

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Comment
12/21/2020 15:03	Oceania Haley	<p>I am a resident of [YOUR DISTRICT]. I am writing to demand that the City Council adopt a budget for the people, 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 lethal force against residents of color. Empty gestures and suggestions of reform are unacceptable. I am demanding the voices of this movement be heard, and that real change be made to the way this city allocates its resources. Support for marginalized communities is necessary now, more than ever. But instead, the Mayor has proposed an increase in funding to the SLCPD, while social services and education--proven to better promote community safety than policing--stagnate. The SLCPD has seen a rise in overtime pay which, when too often paid out to officers responsible for harassing unhoused, Black, Indigenous, and Latinx residents, is deeply insulting. I am demanding that the City Council defund the SLCPD. I demand a budget that adequately and effectively meets the needs of impacted Utahans during this trying and uncertain time, when livelihoods are on the line. I demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, rather than empowering the police forces that tear us apart. Although City Council has thus far avoided voting or revising 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 2020-2021 fiscal year, and to fund care, not criminalization and incarceration. You must adopt a budget for the people. Public opinion is with me. Thank you for your time, [YOUR NAME] [YOUR ADDRESS] [YOUR EMAIL] [YOUR PHONE NUMBER] Sent from my iPhone</p>
12/21/2020 15:03	Kasey O'Connor	<p>Heres a suggestion; why not start out ALL departments from \$0.00 ammount like your doing to the police. After all all of SLC is full of systemic racism, including you guys (per the budget proposal). I also think you should make declarations showing support to all branches of the LBTQRSFDPL community to be fair to all and show the city council of SLC has no moral absolutes but will embrace anything to be PC, and while your at it don't forget BLM and ANTIFA. Kasey Get Outlook for Android &lt;<a href="https://aka.ms/ghei36">https://aka.ms/ghei36</a>&gt;</p>

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12/29/2020 10:15	Kevin Fawkes	<p>Council Member Mano, First of all, thank you for serving our city on the council. I am sure you dedicate time, energy, and attention to your duties in the city and I don't think people appreciate our public servants enough. So thank you. Second, and my real reason for writing today, is I am likewise concerned about the safety of our city. I appreciated your Facebook post about safety and I think you are on the right track, but I want to add just a couple things. 1) The citizens of Salt Lake City do not have the same level of police service as other cities in the area. Last month, I was at a park in West Jordan when I heard some gunshots and called the police. About 20 minutes later, an officer called me directly, said he had checked the area and just wanted to thank me for letting them know and he will be in the area looking for anything suspicious. In Salt Lake City, when I have called about trespassers on my property, suspicious vehicles, drug dealing, etc, it is not uncommon to simply not get a police response, or if they do come, it is hours later. I recently had my car broken into and the officer I spoke with said they are so understaffed that they are often not responding to calls for hours. This is unacceptable. Based on news reports, staffing has been a concern in the city for at least 5 years.</p> <p>&lt;<a href="https://www.deseret.com/2018/2/5/20639453/utah-like-most-places-is-struggling-to-find-qualified-police-officers-what-can-be-done-about-it">https://www.deseret.com/2018/2/5/20639453/utah-like-most-places-is-struggling-to-find-qualified-police-officers-what-can-be-done-about-it</a>&gt; When I looked into the issue further, I see that the council implemented a hiring freeze for the police department in Jun &lt;<a href="https://kutv.com/news/local/salt-lake-city-council-meets-for-final-vote-on-police-budget-amid-calls-to-defund">https://kutv.com/news/local/salt-lake-city-council-meets-for-final-vote-on-police-budget-amid-calls-to-defund</a>&gt; e that has not been lifted, as far as I can tell. This seems to have been implemented as a result of calls to defund the police, but I encourage you to reconsider this immediately. We don't want a defunded police department, we want a competent and well trained department that is held accountable when they screw up. <b>*Continued 1/2*</b></p>

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	Kevin Fawkes	<p><b>*Continued 2/2*</b> The council pulls many of the strings over the police, and I encourage you to use your influence to push for more officers to address the out-of-control crime. My fear is that people, like myself, will grow tired of constantly being victimized and simply move to a safer area in another city. 2) Police alone will not solve the problems in Ballpark and other parts of the city. We could have had 15 officers in the neighborhood on the night of the recent shooting and doubt it would have thwarted it. The Main Street Motel is a magnet for all sorts of problems, including drugs and prostitution. There needs to be a way of levying some sort of consequence for properties like Main Street Motel that cause major headaches for the surrounding area. 3) As part of the broader criminal justice reform discussion, I think Salt Lake City needs to push the state to do more to get people off the streets even when they are resistant to help. I talk to these people all the time, many of them are homeless, jobless, drug addicted, and mentally ill. They know that even when the police do show up, it is unlikely they will go to jail and even if they are taken to jail, they will be out in a few hours and back to the neighborhood to continue their activities. There is almost no consequence and then we wonder why our crimes have spike 62% here. Seems pretty obvious to me. I don't want another operation rio grande, but we do need to get all the stakeholders together - the city, property owners, residents, state legislators, the police, courts, rehab, everyone - to realize that these chronic repeat offenders are an issue for all of us and then look for solutions. Like I said, thanks for your time, good luck with how to handle this, I just wanted to say that my neighbors and I expect more from the council and the police department to make our area safer. Kevin Fawkes</p>

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12/29/2020 10:16	James Ream	<p>I am a resident of washington county. I am writing to demand that the City Council adopt a budget for the people, 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 lethal force against residents of color. Empty gestures and suggestions of reform are unacceptable. I am demanding the voices of this movement be heard, and that real change be made to the way this city allocates its resources. Support for marginalized communities is necessary now, more than ever. But instead, the Mayor has proposed an increase in funding to the SLCPD, while social services and education--proven to better promote community safety than policing--stagnate. The SLCPD has seen a rise in overtime pay which, when too often paid out to officers responsible for harassing unhoused, Black, Indigenous, and Latinx residents, is deeply insulting. I am demanding that the City Council defund the SLCPD. I demand a budget that adequately and effectively meets the needs of impacted Utahans during this trying and uncertain time, when livelihoods are on the line. I demand a budget that supports community wellbeing, rather than empowering the police forces that tear us apart. Although City Council has thus far avoided voting or revising 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 2020-2021 fiscal year, and to fund care, not criminalization and incarceration. You must adopt a budget for the people. Public opinion is with me. Thank you for your time, James Ream</p>