

From: [Eve Javey](#)
To: [Jan Pepper](#); [Neysa Fligor](#); [Anita Enander](#); jbruins@citrusheights.net; [Lynette Lee Eng](#); [City Council](#); [Chris Jordan](#); [Andrea Chelemengos](#); [Thuyet Dang](#)
Subject: We Need a Budget That Represents US
Date: Monday, June 8, 2020 9:36:53 PM

Hello,

My name is Eve Javey. I am a resident of Los Altos, CA and I am emailing to demand the restructuring of our city budget, so as to prioritize more social services for our community, and to drastically minimize spending on Police. It is unconscionable that 1/3 to 1/2 of the city's budget is going to the police department.

This does not align with the values that I have as your constituent and I demand that you and other city officials work together to draft and approve a budget that diverts funds from the police department and reallocates them directly to benefit those in need.

Defunding the police and restructuring the budget is an absolute necessity now more than ever. Police perpetuate a pattern of excessive violence and force, especially directed towards Black People and their communities. The police refuse to hold their own accountable and this is unacceptable.

We are in the middle of a global pandemic that has killed 100,000 Americans and more than 40 million people have filed for unemployment. Healthcare workers are without proper equipment and essential workers are not being fairly compensated or protected for the great work they do. We don't need more police, we need more social safety nets. Funds intended for police would be better off being sorted to initiatives that

- Enrich our public schools and students.
- Provide more affordable housing and mental health care initiatives.
- Protect and bolster our parks.
- Support small businesses struggling due to COVID-19.
- Provide cheaper and cleaner modes of public transportation.

Our nation is grieving the deaths of Black Americans that were murdered at the hands of police officers who have yet to be held accountable. While the police department has more funding than it knows what to do with, we have communities who desperately need funding and every day they don't receive it their quality of life worsens. Thousands have died who did not need to. You have the ability to change this, so do it.

Sincerely,
Eve Javey

From: [Jon Maginot](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Andrea Chelemengos](#)
Subject: FW: Please read during the budget study session
Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 7:12:06 PM

From: Kiley Rucker [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 5:12 PM
To: Jon Maginot <JMaginot@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: Please read during the budget study session

To Mayor Pepper and Los Altos City Council Members,

My name is Kiley Rucker, I grew up in Los Altos and attended Mountain View High School. Growing up in the MVLA district, I was extremely sheltered from so much of our nation's pain and struggling. It was not until my junior year of high school when I started volunteering to tutor students deemed "at risk" at Crittenden Middle School, that I truly saw the different worlds people not only across the nation live in, but in our own district.

Week after week I would experience one or two kids express to me in various ways that they don't know why they were even trying because, "it's not like they are going anywhere anyways." These were 12 and 13 years old's, and they truly thought that they had no future—they could not fathom living a different life that what they have seen in their underserved communities—they could not imagine being more than what they were told time and time again that they were: "at risk."

Fast forward five years, when I was driving a co-worker home after a late night at work. We were having a great conversation when all of a sudden he stopped and said he was so sorry. He was sorry because he just saw a cop go by and said that we were probably going to be pulled over. I was utterly confused, and I am aware that that confusion is a manifestation of my privilege. My co-worker, my friend, explained to me that he lives on a busy street in Los Altos, and he has lost count of how many times he has been pulled over, usually at night by a police officer from MVPD or LAPD, for something beyond benign, such as one of the five lights on his tail light not working properly. He knows, the cops know, and I now know that they pulled him over because they did not think that he lived there, for when he explained that he lived right down the street, they were taken aback, apologized, and let him go home.

I recognize that there is crime and there will always be crime, and for that, we need some structure and authority, but because of my own experiences and the events of this past week and decades before, I strongly urge that Los Altos reappropriates its police funding in its 2020-2021 Fiscal Budget to community services that have the potential to do so much good in our

community, but cannot with the lack of support they currently have.

For years, I have tried to grapple with the idea that kids that lived a couple of miles from me growing never had the opportunities I had, will never attain a high-paying job because they were not given the resources they deserved or had to defer from going to college to support their family that has been systematically oppressed for generations. A few of the services that deserve more funding include mental health education and services in school and the community, increasing funding for supplies and after-school programs at all levels of education, and increasing the pay of teachers and support staff so they are better able to support the whole child and maybe even their family. This movement is not just about making a difference now, but also making changes in the youth to ensure a better future.

I am currently training to be a doctor, and a huge motivation to go to medical school was to create a safe space and a community of empowerment in my own practice. This stems hugely from seeing that this is not the case in Los Altos, and I would be doing a disservice to my hometown if I not only put those efforts to my future patients, but also to the lives that motivated me to get where I am today.

Thank you for your time,

Kiley Rucker

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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