

Date: September 28, 2020
To: Jane Prince, City Councilwoman, Ward 7
From: Lynne Goughler
Re: Proposed Budget 2021

Jane, thank you for the opportunity to review my input into the 2021 budget.

I have verified that each homeowner in our area has received the information that you sent me.

Please find the information that I received from the St Paul Police Department.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

It is inconceivable to me that the City Council would approve a budget that includes the reduction of sworn police officers. This includes replacing officers who retire or resign.

Statistics that to me are very troubling:

	<u>2019 ANNUAL</u>	<u>2020 THRU 9/28</u>
HOMICIDES	31 (As of 9/28 21)	25 (On pace up +25% annually)
	Note that 22 of 25 have been cleared which takes a great deal of investigation.	
SHOTS FIRED		122 +35.7%
AGGRAVATED ASSULT		+36%
ARSON		+71%
AUTO		+11%
ROBBERIES		+35%
THEFT		+ 6%
BURGLARY		Commercial +78% Residential -14%
RAPE		-9.5%

Please note that as of this memo 9/29 two officers were shot and will recover.
The perpetrator while getting away highjacked a car with two woman who were released.

There are obviously a few take a ways due to the riots that would have to be analyzed by month.
However, **Homicides** would be up without the riots. 2019 had a 100% increase.
Rape and Residential Burglary are down due to people staying home.

Police officers do their job because they have HUMANITY AND COURGAGE. They run into gun fire while most of us would run away. Now, they are being judged because of the acts of a few bad police officers.

Who wants to live in a city with shootings almost every night? What is the first number we call when we are in danger? Cutting back the police budget is not the answer.

Police are the very face of safety in our community.

Currently I do not know too may people who feel safe in our City,

Last night sitting in my living room I heard shots fired. I did not run into the gun fire, but I will bet an officer investigated.

My home experienced a burglary while I was in it and was only stopped when he put his foot through my window.

I urge you to rethink the reduction of police. Again, how fast do any of us reach for 911 and expect the police to arrive quickly?

As Ronald Regan once said, "This has to stop now."

THE MAYORS OFFICE:

It seems to me that the Mayors budget is top heavy with staff whose titles and responsibilities are not understandable or measurable. To this end I believe the budget can be trimmed.

Some examples are as follows:

- There are two Policy Associates. Why not combine the jobs into one?
- Chief Innovation Officer to create strategy understood by stakeholders. Could not this job be combined with Constituent Outreach Program?
- Chief Resilience Officer. Definition of this job: "Things that may impact the city long term." Wouldn't this be the job of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor?

By combining some of the jobs and estimating above positions \$500,000 to \$900,00 dollars in salary inclusive of health and other benefits could be re-directed. Perhaps partial savings could go to the police budget? The balance could be removed from the overall budget.

The President of the United States had 15 Cabinet members. The Mayor has at last count 16 members.

Prior to Mayor Carter's election, St Paul was a safe, charming place to eat and visit. It was a destination point.

- Why have not the downtown streets, the beautiful cobblestones been repaired?
- What Major businesses have been attracted to St Paul?
- Why are we giving \$500 a month to 150 families to start college funds?
Who is monitoring this program? What if they do not want to go to college?
And is this a grant or does it come out of taxes?
- Why are some of our city parks unsafe?
- Why has there been no plan for the homeless? The CONV-19 only increased the homeless problem.
- When the riots began he announced that protestors arrested were from out of town. Then he corrected his statement. He seemed to not want to deal with the issues of citizen involvement.

My point is our city is not being run like a corporation, but more like community activists. Cities need to grow people, and businesses.

Sixteen staff members plus a Deputy Mayor and the Mayor. Where are the measurable results?

One final comment, it is not the job of a city to provide funds to families whose children may or may not go to college. I am going to assume that these monies are provided by a grant and not my taxpayer dollars.

Jane the city should be run as a large corporation not as a community activist entity.

Thank you for taking the time to read my input.