

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Abigail Alderete	I am demanding a decrease to the police department budget by at least 30 million, a hiring freeze for SLCPD for the next year, and I demand a divestment from policing and an investment in our community	
Budget 2020-2021	Abraham Gutierrez	I am writing to you today to discuss public funding for the future of our beloved Salt Lake City. Taking a look at the projected budget for FY 20-21, I see that the mayor has allocated nearly 85 million dollars for the Salt Lake City Police Department, while housing is receiving 23,248,016 and transit is receiving 4,700,00. This is absolutely unacceptable. These numbers represent a 16% increase in police funding since 2018. Most Black residents, residents of color, and LGBTQ residents have witnessed the violence and carelessness of the police here-they are violent in the face non-violence and peaceful protesting. There is a direct link of systematic racism between over-policing impoverished communities of color and under-funding affordable housing and public transportation. Without these basic everyday necessities, people cannot succeed or live dignified lives. Respectfully, change will only happen if money is allocated towards resources which will help communities thrive and heal, rather than face unnecessary violence, hostility, and tension. Our communities deserve better than this. If the Salt Lake City government claims to care about its residents of color, they should directly address this fixable issue. Our libraries, housing, transit, social welfare programs, and community centers are in dire need of financial and tangible support. We've seen Salt Lake City take wonderful action in the past to support its residents, and now is an important time to continue this trend. How can we allocate funding towards community and transformative justice? How can we help Black residents feel safer in their own streets? This is a conversation about equity and geographic equity, issues I know the mayor is actively working on. Police brutality and lack of accountability for the police should be centered in the conversation. I send this message with love and hope for all of Salt Lake City. Please listen to the people in their demands for a just society that greets the plea for change not with dismissive violence, but with a deeper understanding of the systematic conditions that elicit these demands in the first place. Sincerely, Abraham	
Budget 2020-2021	Anonymous, public school teacher	Cut police budget by \$30 million, reallocate money to community services, maintain a hiring freeze on new police officers throughout the fiscal year. Invest in community centers, social workers, and mental health workers.	n/a

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Budget 2020-2021	Ashlyn Roberts	<p>Hello, I am writing you today to discuss public funding for the future of our beloved Salt Lake City. Taking a look at the projected budget for FY 20-21, I see that the mayor has allocated nearly 85 million dollars for the Salt Lake City Police Department, while housing is receiving 23,248,016 and transit is receiving 4,700,00. This is absolutely unacceptable. These numbers represent a 16% increase in police funding since 2018. Most Black residents, residents of color, and LGBTQ residents have witnessed the violence and carelessness of the police here-they are violent in the face non-violence and peaceful protesting. There is a direct link of systematic racism between over-policing impoverished communities of color and under-funding affordable housing and public transportation. Without these basic everyday necessities, people cannot succeed or live dignified lives. Respectfully, change will only happen if money is allocated towards resources which will help communities thrive and heal, rather than face unnecessary violence, hostility, and tension. Our communities deserve better than this. If the Salt Lake City government claims to care about its residents of color, they should directly address this fixable issue. Our libraries, housing, transit, social welfare programs, and community centers are in dire need of financial and tangible support. We've seen Salt Lake City take wonderful action in the past to support its residents, and now is an important time to continue this trend. How can we allocate funding towards community and transformative justice? How can we help Black residents feel safer in their own streets? This is a conversation about equity and geographic equity, issues I know the mayor is actively working on. Police brutality and lack of accountability for the police should be centered in the conversation. I send this message with love and hope for all of Salt Lake City. Please listen to the people in their demands for a just society that greets the plea for change not with dismissive violence, but with a deeper understanding of the systemic conditions that elicit these demands in the first place. Sincerely, Ashlyn Roberts Sent from my iPhone</p>	

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Budget 2020-2021	Ayusha Shrestha	Dear Salt Lake City council, It is troubling to hear that Salt Lake City wants to increase the police budget by \$84 million despite recent events. This completely opposes the solution to police brutality that black members of our community suffers from. Instead of increasing the police budget, we demand that there be a decrease in the budget of at least \$30 million. We demand a hiring freeze for the SLCPD for next year, and we demand a divestment from police to instead invest in our community in sectors such as food, housing, transportation and public health that will actually lead to a healthier and safer community instead of one that sparks more violence. Sincerely, Ayusha Shrestha	
Budget 2020-2021	Camber Firth	Salt Lake City Council, I am writing this to add a public comment to the hearing tonight that I am not able to attend. I love this city and have seen it take wonderful action in the past to support its residents, and now is an important time to continue this trend. I oppose the proposed increase of almost \$85 million to the SLCPD for FY20-21, and demand a decrease by at least \$30 million. There is a direct link of systematic racism between over-policing impoverished communities of color and under-funding affordable housing, transportation, and public health. I strongly believe that change will only happen if the city allocates its money toward resources which help communities thrive and heal, rather than face unnecessary violence, hostility, and tension. I'd like to echo some proposed alternatives from prison abolitionist group Decarcerate Utah of where funding could go instead to promote community wellness: 1. Provide rent relief and quality housing opportunities for those living at or below the poverty line 2. Invest in more events, free resources, and skill sharing at city libraries 3. Provide free public transit and increase the length of bus time schedules and routes 4. Invest in trained mental health professionals to de-escalate, transport, and connect those in need with resources 5. Invest in more outdoor spaces and public parks in lower-income neighborhoods 6. Funding for after-school programs and providers, and for more meals for students in public schools 7. Increase the funding of public defenders, who are only allocated \$1,292,774, with no increase from last year I send this message with love and hope for all of Salt Lake City. I plead for change not through dismissive violence, but a deeper understanding of the systemic conditions that elicit these demands in the first place. Sincerely, Camber Firth	

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Budget 2020-2021	Camber Firth	<p>Salt Lake City Council, I am writing this to add a public comment to the hearing tonight that I am not able to attend. I love this city and have seen it take wonderful action in the past to support its residents, and now is an important time to continue this trend. I oppose the proposed increase of almost \$85 million to the SLCPD for FY20-21, and demand a decrease by at least \$30 million. There is a direct link of systematic racism between over-policing impoverished communities of color and under-funding affordable housing, transportation, and public health. I strongly believe that change will only happen if the city allocates its money toward resources which help communities thrive and heal, rather than face unnecessary violence, hostility, and tension. I'd like to echo some proposed alternatives from prison abolitionist group Decarcerate Utah of where funding could go instead to promote community wellness: 1. Provide rent relief and quality housing opportunities for those living at or below the poverty line 2. Invest in more events, free resources, and skill sharing at city libraries 3. Provide free public transit and increase the length of bus time schedules and routes 4. Invest in trained mental health professionals to de-escalate, transport, and connect those in need with resources 5. Invest in more outdoor spaces and public parks in lower-income neighborhoods 6. Funding for after-school programs and providers, and for more meals for students in public schools 7. Increase the funding of public defenders, who are only allocated \$1,292,774, with no increase from last year I send this message with love and hope for all of Salt Lake City. I plead for change not through dismissive violence, but a deeper understanding of the systemic conditions that elicit these demands in the first place.</p> <p>Sincerely, Camber Firth</p>	

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Budget 2020-2021	Christopher Weed	<p>Dear Salt Lake City City Council members, I am writing you today to discuss public funding for the future of our beloved Salt Lake City. Taking a look at the projected budget for FY 20-21, I see that the mayor has allocated nearly 85 million dollars for the Salt Lake City Police Department, while housing is receiving 23,248,016 and transit is receiving 4,700,00. This is absolutely unacceptable. These numbers represent a 16% increase in police funding since 2018. Most Black residents, residents of color, and LGBTQ residents have witnessed the violence and carelessness of the police here-they are violent in the face non-violence and peaceful protesting. There is a direct link of systematic racism between over-policing impoverished communities of color and under-funding affordable housing and public transportation. Without these basic everyday necessities, people cannot succeed or live dignified lives. Respectfully, change will only happen if money is allocated towards resources which will help communities thrive and heal, rather than face unnecessary violence, hostility, and tension. Our communities deserve better than this. If the Salt Lake City government claims to care about its residents of color, they should directly address this fixable issue. Our libraries, housing, transit, social welfare programs, and community centers are in dire need of financial and tangible support. We've seen Salt Lake City take wonderful action in the past to support its residents, and now is an important time to continue this trend. How can we allocate funding towards community and transformative justice? How can we help Black residents feel safer in their own streets? This is a conversation about equity and geographic equity, issues I know the mayor is actively working on. Police brutality and lack of accountability for the police should be centered in the conversation. I send this message with love and hope for all of Salt Lake City. Please listen to the people in their demands for a just society that greets the plea for change not with dismissive violence, but with a deeper understanding of the systemic conditions that elicit these demands in the first place. Sincerely, Christopher Weed</p>	n/a

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Budget 2020-2021	Clay & Copper	<p>Hello, My name is Benjamin and I'm from Salt Lake City. I would like to add my voice in requesting the police budget be decreased. Divest from policing and investment in our community where it really requires it; affordable housing, ending homelessness, food resources for the impoverished, mental healthcare, harm reduction centers, and public transportation. Our police force needs transparency, public participation, accountability, and demilitarization: Transparency includes open data format for officer accountability, making data publicly available so that bad actors are visible and documented. Public participation includes the formation of citizen advisory boards where members of the public meet regularly to direct police resources and strategies in the communities they represent. Citizens know their local communities best, and are in a unique position to offer key insights into where policing is most needed. Accountability means the formation of civilian oversight boards, where panels made up of local community members review police actions and review responses to complaints against police. Police unions should not have the power to shroud bad actors or silence fellow officers; this behavior should be criminally prosecuted. Demilitarization is required of policing because police do not operate in a war zone. Police training should not be influenced by fearmongering authors like Dave Grossman or others that encourage extrajudicial killing. Deescalation and supplanting social disfunction should be guiding principals of policing. Forfeiting military weaponry and refusal to approach policing as a militaristic endeavor will allow for us to treat social ills in a humane way that will benefit future generations. Why is it that when white nationalists bring guns to the capitol to demand a reopening during a pandemic there is little to no police presence, yet when we demand more of our leadership and ask for police accountability we are given lockdowns and American cities are surveilled by predator drones? I know you'll work hard to address these issues, because people's lives are on the line. Policy matters. Budgets matter. Black lives matter. Sincerely, Ben Davis</p>	
Budget 2020-2021	Curtis Knight	Cut budget by \$30 mil, reallocate to community services, maintain a hiring freeze. The money should go to hiring teachers and raising their salaries by 20%.	
Budget 2020-2021	Darrin Williams	Cut budget by \$30 mil, reallocate to community services. Maintain a hiring freeze. Want \$30 mil invested in housing.	

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Budget 2020-2021	Dillon Pham	Cut budget by \$30 mil, reallocate to community services, maintain a hiring freeze. Demands that the SLCPD make immediate efforts to demilitarize the police force. Invest in extracurricular programs for youth.	4
Budget 2020-2021	Eleanor Thorp	Hello, My name is Eleanor Thorp and I am a recent graduate of Weber State University. I am emailing in regards to the proposed 2020-2021 fiscal budget. I demand that before final vote, the city make drastic cuts to the SLCPD's budget by at least \$30 million, and reallocate the money to community services. I also demand that the mayor maintain a hiring freeze on any new officers throughout the fiscal year. This is important to me because as a recent graduate I have seen how benefits such as health care, mental health services, community, and most importantly education can give hope for a brighter future. Thank you so much for your time, Eleanor Thorp	n/a
Budget 2020-2021	Emily Liber	Defund police budget, follow in the steps of the Minneapolis City Council. Cut by \$30 mil, use money for community services. Maintain hiring freeze for police officers. Want the officer who murdered Bernardo Palacios-Carbajal fired, as well as Chief Brown.	
Budget 2020-2021	Emma Wood	Hi there! I am a citizen of Salt Lake City, I have lived here sine I was three years old and truly love this city. I appreciate the wonderful things that our city has including the schools that I went to growing up and the arts programs. Even with this though I am unhappy with the way that the city has addressed the Black Lives Matter movement, in particular with the cities current \$84 million allocated for the police department. This money could be spent better in other programs across the city including an increase in our education budget, greater community outreach, and higher funding for social work programs. If we spent more money on social outreach and community assistance we would have less of a need for police funding and Salt Lake City could become a city I am truly proud to be from. Thank you for listening to me, Emma Wood	

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Budget 2020-2021	Eric Humphrey	<p>Hello, I am writing to submit comment regarding the \$2,186,922 budget increase to the SLPD for a total \$84 million allocated in the Mayors Recommended Budget for FY 2021. The thesis of my comment is that we are over-funding the SLPD and under-funding community development projects. No doubt there is a legitimate need for responsible policing, however the BLM protests this weekend allowed the citizens of SLC to view the true militarization of our local police force as has been seen elsewhere around the country. There is NO evidence to support the notion that equipping the police force with military-grade equipment makes officers or communities safer. In fact, the excessive bolstering of the police (a) erodes public trust in the force, (b) does nothing to decrease overall crime, and (c) threatens the public safety.</p> <p>(https://www.pbs.org/newshour/science/police-militarization-fails-to-protect-officers-and-targets-black-communities-study-finds) I am imploring you to take two actions: (1) Constantly strive for transparency in how the police is actively engaging in deescalation techniques and other methods counter to the terrible police brutality we are witnessing as a nation. (2) Strongly consider halting the \$2m increase in the budget towards the police force and possibly even reduce overall funding. Please consider allocating these monies towards helping our communities rebuild in ways that help dismantle the ubiquitous legacy of systemic racism in housing, policing, and economic development.</p> <p>Thank you, Eric C. Eric Humphrey Geological Engineer [REDACTED]</p>	
Budget 2020-2021	Evan Winkworth	<p>Hi, my name is Evan Winkworth and I am a citizen of Salt Lake City. I am calling because I would like to request that you look at the police budget and decrease it by at least 50%. I was disgusted and horrified by what I saw during the protests downtown. And while there were a lot of citizens that actions, I was absolutely disgusted by I was equally disgusted by how many police where there, how many automatic weapons they were carrying and they way that they treated the crowd. I was personally shot in the back with rubber bullets at a time when someone was being assaulted and the police did nothing to help them. If our police cannot protect our citizens, if they are not going to serve us but instead, they are going to protect each other then we can't be paying for that. We need to be paying for other things that will help our community. I am sure I am not the only person calling about this. I just want to say thank you for your consideration.</p>	

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Budget 2020-2021	Francis Dingovan	Cut budget by \$30 mil, reallocate to community services, such as public schools and funds for Covid-19 relief. Maintain a hiring freeze.	
Budget 2020-2021	Francis Lilly	I'm a proud resident of Salt Lake City, and I live on [REDACTED], in District 7. I also work for the City of Millcreek, but that's another story you know well. Anyway, I just want to express my appreciation to you. I can't imagine what it's like to be in your position, having to address an earthquake, a pandemic, and momentary civil unrest in our city. I wouldn't wish it all upon anyone, yet here you are, doing the best you can. And I think you all are doing a good job. You are on the verge of having a series of difficult, heartfelt conversations that need to be had about law enforcement and equity. Thank you for leading those conversations as well. From where I sit, and for what it's worth, I think the early proposals I'm hearing from others to start by defunding the police may sound good, but I doubt that will really solve the problem, which is a problem of culture and respect for human dignity. If anything, it may necessitate committing more resources, not less, toward adequate training, and the development of procedures and appropriate equipment to move us toward a more just and equitable system of law enforcement in our community. Black lives do matter. I'm encouraged by some early signs from our police department, where they actively worked to de-escalate conflict in the last few days through heartfelt gestures that I hope and expect will be backed by a lot of self-reflection and some adjustments to how we do things as a community. Ultimately, that conversation needs to involve more than the police. It involves our district attorney, our courts, our legislature, and various folks at the federal level. It'll be hard and exhausting, but I'm glad you all are there to work through it. Based on what I've seen from you all so far, I have great confidence in you. So - thank you!	7

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Budget 2020-2021	Frankie Otis	<p>Hello, I am writing you today to discuss public funding for the future of our beloved Salt Lake City. Taking a look at the projected budget for FY 20-21, I see that the mayor has allocated nearly 85 million dollars for the Salt Lake City Police Department, while housing is receiving 23,248,016 and transit is receiving 4,700,00. This is absolutely unacceptable. These numbers represent a 16% increase in police funding since 2018. Most Black residents, residents of color, and LGBTQ residents have witnessed the violence and carelessness of the police here-they are violent in the face of non-violence and peaceful protesting. There is a direct link of systematic racism between over-policing impoverished communities of color and under-funding affordable housing and public transportation. Without these basic everyday necessities, people cannot succeed or live dignified lives. Respectfully, change will only happen if money is allocated towards resources which will help communities thrive and heal, rather than face unnecessary violence, hostility, and tension. Our communities deserve better than this. If the Salt Lake City government claims to care about its residents of color, they should directly address this fixable issue. Our libraries, housing, transit, social welfare programs, and community centers are in dire need of financial and tangible support. We've seen Salt Lake City take wonderful action in the past to support its residents, and now is an important time to continue this trend. How can we allocate funding towards community and transformative justice? How can we help Black residents feel safer in their own streets? This is a conversation about equity and geographic equity, issues I know the mayor is actively working on. Police brutality and lack of accountability for the police should be centered in the conversation. I send this message with love and hope for all of Salt Lake City. Please listen to the people in their demands for a just society that greets the plea for change not with dismissive violence, but with a deeper understanding of the systemic conditions that elicit these demands in the first place.</p>	

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Budget 2020-2021	Haley Wilker	To whom it may concern, We need to have immediate change with how our state budget is split and make sure that we are supporting community based action verses militarizing the police to make our community safer. I do not agree with the proposed 2020-2021 budget. The solution is taking important dollars and putting them towards institutions to better our community for EVERYONE. I have reviewed the current budget and instead; 1. I demand that of the current \$84,422,651 proposed for the SLCPD be decreased by no less than \$30,000,000. 2. I demand you put a freeze on any new officers being hired on with SLCPD for the next calendar year. 3. I demand the desired divestment from SLCPD go into other important matters such as education, healthcare, food, housing, and public transportation. The future Salt Lake City does not need more officers with more military grade weapons to be great, it needs people to feel safe and empowered, this isn't done by the police, as we have seen it bares the opposite. It needs people to be equal, because together is the only way to build a better tomorrow. Haley Wilker	
Budget 2020-2021	Iden Sheng	Hello, My name is Iden Sheng and I am a resident of Salt Lake City, Utah. I am emailing in reference to the proposed 2020-2021 fiscal budget. I demand that before the final vote, the city makes drastic cuts to the SLCPD's budget by at least \$30 million and reallocate the money to community services. I also demand that the mayor maintain a hiring freeze on any new police officers throughout the fiscal year. This is important to me because Black lives matter. The police force is an inherently racist institution that punishes people of color, particularly Blacks. Instead, money should be directed to services that actually reduce crime and would eliminate the need for a police force, such as education, health care, housing, etc. Thank you very much for your time. Iden Sheng	n/a

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Budget 2020-2021	Jackson Rees	<p>Hello, I am writing you today to discuss public funding for the future of our beloved Salt Lake City. Taking a look at the projected budget for FY 20-21, I see that the mayor has allocated nearly 85 million dollars for the Salt Lake City Police Department, while housing is receiving 23,248,016 and transit is receiving 4,700,00. This is absolutely unacceptable. These numbers represent a 16% increase in police funding since 2018. Most Black residents, residents of color, and LGBTQ residents have witnessed the violence and carelessness of the police here-they are violent in the face non-violence and peaceful protesting. There is a direct link of systematic racism between over-policing impoverished communities of color and under-funding affordable housing and public transportation. Without these basic everyday necessities, people cannot succeed or live dignified lives. Respectfully, change will only happen if money is allocated towards resources which will help communities thrive and heal, rather than face unnecessary violence, hostility, and tension. Our communities deserve better than this. If the Salt Lake City government claims to care about its residents of color, they should directly address this fixable issue. Our libraries, housing, transit, social welfare programs, and community centers are in dire need of financial and tangible support. We've seen Salt Lake City take wonderful action in the past to support its residents, and now is an important time to continue this trend. How can we allocate funding towards community and transformative justice? How can we help Black residents feel safer in their own streets? This is a conversation about equity and geographic equity, issues I know the mayor is actively working on. Police brutality and lack of accountability for the police should be centered in the conversation. I send this message with love and hope for all of Salt Lake City. Please listen to the people in their demands for a just society that greets the plea for change not with dismissive violence, but with a deeper understanding of the systemic conditions that elicit these demands in the first place.</p>	

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Budget 2020-2021	Jacob McLaws	<p>My name is Jacob McLaws. I grew up in Park City, but now my most of my family now lives in Salt Lake City. My wife's family is all there as well. I am currently on assignment to Japan for work, but Salt Lake City is my long-term home and where I will likely settle in the near future. In light of many recent events and the long history of police brutality towards Black people and people of color, I have been looking through the SLC municipal code and police use of force data. I am glad to see that the use of force database is publicly available. I also laud the intent of the Use of Force policy (though I find it extremely vague and up to wild interpretations). I call for the following changes to the policies based on strong nation-wide analysis, expert research, and the NAACP's request:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ban police offers from using knee holds, choke holds, strangle holds or any type of hold that could cause breathing to be impaired. 2. Require officers to de-escalate situations by communicating with subjects, maintaining distance, and otherwise eliminating the need to use force. 3. Require officers to intervene and stop excessive force used by other officers and report these incidents immediately to a supervisor. 4. Ban officers from shooting at moving vehicles. 5. Require officers to report each time they use force or threaten to use force against civilians, and make these reports public. 6. Reduce funding to police departments and redirect those funds into investments in non-policing community services. Funds spent on departments should prioritize tactical ethics training and auditing. 7. A use of force continuum should be put in place with at least 6 steps, and with clear rules on escalation. Externally audit this training and test officers for retention of policies. Officers who violate these rules should be investigated for decertification at a minimum. (Continued Below 1/2) 	

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Budget 2020-2021	Jacob McLaws	(Continued 2/2) Clearly define a reasonable means with steps and examples and then require officers to exhaust all other reasonable means before resorting to deadly force. Require officers to give a verbal warning, and then at least multiple seconds for the person to cooperate peacefully, before shooting. Or, better yet, require officers to get approval by calling a central dispatch before resorting to using guns or other deadly force. 8. Implement Citizen's Review Boards in each municipality that provide transparency and accountability on ALL police incidents in which officers make physical contact or use weapons of force. Commit to a 30-days-or-less release of information about all incidents. Ban any methods that shield officers from conviction in the case of breaches of any of the use of force regulations. 9. The Open Records Act must ensure officer misconduct information and disciplinary histories are made public and not shielded. Recertification credentials must be denied for police officers if determined that their use of deadly force was unwarranted by federal guidelines. 10. Implement and audit early-intervention accountability systems for officers. 11. Train and externally audit first-line supervisors for adherence to all of the above policies; including corporals, sergeants, and lieutenants. There is no excuse for not acting now. These changes are within your power and of the utmost urgency.	
Budget 2020-2021	Jaime Loewen	I am calling to urge the City Council to defund the police in Salt Lake. Thank you.	
Budget 2020-2021	Jake Kranovich	I wish to voice my concerns. I would like the police budget to be lowered or not raised. I do not think it is money well spent. Thank you.	
Budget 2020-2021	Jamin Rennert	WE NEED CHANGE NOW! Redirect the 84 MILLION DOLLARS set aside to fund the police in the 2020-2021 budget to other community programs. We have an epidemic of homelessness in our community aside from the current global pandemic. It is an outrage that these funds are not being used to educate, feed, and house our community. Over the last week (and an even longer historic rap sheet) we have seen how our police department does not need nor deserve these funds. This is not just about injustice to black people but the decriminalization of the poorest in our communities. The SLCPD does not act in the best interest of its citizens, particularly its black citizens and other citizens of color. They act in direct antagonism and violence towards them. We demand change! Jamin Salt Lake City Resident	

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Budget 2020-2021	Jared Harris	I live in Salt Lake. I please ask you to reallocate some of the Salt Lake City Police budget this year towards some mental health and other community support services. I will be watching tonight (June 2) to see how it goes. I support you guys and know you guys are working hard. I would love to see some change in this regard. Thank you.	
Budget 2020-2021	Jay Kimpson	Hi, my name is Jay Kimpson. I agree with the demands proposed by Utah's about police brutality. I do not however, agree or support the mayors recommend budget where the police receive \$84,422,651. More importantly, there are programs like housing, transit, education, homelessness, rehabilitation and rape recovery that don't see even half this amount. I do not support the SLCPD and do not want my tax money support them.	
Budget 2020-2021	Jennifer Ha	Dear City Council, I am emailing regarding the proposed budget of \$84 million to the SLCPD. I believe that this money would be more beneficial to the citizens of Salt Lake City if it were spent elsewhere. I suggest allotting more money from the budget towards infrastructure, especially after damages from the earthquakes, education, and addressing the homeless situation. I also suggest spending some of the budget on cultural competence training for law enforcement and leaders of the city. As someone who was born and raised in SLC, I consider it home and love the city. I would like to see city council make budget decisions that are in the best interest of their citizens and showing solidarity for our black community members and black Americans across the country. I hope you take this suggestion into consideration. Best, Jennifer Ha	

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Budget 2020-2021	Jennifer Nielsen	<p>Dear City Council, I own property across from the Main Public Library and the Public Safety Building. I pay my taxes. I do NOT want my taxes to be continued to fund the SLCPD militarized zone in our downtown. My neighbourhood is quiet, but it has not been quite since the curfew was implemented and enforced by SLCPD and the National Guard. Hearing helicopters every night and morning is as traumatizing as the earthquake. My neighbours and I do NOT feel safe. I am ashamed and flabbergasted that our Mayor has allowed our city to become a militarized zone. I live here! WE LIVE HERE! The heavily armored presence hurts business, economy, and especially the citizens you represent. The police officers at protests stated they do NOT want to harm protesters, so please do not arm them with the funds for war machines and artillery. Salt Lake City must NOT fund \$84 million dollars in tax payer money to SLCPD. Please, reallocate at least \$30 million to public services, homeless causes, and food and youth programmes. The City needs funding reallocated to economic development to assist local businesses and citizens recovering from the downturn of COVID-19. I call on the City Council to promote PEACE and STABILITY by reallocating \$30 million away from SLCPD to City needs. Thank you for your attention and action. Sincerely, Jennifer Nielsen 84111</p>	
Budget 2020-2021	Jennifer Nielson	<p>Hi my name is Jennifer Nielson and I own a house across from the Public Safety Building. It is a quite neighborhood where I know all my neighbors, but it has not been quite with the constant police and National Guard helicopters overhead. The curfew is unfortunate, and it has turned Salt Lake City into a militarized zone and residents are feeling it and so are businesses and the economy. This could hurt us. I would like funding to be reattributed away from Salt Lake City Police Department to public services. We are going to need to fortify our economy especially after COVID-19 and like I said with all of this militarization no one is going downtown. We need to support our city. We need to support the people through public services. The homeless, youth programs. I want to promote peace and we can do that through these programs. I have been talking to police and they have been talking to others and I know that is what they want to. So please, reallocate funding from the Salt Lake City Police Department to housing, to transit, to youth programs. Thank you.</p>	

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Budget 2020-2021	Jessica Tracy	<p>Hello, I am a resident of West Jordan, however, I spend quite a bit of time in SLC. I expect these budget recommendations to affect me, as well as set an example for West Jordan and neighboring cities. I am concerned with budget recommendations, as nearly \$85 million dollars have been allocated to police, yet transit and housing has been allocated less than half that combined. This is totally unacceptable and prioritizes criminal justice measures over community support. We should focus this budget on crime prevention - specifically through homeless support, drug rehabilitation, affordable housing, and accessible transportation. The organizations that aid in these services are severely underfunded. As we've seen in recent protests, the police bring hostility, violence, and tension through their services, and minority populations (Black, POC, LGBTQ) face the brunt of these negative effects. To add another point - arrests and criminal charges only hurt residents in the long run, making it harder for them to find employment and housing. I send this with hope that we can restructure our city budgets to better our community through supportive programs, not over-policing. Please listen to your constituents (and neighboring constituents) that have elected you to these positions. Thank you. With love and hope, Jessica Tracy from West Jordan</p>	n/a

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Jillian Delmain	<p>Hello, I am writing you today to discuss public funding for the future of our beloved Salt Lake City. Taking a look at the projected budget for FY 20-21, I see that the mayor has allocated nearly 85 million dollars for the Salt Lake City Police Department, while housing is receiving 23,248,016 and transit is receiving 4,700,00. This is absolutely unacceptable. These numbers represent a 16% increase in police funding since 2018. Most Black residents, residents of color, and LGBTQ residents have witnessed the violence and carelessness of the police here-they are violent in the face non-violence and peaceful protesting. There is a direct link of systematic racism between over-policing impoverished communities of color and under-funding affordable housing and public transportation. Without these basic everyday necessities, people cannot succeed or live dignified lives. Respectfully, change will only happen if money is allocated towards resources which will help communities thrive and heal, rather than face unnecessary violence, hostility, and tension. Our communities deserve better than this. If the Salt Lake City government claims to care about its residents of color, they should directly address this fixable issue. Our libraries, housing, transit, social welfare programs, and community centers are in dire need of financial and tangible support. We've seen Salt Lake City take wonderful action in the past to support its residents, and now is an important time to continue this trend. How can we allocate funding towards community and transformative justice? How can we help Black residents feel safer in their own streets? This is a conversation about equity and geographic equity, issues I know the mayor is actively working on. Police brutality and lack of accountability for the police should be centered in the conversation. I send this message with love and hope for all of Salt Lake City. Please listen to the people in their demands for a just society that greets the plea for change not with dismissive violence, but with a deeper understanding of the systemic conditions that elicit these demands in the first place. Sincerely, J. Delmain</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Jozef Ezra	Council, With multiple studies showing that the best way to reduce crime and improve the community is through economic funding, and investment in education and community I must strongly urge against an increase in a police budget. The fact that the FOP were angered by the mayors call for transparency shows the unfortunate systemic problems. There was no mob in salt lake, it was its own citizens wary of systemic problems within the police institutions and outpouring of anger and frustration . No justice no peace means we must focus on rooting out the systemic problems in our society, not increase violence by further militarizing an animated police force. We need peace officers not assault ready combatants. De-escalation of tension must happen on both sides; the citizens and the police force. Please strongly consider allocating those funds to rent relief and quality housing, public transit, mental health training, public facilities and parks, public defenders and educational services. With these services the community can live dignified and healthy lives. Sent with a plea for understanding, Jozef	
Budget 2020-2021	Justin Rodriguez	Cut police budget by \$30 million, reallocate money to community services, maintain a hiring freeze on new police officers throughout the fiscal year. Investment in food, transportation, health, etc.	n/a
Budget 2020-2021	kaden sock	I'm kaden sock and I want to demand a decrease in the police department budget because they are getting way to much money and it could be used for the public to help our community instead of being used by the people opressing our communities and using rubber bulletsand using them incrorectly and at protestors instead of ricocheting over the ground.	
Budget 2020-2021	Karissa Wood	Does not want the police department defunded, wants police reform. Mandatory psychological evaluations with a therapist. Wants a 4-year degree required to become a police officer.	n/a

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Kathryn Bingham	<p>Hello, In the wake of police killings across the country as well as in Salt Lake City, and the Salt Lake Police Department's escalated violence against the city's grieving multi-racial community, Salt Lake, I am writing in to plea for a very serious change in budget and policies. Reallocating budget and resources away from the Police Dept, who answer nonviolence with violence and take lives unnecessarily and create an environment of fear and anxiety in our city is crucial at this time. By pledging to defund the Salt Lake Police Department and invest in the resources that really keep us safe and healthy, especially in Black communities, Indigenous communities, Latinx communities, and communities of color, a real change can begin to emerge. For a healthy and safe community, I ask you to commit to the following during the public hearing on the proposed city budget:</p> <p>Implement a hiring freeze on SLCPD instead of hiring 23 new officers, as has been proposed. To vote no to any increase in police funding or to increase the police department's budget. To propose and vote for a \$30 million cut from SLCPD's budget as the city responds to projected COVID-19 shortfalls, a housing crisis, and rise in unemployment. To protect and expand current investment in community-led health and safety strategies, instead of investing in police. To do everything in their power to compel SLCPD and all law enforcement agencies to immediately cease enacting violence on community members. Please listen with empathy to the people who make up this community and take action to incite real change that will result in peace and safety and wellness for all! Sincerely, Kathryn Bingham</p>	
Budget 2020-2021	Kiki Sieger	<p>Council Members, I believe that it is your moral obligation to consider reallocating a portion of the proposed \$84,422,651 going to the Salt Lake City police department. These funds could and SHOULD be used for the betterment of our community instead of being distributed to a police department that inflicts intimidation and violence on the population that it is meant to protect. Funding could be allocated to social workers, who are actually educated on how to deescalate situations in a non-violent manner. Funds could also be used to bolster essential community programs including housing stability, public transportation, food and nutrition assistance, homeless services, healthcare and mental health services, parks, arts etc. These programs will enrich the lives of your constituents, create a more united community, and will decrease our need for a violent police force. I do not support the SLCPD, and do not approve of my tax money supporting them.</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Leslie	Cut police budget by \$30 million, reallocate money to community services, maintain a hiring freeze on new police officers throughout the fiscal year.	n/a
Budget 2020-2021	Lydia Vergara	I am a resident of Utah County. I am writing to demand that the City Council adopt a People's Budget that prioritizes community wellbeing and redirects funding away from the police. We are in the midst of widespread upheaval over the systemic violence of policing, embodied by the LAPD's well documented history of murdering Black people. We will no longer accept empty gestures and suggestions of reform. We are demanding that our voices be heard now, and that real change be made to the way this city allocates its resources. Support for communities in need is necessary now, more than ever. But instead, the Mayor has proposed an increase in funding to the SLPD, despite the fact that crime has fallen considerably during the past few months. The SLPD has seen a rise in overtime pay which, more often than not, is paid out to officers responsible for harassing the unhoused, and Black, Indigenous, people of color. We demand that the City Council defund the SLPD. We join the calls of those across the country to #DefundThePolice. We demand a budget that adequately and effectively meets the needs of at-risk Utahans during this trying and uncertain time, when livelihoods are on the line. We demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, rather than empowers the police forces that tear them apart. Although City Council has avoided voting or revising Mayor Mendenhall's draconian budget proposal, the document is back in your hands. It is your duty to represent your constituents. I am urging you to completely revise the SLC budget for 2020-2021 fiscal year, and to fund #CareNotCops. You need to adopt a People's Budget. Public opinion is with me. Thank you for your time.	
Budget 2020-2021	Madeline Dunford	Cut budget by \$30 mil, reallocate to community services, maintain a hiring freeze. Invest in education, healthcare, housing, clean air and water, or access to food.	
Budget 2020-2021	Magdalena Jones	Hi my name is Magdalena Jones I think we should defund the police department right now. There are so many other ways we could spend the money right now. So many ways we could spend this money whether transportation, low income housing, etc. I don't want my tax dollars to go toward policing and enforcing- we are already in a police state and we don't need to give more money to policing poverty and black/brown lives. I would like my tax dollars to be spent to educate our society so we don't have these problems and these riots.	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Marissa Day	I have been profoundly disappointed by the disproportionate, unnecessary display of military style force on the streets of salt lake this week in response to the protestors. This is an affront to our right to freedom of speech and proof of the overfunding and overreach of police in our city. We need accountability, training and education in our police force, not more police officers or equipment. We need to funnel resources to our community, not a force that continues to do harm in our community. I am a resident of Salt Lake City 84103 and demanding a reduction in funding to the police department so the funds can diverted to much needed community resources like education funding for our children. Marissa Day	
Budget 2020-2021	Melanie Bustas	Cut budget by \$30 mil, reallocate to community services, maintain a hiring freeze. There is a more efficient way for our community to be run, and what is happening is not working.	
Budget 2020-2021	Melissa	Cut budget by \$30 mil, reallocate to community services, maintain a hiring freeze. Works as a speech and language pathologist, and recognizes how important it is to provide prevention, rather than reacting to issues. Invest in education and the clean air and water initiative.	
Budget 2020-2021	Meredith Jacobsen	Cut police budget by \$30 million, reallocate money to community services, maintain a hiring freeze on new police officers throughout the fiscal year. Invest in transportation.	n/a

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Michael Abrahamson	<p>Dear Salt Lake City Council Members, In your review of Mayor Erin Mendenhall's recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2021, I ask that you please reconsider the proposal to further increase funding for the Salt Lake City Police Department. If anything, at this moment, the department's budget should be reduced. With demonstrations in our city's streets over excessive use of force and persistent racial bias on the part of police, please do not be swayed by arguments that further investment of municipal resources in the reform of the police department is an adequate response. While meeting activists legitimate demands for increased transparency in investigations of the use of force and comprehensively training officers on implicit bias is absolutely necessary, this is not the time to reform the police department through an increase to its budget. It is instead time to break this cycle by reimagining the role of policing in our city and in our lives. Our national experience over the past several years has proven that more training in de-escalation or community relations is simply not enough. An inhuman amount of cognitive dissonance is required for armed officers to constantly remain vigilant of their own safety and the safety of others while simultaneously working to de-escalate potentially violent situations. This places undue pressure on police officers, and now is the time to reflect on the realities created by our disproportionate investment in and dependence upon the police department at the expense of other services. Admittedly, police officers and their leadership are in an unenviable position. Disinvestment in municipal, state, and federal social services over the past several decades has put increasing pressure on local police to intervene in scenarios that would be better handled by someone other than armed law enforcement. To cite only one example, the Salt Lake City Police Departments quantitative Performance Measurements (Continued Below 1/2)</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Michael Abrahamson	<p>(Continued from Above 2/2) provided in the Mayor's budget document reveal the difficulty of our situation. Specifically, why is it that police are the preferred responders for Social Work & Homeless Outreach efforts, and specifically referrals for services, jobs, housing, education, benefits, substance abuse and mental health treatment (p. E-68)? And, moreover, why must these encounters be counted and quantified to meet arbitrary performance metrics? Must Salt Lake City residents experiencing homelessness encounter armed law enforcement officers in all of the above situations? How else could we respond to needs like these? By reinvesting in social services rather than just public safety, and by humanizing such interactions through the removal of the threat of deadly force. Consider the tone that is set for an encounter with police officers by the presence of firearms and protective equipment. The appearance and comportment of ever-more militarized police officers heighten tension at pivotal moments for all involved, rather than dissipating it. Moreover, with violent altercations between peaceful protesters and riot-ready police now happening daily in many American cities, the profoundly negative consequences of the increased militarization of the nation's police forces over the past three decades should now be plain for all to see. Larger budgets and newer equipment does not automatically translate to better law enforcement. The mayor's recommended budget report includes a truly jarring reminder that over the past two years Salt Lake City's Funding Our Future sales tax has been used to increase the police force by 50 officers. Is a more heavily policed urban environment really the best we can imagine for the future of our city? I urge you to carefully reflect on the police department's share of the city budget at this critical moment of national discourse around policing, and consider the possibility that further investment in policing is simply not the best way to respond to demands for accountability and transparency. We must instead engage in dialog about what we expect from our police department, and how we might drastically reduce our dependence upon armed law enforcement. Sincerely, Michael Abrahamson [REDACTED]</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	MICHELLE LOUISE WENTLING	<p>Hello, I am writing you today to discuss public funding for the future of our beloved Salt Lake City. Taking a look at the projected budget for FY 20-21, I see that the mayor has allocated nearly 85 million dollars for the Salt Lake City Police Department, while housing is receiving 23,248,016 and transit is receiving 4,700,00. This is absolutely unacceptable. These numbers represent a 16% increase in police funding since 2018. Most Black residents, residents of color, and LGBTQ residents have witnessed the violence and carelessness of the police here-they are violent in the face non-violence and peaceful protesting. There is a direct link of systematic racism between over-policing impoverished communities of color and under-funding affordable housing and public transportation. Without these basic everyday necessities, people cannot succeed or live dignified lives. Respectfully, change will only happen if money is allocated towards resources which will help communities thrive and heal, rather than face unnecessary violence, hostility, and tension. Our communities deserve better than this. If the Salt Lake City government claims to care about its residents of color, they should directly address this fixable issue. Our libraries, housing, transit, social welfare programs, and community centers are in dire need of financial and tangible support. We've seen Salt Lake City take wonderful action in the past to support its residents, and now is an important time to continue this trend. How can we allocate funding towards community and transformative justice? How can we help Black residents feel safer in their own streets? This is a conversation about equity and geographic equity, issues I know the mayor is actively working on. Police brutality and lack of accountability for the police should be centered in the conversation. I send this message with love and hope for all of Salt Lake City. Please listen to the people in their demands for a just society that greets the plea for change not with dismissive violence, but with a deeper understanding of the systemic conditions that elicit these demands in the first place. Sincerely, Michelle Wentling</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	N/A	<p>I think all of you on the City Council need to read an opinion piece in the New York Times from May 30 titled No More Money for the Police (https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/30/opinion/george-floyd-police-funding.htm) Redirect it to emergency response programs that don't black people. The only way we are going to stop these endless cycles of police violence is by creating alternatives to policing. Because even in a pandemic where black people have been disproportionately killed by the Coronavirus the police are still murdering them. So why don't you folks realize that putting more money towards the police is going to continue to exasperate the same problem. Redirect it! Do something! Do the right thing! Please! And help get that orange anus out of office, too. Will ya? It sure would be nice if the City Council was actually helping instead of being part of the problem. And asking for more money for the police force is being part of the problem. Why don't we hear you folks speaking out on the orange anus that is destroying this country? Using the bible as a prop and meanwhile clearing the crowd of peaceful protesters with tear gas, fireworks, and rubber bullets. Really? We need leadership. We do not need status quo. It sure would be nice if we had voices stand up to the prominent religion who we are hearing nothing from right now, are we? All the good Mormons who are going to church pretending they're good Christians. Meanwhile we have heard zero from them. Are they afraid to upset their base? Putting party ahead of people like usual Republicans? It sure would be nice if our City Council spoke out against the madness and actually spoke out about having the orange anus removed from office. But spending \$84 million on police force? You folks are making a giant mistake if you do that. All you are doing is creating more fear and pissing money away on the militarization of the police force. Defund the police force. How about dumping money into paying teachers? They are the most vital people we have to our future. It sure would be nice because our priorities seem so skewed in Utah and a lot of that is because the predominant religion here. SO maybe some voices of sanity on the City Council could speak up and start doing the things that would actually be helpful to people instead of creating more fear. (Continued Below 1/3)</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	N/A	(Continued 2/3) DO NOT FUND THE POLICE ANYMORE! DEFUND THE POLICE! Speak out against the madness. Our country is being destroyed every day mostly because Republicans refuse to speak out. SO if Democrats, it is up to you folks to be the light and be shining light on the corruption and the hypocrisy. Now is not the time to be silent. Do your jobs that you were elected to do! DON'T GIVE THE POLICE ANYMORE MONEY! Why also is there a curfew in our city? Why are we not allowed to peacefully protest? Are you guys that afraid? And again, is it ok for the President to be clearing peaceful protesters out with fireworks and tear gas and use that as a photo op? This is exactly why we do not need more police presence and more money spent funding the police.	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	N/A	<p>(Continued 3/3) They did a great job over the weekend they were probably the most down(?) officers on the streets compared to other cities but it is still intimidating as fuck to have big armored cars show up. It is the militarization of the police force. Don't give them any more god damn money! And if you guys can't come up with better things to do to be spending that much money on, then you are all corrupt and complicate as well. DO YOUR GOD DAMN JOBS AND WORK FOR US and not the fucking police! Erin Mendenhall, we voted you in to be a progressive Mayor, not status quo. Put your big girl pants on and behave as such. You guys, no more killer cops. We, as citizens of Salt Lake City demand a decrease in the Salt Lake City Police Department Budget. The fact that Salt Lake City wants to give \$84 million to the police and hire 23 new officers? First of all, if you guys are that short-sited and can't figure out a better way to spend \$84 million in this city, there is something wrong with you. Are you that scared that we need to have more militarization of the god damn police? They did a fine job of being restrained and not overreacting like a lot of cities, but it is intimidating as fuck to have jack-booted storm troopers, dressed as Transformers in militarized vehicles. It must take a certain kind of person to suit up like that and then go home and hug their four-year-old daughter. Sorry, but we don't need any more money for the god damn police. DECREASE THE POLICE BUDGET AND SPEND IT ON SOMETHING THAT IS GOING TO HELP PEOPLE! My god, you know why people are scared? Because the police look like the military. There is much better things to be spending money on that could be helping this City. It sure would be nice if we heard from some of our Mormon leaders about the orange anus using bible as a prop. Absolutely sickening, the hypocrisy from our so called Mormon leaders who know better. Comon guys. Too embarrassed to speak out because you're going to upset the booger eaters, the MAGA hat wearers? Sure would be nice to have some accountability and some people with courage speak out. Cmon, do the right thing for once. Jesus fucking Christ, more money for the god damned police is not a good idea. Thanks for taking the comment but we are sick of this shit.</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	NA	<p>In the wake of police killings across the country as well as in Salt Lake City, and the Salt Lake Police Department's escalated violence against the city's grieving multi-racial community, Salt Lake is in desperate need of visionary leadership. We are calling on the Salt Lake City Council to become these visionary leaders by pledging to defund the Salt Lake Police Department and invest in the resources that really keep us safe and healthy, especially in Black communities, Indigenous communities, Latinx communities, undocumented communities and communities of color. We have called on them to commit to the following during the public hearing on the proposed city budget: 1. Implement a hiring freeze on SLCPD instead of hiring 23 new officers, as has been proposed. 2. Vote no to any increase in police funding or to increase the police department's budget. 3. To propose and vote for a \$30 million cut from SLCPD's budget as the city responds to projected COVID-19 shortfalls, a housing crisis, and rise in unemployment. 4. To protect and expand current investment in community-led health and safety strategies, instead of investing in police. 5. To do everything in their power to compel SLCPD and all law enforcement agencies to immediately cease enacting violence on community members. Now is the time to invest in a safe, liberated future for our city. We can't afford to keep funding SLCPD's attacks on our community. Here are some proposed alternatives where funding could go instead to promote community wellness: 1. Provide rent relief and quality housing opportunities for those living at or below the poverty line 2. Invest in more events, free resources, and skill sharing at city libraries. Among these should be resources to raise awareness for the plights of ostracized groups and communities 3. Provide free public transit and increase the length of bus time schedules and routes 4. Invest in trained mental health professionals to de-escalate, transport, and connect those in need with resources 5. Invest in more outdoor spaces and public parks in lower-income neighborhoods 6. Funding for after-school programs and providers, and for more meals for students in public schools 7. Increase the funding of public defenders who are only allocate \$1,292,774 with no increase shown in the last year. Thank you.</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	NA	I am calling to demand a decrease in the police budget it is unconscionable to spend \$84 million just on the city of Salt Lake for the police. When we are \$94 million dollars behind in the state of Utah just to jump one more place to where we rank in per people spending. We can invest all that money into public schools and to provide better quality care especially in a time of COVID-19. Quite frankly the gall, the audacity, to spend \$84 million dollars when we rank #51 in per people spending in all of Utah. Please consider a decrease in the police budget. Thank you.	
Budget 2020-2021	NA	Calling in regards to the funding meeting. I would like for the police department to be defunded. They don't deserve 84 million, not even half. Take my opinion and many others into consideration and defund the police department. Thank you.	
Budget 2020-2021	NA	I request you defund the police and demilitarize them ASAP. I'm also calling to request you enact a civilian board to have oversight over the Police Department.	
Budget 2020-2021	NA	Hi there my name is Chris doubt I saw online there was a proposal to increase the budget proposal by 84 million. I strongly oppose this because of the events surrounding black lives matter and the events in our community. Those funds could be better spent	
Budget 2020-2021	NA	84 million cannot be sent to the police force of slc to create new officers the purpose of the police force is to protect underrepresented people and more officers won't accomplish that goal. All they do is increases divisiveness in the people and reinforce systematically enforced prejudices against minorities. The only way the money should be used to help people in these situations is to divert the money to organizations that help these people. organizations that need the money more than new police officers. Target the underlying problem including homelessness, drug issues, and shelters, and minority communities and black communities. More police officers will further create divisiveness and social/economic differences and cause greater division in people.	
Budget 2020-2021	NA	I am calling to demand a decrease in the Salt Lake police department budget.	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Natalie Mella	Hello! My name is Natalie Mella and I live in district 5 of our wonderful city. I have a quick comment concerning our future budget. I would like to see a decrease in funding by at least 30 million to policing in SLC. An 84 million budget is wildly excesses for policing when I know that money would be better used for Housing, Public Health (come on we've got the rona!), Bicycle infrastructure, etc.. I own my home here, I work at a small business here, I feel very much invested in this city of ours and I do not want to see my money going where it is definitely not needed! Thank you for your time and I hope everyone stays safe and we can continue to grow together. Best, Natalie Mella	5
Budget 2020-2021	Natasha Wong	Hello, I am a resident of Salt Lake and I am writing to demand that the City Council adopt a budget that prioritizes community wellbeing and redirects funding away from the police. We are in the midst of widespread upheaval over the systemic violence of policing, embodied by the SLCPD's well-documented history of murdering Black, Latinx, and poor people. We will no longer accept empty gestures and suggestions of reform. THIS INCLUDES SUGGESTIONS TO INCREASE BODYCAMs, TRAINING, AND COMMUNITY POLICING. We are demanding that our voices be heard and that real change be made to the way this city allocates its resources. Support for communities in need is necessary now, more than ever. But instead, Mayor Mendenhall has proposed an increase in funding to the SLCPD. The SLCPD has also seen a rise in overtime pay which, more often than not, is paid out to officers responsible for harassing the unhoused, and Black, Indigenous, people of color. I, and other constituents of Salt Lake, demand that the City Council defund the SLCPD. We join the calls of those across the country to #DefundThePolice. We demand a budget that adequately and effectively meets the needs of at-risk Utahns during this trying and uncertain time when livelihoods are on the line. COVID-19 has disproportionately affected Utah's Latinx, Indigenous, and poor communities--we don't need police to brutalize them too. We demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, instead of empowering the police forces that tear them apart. Further, given the recent murder of Bernardo Palacios by the SLCPD, I call for the officers involved to be fired, to lose their pensions, and to be barred from rehiring by the SLCPD as well as neighboring police departments. There is no excuse for police to EVER unload 20-30 bullets in someone's back. (Continued Below 1/4)	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Natasha Wong	<p>(Continued 2/4) I'd also like to remind the council that THIS is the very same policing that won SLCPD awards for de-escalation and training in 2019. When I hear the mayor, the city council, the local police call for more training, more bodycams, and better reforms, I don't see a safer world. I see SLCPD shooting Bernardo Palacios, a 22-year-old, an artist who taught his nieces and nephews to draw, whose body was left missing fingers by the police who shot him while he lay dead on the ground. I see police shouting for Bernardo to put his hands up while he lies facedown on the pavement, bleeding out. I don't want reform. I don't want you to add meaningless formalities that hold officers "accountable" while they get off for shooting brown folks after invoking qualified immunity. What are more bodycams going to do for Bernardo's family and friends? When I hear you all claim a commitment to social justice and call for more body cams in the same sentence, I don't hear justice, I hear that in a year, or two years, or three years, there will be more SLCPD officers unloading bullets into a young Latinx man's back, but maybe this time we'll get better footage. Is that justice to you? Take a good, hard look at your award-winning police department. If there were good cops, and if the SLCPD was committed to justice or "protecting and serving" or whatever cute slogan they like to use to assert that police oppress the marginalized for the greater good, would Chief Brown look at the video of Bernardo's shooting and say he stands by his men? Would the SLCPD stand in riot gear across from a mourning family as they grieve over an altar for their dead son? Is complicity not violence too? I urge you, look closely, because SLCPD, as it exists, is already the product of reform, in fact it is an award-winning model of police reform. Save us your PR stunts and police kneeling and stated "commitment to addressing and dismantling systemic oppression". I cannot fathom how any of you are capable of watching the video of Bernardo's death and continuing to tell us--when you know full well that it's untrue--that police make our communities safe.</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Natasha Wong	<p>(Continued 3/4) Continuing to support SLCPD after seeing them shoot a young adult, who was scared and running for his life, reveals to me not only your callous numbness and dismissiveness toward the death and suffering of SLC's poor and POC community, but also the privileged (and white, yes even you nonblack POCs) position from which you all can understand police as your caretakers (and assume they 'caretake' in the same manner for other communities) when black and brown folks are routinely abused and brutalized at the hands of police, on the streets and behind prison walls, in Utah and nationwide. Anything less than defunding the SLCPD--and defunding is the bare minimum that SLC can do to address police violence--is a slap in the face not only to Bernardo's family and community but to the others who have died and suffered at the hands of the SLCPD, to the homeless who face harassment and imprisonment on a daily basis, and to the poor who are criminalized for trying to survive. Is it really so hard to imagine that other services could account for and replace the vast majority of the work that police are tasked with (and perform such work better than the police)? Are you really deluded enough to genuinely believe that cops (who, I remind you, shot a young man dead at point-blank, when, as stated in the video they could have de-escalated by using tasers) are the best-equipped people to address problems that arise from a homelessness crisis, mental health issues, and food insecurity? And if, as you may claim, the problems of the SLCPD stem from "a few bad apples" (who, if I remember the saying correctly, spoil the bunch), what are you going to do to actively weed out the "bad officers"; are you going to let the SLCPD continue to police itself?</p>	n/a

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Natasha Wong	<p>(Continued 4/4) Are you going to continue letting police unions trample over the rights of your most disadvantaged communities because its best for police employment for cops to be free and able to kill with impunity? You all heard Mike Brown stand with Bernardo's murderers. That's your police leadership. Are you going to "reform" that? Pay attention. Although City Council has not yet voted upon or revised Mayor Mendenhall's budget proposal, the document is back in your hands. It is your duty to represent your constituents. I am urging you to completely revise the SLC budget for FY20-21 and to fund care, not cops. If your hands are tied by police contracting and unionizing, I urge you to break the power of police unions and to dismantle the tools that are forcing the city to waste (and yes I do mean waste) resources on policing that would much better be directed to education, housing, public, health, and public transit. I would like to conclude this email by reminding the council that you work for the constituents of Salt Lake City, and are subject to recall. Save us the lip service about racial injustice. Stop acting like you have no sway. You control the budget; it is your choice whether you will fund programs that help communities of color and poor folks thrive, or whether you will continue to actively endanger them by expanding policing. You have the power, means, and funds to show us your priorities in the budget. We will be watching, and we won't forget. You are not free from complicity. Funding the murder of POC at the hands of the state leaves blood on your hands, too. Address the needs of your community. Thank you for your time, Natasha Wong [REDACTED]</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Olivia Beckman	<p>Hello, I am writing you today to discuss public funding for the future of our beloved Salt Lake City. Taking a look at the projected budget for FY 20-21, I see that the mayor has allocated nearly 85 million dollars for the Salt Lake City Police Department, while housing is receiving 23,248,016 and transit is receiving 4,700,00. This is absolutely unacceptable. These numbers represent a 16% increase in police funding since 2018. Most Black residents, residents of color, and LGBTQ residents have witnessed the violence and carelessness of the police here-they are violent in the face non-violence and peaceful protesting. There is a direct link of systematic racism between over-policing impoverished communities of color and under-funding affordable housing and public transportation. Without these basic everyday necessities, people cannot succeed or live dignified lives. Respectfully, change will only happen if money is allocated towards resources which will help communities thrive and heal, rather than face unnecessary violence, hostility, and tension. Our communities deserve better than this. If the Salt Lake City government claims to care about its residents of color, they should directly address this fixable issue. Our libraries, housing, transit, social welfare programs, and community centers are in dire need of financial and tangible support. We've seen Salt Lake City take wonderful action in the past to support its residents, and now is an important time to continue this trend. How can we allocate funding towards community and transformative justice? How can we help Black residents feel safer in their own streets? This is a conversation about equity and geographic equity, issues I know the mayor is actively working on. Police brutality and lack of accountability for the police should be centered in the conversation. I send this message with love and hope for all of Salt Lake City. Please listen to the people in their demands for a just society that greets the plea for change not with dismissive violence, but with a deeper understanding of the systemic conditions that elicit these demands in the first place. Sincerely, Olivia Beckman</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Olivia Love	<p>Hello, My name is Olivia Love and I am a resident of Salt Lake City, Utah. I am calling on the Salt Lake City Council to become visionary leaders by pledging to defund the Salt Lake Police Department and invest in the resources that truly keep us as a community safe and healthy -- especially in Black communities, Latinx communities, and communities of color. I call you to commit to the following during the public hearing on the proposed city budget: 1. Implement a hiring freeze on SLCPD rather than hiring 23 new officers, as has been proposed. 2. Vote no to any increase in police funding or to increase the police department's budget -- the funds are needed elsewhere, some proposed later in this email. 3. Propose and vote for a \$30 million cut from SLCPD's budget as the city responds to projected COVID-19 shortfalls, a housing crisis, and rise in unemployment. 4. Protect and expand current investments in community-led health and safety strategies, instead of investing in police. 5. Do everything in your power to compel SLCPD and all law enforcement agencies to immediately cease enacting violence on community members. Violence from people in power -- law enforcement -- instills fear, not respect, in the people and drastically weakens a community. Now is the time to invest in a safe, liberated future for our wonderful city. We can't afford to keep funding SLCPD's attacks on our community. Here are some proposed alternatives where funding could go instead to promote community wellness: 1. Provide rent relief and quality housing opportunities for those living at or below the poverty line. 2. Invest in more events, free resources, and skill sharing at city libraries. 3. Provide free public transit and increase the length of buse time schedules and routes. 4. Invest in trained mental health professionals to de-escalate, transport, and connect those in need with resources. 5. Invest in more outdoor spaces and public parks in lower-income neighborhoods. 6. Invest in environmental initiatives such as improving air quality and preserving wild land. I thank you for your time and trust that you will think heavily on this to make the best decision for our city. Now is the time for change, and it can start here. Regards, Olivia Love</p>	n/a

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Olivia Robson	Hello, My name is Olivia, and am a current resident of Salt Lake City. I was born here, grew up here, and my family is here. I am writing in reference to the 2020-2021 fiscal budget. I demand that before Tuesday's vote, the city make drastic cuts to the SLCPD budget by at least \$30 million, and reallocate the money instead to community building services. I also demand that the mayor maintain a hiring freeze on any new police officers through the fiscal year. This is important to me because I believe we should invest in supporting our community, rather than invest in a hyper-militarized model of policing and penalizing vulnerable community members. SLCPD has revealed itself as an institution beyond reform in the murder of Bernardo Palacios. I am not asking for reform measures of the police department, but rather defunding with a reallocation of those funds to providing housing, education, and mental health resources for Salt Lake City. I hope you invest \$30 million in measures that will help Salt Lake City grow into a more equitable and safe city for all, such as housing, education, and jobs, rather than the police department. Thank you for your time, Olivia Robson	n/a
Budget 2020-2021	Pamela Silberman	I am writing in support of the proposals to reduce funding for the SLC Police Department and redirect those funds toward programs that improve the lives of marginalized members of our community. I would also like to see evidence-based training that has been proven to reduce bias and anti-black attitudes implemented across the police force on an annual basis. Finally, I would like SLC to make a public commitment to no longer accept military equipment from the federal government, nor use it on non-violent protesters. Rather police officers who demonstrate strong de-escalation skills should be the only ones deployed during demonstrations and rallies. As in many areas, SLC can be a model for the rest of the country.	4
Budget 2020-2021	Pat	Hi my name is Pat and I live in SLC and I'd like to voice the thought that one way to help the city's budget is cancel all funds to SLCPD to be sued for military style gear (vehicles, body armour, shields) things used in military style operations and move towards useful city projects and pass funding for things like public health. We do have a crisis at the moment. This would be more useful than funding a militant police force.	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Randy Jimenez	<p>Hello, I am writing you today to discuss public funding for the future of our beloved Salt Lake City. Taking a look at the projected budget for FY 20-21, I see that the mayor has allocated nearly 85 million dollars for the Salt Lake City Police Department, while housing is receiving 23,248,016 and transit is receiving 4,700,00. This is absolutely unacceptable. These numbers represent a 16% increase in police funding since 2018. Most Black residents, residents of color, and LGBTQ residents have witnessed the violence and carelessness of the police here-they are violent in the face non-violence and peaceful protesting. There is a direct link of systematic racism between over-policing impoverished communities of color and under-funding affordable housing and public transportation. Without these basic everyday necessities, people cannot succeed or live dignified lives. Respectfully, change will only happen if money is allocated towards resources which will help communities thrive and heal, rather than face unnecessary violence, hostility, and tension. Our communities deserve better than this. If the Salt Lake City government claims to care about its residents of color, they should directly address this fixable issue. (Continued Below 1/2)</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Randy Jimenez	<p>(Continued 2/2) Our libraries, housing, transit, social welfare programs, and community centers are in dire need of financial and tangible support. We've seen Salt Lake City take wonderful action in the past to support its residents, and now is an important time to continue this trend. How can we allocate funding towards community and transformative justice? How can we help Black residents feel safer in their own streets? This is a conversation about equity and geographic equity, issues I know the mayor is actively working on. Police brutality and lack of accountability for the police should be centered in the conversation. I send this message with love and hope for all of Salt Lake City. Please listen to the people in their demands for a just society that greets the plea for change not with dismissive violence, but with a deeper understanding of the systemic conditions that elicit these demands in the first place. Demands: 1. Implement a hiring freeze on SLCPD instead of hiring 23 new officers, as has been proposed. 2. 3. To vote no to any increase in police funding or to increase the police department's budget. 4. 5. To propose and vote for a \$30 million cut from SLCPD's budget as the city responds to projected COVID-19 shortfalls, a housing crisis, and rise in unemployment. 6. 7. To protect and expand current investment in community-led health and safety strategies, instead of investing in police. 8. 9. To do everything in their power to compel SLCPD and all law enforcement agencies to immediately cease enacting violence on community members. Sincerely, Randy Jimenez</p>	
Budget 2020-2021	Razika Buthra	Cut budget by \$30 mil, reallocate to community services, maintain a hiring freeze. We should be investing in communities for overall wellness and health rather than in police.	
Budget 2020-2021	Reagan	Cut budget by \$30 mil, reallocate to community services, such as education, healthcare, and security, and maintain a hiring freeze. Reevaluate the hiring process for SLCPD, and even the number of hires. It is easy to live in a bubble in Utah, considering the small percent of our population that is made up of minorities, but it is important to recognize that the injustices happening around the country are also prevalent here.	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Ren Abueg	To whom it may concern: In response to the nationwide protests against police killings, brutality, and violence, I and many others want to call for decreased funding of the police. Many of us, particularly those in the black community, feel threatened by excessive force and riot gear invading peaceful protests (not just riots). Our budget should go toward providing resources for communities that need it, not toward providing military-esque gear to the very force we are protesting. Thank you, Ren Abueg (ZIP code 84103)	
Budget 2020-2021	Russell Micks	Cut police budget by \$30 million, reallocate money to community services, maintain a hiring freeze on new police officers throughout the fiscal year. Invest in food resources and homeless resource centers.	n/a
Budget 2020-2021	Samantha Jans	I was calling my disagreement about police funding increase. I think that funding could be better used for education which might get a defund, and reallocating the momey to education. That is what I am asking you to move that money towards.	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Sanga Mohmand	Hello, I am writing to you today to discuss public funding for the future of our beloved Salt Lake City. Taking a look at the projected budget for FY 20-21, I see that the mayor has allocated nearly 85 million dollars for the Salt Lake City Police Department, while housing is receiving 23,248,016 and transit is receiving 4,700,00. This is absolutely unacceptable. These numbers represent a 16% increase in police funding since 2018. Most Black residents, residents of color, and LGBTQ residents have witnessed the violence and carelessness of the police here-they are violent in the face non-violence and peaceful protesting. There is a direct link of systematic racism between over-policing impoverished communities of color and under-funding affordable housing and public transportation. Without these basic everyday necessities, people cannot succeed or live dignified lives. Respectfully, change will only happen if money is allocated towards resources which will help communities thrive and heal, rather than face unnecessary violence, hostility, and tension. Our communities deserve better than this. If the Salt Lake City government claims to care about its residents of color, they should directly address this fixable issue. Our libraries, housing, transit, social welfare programs, and community centers are in dire need of financial and tangible support. We've seen Salt Lake City take wonderful action in the past to support its residents, and now is an important time to continue this trend. How can we allocate funding towards community and transformative justice? How can we help Black residents feel safer in their own streets? This is a conversation about equity and geographic equity, issues I know the mayor is actively working on. Police brutality and lack of accountability for the police should be centered in the conversation. I send this message with love and hope for all of Salt Lake City. Please listen to the people in their demands for a just society that greets the plea for change not with dismissive violence, but with a deeper understanding of the systematic conditions that elicit these demands in the first place. Sincerely, Sanga Mohmand	
Budget 2020-2021	Sarah Lotempleo	Cut SLCPD budget by \$30 mil, reallocate to community services, maintain a hiring freeze. Minority communities need more resources, invest in rent freezes during the Covid-19 crisis, school programs, the arts.	
Budget 2020-2021	Seth Crier	Cut SLCPD budget by \$30 mil, reallocate to community services, maintain a hiring freeze. Invest in community outreach, including education, food equity, and social distanced programs.	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Shannon Young	<p>I am a resident of downtown Salt Lake City and have lived blocks away from the Capitol building for a few years. I am writing to demand that the City Council adopt a People's Budget that fiscally prioritizes community wellbeing and redirects funding away from the police. We are in the midst of widespread upheaval over the systemic violence of policing, embodied by the well documented history of police murdering Black people across the country. We will no longer accept empty gestures and suggestions of a reform. We are demanding that our voices be heard now, and that real change be made to the way this city allocates its resources. Support for communities in need is necessary now, more than ever. But instead, the Mayor has proposed an increase in funding to the SLPD, despite the fact that crime has fallen considerably during the past few months. The SLPD has seen a rise in overtime pay which, more often than not, is paid out to officers responsible for harassing the unhoused, Black, Indigenous, and all people of color. We demand that the City Council defund the SLPD. We join the calls of those across the country to #DefundThePolice. We demand a budget that adequately and effectively meets the needs of at-risk Utahns during this trying and uncertain time, when livelihoods are on the line. We demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, rather than empowers the police forces that tear them apart. We demand action, not lip service to Mayor Mendenhall's signing of President Barack Obama's call to action for Mayors specifically. Although City Council has avoided voting or revising Mayor Mendenhall's draconian budget proposal, the document is back in your hands. It is your duty to represent your constituents. I am urging you to completely revise the SLC budget for 2020-2021 fiscal year, and to fund #CareNotCops. You need to adopt a People's Budget. Public opinion is with me. Thank you for your time,</p>	1
Budget 2020-2021	Shelby Lopez	<p>Wants more information regarding tomorrow's meeting, and the discussions that will be taking place. Cut police budget by \$30 million, reallocate money to community services, maintain a hiring freeze on new police officers throughout the fiscal year. Invest in more resources for substance abuse, homelessness, etc.</p>	n/a

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Sophie Kern	Hi, my name is Sophie Kern and I am from Salt Lake City Utah. I am calling to demand that the SLCPD be defunded and that there be a freeze on hiring for the department. I am asking that the money being given to the department be redistributed to the communities that are supposed to be protected by SLCPD. Injustice and police brutality towards the black and other minority communities have been going on for too long and I demand that something is to be done with this. So I ask that you divest from policing and invest in our community.	
Budget 2020-2021	Stella Bucket	WE NEED CHANGE NOW! Redirect the 84 MILLION DOLLARS set aside to fund the police in the 2020-2021 budget to other community programs. We have an epidemic of homelessness in our community aside from the current global pandemic. It is an outrage that these funds are not being used to educate, feed, and house our community. Over the last week (and an even longer historic rap sheet) we have seen how our police department does not need nor deserve these funds. This is not just about injustice to black people but the decriminalization of the poorest in our communities. The SLCPD does not act in the best interest of its citizens, particularly its black citizens and other citizens of color. They act in direct antagonism and violence towards them. We demand change! Stella Puckett Salt Lake City Resident	
Budget 2020-2021	Sterling Becker	Police Budget Tuesday Meeting Sterling Becker Council Comments; To whom it my concern (everyone): 1- I would like to demand a decrease in the police budget by at least \$30 million. 2- I would like to demand a hiring freeze for SLCPD for next year. 3- I would like to demand a divestment from policing and an investment in our community (food, housing, healthcare, transportation) Thank You, Sterling Becker Sent from my iPhone	
Budget 2020-2021	steve hollman	Hi my name is steve hollman. I'm calling with a lot of people to talk about the police budget and looking into ways to reallocate those funds to programs that benefit the community in a more meaningful way. We don't need a militarized police force, honestly some of the best police forces in the world don't even carry guns. I mean, there has gotta be a way for the funds to be better suited in training and helping the community and the police through programs idk such as idk outreach programs I just....there is no reason to spend 84 million buying more equipment and giving them more ammunition and adding more police when it has been shown that it isn't an answer to creating a more safe community.	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Tanner Allen	<p>I am writing you today to discuss public funding for the future of our beloved Salt Lake City. Taking a look at the projected budget for FY 20-21, I see that the mayor has allocated nearly 85 million dollars for the Salt Lake City Police Department, while housing is receiving 23,248,016 and transit is receiving 4,700,00. This is absolutely unacceptable. These numbers represent a 16% increase in police funding since 2018. Most Black residents, residents of color, and LGBTQ residents have witnessed the violence and carelessness of the police here-they are violent in the face non-violence and peaceful protesting. There is a direct link of systematic racism between over-policing impoverished communities of color and under-funding affordable housing and public transportation. Without these basic everyday necessities, people cannot succeed or live dignified lives. Respectfully, change will only happen if money is allocated towards resources which will help communities thrive and heal, rather than face unnecessary violence, hostility, and tension. Our communities deserve better than this. If the Salt Lake City government claims to care about its residents of color, they should directly address this fixable issue. Our libraries, housing, transit, social welfare programs, and community centers are in dire need of financial and tangible support. We've seen Salt Lake City take wonderful action in the past to support its residents, and now is an important time to continue this trend. How can we allocate funding towards community and transformative justice? How can we help Black residents feel safer in their own streets? This is a conversation about equity and geographic equity, issues I know the mayor is actively working on. Police brutality and lack of accountability for the police should be centered in the conversation. I send this message with love and hope for all of Salt Lake City. Please listen to the people in their demands for a just society that greets the plea for change not with dismissive violence, but with a deeper understanding of the systemic conditions that elicit these demands in the first place.</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Thomas Larmore	<p>My name is Thomas Larmore, I'm an accounting manager at a Utah based company, a continuing education student at the University of Utah, and have lived in Salt Lake City for almost 10 years. The actions of police against protesters in Salt Lake City has highlighted again the extreme levels of violence police in Salt Lake have employed against the community for many years. We have a police department that has routinely and with impunity engaged in the wrongful arrest and murder of black and brown citizens, the displacement and murder of houseless citizens, mismanged, downplayed, and sometimes been implicated in investigations of sexual and domestic abuse, mishandled wellness checks and mental health crises, resulting arrests and murders, and countless other violent escalations and uses of force against individuals. It's time to stop increasing the funding for a department that has shown no remorse for it's wrongdoings, no capacity for change or reform, and no ability to actually reduce crime or protect the community. It's time to reduce the presence of armed officers in our community, and narrow the scope of situations to which armed police are deployed. With this said, I'm writing again to demand your public and vehement opposition to the proposed \$84 Million Salt Lake City police department budget for the coming fiscal year. Instead, that majority of these proposed funds should be reallocated to investing in community health and safety programs. These include: expanded public housing, expanded social and mental health services, expanded medical services, providing food, medical, and sanitation supplies for the houseless community, expanded resources for victims of sexual and domestic assault, non-police crisis intervention, and public education. All these programs, and the professionals who will staff them, are much better equipped to deal with the majority of situations in which police respond with armed intervention. (Continued Below 1/2)</p>	n/a

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Thomas Larmore	<p>(Continued 2/2) I'm also writing again to demand your support of immediate and sweeping police reform. This must start with public mandates from you calling for the arrest and prosecution of all officers involved in the recent abhorrent murder of Bernardo Palacios. He is just recent and high profile example of egregious police misconduct, violence, and murder, and the time to begin holding police accountable to the community they are sworn to serve begins with this step. Additionally, I'm calling for you and your office to propose, and lobby for immediate policy changes including mandatory deescalation from all officers in all situations, a duty to intervene for officers who witness misconduct, a community lead review board with disciplinary power to oversee all investigations into police misconduct, and the end of transfers of military grade equipment to the SLCPD, as well as the drastic reduction of existing assault weapons, riot gear, armored transports, and helicopters currently available. I, and many other community members have called and written regarding this issue, and have received no response from you or your office. Your response instead was to move the date of the vote regarding the city. This is outrageous and deeply disconcerting. I and the many other concerned cities from whom you've heard in the last days and weeks demand a public and private response declaring your intentions for the future funding and policies of the SLCPD. I sincerely ask that you make the decision to invest in the health and safety and unity and service of our community, rather than in more robust, and in turn more violent, and pervasive, and unaccountable policing. If not, I and we will instead turn our efforts to organizing in support of future candidates for your office who are more committed and better equipped to serve this community and meet its demands. Best, -Thomas Larmore</p>	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Trina Perez	<p>Hello All, First, I would like to thank you for your service, thoughtful dialogue, and continued commitment to making Salt Lake City an equitable and SAFE place for all residents and visitors. I am writing to you today as a SLC resident of the Rose Park community, business owner, and currently represent District 1 on the PNUT Board. Like so many in my community, in my city, in my country, and in my world, I am absolutely sickened and outraged by the pervasive injustices our communities of color endure when they have police interactions. I am writing to urge you to make changes to the 2020/2021 budget. I urge you to cut the SLCPD's budget by at least 30 million, and to reallocate that money to community building services. I also urge the mayor and council to enact a hiring freeze on any new officers throughout the fiscal year. Upon reviewing the past ten years of SLC budgets, I was very alarmed and saddened to learn that the SLCPD has enjoyed a budget increase of 53% over the past decade, while Public Services has actually seen a decrease of \$1 million to their budget over the past decade. If we are serious about equity and justice in this city, as so many of you claim to be, please put your money where your mouth is and divest in the SLCPD and reinvest that money within communities of color. I will be submitting a letter to Kristin Riker, and to you all, resigning from my PNUT Board position this week. (Continued Below 1/2)</p>	1
Budget 2020-2021	Trina Perez	<p>(Continued 2/2) As a white woman living in one of the most diverse areas of our city, I realize that my position on the PNUT board further adds to the problem of racial inequality. District 1 should be represented by a person in the BIPOC community. Please, take that into consideration when appointing the new board member. The board currently doesn't reflect the demographic makeup of our diverse city, and that needs to change. I hope you will consider fair representation moving forward with all of your board appointments in the future. I appreciate your time and consideration. I do hope that the thousands of letters, calls, and comments you receive are enough to make you take real action on this issue. If we fail to see action on your behalf, you can be sure that we will not go away quietly. We will keep at this fight until we see justice and change within our communities of color, and for our BIPOC community. Best Regards, Trina Perez Buzzed Coffee Truck [REDACTED]</p>	1

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Tyson Hall	Cut police budget by \$30 million, reallocate money to community services, maintain a hiring freeze on new police officers throughout the fiscal year. Calling to demand justice for Bernardo Palacios-Carbajal, and demand that the officers should be prosecuted and fired. 30+ rounds is excessive and unjust.	
Budget 2020-2021	Valerie Whitsel	16 years old, wants the police budget cut by \$30 mil, maintain hiring freeze. With everything happening, no police officer hired would be someone who truly wants to help, they would be someone with a vendetta against the Black Lives Matter movement.	n/a
Budget 2020-2021	Victoria Floyd	Victoria Flloyd, I'm calling in regards to the proposed plan to increase the police budget and hire more officers. That is outrageous and disgusting. Should only should taht not happen officers should be fired. People are horrified and disgusted and afraid. Police should be here to keep the peace and theyve turned into militarized tyrants. No one will react well to this. We already have so many other problems like educaiton, homelessness, drus and the state of the city it is disgusting. The money could be spent elsewhere. I encourage you to rethink where you are putting within that money. I hope that you decide in your heart what is truly best for the people and that this is not it	

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Vincent Chang	<p>I am a resident of Salt Lake City. I am writing to demand that the City Council adopt a People's Budget that prioritizes community wellbeing and redirects funding away from the police. We are in the midst of widespread upheaval over the systemic violence of policing, embodied by the SLCPD's well documented history of murdering Black people. We will no longer accept empty gestures and suggestions of reform. We are demanding that our voices be heard now, and that real change be made to the way this city allocates its resources. Support for communities in need is necessary now, more than ever. But instead, the Mayor has proposed an increase in funding to the SLCPD, despite the fact that crime has fallen considerably during the past few months. The SLCPD has seen a rise in overtime pay which, more often than not, is paid out to officers responsible for harassing the unhoused, and Black, Indigenous, people of color. We demand that the City Council defund the SLCPD. We join the calls of those across the country to #DefundThePolice. We demand a budget that adequately and effectively meets the needs of at-risk Utahans during this trying and uncertain time, when livelihoods are on the line. We demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, rather than empowers the police forces that tear them apart. Although City Council has avoided voting or revising Mayor Mendenhall's draconian budget proposal, the document is back in your hands. It is your duty to represent your constituents. I am urging you to completely revise the SLC budget for 2020-2021 fiscal year, and to fund #CareNotCops. You need to adopt a People's Budget. Public opinion is with me. Thank you for your time.</p> <p>Vincent Chang [REDACTED]</p>	6

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Vreni Romang	I am calling in support of defunding the Salt Lake City Police Department I think the increase in budget doesn't make sense for our community, and I don't think that it is going to necessarily support what Salt Lake City stands by which is community and increase ensuring more mental health help. I would rather the money go towards other things is what I want to say. Instead of increasing the police departments budget I would really appreciate if we could increase public defenders budget, public transports budget, and other community building resources. Especially with the housing crisis we are having right now in Salt Lake City. Increasing access that people could have with better housing management for people who are suffering through homelessness. Thank you so much for listening and I hope everyone has a great day. And again, please defund the budget increase you have given to the police department. I think that in order to have law and order in our community we need to support the community first and not support the aggressive measures first.	
Budget 2020-2021	Zoe Barlow	Hello, My name is Zoe Barlow and I am a resident of Salt Lake City, Utah. I am emailing you in reference to the proposed 2020-2021 fiscal budget. I demand that before the final vote, the city make drastic cuts to the SLPD's budget by at least \$30 million, and reallocate the money to community services. I also demand the mayor maintain a hiring freeze on any new police officers throughout the fiscal year. This is an extremely important part of supporting, growing, and strengthening our community. Thank you for your time, Zoe Barlow	n/a

Topic	Names	Comment	District
Budget 2020-2021	Lila Leatherman	<p>My name is Lila Leatherman, and I am a Salt Lake City resident. I am contacting you to demand that, for the 2020-2021 budget, you re-allocate at least \$30 million away from the SLCPD, and toward public services like housing, public transit, and community initiatives. I also demand that the mayor maintain a hiring freeze on any new officers. Reducing police funding and police presence is critical for keeping our communities safe. I include links to peer-reviewed research below: There is no evidence that body cameras or anti-bias trainings reduce police violence. Instead, Salt Lake should reduce funding to the police, reduce the volume of military weapons distributed to the police, and invest in community support organizations like our libraries, housing, transit, social welfare programs, and community centers. Over the last week, I have never felt less safe in our city than when police in riot gear and military were deployed to our streets and skies. We need to meet demands for change not with increased violence and policing, but with tangible financial investment in the communities that we claim to want to support. We need to provide concrete and significant monetary support to the systems that uplift our citizens, not the ones that incarcerate them.</p>	
Budget 2020-2021	Connor Klosterman	<p>Hello, My name is Connor Klosterman and I am a constituent of yours. I am writing in reference to the proposed 2020-2021 fiscal budget. I demand that before the final vote, the city make drastic cuts to the SLCPD's budget by at least \$30 million and reallocate the money to community services. This is important to me because I value building up community services and the opportunity to people in areas such as education and low-income support rather than having a militarized police force within our city. At the very least, if the money is to be kept within the police budget, reform should be made to the department. Officers need better training and they need it more often. Additionally, this money can be used to hold officers accountable through things such as an independent citizen review board. The officers who are on patrol have chosen this profession - they need to understand that in such a choice they are held to a high standard that the average citizen is not. Investing resources back into the community, or alternatively into the police department to imprint this significance onto the officers, is important. Thank you for your consideration in voting on the upcoming budget. Thank you also for your time. Sincerely, Connor Klosterman</p>	n/a