy, and comfort as white people.

6/30/2020 11:00:53 AM

I hope you allow this question on the ballot. We need to demilitarize the police. They do not protect or serve. Mpls150 makes clear that we need to start fresh with a multi-service department only some of which are armed and all of which love a diverse, welcoming city.

6/30/2020 11:01:13 AM

I do not agree with this proposed amendment and will not support it. The MPLS CITY COUNCIL DOES NOT HAVE MY SUPPORT.

6/30/2020 11:01:32 AM

I think removing the Police Department is a "gut-punch" reaction to all the protesting and rioting. The death of George Floyd was reprehensible and the officers are now in custody. Justice will be served. My concern now is if the courts do not go in favor of the protestors, will they want the Justice system removed as well? Do we really want a society where there is absolutely no accountability whatsoever? We NEED police to uphold the laws put in place where EVERYONE, no matter of skin color or national heritage, must follow! Without police in Minneapolis, we might as well say Goodbye to a great city. This has become beyond ridiculous!

6/30/2020 11:02:21 AM

I am highly concerned that if you remove the police from Minneapolis that we will have tremendous issues. The cost of the approach in hard dollars and in the lives and value of the community are very concerning to me. I would recommend that the money be spent in making the system better than what we have today instead of starting over.

6/30/2020 11:02:25 AM

Let's take this opportunity to update our entire charter, not just make an ad hoc revision that has no guarantee of actual change.

Minneapolis should hold a charter convention to engage the public in a wholesale reconfiguration of our government.

6/30/2020 11:02:29 AM

Hello,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our thoughts on this proposed charter amendment. I do not agree with the City's proposed amendment to abolish the police and replace it with a "Community Safety and Violence Prevention Department". I believe that abolishing the police department and replacing it with various unarmed specialists will result in more crime. In fact, we have already seen this happen. Since the city council's announcement to abolish the police, we have seen 113 people shot, 8 fatally in the Minneapolis area.

Police are needed to respond to a wide variety of situations and diffuse potential dangerous situations quickly before more harm is done to innocent people. If there is no one to protect citizens, the people will take their protection in their own hands which will cause more harm. Personally I know that when I call 911, I would like someone to show up prepared for any situation.

As a result of the increase in crime and lack of protection, businesses and residents will begin to move out of Minneapolis. We have already seen this happen with businesses relocating after the riots and bars/restaurants shutting down due to violence. Additionally, I know many people originally looking to purchase homes in the Minneapolis area that have already shifted their search to the suburbs in fear of the increasing violence occurring in Minneapolis.

I do believe some reform within the police department is needed. We need to hold those people who have done things wrong accountable and insure our police are trained correctly. However, a full abolition of the police force is not necessary and I think it will have more negative impacts than positive ones.

Thank you for your time.

6/30/2020 11:03:21 AM

I am excited that Minneapolis is looking to reign in the abuses of MPD and make positive change in our community. But I am concerned because I feel the process to change the city charter is rushed and there currently isn't a plan on how to create a new department. To put together language so quickly and push through a change to the city charter during a pandemic when we cannot hold public meetings and discussions concerns me. I feel that the City Council should be presenting a thought out plan to Minneapolis residents about what the new department of public safety will look like and then we we should vote on the charter change. It isn't even clear that there will be any peace officers. It wouldn't be required by the new language. At this point the process seems to be happening in the wrong order and it greatly concerns me. I believe we need to push off the vote on the change to the charter until 2021 when we have a real plan put together.

6/30/2020 11:04:15 AM

Please, I beg the city charter committee to end this idea immediately. The city council has provided zero information on their plan but are pushing forward. This must be stopped immediately. Half cocked ideas that push forward are a horrible idea historically. This one could end with horrible consequences. Look at the current state of violence in our city. This is because of an "idea" on no police. What do you think will happen if this actually goes through? I am a home owner who will have no choice but to move if this was to happen and sadly I know home prices will drop. Then the tax base drops ... then budgets are cut .... the unintended consequences of this will be disastrous.

6/30/2020 11:04:41 AM

I think instead of disbanding the mpd needs better training of how to properly work with public correctly and reprimand the officers that use incorrect measures or treatment and others that watch or standby and don't say anything too Things have been bad over the years for a long time and now it's way overboard. Enough is enough and it's time for changes to be made

6/30/2020 11:05:56 AM

It is disappointing that the city council and charter commission have not outwardly communicated with residents of Minneapolis, business owners, and the voting public and have given little to no time for those parties to review and comment on this amendment before a special meeting to be held July 1, 2020. The public commenting was posted only on June 29, 2020 to the Minneapolis City website (<http://news.minneapolismn.gov>).

Three days earlier, on the same website, the news posted was "The proposal has been referred to the Minneapolis Charter Commission for its meeting 4 p.m. Wednesday, July 8 and the City Council's Policy & Government Oversight Committee for its meeting 1:30 p.m. Thursday, July 9." There was no mention that prior to the meeting on July 8th that public commenting was open. Why has a special session been called one week earlier? Why were constituents informed only 48 hours in advance of this meeting and why were they not in a more public way other than just on Facebook or other social media? This shows that little to no effort has been taken to openly invite Minneapolis stakeholders to be included in this process.

Other residents of Minneapolis that I have spoken with and I have many questions about the current state of the police department, how the city is currently ensuring the public safety, and what the future would look like. This proposal does not clarify what this Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention would accomplish, just seems to be dismantling the current Police and naming of a new department. Presently, residents are uncertain about how their safety is ensured and perception is on a negative decline with current affairs.

Preliminary questions I have are as follows:

- Who will the director of the Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention report to?
- What is the role of division of law enforcement services within the Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention?

- How will the division of law enforcement services work in conjunction with the Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention?
- How will licensed peace officers work with Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention?
- How will Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention directors and other department employees be evaluated? Will they be licensed? What licenses will they hold and maintain?
- Who will Minneapolis residents be able to call on in time of emergency and have their safety warranted, especially in violent situations with personal harm to self or property?
- There is no Funding outlined for this Department. What taxes will be levied against property owners for this Department? How many employees per resident will be in this department?
- What are the term requirements or term limits to the director of both the division of law enforcement services and Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention?
- How will Fire Department and Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention work together?
- The ordinance states that “The City Council must establish, maintain, adequately fund, and consistently engage the public...” How will the public be engaged and what does that mean on an ongoing basis?

I implore you to delay the charter amendment vote for a period that is sufficient to publicize the content of this ordinance/amendment, complete more outreach, and engage Minneapolis residents. This is a very important topic that has a lasting effect on the entire city and greater community. Residents may have differing perspectives on the proposed charter amendment, but they deserve respect of their city leaders that should keep residents informed and actually support community engagement and commenting even if there is a shortened timeline to get this on the ballot.

6/30/2020 11:07:03 AM

This charter is concerning. What do you mean by a holistic community oriented approach? That needs to be expanded upon in great detail. With the removal of our police department and the requirement for the minimum number of police officers (0.0017% of the population) being removed, as well as language such as “the city council MAY utilize a law enforcement DIVISION”, it sounds like they are being given the authority to use no law enforcement/peace officers. I am born and raised in Minneapolis and with such a large diverse population with troublesome areas like North Minneapolis or south side around Lake street we NEED police officers to deter crime and enforce the laws that WE ALL agree to abide by. Putting aside the race aspect of why this charter is being revised (recently with George Floyds murder and police oppression against minorities) I believe this will only motivate the criminals who have or intend to commit crimes to do so in the future without repercussions. They already do not abide by the law while the rest of us do and without a serious law enforcement agency what will prevent them from spreading crime into any and all other areas of the city? A holistic community peace keeping squad? Do I need to patrol my own streets? If someone breaks into my home or assaults my family, Will I be able to call the police? Will they even exist? Because if this were to happen today I feel confident the police would help me and I do not want to lose that protection. My concern here is that if the police department is dismantled and the City Council chooses not to have an acceptable number of law

enforcement officers then crime will increase substantially, I will no longer feel safe living here and I would probably consider leaving my life long home to find a safer community. I hope you can assuage my fears by expanding upon what exactly this new department will accomplish, because I do not think the City Council even knows all of the complications of what they intend to do here from this knee jerk reaction to everything that has happened the past few weeks. This decision requires more time and deliberation AND I heard this public comment section is only open for TWO days? That is unbelievable and without the Nextdoor app I would not have known.

Another concern I have is that you insist the new director of this department must have NO LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPERIENCE. I understand what you're trying to do here, and appease those who feel wronged by the current system or change up the system, but you're giving this person with no law enforcement experience the absolute power to enforce the law and manage the actual law enforcement division (as well as choosing the director of said law enforcement division). That.. doesn't sound right.

In my opinion and I've given this some thought, What SHOULD be done is adjust the policies and regulations of the existing police department. For a start Mandatory body cameras that CANNOT BE TURNED OFF Under any circumstance without punishment. Every officer must be accountable for his actions, and there should be an active department to monitor for the "bad cops" that abuse or misuse their power. The removal of qualified immunity in certain circumstances is a start. These riots came about from the helplessness our citizens feel knowing cops who commit grave injustices face no punishment. It is the power of social media, the fact every person has a personal camera that we are beginning to find these bad cops. It shouldn't be our job to expose these bad cops, actively do it from within their own departments.

6/30/2020 11:07:06 AM

This proposal is too drastic and too soon

6/30/2020 11:07:21 AM

I support this charter amendment and support streamlining the Charter Commission process to ensure the ballot question is on the ballot this November.

6/30/2020 11:07:25 AM

I strongly support the Charter Commission allowing this amendment to go on the November 2020 ballot. Regardless of the merits of this amendment (which I strongly support), it is imperative that the Charter Commission allow voters to weigh in, given the unanimous support from the City Council and the community voices that have so strongly advocated for this proposal.

6/30/2020 11:07:54 AM

No do not change the name!

6/30/2020 11:08:48 AM

I support the City of Minneapolis in establishing a Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department. I am not personally familiar with the discipline of community safety services, but I would support higher investment in education, especially in Black communities, increasing opportunities for young people, more investment in small businesses, more access to trauma-informed care and Black mental health and medical professionals. More investment in drug and mental health treatment facilities. More culturally-tailored approaches to wellness. I think it's imperative to address systemic racism as a public health crisis and I want to see and learn more about restorative justice approaches.

My biggest fear is angry white police officers and their backlash--thinking specifically about attitudes like police union director's Sgt. Anna Hedberg, seeing everyone in Mpls as a criminal and that she couldn't possibly live here with her beautiful daughters. PLEASE. How can attitudes like this be addressed in a constructive way?

6/30/2020 11:09:39 AM

I do not live in Minneapolis but have workEd at a school in North Minneapolis for almost 10 years. We work with children with severe emotional and behavior disorders. We frequently rely on support from MPD when children are having a mental health crisis that evolves into behaviors that are unsafe for school staff Or social workers. We've had students in the parking lot threatening staff, breaking into staff members vehicles. We've had staff jumped, assaulted, and robbed by students who were skipping school while the staff was on their way into the building. I can guarantee if you choose to get rid of MPD you are going to lose a lot of teachers. There are plenty of teaching jobs in surrounding suburbs. I do not feel safe working in a city with no police department. Provide more mental health training and resources to support MPD. Removing them is not the answer!

6/30/2020 11:09:41 AM

This is absolutely not the right way to be handling this situation. In fact, the exact opposite should be happening. If you want a good and strong police department, give them more funding for training. Give them the opportunities to take more training in deescalation and community engagement. It's the police that help to get disadvantaged youth away from drugs and gangs. There also needs to be a change in the mindset of the public. Police officers and other first responders are not the enemy. The community is its own worst enemy. The individuals within the community need to respect one another and get away from this mentality that they always need to be fighting the police. Yes, there are some bad police officers just like in every profession. I know the public hates that those officers exist, but do you know who else does? The good officers. The ones that work so hard to try to be the best that they can be for themselves and their communities. It's not right or fair to treat them this incredibly poor. I would invite you to think of this entire situation from a different perspective and to seriously and honestly realize what you're doing to these individuals who have taken an oath to serve and protect your community regardless of what may come their way.

1. Courageous, innovative, successful police reform requires a clear understanding of the final desired result. Few existing processes that brought about positive transformations, like the reform of the police in Camden, had such a plan. At the end of the process, Camden had a more effective, less corrupt, but also larger police force. This was the intent of that reform in every step. Dismantling existing fundamental institution like a police department without this understanding is likely to bring chaos that will harm the community, in particular its weakest and less privileged sectors.

I see no such understanding and no such plan in the amendment proposed by the City Council. There is no introductory document, there is no explanation of the precise final state that the City Council is proposing. Someone looking for this vision in the statement released by the members of the City Council could not find it even in the press conference organized on June 26th. Precise, repeated questions of the journalists involved were all asking "Where is this process going?".

To these questions, we have only heard replies stating that "We will find the answer later". This is unforgivable amateurish attitude, that is particularly dangerous considering how important the police department is in the functioning of a city.

2. Lacking a precise plan, or any plan in any form, the City Council has resorted to asking for all the power on the matter, with the implicit promise of coming up with something reasonable later on. In an unguarded moment during the June 26th press conference, council member Ellison clearly defined the true meaning of the amendment. He described it as addressing the need first to "remove the charter as a barrier now". What council member Ellison fails to understand is that what appears from his perspective as a barrier is, from the perspective of the citizen, a guarantee against the excess and arbitrary nature of future City Councils. He is not, and the City Council is not, an expression of la volonté générale.

3. Let us consider the specific proposal. There are two main changes in the document:

3.1. Deleting the paragraph 7.3. (c) which states that the City Council must fund at least 0.0017 employees per person. The new text has no provision restricting the number, which as a logical consequence may be as low as zero.

3.2. Deleting paragraph 2, in 7.3. (a), (2) on police (or peace) officers which states that they "may exercise any lawful power that a peace officer enjoys at common law..".

There is no provision in the proposed amendment defining what lawful power the new "licensed peace officers" may exercise, which may be as logical consequence no effective power at all.

These changes would make perfectly legal a complete and permanent abolition of the police department. With these changes, Minneapolis could be legally in one year a city where law enforcement is in the hands of fifty social workers armed with a whistle. Removing these constraints without replacing them with anything clear takes away power from the citizens and gives them to the discretion of future City Councils. The City Council is asking the citizens to sign a blank check for the indefinite future, including the possibility that a council with such confused thinking may even resolve to do nothing.

4. The Charter Commission should reject the proposed amendment. Any future amendments should have criteria replacing the two mentioned articles clearly specified, and sufficient to guarantee enforcement of the law. If the Council wants a City with fifty peace officers, it should have the intellectual courage and the democratic spirit necessary to ask this to the electors.

6/30/2020 11:10:32 AM

I think the city has a crime problem and not a police problem. Sure some officers are a little hard on guys. However they put themselves in contact with the police by breaking the law. If you don't like police don't do illegal things or at least get good at it so you don't get caught.

I think defending the police would be a disaster. The city is already one of the most dangerous cities in the country. On par with Chicago per capita. I moved out of the city 3 years ago when the riots started to get worse. I honestly don't care either way as I have no reason to go into the cities anymore. I just don't want the clean up in a few years to be a tax burden. Let the communities take care of themselves no matter what the decision is.

My vote is to provide/require more training to the officers. Also to hire based on qualification and no other criteria. Hire the most qualified applicants.

6/30/2020 11:10:35 AM

I listed my home for sale due to the extreme talking points on removing the police. I do not agree and support increasing police in Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 11:11:10 AM

Completely replacing the police department would leave the city extremely vulnerable to even more crime being committed. Reform the department that you have now. A silent vote needs to be taken as to whether or not the existing officers want Kroll to remain the union president or not. I just find it funny how every black chief this city has had has butted heads with Kroll. He needs to go. Bring in specialized social workers who are trained in working with MI people. It seems that the mentally ill are agitated when they see uniform police officers.

6/30/2020 11:11:52 AM

Let's let this simmer for awhile and let some actual proposals be drafted. I for one do not trust the council to act in my best interest once given the go ahead to proceed. Perhaps will be ready for a ballot question in a year, but clearly not enough development time for 2020.

6/30/2020 11:12:55 AM

Reform does not work. The current system must be dismantled and rebuilt by the citizens of Minneapolis themselves. The new officers - however they're referred to in the future - must be residents of the neighborhood they protect. They must be held to a higher standard of the law than the people they serve, not a lower standard. They must not be able to commit crimes with little or no consequence. They must be liable for their own crimes legally and financially. I live in St. Paul and we need the same for our police department.

6/30/2020 11:13:38 AM

The defunding of the police sets a dangerous precedence.

Anyone who has ever worked in any professional capacity knows it is easier, cheaper, and more effective to change an existing system.

Acknowledge their are problems with the existing system and work to fix this. Invest MORE in the police department. The answer is not to follow the model a small town in Jersey did.

6/30/2020 11:14:05 AM

I think it would devastation to abolish the police department. Yes, adding more programs would be ideal. Let police to policing. As a family we ride our bikes down the greenway and see needles, trash, bike parts, stolen goods all over the place. We are trying to raise a family and when we see this I do t even feel safe to let my child ride there bike, what kind of city is that to live in! The light rail use to be a beautiful form

If transportation. Since the Mayor has decided to not enforce paid ridership it is full of people that are not contributing to society using drugs and alcohol. I pay a lot of money in taxes and have started looking at other cities to live that have the same in taxes and not have to fear for our lives and or children's lives just to go for a bike ride, walk to the school bus, have a family picnic in the park and not see needles!!!! Let the police do there job and have stricter penalties for crimes!

6/30/2020 11:14:24 AM

Most absurd proposal I have ever witnessed. Before this goes to public vote I better see a concise detailed plan for Every situation. Is there any large city on earth that operates without a law enforcement policing department? I demand knowing or is this some idealistic experiment? I have been told that there are members of the city council who hire their own private security at the expense of the taxpayer. Is this true?

Will you take responsibility for the blood of the many many new victims of crime with your plan in place.

Also who polices and protects during events such as Super Bowl or Final Four? The city of MPLS. will lose millions and millions of dollars from these events not choosing Mpls. due to safety concerns. Who investigates murders? Who is called when a life threatening event is happening? I have question after question. How does the black communities where crime is high really feel about this? And I'm not talking about the Black Lives Matter corrupt organization! I'm talking about the people and business owners.

I myself am moving out of Minneapolis, possibly Minnesota.

6/30/2020 11:14:48 AM

Stop the in fighting. Taking power from the Mayor is an unproductive power play. This action simply prioritizes giving law enforcement to minority elected officials. You do not speak for the city and are letting egos and emotions drive decisions.

Please seek to recognize and address the root problems. When do you plan to address the corrupt Police Union? Kroll is problematic and extremely powerful. How will you 13 control the Union more effectively? You have done NOTHING to work with the Mayor to repair the problems.

Yes we need to develop alternative resources.

Police do not need to handle overdose calls; We may not need police in schools and ;including mental health experts is smart.. These are actions that do not require a charter change. Where are you on these steps? Also, i propose selling off some/all of the military gear or forcing the police to respect the gear and be disciplined like soldiers. We need these changes.

However this is a smoke screen for a Council President power grab. You have not even tried to work under the current power structure. Just because the Mayor uses different words and is not your favorite person does not mean you do not take away the office's power. The Mayor was elected by the residents of the entire city unlike your City Council members Who are often elected without debates, active campaigning and most people do not even know who you are. .

And on that note, look at the City Council's results and clean your own doorstep. You too have allowed systemic racism to continue. Remember the closed streets in North experiment? Remember block e and the Nicollet Mall disaster? And why did you invest in unused bike lanes vs community/social services? Why do you keep prioritizing investment in Southwest vs Henry, Roosevelt and South? What have you done to bring new opportunities and jobs to your ward? How are you addressing the homeless camps? What have you done to prevent crime and repair our justice system? The answers to those questions demonstrate what happens when minority representation rules by committee. If anything needs to change it is that the Mayor's power should increase as this current structure is unproductive.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Please excuse any typos. I am replying on a phone and this form is difficult to edit.

6/30/2020 11:15:02 AM

I support the amendment that would create a new Community Safety & Violence Prevention Department and remove the Police Department from the Charter. I am a life long resident of Mpls, and served as a chaplain with the MPD for 3 years, 2013-16. The att. doc offers my thoughts regarding that experience. It contains very specific suggestions as to how community safety could be achieved.

The current culture of the MPD is violent, racist, misogynistic, and unnecessarily militaristic. "Reform" has been tried, valiantly, by many people, for decades. "Reform" has failed. I am ashamed that our city has allowed so many people of color to be mis-treated and murdered.

We CAN dis-mantle the current structure and create a new one that emphasizes and truly supports COMMUNITY Safety. We are a relatively small city. We can contract with numerous other organizations to temporarily respond to 911 calls - The U of M PD, the Park Board PD, Metro Transit PD, first ring suburb PDs, to name just a few. Additionally there are numerous community groups that could be

utilized - activists, faith leaders, mental health professionals, neighborhood organizers can all be hired and deployed in various ways.

Creating a new Community Safety & Violence Prevention Department from the ground up will take time - perhaps two years or more. It will be painful and will require patience, compassion and deep listening. I have faith in you, the leaders of our Beloved Community.

Attached:

To: Assistant Chief Arneson

I served as a chaplain with the Minneapolis Police Department Jan. 2013 – July 2016. During that time I assisted with death notifications, calls to the scenes of suicides, overdoses, and SIDS. I attended dozens of community gatherings, put in many hours with the Police Activities League and did over 30 ride alongs. I am a life long Minneapolis resident, and have worked in ministry, education and social services for 30 years. I currently serve as a chaplain for Breck School.

For the past two years, June 2014 - June 2016, the expectations for chaplains have been to attend roll call, do ride alongs, and attend community events. One of each of these per month was the minimum expectation, but I often tried to do more. I established relationships with the LGBTQ community, faith communities, the Cedar-Riverside Neighborhood, and the PAL program.

On July 18 Dan Carlson and Jason Andersen asked me to submit my resignation. They said that they did not see me “fitting in with the program”. I was told that 1<sup>st</sup> precinct “didn’t want me”.

I’m not sure what my mis-steps were that led to the request that I not serve the 1<sup>st</sup> precinct any longer. I don’t know if I was unwelcome by a few officers, or many. All of my actions and words were intended to be helpful and supportive.

The lack of any meaningful introduction of the chaplain program to the officers was, I believe, a gaping hole that may have led to mistakes and mis-understandings. (See addendum.)

I resigned with deep sadness and regret. It was truly an honor to serve the MPD and our community. I would be happy to serve again in the future, as a chaplain or in some other capacity, paid or unpaid.

I offer the thoughts below in the hope that they might be helpful as you continue the hard work of creating a safe environment for our citizens and officers.

Deputy Chief Arradondo has wisely noted that regarding our current situation a “cultural shift” needs to take place. Our situation is this: we all feel un-safe. Maslow’s hierarchy of needs places Safety second only to the basic needs of physiology (food, water, air, shelter...). We cannot progress as a society if the need for safety is not met. We cannot rely solely on trainings and programs to do the heavy lifting necessary for this desperately needed cultural shift. We need to look deep within our hearts and ask “Can we truly change how we go about protecting and serving our city?”

#### **MPD – “Para-military” or “Community Policing”?**

Many police departments in larger cities were formed as paid militia to protect the interests of the wealthy. “Community Policing” is still a relatively new phenomena. The imagined ideal is “Mayberry RFD” – officers who know their community so intimately and treat their neighbors with such great love that they are able to head off conflicts well before they become dangerous. Yes, I know, we’re a city of 400,000 souls with 800 some officers, not a fictional small town with Andy Griffith solving problem in 30

minute segments. Still, the question before us is; do we strive for an ideal, or do we accept our current reality of dis-trust, dis-respect, danger and death? *If we continue to do things the same way we will get the same results.*

Chaplain consultant Dan Carlson repeatedly described the MPD as a “para-military organization” to me. Accepting a description of the MPD as “para-military” contradicts the MPD’s stated mission of “partnership with all communities”.

Many officers embrace Community Policing, and just as many officers view themselves as warriors, prepared for combat. The warrior attitude is easy to identify. Statements that refer to “us vs them” or “I just want to catch the bad guys” can be addressed by leadership. If the MPD continues to tolerate the “warrior” mindset then we will continue to endure policing that harms rather than protects, and puts officers at risk.

#### **Use of chain of command communication**

This is a strategy inherited from the military. It is effective and necessary in crisis situations, but when applied universally it leads to a lack of autonomy, productivity, and effective communication.

Community Policing requires compassionate listening, and honest, direct communication. If chain of command communication is used exclusively within the MPD then there is no chance to practice more humane, adult ways of communicating. Please consider encouraging MPD staff to speak to one another honestly, kindly and directly, and reserve chain of command communication for crisis situations and decision making. This is a big “cultural shift” but *if we continue to do things the same way we will get the same results.*

#### **Lack of internal, intentional, guided support for staff and officers**

Working with a police department in any aspect is stressful. That’s the nature of the job. Including internal, intentional, guided support for staff and officers can alleviate some of the stress by allowing staff to process emotions, brain storm solutions and alternative approaches, and feel support and encouragement from their peers. Two hours a month of mandated, facilitated small group conversation can prevent some of the well documented risks of long term police work - burnout, bitterness, depression, suicide, chemical dependency, divorce. “Mandated” might seem counter-intuitive, but we all know that no one would participate if it was optional. There is a significant expense to this strategy, but it would pay off in a far, far healthier department. This is an area that chaplains might be able to advise and assist with implementing. Remember - *If we continue to do things the same way we will get the same results.*

#### **Policing as a lifetime career**

I have no solution for this, but it would be helpful to at least acknowledge that serving as an officer for 20, 30 years is simply too much to ask of people. Burnout is inevitable. Too often I’ve heard officers say things like “This work eats up your soul. My soul is gone.”

*If we continue to do things the same way we will get the same results.*

#### **Residency**

So many officers live outside of Minneapolis. Way outside of Minneapolis – Farmington, Elk River, Lino Lakes... According to 2015 data from MPD only about 5.4 percent of Minneapolis officers live within city boundaries. They are not connected to our community, and it is my impression that many non-resident officers have little empathy for our residents, and more of the “us vs. them” mentality. I’ve heard

officers say “I’d never live here. This is a horrible place.” And worse. Please do all you can to create incentives for residency. *If we continue to do things the same way we will get the same results.*

### **Lack of consistent leadership for programs and precincts**

During my three year tenure as a MPD chaplain the program had five different leaders, plus a paid consultant. I served under three different precinct commanders. In my time with the program there were ever shifting expectations about who we were to serve – the officers? The community? Both? And ever changing direction, or lack of direction, on how to do this. The chaplain program was never, to my knowledge, introduced to the officers and staff of MPD in any meaningful way. This has led to resistance and mis-understandings that have undermined a program that could be helpful and healing. (See addendum)

I have also worked with the Police Activity League, and experienced three different leaders in as many years. Constantly shifting leadership results in unclear expectations, a lack of strong relationships, and makes it nearly impossible to evaluate and promote programs. *If we continue to do things the same way we will get the same results.*

### **Training**

I am grateful that we are participating in the National Initiative project. On going, annual training for everyone in the department on implicit bias is crucial. And it seems clear that anyone who interfaces with the public should receive Critical Incident Training to prepare for situations involving people who are experiencing a mental health crisis.

De-escalation. I’ve heard this phrase used as a strategy when citizens are not cooperating with police: “Ask ‘em, tell ‘em, make ‘em”. Offering folks a choice somewhere in those steps often results in the wished for outcome. A “Use of Deadly Force” training was described to me in detail. It had everything to do with educating the officer about which situations might result in a lawsuit and very little about how to avoid deadly force in the first place. We can do better.

I’ve been told that “hazing” is sometimes a part of an officer’s introduction to the department. No good can come of hazing. Officers may need some training on Community Engagement. Chatting with the public does not come naturally to everyone. Some officers are great at this, but I have also witnessed officers standing in a group, with their backs to the crowd at events that have been sponsored by the community specifically to promote community engagement. *If we continue to do things the same way we will get the same results.*

### **Strengths and Resources**

- The work of Carla Nielson and the East African officers in Cedar-Riverside is outstanding. Community policing at its best.
- The DID program and its staff – They truly contribute to the quality of life in downtown Mpls.
- The fact that we have a Community Engagement team is encouraging. I have suggested the strategy of “Respectful Conversations” as a useful tool. This also might be an area in which chaplains could advise and assist.
- <http://www.mnchurches.org/respectfulcommunities/respectfulconversations.html>
- Bike Cops for Kids – Supporting creative initiatives like this that are both privately and publicly funded is a great step forward.
- The PAL programs are good – great intentions, loving leadership.

Wise and compassionate MPD staff that I have witnessed in action:

Charlie Addams	Marshall Collier	Mohammed Abdullahi
Medario Arradondo	Paul Huynh	Abdiwahab Ali
Willie Wright	Mike Kirchen	Donald Harris
Cheryl Goodman	Christie Nelson	Todd Savageau
Richard Sheldon	Rowena Holmes	Gio Feliz
James Novack	Carla Nielson	

I am sure that there are many, many others. I note these leaders as men and women whom I believe can assist with the “cultural shift” that is needed to keep us all safe.

#### *Addendum*

Below is some basic info that I believe it would be helpful for rank and file officers to understand about the chaplain program.

Ideally this info would be delivered annually, by arranging a time outside of roll call for officers to meet their precinct chaplain. Perhaps it could be included in training event. Allow chaplain to introduce her/himself, explain the program, answer questions. Allow 30 minutes.

Program intro should include:

Current chaplain job duties/expectations.

Current “call –out”, death notification availability and info on how chaplains are contacted.

Current ride along policy – Ride alongs can be a great strategy. How they are assigned needs more thought and consistency.

Benefits:

Chatting with a chaplain can be a healthy, safe way to acknowledge stress or trauma or pride and feelings of accomplishment.

Ride alongs allow chaplains to witness the amazing work and the incredible stresses of police work.

Challenges:

There are MANY reasons why an officer would prefer not to do a ride along. Listing these could be a helpful activity during program introduction. Acknowledge these reasons, yet ask officers to remain open to an occasional ride along.

Confidentiality – “What you say to the chaplain, stays with the chaplain.”

Role of Chaplains for officers: Chaplains are not therapists. Chaplains are good listeners, and can offer wisdom and resources. Many of them can offer guidance for “life moments” such as marriage, birth or death.

Role of Chaplain in Community – Chaplains serve as listeners, liaisons and leaders.

How can chaplains serve both? - It's not easy. However, if we want to move from the polarization of recent events then clearly we need folks who are willing to stand in the middle. Chaplains are willing to live in the tension of "not taking a side". They love and listen and are willing to keep loving and listening.

Prayer - Prayer is a tool that the MPD includes in its toolkit. This is clear from the inclusion of prayers at MPD ceremonies, and from its commitment to a Chaplain program. Prayer is an option. If prayers are said at an MPD event officers are not required to participate. Prayer can also provide calm, and redirection of energy, during moments of stress and crisis. Chaplains do their best to offer prayers that are inclusive and supportive.

The role of faith - The MPD acknowledges that faith is a part of community life yet does not impose any beliefs on anyone. Chaplains help the MPD maintain relationships with faith communities. They can also offer spiritual guidance without directing folks to a particular denomination or belief system. Police work can wear and tear at the soul. Chaplains are a resource for this wear and tear.

Chaplains are an optional resource – Kind of like an employer offering a discounted gym membership as a benefit. You can choose to use, or decline – as you wish. Even if you are asked to accept a ride along, you are free to engage with the chaplain as you wish.

6/30/2020 11:15:15 AM

I DO NOT support the proposal to disband the police force and change the city's charter. The Council's actions since the murder of George Floyd are irresponsible and reckless, and have caused further chaos. The council has offered no evidence to citizens to support their conclusion that the entire police department is incapable of reform. Instead, they developed their own proposal without due process of community opportunity to review.

It disturbs me the Council offers no acknowledgement or support to the police chief and his department, who place themselves in danger to protect and serve. Instead, the action of Chauvin, and inaction of three other officers, is used to characterize the entire department. Isn't this how systemic racism works?

I DO NOT support giving the Council complete control any form of "Community of safety & violence Prevention" department. We cannot have a safe community without law enforcement. We need police reform, and education as to what citizens can realistically expect from police, and leadership that speaks out against citizens hurling insults and objects at police, failing to obey orders from police, burning and looting. We all need to do better and support positive changes while respecting each other. Based on the Council's ideology. it would be exceedingly dangerous to put them in charge, and I have no confidence with any action that gives them more power. Checks and balances are critical, and the council is seeking to eliminate anything that gets in the way of this ill-conceived proposal.

6/30/2020 11:15:17 AM

I am very interested in this proposed charter amendment to remove the police department and establish a community of safety and violence prevention department. As we have seen during the recent protests, police brutality is an issue that affects many Minneapolis residents, many Minnesotans, and many people across the country.

I do not believe the police as an institution can be reformed into what the residents of Minneapolis want. Instead, I support divesting from the police department and spreading those funds among public health initiatives (including comprehensive mental health services), education, and the new safety and violence prevention department.

I do NOT want this new department to simply be a renamed police force. I will support an amendment that seeks to imagine a future where community supports each other, not polices each other. I've seen so much community support and care over the last couple months, and know that it's possible to build a future that will be equitable for all Minneapolis residents.

6/30/2020 11:15:26 AM

This is what happens when you have Democratic leadership without a backbone. Enjoy the new Detroit corrupters!!!

6/30/2020 11:15:53 AM

I work in Minneapolis. Please don't abolish or defund the police department. We need them to keep us safe.

6/30/2020 11:17:30 AM

This is ridiculous. There are not enough officers to police now! For example, what is the point of lowering speed limits if there are no traffic cops? Just changing the signs will do nothing.

Making sure police are trained properly is an answer. Making sure people who become officers are not people who like to boss others around, rather than negotiate is an answer.

Making sure there are consequences to any improper actions by any officer is an answer.

We should not be trying to throw the baby out with the bath water.

6/30/2020 11:17:51 AM

I admire the bold action to try this out and support the effort to disband and replace the police with something different.

However, I feel we are doing a terrible job with messaging and are scaring the living daylights out of some of our older residents, visiting suburbanites, or, frankly, anyone living outside our liberal bubble of MPLS. These are the same people who misunderstood and were therefore irrationally apposed to the 2040 plan forcing a number of concessions. We did a terrible job promoting that plan to sceptics and I foresee this police reform plan being an even tougher sell.

We need to cite the example of Camden. We need to explain WHY we're doing this, we need to reassure people that safety will be maintained. With so few details known, people are going to fill in the blanks with their worst fears or highest aspirations depending on which 'side' we are already on.

I wish y'all luck with this, you're gonna need it.

6/30/2020 11:18:22 AM

The president of city council said "If you're white and you're feeling unsafe right now, just know that those feelings come from privilege." She (and the rest of city council) have done nothing to assure the residents of Minneapolis that we will be safe, they have no regard for my or my family's safety.

Minneapolis has already been declining over the last several years to the point that I (and many others) avoid going downtown. Defunding the police will only make it worse. People will travel to Minneapolis to commit crimes. Honestly, this is the stupidest idea I've ever heard of. If Minneapolis is insane enough to actually defund the police, I will be leaving very quickly. And if your answer to that is "good riddance" then you just proved my point, you do not represent me.

6/30/2020 11:19:21 AM

I think the city council needs to slow down and listen to the citizens of Minneapolis. They are going about this too haphazardly and are going to screw this up. While I believe the mpd needs to undergo some significant changes, I don't think abolishing the department is the best choice.

6/30/2020 11:20:14 AM

I'm writing to express my full support for the proposed charter amendment to disband the Police Department and establish a Community of Safety and Violence Protection Department. I am SO grateful and impressed by the work you are all doing, and I'm confident you have the support of my friends and neighbors.

Thank you all. Be safe and keep up the good work. Your service to Minneapolis is so appreciated.

6/30/2020 11:20:25 AM

You need to KEEP and do better with the police dept. They are NECESSARY and important, and the city needs to get off their high horse and stop caving to bullies and rioters!! And the police need to clean up their act! Most are good but need to eliminate the bad ones.

IF you defund the police, I guarantee you will lose order and peace AND it will turn into poverty because I know I will not visit ever again without a strong police force in place.. and I did come there a lot for my sports teams I love. No to Vikings, twins or other games, not the many concerts I used to attend. I will find other cities and states to go to concerts. Dont fall to what Venezuela did!! I love my homestate of Mn and never want to see such weak leaders demolishing everything good here again! Be a leader, not a follower giving into bullies!!!

6/30/2020 11:21:06 AM

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6/30/2020 11:21:28 AM

This weekend is our 36th anniversary.. Normally we would spend the day in Minneapolis and have a grand dinner at Ruth's Chris.. This year we are changing a 20 year tradition.. Minneapolis is no longer safe to visit.. Many businesses are closed or burned down... More places of business are closing soon. Misdemeanor crimes are on the rise. The Mayor and City council have made some bad decisions that brought this to its current reality.. If you succeed in reducing the police force and the resultant public safety we will never return to Minneapolis for any reason..

I worked in downtown Minneapolis for over 20 years as a construction superintendent on some of the largest projects ever built.. It is a shame to see a great city destroyed in such a fashion!

6/30/2020 11:22:00 AM

The city council needs to keep the police department and not put this amendment to vote. The current police chief can work with the department and the city to institute change. I do not agree with having a manager in charge of licensed police officers who has no police background and currently it is not allowed by the post board. I find it extremely concerning that members of the city council are using tax dollars for

private security but want to remove police protection for private citizens. I would like to know when all citizens will be assigned private security by Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 11:22:09 AM

It is not a coincidence that the residents who need the police the most are the ones who are completely against removal of them from their communities. I understand wanting to reallocate police funds to mental health and education but THERE IS NO PLAN! Your commitment means jack shit if there isn't a plan that covers your bases. How will you guarantee that social workers can provide adequate services when any person worth a damn will be more than incentivized to join private industry? How will increasing education funding make a difference when the problem isn't just the schools, it's at home? What's the data on the people that have been umbrellaed by government programs. How much tax revenue is spent on them over the course of 1 year? 5 years? 10?

I think the city has to take a deep look at the economic ramifications of their decisions and really make a tough decision about the roles of the government in the day to day life of its constituents. Your heart is in the right place but the execution is far from where it needs to be it. It seems like the more the city has tried to help it has instead hurt. This time feels no different.

6/30/2020 11:23:02 AM

We need to change the police union and the way they protect the offers from being accountable for the things they do against people of color. The murder of George Floyd was just the tip of the iceberg as to how the M.P.D. is doing their job. The police think they can circumvent the right of people just because they have a badge. I have witness the M.P.D. doing things that I feel are wrong. Not major like killing some one but their ability to stretch the law to fit their needs.

6/30/2020 11:23:53 AM

God be with those local residents when the Council acts to remove the police in an effort to appease mob control. The increase in serious crime will occur. Innocent persons will be forced to defend themselves under unimaginable circumstances. They will have to make split seconds decisions which could get them arrested only to appease the mob control.

Additionally, the civil suits will increase exponentially with the immunity defense being weakened because of the intention and reckless conduct of the City Council. I live in Ohio, but feel for you folks.

6/30/2020 11:24:10 AM

I am concerned about the language in the charter amendment regarding law enforcement services. The problem I see at this time is our officers are called upon to handle situations where their training is, at best, not suitable and, at worst (excuse the term), overkill. Having a wider, public health approach is a terrific idea, \*and\* I honestly cannot imagine a situation in the future where it would not be

advantageous to have officers with appropriate training and equipment available to deal with the most difficult and dangerous situations. I think the language "may maintain a division of law enforcement services" is too soft; I think this division will still be essential and the charter language should reflect that.

6/30/2020 11:26:25 AM

I believe this change is needed in order to move forward with a clear effort to change the way policing is handled in Minneapolis. I support the city council and ask the Mayor to support this change as well. We have spent too much as a city and have gotten too little. I live in North Minneapolis, and policing has made very little impact on the levels of gun violence and I will no longer call the police when help is needed in my community. We need another path.

6/30/2020 11:26:32 AM

The heroin crisis has not disappeared. Neither has the opioid crisis. Cut the police into a rainbows-and-lollipops civil service and you create a power vacuum on the streets. Something will fill that void, be it local street gangs or more organized criminal structures. For a model of this look to a lot of cities/towns in Mexico. (I used to live across the border from Mexico and saw how criminal elements can take over neighborhoods.) Think it can't happen here? Fewer police with less initiative will be very attractive to drug cartels and human trafficking groups for the simple reason they look for urban areas where they can operate with little interference. In a year or two Minneapolis could well be a major mid west hub for those criminal enterprises.

Yes, bad police need to be weeded out and, yes, it would be good to have social service assets available when police are called to mental health disturbances. But undercutting the police whole-hog, as you are planning on doing, is like planning on doing surgery for a cancerous tumor with a chainsaw rather than a scalpel. And please spare me the rhetoric about how 'concerned' and 'pro-police' you really are. As a group the city council cut ties to the police as the city burned. All to enhance your progressive credentials.

So the bottom line is a police force that is restricted from defending its own precincts is not reliable. As the massive up-swing in gun violence since the riots has shown. Citizens now do not believe the cops will be there when 911 is called. Consequently, more people are getting firearms for self defense -- and this is a major problem because they don't know how to use them properly. (I'm retired military and know a bit about how much training is needed to make a raw recruit a competent rifleman.) By the way, the city council should not even think about trying to slip in more gun control. You will be laughed out of the city and we all know how important public image is to the council members.

Leadership is the act of doing what is right, not what is convenient. The city council has yet to show any leadership.

6/30/2020 11:26:35 AM

Overall, I am in full support of the idea of eliminating the police department from the Charter and creating a new entity to oversee "community safety and violence prevention."

However, before the Council decides whether to put this issue on the ballot in November, I want the Council to critically analyze whether it thinks enough work has been put in regarding the new Department. For example, has the Council truly received enough public input – namely residents of Minneapolis – on how the new Department is created, how it will (and will not) function, what role will the law enforcement services division play, what role won't it play, etc. Moreover, has the Council sufficiently engaged with community leaders who have been on the ground talking with those most affected by these issues – what do they need, what don't they need, what are the biggest problem areas. At this point, I am not sure that there has been enough of this type of dialogue.

Similarly, the public deserves to know what is going on behind closed doors – i.e., what exactly is the Council doing to create this Department, what conversations are they actually having with the community. I think it would be beneficial – both for the actual formation of the new Department and for public trust – to hold at least several public comment hearings that are also streamed online so that people can voice their opinions but also so that the public can physically see the Council hearing these opinions.

Finally, I think the new department itself needs to be more community driven as opposed to city leadership driven – namely that the public should have input – via our right to vote – on who the director of the department is. Again, I think this is critical in the new Department having the public's full trust and support.

6/30/2020 11:27:12 AM

I agree that Minneapolis needs to reform the Police Department and I think there is a lot of opportunity to do it in the right way. Removing the Police Department however, is not the answer.

6/30/2020 11:27:36 AM

As long time residents of downtown Minneapolis, my wife and I had planned to live out our lives in downtown. Now we are having serious reservations about the safety and future of, what once was, a beautiful vibrant city. Ever since the decision was made to reduce the arrests of people soliciting drugs along Hennepin and the Nicollet Mall, we have seen an increase in such activity and have been approached by people trying to sell us drugs. We're in our mid-seventies and no longer feel safe to walk to Target Field or many of the other restaurants and attractions that made us want to live in the City.

The idea that by reducing or eliminating the Minneapolis Police Force is absurd. What is needed is more police, not fewer. The Ordinance (as written) does not seem, in any way, to be thought out. No details, no real plan. It seems you are asking people to give you the power to eliminate the police without any idea what would replace them and "trust you" to provide protection and security. We'll be voting "NO".

I would like to hear someone's response to my concerns and I hope I do not receive some sort of happy ass, feel good form letter. Thank you.

6/30/2020 11:28:13 AM

If it's true that 3 or 4 of the current city council members are charging taxpayers \$4500/d for their security then it's time to vote them out or recall them. This is outrageous. Large and important sections of our city are in ruin and you (they) are selfishly worrying about increasing bike routes and plastic bags oh! and charging taxpayers for your (their) security.

I'm with Jos. Anthony cf. Strib 6/25. It's time to change the city charter so that one person, the mayor, is in charge not you (them) 13 so called city council members. Other than that, get to work, do what StP council members are doing: get out to the ruined neighborhoods, note carefully the huge needs of our immigrant, Native American, white etc. neighbors and use taxpayer \$\$ for that. Show up where you are needed and do your job for God's sake!!!!

6/30/2020 11:29:52 AM

I not only think that this is a bad idea, but I will definitely not be bringing any of my business to Minneapolis if the police department is dismantled. I will not expose my family to the crime that will most certainly skyrocket due to the changes that you are proposing.

6/30/2020 11:30:16 AM

I am in favor of a significant increase in support of social services and mental health workers to respond to situations that are better suited for them to address. I also am in favor of housing assistance and homeless transition programs.

6/30/2020 11:30:59 AM

Thanks for your work on this. We need a complete culture change because the systemic racism is so deep and ingrained.

ALSO - the traffic court judges need to have the authority to WAIVE some of these DRIVING WHILE BLACK tickets.

6/30/2020 11:31:38 AM

I do think this amendment is the best route to taking strong reform for the police, as long as we have a transitional plan in place and also communicate with the community what is going to happen. I think quite a few people are scared that they're losing the police during the recent uptick in calls, but I think it

needs to be communicated that this amendment just allows for future changes to happen while creating reform to prevent incidents from happening in the mean time.

Again, I strongly support this.

6/30/2020 11:31:43 AM

Do NOT do this. As a lifelong resident of MPLS I believe this is an overreaction and a gross under serving of the residents. We need a strong police force to protect and serve EVERYONE. There are issues that have been there for years, now, the national and world spotlight is on MSP you decide to make a radical change. How about doing something really novel and hold all of us to a higher standard. We can have a highly functioning, respectful police department that addresses concerns swiftly and with consequences. What has been happening in Mpls over the last month in Powderhorn Park and near North side is unacceptable and frankly underserves all of the community. Autonomous zones and turning the other cheek to violent acts is a foreshadowing of what is in store for us. This reaction is as disturbing as the action that caused the riots I. Minneapolis. Stop the crazy, get training for the cops, dismantle the union, fire Kroll, make the cops live in the community. I think it's shameful you spent city money on private security, that only validates my point. We need people to keep order and protect us.

On a separate note address systematic racism through action in terms of education, opportunity and white people like me recognizing their privilege.

6/30/2020 11:32:27 AM

We don't need to rename the police and continue the same injustices. End qualified Immunity, redistribute the budget to social programs like education, housing, family services, and public health. Sell off the military surplus the MPD used to attack our people. Require any peace keeping public servant to live in Minneapolis, require them to keep their body camera on or face criminal penalty, give the people of Minneapolis power of citizens review of the police department and require external handling of complaints against officers so those with long histories of brutality won't be allowed to remain on our streets because of some code of silence. For too long has the MPD acted like an outside occupying force, terrorizing the people of Minneapolis. I am STRONGLY in support of eliminating the MPD.

6/30/2020 11:32:39 AM

To Whom it May Concern;

Before moving to abolish your police department, I would hope that the city would exercise emotional restraint and attempt to approach the matter of public safety with a level head and pure intentions.

What has happened to George Floyd was a tragedy, one that could have been avoided and prevented. Evil exists in our world and it is for this exact reason that law enforcement must exist. No department, regardless of how scrutinized, will ever be free from the clutches of tyranny, greed and abuse of power.

It is for this reason our founding fathers sought to create a new nation, one founded in liberties with checks and balances against those who we saw fit to govern us. Although this Union is not perfect, far from it, the diligent thought and care which was undertaken to see its success has been rewarding beyond any other measure.

With this in mind, I would humbly ask that those who reside at the table of power in the city of Minneapolis consider what they seek to accomplish by abolishing their department of law enforcement and inquire within themselves if by doing so, the greatest good might be dealt to the greatest number of people. Should the apple tree be hewn down on the behalf of a few poisoned fruit? After all, it has shaded so many from the scorching heat of evil and provided stability for all animals and birds to perch amongst its branches.

Question everything. Never give in to a mob. Seek to protect the very people who placed you in the positions you are in today. Protect the weak.

-Concerned Citizen

6/30/2020 11:32:54 AM

I do not know why we need a charter amendment to do the right thing. I think that by appropriating budget money and spending it where it will matter (prevention, protection, support) we can get a lot more done without taking on a contentious, us- vs-them situation. Reform can work - and it can work well. The fact that it hasn't worked in the past has more to do with the council's response to budget requests and personnel requirements than with the city's charter. I do not think we need to abolish the police - and I would guess that I have that in common with a large majority of my fellow residents. I support Chief Arrandondo, and I think we should try to find a way to make meaningful reform possible without gutting things completely. We don't need grandstanding or position - we need hard, steady work toward reform and a serious method for civilian oversight and review - and accountability. I believe all of that can be accomplished without having to reform the charter.

6/30/2020 11:34:28 AM

Are you all insane!? This is the absolute dumbest thing you could possibly do! My business already is losing business because people are scared to even come into the city with the police department which you have handicapped to do their job. You are the worst council in the history of the city. Thank you for destroying MPLS!

6/30/2020 11:35:32 AM

For once I agree with the mayor. I have more questions than I have suggestions. What are we going to vote on? What is your plan on how to replace the police department? You make a decision to move forward with this but offer no explanation on what the future will look like. Investing in preventative measures sounds great on paper, but getting down to brass tacks, how are you going to deal with the increased violence we now see in downtown Minneapolis? Your very actions have seemed to embolden

the bad guys! For right now, I have no desire to go down town Minneapolis. In fact, I will make an effort to avoid downtown.

6/30/2020 11:35:49 AM

I am in full support of this much needed structural change.

6/30/2020 11:36:27 AM

I do not want the Police Dept removed. I do not want it defunded. When the City Council is asked questions about what the new organization would be, they do not have answers or do not want to share the information. This is getting the cart before the horse. You do not get rid of something before you know what will replace it.

The Police Dept does need to improve. Maybe make more community service positions. Better training, better visibility, change the review and disciplinary process.

The police Dept should NOT report the City Council. Too many people involved. It should report to the Mayor.

The City Council has turned down funding requests from the Police Dept and ignored the suggestions for changing the Police Dept in recent years. Now when an issue occurs they want to take over. Wrong.

We need more and better policemen and women.

I do not want this question to go on the ballot until other alternatives or the proposal has more details.

6/30/2020 11:36:39 AM

I support the City Council's proposed charter amendment and their efforts to dismantle the existing police department and replace it with a new agency that will protect and serve ALL residents of our city. For decades the MPD has operated with impunity and failed in its stated purpose. Instead, MPD has used terror against African Americans (and Native Americans) and -- in tandem with other institutions -- maintained separate and unequal spheres for whites and non-whites in work, residence and leisure. As a white resident of South Minneapolis, I benefited materially from this soft apartheid. It must stop, and replacing the MPD is one key step in this process.

I trust my elected representatives in the City Council, and know that they are not saying there will be no protection from violent crime, but that more will be invested in non-violent responses to social problems. As a resident and a voter, I will hold them accountable as I expect them to hold all city employees accountable.

This is a change that is long overdue.

6/30/2020 11:38:08 AM

We need our Police Department. They need our support and appreciation for their courage and commitment to protecting our communities.

We need them especially in the schools. We need to remember all the children that have been mowed down by shooters entering the schools and always keep the police present.

6/30/2020 11:38:40 AM

A public defender should be procured , there to represent the citizens of Minneapolis; to investigate the lack of leadership and personal harm inflicted upon those who pay taxes, provide services ,own businesses, attend school and dwell within it's vicinity.- their hard earned monies squandered by inept "council". That all elected officials have been labeled " racist" by those who are here to create chaos and disruption- you all should be defunded, put out to pasture or better yet sued for the return of funds stolen by false workmanship!!! Oh, and, pay back the " private security" you so falsely deem necessary for your safety- you certainly don't care about anyone else's!! Disgusting. I wish my children would leave this mess of a town you have brought about!

6/30/2020 11:38:45 AM

This is a great way to pretend you're now doing something to improve public safety for poorer citizens while deflecting blame onto the police, a department you've underfunded for years, instead spending money on fancy things for richer citizens. The sad thing is the deflection just might work. However, your reaction to the mess you've created, the mess you're responsible for, will ultimately make the poorer citizens of Minneapolis suffer more. I would say "good luck with your experiment in public safety", but as you've been employing private security forces, it's not you who needs it.

6/30/2020 11:38:51 AM

An enhancement to the police force is needed for dealing with drug addicts and mentally ill. Maybe this is a matter of training for the police force. We need the police! What happened to Floyd is murder, not a race thing! He is not a hero, was breaking the law and using drugs. Let's take color out of it and look at the facts. Better training with dealing with addicts. It will not help to have police live within their covered area because that is what escalated the Floyd case!!! Stop letting people break the law and being too afraid to say anything.

6/30/2020 11:39:24 AM

I am absolutely opposed to the proposed Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention . Minneapolis needs much more structure. The proposed \* Department \* would not provide residents confidence of safety. We all must feel safe in our homes and on our streets.

6/30/2020 11:40:27 AM

This is a very serious and urgent matter, and we, the people of Minneapolis, deserve to vote on this in the upcoming election. Please make sure that this is on the ballot in November. We can do better as a community. We must do better as a community.

6/30/2020 11:41:08 AM

I think this charter amendment gives the people of Minneapolis an important opportunity to directly voice their opinion on what they think our community response to crime and personal crisis should look like. I am firmly in support of this amendment, but even if I was not I would still like the opportunity to vote on the proposed changes.

Please allow this amendment to be put on the 2020 ballot so Minneapolis residents can make their voices heard.

6/30/2020 11:41:12 AM

I am writing to inform you of my dismay of how the city council is planning to '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, with law enforcement 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.

All council members have 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.

6/30/2020 11:41:54 AM

It is absolutely absurd to consider the possibility of eliminating the police force. While they mayor did nothing, the city burned, and stores were looted. If anything, police presence should be increased. Shootings have become a daily occurrence - a "Safety & Violence Prevention Department" would be powerless to address the widespread crime that is the new norm.

6/30/2020 11:42:17 AM

I am not in favor of dismantling the Minneapolis Police Department and replacing it with the City Council's proposed Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department. The Minneapolis Police Department is an essential service for the citizens of Minneapolis. I am in favor of making needed changes within the police department to ensure the safety and equality of all citizens. I am in favor of holding the department and individual officers accountable for behavior that is not in line with the idea of equal justice for all. I am in favor of officers being an integral part of the city, such as living within the city they police. I want to see greater community interaction between officers and all citizens.

The City Council's response to remove the Police Department is reckless and distinctly lacking thought and planning.

6/30/2020 11:42:41 AM

My biggest concern is that the city plans to remove all law enforcement. While there are bad cops, removing all officers is not a solution I want to see. There's got to be a balanced, middle ground solution where police officers are held accountable and our community is served and protected appropriately based on our needs (domestic abuse, mental health, panhandling, etc). Expectations are set by our leaders...so I do believe this runs deeper than one city department.

Further, having heard that our tax dollars are being spent on security for three city council members is enough evidence for me that they believe in protection for themselves. Why push the opposite on its residents? Doing so will secure my vote against them at election time.

6/30/2020 11:43:06 AM

I support reform, not dismantling the Minneapolis police. There are many parts of the criminal justice system that require a licensed peace officer. For example, who will obtain search warrants for DNA swabs for sexual assault cases? Who will run a canine unit to find suspects that have left the scene? Who will submit violent cases to prosecutors for charging? It isn't as simple as sending social workers or

counselors to handle still active incidents. Please work with Chief Rondo to give Minneapolis the police force they deserve.

6/30/2020 11:44:00 AM

I urge you to have a plan in place for the Community Safety & Violence Prevention Department before you remove the existing police department. I agree a lot of changes need to be made, but no one has a clear outline of what those will look like. More community engagement is needed to compromise a plan that works for everyone. As a business owner in Uptown, the impact of the statements made by city council has severely compromised our safety.

6/30/2020 11:45:36 AM

I'm not in favor of disbanding the police of mpls . My brother in law is a cop and I think it would be wrong and unwise to disband them . We NEED THEM to protect us and help us when we NEED THEM . They are what helps most of sleep at night safely in our homes knowing that they are out there protecting the rest us in this world that is crazy right now .

6/30/2020 11:46:40 AM

You people are f\*\*\*\*\* crazy if you get rid of the police people will die I don't even live in Minneapolis but I work there and I like to do things in Minneapolis and if you think I'm going to go there with my family without police protection from the rampant thuggery that is going on there because the city council and the mayor are completely f\*\*\*\* up you have lost your minds. Not to mention your so-called unarmed violence prevention department those people will die also because the criminals still have guns and are not shy about using them

6/30/2020 11:47:13 AM

Concerns: 1) It is not clear who the Director of Community Safety... is responsible to, who can fire them. How long is their term of office? Can they be removed? Minneapolis has a "weak" mayor system Does this make the mayor impotent?

2) I believe the amendment should say the Council MUST maintain a division of law enforcement services. This is a deal breaker for me.

6/30/2020 11:48:02 AM

Before voting to remove the police please have a plan in place. Saying defund the police is idiotic. What will replace it? Have some details so folks can discuss the issue. Who/what will enforce the laws? Who will respond to 911? What will the process for holding this new system accountable? Who is

responsible if this new system does NOT work? What is the plan if this does NOT work? I could ask a 1000 questions...

6/30/2020 11:48:55 AM

Hello Minneapolis City Council,

Please discontinue this campaign to defund the police. Your thoughts and words are incendiary, dangerous and irresponsible. As a tax paying resident of Minneapolis I am to receive the protections of the police department to ensure my safety and defunding the police will do exactly the opposite of that. In the past 3 weeks I have been awoken almost every Night to gunfire and carnage as a result of your poor decisions to give criminals carte Blanche in ruling this city. Since your campaign to ruin or city has begun, a man has been killed 2 blocks from my home, the shot spotters are going off every night and you sit up in your ivory tower of hypocrisy with your \$4500/ day private security making immensely short-sighted decisions in an effort to enrage a cultural war than to protect my personal property and family members. Stop this now and Overfund the police so that they can have the tools and resources they need to best keep the community safe and secure.

6/30/2020 11:48:57 AM

The police force are an intricate and essential part of our community. They keep us safe, are there in emergencies, work 24/7 including holidays weekends and nights. They lay their lives on the line every single day they come to work. If anything we need more. I live on downtown which has been taken over by thugs, murderers and vandals. I want protection. What has happened to the beautiful, clean and wonderful Minneapolis? It has become a s\*hole. We need to get rid of council, vote in new mayor and build a bigger and even better police force. I have an emergency, it is not Blm thatwill be putting their lives on the line for me. It is the men in blue.

6/30/2020 11:49:00 AM

All new Staff of this department should have to live in Minneapolis proper. Those serving North Minneapolis need to live in North Minneapolis, those serving downtown should live near downtown. Other large cities have hiring rules that Staff need to live within City limits and Minneapolis should start this!

All body camera footage should be released upon request. I have made a request in the past and been denied. It is public data and should be treated as such.

The oversight committee at the City should continue and you should allow those who have made a complaint against MPD to be part of it. Right now you can't join if you made a complaint within 5 years. This is a huge racial issue - we know who the MPD attacks and targets the most, so you're saying you shouldn't make complaints and hold people accountable if you want to be part of an oversight committee.

6/30/2020 11:49:32 AM

I stand against defunding and/or disbanding the police department and caving to mob rule, especially when this mob rule has destroyed and looted businesses and continues to terrorizes our citizens. Police reform is possible, however, now we see why the democrats, who've had control of Minnesota for decades, did nothing to enact police reform to solve issues. We now are awake to the goal to subvert our constitution. We are aware that former Mayor Betsy Hodges and former Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton signed Minneapolis up as a member of the Strong Cities Network. We're aware that under the SCN, law-enforcement measures for member cities will come from the Institute for Strategic Dialogue and the United Nations, and not from the U.S. Constitution and locally elected officials and the laws governing them. This revelation and the official documentation proving it has become widespread among Minnesotans and all citizens of the United States. The attempts that are being made to subvert our constitution are by law crimes. Continued effort at subversion of the Constitution and city charters constitute criminal activity as per 18 U.S. Code CHAPTER 115—TREASON, SEDITION, AND SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES:

<https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/part-I/chapter-115>

6/30/2020 11:50:38 AM

Hello,

I fully support developing a community safety department in lieu of a police department. Working as a community social worker I've seen ways that police presence agitates situations and as someone who lives in south Minneapolis I've seen the police be bullies who feel they have the power to treat people however they want.

Here are a few things that feel very important as we move forward. Requiring that people who work in the safety department live in the community seems important to me, or at least requiring that a large majority live here. Not only will it give people a sense of ownership (this is my neighborhood and these are my neighbors.) but they will also know more people in the community if they live and work here. When I worked in Dakota County the police officers knew us and knew many of our clients which hugely impacted how they handled situations. I also think it's important to look at what professional's training fit the different police responsibilities when the new department is being set up. A mediator, drug and alcohol specialist, and mental health practitioners all have different focuses that make them an expert in certain areas. A well rounded team of people will provide different perspectives in the department and allow workers to focus on furthering their skills development in a focused area. Police officers are expected to do so many things yet aren't well trained in many of them. Breaking down those tasks will create a safer system. I like that the proposal changes the title of police officers. We need a new start and new titles for the remaining police type role will help some embrace the plan. A piece that may not fit in the step of changes but is so very important that I want to bring it up now is a continual fight against racism. All professions, my own included, are steeped in racism. We need to find a way to challenge the ingrained systemic racism in all our professions on a personal level but I wonder if there are ways to focus on this in the new department. Because it's a safety and violence department whoever is hired will be placed in situations where racism could create traumatizing or dangerous

situations. Maybe it's ongoing training for all in the department or a racism specific review board, or something else but it has to be continually addressed until we change the whole dynamic of racism in our society.

I know we're at a stage where ideas are still being put together and things are vague to some degree. As things move forward being transparent and as detailed as possible will help people who are on the fence or feelings uncertain. Also the more information you can give us the more community members can share with each other. We are ready to be a part of the process and want to have conversations about these changes.

Thank you for the work you've put into this important change! I appreciate you asking for feedback and thank you for reading my statement.

6/30/2020 11:51:31 AM

YES absolutely we need a new department that is truly invested in community safety. As we have seen in decades of police treatment of underserved individuals and groups, and in their treatment of protestors lately, the police are NOT that department. I would be SO HAPPY to do whatever I can to help this amendment pass, and even serve a role in that future department as a therapist. This is a huge step forward!!!

6/30/2020 11:52:22 AM

My Adult Children live in Mpls I go to Chuch there .I am STRONGLY against Defunding the Police and have read about the why's and so on ..my family is Multi Racial and lived in City myself of course there have been Racial issues in Mpls like other Cities ..deal with them individually and do more training ..it appears the few City Counsel Members are now running the show ...VERY DISTURBING ...

6/30/2020 11:54:39 AM

Keep the police.. better training to adapt to the new changes.. but we need police.. Mpls will become even less safe as a community if we cut police at all.. KEEP POLICE!!!

6/30/2020 11:55:00 AM

Do away with the Union not the police!!!!

6/30/2020 11:55:32 AM

I strongly oppose removing the Minneapolis police force. I believe it was put in the city charter for a good reason. We need to enforce our laws. There will always be crime, there will always be people who will flagrantly violate the law no matter how many counseling services are provided. We need a strong deterrent, a force for upholding the law. We need our police force.

6/30/2020 11:56:05 AM

I grew up in Minneapolis and graduated from North High. I worked for 13 years patrolling North Minneapolis and working in Child Abuse, Housing, Sex Crimes, Robbery and Housing.

I am now the Director of an organization called A Mothers Love. Our office is at 3451 Cedar Ave North but we do majority of our work in North Minneapolis. We work in partnership with the Minneapolis Police, OVP and the community as a whole.

We are 2nd responders to violent crimes to include Domestic Violence, shootings and Homicides to help the victims get the resources they need, as well as trauma care.

What the Council is suggesting in place of the police is DANGEROUS.

EMT, Paramedics and the Fire Department won't go into certain calls until the scene is rendered safe for them.

The Violence with Guns CRISIS has now spread throughout the City. People involved in this Violence are following what's happening closely and totally disrespecting police officers responding to calls. What the City Council is suggesting is dangerous, especially for the BLACK Community.

This is the time when cooler heads are needed. We have a Chief who IS shifting the culture in MPD with no support from this Council. I have NEVER seen this before.

Changing 150 years of a culture does not happen in 3 years, but the things this Chief is doing IS moving Minneapolis in the right direction.

When it was decided to make Minneapolis a BIGGER City we should have expected more crime and violence. As it stands MPD did not grow as the City grew nor as the crime grew.

This is the time to FULLY invest in the police and the community, as PARTNERS for change.

My team has been on-scene dogging bullets, is that really what we want in Minneapolis? Telling people they are White Supremacist if they use their tax payers right to call 911.

This Divesting/Dismantling/Abolitioning talk will lead Minneapolis to be the first Stand Your Ground City within a State.... Will the great Citizens and many visitors be indemnified?

Please be the cooler heads we need right now. These are scary time for EVERYONE in Minneapolis and Minnesota.

NO to a Charter Change!

6/30/2020 11:58:07 AM

This idea is absolutely terrifying. We already see an increase in crime as police are pulling back out of fear. I have three kids that live in the Minneapolis area and I fear for their safety. You will see a mass exodus if police are removed and it will most likely impact University of Minnesota attendance as well. City council members getting private security is the ultimate hypocrisy. How about we just send you a social worker? Please don't turn our beautiful city into another Chicago where there are many murders every weekend. Reform, not replace the police. A few bad actors don't represent the entire police force.

6/30/2020 11:59:12 AM

I support the City Council's proposed charter amendment and their efforts to dismantle the existing police department and replace it with a new agency that will protect and serve ALL residents of our city. For decades the MPD has operated with impunity and failed in its stated purpose. Instead, MPD has used terror against African Americans (and Native Americans) and -- in tandem with other institutions -- used force to maintain separate and unequal spheres for whites and non-whites in work, residence and leisure. This soft apartheid must stop, and replacing the MPD is one key step in this process.

I trust our elected representatives and understand that they are not saying there will be no protection from violent crime, but that more will be invested in non-violent responses to social problems. As a resident and a voter, I will hold them accountable as I expect them to hold all city employees accountable.

6/30/2020 11:59:49 AM

I am in favor of this amendment to the city charter.

6/30/2020 11:59:51 AM

I am opposed to placing a charter amendment on the November ballot.

We will be able to make much needed substantial changes in the police department without disbanding it. If this does not happen we will be able to review and proceed accordingly. Certainly we can safeguard black lives and have police at the same time.

We should not rush into this.

6/30/2020 12:01:10 PM

Defunding the police is not the answer. If police are defunded the tax paying citizens should get a major reduction in their property taxes for the city taking away a major service that is payed for from those taxes. Folding under to the protests of rioting thugs is wrong. I work and live in this sorry excuse of a city. The city counsel should not only be removed, it should be cut in half.

6/30/2020 12:01:29 PM

As someone who visits and works in Minneapolis, I like to remind you that I couldn't do my job without the safety of our current police and will not be in mpls visiting with my family friends or children if this police department is removed. I'll take my job and money elsewhere!

6/30/2020 12:02:31 PM

I'm ENTHUSIASTICALLY in support of this change. I find it critically important to align the structure of our government with our goals, not the presumed solutions to those goals, which this accomplishes.

I'd challenge the city leaders to quickly begin the communication to those panicking that this will mean "all cops are gone, anarchy ensues". I think with communication around this being a re-alignment of structure and resource allocation to our stated goals as a community you can prevent a lot of fear.

6/30/2020 12:03:03 PM

I am not in favor of disbanding the Minneapolis Police Department. In light of the recent death of George Floyd, and the chaos and destruction that ensued, emotions are running high. I believe that most people agree that changes need to be made, but there could potentially be more safety issues for Minneapolis residents without a police presence. I am fearful of the thought of not having a police presence to deter crime. Let's look at models of other cities. Let's work alongside law enforcement professionals to support the public with domestic abuse, addiction, and mental health situations that arise, and that result in 911 calls. I think it makes sense to provide additional support to those calling in for help, whether it be a clinical psychologist, social worker or other professional that can be part of the response team, along with law enforcement. Let's have dialogue and make all of us proud to call Minneapolis home.

6/30/2020 12:03:08 PM

I support the charter amendment as a necessary mechanism to redefine public safety, including law enforcement, in Minneapolis. After decades of inadequate police reform, we must ensure an effective and appropriate public safety service, including robust police vetting, training, and accountability. As residents and tax payers of Minneapolis, we must reestablish control over our safety services to ensure they serve all communities with respect, all of the time.

6/30/2020 12:03:10 PM

Dear Charter Commission:

I support the proposed amendment and urge you to send it to the voters.

I have been a Minneapolis resident and home-owner for 30+ years. The police have been violent and bigoted the whole time I've lived here. I've watched numerous attempts to reform the department fail. We need to dismantle it and create a new, modern public safety department that actually works and reflects our values.

The charter amendment is the first--and necessary--step in a long process to create something better.

Many thanks for your time and attention.

6/30/2020 12:03:28 PM

We need to do better.

6/30/2020 12:04:11 PM

My comment has more questions. The solution of removing the Police Department with a Community of Safety & Violence Department will fix what exactly? How will it operate differently? Will people in this department have guns? if not, how will they deal with criminals that have guns? if yes, then how are they different from the police we have now? It seems like removing the Police is a reactionary decision that has not been well thought out. It's a solution without truly describing a problem. If a problem is truly defined, that can lead to a different solution. Right now we have a situation where in south Minneapolis fireworks are going off every night. People are more cavalier about not following traffic laws. I'm more concerned for my safety than I have ever been and that is with the police still in place. It's all going in the wrong direction. My day job is in medical device engineering. When we create a lifesaving solution, we start with problem definition AND risk/benefit analysis for the solution in mind. I suggest the City Council do the same as I fear this decision will cause more harm. Feel free to contact me if needed. thx

6/30/2020 12:04:22 PM

Incompetent liberal hacks.

63K paid already for private security for 3 of you morons?

What utter hypocrisy!

Just as we have seen in other progressive liberal cities and states. You people are truly incompetent!

6/30/2020 12:04:34 PM

Many effective ways to reducing the use of an armed police force in Minneapolis are being proposed. The current language of the charter does not allow for meaningful transformation of public safety.

I urge you to approve the amendment so that it is put to the voters.

6/30/2020 12:05:21 PM

MPD needs to be defunded and dismantled. Funding instead needs to go to mental health and domestic violence crisis centers, violence de-escalation services, drug counselors, affordable housing, vocational training, free childcare, free healthcare, food shelves, and other organizations that provide tools for people to stay on their feet. Crime happens most frequently when there is a lack in security. If the city can provide financial, well-being, housing, healthcare, and food security to its residents, crime levels WILL go down. If the MPD is abolished, crime levels WILL go down. We have a beautiful city for many of our residents. Let's share the wealth to create a great place for all. Black lives matter, Native lives matter, yet they are so frequently left behind, especially here in Minneapolis.

6/30/2020 12:05:45 PM

Complete lunacy.

The primary issue is NOT the police force.

Here is WHAT you need to focus on within Hennepin County:

1. Criminality
2. Drugs
3. Poverty
4. Mental illness
5. Addiction
6. Lack of family structure and values.
7. Extreme liberalism within the Hennepin County Justice System.

Poor leadership, not the police department, has brought you to this point.

In my humble opinion, the City is making a very regrettable and dire mistake. You will lose many good residents and businesses with this decision. People will no longer make Minneapolis a destination to visit from either within or outside of the state. Public health and safety will be severely compromised.



6/30/2020 12:07:08 PM

There are no details I don't trust the council to include the community in the discussion. It seems to me that they are still trying to avoid oversight and accountability. Please don't vote until there is an actual plan.

6/30/2020 12:07:27 PM

The MPD needs to change, so clear and obvious.

Please take the time to consider the next steps, make the right, best, most thoughtful decision that you can.

Minneapolis has a chance to change the country and the possibly the future of policing in the world.

Please take the time and do not rush this, for the sake of our city, my family, your family, all families.

Please do the right thing, take the time to make a real solid plan.

Thanks for you time.

6/30/2020 12:10:34 PM

I strongly oppose this horrible policy. Keep the police as is!

6/30/2020 12:10:58 PM

First of all I think it's the most stupidest thing I've ever heard in my life. City council work with the Union do background checks on the new hiring get rid of the bad cops. Simple as that. So you tell me the city council's going to hire group of people when someone is getting raped or robbed. car theft and they're going to go up to the people say please don't do that. Don't think so. Law enforcement shows Authority person walking up to me with a plaid shirt on shows me nothing. Or should I say criminals nothing. A criminal will not let anybody with a plaid shirt on take them to jail or talk them out of it. City council remember at election time who voted you in. And last of all if you do this to the city you will be a new Detroit and you will watch property values go down down down down and people leave your city turning into murderapolis right now peace love and God bless

6/30/2020 12:11:26 PM

I fully support the city council's move to replace the Minneapolis police department with a safety and violence prevention department. I live just outside the city (in St. Louis Park) in an almost exclusively white neighborhood with a strong sense of community but have family who live in Minneapolis proper. My neighborhood is safe not because we have a strong police presence (I can't remember the last time I saw them drive down my street), but because we have excellent access to resources - schools, housing, parks, grocery stores, healthcare (both mental and physical). Not only do the police make up an outsize portion of the city budget (money that should be dedicated to institutions supporting the things I listed above), the fact that

the role of police has expanded far beyond its scope is a detriment to both the police and citizens alike. Minorities feel unsafe in their communities; police officers have to do things they don't have adequate training to do, and do it with a gun on their hip which puts everyone involved on edge.

As a white person indoctrinated into the racist society that we live in, the idea of removing the institution of the police department is scary, just as any move from the status quo is scary. But it's unlikely to have much effect at all on my life. I'll continue to never see police drive down my street. I'll continue to not be pulled over. I'll continue to not worry about being arrested while sitting in a park, or a parked car. It will however, have an enormous effect on the lives of the black and brown people who by and large bear the brunt of the current system.

I know that the framework for the Community of Safety and Violence Prevention Department is currently vague but that lack of clarity is not a reason to not move forward. The US constitution was signed years after the revolutionary war. That didn't seem to stop them to make a much bigger institutional change (starting a new country). We won't know exactly the form this new department should take until we see what problems arise.

People just want to make sure that if they have a problem there will be someone to answer the phone when they call 911, and someone to help in the event that they need it. I am confident that this will happen even if the department (as currently constituted) is disbanded. Please don't let the inevitable backlash diminish your resolve. This is going to be a difficult process and naysayers will be loud every step of the way, but it's a step in the right direction. Who knows, maybe it will make Minneapolis the haven of diversity that it aspires to be.

6/30/2020 12:11:48 PM

Hell, no! The nerve you have, hiring private security on my tax dollars, while leaving me to the criminals.

6/30/2020 12:12:06 PM

I am absolutely against removing the police department. This city is crime ridden and out of control. We need police now more than ever. I believe the city council and the Mayor are responsible for this. The shootings, car jackings and assaults are way up and this needs to stop. When you are lenient with people who commit crimes this is what happens. There has to be consequences to actions. And why do some members of the council get to waste our tax money on private security. The citizens that dont feel safe are not getting this so why should you. You are the ones responsible for the mayhem that is currently going on and removing the Police department is not going to help! Make this City safe again or no one will want to live here. I have no confidence in any of the leadership in this city to make any important decisions. Signed a disgusted voter

6/30/2020 12:12:11 PM

Fuck the city council and fuck this dumb ass idea. It's easy to talk when you have private security.

6/30/2020 12:12:14 PM

I support the charter amendment completely, this is a big question that should be put before the public. It's time that we all seriously reckon with how we want to keep our city safe.

6/30/2020 12:12:43 PM

I support the holistic, public health approach amendments. Our community has pervasive mental health and racial inequities that the current model is unable to heal. Public health professionals are educated in best practices for creating that dialogue in the community and strategically utilizing resources in a sustainable, effective way to help lead the process of ensuring those individuals selected for this new role are representative of the community they're serving and trained experts in various disciplines to meet the community's true needs. While I understand it will be a long process to make this happen, in the long run I would be proud of the city I live in for turning such traumatic events this spring into a model the rest of the world could learn from.

6/30/2020 12:13:01 PM

Keep the police

6/30/2020 12:13:15 PM

I am a property owner in NE MPLS and I am totally against defunding, disbanding or any other punitive measures against the mpls police department in fact I believe it is absolutely idiotic!!!

6/30/2020 12:13:43 PM

NOTHING will change if you allow former MPD Officers to be hired into the “new system” . Show Minneapolis you truly want to change systemic corruption and heal our communities. Otherwise, this is basically just being done for publicity and we WONT back down.

6/30/2020 12:13:52 PM

Eat a dick you worthless pieces of garbage.

6/30/2020 12:14:19 PM

I own a residence in Fulton, Minneapolis. I support the amendment. We need real change. My primary residence is out of state.

But this "defund the police" is terrible branding.

6/30/2020 12:14:33 PM

I'm so glad I don't live there - you people have lost your minds and have gone beyond reasonable, logical leadership!

6/30/2020 12:15:09 PM

OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS PROBLEMS THAT SHOULD BE ADDRESSED, FUNNY THEY HAVENT BEEN PREVIOUSLY ADDRESSED AS THE DEMOCRATS HAVE TOTALLY CONTROLLED OUR GOVERNMENT FOR AROUND 50 YEARS. ITS ALSO FUNNY HOW DEMOCRAT RUN CITY'S FOR THE MOST PART ARE THE ONLY ONES WHERE LOADING, ARSON AND MAJOR VANDALISM HAVE OCCURED. AFTER OUR DEMOCRAT EINSTINES REPLACE THE POLICE WITH THEIR GUTLESS, GAY SOCIAL WORKERS SOMEHOW WE WONT TURN INTO A 3RD WORLD NATION IS LAUGHABLE. THE ONLY LAW THEN WILL BE CITISENS ARMING THEMSELVES. WE CANT ALL GET TAXPAYER FUNDED SECURITY GUARDS LIKE COUNCIL MEMBERS. YOU PEOPLE ARE BEYOND STUPID AND WE WONT EVER FORGET.

6/30/2020 12:15:21 PM

I think that the police department should be abolished entirely, as they are a source of violence and trauma for the denizens of Minneapolis, and especially black people and people of color.

We need people who live in the community to be the ones who respond to crisis, and we need individual departments or task forces to handle mental health, domestic episodes, drug crisis, etc. Having a single group of people, the officers of which are trained for a semester at most, handling all these situations is baffling and, clearly, only hurting the community.

6/30/2020 12:16:22 PM

ayyy baby you want som fuk

6/30/2020 12:16:26 PM

My response is in the Word attachment below. Without a clear and concise well thought out plan, my vote will be no.

Attachment:

Over the years, we have seen more and more unnecessary police brutality in the news. George Floyd's death was the straw that broke the camel's back and the whole nation has reached a boiling point on racial injustice. After watching the horrific video, it is clear that his death should have been avoided. As a result, it demands changes within our City Council, the Minneapolis Police Department, as well as community resources.

The City Council's Transforming Community Safety Resolution is vague, hasty, and an irresponsible response that leaves more questions than answers for its constituents of Minneapolis. Sadly, I do not trust that this City Council is capable of the leadership that we really need right now in order to realize a clear, concise, and well thought out plan for the future safety of Minneapolis.

Again, this City Council's leadership leads me to more questions than answers:

- City Council opens this Resolution up by placing blame on the Minneapolis Police Department for the leading cause of death for people of color and other sexual preferences without factual statistics to back this statement up. Per the Star Tribune, 22 blacks (and 29 people of color) have died in the city of Minneapolis over 20 years with a population of around 460,000. So, this opening statement is highly inaccurate.
- This proposed City Charter Amendment lacks clear answers and recommendations. Why would the public want to vote on an idea rather than a concrete and well thought out plan first with the hopes that the City Council will lead successfully? How much money will be allocated to this program? What will success look like? What will this phone triage look like?

- There is no clarity on who would be the head of this new Public Safety department. Would this person be a civilian that is in charge of these peace officers that may or may not be armed? This person would have to cooperate with 13 different Council members with very different agendas per their own wards. Would this person work with each ward Council Member individually or collectively? How long would this person be appointed for? What kind of extensive experience and education would this person need in order to successfully manage an entire triage system of different departments for this Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention? What does the job description and yearly goal objectives look like for this person?
- Per the current City Charter, “the City Council is required to fund a police force of at least 0.0017 employees per resident” for the city of Minneapolis (Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder). Under this new Minneapolis Charter Amendment, there is no indication of how many peace officers would be employed and remain available throughout the city to ensure proper safety of the citizens of Minneapolis. Would these individuals be armed? Unarmed? Include a portion of the Police Department or not?
- This new Amendment would give even more power to the City Council when it appears that they have not exhausted and/or reviewed the available existing resources. Per the Star Tribune, Mayor Frey asked for more police officers in 2019. The City Council said no, but did not come up with any creative alternatives/suggestions/studies for the Mayor and no response or explanation to the public. How do we know with this increased power to control this new department and the budgets that the City Council will properly lead this successfully? Separation of leadership and these budgets ensures that public officials cannot abuse this power in the future. As an Accountant, I understand the need for complete separation of duties.
- Currently, the City Council already has the ability to work with the various community organizations that are already put in place. For example, Police Conduct Oversight Commission, why did the City Council cancel 7 out of 12 of the monthly required meetings in 2019? Why has this continued into 2020? Per the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder, the City Council is required BY LAW to meet monthly with the PCOC. In the past, PCOC has conducted studies and made recommendations. Most recently, PCOC made the recommendation of a co-responder pilot project for mental health issues, why cannot we expand on this if necessary for all non-violent calls? Again, I do not feel that they are making use of their existing available resources.
- Similar to the PCOC, “several other community organizations have made at least specific 40 recommendations” to make changes to the Minneapolis Police Department. Why can’t the City Council really dive into and review these requests from these community organizations? (Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder).
- Per the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder, in 2019 the contract between the city of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Police Department has ended. Why not use this as a bargaining tool to achieve the potential changes that the public desires? Suspension of MPD contracts with various entities throughout the city has a

- profound effect that could potentially generate a greater bargaining advantage within the union and police department.
- The majority of the City Council is a DFL based Council and it is interesting that they seem to be cutting out the union with this effort which goes against the principles that the DFL was founded on. In the case of Camden, these peace officers removed the union to reduce costs, but have since regained a union. This resulted in raising the cost again of their police force budget to equal 1/3 the total of city's budget (Zack Guzman's Yahoo Finance article.)
- Why don't the Council members encourage the public to get involved in City Council meetings and PCOC meetings? Why can't the City Council hold more public meetings? Be present in the community to hear its constituents? I know this may not be the case for all, but Lisa Bender has been conveniently absent. She conveniently communicated with her constituents over Twitter which not all Minneapolis residents have access to or potentially could be aware of.
- Just as we should not judge the protesters on their worst acts throughout the city, so should we not judge the Minneapolis Police Department, by one policeman's act.

In order to regain the trust with the community again, the Minneapolis Police Department needs to change the public's view which will take a lot of time and constant reform efforts. This means being available in relaxed situations throughout the community by participating in community based projects, meetings, and gatherings. Also, it would show an incredible amount of respect if the Minneapolis Police Department could show an act of solidarity and respect towards George Floyd in some manner. State licensure requirements should be changed to extend the initial training programs before graduation, as well as continuing officer training, de-escalation tactics. The City Council should fully explore expanding its available resources in coordination with the Minneapolis Police Department for non-violent and mental health issues.

In conclusion, the City Council lacks serious leadership, mismanages its own developmental funds which could be redirected towards this racial inequality prevention, and has not fully exhausted all its readily resources already available nor has it really listened to its Minneapolis constituents before making a blanket decision.

6/30/2020 12:16:41 PM

As a citizen of Minneapolis, I would like clearer direction about how the "new" Community of Safety & Violence Prevention Department would work before the charter amendment is voted on. Seems like community feedback should be gathered first so the City Council has a better idea about what the plan moving forward should be before the harter amendment is voted on. More information about funding would be helpful, especially if our taxes are going to increase.

6/30/2020 12:16:52 PM

I think this is a bad, bad idea. While I do not live in Minneapolis, my two adult daughters do. We have enjoyed going to breweries and an occasional concert in Minneapolis. I assure you we will not be visiting Minneapolis to visit our daughters or take part in activities in the city and spending money with the local businesses, unless there is a police department to protect us. Community members are not qualified and equipped to deal with all of the things a police officer does.

The Council is out of touch - it is very ironic and hypocritical that they want to disband the police department, but then they hire a private security company on the the tax payers dime - or should I say 450,000 dimes (per day) !

It will be a sad day for all Minnesotans, should this happen.

6/30/2020 12:16:58 PM

I very strongly support abolition of the police department and creation of alternate channels to promote public safety and community response to crisis situations. I would encourage the council to look at restorative justice as a model to follow for community-led intervention rather than creating yet another power structure to use policing tactics even if the label of "police" is removed. I also strongly believe that systemic changes are necessary, such as housing support, access to healthcare and mental health services, and other human rights, and that these changes will ultimately reduce crimes and create lasting community safety.

6/30/2020 12:17:01 PM

We need police! The current city council especially Lisa Bender are going to destroy Minneapolis. They don't listen to their constituents! Have them walk uptown and lake street in the evening - WITHOUT their private security! Hypocrites!

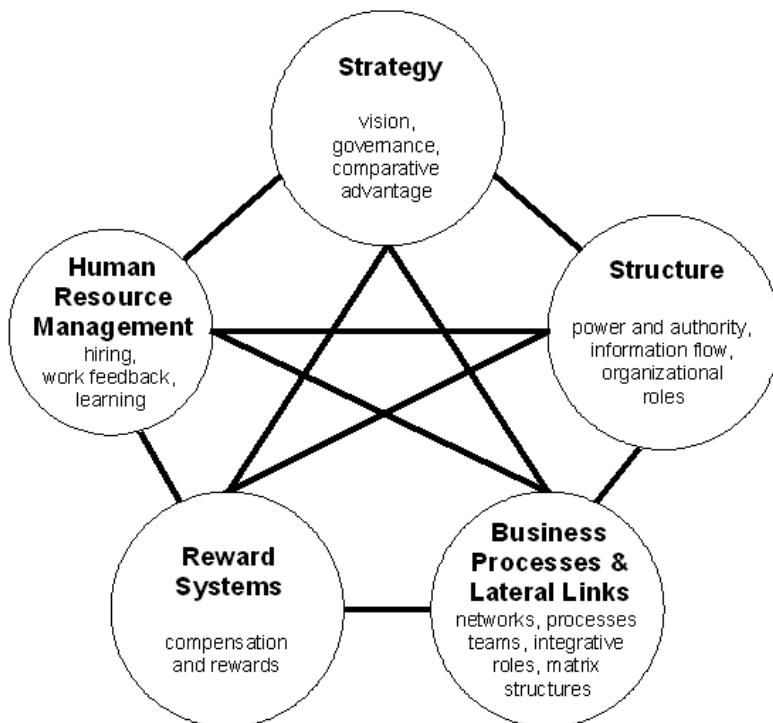
6/30/2020 12:17:18 PM

Of course you should not defund our police department. We desperately need them for our protection and safety. Who will you send into a home that has a domestic disturbance? Who will rescue child victims? Why does the elected MN officials have private security detail at our tax payer expenses? Why do they deem necessary for protection but not the citizens of MN?

6/30/2020 12:17:36 PM

I am very supportive of making reforms that will ensure unbiased laws and enforcement within our community. Whatever approach has been taken to date is clearly inadequate as demonstrated by the horrific death of George Floyd. In speaking with many across the spectrum of our community, I am convinced that there are many well-intentioned folks who want to be part of achieving positive change.

That said, as I read the charter markup of Articles 7 and 8, I am left with deep concerns that the council does not grasp the magnitude of the challenge in front of us. Major reorganizational change requires depth of planning, concrete objectives, and clarity in setting success criteria. The charter changes are vague and the speed at which this council is expecting to enact the amendment, which includes the complete dismantling of the police department and then design, staffing, and training of the new holistic organization seems unrealistic. I have been involved in several organization restructuring efforts in the private sector, and done right, it takes at least a year given the key components of the Galbraith Model, i.e. Strategy, Structure, Processes & Capabilities, Reward System/Metrics, and People & Learning/Training Practices (see attachment). There is an old adage in organization redesign which cautions to ensure that the new problems created by your redesign solution are more manageable than those you started with. Given the magnitude of our social justice challenges, we must make major changes, but let's not underestimate the effort this will take. I would propose that we move very fast to reform the current police department, including an overhaul of the union contract, training, hiring/firing, accountability, etc, while thoughtfully designing the new Community Safety and Violence Prevention Department, which will take longer to do right. We should seek input from other cities in designing the new department based on proven success models. Finally, I am very concerned about what I interpret to be the weakening of the Mayor's role. In my experience, cities that have weak mayors are too indecisive and slow in implementing change as they rely on management by committee within city councils. Again, I applaud the council's intent in pushing for change, but respectfully, it appears that the thinking/planning is inadequate. Yes, please attack the issues with a sense of urgency, but ensure that the solutions are well thought out and executed with excellence. Thank you.



6/30/2020 12:18:16 PM

As a 20-year resident of the city, I am 100% against the proposed amendment to the city charter. While I support substantial changes to policing in the city, the charter as it stands, appropriately requires proper funding of a minimum number of police officers. This should not be changed. The proposed amendment would provide far too much discretion for a few individuals (city council plus activists) to implement their personal agendas while putting public safety at risk.

6/30/2020 12:18:30 PM

To the Charter Commission:

My name is [REDACTED], and I live, work, and play in Minneapolis. I hold a Master of Public Health and Master of Public Policy from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, and I am deeply invested in the wellbeing of my Minneapolis neighbors. I hear and agree with the calls from our community to ensure the safety, wellbeing, and health of all of us. As our Black community members in particular call for a new and just system, I make this call with them as a white person.

I am writing to voice my support for the creation of a new Community Safety & Violence Prevention Department and the removal of the Minneapolis Police Department from the Charter. I encourage the Charter commission to go further. I ask that the Charter Commission to return the proposed amendment with changes that prevent current and former law enforcement officers from leading a new department, and that prevent the option to maintain a smaller police force under the control of the new Director of Community Safety and Violence Prevention. I stand with Reclaim the Block in these asks and demands to create a safer city for all of us, and to move toward an approach truly rooted in public health and community care. The roots of policing in this country and Minneapolis are rotten – we cannot leave any in the ground.

While there may be need for some sort of small response force for specific incidents, this cannot come from current policing structures and tactics.

Thank you for your time in reading this comment.

6/30/2020 12:18:35 PM

Well in my humble opinion, of course without offending anyone who thinks differently from my point of view, but also by looking at this matter in a different way and without fighting and by trying to make it clear, and by considering each and every ones opinion, I honestly believe that I completely forgot what I was going to say.

6/30/2020 12:18:44 PM

I think it is a very bad (trying to be polite here) idea to remove the Minneapolis Police Department and replace it with anything other than another police department.

I own a house in Minneapolis that my father and uncle live in. They are elderly and I want them to be able to call 911 if needed, and have trained police officers show up. My father and uncle do not have online access and I am therefore writing this on their behalf. They were terrified during the protests and riots that came within 1.5 blocks of their home.

Why not just consider adding the community safety and violence prevention department to the city and work with the Minneapolis police department to create a process to coordinate efforts. Why is it one or the other?

I will try to sell my house in Minneapolis as soon as I possibly can if there is no police department in the city of Minneapolis. I can't even believe I am writing this because it is unimaginable to me to not have law and order and a civil society without a police department.

I lived both in or within 6-8 miles of downtown Minneapolis for 38 years and am truly saddened by the reaction to even think about considering eliminating the police department there.

Please do not eliminate the Minneapolis police department. Not all police are bad.

6/30/2020 12:18:56 PM

I work in downtown Minneapolis and so does my 20 year old daughter. I feel strongly that getting rid of police and replacing with social workers and so forth is not going to work out. I feel that it would be better policy to change the way police are trained and change the process for reprimanding them when they do something unlawful. I already am nervous for my daughter when it is winter time and she works until after 7 p.m. and takes the bus home. I don't feel like getting rid of the police will make the city more safe.

6/30/2020 12:19:28 PM

I have a few questions, in the past, per the charter it says mayor and city council are accountable for the funding, staffing and hiring/firing of PD.

Can we have those individuals please use the platform to inform MPS residents about how the system currently works? Or, why significantly reforming it as is is not a good choice? I have been researching on my own. But, please continue to clearly communicate why/ how these decisions are being made.

What efforts have you made to study, get in contact with, or research how the new charter and new department will work? I believe none of you are criminal justice reform experts, what are you basing this new plan on? Is there a proven structure that we are modeling?

How are we measuring success? Fewer low level drug arrests? Fewer complaints against armed police for inappropriate conduct in interactions or arrests?

I just want to hear more specifics as we move forward.

I would like continued visible effort on the part of those, who are accountable (city council, mayor) to provide information online, papers, emails, etc on each step.

6/30/2020 12:19:57 PM

I support the idea of reforming the police department but not removing the police department. If anything, the police department budget should be substantially increased and an emphasis placed on increasing training and hiring/retaining of high caliber public servants.

Additionally, all of this is extremely premature. No solid proposals have been provided for review and debate. Instead, all we have is this nebulous idea of replacing the police department. How are people supposed to make such a consequential decision without knowing the core details of the proposal?

6/30/2020 12:19:59 PM

I do not know if this will be a city-wide vote or a county-wide vote, but I believe that only residents of Minneapolis should be able to vote on this matter.

6/30/2020 12:20:03 PM

In order for the CSVPD to be something other than another corrupt force w/a better-sounding name, it must be funded ENTIRELY from voluntary donations from the people in Minneapolis.

I recommend making the CSVPD a standard tax-exempt NPO, funded entirely by donations from the people in Minneapolis, that would do all the policing for the city. The NPO would have a permanent, irrevocable charter that would guarantee an equal vote in how the organization would be run to all those who donated a certain min amount of \$\$ to it each month/year.

Without the people directly having the power of the purse (i. e. the ability of each person in the city to withdraw his/her share of funding at will), wealthy entities (i. e. the police union and/or those backing its agendas) will quickly buy influence to make the CSVPD favor their interests, thereby neutralizing any reform it was intended to create.

In other words, it would be a TOTAL WASTE OF TIME, and not worth the effort or anyone's vote.

Recreating a new monster in better clothes isn't reform.

6/30/2020 12:21:00 PM

I do not believe that the Minneapolis City Charter should be changed.

I do not believe that MPD should be defunded and dismantled by the Minneapolis City Council.

If placed on the ballot in November to change the Minneapolis City Charter so the Minneapolis City Council can Defund & Dismantle the MPD I will vote against it.

My vote will be to keep the Minneapolis City Charter as is.

6/30/2020 12:21:03 PM

I don't have faith in my community leaders to do this well. I certainly hope we can all get it done together. I figure, what have we got to lose? I have not had adequate police protection in my neighborhood for years, even less now, as police are not responding. (I mean, would you respond now if you were a cop?). The whole system needs to be redone from top to bottom, and I am concerned that the current city council and ineffective mayor will push through something that will look good politically for them, but will be a disaster for us, the residents of Minneapolis. I truly hope that I am wrong.

6/30/2020 12:21:47 PM

Please add some way for mental health specialists can also be called in to help, and make guns and other lethal force a last resort.

6/30/2020 12:21:53 PM

Granted that that the man was choked to death by one officer, with others standing by shows lack of training, of ongoing monitoring the conduct of each and maybe even an unhealthy cover-up attitude by their union leaders. Rioting, should have been expected and immediate action taken. Unfortunately our governor and mayor lean towards an appeasement approach. Such did not work in the past. All not reason to shut down-eliminate the police. Lack of order, fosters a free for all, brings out the worst in people as we have repeatedly seen. The lack of fathers, the silence about black on black killings - would that the mothers would rise up for action. Good things are ahead.



6/30/2020 12:22:41 PM

I request that the Minneapolis Charter Commission conduct an informed and thorough consideration of the City Council's proposed Police Charter Amendment before taking your action to return it to the Mayor and Council. Public Safety is a basic city service. This proposed Charter Amendment would eliminate the Police Department and fundamentally change Minneapolis city government. This is a substantial change to our city government that should not be rushed or "fast-tracked." This is especially the case when we are in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic and it is difficult for people to obtain information and participate in deliberations on this critical issue. I understand that the Charter Commission role is to ensure that the citizenry can make an informed choice. We rely on you to fulfill that role and appreciate your service to Minneapolis.

I oppose the Council's proposed Police Charter Amendment for several reasons:

1. It is premature. The amendment eliminates the Police Department without a plan. Before the citizenry is asked to vote on the elimination of the Police Department, the Council should have developed their proposal for providing law enforcement, how they intend to implement their plan and a guarantee there will be a smooth transition without a break in public safety protection.
2. It diminishes Accountability. The amendment eliminates the responsibility and authority of the Mayor and places oversight in a Director of Community Safety and Violence Prevention who would report to the Council and Mayor. If there is a Division of Law Enforcement Services, "The Director of Community and Violence Prevention shall appoint the director of the division of law enforcement services, subject to confirmation by official act of the City Council and Mayor." This puts in place 15 bosses for a "potential" director of the division of law enforcement. This diminishes Accountability to the citizenry, adds to bureaucracy, diffuses authority and makes it more distant from citizenry.
3. It makes no commitment to have a law enforcement services. The proposed Charter Change removes the current Charter that states: that the City Council must establish, organize and otherwise provide for these departments ...a police department and states: "Division of Law Enforcement Services The Council may maintain a division of law enforcement services, composed of licensed peace officers, subject to the supervision of the department of community safety and violence prevention." Under the new Charter language there is no guarantee to the citizenry that there would be licensed police officers serving our city.

Finally, the Council action states: "This ordinance shall take effect on May 1, 2021." It is unbelievable that the Council could put the actions contained in this Charter Change into effect in approximately six to seven months. Recently, the Council passed a resolution that as they redesigned public safety, they would engage the public in a full year of consultation and deliberation. Has that "gone by the wayside?" Shouldn't this public discourse occur before amending the Charter?

Thank you for your consideration of my interpretation of this proposed amendment to our City Charter and concerns.

6/30/2020 12:25:44 PM

I cant beleive my city is trying to get rid of MPD. I am a employee of the City of Minneapolis. I need MPD to keep this city safe. Stereotyping a whole department on the backs of what 1 person did, in not justice. Plenty of great cops work for this city. It seems as the City is going to change a whole police force over what a small minority of the cities residents want. Majority of the city's residents DO want MPD on the job, along with visitors to Minneapolis, and employees of Minneapolis. Stereotyping is exactly what we need to get away from, and the City is doing it in a more public light than anyone. The City is setting a terrible example. Can the elected representatives not fix whats wrong here? This is what they are paid to do, so speak and act on behalf of the city's residents, and run a city as smooth as possible. No interject their own PERSONAL AGENDA. The elected representatives are making Minneapolis a embarrassment. Do away with all the policy, and follow LAWS that are on the books. Do whats good, and right for the people that put you in office. Speak for IS, not on your behalf. Your personal agenda doesn't matter, the people's agenda matters. Quit trying to use Bob Kroll as a scapegoat. He didn't train the police. He didn't make policy over the police. He doesn't lead the police. The city needs to not blame anybody except for its self. The world is watching. Make the right decision on behalf of the people you REPRESENT. Not what you want. They have to live here. You don't. Its the residents home. Its our home. Quit letting it be destroyed by personal democrat agenda. Anybody that supports a hate group, like antifa, or the bogalo bois should be removed from their seat ASAP. Minneapolis doesn't support hate groups.

6/30/2020 12:26:11 PM

I truly can't imagine what you think the streets of Minneapolis would look like without a police department. I certainly would stop coming to Minneapolis. I'm all in favor of groups hugs and that everyone will treat each other the way they should, but lets get real. The people that commit crimes will continue with the city council's blessing. Yes, bad cops need to go and the police union needs to wake up and step up to the plate and clean up their shop.

6/30/2020 12:27:11 PM

Do not remove the police. Change the charter to remove power from the city council and give more power to the mayor. The bureaucracy is far too deep for any meaningful accountability to exist. At least then the mayor can be a leader or get voted out. The president of the city council is not a duly elected office and 13 city council members is too many cooks in the kitchen.

6/30/2020 12:27:39 PM

No don't remove the police department. Just make improvements, like don't let people under 25 have a gun or have that type of job on the force. Also have each MPD officer do 1-2 months every year of community service (and not be even using their badge/gun during that time), as proposed by one of the people who already proposed this on MPD now

6/30/2020 12:28:42 PM

The council members behind this are enemies of the people of Minneapolis & should be executed as the dangerous enemies of society that they are.

Drastically reduce the police dept budget by legalizing death squads to eliminate all niggers from our city, niggers who despite being only 13% of the U.S. population commit 53% of all murders, 31% of all rapes, 58% of all violent crimes, etc. Niggers aren't humans. Eliminate them and these council members. Thank you.

6/30/2020 12:29:12 PM

The Minneapolis city council is the most hypocritical group of people I have ever heard of. Fuck this idea.

6/30/2020 12:31:21 PM

I believe removing the police department is a bad idea and do not support it. As a resident of Mpls, I used to feel safe and now do not. I will get my conceal and carry license to defend myself. As a single woman this scares the shit out of me. Our property values are dropping, businesses are closing their doors due to safety concerns. The Mpls area has Fortune 500 companies but if people won't move here due to safety reasons, the companies will move as well. And..... WHY IS MY TAX DOLLARS PAYING FOR PERSONAL SECURITY OF COUNCIL MEMBERS?? DO THEY FEEL SAFE? That is how I feel currently. If i could I would sell my home in mpls, but so close to retirement it doesn't make financial sense. I vote NO to defunding or dismanteling the police department.

6/30/2020 12:31:23 PM

I fully support this move!

6/30/2020 12:31:47 PM

I believe that a police reform is needed, but it should rather expand the department by adding social workers, psychologists, etc, who can train policemen better deescalate scenarios. They should also join them on calls to mental illness or drug related issues.

Most importantly, as long as anyone can get guns it is not realistic to expect the police not to assume that the person(s) they have to deal with will not have guns. This country must follow the footsteps of Australia an ban and confiscate guns.

6/30/2020 12:31:51 PM

That's a stupid idea. 1. Many of the residents that would even think about voicing their opinion are not on social media at all so I believe the comments would be very one sided. 2. Absolutely not. Why would you take away the police. They help people every single day. Things from traffic, medical emergencies, crime and so much more. You are already making them not want to be police officers anymore. 3. YES, there are some bad cops which maybe can be dealt with but that's the same for EVERY other profession out there. You will have a few bad everywhere you go. Come on police risk there lives every day for us and look how we are treating them.