

From: [Madeleine Hallberg](#)
To: [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [#CI-StPaul_Ward3](#)
Subject: Public Comment on Upcoming City Budget
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 8:51:59 PM

Dear Mayor Carter, Councilmember Tolbert, and City Council,

My name is Madeleine H. and I live in Ward 3.

I'm really hoping that the next city budget will involve a reallocation of police funds to better serve our communities in peaceful, non-confrontational ways.

Two examples of peaceful, restorative investment would be:

1. \$300,000 for community contracts and education/community outreach and 3 investigators so we as a city remain committed to workers knowing their rights, and
2. More resources toward community first public safety, such as a mental health response team that can be dispatched for mental health emergencies instead of police. I know this response sort of exists already, but when I've needed to call for help past 10pm, I was told the mental health responders were off-duty. You don't go to the doctor to get a filling, you go to the dentist. Similarly, when someone has a mental health situation, specialized responders should be called instead of someone with a different kind of training background. This shift in community safety would just be a start.

Thank you for reading this, and best of luck with the budgeting process.

-Madeleine H.

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