



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>***14 Comments are not listed because they did not adhere to City Council Rules of Decorum and contained profanity</p>		
<p>Hello, my name is Andrew Hays Nashville resident and I'm hoping that you would consider redirecting police funds into housing funds. Thank you very much.</p>	6/3/2020 12:50 PM	Budget
<p>This is Catherine Striker resident of Asheville. I noticed that you're planning on creasing the National City police budget by almost half a million dollars, and I did not request that you don't do that. Thank you.</p>	6/4/2020 8:28 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Tom Casey. I'm in Asheville City resident. Over the years our city is seen what happened in Minneapolis happened here as soon as in voters taxpayers and basic human beings. We will no longer tolerate the behavior that has resulted in the deaths of so many black Americans locally and nationally by police to ever happen in Nashville again, a black community members are not targets or punching bags for in-depth and poorly trained officers. Terrorize wage cash Ville is Asheville. To find the police.</p>	6/4/2020 8:49 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Anna soonest. I'm a resident of Waynesville, North Carolina. But I've spent my entire life frequency in Nashville, very often. I am commenting on public hearing item. I am calling to express my concerns about the city of Asheville proposed increase of police funding police finding cannot and should not ever be increased the police do not truly Serve and Protect all people. It's just been made especially clear after Asheville Police recently attacked peaceful protesters and destroyed a medic and the police are honestly the most violent gang to walk the streets. I hope that you all have a videos of police tear-gassed and peaceful protesters shooting them with rubber bullets and beating them. Why would you want to increase funding to a group but senselessly attacks its own citizens and don't even think about trying to reform it hasn't worked in the past and it won't work. Now I urge you to not increase police funding rather defund the police and use that money to protect and expand community-led health and safety mode.He strategy we need to shift funding away from surveillance and Punishment and toward fostering Equitable healthy and safe communities. Don't forget that you work for us for the people invest in us not wage violent game. That was built on systemic racism. Do you find the police black lives matter?</p>	6/5/2020 11:56 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Drew and I'm calling to ask city council not to expand the Asheville Police Department's budget in the upcoming fiscal year and instead consider reallocating the money to invest in community organizations led by people of color.</p>	6/5/2020 12:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Leo and I'm calling to make sure that the officers who committed battery against EMTs are charged with a felony and removed from their position as Protectors of our community because they've had failed to do that. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 1:17 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Rachel Appleton. I'm calling us a city a citizen of Asheville and want to express my disdain and disappointment with the actual police department and other law enforcement who has told me that medical personnel and medical supplies on Tuesday evening. Could you please pass this message along to the mayor and her office and ask them to use their power to encourage budget cuts for our Police Department wage and worked hard and model of community Mutual Aid and peacekeeping instead of policing. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 1:20 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Rosemary puglisi. I live in Ashville, not strictly in the city just outside of it. But I've worked in downtown until very recently bought when I was laid off. I was heartened by the police actions. I think it was Sunday when the new police chief and officers took a knee wage and then it was afraid we had a Kumbaya moment that was frittered away after the medic tent was attacked and looking at the videos and trying to be objective and understanding police if they were fearing projectiles. I understood but it it looked like something out of Robocop. It looked like a goon squad attacking and and those off to me look like kids that were not bothering anybody. Um, I thought the police statement right after that was pretty bland and useless. I thought the police Chiefs gameVideo apology was pretty good. I'm not sure there are people who will buy it all it was a good first step, but it has to be followed up with some really intense Community listening sessions and I will get more specific cuz I think a group like black lives matter or any group of I'm not a person of color have more right and standing on suggesting what should be done but I think the police need to do a heck of a lot of listening and so does the city I was glad to see the city reimbursed them and set up a more permanent medic station again, it's a good first step, but there's a lot of work would be done. I I thought overall the police response was an overreaction to whatWas happening not on the part of the protesters most of them seem to be peaceful protesters, but the few agitators some of whom who knows how many of them were from out of the office. Please listen to the community love this place. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/5/2020 1:36 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Lindsay Mount I am an Asheville City citizen. I'm a voter and I stand with black lives matter. I am outraged at the actions of the Asheville City Police Department. And may or mannheimer, I'm furious that I medical tent with donated supplies manned by volunteers who are doing nothing wrong except for staying out past and 8 p.m. Curfew something. They thought they had permission to do as medical volunteers. I'm furious that that was destroyed. It was a show of force. It was not the city of Asheville that I know and love and I think Swift action needs to be taken there is clearly a cultural problem with the administration of this city. And I expect there to be checked those people to be reprimanded. I think that Mary mannheimer should fire the new chief of police the statement that he put out after those actions was hideous and wage. I think much stronger than anything I would have suggested and I think mayor mannheimer should step down from Office. It is very obvious that you are not representing the city of Asheville and the way that it should be I urge you to defund the Asheville Police Department specifically the \$400,000 increase proposed for their budget and twenty Twenty-One that month. Be taken and put into black owned businesses in the city of Asheville and actually affordable housing. If you don't act now this city will quickly become a nice place to visit and no longer a good place to live. Look at the wage Gap that has been created and the diversity and segregation in the city. There is no middle class there is certainly no black middle class and there is no young middle-class. Take a look around and think about the city that you want Asheville to be in ten years. It is currently not being built. Thank you. Once again, my name is Lindsey Mount reach me at 502-338-1010. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 1:37 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Angela tavenner and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville mayor's Esther manheimer its fiscal year 2021 budget proposal in the week of the police's killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis. And so many black Americans before him I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using time to find ways to redirect money away from the Asheville Police Department over inflated budget into programs included in the Sun for equity and inclusion and in the fund for sustainable, don't forget our poor Community are poor and communities of color. Don't forget the other needs that we all have so much and I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs and environmental programs.</p>	6/5/2020 1:42 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Chase miles and I've been a resident of Asheville North Carolina since 2014 and I'm calling to express my extreme wage outrage anger and just overall terrible sense and feeling that I have over the police actions. The actual police department's actions at the medical tent the other night during after the protests. They the behavior of the Asheville Police Department was absolutely unacceptable. It was Savage a portent and absolutely made me sick to my stomach to watch and to read about this is not the town of Asheville that I've grown to love over the last six years. It's not representative of how I want people to be treated whether they're residents of Asheville or not. It was the most ghastly thing I've ever seen in Asheville by any public place. For private figures. I think that there needs to be immediate repercussion against the acting the current police chief of the Asheville Police Department the to say that the the statement the first statement put out by the Astro police chief was short-sighted and poorly worded would be a gross under exaggeration off of the statement. It was terrible and it is not something that a leader of this community should be should be known for and it the the statement was still reprehensible. He should be fired. I'm also very disappointed with mayor mannheimer and her overall handling of the situation. I've been down to the protests several times and until last night there were known as protecting protesters from oncoming traffic. Um, I think after the events in Charlottesville, um, and after seeing police and other cities Ramen to protest wage, The city should be ashamed of itself for not protecting the protesters in a more proactive manner. Thank you for finally doing it, but it's several days to like and I absolutely would hate to see Asheville on the headlines of national news for an incident of that nature. I think it's absolutely terrible that the mayor has not come out and spoken to protesters may not been seen with them and and has otherwise been silent other than press conferences from afar, you know, if the leaders of our town can't be can't be held accountable to run this town the way that the citizens of the Town wanted to be run then they have to go and I'm requesting that the mayor stepped down immediately as well. She should be ashamed of herself and wage should be ashamed to call herself a citizen of Asheville. Thank you very much.</p>	6/5/2020 1:56 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Kelly Sparks. And I'm a citizen of Asheville and I am calling to voice my opinion that the police officers had two of the medical need to be held accountable for their actions. The exact opposite of the way that they should have been acting. They should have been protecting people and that action could have put a lot of people in danger and it did endanger the people that were there to try and help others. It's unacceptable. I along with a lot of other people in the city want to see them be held accountable for their actions. So, please consider this that your meeting and thank you so much for taking the time to listen.</p>	6/5/2020 2:01 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Colin demos. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina. Also a student at the University of North Carolina at Asheville. I'm commenting on public hearing item D asking the city of Asheville to first and foremost deny the \$400,000 budget increase for the Asheville Police Department in this year's budget. I'm also asking that the Asheville city council create a strategic plan to create alternatives to policing. Uh, we have to fund things that truly keep us safe and off it seems like the police department is not the answer to that. Thank you very much.</p>	6/5/2020 2:12 PM	Budget
<p>hi, my name is Matthew master from felt it necessary to call and say that I believe y'all know what you need to do and it has to be Justice for that package of rampant unnecessary police force this what all of this movement is about and and I just hope that you find it in your hearts to act in a way that speaks to Justice you were supposed to help. Keep alive in our community. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 2:22 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Mark Leatherwood. We are a Mountain Family. Do you have manners? Do you police in Asheville who tore up the medic station do not and wage are tired of redneck cops. This is our vote to ask you. This is our opinion to ask you to please represent us in all these matters off and make an example of the police who refused to have manners as the citizens of North Carolina pay for their salaries. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 2:30 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Tyler York gone to express my support to hold the cops accountable for destroying the medic tent supplies. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 2:34 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Emily Truett. And this is in reference to the LAPD destroying and attacking automatic tent and Medics involved. I think this off stairs should be punished to the fullest extent fired from their jobs. They took an unreasonable Force against people trying to help that had been vetted and given the go-ahead by not only the county but the property owners home, they destroyed over \$700 worth of medical supplies and the waters that could have been used. It is a disgusting use of force. May I expected more from our neck of the woods Asheville is always been a beacon of love and acceptance and the goodness of God. That that is in these mountains and that was a disgusting display of everything that we are not. Um, I hope the action taken because it was unnecessary and could have caused irreparable damage to to the people and to the relationships between these people and officers. They should be on our side. That's it. That's it. We just want to sneak in solidarity. We want them to admit that there is obviously a problem instead of trying to cause us more harm. That's it.</p>	6/5/2020 2:42 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Leah Spicer, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville mannheimer fiscal year 2020 budget proposal in the wake of the police killing George Floyd in Minneapolis countless. Black Americans beforehand and asking that the actual the city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Chicago Police Department budget and into programs that highlight people of color affordable housing dealing with our homelessness academic epidemic in this country and the city. Thank you so much. I hope you consider this. Let's not forget about our poor and communities of color. Can we count on you guys to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs instead of our Police Department. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/5/2020 2:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Sandra West. I'm a graduate of Asheville High School. It is saddened me greatly to see our APD destroying a medical station, and it also is very embarrassing because I have friends from all over the country saying is this the Asheville that you grew up, you know, it's not the Asheville that I grew up in I please ask you to take appropriate action to make this right Asheville is a kind loving City that I love with all my heart. Please do the right thing. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 2:47 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Chris. Muccio. I'm a resident of Asheville for the last ten years. I wanted to express my discontent with Zach and his actions by his police officers on Monday night before even the incident of the medical tent being torn down which there should be charges per month for assault and battery from those cops and the head cap should have his bench taken because that is illegal and you should never take down the medic tent however, the ago I witnessed was Monday night when there was a peaceful protest of over four thousand people in Nashville. All right was right beside the police line. That was beside the fire station an hour before the events that transpired we're pleased assaulted. The crowd wage is somebody who tried to set off fireworks. I went to a police officer over to the left hand side of the right line and told him he began to follow me in which one of his fellow police officer pulled him back and stopped him to me. This was an immediate signs that the police did not want peace. They wanted to take over the situation and have their actions be seen and heard. After the fireworks went off from one person in a crowd of four thousand people. The police responded not by talking to the crowd not by telling them. This is now an illegal. It is illegal and you shouldn't be here but by firing tear gas into the crowd tear gas rubber bullets now you can sit here and you can tell me that they were protecting themselves. But if they were protecting themselves, they never would have pushed the line from the fire department all the way to the Vans Monument. They moved forward with packing Asheville citizens, and that is not okay. I will not stand by it. And I don't think that you should either something needs to be done officers need to be held accountable for what he must end now and black lives matter. If you haven't heard that black lives matter.</p>	6/5/2020 2:48 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name's Devon Hutton on the president Weaverville. I ask that you hold the officers that destroyed the medic station accountable for their employment or reactions against peaceful supporters of a peaceful protest. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 2:55 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Andy Lambeth. I live in the city of Asheville and helped to donate a lot of the medical supplies that were destroyed during the protest by the police and I would like to see them held accountable for their action and inability to protect their citizens. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 2:57 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Ethan Marvin. I'm a citizen of Buncombe County. I am calling to request that the officers who were involved in destroying of the medical ten packs are charged to the full extent of the law. Also, would like to see police chief David Zack stepped down because it is unacceptable for the police to treat their citizens the way they have been the past couple days. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/5/2020 3:02 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Victoria Bailey, and I'm calling because I believe that the Asheville Police who destroyed Medics medical supplies during a protest. Um held in downtown Nashville should be held accountable for their actions. I also believe we shouldn't be using the National Guard for non-emergency situations like this, and I believe that the police should be defended. Thanks for listening to my message, bye-bye.</p>	6/5/2020 3:04 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Laura Fisher Caudill. I live in Ashville, North Carolina. I believe that the police do destroyed medical equipment and assaulted Medics that a peaceful protest wage should be held accountable for their actions meaning criminal charges equal to the behavior and destruction that they cause including assault on those numbers. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/5/2020 3:09 PM	Opencomment
<p>This is Stephanie Ramos. And I'm a Nashville resident and it's disgusting frightening and shocking that the police here in Nashville are capable of such as violence and destruction wage when trained Medics are trying to supply medical care for protesters protesting peacefully. It is disgusting in our outrage in varying birthday. They should definitely be held at all of the cops involved should be held accountable for their actions in such a violent manner destroying property. That was deemed. Okay or confirmed by the actual City. So please condemn those cops for such a horrid Act.</p>	6/5/2020 3:12 PM	Opencomment
<p>Oh, hello. This is Jeff Fletcher. I'm calling you all have meeting and you know, I saw that story about the Asheville Police Officer destroying the materials that the medic cable but. You know International on the damage, it does to the city's reputation. He was considerable and the sort of escalation of Violence that's involved with that is I don't see why you would want the police acting in that wage. It seems like they're initiating property damage and violence against persons. Just okay all I wanted to say I would hope. Just some sort of better control or better policy on things. All right. Thank you very much.</p>	6/5/2020 3:12 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Matthew McKean. I live in South Asheville. I've been coming here for over a decade. I've been living here for over three years now. I came here because of how much I love the city life and what I've seen from the police and that medical incident is appalling to say the least. I have friends from Argentina from Australia. And from Germany messaging me asking me if I'm okay because of what they've seen people doing what they've seen those police officers doing to the metalsucks who are protesting to the Medics who are treating the protesters. They're not even protesting. This is disgusting and if this doesn't get reprimanded soon, I will rally as many people as I can to age every single person who's in office out and put people who can actually manage those out of control officers in office. God bless you and have a great day.</p>	6/5/2020 3:15 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Emily c r and I'm a Nashville native. I've lived in Asheville ever since I was a young girl and I've looked up to our leaders in Asheville am admired the city for as long as I can possibly remember. I've been a part of the peaceful protesters every single night since Monday. I witnessed my friends handing out water bottles to those that needed it giving cough drops to those that needed it sharing stories and giving advice. I've seen this community come together to support the black lives matter movement and I have not seen the actual police department do the same. In fact, I've seen them do the exact opposite. I saw them with my own eyes brutalize the medic station. It was next to One World brewing in Farm Burger. I heard the claims that this medication didn't have the right to be there. And then I've also heard from Farm Burger and one world that they absolutely had every right. I'm confused and I am hurt and after listening to the chief pathetic pre-written excuse and washing him have to look down to read George Floyd's name. I am even more disgusted. I want to still have faith in this community. But each passing day it gets harder and harder to be a proud a civilian. I hope you hear my words and I hope you value then because I value this community and we need our leaders to Value us as well. Please please defined actual police department. This community is begging you. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/5/2020 3:23 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi there. My name is Claire Bilbao and I'm calling in to regards of the issue of the police destroying the medical equipment. I am very devastated by the loss as are many in the local city of Asheville. And this is obviously made national headlines. I'm just feeling very confused disappointed why this would happen I've read that is a war crime. I saw the video of a medic who was a person of color and who was very traumatized by this. She said but she was sprayed with tear gas. And I just want to say if there is no excuse for this this is wrong. This is six Democrats ISM. This is White Privilege. This is inappropriate rage and this is just wrong. And the other thing that needs to be addressed here is how the apology was a disgrace and it was inaccurate. I was not true that they had not received permission. And the second thing is the address is the following day. He made a video and he talked about the raw emotion of the police officer the emphasis he needs to be on black people and people of color and their emotions and Trauma that they have experienced for the past four hundred years. I am asking you whoever is listening and the police there needs to be extreme reform there needs to be changed. I would like to recommend a few resources just like the one is a short essay. It's called unpacking the invisible. Knapsack of white privilege. I think that's a good start kind of a tip of the iceberg. Leila sod has a workbook called me and white supremacy that are self-guided questions and thoughts. Anti-racism is a practice. That needs to be put into action in the government, especially the police force. This is more than not. Okay. This is hurting. This is hurting everyone and I know it is challenging for the police and there is raw emotion, but honestly that's good their needs and their needs to be more. So we're just my main request here is just major reform and having police do the work and maybe or not maybe these guys should be fired now is the time for action and setting example for the world. We want hatred racism. That is of the past and it is unacceptable.</p>	6/5/2020 3:26 PM	Opencomment
<p>Yes, my name is Anita Linda and I was calling to say that I support the Asheville Police Department. I think it's absolutely ridiculous that you would even consider off. Talking to the the police when that did that that's ridiculous. You need to Stand By Your Man a little bit more.</p>	6/5/2020 3:42 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name's Eric Donaldson. I saw the cops in Asheville. Well, I saw the pictures of the cops and Asheville destroying the water and the medical supplies that they could have at least just confiscated and give money to homeless shelters or wherever but instead they decided to destroy it and litter and also throw down and harass the Medics that were on staff and I think that is absolutely disgusting behavior. And that's exactly what these protests are about. Um, so yeah, I wanted to put forth my voice to say that this was absolutely unacceptable and those police officers should be held accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 3:43 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Christina and I would like the cops that tore up the medication in Asheville, North Carolina to be held accountable for their actions. Thank you. Have a great day.</p>	6/5/2020 3:50 PM	Opencomment
<p>All right name is Ray. I just want to say please do the right thing.</p>	6/5/2020 4:01 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, this is Aaron Collins calling from West Asheville. I'm calling to urge city council to deny the \$400,000 budgetary increase for the actual police department and instead create a strategic action plan to create alternatives to policing and to include allocation of resources to begin to carry out such a plan. It's my firm belief that allocating funds in this manner will better serve Public Safety as well as and well-being and also reduce arms against black and brown communities. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 4:06 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Joseph L. I'm calling as I said, it's in Nevada Asheville. I want to express my disdain and disappointment with the actual police department and other law enforcement who assaulted medical personnel and medical supplies on Tuesday evening. Could you please pass this message along to the mayor and her office to ask them to use their power to encourage budget cuts off for a police department and work toward a model of community Mutual Aid in peacekeeping instead of policing. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 4:13 PM	Opencomment
<p>Vice and Smith. I want the cops who destroyed the medical center to be prosecuted.</p>	6/5/2020 4:14 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Susannah zeveloff. I'm a former resident of Asheville and have been seeing Asheville on the news as well as in my friend's social media feeds because of the Law Officers during protests who destroyed the medic station from flashing protective equipment and water and Home Medical Equipment that could have been used to keep people healthy and safer during the protests and I would like to ask that these officers be held accountable and also know that anybody who is a police officer who used excessive force during the protests be held accountable. Whether that means to be arrested or written up or some kind of probation or extra training for them. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/5/2020 4:21 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Angela Ramirez. My message is in regards to the medication being destroyed in Asheville. There were lots of statements that came out that claims that the owner of the property did not give the medication permission this however has been disproven as the odor of hamburger has reached out via Instagram to Thursday that yes, they were allowed to be there regardless of the the fact remains that the medication was there to help all civilians and police and the event of them being injured to my knowledge during my presence of the protest for the black lives matter of movement and response to the feelings of unarmed black men.I have not noticed any ambulances on standby. The need for Medics and medical attention in order to help keep people in protesters safe is absolutely necessary and it is egregious. Do you have destroyed those products? It could have been donated to homeless shelters, especially with covid-19 still being a part of our reality as of now. Thank you for listening and thank you for your time. Hopefully you will reconsider your actions in the future in the future and you will consider reinstating the Medics tell all of the supplies that they lost and then some.</p>	6/5/2020 4:28 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, this is Jamie Cloninger, and I totally support the police department and what they needed to do at the protest and I just pray for their safety. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 4:41 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Brian Ralph. I'm a resident and citizen of Asheville. I'm of the opinion that we should be divesting from the Asheville Police Department and moving those funds for the communities that can benefit from them specifically communities of color in our city. So that those resources can be used to help people heal from the traumas that they experienced emotional mental health as well as education job resource.And other ways to help lift up these communities who have been so long underserved my opinion. We do not need more policing. We need less policing and more support. So I asked that the city council so toward. Taking funding from the police department and reinvesting in the community. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 4:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Danielle Ormond. I read that there was going to be a city council meeting today about the officers who targeted a medic station and posted a police Riot and Asheville. I'd like to voice my support that they be removed immediately without any sort of pay and that whoever is in charge of them is also represented off. And that there is a plan for things to change through action for changing the way the police brutalize. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 4:47 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Samantha green. I've been living in Nashville for nearly three years. I would like the actual TV held accountable for attacking the medical tent and the medical supplies sent at the protest. This was unnecessary off and outright disgusting, and I expect better of Asheville city. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/5/2020 4:48 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, this is Katie and I am a constituent in Asheville and I am calling to address the situation where the police officers of Asheville destroyed at the medic station home. And um, yeah, but I'm pretty embarrassed to to have you guys be responding to things in that way because as long as I was telling people that you did a pretty good job of of handling the protesters and it was just really disappointing to see how they handled it the medication issue and it seems like there have been multiple reports of the people saying that there was no prior warning to change anything I wasn't there so I don't know but it just seems to be the consensus that um, there was no verbal warnings for a lot of different things off.That have been going on. So my hope is that you can address the situation and um, you know, this whole movement is about ending violence, and that was a pretty violent fact his so my hope moving forward is that things are a little bit more peaceful and communication tactics are used because there's a very effective ways of communicating with people, especially people that don't agree with you. Okay. Thanks. Bye.</p>	6/5/2020 4:56 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Hannah and I'm calling as a citizen of Asheville because I want to express my extreme disdain and disappointment with the Asheville Police Department and other law enforcement assisting actual police department who assaulted medical personnel and medical supplies on Tuesday evening. Please pass this message along to the mayor and her office to ask them to use their power to encourage budget cuts for our police department and work toward a model of community Mutual Aid and peacekeeping instead of policing. Thank you very much.</p>	6/5/2020 4:56 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Good afternoon. My name is Porter Watson. I'm calling today as a Nashville resident of two years that's purpose for my call. Today is in regards to the actual mayor's fiscal year. Twenty Twenty-One Blackjack reposal, uh in the wake of the police's killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking at the Asheville City Council made the commitment to racial Injustice by delaying the budget that I ask that you use this time to find ways to redirect money away from Nashville police departments over inflated budget and two things such as equal opportunities for educational advancement access to holistic health services and treatment is looking at the living wage and helping with stable housing. Please do not forget our poor and communities of color. I asked you to let me be able to count on you all as individuals to consider alternative budget proposal that place priority on social programs. So please can I count on you? This is a really dark time for a city. I've only lived here for two years, but I call it home and I'm proud of that the way that we've been portrayed across the national news lately is nothing but an atrocity to the love and respect that everyone in this town has for each other, but it's time that every single person in the city experiences the same love and respect the Astros known for from our own leaders from our own police force the destroying of the medical tent the other night was an absolute abomination of human kindness. There's no excuse for that month. Please start making the changes that can actually help people advancing life and have the same opportunities that I as a white man have I'm tired of my privilege being something that is just completely unacceptable by people of color is not fair to them. It's not fair to anybody that has a wake up every morning and fear for their life just in terms of communicating with Public Service workers has gone on for far too long. You have the ability to change this and if you don't ask for will hurt from it, we cannot afford the tourism break after covid-19, and what we're doing right now is showing that this is not a town that should be desirable to show up into I please take the time to reorganize the budget and do the right thing. I am counting on you, but you need to prove that. We can't move it forward. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 4:58 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Jen and I'm calling about the police who tore up the medic station these police need to be held accountable for their actions. That was absolutely awful disgrace, especially when you have people in Flint Michigan with no clean water and you have cops up here destroying water bottles for no reason at all. Disgusting and I hope you hold them accountable one hundred percent. Thanks.</p>	6/5/2020 5:07 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Joseph Fitzgerald. I live near UNCA 28804. I'm requesting that way we take the money that is being voted on as an increase to the police budget for APD and apply it to cultural and black communities All right also asked that. We we militarize our police force and raid or abolish the curfew immediately. This does nothing. What harm? people of color Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 5:14 PM	Budget
<p>Need to find those cops that destroyed the the medical stuff. I'm telling you. This is Nationwide if it's not take care of things are going to get hairy again.</p>	6/5/2020 5:14 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, I'm calling to make sure the police officers that tore up the medic station and Asheville are held accountable if that's something that they're doing how long how could they possibly be good cops. They're going to continue to destroy this nation. That is unbelievable. I'm calling from Los Angeles. I'm from North Carolina and Georgia disturbing. My name is Juliet mccallion. Thank you for everything.</p>	6/5/2020 6:02 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Stephanie Jurgens, and I'm calling in regards to the destruction of a medic tent by the APD. I was present that day in Baird personal witness to these events, which included the stabbing and slashing of water bottles food medical supplies, and then the further gassing of medical supplies. That was all donated by our civilians, and by the people of our city who care about each other, this is unacceptable. This is something that should have never happened should never been allowed, and I know that off with your upcoming city council meeting regarding holding those cops accountable for their actions that really hope this is something that you will really push for. We really need to set an example because in times like this, that's what matters most and that's what's going to start that chain reaction of change. So, I hope you guys have a great day. Take care of birth. Thank you very much.</p>	6/5/2020 6:13 PM	Opencomment
<p>I'm a resident of Buncombe County and I think it was Despicable with the police did to that medic station. I think they need to be held accountable. They need the personally-owned repay. The money that was lost in supplies and suspended or fired that can't be condoned that was totally uncalled rep. There were lots of other ways to handle that those people don't know how to act. Thank you very much.</p>	6/5/2020 6:17 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is spring Mackenzie. I have lived in Western North Carolina my whole life and I just want to make sure it's clear how disgusted I am for the first time in Nashville and the actual police department. I have never had anything but good interactions with them. And this is beyond disgusting what they have done. I do not have any reason in the world that I can think of why you would destroy things instead of even just taking them and donating them. There is absolutely no reason this only infuriates people more that are already angry about civil and justices and causes more of a problem instead of diffusing the problem and doing what's right and mature there are many ways to go about things instead of something that is going to cause a bigger problem. They should be held accountable and everybody that was a part of that should be treated with the same respect that they treated the people that were volunteering at ma'am. This is unacceptable. My phone number is 828-246-2214 if you have any questions, thank you. Have a great day.</p>	6/5/2020 6:42 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Ciara Gillespie, and I am a student at Warren Wilson College. I do not live in Asheville full-time, but I do live there during the school year, and I wanted to leave a message in support of meeting to break the police officers who were shown to destroy medic tent at the protest the other day. I think it's a very clear message that they were sending to The Ripping of water bottles and putting over medical tents during a peaceful protest, and I think that it would be a really big mistake for Asheville, especially in such a progressive area to let them go ignore it and unnoticed. So I just wanted to show my support in that. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 6:59 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Rebecca Boise and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. In the wake of the police's killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over flooded over inflated budget. Do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 7:00 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Autumn Huff. I'm a Nashville resident and I'm calling to demand that you all hold the officers that tore apart the medical tents protest and put their hands wage on medical personnel accountable. Obviously those officers knew what they were doing. They should know that is wrong and they should be fired. Thank you. I hope you make the right choice.</p>	6/5/2020 7:17 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Katie McGregor Asheville City resident here to discuss the public hearing item letter, d as in in reference to the recent events that occurred this past week by the Asheville Police Department the destruction of food and water supplies from medic volunteers for the peaceful protesters of police. Brutality against people of color is inexcusable. The use of teargas on Peaceful protesters is inexcusable. These actions combined with our Nationwide problem is systemic racism and police brutality is a cry for change we can work towards a better future where people of color can live their lives without the fear of the institutions. That should be protecting them. Let's start in our own City by voting against the proposed \$400,000 budget increase to the Asheville Police Department allocating These funds towards other Investments that will lift up. And help our community, especially in this time of need during the covid-19 pandemic. We need to concentrate our resources elsewhere. This is a time. We can truly make a change for the healing of our neighbors and Community, please again vote against the budget increase for Asheville Police Department. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 7:27 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Marina social. I'm in Asheville citizen and I work with homeless kids in Asheville North Carolina after the crash response to protesters. Um and Medics who weren't even protesting the fact that they stabbed water bottles and trashed medical supplies and down for tables of food. They don't deserve a raise. They don't deserve more funding like know they gotta prove themselves before they get more of our money back. Send that to social workers because they are overworked and underpaid they have way too many caseloads. I know because I work with the social workers wage. Um, yeah, no send it to social workers. Send it to organizations that are helping with the homeless population in Nashville. Do not give it to Asheville Police Department dead. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/5/2020 7:29 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Thomas. I'm calling about public hearing item D. Specifically the proposed increase of police funding. Please funding cannot and should not ever be increased the police do not truly serve and a perfect all people as evidenced by the long history of police brutality against minority groups and Asheville and Across the Nation Additionally the Asheville police departments use of tear gas and rubber bullets on Peaceful protesters and the destruction of the medic station further emphasize the corrupt nature and brutality of the police. Why would you want to increase funding to group that senselessly attacks? Its own citizens high demand that police funds be dead reallocated toward protecting and expanding community-led health and safety strategies. We need to shift funding away from surveillance and Punishment and towards fostering Equitable healthy and safe communities. I oh man that mayor mannheimer and the city council hold the Asheville Police Department accountable for the violence committed against protesters. Don't forget that you work for us. The people invest of us invest in us not to Thursday. So they'll on systemic racism that terrorizes his defund the public defund the police black lives matter.</p>	6/5/2020 7:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Angie Chambers and I was calling in reference to the incident that happened with submit tent here in Asheville. I city of Asheville where that the police tore down and damaged of the Met 10th. I am assuming that the office followed an order from higher up. I am not for sure. I would most definitely like to know if that was what took place a month. If those that is in high Authority J the order to do that. I think that those that gave the order should be the one that's recommended life not then I think the officers need to be reprimanded. And also maybe they need to go to a class get off. All understanding of what their batch really needs and that was to protect protect to serve also respect for individual no matter what Walk of Life that they are here to serve the citizens as well as protect themselves, but I don't think the medical tent and those that was there to assist the protesters were out to hurt anyone. Thank you so much for listening. I will be watching and be blessed by by.</p>	6/5/2020 7:42 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Amber car sell and I'm a citizen of Asheville. And I would like to be addressed at the next council meeting action to be taken against the police officers that tore up the medical table in the downtown protest this past week. I think they should face some kind of disciplinary action as well as the police chief. His first comment was very insensitive. And I believe that he only apologized after he received public outcry about how it went nationally and it was a very bad look for Asheville. And for the peaceful protest. Thank you so much.</p>	6/5/2020 7:45 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Tyler Jacks, and I've been a 10-year resident of Asheville North Carolina. And this is my statement. He disgusting and egregious Behavior off the city and its police department has shown over the course of the last five days has been disappointing terrifying. And misguided they clearly have been militarized and continue to act out not as Arbiters of justice, but soldiers of law they do not behave in a manner that makes our communities feel safe. I heard they tear-gassed families and small children attack Medics journalists and instigated violence against peaceful protesters all on kneeling for the Optics to play the media spin in their Direction. It is a disgusting they lack proper training and after this week's peaceful demonstrations. I see little Integrity or trust in them. I witnessed black mothers here in Asheville mourn the loss of their children and neighbor while your bike officers stood staring forward and smug grins ignoring her pleas for Humanity and restraint Peaceful protests turned violent by Department eager to live out fantasies that look more like movies than they do in real life and to top it all off the Asheville Police Department embarrassed the entire city of Asheville and damaged his reputation by sending a literal 15 or more Riot police to crush a medic Ally and it's supplies that hosted a professional test express permission from the surrounding businesses to be there. The APD does not deserve a pat on the back let alone anything standing to their uploaded budget. I am in a bashful demanding that those funds be redirected into Community organizations that benefit the city and it's black lives. The response has been underwhelming and laughable from the top down resting. Jerry Williams. Thank God you all didn't kill Johnny Tremain Rush officer Chris Hickman and deserved horse to fund militarize reform would be trained. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/5/2020 8:08 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Julie diverse sweats. I just wanted to say that I am appalled and ashamed to have ever lived in Asheville North Carolina after I had seen how the police officers had treated the city approved 10:00, and I support them being punished and I want to see that through. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 8:24 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hi, my name is Stephanie Reagan. I live in West Asheville. I am very I guess concern surprised that the medical center was not only torn down but destroyed to that seems unnecessarily violent understand it's stressful time, but these folks were trying to help and they had permission these holds the officers responsible. We can't keep wage thing like this and the police have a bit more arrogance than I think it's helpful for us. All right. Thank you.	6/5/2020 8:29 PM	Opencomment
My name is Matthew why I just wanted to voice my concern about the police actions during these last couple of nights of protests specifically wage supplies for the medical, um stations that were set up to help people. It's I I find that completely unacceptable.	6/5/2020 8:39 PM	Opencomment
My name is George Jackson and my message is that the police officers who destroyed that manifestation should be held accountable and Justice should be served to those people who are left without medical supplies during the protest.	6/5/2020 9:25 PM	Opencomment
Yes, but it's my concern for medications being destroyed by your lease. I hope that you guys address this issue calling from Sacramento, California. It's all day with an evening out in Asheville, North Carolina.	6/5/2020 9:35 PM	Opencomment
Hello, my name is Corey Logan. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm making an open public comment in regards to the advanced by the actual PD attacking Medics and a medic station. I would like answers thought I'd like to know why there has been no one held accountable or put on leave while investigating investigations take place. I would like to know why the chief of police lied in his initial response. And I would like to know why the only public response appears to be a feel-good photo-op and really no actual action. Please do better whole dashboard government to a higher standard wage. We are currently just another city known around the world. She's police don't even care about simple rules, like don't attack a medical stand Simple Rules. That are considered atrocities and something as simple as War the actual police cannot hold to that standard. Please do better. Thank you.	6/5/2020 9:49 PM	Opencomment
Hello, my name is Julie O'Connor, and I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina, and I opposed the increase to the Asheville City Police Department's budget. I think it's wrong and I took that money should be going into our schools, and I think it's horrendous how the officers have been acting and how technically they did commit a war crime against the protesters and according to the Geneva code, and I just need like that. There's no need for you to increase the budget and all crime as well manager Nashville, and that could be a much better use of that money. Thank you. Goodbye.	6/5/2020 10:02 PM	Budget
Yeah, this is Frank and we need to Triple the police budget because we obviously don't have enough protection in this city and things are getting very dire, you know Dire Straits and we have no leadership. So triple that budget for the police, please and yep on it. Protect the citizens not the public housing.	6/5/2020 10:08 PM	Budget
Hi, my name is Kirstie Fisher. I have been a resident of Asheville since 1998, and I'm calling because the events of the last two weeks as well as a strong history of brutal and unequal treatment of black people have shed light on the importance of making fundamental changes to dismantle systemic Justice and I believe he's just a very critical step is changing the way we handle policing in our community. Therefore. I'm joining with many many other voices to urge you to create a strategic action plan to create alternatives to policing and to deny the \$400,000 budget increase for the Asheville Police Department in this year's budget. Please help ensure that the unrest of recent days will lead to systemic and Lasting change. Thank you so much.	6/5/2020 10:26 PM	Budget
Hi, my name is Zach. I just wanted to weigh in on the budget issue for the proposed fiscal year 2021 budget, I think considering the events that transpired recently the police need to be defunded entirely. I think the way that we view the police serving our community needs to be re-evaluated and restructured from the ground up. I think that they need to be seen as civil servants and not as in for service. I think that the use of teargas all the protesters that was purchased with taxpayer money from the city of Asheville is not only appalling. What should never happen again? Thank you.	6/5/2020 11:24 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Justin Hannah. I'm a situation that lives within Nashville and I would just like to say that you know, the actual police departments destruction of all that water and medical claim that was entirely unnecessary. I've seen several protests and I can't say that, you know, I was there obviously but the water bottles with the riot shields and how long was not an entirely dangerous but there's never Frozen maybe but that doesn't mean they can just destroy them especially given the fact that the people said they'd communicated and the people that said they communicated law firms that they did and they received me little to no reason that the APD just went in there destroyed. All of that equipment especially said it was for a peaceful protest. And it was medical equipment. So someone gets hurt. They can be treated on site instead of costing, you know, taxpayers more dollars, which the police department drains regularly and yet crime remains an issue and raise, you know rampant racism, but regardless the destruction was entirely unprofessional and it's not the fitting of the you know of an officer of the law. Thank you.</p>	6/5/2020 11:49 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Tyler. I live in Phoenix Arizona and I'm calling because I'm cops no matter where they're from Sheffield accountable for their actions. And and what was done in Asheville slashing up medical supplies, uh people in need of unacceptable and off. yeah, there's a very clear right course of action here to take and I'm hoping that That that that right course of action is taken. Thank you for listening to me by</p>	6/5/2020 11:58 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name's Ivy Johnson. And I worked as a CNA in Nashville for two years and a B Tech graduate and a newly-licensed nurse the racial inequity at the root of American and Asheville history is Public Health crisis in North Carolina. Black Americans make up 21% of the population but 34% of covid-19. So far these Health disparities cannot be separated from the fact that black citizens wage personally likely to be pulled over by Asheville PD or charged with resisting an officer as without a really flashy or ship and leasing are inextricably tied to disregard wage backlight that we cannot continue to ignore because we'd rather Pat ourselves on the back for being such a tolerant Haven and watch the tourism dollars keep pouring and I also the council take this chance to truly hear your faith and reinvest apts over inflated budget into the community by the way hotels aren't the community. Thank you.</p>	6/6/2020 8:28 AM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Adam. I am a citizen of Asheville North Carolina and I'm calling concerning the incident with the Asheville Police smashing the medical tent at the peaceful protest the other nights. I believe firmly that the police officers and the chief of police should be held accountable. Whoever did the order wage to do that is completely wrong as we all know, it's made a huge impact on our town and anybody that can't see that should not be a police officer. He's Japanese. I've lived here for six years and I've never had an incident with the police that was negative. But what I have seen over the past few days leads me to believe that there are many police officers in the Asheville Police Department. That should be held accountable for all of them. Crimes on the citizens. I know there has been police violence against people of color over the past few years from officers of Asheville Police Department, Please take action against anyone that was involved in shutting down and destroying this applies at the medic tent. Thank you.</p>	6/6/2020 8:57 AM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Benjamin Brown. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm commenting on public hearing item D. I am also a graduate of unc-asheville with a degree in ethics and social institutions down here to say that as an institution. The actual police department has failed the APD has brutalized in eroded the trust of black millions and has therefore lost all credibility in a community as a whole the actual police department has failed famously to stand against the culture of militarization in violence that has for centuries been endemic to maintaining a power structure in which white Americans are awarded at the cost of our black and brown brothers and sisters. I call upon mayor mannheimer and city council members to vote against the proposed four percent increase in funding and to decrease apd's funding by an additional 15% The the Asheville Police Department will not deserve any additional funding until it has substantively demonstration.Did a dedication to reform and to reparations? I demand that a p d is funding be reallocated to other sectors of the city's budget that will result in restorative justice sectors such as community and economic development equity and inclusion and transportation. We are graced with what might be a pivotal moment. We can set an example for the rest of North Carolina and the United States for what cities can do to combat police brutality off and to start healing from centuries of racial Injustice or as I'm afraid as a more likely outcome. Our elected officials will fail us yet again by insulating the Asheville Police Department from just an accountability to that end. I demand an investigation into the decision-making process that led to Asheville Police Officers to destroy medical supplies and traumatize numerous medical volunteers on the evening of June 2nd. I demand that the officer who ordered the destruction to be fired and for the city to determine whether the officer may be held criminally liable if you are dead. Police officer who is like so many in our community disgusted by the prevalence of police brutality. I challenge you to speak out I challenge you individually to do whatever is in your power to be a positive change do not be complicit. Do not let George Floyd's death be in vain.</p>	6/6/2020 8:58 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is James Donahue from the city of Asheville. I am Khan I am commenting on the city budget meeting. Um and I am urging uh city council to eliminate funds for policing and redirecting that money back to initiatives that directly serve communities including Education Health Care and Community programming.Thank you.</p>	6/6/2020 9:16 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Nina Hendrickson, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville mayor Esther manheimer the school year 2021 budget proposal in the wake of these killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I am asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and you say this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into education affordable housing Economic Security and Mental Health Services wage. Do not forget our port in communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you.</p>	6/6/2020 9:18 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Elise bear. My phone number is 828-551-6627. The reason I'm calling today is to request an end to the curfew the city of Asheville has imposed and the engine to all excessive use of force on protesters extremely concerned about the pictures and videos. I've seen of police from destroying a table with em and supplies for protesters who who needed medical attention. I think this was just a gratuitous use of force and destruction and should not be tolerated. I think those officers should be dismissed. Um, and if it came from higher up, I think whoever was in charge of that should also be dismissed further. I think that the curfew doesn't serve a purpose in the back of a shovel and um is just being used to arrest people and use violence. Um,I can't believe that we continue to have a curfew. So I hope that the city council votes to end the curfew and to put a lot of pressure on the police department. The unlawful use of force. They're using against civilians.</p>	6/6/2020 10:03 AM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is bottle and Kendrick and it has come to my attention that the Asheville city council for the budget for the fiscal year of 2020 to 2021 has included an extra \$400,000 for the actual police department. And I personally strongly disagree with this increase in budget. I firmly believe that that \$4,000 to be better invested in our community investing more in social work in our infrastructure in making Asheville a better place for everyone and not the tourists who are here for a day or two.I sincerely hope you take my words into consideration, bye-bye.</p>	6/6/2020 10:36 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hi, my name is Victoria McLean. I'm a resident of North Carolina, and I would just like all the members of the national city council to know that all of us are very concerned about the police officers that have destroyed medications during pregnancy test that had permission to be there administering medical help to protesters. We would like to see these officers held accountable for those actions, please thank you for your time.	6/6/2020 10:38 AM	Opencomment
My name is Marie Monday. I live in B Tree in Swannanoa. Yes. I think you should hold them accountable. You should fire their asses and they should have to reimburse the price of all the stuff they destroyed out of their own pocket. Thank you.	6/6/2020 11:30 AM	Opencomment
Hello, my name is Liana Whitlow. I am a resident of Houston, Texas and I saw an article my girlfriend Tara. Where is a resident of Asheville North Carolina and she posted on social media that the police had destroyed the medic tent that had been placed there with the proper permit. At least. That's the story that I heard. I saw video of the police officers approaching the 10th. They were peaceful. The people were peaceful in the police officers just came off and started tearing everything up. They were destroying the medical supplies. And um, and it was just I actually started crying because yep. My my parents fled Nazi occupied Germany where they came in and they took our our ancestral home and our property and often, you know, they left my grandparents with nothing to pass on to their seed and it just feels like that same environment. I know that's a real extreme opinion, but it is my opinion. I've heard stories of my mom and things that happened during that time and I see them happening now and I'm really scared. I'm really afraid and if officials in government do not do something. I don't know what's going to happen to our country. But you guys got to pay attention. This is serious. These are serious violations of our rights as Citizens and it's got to stop somebody has a job. To be the one to diffuse the situation not escalate it and in my opinion and a lot of cases as far as I'm concerned with police have escalated the cases. It's got to stop. If you need me for further comment. You can reach me at 281-690-8346. Thank you.	6/6/2020 11:54 AM	Opencomment
Hello, my name is Ryland Lovejoy registered voter will be voting that's police that destroyed the medical tent should be held accountable for their actions and hopefully said if you make mistakes and so it's not enough accountability is part of our social dynamic.	6/6/2020 12:16 PM	Opencomment
Hi, my name is Brianna Freeman and I'm calling because now is the time we start holding police accountable for their disgraceful actions. We need to ensure their unjust Behavior stop. We need to be able to view officers as helpful rather than destructive. Thank you for taking the action to hold a meeting discussing the dramatic and dishonorable act with the destruction of the medication now is the time for change in the country is watching we are counting on you to make sure these officers are held accountable. Thank you so much.	6/6/2020 12:18 PM	Opencomment
Hey, my name is Matthew Hinsley. I live in West Asheville when you're in the budget this year. I just after everything they've been doing this process including National medic and the medical equipment that you do not expand the Nashville police department, but I'm not much of it. The message has to be sent this not. All right, I've lived here my whole life. And this is not okay. Thanks y'all.	6/6/2020 12:31 PM	Budget
Yes. Hello. This is dr. Shana Bernstein. I am efficient and I want to have sanctions taken against anyone who would attack a medical education medical facilities and Red Cross from time immemorial have always been spared combat, and I think it's stickable that the police are Attacking reporter and Medics and medications, please train police. We are fellow citizens. We are not the enemy. Thank you very much.	6/6/2020 12:33 PM	Opencomment
My name is Evelina Rose. I live in West Asheville and I would like to have the police kinetic station held accountable for their actions and that we learn to handle protest with comments and non-violence. I believe that that's our next step for a blessed day.	6/6/2020 12:44 PM	Opencomment
Tony APD should be defunded for tune up on medical supplies.	6/6/2020 1:10 PM	Opencomment
Hi, my name is Mackenzie, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal in the wake of the police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black American Girl for him. I'm asking him at the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget boat and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget. Do not forget our poor in communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you. Have a good day.	6/6/2020 1:18 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
This is Christian Smith at 105 Deer Trail Fairview North Carolina in total shock and disbelief at what the police have done that to medical supplies in Asheville during these protests and I would like the police to be held accountable and not replace everything that they disrespected that is a war crime destroying medical property. Thank you. Have a good day.	6/6/2020 1:22 PM	Opencomment
No, I do not think the police should have told me held accountable for that write crap going on and busting the little they're little water bottles and all that stuff. This is stupid choice.	6/6/2020 1:45 PM	Opencomment
Hi, my name's Rachel and I support holding the cops who tore up the medic station accountable for their actions.	6/6/2020 2:02 PM	Opencomment
My name is my Spriggs. I'm calling from Austin Texas. I hope that you hold your officers accountable for their actions. We're watching the world is watching.	6/6/2020 2:46 PM	Opencomment
Hi, my name is Charlotte Taylor. I'm a Nashville resident and college instructor and I'm calling to advocate for the abolition of the Asheville Police Department. Please completely defund the police and reinvest that money off of non-violent Community LED initiatives that serve the physical mental and emotional Wellness of our community. Thank you.	6/6/2020 3:07 PM	Opencomment
Joe Utley out of oh, that's it. But yeah, I saw the police tore down the medication. I just don't understand that it rains the right protest and they're just out there to help people so long, you know, the countries needs to come together and not separate like like that showed the police force did not show that they stand with the people whatsoever did nothing but hurt the situation. Thank you.	6/6/2020 3:10 PM	Opencomment
My name is Edwina Spangler. My question is we need less money going to the police budget and we're going towards education public transport and public housing name some ways our new budget. Does this	6/6/2020 3:35 PM	Budget
My name is Edwina Spangler. Does the police budget go do the escalation training or psych evaluation? If not, then what training does our police force go through to ensure they are not abusing their power off.	6/6/2020 3:36 PM	Budget
My name is Edwina swangler explain why the police force needs the \$20 budget and what the \$400,000 increase is for and why is that money not going towards areas in a city desperately needs such as education and affordable housing.	6/6/2020 3:37 PM	Budget
My name is Edwina Spangler, and I'm calling for a no vote for the APD funding. I'm also calling for know and walking a hiring freeze on the APD	6/6/2020 3:37 PM	Budget
Hi, my name is Lauren Conrad. I live in Asheville. I'm calling today about the APD budget. I'm asking you to stop the proposed increase funding for the APD. They do not need our community and specifically the black community needs the funding and other areas. We need it for affordable housing. We need for education for public programs actually support the black community like mental health care and Transit. We need it for programs that support economic stability and support. We need it for Change and to fight back against the structural racism that is that our city. If you care about the black community, please do not approve the funding for the APD. Thank you. Bye.	6/6/2020 3:39 PM	Budget
Hello, my name is Madison Fiedler, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville mayor's Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal in the wake of the police's killing of Georgia Boyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking at the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments Far Over inflated budget and towards sectors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality research shows that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons. Do not forget our poor and communities of color change account on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority of social programs. Thank you.	6/6/2020 3:49 PM	Budget
Hello, my name is Deirdre to me. I lived in North Carolina for two years and loved going to Asheville for learning events and festivals and to see my friends to see the reports of how police destroyed a medication supporting protesters are stationed of peaceful people and destroyed their supplies is appalling and I expect much better. These police need to be held to account any police officer pulled the sacred duty to the people they protect and serve that Duty does not involve destroying medical supplies or mistreating people in general. Thank you very much.	6/6/2020 4:11 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Scott Thompson and I am a resident of West Asheville and I'm calling to tell the mayor and city council to take real action to listen to the black community of Asheville and take dedicated steps to address wage needs first and foremost. I'm following the lead of the many black leaders of Asheville who are asking you to cancel the \$400,000 budget increase in the Asheville police departments page Twenty-One budget and begin the process of defunding the police department. The department has a well-documented history of violence and Nashville's black community and over the course of these overwhelmingly, peaceful demonstrations in Asheville the past week or so. The police have targeted volunteer Medics children and peaceful black citizens with tear gas and I will remind the council that gas is a chemical weapon banned by the Geneva conventions. And this is all in the midst of a deadly respiratory illness pandemic this Behavior to me is not indicative of birth. Performance that deserves more funding and I would ask that the funds that would go to the APD be directed instead towards affordable housing affordable and robust public transit and affordable healthcare for Unity and then secondly and and just as importantly I want Nashville to devote itself to tearing down public symbols of white supremacy such as the Vance Monument. I want to see the streets that are currently named after Confederate leaders be named after local black civil rights leaders instead, uh, the time of letting our spaces be continually dominated by white supremacy for the sake of white comfort and convenience is long overdue. We we need to stop it now. And then finally, I just want to say black lives matter. Please act like it and listen to the Black Lives who have made their voices heard the past two weeks and need a real change and real accountability. Thank you.</p>	6/6/2020 4:27 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Jeff Cohen. My number is 828-551-9601. I was just calling to support holding the wage is responsible who tore up the medic tent that night. So I'm just doing so and thanking you for your time. All right. Have a good day.</p>	6/6/2020 4:56 PM	Opencomment
<p>City of Asheville employee residing in Asheville commenting on public hearing D. Like I said, I'm an employee of the city of Asheville. I don't work in the Asheville Police Department. As long as I've watched the events of the last week unfold in front of me specifically the actions of the actual police department. I have been disheartened disgusted and disappointed. I'm disappointed because with the hiring of South Campbell and the recent hiring of a new police chief David Zac. I thought that perhaps the city of Asheville government and police department would be on A New Path a path of rebuilding trust and confidence in collaboration with black community who have been beaten not only physically in our town but emotionally and mentally decade after decade by those in a position of leadership in our city. Now, I know that that's not the case. I'm witnessing with my own eyes in front of hundreds of people peacefully making their voices heard the actual police department actively chose to not stand with them. They also actively chose to not acknowledge their pain or they're hurt wage. Or all of the harms perpetrated against black lives rather they actively chose to unleash more pain and more hurt and meet opposition to police violence with more police violence issuing curfews wanting to your gas firing weapons destroying medical supplies and assaulting volunteer Medics after granting them permission to be there is not only cruel but it's immoral. I wished witnessed the actual police department fire tear gas and rubber bullets at peaceful participants. They fired these weapons of the people stood and gathered as they walked as they stopped to take a breath attempting to silence voices by suffocating them with tears is akin to the Suffocation of George Floyd, but let me be clear these actions these actions will not kill voices. They will only grow louder the city of Asheville and the Asheville Police Department continue to prove that racial Justice is not part of their vocabulary the city of Asheville and the Asheville Police Department have shown to the world that police brutality systemic racism discrimination and authoritarianism is the actual wagen stand ashamed of my organization ashamed not only by the actions but by the complete unwillingness to those whose access to those who own their own actions and take responsibility. I call on the city of Asheville city council to immediately remove the chief of police David Zac. I call in the city of Asheville city council to investigate the involvement and participation of city manager Debbie Campbell in the decisions leading to the actions carried out by the Asheville Police over the previous week. I call in the city of Asheville city council to adopt meaningful accountable transparent and rigorous police reforms that box in the termination of officers not committed to ending police brutality racial discrimination and Injustice. I call on the city of Asheville city council to abolish the Civil Service Board. And last name I call on the city of Asheville city council to defund the Asheville Police Department and direct those monies towards strengthening black communities and repairing the wrongs that they have been victim to Thank you.</p>	6/6/2020 5:56 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Margaret sivertson in Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling on the budget hearing and wanted to urge everyone not to increase the length of the actual police department given the recent protests and given the brutality not only across the country. But in our own City we have I believe an obligation to to ensure that the police are actually keeping people safe before we give them any more public funds that could be better spent on Services. We know will help people, you know, improving the infrastructure isn't going to tear gas anyone and we really need to put a hiring freeze as well. I am a young person. I haven't been aware of everything over the past few years, but as I've learned more and more I have come to the realization and the Very firm opinion wage. That are police need to be more closely monitored. We need a better system for checking and and disciplining police who who brutalized the people they're protecting them and we need to put a hiring freeze on so that we can sort out who it is that we're working with now and what it is that needs to be done with this counties the the city's money and the city's people before we do anything else. I hope that you vote. No on expanding the budget for the Nashville Police Department.Cuz we need to take care of each other first. And this isn't the way to do that.</p>	6/6/2020 6:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Sam Bible Sullivan. And I am leaving a comment for public hearing Item B or the fiscal budget for the 20 20 to 21 fiscal year. I'm calling today to demand accountability for the use of excessive force by the Asheville the police department on protesters this Behavior, which has been perpetuated locally and nationally by the leaders of law enforcement Community cannot ever happen in Asheville. Again, wage are black community members are not targets or punching bags for inept and poorly trained officers. Terrorize. Black Ashville is Ashville at protests on May 31st. And June 1st. The actual police force used tear gas on protesters use of tear gas on protesters the violation of human rights as recognized by the United Nations. According to the Washington Post United Nations mandates that to be lawful under International Norms to use of less lethal weapons. As for conventional Firearms just be restricted to situations of necessity and in proportion to the associated risks, in other words, the force must be used used must be the very minimum required under the circumstances at hand the use of teargas and response. Yep.Four bottles and fireworks is not proportional considering at the police were in riot gear additionally tear gas does not discriminate and has the potential to harm the vast majority of protesters who were peacefully protesting. I demanded banned the use of tear gas on civilians by the actual police. I know that doesn't necessarily have to do with the budget wanted to say that anyway, here's where we get into the budget. I also demanded the funding of the actual City police. The APD currently has the highest budget out of any public organization Asheville this funding only furthers their militarization proposed expenditures for Asheville Police and the 20 20 to 21 fiscal year equal 30057335 dollars this needs to be cut by fifty to seventy-five percent and funds must be reallocated toward education equity and conclusion and sustainability and affordable housing. This is a moment in history for everyone. We're in this is a moment in history when everyone must make a choice we can either choose to stand with those advocating for progress or choose to be a part of the problem. I hope you choose to be on the right side of History. Thank you.</p>	6/6/2020 8:20 PM	Budget
<p>Hello. My name's Marina brain. I live in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I was born in Asheville North Carolina. This was my mother and grandmother. I've lived in Nashville for 24 years until recently. Although I'm no longer a resident. I have many relatives and life-long friends who lived there. We should not increase apd's budget as you know all too. Well, we've been national news and a couple of Shame after APD destroyed a medic tent and needed supplies during a pandemic APD has also shot and killed Jerry Williams and 2016 as well as a j Marion who is a former classmate of mine actual claims to be a liberal social justice Oasis in the South. However, I was in Native. I've seen first-hand how gentrification and segregation has plagued our black community city council should defund APD and reinvest that money in affordable housing social services and health care for its black community the city council and mayor mannheimer failed to meet these demands. Yep.Gladly donate to their political opponents. I put my money where my mouth is and it's time for Asheville to do the same. Thank you.</p>	6/6/2020 9:17 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Ben serve on I've been a homeowner here in Nashville for the last seven years and I was involved in the protests all week long. I've been tear-gassed by the Asheville Police Officer been shot at by the Asheville Police and at no point was I or you know, ninety-five percent of other people. I was out there with doing anything more than just trying to show off with our community. I think the police and Merit mannheimer have just handled this horribly. I'll never look at our police officers the same way again, and I understand that their budget is coming up in this meeting and I would love to see those funds diverted away from them. I would love to see higher standards. I would love to see Chief sack resign. I would love to see Mara mannheimer either resign or show some actual accountability or how her Police Department our police department and her city has handled all of this. We should have been embracing the protests. We should be embracing our black community and wage.And trying to actually come together and make some sort of change happen. I think we're small enough that we can do that, and I don't think we have and I think there needs to be actual Combat versus an actual change. So, please really look hard at those funds and try to divert them somewhere else with strengthen our communities and be fun the police. Thank you.</p>	6/6/2020 10:09 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Claire Solomon and I have lived in Asheville my entire life. I'm calling you to advocate for a reduction of the actual police departments 2.5 million dollar budget with no additional funds allocated to the APD for the 20 20 to 21 budget despite years of community. Advocacy following instances of police brutality extensive de-escalation training and a number for Holiday PD leadership racial disparities in policing persist in this community in the context of Nationwide protests bringing attention to the violent and deadly consequences of policing on black communities m a p b chose to meet protesters with tear gas this approach comes after a public overhaul of use-of-force policies. This does not ensure public trust. And in fact, it demonstrates demonstrates a profound with regard for human life. We cannot continue to invest in this department. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 12:00 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Hayley Sinclair, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Nashville mayor fiscal year 2021 budget proposal in the late sixties killing of George Floyd and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking a basketball city council make an actual commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote off and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into Social Services education and our own black community. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 9:30 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Ela twig, and I'm a resident of Asheville and I am calling about mayor Mannheim to school year budget for 2021 and since the police killings of George George void in Minneapolis and countless other black Americans before him. I'm asking that city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the Asheville police departments over inflated budget into social service programs. Please do not forget our poor in communities of color, and I hope I can count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that put the priority on social programs. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 9:54 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Mary Lou Appleton. I'm calling as a citizen of Asheville and want to express my disdain and disappointment with the Asheville Police Department and other law enforcement officer assaulted medical personnel and medical supplies on Tuesday evening. Could you please pass this message along to the mayor and her office to ask them to use their power and encouraged budget cuts for our police department and work toward a model of community Mutual Aid and peacekeeping instead of policing. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 10:03 AM	Opencomment
<p>Hey, my name is George Gillett. I live at 317 Saint Charles Road, Asheville, North Carolina ZIP code 28806. I'm calling to leave a message for the town council meeting concerning the police officers who discovered the medic tent as a protest last week. I feel it is a very important to our community told these officers accountable for their actions, I believe so as a mental health professional, but they need to be held accountable not only for the destruction of property and blatant disregard of the law. But also for the trauma that they have inflicted on First Response wage workers who are there to help people and make sure that nobody was hurt.I feel very passionately about this and I hope you will take this in consideration. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/7/2020 12:29 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Hannah. He'll and I live in Nashville and have for about twenty years and I'm a parent and a teacher and I want to make a comment about delayed possibly develop billing a vote for funding for the the 2021 fiscal year and to to delay that until there can be some really strong commitment to racial Justice and some allocations for social services and organizations any alternatives to just hiring more police till we can make sure that we have better training for the escalation and improve General Social Services first. Thank you for hearing this.</p>	6/7/2020 1:04 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Dan Vaden. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling about the annual operating budget. I'm asking that the Asheville city council redirect significant funding away from the actual lease department. I'm requesting an ethical and Equitable reallocation of expenditures away from the APD and toward dismantling racial and class inequality wage. Police officers are not health care workers Mental Health Counselors substance abuse experts or private security guards, and we need to redefine our expectations of police to the services for which their training prepares them. I demand that funding cut from the APD be reallocated toward Health Care Mental Health Services substance abuse treatment education and job-training. I advocate opening a p d personal records to community review in the interests of public Trust. Our poor communities and communities of color are disproportionate targets of police violence. Justice will only be served by meaningful reform black lives matter. Thank you for your attention.</p>	6/7/2020 1:16 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, my name is Wilma proudie. My husband Danny and I live in Ashville, North Carolina. We are with West Buncombe fire department. We totally support fire department. If you have ever needed to call 911 due to a house fire, you know how much these people mean to you would have had to call them twice once for a house fire once because my husband had a cardiac arrest these people deserve to be paid what they're worth. They don't need to be paid off what other people would make flipping hamburgers somewhere. They put their life on the line every single day. Please give them what they are worth. They deserve every penny of it off. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 1:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Joseph Grant Barber and I am a citizen of Asheville, North Carolina. I am calling for a no vote for the Asheville Police Department funding. I am also calling for a hiring freeze on the actual police department. I believe that this money should be used to support real Public Safety efforts such as education Mental Health Care Transit and the cetera and that we should move this money back into areas that help support the black community in Asheville. I think that we also need to invest in uh black businesses in Asheville. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/7/2020 1:29 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Isabel Bowser. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about the mayor's 2021 budget proposal in the wake of the police's killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville Police Department's over-inflated budget and into programs such as Mental Health Resources affordable housing education public transit and harm reduction for folks struggling with addiction. Do not forget a working class communities and communities of color. I urge you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 1:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Teddy Menard. I live in Ashville, North Carolina. I'm commenting on the public hearings item D with regards to the proposed annual operating budget. I have several comments. The first I would like to advocate for the cancellation of the proposed \$400,000 increase in funding for the Asheville Police Department. Uh, secondly, I would like to request that the Asheville NC. Gov website and Thursday available to the public the department summaries from the 2019-2020 budget year in particular the Asheville Police Department summary and to make a public comments section available. Once that department somebody becomes available before ratifying the budget on the 23rd psalm.Thirdly, I would like to call for redistribution of the proposed \$400,000 increase to APD and some of the existing Thirty million dollar budget for APD to a shield equity and inclusion program and also to the local business opportunities initiative from the 2019-2020 budget strategic priority section. F one that was conducted in response to the to the disparity study in promoting minority business opportunities in Nashville, next Thursday like to advocate for using strictly funds that are already existing within a budget redistribution of those phones to focus on Equity training the escalation to age reduced Armament of the police mandatory bias screening restrictions on the use of force and a robust oversight process, um regarding Pig,misconduct, uh next life you ask that in the vision for twenty \$36 the city include Provisions for a significant divestment and police funding in New Jersey article. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/7/2020 2:29 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>I called and left a previous message. But upon reflection. I feel the need to supplement my comments because they don't fully capture the anger and disappointment. I feel towards City leadership slash font to the peaceful protests against police brutality towards black and other minority Americans. My name is Dan Vaden. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to comment on the proposed annual operating budget. I'm asking that the Asheville city council redirect significant funding away from the police department. I'm requesting an ethical Equitable and punitive reallocation of expenditures away from the APD and toward dismantling racial and class inequality. Last week the people of Asheville were embarrassed by the failures of our Police Department chief of police and mayor our city made national and international news page or senseless destruction of water and medical supplies by heavily militarized APD tear-gassing flash bombing and shooting rubber bullets at peaceful protesters took a rally against police. Brutality is the very definition of tone death for the mayor and chief of police to issue statements shifting blame away from APD action a failing to take responsibility for their mistakes and failing to punish Rogue officers. Overstepping I'm so angry and disappointed in you both you failed to lead, we expect better. We expect consequences for their misbehavior. This is not the actual I know and if these these these mealy-mouthed weasel worded no responsibility taken statements. Are you both intend to stick with we can do better and we met at The Ballot Box. Police officers are not health care workers Mental Health Counselors substance abuse experts or private security guards, and we need to redefine our expectations of police to the services for which their training prepares them. I demand that funding cut from the APD be reallocated toward Health Care Mental Health Services substance abuse treatment education and job-training. I add volt opening unredacted Asheville Police Department Personnel records to community review in the interests of public trust and for the purposes of weeding out and terminating Bad Apple officer as voters refund the police and city government. We don't get a lot of opportunities to participate in how our tax dollars are spent though substantially redirecting phone away from the APD the city council has the opportunity to represent the voices of its constituents and take punitive actions to send a message to the actual police that their behavior You're of last week has no place in Asheville our poor communities and commute.</p>	6/7/2020 2:29 PM	Opencomment
<p>I called and left a previous message. But upon reflection. I feel the need to supplement my comments because they don't fully capture the anger and disappointment. I feel towards City leaderships response to the peaceful protest against police brutality or black and other minority Americans. My name is Dan Raiden. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to comment on the proposed annual operating budget. I'm asking that the actual city council redirects significant wage being away from the Asheville Police Department. I am requesting an ethical Equitable and punitive reallocation of expenditures away from the APD and toward dismantling racial and class inequality off last week. The people of Asheville were embarrassed by the failures of our Police Department chief of police and mayor the city made national and international news for the senseless destruction of water and medical supplies by heavily militarized APD tear-gassing flash bombing and shooting rubber bullets had police protesters at a rally against police. Brutality is the very dead.mission of tone-deaf for the mayor and chief of police to issue statements shifting blame away from APD actions failing to take responsibility for their mistakes and failing to punish Rove officers. Overstepping I'm so angry and disappointed off both you failed to lead we better and we expect consequences for their misbehavior. This is not the Asheville. I know and if these weasel worded million no responsibility taken statements or what you both intend to stick with we can do better than you and we'll at The Ballot Box police officers are not health care workers Mental Health Counselors substance abuse or private security guards, and we need to redefine our expectations that police to the services for which their training prepares them. I demand that funding cut from the APD be reallocated toward Health Care Mental Health Services substance abuse treatment education and job-training. I advocate opening unredacted APD Personnel records to community review in the interest of public trust and for the purposes of weeding out and terminating wage. Bad Apple officers as voters we fund the police and city government. We don't get a lot of opportunities to participate in how our tax dollars are spent though. Substantially redirecting funds away g a p d the city council has the opportunity to represent the voices of its constituents and take punitive action to send a message to the actual police that their behavior of last week has no place in Asheville our poor communities and communities of color are disproportionate targets of police violence. Justice will only be served by meaningful police reform black lives matter.</p>	6/7/2020 2:32 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Matt Siegel. I'm a resident of Asheville for the last twenty years, and I just wanted to comment on the make sure. There's fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. I would like to encourage a delay in this boat after considering some ways to reallocate funds and not increase the police budget to help African American and other marginalized communities with programs such as housing education loan programs for starting businesses and other social programs. I hope I can count on you and uh, an intern count on me and November. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 2:36 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Avey Menard. I live in Asheville. I'm commenting on the upcoming June 9th meeting concerning public hearing item be for the 2021 operating budget hearing firstly. I'd like to ask that the department summaries for individual departments be made available to the public and in additional public comments. Be made available prior to the ratification of the budget proposal. This is a question. I've already emailed to the assistant Finance director McDowell and I'm still waiting for resolution with assurances that the public would be given birth that information. But as we're getting closer to the day of the hearing, I'd like to ask one more time in terms of the budget proposal itself. I like to request an immediate Amendment to the proposed budget to curb entirely the budget increase for the Asheville Police Department, which is around the amount of birth.\$3,000 and proposed that it be reallocated for it necessary equity and inclusion imperative as well as the ongoing higher of non Force wielding civil servants. I'm just looking over the general fund and understanding the reduction in potential budget based on the outbreak of covid-19. I can see that departments with budget increases right off that is prevention officer Department actual police department. The actual fire department was already account for nearly 50% maybe thirty-five to forty percent of the entire general fund budget jobs and apartments which have either below inflation increases or outright decreases in their funding for the next year include the equity inclusion committee Human Resources Parks and Recreation Public Works and planning and Urban Design. And as a reason, I'd like to State my desire for our city budget to be going towards the latter of those.Committees particularly reading over the city council's 2036 strategic Vision. I think with like for there to be a fiscal ethical and actionable commitment made to defunding and demilitarize an actual police departments complete absence from this document in my opinion is a glaring omission and it includes the realization of the wage is in for an equitable and diverse Community as well as I connected and engaged community in the text of that, uh underneath the heading for the inequitable and diverse Community the committee says which is a racial Equity loans through our city strategic goals in health education housing and economic Mobility, but it makes no mention of outcomes for crisis conflict and crime and overemphasizes. This is Faith.</p>	6/7/2020 2:37 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Ella Pullman. And I am a member here of Asheville. And I have an open public comment of wanting to defund the police department in Asheville, North Carolina. This is my town. We have been here. We have been out in the Square protesting downtown because there has been pretty police brutality in Asheville. We want to defund it. We want to move the funds more towards a black housing art. Anything that has to do with supporting the black community here in Asheville. The police department has been unfair they were tear gassing us. They were instigating there were destroying our marriage because they know that they are wrong because they wanted to silence us. It's just not going to happen anymore. We will not support this. We will not stand by the politicians who choose to support this. We want to end the phone number that you give to the ADP. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 2:47 PM	Opencomment
<p>Yes. Hi. My my name is Tom Barry. I'm a resident of Buncombe County and my comment is I would love to know where did the order come from for that destruction of the the medic tent and took the last week. That was absolutely a social event and horrible display of authority by the Asheville Police Department. I've heard Mr. Zacks various testimonies and speeches since the event and do watch believe he's on the path to making the right choices better choices in the future. Hope it was not him who gave the order but it would be great to make that public. So residents know where that came from exactly. And can therefore have better faith in future leadership at the Asheville Police Department in the government. Thank you for listening to my comment.</p>	6/7/2020 2:49 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Rebecca Berry and I'm calling because I wanted to let you all know that I was really horrified to hear about the destruction of the medical tent during the protests this past week. And I feel that whoever gave the order their name should be disclosed because I feel that our leaders should be accountable for decisions and whether or not there are repercussions for that. I just really feel that people should know who that order came from. I feel it was a really terrible choice. I hope not to see anything like that in the future. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 2:54 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Josh shank and I've been a resident of Asheville for a couple of years. I'm calling about budget proposal of 20 21. Uh, I met us know that this country is deeply wounded right now and is in need of some systemic changes to address some systemic problems and uh a step in the right direction. I and many others believe is to invest in our communities instead of investing in the policing of our community, uh, it starts at the city level and we need better time affirmative outcomes for the residents of color here in Nashville and around the entire world. Uh, so can we please put our money towards Mental Health Resources affordable housing education public baths it and most importantly harm reduction. We need to hailing. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 3:13 PM	Budget
<p>Dear Asheville city council. My name is Lex Hooper. I am a white resident of Asheville the city of Asheville. It needs to divest funds from the police and invest in the black community Josh fill in all communities of color. You need to listen to local black leaders. We demand know to the \$400,000 increase to the police department budget there needs to be a hiring freeze took a PD no more police. Fifty percent of the APD budget should be under direct Community Control through a participatory budgeting process and should be invested in long-term safety strategies. To quote local black leaders, ask a serious strategic plan could look like creating a new City Department of peace and well being tasked with the care and safety of people in combat under this new Department. There could be new roles to support the Peace of the city and the well-being of its residence unarmed support teams could be dispatched at a moment's notice such as a team of social workers counselors mediators. Negotiators could be hired to be dispatched. We're needed to support individuals and families a team trained in domestic violence could be dispatched two homes as needed neighborhood leaders could be hired and trained to be peer support mediators people assigned to handle the flow and safety of traffic people to uphold human and civil rights and hugging employment Etc services for healing stress and Trauma. Allocating funds toward investment in current and incubation of African American and Latin owned businesses Equitable economic and educational opportunities living wage jobs affordable housing Transportation poverty remediation to alleviate the root causes of crimes communities that are the safest do not off the most police. They have the most resources. There also needs to be transparency and accountability with \$153,000 for the coronavirus emergency supplemental funding specifically allocated towards D. It is to be used for the prevention protection and response to the coronavirus there needs to be no more tear gas and there needs to be accountability for their destroyed medical supplies at the protests transparency is needed on how the police department will use these funds to actually support public health and safety. I also support Keith Young's call to rebuild Asheville Civil Service Board and to create a civilian review board for police misconduct. You are being called to create an ethical and equal application of the Cities expenditures away from APD and towards sectors that facilitate this is dismantling of racial and class inequality. Listen to local black leaders divest from the home and invest in Black communities and all communities of color in apps.</p>	6/7/2020 3:24 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Caroline, and I'm a resident here in Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling about a film mannheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal with everything that's been happening a surrounding the killing of dog Floyd as well as other police brutality acts. We want to make sure as a community that are black community is supported. I'm asking that Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find a ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into supporting minority lead businesses as well as employment pay rates across the city. Please do please do not forget our poor in communities of color I can count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that plus a priority on social programs. I know I can this is what actual is meant for. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 3:40 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Emma cone. I live in West Asheville and I am calling re the budget talks for the next city council meeting it is we've seen such incredible violence on behalf of from the actual police department in response to peaceful protest and across the country and I'm calling because I feel it is imperative that we work on figuring out Community solutions to in equity into crime in our community that don't rely heavily on the police and this includes off heavily be funding the Asheville City Police Department. It currently has the highest budget out of any public organization in Asheville and what this means is that we are diverting important funds from schools for mental health facilities from social workers from all sorts of other public goods, that could be better using this money. So I think yep. Imperative that we cut the budget of the actual police department and divert those funds to public services that can help raise our community make it more Equitable life and have a longer lasting positive impact. Thank you so much. Thanks for listening by.</p>	6/7/2020 3:59 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Christopher Leary. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling concerning public hearing item D the fiscal year 2021 budget proposal in the wake of the choices killing of George Floyd and the embarrassment. Our city has attracted following the destruction of a medic station by local law enforcement. I'm asking at the city of the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget money into programs and services that directly support our African American Community. We need an overt and tangible commitment to build trust within our community and increasing the APD budget can only serve to diminish the exact address that we have made thus far. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 4:04 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Grace Upshaw. I live in the city of Asheville and commenting on public hearings item d. I think that's Asheville city council needs. To change their minds about the proposed increase to the police budget because what we've seen is that they're not using their existing resources. Well, yeah, I suppose to cancel needs needs to use that money to develop Alternatives police to retrain police not to fire to your gas peaceful protesters and children and Destroy medical supplies. I would rather see Asheville city council put that money toward creating some sort of strategic action plan to create alternatives to that kind of police action. They don't need any more of the city's money. They are not using it. Well, I just need to change. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 4:10 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is micajah Wilder. I'm calling about I live in Ashville, North Carolina, and I'm calling to ask for funding to be redirected away from the APD and put towards Continuum of Care of such as t r q projects housing support for domestic violence survivors, as well as other projects and programs that contribute to affordable housing and educational resources and minority populated areas south furthermore in an effort to curb police brutality and racial profiling. I asked that performance code of be reviewed or eliminated. So that police officers are not incentivised to Target minorities. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 4:31 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is Victoria and I'm a constituent from here in Asheville, North Carolina. And I am calling you today to reject the proposed budget for the police department phone. Not only am I calling to reject the \$400,000 proposed increase but I'm also calling to tell you that we need to defund the police by even more than that. We need to define the police by at least half and then put that money into the communities at current. Our police are being paid almost thirty million dollars a year and with half of that budget we could then increase the spending for schooling we could increase the spending for public transit. We could increase the spending for health care and mental health care and we could also even start implementing a fair wage for all. I hope that you will consider this as you make your decision and know that I and the rest of the community will be present and watching and listening and we hope that you will think with our best interest in mind and not with the military police States. Thank you. Have a nice day.</p>	6/7/2020 4:48 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Donald and I'm a constituent in resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I was calling to city council to reject the proposed budget which extends close to Thirty million. And if not, I'm not even cut it by half and replace those funds elsewhere and current city programs whether it is public transit inner-city programs mental health care and not others. I would like to see our city council Truly Come forward and represent the people's voices locally and we are all watching. Thank you for your consideration, and I would be keeping on tabs.</p>	6/7/2020 4:49 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there, this is Josh badenhorst. I'm a resident here in Nashville. I'm calling about the upcoming plan to increase the budget for the police by \$400,000. I think, mum, we need to freeze that plan because what happened over the last week with the protesting and the tear-gassing of protesters. It's clear that police force. It doesn't have a serious regard for our community and we're and we're not on the same page. So if there's no reason to give this much money right now, it's not clear what it's going to go to and I think it can be used for for better better purposes, especially given the economic output. So I'd like to change my voice to those who are saying to not give that extra 400000 and maybe even freeze the spending on for the police for the time being until we can figure out a better way to believe wage. In our community. Thank you very much. Bye.</p>	6/7/2020 6:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Anna Cameron. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina, and I'm calling about Asheville mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year 20. Yeah.</p>	6/7/2020 7:06 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Anna Cameron. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville fiscal year 2021 budget proposal from mayor mannheimer and in the wake of the police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking if the Asheville City Council made a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget boat and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville departments over inflated budget into black oriented programs that benefit the black community Vacaville. Do not forget our poor in communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal puts a priority on social programs?</p>	6/7/2020 7:09 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Elise Carlson and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal in the wake up killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into programs that help the poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you for listening to my comments.Thursday</p>	6/7/2020 7:52 PM	Budget
<p>I'd like to bring up the defunding of APD. It should be defunded. I'm citing public hearing item number D 2018 budget. You should change the way you operate. defund the APD</p>	6/7/2020 7:56 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Phoebe Kilby and I am a resident of Asheville. I am providing a comment on the council's consideration of the city budget wage. I'm commenting in support of black demands that were presented on Saturday June 6th at the protest march with the budget up for consideration. I urge the council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of a budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black Ops businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with powers to hold the APD and individual officers accountable wage. I just read that the Minneapolis city council is considering doing something even more drastic with their Police Department completely defunding it Asheville can at least join Minneapolis halfway dead.I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you for considering my comments Phoebe Kilby 57 Morningside Drive, Asheville, North Carolina 28806</p>	6/7/2020 8:20 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Casey DeMarco, and I've been a resident of Asheville for twenty-three years. I'm calling about actual mayor's Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal in the wake of the police killing of them in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville Police Department over inflated budget and into holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing. Please do not forget our poor and communities of color. Please do the right thing and create a budget that will put a higher priority on a special program. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 8:37 PM	Budget
<p>Hello members of city council mayor mannheimer and all elected or appointed officials serving the residence and voter of the city of Asheville off. My name is Cindy Gilman and I have been a resident of Asheville for six years. Over the past week the Insidious Trend towards the militarization of the Asheville Police Department has become abundantly clear. The actions of the city and the Asheville Police Department in gassing peaceful protesters attacking Medics and destroying food and medical supplies are inhumane and intolerable. Our city has racism as deeply rooted in its systems and government as cities like Minneapolis. I will no longer tolerate the targeting of the black community am in my city. There is no room in a just Society for violent inapt and poorly trained officers to terrorize an entire race. No one is above the law most certainly not those tasked with enforcing it our constitution protects the right to Peaceful assembly and protects against unlawful discrimination, but the city of Asheville has violated these rights violated our trust and violated the safety of black residents visitors and voters. I am calling to demand the 2021 fiscal Year's budget defund the Asheville Police Department and to demand no increase in any aspect of the Asheville Police Department's funding this money must go into the black community of Asheville the budget unjustly given to the Asheville Police Department must be returned off the taxpayers into the people in the way of Access to Health Care education Transportation housing infrastructure. And Community projects long as deemed fit by black leaders. I demand our city does away with disingenuous careful apologies and makes way for actionable outcomes. City council mayor, mannheimer you are held accountable for the safety of your residence as the saying goes put your money where your mouth is God black lives matter black Ashville is Asheville.</p>	6/7/2020 8:42 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Nicole Welborn. I'm a resident of Asheville and I was just calling to comment on the proposed budget for this upcoming review and the funding that is supposed to go to the Asheville Police Department. And I'm sure you're getting a lot of these calls, but I think that one's pretty angry about. The actions of the Asheville Police Department and the accountability that they're taking for it and how it doesn't an apology doesn't matter. I think what really matters is where we're putting their money and choice that needs to not go to the police department and then needs to be defunded giving the police department extra money is not going to increase Public Safety and that's been shown and wage so many different ways. I think the money should be taken from the police department and used to fund things that actually served the community and that the community wants like public health and housing Transportation. Like there's just so many other things that's wrong with our city and that the residents actually wants And things that'll actually help Public Safety way more. Yeah. I just think we need to think about what side of History we're going to be on after this is all over just make sure like, I don't know black Asheville is Asheville and that's what we're all watching and wanting and fighting for an as taxpayers. Like we really are opinion does matter and I really hope this is taken into consideration and I hope please are held accountable. Okay. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 8:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hey, my name is Tina Slagle. I live in Nashville, and I'm commenting on Asheville Firefighters. I just wanted to check known that the Asheville city employees are getting \$15 an hour. I want to put my vote in the to get firefighters wage paid \$15 an hour as well. They do so much for our city and you're on call twenty-four hours. They work hard. They are out saving lives wage, and um, I definitely believe that they should be paid at least \$15 an hour. So hope you guys have a good meeting and thank you so much.</p>	6/7/2020 8:52 PM	Budget
<p>Over the years our city has seen what happened in Minneapolis have been here as Citizens voters taxpayers and basic human beings. We will no longer tolerate the behavior that has resulted in the deaths of so many black Americans locally and nationally by police to ever happen in Asheville. Again are black community members are not targets or punching bags for an Epsom poorly trained officers to terrorize black Asheville Thursday. We want people to express their personal feelings as well. You need to defund the Asheville to police department and make big budget cuts. Thank you. Goodbye.</p>	6/7/2020 9:04 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is Rance. And I want the cops that were responsible for destroying the bank account at the protest or responsible.</p>	6/7/2020 9:08 PM	Opencomment
<p>Yes, my name is Jack and I'm here to leave a comment on holding the police accountable for destroying the medic tent and Asheville. Basically, I'm upset that they're not being reprimanded in the same way that I would yell at my own children for this and instead of a very bad example. Thank you very much. You have my support.</p>	6/7/2020 9:13 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Bobby Henry. I'm calling to let you know my stance on the cops to tour of the medications. I would like for them to be held accountable. Uh, that's unacceptable. Just absolutely unacceptable, and I wanted to voice my opinion. Thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 9:22 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is Carol Foster. I am a lifelong nashvillian and a downtown resident. I am absolutely Beyond disgusted with so so very much that has occurred in this town in the package on a week. I guess it is very important that we do not continue funding the Asheville Police Department to destroy our community and may be one that has been involved in this and ended to this and didn't listen to the community when we were begging you for days to stop this needs to resign every single one of y'all. This is is this crazy</p>	6/7/2020 9:59 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Benjamin hamburger resident of Asheville. Austin city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in black mean. I'm not an ultimate disinvestment of police or abolition of the police by any means, but I believe 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools, which is currently astounding and funding and a billion oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support to make this important change from Community to make a more Equitable diverse. And uh,Set an example for the country. Thank you so much. Goodbye.</p>	6/7/2020 10:30 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Grace Walker. I'm currently a resident of Louisiana. But usually I'm a resident of North Carolina and Asheville. I would just like to leave my comments about the um, 2021 budget. Um, I think you need to uh, you cannot keep giving money to the police department. They are they've proven themselves to be dangerous. Um, they are treating peaceful protesters with immense violence. They are doing things like cutting open water bottles, um and tearing up medications that protesters have set up just to keep themselves healthy at these peaceful protest not to mention that they are they again of proven themselves to be generally dangerous dangerous people specifically toward black people and other wage,What color so I really really urge you to um, uh reallocate your budget so that the police and the police department off of less money and that you do not pour in more tax dollars into the police department because they are not serving us and they've proven over and over and over again every day off that they are not serving us. Um, thank you.</p>	6/7/2020 10:31 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, I would like to file a formal complaint about. About holding the cops accountable for destroying the medic station on June 2nd 2020. I would like to know if there is going to be consequences for those actions held against those cops. All right. Thanks. Bye.</p>	6/7/2020 10:57 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Margaret Stephenson in Asheville North Carolina resident. I have a bit of a script so hopefully this call will be sitting meter. We have some words from Delores available organize her thoughts one of the organizers of the actual black lives matter movement quote over the years. Our city has seen what happened in Minneapolis happened here as Citizens voters taxpayers and basic human beings. We will no longer tolerate the behavior that has resulted in the deaths of so many black Americans locally and nationally are police to ever happen again in Nashville are black, they are not targets or punching bags for a net and poorly trained officers to terrorize black Asheville is Asheville that was once again from Delores Faribault organizer of actual black lives matter movement.The purpose of my call today is to urge you to if not, this one the police then we consider the 2021 budget proposal which as we know will increase the budget of the place by \$400,000. What does that money instead in in accordance with the wishes of the black lives matter organization off two sons that will truly help our actual citizens black and white and every other color things like equity and inclusion planning or development education will more permanently change our landscape politically and socially than any number of deaths canisters or rubber bullets will ever doWe want you the city council's it shows that the government of the people is truly on the side of the people. We are your voters and constituents and we want you to support us and I'll start. grow without the police Place only people without the police hurting the people that are our neighbors our brothers our sisters. Support living wage education destruction of wealth inequality and affordable housing if you want to see change. You have to delay this budget meeting ask for a no on funding the actual police department. And show us that our voices are heard and that our black neighbors are supported. Is this is Asheville? Once again, black Asheville is Asheville? Thank you very much for your time.</p>	6/7/2020 11:01 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Isabel castellvi and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal in the wake of the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using the bathroom to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over-inflated budgets into affordable housing public education affordable legal representation public transportation community centers and Parks mental health and addiction resources community-led Public Safety and increased access to health care and healthy food.Please do not forget our poor communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposals that puts a priority on social programs? Thanks.</p>	6/7/2020 11:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Melissa, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I just want to make make it known that you know, the police response on. I believe it was Monday when the medic station was destroyed. I understand that there were water bottles thrown, but I think that the police response was way out flying and I just wanted to make sure you know you guys understood that. Hope you guys make the right decisions on Tuesday. Thank you. Goodbye.</p>	6/7/2020 11:34 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Anna slate. I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in regards to Mayor Esther manheimer budget proposal for the 2021 fiscal year in the wake of the inexcusable police killing George Floyd in Minneapolis along with countless other black people around the country as well as Asheville, very own Police Department's recent targeted violence towards Medics. I'd like to ask mayor to redirect funds away from the actual police departments over inflated budget into things like Community lead Public Safety, which has been proven to work in other cities in the country. Affordable housing public education affordable and free legal representation public transportation public transportation community centers and Parks mental health and addiction resource has increased access to healthcare and healthy food police reform has been shown ineffective time. And again with directing funds into alternative programs that up Liquid black and brown communities in our area. We can finally begin the process of healing our city and our country. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/7/2020 11:40 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Charles Perkins. I am a resident of Santa Barbara California these days but I grew up in Asheville North Carolina and I saw the video of the water bowl destruction and the Natick area destruction behind Salsas. I know exactly where that is. I mean, they're a million times and um, I'm even correctly in Asheville staying with family and not leaving the house because of coronavirus. But what I what I wanted to say is that I think in light of what we've seen all around the country and in our local community, it's it's really obvious that the next step for the city council is to put in place by a very rigorous austerity regime with the police department and begin defunding and redirecting City money towards our schools and mental health and food security and housing security. I don't wrong. You see how anything else is plausible at this point if the city council wants to be proactive and do something constructive for the community. I sort of see a rigorous austerity regime with the police department that would redirect money to vital Social Services as the minimum and I I hope that the Box will see it that way. I know that the other resident of Asheville that I know that I grew up with see it that way. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:14 AM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Emily Ricky, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So against a vesting from the police and investing and black communities 50% of the atp's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and business eliminating racial opportunities in Asheville City Schools. I'm sorry racial opportunities Gap in Asheville City schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the ADP and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 6:28 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Sharon westrup. I live at 37 Yale Street. And zip code is 28806. I'm calling about the line item public hearing Thursday operating budget. I am calling to strongly urge the city council to include Asheville Firefighters in your living wage and make sure that all aspects of firefighters are paid fifteen dollars an hour. At least it's unconscionable that these people who risk their lives to keep us safe are getting paid. So little further down. I would encourage you to find funding for a \$15 increase from the budget increase by the Nashville Police Department their actions recently have I made it clear that they need more oversight that they need more transparency and that frankly the citizens of Asheville cannot currently trust the Asheville Police Department. To protect and serve us. So what I am asking is that you reallocate some of their money give it to the firefighters who actually do take care of the people in my community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 6:48 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Kelly Bridger. I'm a Nashville resident. My zip code is 28804. I'm asking that the actual city council make a moreover invisible commitment to Rachel Justice. I demand that a budget but be delayed to that Council may find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget. I urge you to pressure the Sea Shack managers office towards ethical and equal reallocation of the Cities expenditures away from the APD and towards sectors that facilitate dismantling of racial and class inequality put that money towards social and Community programs. Do not forget our poor communities and communities of color or disproportionate targets of police violence. Justice will only be served in the police are reformed and this would not be possible until we be fun then. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 6:56 AM	Budget
<p>Thank you should hold the opposite tore up the medic station and the protests accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 7:16 AM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Joe gladstein and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal in the wake of the police's killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget wage and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into these programs.Do not forget our poor communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs?</p>	6/8/2020 7:30 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Mason Greenwald. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling about Asheville mayor's at Manheim fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. In the wake of the police is killing George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans for whom I'm asking Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice wage is laying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville Police Department over inflated budget. In the wake of police. Yeah. You know, you cannot forget poor in community of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts priority on social programs? I really hope so. It seems Now's the Time for the month and it only seems unrest will be furthered if this plan goes through Thursday. Please do consider this. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 7:32 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name hello, my name is Joe gladstein and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal in the wake of the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans beforehand. I'm asking that the city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote. They using this time to find ways to redirect the money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into the following programs equity and inclusion Parks and Recreation sustainability planning and Urban Design.Can I forget our poor communities of color can I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts priority on social programs? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 7:33 AM	Budget
<p>This is Tracy Wold resident Transit Rider. I just wanted to make a comment on the response from Asheville Police Department. And the mayor's office on the recent arrests. I believe both were unacceptable. It shows a lack of understanding of the community and it did not address properly the consequences that off and put in place for the behavior of the actual police department as we consider funding the police department. I believe that should go towards the fire fighters. They are not making not all of them are making a living wage and that is unacceptable. Also as Transit Rider, in fact, I believe that this current temporary fix to our situation where we have luxury motorcoaches following around city bus.Empty is ridiculous. It's a huge waste of money. It needs to stop immediately redirect that funding toward pushing the management office need to hire drivers. Perhaps give them sign on bonuses performance bonuses. That would be money. Well spent investing in the system for the future. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 7:50 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Martin Hurley. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina. And I am calling to request that the the city council not approve of the month hundred thousand dollars that actual police department has requested an additional funding. Um, I think it's very clear across the country that the police directly contribute to the the harm and murder of our black communities and especially in a city as segregated yet quote unquote liberal as astral. I think it is important to take direct action to stop this.Genocide of black people that is happening, you know, the Asheville Police Department has directly contributed to this. This is not just something that's happening somewhere else. They have attacked peaceful protesters. They've used chemical weapons. They have put people in the hospital. They have destroyed medical stations that are were intended to help everyone, um home with the purpose of quote-unquote cutting supply lines, which is a on humanitarian military tactic and it is disappointing to see this happening in Asheville a a town that you know has for so long purported to be this liberal tub of this house. I think we need to take this more seriously than it ever has been before I am not because it is getting worse. But because we have the evidence to show that the four hundred years of racism that we are living within this country has is not exempt from Asheville.Um, I would like actual city council to move in the Minneapolis model of defunding and disbanding the actual police department and moving towards reallocating funds towards a public safety system that actually supports non-violent Public Safety which means more Mental Health Counselors, uh programs to feed and House people who are currently living on the streets of Asheville of which there are many programs for teams programs for youth programs for people who need them to be three job changed. There's so many things that actually move our city forward and I hope that city council will not approve this funding and in fact work towards a much more revolutionary wage and uh Progressive stance on policing in our community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 8:28 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Shelby medley calling. I'm here to request that we defund the Asheville City Police Department. I don't mean to be signed to have them have no money or to take away the police force, but I do highly suggest and recommend that we reallocate These funds and put them into our communities that needs them. I feel as though we should put this money towards mental health and that we should create individual jobs, which is also great wage our community so that they can respond to certain crises in our community to me. It feels as though the police officers around the world have to respond to an excessive amount of things.I first of all don't believe that the police department has the proper training to respond to all of these things. But a lot of times it's not being responded with the grace that it should be. I feel as though the police officers are overworked. They are responding to lost dogs fireworks domestic violence suicide attempts. And that's a lot to handle. I feel as though we can use this money to provide the necessary people to respond to these things individually and I would be willing to help in any way that I can walk. But today I'm just doing my part and requesting that we find better places for these funds to go I know of intimidating and I know it might sound scary actually took the police officers, but I know that as a community we can do better. That is all. Thank you for listening.</p>	6/8/2020 8:31 AM	Budget
<p>My name is Tequila Rose my pronouns are she her and I'm a transgender woman registered an Asheville City elections though. As of this call. I am still registered under my dead name. I'm calling upon the Asheville city council to at a minimum reject the \$400,000 proposed budget increase to the Asheville Police Department and redirect These funds towards public services that have tangible commuter benefits the actions of the actual police department in response to the protest this past week, especially the destruction of a medic station and Supplies on June 2nd and the atrocious defensive it by APD police chief David Choi. I've been egregious be responsible and should be loudly condemned by all people of Integrity. These actions were enabled by Mera man Hai MERS Declaration of a state of emergency and Kolb you which was equally appalling and shameful in its naked attempt to dissuade protesters from establishing a continuous presence to forcefully speak out against systemic inequality, please brutality dead.In the murder of black citizens do not wait until the next abuse of power to take action reject this budget increase as the first step, but don't stop there Envision alternatives to Armed policing that don't result in community harm Inspire your citizens to do better and be better without resorting to intimidation through armed policing Thursday fund the Asheville Police Department May or mannheimer. I strongly encourage you to resign and Make Way for leadership that cares more about people than property damage.</p>	6/8/2020 8:35 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Sarah McClelland, and I want the officers involving in the destroying of the medication last week to be held accountable. Thank you. Have a good day. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 8:39 AM	Opencomment
<p>Hi there. My name is Molly Wilson. I have been a resident of the Asheville area for my entire life which is about 26 years. I recently just moved back into the city after living in for a little bit. I am calling about the budget meeting on Tuesday, June 9th. I am calling to Bangkok City Council to not give the APD their proposed, um \$400,000 increase to their already. Thirty million dollar budget wage is ridiculous. They do not need that money that money needs to go into the poor black and brown communities in our County growing up in this County. I was from Georgia southern part A Buncombe County and I didn't ever really see a black person until I was maybe about ten years old and that is because Asheville has pussOut it's brown and black people to the outskirts of the community to the Hillcrest to the Shiloh's West Asheville has completely taken houses down from black families that work generations to own their houses and white people from Florida have come in Praise those property taxes and pushed those black people farther too easy. It's Curt's of the community. The APD does not know how to deal with the black community. They use Force just like we saw in Minneapolis. I've had several friends that were at the protest song about a week ago. One of my friends got shot with a rubber bullet because he was throwing gas canisters tear gas canisters, which was outlawed by the Geneva Convention. He was throwing them back towards the police because they were throwing them into the crowd where they had gathered all of the kids in the middle of the crowd to protect them and he was throwing them back.You're towards the police not trying to instigate anything. But literally just trying to protect the children and he got shot in his knee. Okay? The APD does not need to get this \$400,000 that needs to be put back in our community you as city council members are not there to protect and to fund the militarized police. You are there to protect and better our community and our community is not much just a tourist Community, especially right now during covid-19.</p>	6/8/2020 8:45 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Molly Wilson. I've been a resident in the Asheville area for my entire life and I am calling to plead with city council to not go forward with a proposal for Tuesday, June 9th to increase the apd's funding by \$44,000. Their budget is already at 6:30 million instead that money needs to go back into the poor brown and black communities that needs to go into social programs during this week. We have seen excessive force by the APD last week. I had a friend who was at the early protest the ones on Sunday and Monday, he was shot with a rubber bullet on Monday because I'm a p d was throwing tear gas into the crowd something that is outlawed by the Geneva Convention and they were throwing them into the crowd into the center bulb. Where the protesters had put the children that were there so they were literally throwing tear gas at children and he was picking them up and tossing them back over so long as to protect the children and he was shot by a rubber bullet that is excessive force and my time that I have lived in Asheville, North Carolina when I was very young. I didn't see a black person probably for the first ten years of my life because that is what Asheville has done actual has pushed the black and brown Community to the outskirts. There's they have silenced their voices Asheville has become a city that Jesus cares about making money and making money from tourists. And with the white supremacy that is in this nation. We believe that tourists will be more comfortable when they feel less black people that is completely ridiculous. The black community is what built this city they need money for social programs or after-school programs they deadThey need support and that is what you do as a city council member you took an oath to support the community of Asheville. Not the tourist the people of Nashville and you need to step up and do what you have been called to do defund the police. And just just support Asheville don't support the tourists. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 8:48 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is the Jenna and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apts budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start up businesses for limiting the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and sending an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the AP and individual officers accountable. Thank you. Again. This is Jenna. I'm a resident of Nashville.</p>	6/8/2020 8:49 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Samantha and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year, 2021 budget proposal or item v d of the June 9th hearing or meeting. Uh, and in the wake of the police's killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans bath ahead. I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments overrated budget into programs that support people who are ugh do uh, sorry support those who who's problems cannot be solved by violence or someone with a gun. So I'm talking about projects that support Equal Housing mental health treatment wage. Drug abuse treatment all of these problems that we know these days cannot be solved by putting someone in jail. It's unfair to the police department and it's unfair to the citizens of Asheville to tell the police to manage these issues because they are unable to and it's um, it's just I could not going to solve the problem by bringing a person with a gun to solve someone's mental illness issues and try to help them in the worst moment of their lives. So, please do not forget our poor and our communities of color, and please please show me that I can count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal wage puts a priority on social programs. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 8:52 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Eric corbino. I was a resident of Asheville for six years and uh now no longer live in Nashville, but it brings me great sadness to see that the name that our city is having in the world is one of Injustice towards medical professionals the some of the most important people in our society, and I don't think it is one the image you want I have but also, I don't think there's anything right or just about defending people that are just causing hardship for those whose entire Creed is to help others. So I do hope that you'll make a public statement as well as make sure that there are repercussions for the actions of both. The police chief who has spent time trying to cover up this event both by stating that there was no City permit as well as the local business that was used as the Hub was not allowing the Medics to be there as well as for the other officers involved. Thank you. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 8:58 AM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Sue Kennedy. I live in Michigan. My sister lives on Lake Gaston near Littleton and we may have so many times come to Asheville enjoyed Biltmore and everything that you have to offer stay at the holiday and express love love love Asheville. However, the reporting that police officers destroyed a medic station for peaceful protesters home and the pictures that are available showing that it actually happened has caused me to know I will not visit Asheville again. I will not spend my money there. I will give up Asheville until I see publicly that those officers involved. All officers involved have been fired. Disciplined and have made restitution actual restitution for the things that they destroyed. I can't believe the city that I love so much has Law Enforcement that thinks that's appropriate. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 9:00 AM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Patricia bath. I'm a resident of West Asheville. I'm calling about the vote on ADD funding and I've read the Black Box demands that have been proposed. I've also read and recommend an article by Christie Lopez in the Washington Post today to June 9th. And where would she talks about we don't actually want to defund our police departments, but we want to ban Cho calls we want to curb use of the known no Florence. We want to fund Mental Health Care and housing community mediation reduction of violence programs. We weren't these things just happen instead of Simply putting money into a police department that's got implicit biases. It has unions that are dead powerful and legal immunity for police so that we simply cannot make our police accountable. So there are some real naughty issues that I think need to be put into Play before more money is simply allocated to the police department. Thank you for listening by.</p>	6/8/2020 9:02 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Hannah and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal in the wake of the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans beforehand and asking them for Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delays of the and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the actual police departments over inflated budget into Social Services education Housing Programs such as that not forget our poor community and communities of can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thanks so much.</p>	6/8/2020 9:03 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is great Looper and I live in Ashville. I am calling to please ask to reconsider the funding of Asheville City Police Department. I feel like it is time to wake up and have some accountability for police officers. That seemed to take the law into their own hands. The only way to do that is to is to Define what they have and make them really think about it. There are other Solutions. There are other long wait. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 9:06 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Spencer Hallmark. I am a resident of Asheville. I am just calling to voice my concerns of the upcoming budget increase for the actual police department. I do not think that it's a smart use of funds. I think we can use those in other departments for our city to better our community wage. So a big vote now for the expansion of Asheville Police Department funds. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 9:18 AM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is Ellen Marie and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in regards to the fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. I'm asking that the budget vote be delayed so that the council may find ways to reject money away from the actual police departments over inflated budget and increase funding for social services that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality such as education, employment and Health Services. I have faith that City's leaders can come together in this critical time to create bold innovative solutions that serve our entire community and take us home into a more just feature. Thanks for your time and consideration.</p>	6/8/2020 9:19 AM	Budget
<p>My name is Justina Burnett. I am a resident of Hendersonville. However, I am a business owner in Asheville at 201 Charlotte Street, and I spend a lot of time and money in downtown Asheville and I am calling today regarding the budget and to request no more funding to the Asheville Police Department. I understand that there is an additional \$400,000 proposed to go to a p d and their budget is already Thirty million dollars. I know that that additional funding could be used for far better projects in our city and there are better ways to protect our community than to fund punitive actions that often lead to suck violence. I am interested in seeing the city of Asheville move into more Community safety and restorative focused Solutions and I am yep. We opposed to any more money going to APD. And in fact would like to propose that you begin to defund the Asheville Police Department and move towards funding other projects that will help keep the community safe and well, thank you for listening to my comment.</p>	6/8/2020 9:21 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Daniel Madison, and I've lived in Asheville almost ten years. I'm calling about the fiscal year 2021 budget proposal in the wake of the police murder of George Floyd and countless other black Americans before him. I'm asking that the city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying wage budget vote and using this time to redirect money away from APD and into affordable housing Mental Health Services another home equity oriented organizations. Please don't forget our poor disabled and communities of color which are disproportionately impacted by choice silence. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 9:23 AM	Budget
<p>Yes. Hello. This is Chris in South Asheville. I am calling to comment on the budget for the 2021 fiscal year. I like many other residents here. I'm calling to see you reallocate funds and defund the after their cowardly acts throughout the past weeks truthfully Thirty million dollars for city of less than a hundred thousand people is is a a gross, uh, Miss spending of funds. I could be reinvested into the community particularly at a time during this pandemic where the community really needs. It most small-business really needs it most and wage. Yes, I mean education just can't be funded enough really the APD has proven to be ineffective and expensive and that needs to change I would. Really call to have this budget looked at and amended because that's money that could really go toward positive things in the in the community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 9:25 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Kate wheeler, I am a farmer. I live in West Asheville. And I also manage a farmers market. I've lived in Nashville for ten years. I'm calling to check and that the city council halt um their decision about the budget and vote. No on the budget for the Asheville Police Department. I'm demanding that. You know after that there's defunding of of the actual police department and specifically home in Asheville. Um, an intergenerational of black leadership is asking for at least and I say at least because um wage I think we need to push to you know, towards eradicating funding for the police department and investing all that money into the community 50% / from the actual police department and then reinvested into the community I'm also calling to insist that individuals within the actual police department including Chris Hickman home or held accountable for their actions. This means being fired punishment. That is the same as any young person dead. The same position and that not just individuals be held accountable, but the entire actual police department. I'm also demanding that we remove the racist Monument the Vance Monument immediately off all the races monuments in our city. All Races street signs in our city and have Ugg monuments erected that honor black folks black lives matter and specifically black leadership in Asheville historically and now Yeah, I think just looking around the country and seeing what's happening. I've been to Chicago no demonstrations this past week and listen to the voices in my community. Some of them are folks that I know and some of them are not and hearing people. Express their needs and like we as a city as a white majority City need to listen to these demands and</p>	6/8/2020 9:27 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Kate wheeler, um from West Asheville. Once again, my message got cut off. Um. I was just expressing that we need to be leaders. We already aren't leaders frankly, but we need to follow the footsteps of other cities in our country who are eradicating police departments who are slashing budgets, um who are reinvesting money into communities were changing street signs. This is happening everywhere monuments are toppling everywhere and we need to do a symbolic gestures along with the active gestures and not the action and we cannot be. Forcing our community to be left behind right now. This is a historic moment in our country and in our world and we need to take action and we need it to be action towards abolition and action towards actual change. Our Police Department is not an exception. In fact, it's completely in line with all the other races that that's happening everywhere. We cannot have the narrative that our Police Department is an exception. We should have a referendum Reformation narrative around what is happening in our city, but has been happening in our city and we need to push for this change. And listen to the leadership in our city. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 9:30 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Marcia and Hahnemann. I'm calling as citizens of Asheville and I'm calling to very firmly urge the you that you vote. No on Thursday Police Department continued funding. The budget for that is already so high and Asheville has like a severe need for more infrastructure and Community Resources, especially for black and brown communities which have been directly and presently disregarded targeted by the police department. Especially I also would urge that I mean I'm targeting of black people really needs to be addressed with in Nashville police department. And I don't know if it's accountability that you're going to be looking for but defunding is only the first step and there needs to be a lot more action involved abolishing the police department in total would be even better. But until then I think that you should put a freeze on hiring for the AP and just based off of this past week alone with all of the protesters. I don't see how we could go forward as a city. Yep. Even just looking at the country but at the city how would you go forward seeing how the police responded to Peaceful protests how they wrecked a medic station. It's just it's just a table and I think it would be totally reprehensible to if the mayor and the city council didn't do anything about it. We already just get disregarded with this tourist economy is already so in the pockets of rich people and the black and brown communities have been continuously pushed out and targeted and this needs to be addressed and handled so friendly want to reassert that I vote no on continued funding for the Asheville Police Department. And I think that those funds should be going elsewhere whether it be Transit mental health anything that Could be a useful community resource, especially for are underrepresented communities with in Asheville. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 9:34 AM	Budget
<p>My name is Barbara zaretsky. I live in Ashville, North Carolina, and I'm calling regarding the budget increase for the police department, and I wanted to state that I'm against a \$457,000 increase in the budget and instead. I would ask to allocate These funds to public programs that benefit the black community in Asheville things like education affordable housing Healthcare Etc. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 9:35 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Claire and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget. I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a more overt and visible commitment to racial Justice and make sure that this commitment is reflected in the budget. I implore you all to consider delaying the budget votes so that Council me find ways to redirect money away from the actual police department over inflated budget urge you age of the city manager's office towards an ethical and equal reallocation of the Cities expenditures away from APD and towards sectors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality research shows that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime the police or prison. This can be done. The Minneapolis council is voting to dismantle them lease department Asheville. Let's lead this movement in North Carolina. We cannot risk the lives of our black community anymore dismantling the police an institution that was born out of racism and slavery. It's the only way Justice can be served. I hope that other Representatives you listen to the people of Asheville and consider an alternative budget that puts a focus on social service programs. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 9:38 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Emily Tommy McDaniel. And I ever needed for I live in Nashville. I am calling to urge the city council to redirect funds in the 2021 budget away from the Asheville Police Department and toward other organizations that are better suited to dismantling racism issue in our community. Please see the black AVL demands. For information on investment and divestment reparations ending the war on black people. I offer my complete support and I urge city council toBe at the Vanguard of the change that is happening. Not just in our city, but in our state and our nation and in our world, we have the chance now to be the progressive City. We have a claimed to be and failed to be in the past. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 9:45 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Thank you city council members and staff of the city of Asheville for the opportunity to submit a comment remotely regarding the June 9th 2020 Public public budget hearing. My name is Andrew lubbers. I reside within the city of Asheville and I am a homeowner my comment is this please strike the \$457,621 increase in general fund expenses slated to be sent spent by the city of Asheville Police Department from the cities 2021 Financial year budget while I figure represents a token 1.5% increase in departmental funding with respect to estimated twenty twenty Financial year spending. This money could make an actual impact if spent in service of fulfilling Asheville City. Council's 2036 vision statement given nearly Thirty million dollars Asheville Police Department already the city wage.Or just expense should be tasked with providing continuity of service at Financial year twenty-twenty funding levels in the absence of radical change defunding the department and demanding it's a total reorganization in the service of anti-racism and demilitarization zero zeroing out spending increases for the police and the 2021 City budget would be a that's not in the direction of recent protests targeting violent policing practices and systemic racism instead of increasing Police Department funding. I suggest the city make a final statement of its core values and spend the increase in support of strategic priority a three reviewing City programming facilities Staffing operations and Partnerships to enhance racial Equity with an emphasis on Parks Parks and Recreation and or strategic priority a six developing and implementing a strategy based on the NLC report to Foster. Yep.Anomic Mobility specifically, I asked City Council Members to consider two Alternatives first, please consider earmarking these taxpayer dollars toward furthering the development of recreation opportunities on the City southside spend money on The Waltons drink Park and pool and or the grant Southside Center the citizens of the Southside residential area deserve this investment in Parks and Recreation opportunities second. Please consider using these funds to support the Mountain Community Capital fund. So the fun can increase its support of small block area businesses, especially those owned and operated by African-American residents of the city of Asheville. Let's Help Finance business debt and help new and existing black owned businesses to grow in the service of real economic Mobility. Thank you for considering my input and for finding new ways to support the people that</p>	6/8/2020 9:46 AM	Budget
<p>Yeah, my name's Aaron Hill. I'm a resident of Asheville and a voter. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget because of the police murder of Georgia Floyd in Minneapolis and all the other black Americans. I'm asking it the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and they using this time to find ways to redirect the money away from Asheville Police Department that budget for a a p d is way over inflated. I'd like to see that money used elsewhere to suck the black community with education and that sort of thing. Um, uh anything that would would help support poor and and communities of color. Um, yeah, so I'm hoping that you can you can consider an alternative to this budget and I will be watching because I would base my vote feature votes on this issue. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 9:48 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Daniel maltz. I live in the city of Asheville and I'm calling for today's meeting to address three points. As far as the budget goes. Number one. I request that the council Rejects and says no to the \$400,000 to go to the Asheville Police Department. And then also on that note. I'm calling to strongly recommend that there are serious moves to defund the Asheville Police Department and put that money where it could be better served in communities of color to Southport Social Services job training food security et cetera, and I'm also calling for the removal of the month and the Robert E Lee monument and instead of having tributes to past slave owners and Confederate generals to put up some art that true age.He respects and reflects the diversity of Asheville. Thank you for your time and for listening by.</p>	6/8/2020 9:52 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Jared Booker and I'd like to leave a comment on the proposed 2020-2021 budget. Um, I'm a city. I'm a resident of New York City and I'm asking city council to make a commitment to racial Justice, um by delaying this current budget vote and using the time instead to find ways to redirect that money away from the actual police department as the budget currently is already way over inflated in my opinion, um other areas that I would hope to see this go into uh, potentially be things such as equity and inclusion Human Resources sustainability Transit programs. Um, please also do not forget a port and Faith communities of color. Can I also count you on all of you to consider on the alternative budget that proposes to put the priority? Yep.Social programs. Um, thank you very much for your consideration and your time.</p>	6/8/2020 9:54 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Alexis done. I'm a constituent from West Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling today to comment on the fiscal year 2020 to 2021 annual operating budget public hearing item D. I'm advocating for the reduction of Asheville Police Department. Twenty nine point six million dollar budget with no additional funding allocated to the actual police department for the upcoming fiscal year off the Asheville Police Department, and no way has earned a budget increase and that money can be transferred directly to other departments in our budget, but actually build and benefit our community like Parks and Recreation Transportation Planning and Urban Design human resources and equity and inclusion to name a few that could certainly all use a boost. We need to divest from police and invest in Black communities because black lives matter. We need to do better. Thank you for listening and thank you for your time. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 10:00 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, good day. My name is Ben Manny. I'm a resident of the city of Asheville. I'm a homelessness prevention attorney at Pisgah legal services. But I am calling in today and my personal capacity as a father. I urge Council to give immediate and serious consideration to wage demands made on Saturday by like Ashville. I know that these changes won't be easy, but we have tried one way of policing and I don't see any reason why we can't try another one thing on the list of Demands that I do believe is very easy.as we got to take down that Vance Monument when I drive by that thing, I think to myself we might as well be flying a rebel flag and it's not historical marker that adds in any way in any positive way to the discourse of the historical nature or cultural. I believe that Monument needs to come down immediately. Thank you so very much for your consideration. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 10:01 AM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Elsa and I live in Arden and I am I'm calling in support of the the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to the best from the police and invest in a community's fifty percent of these budget. Um should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses wage and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual authors is accountable.I would also. Like to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community deployment block grant funds for rental assistance package that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 10:03 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Lola borovic and I'm a resident of Asheville City. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 the budget in the wake of the page killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice, um by delaying the budget vote and took this time to find ways to redirect money away from the Asheville police departments over inflated budget into equity and inclusion Human Resources, sustainability and Transit. I would also like to suggest that you put a freeze on actual police department's hiring at this time and work towards removing this department completely instead. Please use the current choices and budget allocated towards developing and you community-led safety model. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 10:05 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Paloma bur and I am a Nashville resident and I'm calling to ask city council not to approve the proposed budget increase for the Asheville Police Department. I remember a time when please did not show up in riot gear at every protest and we've become accustomed in this country to an unprecedented level of police militarization and it is past time the Escalade. The police funding proposed is the single biggest item in the budget at a time of global pandemic and unemployment. Is this really the best use of these funds if you watch for First Responders give that money to the paramedics.Can you talk a couple of weeks? We have learned exclusive and physically harm people who are exercising their basic rights as guaranteed in the Constitution wage right of the people to freely assemble freedom of speech and of the press you are the foundations of the Constitution and without them America ceases to exist. So, thank you and please escalate this. You're not approved the Asheville Police Department funding increase. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 10:08 AM	Budget
<p>hi, my name is Sarah branch and a member of the actual community and I'm I'm speaking on Asheville Highway 21 budget proposal coming from the mayor and I'm asking for the city council to make a much more this bowl and uh direct and committed kind of like to racial Justice and for the budget that could be delayed so that the council can find ways to move money away from that filled police have an inflated budget and to be directed this money as research shows two efforts for like Public Safety living wage service it occasionally opportunities will housing and homeSearch you to not forget our poor communities of color and all the wage here.</p>	6/8/2020 10:09 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Michael Newman. I'm a resident of barnardsville, North Carolina, North Carolina in Buncombe. I am calling because I have been watching mostly online. But also the other day, I went downtown and not seeing the way that our police department has been responding to the protests for the racial equality and racial Justice and I'm sickened and horrified by the fact that military tactics being used on civilians who in large part are peacefully protesting. It's uh, it's not something I want to see it's impossible to believe almost that that that's happening and what seemed like a progressive school, but I'm glad that the the layers are being Stripped Away. So my my input is that I think we should follow the example of Minneapolis and Los Angeles and other cities and defund the month lease definitely don't give them a budget raise this year and I think we should explore more peaceful ways to organize so that we don't have black ops military and racism ruling our city wage. That's my input. Um, thank you all for all the good things that you do know that the squeaky wheels are what got the oil and uh, but but this is super important, and this is this is long overdue wage. We we addressed this, so I appreciate you listening. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 10:11 AM	Opencomment
<p>Name is Michael Perkins. I've been in Nashville resident for six years and I think increasing the budget for the Asheville Police Department. So that's proposed is a really bad idea. The boat needs to be delayed. So that counts can find ways to redirect money away from the Department's budget. You need the pressure the city manager's office towards an ethical and equal reallocation of the Cities expenditures away from the police department towards sectors of facilitate the dismantling of racial class & inequality. What's that comment do the right thing?</p>	6/8/2020 10:16 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Bobby B, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares at Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I think the city needs to adjust the budget. So it begins investing from the police and investing in black community fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools in funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 10:17 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Lauren roquemore. I am a citizen of Asheville and work in downtown Asheville at the center for crafts calling as an individual to defecate for the reduction of the Asheville Police Department \$29 worth six million dollar budget with no additional funding allocated to the APT in the 2021 budget. As I said, my name is Lauren and Western North Carolina native and I work downtown. I've seen the change in Asheville first hand over the last twenty years and I'm reaching out and hoping that the city council will listen to my shared concerns despite years of community. Advocacy following instances of police brutality extensive the escalation training and an overhaul of the leadership racial disparities persist and continue to persist in this community in the context of Nationwide protests bring attention to the vet deadly consequences of police on black communities that he chose to me protesters would tear casts day after dead this approach comes even after a public overhaul of use-of-force policies wage. Not as your public trust and in Phase demonstrate the profound subscribe for human life. Again. I'm calling for the apd's twenty nine point six million dollar budget to be reallocated to suck at work and other community efforts. Thanks for listening. Thanks.</p>	6/8/2020 10:18 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jesse cord and I'm a Nashville resident calling to have my objection on record to the increase in Nashville Police Department budget in additionally request that a concerted effort be made to reduce funding all together. I've lived in three major cities now where I've personally experienced excessive and brutal police force on Peaceful civilians. This is a nationwide problem. And even though Asheville likes to posture itself as Progressive. It is only a society even more gross systemic racism and violent policing and my short time living here. I've witnessed how even a simple traffic stop will accumulate four to five police cars on the side of a highway when there's only one civilian in a car. I've seen a large group of police force surrounding a person in a moment of mental health surdistress who needed a mental health professional but was instead met with a human wall to hide their episodes from surrounding tourists. I made a call in to animal control to report an indoor dog in distress and the police were dispatched. Do you see due to the numerous budget the police have become a one-size-fits-all solution because funding to appropriate Services has been cut policing is not the solution the police for Thursday. Disproportionately large and a city where all of my community crime alerts. If you can even call them that have been bear sightings. I urge you to tremendously cut funding to the actual PD and redistribute the response to services that are sick can reimagine and reform our Public Safety to actually serve our citizens. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 10:19 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hi, my name is Lee McClellan, and I'm a president and business owner and Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city council to defund the police in Asheville. I think that with the Asheville Police Department shamed us in front of the entire world, and now we have a chance to be proud of our city. Thank you. Bye.	6/8/2020 10:21 AM	Budget
Hello, my name is Sarah Joss, and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police's killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking an imploring of the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this fine this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into support of real Public Safety efforts such as education Mental Health Care Transit and inclusivity in the city. Please move this money to areas that actually helped black people. Don't forget that are poor communities of color need our help. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? I hope I can thank you.	6/8/2020 10:21 AM	Budget
Hello, my name is Alison Ettl. I've been a resident of Asheville for the for going on seven years, and I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed twenty twenty two twenty one month budget and the wake of police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis.	6/8/2020 10:21 AM	Budget
Hello. Again, my name is Alison Ettl. I've been a resident of Asheville for the past seven years and I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 20 20 to 21 budget boss. considering all the recent events and the police brutality against black Americans for hundreds of years. I'm asking that actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the APD and they're over-inflated budget. I think there needs to be a focus on the funds going towards programs and initiatives that are actually promoting public Faith policing Alternatives emergency Alternatives and funding things like education affordable housing off security in mental health. We need to fund the social service agencies. Fun Community organizations. I truly believe there are alternatives to policing. I think we need to dive into that more than figure out a way to actually help the community instead of putting funds into militarized police. And just trying to control the community. We need to get in there and help them. Please do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority into the program? Thank you for your time.	6/8/2020 10:25 AM	Budget
Hi, my name is Ava volkner. I am a resident of Asheville and I am leaving this message to call for the Asheville city council to not approve \$400,000 more for the actual police department. I'm calling to ask for a hiring freeze at the APD to have the same budget cut by 50% and for the city to listen to the demands of black leaders here in Nashville, which include investing in communities and divesting from the police reparations and repair for past and continuing harms and ending the war on black people and it's not just about individual officers, but it's about accountability for the entire Asheville police departments. That means protecting all black people trans. People lgbtq. + yep.All black women. Um, and I hope that you all will do the right thing and be on the right side of History.	6/8/2020 10:26 AM	Budget
Hello, this is Eliana and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police officer. And invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I would also like to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares a Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance assistance. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.	6/8/2020 10:26 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name's Chris Nolan. And I'm a Nashville resident. I'm calling to leave a comment on the proposed 20-21 2020-2021 fiscal year budget for the city of Chicago. I'm requesting that the city council vote to either delay the budget vote or off to actually vote to defund the police put a hiring freeze on the Asheville Police Department and use the money the money in that budget and the current budget redirected to support real Public Safety efforts, like education Mental Health Care public transport affordable housing and other community services. The current budget is absurdly high compared to other departments like equity and inclusion Parks and Recreation sustainability paying an Urban Design and I would just like to ask you to imagine what good that money could do if it were redirected away from a force which is systematically racist oppressive and violent thoughts towards existing services and new programs, which could actually uplift the community. Thank you for listening.</p>	6/8/2020 10:30 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, I am a local business owner in Nashville. And I have seen the brutality of these types of APD. I was here in Nashville when they murdered Jerry Williams and wage. I was also here when they brutalized The Pedestrian jaywalking a few years ago.I saw them tear gas a crowd of children along with other adults and protesters peacefully protest thing and exercising their First Amendment right to peacefully protest their right to assemble. I saw them throw or wage project flash grenades at the same crowd. I saw them shoot people point-blank with pepper bullets, and these people were doing nothing they were dead.Passionate they were talking they were chanting. They were standing in the street, but they were not violent. They were not antagonizing the cops and they were met with the violence and brutality the APD also destroyed life-saving equipment from a medic tent they didn't they apologized but their apology wasEssentially worthless because they said oh we shouldn't have destroyed that equipment. We should have taken it away which you know medical supplies are necessary in these moments, especially when cops are displaying the brutality and violence that they have these past few days. Um, if someone were to get seriously injured, they would need those supplies and the cops decided to destroy them. And if they hadn't destroyed them, they would have taken away. So it's essentially the same actions and their apology is worthless. I think thatAllowing cops to have a voice in this has been a PR stunt. I think that they're going to do all they can to continue their funding but we need to not allow for their funding to occur. We need to take away their ability to violently palm tree our citizens, especially or black Citizen and we need to cut their funding by 50% all together puts on</p>	6/8/2020 10:30 AM	Budget
<p>My name is Hannah Heiser. I live in Ashville, North Carolina. I'm calling to comment on uh public hearings items and ask what city council create life action plan to create alternatives to policing and to deny the \$400,000 budget increase for APD in this year's budget budget. I'm calling off of what you find things that actually keep Asheville safe. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 10:31 AM	Budget
<p>My name is Miranda lady and I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling about the fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. I am asking that the actual city council make a more over and visible commitment to racial Justice. I demand that the budget vote be delayed so that Council may find ways to redirect money at way from the actual police departments overrated budget. I urge you to pressure the city manager's office towards an ethical and equal reallocation of the Cities expenditures away from APD and towards sectors of facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality.Please take the time. To look at that. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 10:32 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is cathryn Bradley, and I'm calling to say that I believe that we should not approve the \$400,000 funding increase for the Asheville Police Department. I am calling to say that I believe that we should instead fully fund community redevelopment and underserved communities, and I believe that we should stop purchasing military equipment to be against American citizens. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 10:38 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Jen Chamblee, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance wage. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 10:39 AM	Budget
<p>Greetings, my name is Emilio Ayala. And I am a resident of Asheville. I'd like to comment on the proposal of 2020 and 2021 budget. I see that a lot of money is currently funded with the police department. But I just feel that education and sustainability. I said be invested in to ensure that we have a better future forAsheville for people of all Races and racial Justice do not forget our poor and communities of color. Thank you. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts priority on social programs?</p>	6/8/2020 10:44 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Johanna zaleski. I'm a Nashville resident. I'm calling to ask you delay the vote on the 2020 one month, but to explore what is that funding for the Asheville Police Department? Upper support including inclusion and Equity some examples suggested by the community organization wage in Black include a team of social workers mediators and negotiators a team trained and domestic violence. People assigned to handle traffic flow and safety people assigned to uphold human and civil rights and housing and employment services for healing stress and Trauma and allocating funds toward investment current African-American and Latino owned businesses. Thank you for your consideration and your work and attention.</p>	6/8/2020 10:44 AM	Budget
<p>Good morning. My name is Rachel and I'm a resident of Asheville. I wanted to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-21 budget in the wake of the police killings of Georgia Minneapolis and countless of black Americans before him I am asking about the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using the time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville Police Department over-inflated budgets into communities of color and minorities. Don't forget about our communities of faith.</p>	6/8/2020 10:46 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Emily hotel and I'm a resident at last I'm calling about Asheville North West in the school year 2021 Dodge in the wake of the police killings of George Floyd in the atlas and, go ahead and ask them to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget and towards doctors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class and such as social welfare education package with the stimulus in support of historically black and communities of color. Can I try to consider an ultimate budget proposal that puts a priority on social life?</p>	6/8/2020 10:48 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Benjamin Helper and I live in Bat Cave, North Carolina, but I often come to Asheville to shop and to be able to hang out and I would request that the Asheville city council delay the vote today to be fund the police department by taking money from the Water Resources Department and the community Economic Development Department with the planning of Urban Design Department. I hope that you can give more money back to these and maybeCome up with a better plan to help distribute the money more equally rather than funding the police department entirely. and I hope but you will hear this. You will feel what I feel. No, just like to say, thank you. Oh you guys do? please Define the police department, let's put it back into our city.</p>	6/8/2020 10:51 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Abby Schuler. And I am a resident of Asheville. I'm leaving this comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget long as you guys know, it's been a giant period of unrest in Nashville. The APT has definitely stepped up in terms of showing all of us that they respect us and respect other people of color, but after looking at the budget and the office allocated funds towards Asheville Police Department compared to the allocated funds for other departments is absolutely ridiculous. So Tom Thumb I'd love if I could count on you guys to put more money into other budgets that actually will help poor communities and communities of color. Thank you all know that the Asheville city council knows it too especially communities of color to give them resources give them back the resources that the name that were taken away in the seventies with the urban renewal. I know the city council the current city council has no say in the urban renewal of the seventies, but you can make reparations. Yep. Can make a change I'm sure you know, but the Asheville City Police Department, the their budget is over thirty million dollars, whereas the budgets for for example, the equity budget is a mere four hundred thousand dollars. I don't really understand that. Maybe you could be more transparent about the the police department, but the extra funds from the police department could easily go and back into the transit system, which I feel like through the cares act more money was supposed to go to the Transit Transit System, but from what I'm reading for the actual transit system. It's not that needs to be more lines going to South Asheville as well as late night mine help people get to wage. As well as the the land trust fund to help affordable housing. We need more affordable housing nicer housing. So overall, please restate the actual police department's budget. It is entirely too large compared to the rest of the city council budgets. I think, you know this month, so thank you for listening to me and have a good budget hearing, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 10:52 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Leann Hilbert's. I live in Asheville, North Carolina. I'm a resident and I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount full amount of the Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance for the mer. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term strong safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and actual City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Whatever funds can go in this city. For Bridging the Divide between the white and black communities starting with the white communities and teaching Equity practices. We need it now. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 10:53 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Alana Hubbard. I'm a Nashville resident and I'm calling to comment on the upcoming budget review specifically the police budget. I do not support any increase to wage budget. In fact, I think we need significant cuts and how that money allocated towards education Mental Health Care Transit. And I think we need a surge and oversight committee that has the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable what I've seen in the last week from a TV is inexcusable tear gas is down from using Warfare. It should never be used for any reason but apt has been using it quite literally during a pandemic that affects the respiratory system. It's not okay. We have a police brutality problem in Nashville. Just like we have a police brutality problem in all 50 states. It's fine to make cheerful statements, but we also yep. Monetary options at tackle is systemic problem. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 10:54 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Asia solar and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and Los Angeles black Americans before him. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget in choice to Social Services programs in general. I know we do not want to forget our pork in communities of color and I really wanna ask if I can count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 10:56 AM	Budget
<p>Hi there, this is Chloe more. I'm a citizen of the city of Asheville. I'm also a member of Sunrise movement Asheville and a black and Latino woman. And today I'm calling as so many people are because I do not believe that the Asheville Police Department would have an additional \$400,000 in its budget. Next year. The budget is currently \$30 and Thursday are failing us and I think that it's time that we invest in what is actually beneficial for our communities and divest from what is harmful to us. So I think that it's finally time for city council to take action on this to not pass that \$400,000 additional in the budget wage. And instead look into ways to divest from over policing our communities and instead invest in public health public education public transportation and the actual benefit of communities, especially communities color here in Asheville. Thank you very much, and I hope you take these comments to Heart.</p>	6/8/2020 10:57 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Alexa Turnbull and I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina. And I wanted to ask for some transparency about the funding of a few things. One is the actual firefighters and I would like to know why they're not being paid a living wage. The city of Asheville is currently in violation of that and I hope that that gets addressed today. And I was mainly calling about the \$400,000 increase for the police budget, especially during a time when y'all are in violation of what you're paying firefighters and I would like to demand the defund of it read this money more equally over Community Resources page is plenty of money that could be given to education Healthcare helplessness Equity initiatives. There's a lot of ideas out there of how this money could be better off and I don't think that's a secret. So hopefully y'all can use your mind and listen to your city about what needs to be done with these budget items. I also would like you to clarify how much of the increase in transit expenses are offset by the money coming into the city budget specifically. Your market for Transit from the Kerry back. And you know, we are in a global pandemic right now how much of this money could be used to help with cleaning or PPE to stop the spread of covid-19 because this city although reopening for tourists has not stopped the spread. Any Spike that we are to see in in the next week or so of covid-19 is not due to protesters. It is due to the unrealistic re-opening. And I know that actual has done better than other cities with reopening. But it's still it's still not okay. It's still most like most immediately affecting your minorities that make up this community and make the community beautiful. And it needs to be address. another comment, I guess I would like to make that I'm sure everyone who's calling in right now is making is that since its budget for the police is going to be a main topic. I'd like y'all to consider defunding the actual police department one way to fight police brutality is to reimagine Public Safety as a way to move money away from the police force and into other programs that focus on the things I mentioned before education affordable housing economic.</p>	6/8/2020 10:58 AM	Budget
<p>Why is the city of Asheville? Y'all listening to me now voting on the budget today. Well talking about the budget today voting on June 23rd. Why does the budget include over thirty million dollars for the police department? It is the single largest fund wage by y'all with a 4% increase from last year when equity and inclusion gets 450 some \$10,000 off parts and Rex only get ten million just over that planning and Urban Design just over 1 million dollars. You'll need to reconsider how you're spending your money. Defund the Asheville Police Department. They are not protecting and serving your community and you know that okay. Sustainability get \$769,000 a little over that that sickening. You should be ashamed and you should make the changes today while you're talking about this budget. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 11:00 AM	Budget
<p>Uh, this is Josh cats. I'm a lifelong resident of Asheville North Carolina. And uh, I'm calling to demand that the uh city council defund police divest that money into a black and brown communities. Um, Your budget decreased by 3% obviously due to covid-19. Better thing to invest in than education. I mean think about that.</p>	6/8/2020 11:01 AM	Budget
<p>My name is Kenzie steer and I'm calling to voice my opinion that the Asheville Police Department should not be given additional funding during your budget meeting tomorrow. I think that the better solution would be to defund the police and use the funding that is already probably far more than happy to support other social services that might be better. Uh-huh more helpful in crisis situations. Um Social Workers Health Care or education. I work for the Buncombe County school system and I believe that we could do a lot more with the money that is going to the police department to an systems ISM if we were given more funding and the police department was funded less might cut down on some of the ridiculous things. Yep.Stabbing water bottles during protests because police are dressed and right here in afraid of having water bottles thrown at them. So, um, just wanted to voice my opinion on this matter. I hope that I am one of many many people who have called to voice his opinion. I will also be emailing the mayor and the city council. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 11:02 AM	Budget
<p>My name is Betty Gibson. I'm a resident of Swannanoa and I have been organizing a protest for Wednesday June 10th at noon at pack Square. It's a group of primarily white people who feel like we haven't expressed our beliefs enough and we are definitely in support of the the black community and we want to make our beliefs a little bit more visible. I'm going to write send you all the letter that I would have sent out. And again, this is a it's an effort to let white people. Although we certainly would love to have black people join us to let us say that we believe changes needed in our system and that we support our black brothers and sisters again. I will send you a letter right away dead.That is the letter I sent out. So thank you very much, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 11:02 AM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Amy DeCamp. I'm a citizen of the city of Asheville. I'm calling to ask that council members. Vote. No on the APD budget expansion. I'm also calling to demand a divestment from the police and investment in Black communities. I believe that fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety G's including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 11:05 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Josh Lyman and I am a resident of Buncombe County specifically in West Asheville. And I would like to voice my concern about the budget proposals for increasing spending on the police department rather than defending I'm largely in support of defunding the police and diverting these funds codes programs that will actually help the constituents. In fact, I would prefer for these these decisions to be made in favor of social welfare programs that can actually Implement change as opposed to diverting funds to a militarized police that are not trained to address the majority of these situations. Thank you for hearing my concern and I hope that you will choose to go with the people.</p>	6/8/2020 11:05 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Brooklyn Baker. And I've been a resident of Asheville for the past five years. I'm just calling to demand that you delay the budge that voting. I know you've been getting a lot of phone calls about this demand we demand that you delay the budget loading so that we can visit the city council can make an informed decision on how to deal with the APD and move those funds to other community services that would better serve our community specifically our Public Schools. We need to raise teacher salaries so we can have better teachers there. It's been proven that if you have better school systems in helping schools and school counselors at school social workers that rates of crime and communities decrease to a page has made it very clear that they are going to abuse the already inflated budget that they have we know that city council is allowed.The budget for APD to be doubled out of the schools and it's been slowly increasing and because of coronavirus we haven't been able to see the documents as easily as we were in your past so know that we know and please make a decision that knows that our community cares about our black community members. All right. Well, I would like to hear back from anyone if you can my name is Brooklyn Baker again and please do this.</p>	6/8/2020 11:06 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Alison. I'm calling about the Asheville police departments current budget. It's Thirty million dollars and a proposed budget increases 400,000. I'm asking for you to stop all of this funding at the first step to stop the funding of structural resources in the city of Asheville. I am asking for the Strategic relocate reallocation of resources by the English language ability away from the Asheville Police Department and into the community-based models of safety support and prevention the people who respond to crises in our community should be the people who are best equipped to deal with those practices. Why I'm asking to stop the approval of APD plugging and call for a freeze on future hirings. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 11:08 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Lucy McNichols. I'm a resident of Asheville area code 801. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the carrier sapped the Community Development block grant funds for venting system. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget so that it begins to investing from the police and investing in Black communities here in Nashville fifty percent of the budget money invested in long-term safety strategies, including support supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight Committee. Just powered hold a p d and the individual officers accountable. We cannot add more money to the police's budget. They have harmed our community. They we do not need that much money. We need to invest in community life here and in caring for each other in the community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 11:08 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Bennett Campbell. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina, and I work in Nashville North Carolina as well and in regards to the proposed fiscal year 2221 annual operating budget. I'd like to go on the record as saying I do not support the proposed budget increase for the Asheville Police Department this year. I firmly believe that we should divest from Nashville police department and instead spend those resources in Black communities and communities that need more resources not more police officers. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 11:10 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is James Herod. I'm in Asheville citizen and I was calling about the upcoming council meeting where y'all were going to talk about the budget. Um, I believe you should not give the ADP the funds that they wish to be allocated. I think they should be defunded. I think that for the city wage, um, just the recent events and you know in general the actual police have shown the lack of care for their residents, especially people of color and most recently the black community in regards to the torch Ford protests and I just think they've shown that they have too much power already. They need to be put down a Peg and we could allocate those funds to other areas that need it something that come to mind are the urban renewal programs the public transit I think in the city could be bolstered and or even like the parks department ma'am. Is a better option than give you more money to the actual police. So that's why I think I hope you all come to that conclusion to um, thanks for listening to me by</p>	6/8/2020 11:13 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Kaylin Brooks. And I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina actually born and raised here. I'm calling about the Asheville Esther's 2021 budget proposal off asking that the actual city council make a more over invisible commitment to racial Justice. I asked that the budget vote be delayed so that the council can find ways to redirect the money away from Asheville Police Department over inflated budget. I urge you all the pressure the city manager's office or it's an ethical and equal relocation of the Cities exponentially hours away from the actual police department and toward Thursday. Factors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality research shows that a living wage access to holistic health care and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are for more successful at reducing crime than the police were prisoned. May I ask more abreast of financial support be directed to those areas and please do not forget about our poor communities and communities of color who are disproportionate Target of the police violence just as will only be served when the police are reformed and this will not be possible until we bought a Nissan that I hope that I can count on you to consider an alternative budget that puts a focus on social service programs. And I have actually been to the protests every night this week. I was there the first night I saw with my own two eyes off the police and be violent towards peaceful protesters, you know, I realize that the first couple of nights there were a couple of folks were not sure who they are. We're not sure which side that they were on that they were throwing water bottles and fireworks which are wage honestly not it's you know, comparing fireworks and water bottles to guns and tear gas is really disproportionate and the fact that I showed up to the protest the police immediately to your gas does I was not expecting that because I've lived in Asheville my whole life. I thought that I was just showing up</p>	6/8/2020 11:14 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Alisa Prendergast. And I am a resident of Asheville North Carolina. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting on the police and investing in Black communities 50% these budget should be invested in long-term strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools in funding an all civilian oversight committee off the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I also want to urge the city to use the full amount of the tears act Community Development block grant funds for the rent for rental assistance. Thank you very much for listening by.</p>	6/8/2020 11:15 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is John Ziegler, and I'm a resident of North Asheville and I'm calling to leave public comment on the open hearing for the budget review. I urge city council to listen to the demands of black leadership here in Nashville to drastically reconsider Ali as a city conceive of fund and support Public Safety and policing is Palm Beach. I could give better illustrate the need for this change more clearly than the actions of the APD this past week in response to protests. Peaceful protesters were gassed on the Jeff Bowen Bridge plastic bullets were shot into actual citizens had their hands up and pack Square friends and neighbors were pepper-sprayed. So badly they were vomiting on the page in front of the police department police in riot gear destroyed medical supplies and attacked Volunteers in a stark example of who was there to actually protect the health and safety of the actual community. And all of this served to Open the Eyes of the white community in Nashville to a truth the black community has known for a long time the actual police do not protect and serve. We've had systemic problems in our community like racism homelessness and mental health poverty and addiction to a police force whose only tool to address them is violence. It's not working. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Now is the time for both change the events of the past week represent the grandest challenge to the status quo our Global Community is seen in Generations. I trust you appreciate the gravity of the truck in front of you.</p>	6/8/2020 11:16 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, I am a resident of Asheville and I understand a lot of people are going to be calling about the proposed 2020-2021 budget and not asking to defend the police department and I wanted to call and say I don't want the police department to be defunded since I've been in Asheville, which has been about six years. I have had really positive experiences with the police department. I used to work for mobile crisis. They helped me many times and I've seen them so a great deal of respect to the people that were struggling that I was serving with mobile crisis and I appreciate the hard work. They're doing I know them sometimes people who make mistakes and of course, you know, I would like that to be addressed and all of our public services, but generally I feel that the Asheville Club. Is doing a great job. Thank you so much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 11:16 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Kaylin Brooks calling back again, cuz I did not get the finished my message quiet. I'm just really disturbed by the Asheville Police wage. I'm having such an extravagant budget. I think that we need to relocate that money. I think that we need to start defunding the police the budget needs to be revised. We need to put that money into the infrastructure of four communities and people of color communities, you know, we need to put money into this community so they can grow up and have a better life. We're putting so much money into the police force and they are just sucking it all up and they're using it to be violent against our own town. It's just adding fuel to the fire. And if you really care about Asheville, you will start to define the police because they are a bunch of racists. I was actually person please. Arrested on June 3rd. And the only thing the police had to say to me was that it's a broken system and it'll never be fixed. And I think that is b x a m a status their attitude and you are funding these people then it must be yours too. And if it's not then you'll need to speak up and start defunding the police. I'm putting that money towards people to actually do the right thing.</p>	6/8/2020 11:17 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Chris long. I'm calling about the proposed budget for 20 20 21 in solidarity with black leaders in Asheville. I'm asking Council to vote against the 400,000 wage increase for the actual police department. The department has a long and well-documented History of Violence towards the black community and the police of leadership has failed to hold these officers accountable. If she care about black ash villians use the money to fund reparations as to the racial Justice Coalition has demanded the city must Finance projects that will help black people rather than continue to support their oppressors month. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 11:20 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Calloway Barry. I'm a really proud citizen of Asheville, North Carolina, and I am calling to vote to not only defund the police department choice, but to spend less on the police department and allocate more funds towards more Civil Society based programs to support and help our citizens instead of punished in jail them. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 11:24 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Shane Parrish. I'm an ass a resident of Asheville North Carolina for twenty years. I'm calling to express my desire that off the budget allocated to go towards the actual police department. \$400,000 increase is should be stopped and we need to re-imagine how we're spending our budget wage or not been in the situation in the city of Asheville or when the police were involved. They didn't escalate the situation and create a more dire circumstance than need be I think we can I use smart about how we're spending our money and put it towards education housing local initiatives that will actually improve the community and not bring more violence into the community may not \$400,000 increase should be stopped in the near-term in the long-term. We need to look at a hiring freeze and how we can ultimately decrease wage. Defined the police department to the point where we're living in a peaceful civil society and don't have people walking around with impunity to inflict harm on our communities, especially the black community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 11:25 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Lillian Roth and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police's killing of George Floyd in Los Angeles and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote. I am asking that the council uses this time to redirect money away from the Asheville police departments already over inflated budget towards sectors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality. I believe that these funds should be redirected towards areas of spending such as affordable housing social and Mental Health Services public transportation and education. Research shows that are living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons am not forget our poor in our communities of color. Justice will only be served when the police are reformed and this will not be possible until we defend them. I hope that I can count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal off the priority on social programs and supports our community. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 11:25 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Sally Morgan. I'm a Buncombe County resident. I am calling to address Asheville twenty Twenty-One but not proposal and I'm asking that the actual city council defund the police that they make a moreover invisible commitment to racial justice found that the budget vote be delayed so that the council can find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments already overinflated budget and torque factors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class in class and inequality. And thank you for your time by.</p>	6/8/2020 11:27 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Anna and I'm calling to say that I do not consent to the city of Asheville increasing funds for the Asheville Police Department. I do not consent to the increase of funding because of the Asheville Department demonstrating targeted violence to black people who are unarmed I also do not support because of Asheville Police attacking peaceful protesters within the past week. So I say instead of fact the police an extra \$400,000 that they do not need use that money to serve the communities of Asheville, especially black communities. These funds should support education mental health care or other real Public Safety efforts, not the Asheville Police Department. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 11:27 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Kristin Anderson. And I am a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020 to 2021 budget in the wake of the police wage killing of Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the actual City councilor the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville Police Department inflated over inflated budget money into black communities into schools and medical centers and affordable housing and mental health centers around the city. Do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs?</p>	6/8/2020 11:27 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Amber Jansen. I am a Nashville resident. I am calling because I would like delayed vote on the new budget proposal. I do not support an increase in police spending at all. In fact, I think we need to defund the police department. So please consider this wage and the voices of the people of Asheville. I appreciate that and look forward to seeing what we do.</p>	6/8/2020 11:28 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Colin Miller. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act the Community Development block grant cdbg phone number for rental assistance for the more I think city council needs to adjust the budget so it can be can divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of our budget go to community action programs to to go to. Eliminating the opportunity Gap to investing into free or and safe housing for African Americans in Asheville. Please consider this. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 11:29 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hello. My name's David Pike calling to comment on the budget item 5D specifically the police budget and how the money in the school budget could be spent for the actual betterment of citizens in and around Asheville. I support the call for a 50% cut in Nashville Police Department's budget to be reallocated to programs such as mental health support crisis interventions long black owned business support. Things that we could actually use to bring about a better world. Thank you.	6/8/2020 11:30 AM	Budget
Hi, my name is Lindsay and I'm a citizen in Nashville. And I was just calling to comment on the proposed budget for twenty Twenty-One. I think this couldn't come at a better time with everything that's happened in our country. And I I would like to say that I I hope you all consider. I don't want to say defund the police department. But we allocate some of those Farms right now. It looks like the police department has it's the biggest expense. I strongly believe that those resources should be allocated to communities of color Healthcare schools schools have been defunded for so long. Now that money should be used to build up these communities that support these communities rather than you know funding more police. Um, so I I hope you all will consider this and really think hard and and do the rep Thank you. Bye.	6/8/2020 11:30 AM	Budget
Hi, my name is Felipe citrine, and I'm a small business owner and resident of Asheville and Buncombe County, and I just wanted to call because this is such an important moment in our history or 6 in our nation, and the world is watching I'm want to support the black gospel demands that were presented on Saturday to divest from the police and invest more in Black communities specifically education and health care and mental health care as a mental health therapist myself. I'm clear that we need to stop the source of all of this fear and Trauma and invest in healing and solutions. So people have support when they need it not fear and violence. Please consider doing the right thing and being an example just like Minneapolis is becoming from Minnesota and the country. Thank you so much for listening may be saved. Take care. Bye.	6/8/2020 11:31 AM	Budget
My name is Polly medicott. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling about mayor esterman hammers fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the actual police department over inflated budget into Community Access to mental health and holistic health services and treatments nutritious food. and educational opportunities and choices in housing Please do not allow the poor are poor and community of color in Asheville to continue to be targeted. and damaged by racial iniquity Can I count on you the Asheville city council to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs. Thank you. Bang Bang	6/8/2020 11:32 AM	Budget
This is Eva blender a citizen of Asheville. I was appalled to see the show of force our Police Department displayed during last week's demonstrations. We need to allocate more money towards Social Services office escalation training for our police and less for military style police gear. Please vote to deny the \$400,000 requested budget increase for APD. Thank you.	6/8/2020 11:33 AM	Budget
Hi, my name is Lizzy hanging and I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina. And in this meeting today. I would like you to hold the police officers who destroyed the medication accountable as their actions were destruction of property and led to violence. That was absolutely uncalled for and unnecessary. We demand Justice and we demand action now. Thank you so much. Please please take this into consideration and do something.	6/8/2020 11:34 AM	Opencomment
Hi there. My name is Caitlin daily. And I live in Ashville North Carolina and I'm calling in regards to the police brutality event that happened on June 2nd at 8:15 p.m. In downtown Asheville doctors and Medics who were clearly identified were out of City approved medical station outside One World Brewing Asheville Police Department bust into the peaceful medication and through these people into the walls and push them out into the streets APD. Then intentionally slashed the entire stash of water bottles and medical supplies at the station and finished their Rampage by Spring sympathize with chemicals. That would burn anyone attempting to use them. Asheville Police Department is destroying the medical supplies of peaceful protesters for one reason. So that people will die off actual police department. Is this whole thing innocent people and destroying supplies that easily could have been moved out and taken to a shelter Asheville Police Department is inciting violence, Asheville Police Department. To know that not only our city but the entire country has the intention of holding them accountable for the brutality and their actions Asheville Police Department needs to know the entire country is watching them and they will not get away with this there can be no more. Thank you.	6/8/2020 11:36 AM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hello, my name is Mariah March know and I ask you to please say no to raising a budget to Asheville Police Department. Please consider. Investing this money into other Community Resources such as counselors mental health Advocates and counselors housing Transit. The list could go on and on and ways that this money could better serve our community than that of increasing the budget for the police department. Thank you so much, bye-bye.	6/8/2020 11:40 AM	Budget
Hello, my name is Molly clay and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020 to 2021 budget. In the wake of the police is killing of George Florida Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over a plate of budget into Equitable and universal healthcare is local restorative. Justice Services affordable housing employment programs that specifically Target marginalized black people fully funded education and community-based sustainable energy solutions and public transportation just to name a handful do not forget about our poor communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social program? Thank you.	6/8/2020 11:40 AM	Budget
Hi, my name is Courtney Chappell and I've lived in Asheville North Carolina for twenty years. And so I'm calling to put an end to structural racism and Asheville. We have we have seen black people rast brutalized and killed during the time. I've lived here, So we would like to see vote no 480p funding and we want to hiring freeze on the ADP. This is like, this is pretty minimal. This is the way you can do right now. I urge you to look at other cities, uh, like Minneapolis and to see how they reacted in what they've done to end structural racism in their City. We are watching you very very closely and I expect the members of this Council to take a stand. Thank you.	6/8/2020 11:43 AM	Budget
Hi, my name is Julia Rose Bruce, and I am calling to demand that you divest from the Asheville Police Department and instead invest in our communities of color office here in Nashville, and I would particularly like to voice that I really support all the commands that are put forth by the racial Justice Coalition and not only anticipate that you meet those demands, but also that you invite those leaders for further collaboration with you in future improvements of our city. Thank you.	6/8/2020 11:45 AM	Budget
Hello, this is Olivia Linderman, and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance within the city council needs to adjust the budget that begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.	6/8/2020 11:45 AM	Budget
Hello, this is Anita Williams. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urged the city council it up that to divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and the individual officers accountable. I would also like to urge the city to use the full amount. If the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I hope that I can count on your support essential policy shift in this crucial juncture in this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you. Hi.	6/8/2020 11:45 AM	Budget
Hello, this is Lisa O'Brien and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the carries Community Development block grant the cdbg funds for rep assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So if you can divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with a fax it to hold the Asheville Police Department and individual officers accountable. Thank you for your time and have a good rest of your day.	6/8/2020 11:46 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Bob Browning. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling and supported the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city canceled diverse, but to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups black businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and city schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I would also like to urge the city to use the full amount of the carers a Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I hope I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial Junction in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 11:47 AM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Lila Richardson. I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling and leaving a message. Look Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge the city council to divest from the police and invest in black community that fifty percent of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the ritual objects being an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Um, I hope that way we all can count on your support for this essential at this crucial juncture in our city history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 11:47 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Kristin Anderson. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville Mary Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. I'm asking me that the actual city council make a a more overt and visible commitment to racial Justice. I demand that the budget vote be delayed so that Council may find ways to redirect money away from Nashville Police Department over inflated budget. I urge you to pressure the city manager's office towards an ethical and equal reallocation of cities expenditures away from APD and toward factors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality research shows that a living wage access to help holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons. Do not forget our poor and communities of color wage. Justice will only be served when the police are reformed and this will not be possible until we defund them. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget that puts a focus on social service programs. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 11:49 AM	Budget
<p>Hello there. This is Kate Kelly and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental office. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget to begin testing and the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be involved in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black Starbucks and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I believe strongly that response needs to be done with the mental health behavioral health needs and the impoverishment of the community members in mind. I think we need in anti-racist task force, and I think needs better. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 11:52 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Corey parlamento and I have been in a a resident of the city of Asheville for five years and I am calling to demand that the Asheville Police Department does not receive the \$400,000 increase to their budget that is being proposed. I believe this money should be used as a public safety efforts such as education Mental Health Care Transit. Fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including black startups and businesses eliminating a racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and fun a civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you for taking my input and I hope you do listen to the black community in Nashville, and all of the people that have been calling and leaving you voicemails and sending you emails. Let's do the right thing.</p>	6/8/2020 11:52 AM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is whisper more of Asheville, North Carolina, and I would like to walk. Defund the 400,000 that is proposed for the actual police department. I believe that that money could be better suited in going to affordable housing or Things of that nature that could actually help our community rather than having a stronger bully police force as I am clearly not work for anyone and is based in structural racism. Just looking at we're police officers first came from to keep slaves enslaved. It has clearly been the wrong option from the beginning. So I vote no for the actual police department in funding and I believe that we should have a hiring freeze on the Asheville Police Department, and that a budget of thirty million would definitely be better used for affordable housing for suggestions and better Healthcare. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 11:55 AM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hi, my name is Nicole. Janecek, and I support the demands of the racial Justice Coalition, and I expect you to work with them. Thank you.	6/8/2020 11:58 AM	Opencomment
Hello. I'm calling to put in my opinion that the police should be defunded this enormous Thirty million dollar budgets startling and distressing when it's so so far overshadows all of the other things that can be done to help people be in a better position to take care of themselves. I think everyone wants that people want self-sufficiency, but when you literally do nothing with the money that we pay you to take care of Then you are not supporting our communities when the only solution you've ever come up with is to throw people in jail. That's not a solution with this budget for the police is not acceptable not acceptable and we are begging you. to lower the amount to take some of those funds and put them into places that makes sense for our community the tourists and the hotels can take care of themselves. They don't need em, we need our tax dollars to go back to Asheville not to people who take the money out of our communities and in closing the Vans Monument may be torn down ignoring that is ignoring. The the Giants car that has never healed this wound this wound assignments, It's open bleeding wound and and just you're just throwing salt and lemon juice on it daily with that thing standing there tear it down show them yourself to be the true liberal liberals that you profess to be. Thank you.	6/8/2020 12:00 PM	Budget
Hello, my name is Cameron Davis. I'm a constituent of Asheville North Carolina. I'd like to express my beliefs that the police should be defunded or at least greatly defunded in the stead of programs that either promote Public Health public housing promotion of black businesses, uh, anything besides finding the police which uh seem to have plenty of funding as it is. I hope this message gets you well, and I appreciate your service. Thank you so much.	6/8/2020 12:00 PM	Budget
Hello, this is Ashlyn car and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black asphalt demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration at city council to diverge from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the same opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. We demand not just individual accountability for officers after lethal or violent use of course of accountability for an entire Asheville Police Department. We demand an end to the systemic harm inflicted on all black people does not need four hundred thousand dollars that could be used actually serve our communities. We believe this money should be used as support real Public Safety efforts such as education and Mental Health Care Transit and Exedra, please move. Money to areas actually help black people. I also urge the city to the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I hope that I can count on your support for the the central policy shift at this crucial crucial juncture in our City's history. If you truly care about our city and the black community within it you will not approve funding for the Asheville Police Department. Thank you.	6/8/2020 12:00 PM	Budget
My name is Alexandra Mitchell and I live in Asheville. I'm leaving in an open public comment. I'm calling to support the demands of black Asheville that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies including wage according black startups and business businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable hope that I can count on your support for the essential policy policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.	6/8/2020 12:01 PM	Opencomment
My name is Dale buki. I live in Ashville. I have a small business in Asheville. I believe that you must tear down that Vance Monument. It is a it is a bath salt in the wound of hundreds and hundreds of years of Oppression and leaving it there just shows how completely block off and sold out you are to the white community that controls the money have the guts to stand up and show them what white supremacy looks like that Vance Monument to white supremacy. Tear it down defund the police do it. Now their budget is unbelievably high in a city. That is a peaceful. It is very peaceful. Yes, every Community has Petty crimes and murders. But Asheville is not a hub of criminal activity. The only crime that's been happening lately is the police beating up the protesters. So do something about this do something to show the community that you actually can listen.	6/8/2020 12:01 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hi, my name's Tara Greinke. I live in Asheville and Oakley neighborhood and I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance, and I'm also calling because I've been a part of the peaceful protest lately and think that it's imperative that city council adjust the budget. So it begins with digesting from police and investing in Black communities. It's it's far overdo fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black stars in businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable, This is really important to me as a citizen of Asheville, and I hope you'll consider it. Thank you so much.	6/8/2020 12:02 PM	Budget
Hi, my name is Zack Romeo. I'm a Nashville resident been here for several years, and I'm just calling to express my support for defunding Asheville Police Department reallocating funds to Black housing and black programs to help our poorer and more diverse communities in. Thank you.	6/8/2020 12:02 PM	Budget
I am a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city too pleased about Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Cowgirl needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% these budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies including support. This is opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD individual. Thank you.	6/8/2020 12:03 PM	Budget
My name is Peter symons. I'm calling to express my support for the racial Justice Coalition and cutting funding to the Asheville Police Department as well as shifting some of that funding into education and affordable housing. Thank you.	6/8/2020 12:04 PM	Budget
Hello, my name is Sunny Hills. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget and the Lake of the police's killings of George George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black American beforehand I'm asking the Asheville food County Council make a comment to racial Justice by delaying the budget money and using this time to find ways to redirect the money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into these programs. Do not forget our poor communities of color. Can I count on you to consider alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs?	6/8/2020 12:04 PM	Budget
Hello, my name is Paul solman, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a real commitment to racial Justice by delaying a budget and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget and instead into alternative programs for the community to weigh in on which can more justly. Address the situation in Asheville. He not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts warranty on social programs. Thank you.	6/8/2020 12:04 PM	Budget
Hi, this is Michelle grasty and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance for the more I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and fund wage all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you, and I appreciate your work to make our city a triathlete inclusive place.	6/8/2020 12:04 PM	Budget
Hi, this is Stevie Alverson. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Care stacked Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance furthermore off. The council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including support startups businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools, and I will include some figuring out ways to collaborate around abolition a teaching and curriculum and Asheville City schools and also funding and all civilian oversight committee and investing in early childhood opportunities for all children of Asheville. Thank you.	6/8/2020 12:05 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name's Lauren Walters. And I'm calling in regards to the police brutality event that happened on June 1st at 8:15 p.m. In downtown Asheville, clearly, identified doctors and Medics rented City approved medical situation outside when we're old ring the actual police department burst into the peaceful medication and through innocent people against the wall and pushed them into the Street Apt. Then intentionally slash the entire stash of water bottles and medical supplies at the station and finish the Rampage by spraying supplies with chemicals to prevent any further. Use these supplies could have easily been moved out and taken to a shelter a p d is inciting violence through the motions and I want you to note that not only our city but the entire country has the intention of holding them accountable for their actions, and we are all watching and they will not get away with this.</p>	6/8/2020 12:05 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Claire Heiser, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I would like to leave a comment about the proposed twenty twenty two twenty Twenty-One budget and the Waco Police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless life before him. I'm asking if the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the actual police department overflight and budget money into programs that serve the black community and ultimately the email address the police. Don't forget our corgis of colors. Can I count on you today to consider a budget proposal puts a priority on social programs even better just about to defund. The police. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:06 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Michelle weitzenkorn, and I'm a resident of the of Asheville, North Carolina. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins that divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity gaps in Asheville schools and clubs and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I also want to urge the city to use the full amount of the cared act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:08 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Amy whole set. I live in West Asheville. I am calling in concern about giving the police officer the police department wage more funding. We need to demilitarize this police by their behaviors. They are not serving and protecting their intimidating and destroying. Um, I think that money would be better off going to our communities. The safest communities don't have the most cops. They have the most resources, and that's what we need to focus on in a time like this number is 868-707-2478. Thanks. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 12:08 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jake Pew. I am a white resident of Asheville and throughout my entire time living here. I've seen the city do all that it can to preserve its whiteness and keep black people from being able to call Asheville City. I think it is absurd that our cities Representatives would even consider giving a p d and additional \$400,000 even before recent events is that money should be proposed instead fuel black community wage make actual City that supports and accepts black people some more black people downtown that I've ever seen in my entire life during these protests. Like people should not be almost accepted by Asheville directions and protests but all the time because they are who built this city and armed police with racial bias our huge huge proponent in my black people have been unable to be heard in the city in light of recent events in Failure by the a p d i e gratuitous use of teargas attacking marked Medics et cetera. I proposed this money and more would be given directly to Black communities schools and local organization.Led by black people. It is your duty to let black people into the City and make them feel more welcome as residents rather than making white tourism in their protection your priority while black people are living their own lives segregated in City projects. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:09 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Jessica Bennett. I'm a resident of the city of Asheville and Buncombe County and a master's-level social worker in our community. I'm leaving this for open public comments. May I support black demands and believe that these steps that they have laid out our Vital for building a Nashville where all have equal opportunity to live and Thrive off. These demands are the follows black demands a divestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% apts budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies for supporting black startups and business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and a billion oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual offers officers accountable.Black Asheville and me alongside them demand repair for the past and continuing harm inflicted on Austell black community. We demand that our city government remove the Vance and Robert E. Lee monuments and replace them with monuments that honor the many black billionaires who've built this city. We demand that streets be named after former streets that are named after former slave owners be replaced with the names of historic local black leaders. This is the Legacy that we need and the war on black people we took and not just individual accountability for officers after legal or violent use of force, but for accountability for the entire Asheville Police Department, and those who support them on an end to the systemic harm inflicted on all black people including black Trans queer and gender-nonconforming people.When black people are free. Everybody is free. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 12:11 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is George MacDonald. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling regarding the proposed budget for the city of Asheville Police Department. I understand they're proposing at thirty million dollar increase. I'm totally opposed to a \$30 increase. I would prefer a \$30 million dollar reduction and put the money that would be sixty million dollars into the Asheville City school system to promote teacher salaries daycare Head Start other things which will further enhance our youth fax number three. We could also put it into a solar resource so farms for the city of Asheville, so utility usage.The urban forestry needs attention. I understand we can't afford an urban Forest manager to protect the natural environment that I moved here to enjoy life and which will provide for protection and run off protection all types of air quality control. There's just so much we could spend it on. I think if the bank police department needs additional funding they should have a bake sale like other things which are extremely significant to us, but we have to do it in that manner to generate funding that's another thing. I would concerning the Asheville Police Department. I would like to see the reduction of the military hardware being utilized by the police department and I believe that the wageThe uniforms are intimidating there too dark to do black. They remind me of the SS. I just think we when you when you present with a front of being hostile, that's the type of reaction you get and I I believe the citizenry is entitled to an opportunity to congregate without being dated. I see this through many protests that I've been involved in for for like the Monsanto a program that we had that was fighting against pesticides and glyphosate and what things that for the General Health and the police are always have a strong presence wage. I think this is all I have to say now. Thank you for listening. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 12:11 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Mars and I'm calling to voice my opinion against raising the police department budget. I think it's already massively inflated wage, and we really need to direct those resources to things that will help the community help itself more. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:12 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Brett DeBartolo. I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling today to comment on the public hearing. I am calling also to change the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant CV cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Um, thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:12 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Noah Stockdale from Asheville. And I'd like to comment on the proposed 30 million dollar budget for the Asheville Police Department. And I joined the voices of citizens that are calling for a divestment in funds from the Asheville Police Department and to redirect those funds from towards that which will bolster Community togetherness and wage eliminate the kind of crimes that you know, the police departments having to enforce and apparently needing more money to enforce and in the wake of the recent protests with the destruction of the medic tent. Um, I I don't think that they deserve to have an increase in their budget and personally I would love to see these funds read wage. Did to that which gives me a lot of peace and pride in this city the George Washington Carver fruit Forest. I'd love to see more public park fruit Forest like this that that's actually feeding the community and a tangible way bike Lanes so that people can commute to places of work and I've been really inspired by local groups during the covid-19. That have been feeding people Food Matters and we could lead teamed up they serve food to people in the YMCA parking lot with live music. I would love to see more of these kind of events funded by the city where we're taking care of our people. We're we're letting uh-huh, you know, the citizens know that that we care and Thursday and you know, I feel like That can be such an inclusive event bringing together. A lot of people Doctor Dave's on Haywood was serving food throughout this whole pandemic and these are not these are not organizations that are funded by the city, so I can't imagine what kind of collaboration could happen. If there was just even a little bit of money that was going to go towards the police department puts towards events like these community events that bring people together so that we can meet our neighbors and have these conversations about what Justice and equality really looks like um interest in moving forward. So thank you for your time. Thank you for your service to this city. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:12 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Brian Rosman, and I agree with the racial Justice committee and their demands and I expect that you will be working with them. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:12 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Kenneth Fisher. I'm currently living in Weaverville, North Carolina. I have been in the Asheville area for Seventeen years and I work in Nashville area as a massage therapist. I'm calling to leave a message to you about the voting on the budget on Tuesday, June 9th, especially regarding Asheville Police Department. I want to share with you that do not believe that the actual police department needs an under \$400,000. And that that \$400,000 could be used to serve the community that has suffered the most due to the misapplication of force by the Asheville Police Department and that community in particular would be communities of color with the actual black community. Especially this money could be used for a lot of things that would actually help build. The community could be anything from education. To mental health care to improve transit for the city which would benefit the city as a whole the Transit Nashville is quite terrible. Unfortunately, and so I'm calling to tell you to move this money to areas that actually helped black people from the larger request here that I've heard loud and clear from the black Asheville community and that I fully support is wage defund the Asheville Police Department. If you care for our communities, then you're not going to approve this funding and what I can tell you is that if this funding for the actual police department is approved that you're going to get another couple of weeks of protests at the very least. That's not a personal threat. That's an odd situation of the times that we're in the culture that we are hoping to shift and I also want to make it clear that I don't believe that all police officers are somehow evil or bad this month. Issue is systemic. This has to do with how we are allocating funds how we are running our governments. And in many ways how our governments are structured inherently from the beginning because of course most of these a governments City governments including ours, we're structured at a time when equality and Equity were not even on people's minds to include non-white people in so long. It's really a systemic issue and I don't mean to be demonizing any other individual people. I think that that is really clear in the demands that have been put forward by the black Asheville Community home and I implore you to listen this is the time to start creating change that matters that will help improve people's lives and having been a resident here for about Seventeen years of having been born in the south in Kentucky. I'm I'm really tired of this whole notion of you know, Asheville being a liberal City the degree of segregation.</p>	6/8/2020 12:14 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Reverend Alba on a free and I grew up in the 28806 area code I mean the zip code and lived on Pennsylvania Avenue in Kentucky and Nashville. I am calling to support that the black Asphalt in the end that were presented on Saturday as he gets really really important for us to council to vote to divest from police and invest in Black communities. We think that more than 50% of the budget scheduled are allotted for the police department should be reinvested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black businesses startups eliminating racial gaps in Asheville City Schools, as a graduate of am I just like my grandmother just like my grandfather my aunt my whole family. I think it's really important that we recognize that there is absolutely a gap wage.Asheville City schools and that we pay more attention to that funding all the things that can help support communities rather than holding power over communities. I think is something that's really important and it all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the a p d and other individuals like other individual officers accountable seems like something that is really important to fund in this moment. So we would also urge the city to use the cares act Community Development block grant for rental assistance, especially in this time. It is important that y'all know that those of us who are from Asheville who didn't just arrived who have been here forever who continue to be here and be in these mountains care about this issue in ways that require us all to live into a more reality aligned, um politic and the more faithful approach to what it means to be in community with wage. Brothers and sisters of color. Thank you so much. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 12:14 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is say the Robinson. I've lived in North Carolina since I was a little boy and what I've seen with the police recently makes me uncomfortable. I I don't feel like we need militarized police. I've known lots of friendly officers and and the it's important that we keep a community-oriented policing in our communities because we don't want the kind of extremes that lead to violence. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:14 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Seth kroonstad. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance wage. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be investing long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with a power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 12:15 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Sarah Ryan key, and I am a resident of Asheville Buncombe County right outside Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from police and investing in Black communities. As you know, fifty percent of Asheville Police budgets should be drug tested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville schools and funding and all a million oversight committee with the power to hold the ADP and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support the central policy shift at this crucial crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much for your time, and I look forward to seeing you tomorrow, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 12:15 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Shana Ali and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling regarding the budget and adjustments that I think are necessary for the city council to make for our community. I think an important step in addressing inequality is divesting funds from the police and investing in our black community. I think that the budget needs to be used in part to fund an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the police force and individual officers accountable for their actions. Additionally, I think that some of the budget needs to be used to address long-term safety strategies that includes supporting startups in businesses owned by black people in a drawer in the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:17 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is I'm calling in support of the demands of black Asheville or with respect to the budget. I believe it's public hearing item d. Like actual demands that I should say that's from the police department and begin to invest in Black communities. If your goal is to support, let's see and productive Asheville. You will also consider these measures.</p>	6/8/2020 12:17 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi there. My name is Jacob Lawrence, resident of Asheville and Buncombe County. Um, I'm commenting on fiscal year 2021 - 221 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to visiting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget. It should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and off and oversight committee. It's powered up hold the apda and individual officers accountable urge every every council member to support this policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. I'm really looking forward to seeing some results. I believe in y'all. Okay, please.</p>	6/8/2020 12:17 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Kenneth Fisher. I live in Weaverville, North Carolina. I have lived in the Asheville and Buncombe County for Seventeen years work in Asheville as a massage therapist in the tourist industry and a half for many years. I'm calling specifically as regards the meeting of the city council of Asheville on June 9th to discuss the budget specifically in reference to allocating an additional \$400,000 to the Asheville Police Department would stand in support of the black Asheville community that has been very clear and extremely professional in its demands. As of late. I'm sure you all are aware of the List of Demands. And I wanna Focus here on the importance of defending the actual police department. What I would like you to know, is that the money that's spent towards the app.Police department does not help the black community and that it's time to directly allow the black community to have a larger voice in how their Community needs to be helped off and wants to be helped that \$400,000 should be used to support real Public Safety efforts such as communication education Mental Health Care Travis is actually improve the actual black community what we can see over the last twenty years. Is that the Asheville the black community in Nashville has been pushed out by gentrification off the agenda of city council to be focused on tourism. As our main economy as we can see from the pandemic that angle of plan on economy is not sustainable wage, and we not only need the whole budget to be overhauled but particularly around the actual police department because what we need is strong communities that are supported by our city government job.Our city government funding the attack in the abuse of our communities these protests and the last week are really prime example. I know a lot of people want to hold that the astronauts good example of how things were done. But I was there and I can tell you that there was much more Force used than necessary that the curfews were weaponized and that uh, life stations and medical staff or terrorized and destroyed this was all in response to people asking the government of Asheville and the government the federal government of America got to pay attention to these communities that are marginalized and underfunded and targeted for abuse by the government, especially by police departments. I want to be clear that may I see this as a systemic problem. This is not an issue so much with individual people, although certainly there are individual actors and that is born out in all kinds of studies. You can see about place.</p>	6/8/2020 12:17 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Amy Worthen and I'm a resident of the city of Asheville. And I am calling to urge you to adjust next year's budget. We must divest from the police and invest in Black communities. We want to see fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start up some businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in the Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Please support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in actually world history. Our City's history, but this is a moment of transformation and I know you can step up and make these transformative changes.</p>	6/8/2020 12:18 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Dara Bella lavic and I have been in Asheville citizen for five years. I'm calling in regards to public hearing item D on the agenda. The 2021 fiscal year budget, I would like to communicate with people's desire to define the actual police department and not approve the \$400,000 budget increase as a former elementary teacher in Buncombe County who resigned from a lack of needed resources support and took the administration. I'm acutely aware of the ways in which funding could be reallocated to the school system and local organizations to address. The deeper issues at hand increasing local police funding its own life and a defect to addressing the racial disparities. We see and experience in our community Every Single Day in 2020 the actual police department received over double what the actual City school system was given and wildlife department received over \$29 million and financial aid the office of equity and inclusion only received about 400,000 is Asheville a serious about addressing racism more of the twenty Twenty-One blackjack.We go to the office of equity and inclusion the education system and the many local organizations who Target disadvantaged communities racism is taught. We have all the research. We need to start making legitimate change starting in our schools to start actively teaching anti-racism and more funding we put into education. The more students and families will be able to have access to Social Services mental health care off literature that accurately displays people of color new curriculums that do not whitewash history Etc teachers and administration could have ongoing professional development relating to diversity Club culturally relevant teaching empathy education on the school-to-prison pipeline along with funding to increase the racial diversity of Educators and our schools. These are only a few of the many practical ways changes to be made today. I hope you're willing to use your power representation to represent the diverse Community with a Nashville by reallocating funding to meet their needs and educate our community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:18 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Amelia hotspots, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on set with the budget up for consideration a large city council to divest from police and invest black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies supporting black startups businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and something and also the lien over to committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable, but also like to urge to to use the full amount of the terrorist act Community Development block grant money funds for rental assistance. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential pop you shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:18 PM	Budget
<p>My name is PAX clearing. I've lived in Nashville for four years. Now. I'm telling the Asheville city council that I strongly strongly disagree with the proposal to increase the Asheville Police Department budget. I asked that the money that was going to be added to the Asheville Police Department budget be redirected instead to community-based services such as education and housing funding and small business loans and things like that. I also recommend that the actual city council wage decreases the Asheville Police Department budget this year following the national outcry against Georgia police overspending police over militant militarization and police brutality, especially against our citizens of color. Please listen to your Citizens Bank consider to decrease rather than increase the Asheville Police Department's funding</p>	6/8/2020 12:18 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Joni Lamb and I'm a resident of Asheville. I live in Montford and I've worked here for about 27 years. And um, I like I'm sure many of calls that you're getting today asking for you all to seriously look at the cycle of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again expecting different results. So grateful for the work that you all do the public service enormous sacrifice off andYou know, it's like if something is broken and we keep trying to just throw money at it or just keep trying to have em work when it is broken. So, um asking that we're all able to look think out-of-the-box and two months allocate These funds into more upliftment of the black community. And so that's what I'm asking is for a different-looking budget than we've ever seen before for the city of Asheville. As far as the money that they typically give to the actual police officer. I know thatWe still need police. Of course. I know there are a lot of fantastic police Personnel and because you all are connected officials representing us. I hope that you represent us and changing the budget this year and month, you know, and we'll take responsibility for what comes from that. So I think the more transparent in public and saying all right this year we're changing the budget and this is what's happening and then we can all deal with the consequences of all right. Well, thank you so much for your time by.</p>	6/8/2020 12:18 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Courtney Reynolds. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to comment on the potential increase in police funding and asking Council to examine how those funds might be better allocated such as investing it into long-term Public Safety strategies or looking into mirroring. The emergency response model that the UK has currently adopted. There's a more multidisciplinary team approach to Emergency Response including members, like social workers and nurses. I'd also like to see some sort of that budget be redistributed into a dating the racial opportunity Gap in our Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee. That might better hold some power to keep the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:18 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Daisy Iying. I'm a citizen of Asheville and I demand that the cops who tore up. The medic station will be held accountable for their actions because that is absolutely dead acceptable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:18 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hey to whom it may concern, this is Jaren Dagan Pearlman. I've been a Nashville resident my entire life and I've been very proud to be a part of this city, especially with Progressive Bastion in the rest of the North Carolinian State here. I'm calling to give my thoughts as to the recent amount of not only police brutality. But what happens medic station in Asheville being trampled through by Riot officers as well as the police funding proposed in the new budget for this year. This is not only arguably a violation of the Geneva conventions what the officers did at that medication but the use of tear gas is also been outlawed in war Circa and agreements in 1993. That was federally accepted. What what is happening with this government right now is really troubling to me not just from a moral standpoint, but I urge the council to remember that we were dead. Operate off of Tourism people come here because they love our community and they love our people and our community and our people have been abused so much to the point that off the image of that officer dumping out the water that's gone. Globally viral. It is all over the world. It is the symbol of this town. Now if you choose to do nothing if you choose to not bring this officer to Justice, we will be answering for it municipally possibly for the rest of our existence. We cannot take this image plain and simple and I really hope that someone who cares and can change it hears my voice now the Asheville Police Department also beat a man for jaywalking and then got a budget increase and they're getting another budget increase you are militarizing our police against us. We do not have a civilian population that deserves or requires what the city has been passing for the past couple of years. This is completely inappropriate and I want all of you say you can't do it for the right reasons of dismantling racism and just general morality do it for the wrong reasons do it for the fact that you want money coming into your city and you want people to talk and spend money here and make us look good either do it for the right or wrong reasons. I don't care just do it. You need to pursue the person that accosted that medic tent and bring them to justice. This is just a complete travesty and I have to say in my 31 years of being from Asheville. I've never seen anything like this. This is bringing us all the way back to when the KKK used to March through Western North Carolina. You have reduced your games suck much so that people in Australia and in Europe.</p>	6/8/2020 12:18 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Jennifer and this is Susan and I'm calling to vote against the \$400,000 budget increase for Asheville Police Department. And this year's budget and I'm calling to put in a request to let the black community decide where those funds are most needed and where they need to be allocated and defund the police defund the Asheville PD.</p>	6/8/2020 12:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Amber Williams. I'm a resident of Arden North Carolina. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin by divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history again, I am calling about the fiscal year 2020 through 2021 annual operating budget. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:19 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Rebecca. I'm a resident of Asheville. I am commenting on the proposed budget increase from the for the APD. My comment is directly from the black Asheville divorce, and as I stand with the black community Asheville and support their demands one hundred percent. We demand a divestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% off. The apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Please do not allow the budget increase wage the APD. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Andrew Shannon. I have been living in the city of Asheville for two years. I'm calling for public hearings items. I currently work at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National centers for environmental information or ncei office here in town where I coordinate a program and internship program in partnership with wage to bring students and recent graduates to participate in climate science research part of the goal of this program is to strengthen the recruitment pipeline to the no office here and to increase the workforce that is conducting climate science research in the city. I try to accomplish this by curating engaging work experiences with the members of our program, whether that's through projects working directly with the city of Chicago studying the impact of urban forests on heat in the city or learning about the indigenous history of the region and since 2015. This program has brought over 75 program participants to the airbag. Some of whom have gained full-time employment in the city, but all of whom have spent their time in money in Asheville. I want to make sure that I am striving towards these Workforce Development efforts in the city that ensures the public safety like we could security and well-being for all of its residents one major action at the city can take in these efforts is to listen to the demands of the black leadership in the city the mayor and some other members of city council heard these demands over the weekend. So I implore you to act in accordance with these and reflect these actions in the fiscal year 2020-2021 budget wage. It actions include using the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance and also divesting from the police force such as divesting 50% of the actual police department Department budget you directed to long-term safety strategies, including the support of black startups in businesses wage. Eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in city schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. For you to strive towards these actions of Justice in the budget review meetings in the coming weeks. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Sarah Shirkey. I'm calling in regards to the \$400,000 budget increase that's being proposed for the Asheville Police Department in this year's budget money. I strongly believe that this budget needs to be reallocated for other purposes rather than all going to the Asheville Police Department. I believe that we could utilize those funds to create some new departments within the city rolls to support the Peace of the city and the well-being of its am unarmed support team could be utilized in the forms of social workers counselors mediators negotiators paying strangers domestic the violent domestic violence mitigation neighborhood leaders could be hired and trained to be peer support mediators people assigned to handle the flow of safety of traffic. The safety of traffic people to uphold human and civil rights, which is currently not being done by the actual police department. Please do not put that huge chunk of change into the special Police Department. We need to divest from the police department and Asheville and invest in the community specifically the communities of color who have four o five four hundred years then persecuted for the color of their skin. I'm voting. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:20 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Kenneth Fisher. I live in Weaverville North Carolina with in Buncombe County. I've lived in Buncombe County for Seventeen years and work in Asheville city as a massage therapist and have done so for a number of years. I'm calling regarding the June 9th meeting of the Asheville city council specifically as it pertains to discussion of budget pack and would like to ask you to defund the Asheville Police Department and to take the \$400,000 that has been proposed to be put towards the actual police department and use that to directly help with the black Asheville Community particularly that money could be used to support Public Safety efforts such as education and Mental Health Care Transit and moved to just directly help those communities Empower themselves are the black community in Nashville has been not only directly terrorized and instances such as John. Yep.And his the unlawful use of force in that situation, but also by the general focus on tourism by the Asheville city council and the way that that has eroded the community is Asheville in general particularly by bringing in an encouraging gentrification of real estate, which has had a half of the black population in Asheville leave Asheville in the last twenty years since I've moved here to go to other places where they could afford to live where maybe they could afford to buy a house where they can find perhaps larger City governments that might be more supportive of people who are actually trying to live here rather than a city government that is supportive of people who are trying to visit here with the the city council has just too often supported efforts of what I would call extractive capitalism and has not enough focused on birth.Helping build our communities so that we are self-sustainable. I think that the ways in which depend Emmett has affected the actual economy in particular bear out the truth of that and if you look at home how many of us have to be unemployment on unemployment and don't want to go back to work because we were having to be big workers before that the treatment in general of Asheville a citizens of Buncombe County Citizens. It's it's really not you're not putting us first, you're not putting the Citizens First and that can be seen most clearly in the black population in Asheville and the ways in which their voices are not heard and empowered and asked you specifically to defund the Asheville Police Department and to not approve the \$400,000 that is officially being proposed to give them.</p>	6/8/2020 12:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Leo Johnson and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black unit. He's fifty percent of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this Hospital policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 12:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Mary Monaghan. And I've been a resident of Asheville and Buncombe County my entire life thirty-three years. I'm calling to urge the city needs to adjust next year's budget, um to defund and divest from the police and invest that money in Black communities 50% off the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating racial opportunity gaps in Asheville Catholic schools and funding all civilian oversight committees with the power to hold the APD and its officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this policy shift at this crucial juncture and our City's history, you know, I also want to encourage the council to consider decriminalizing charges for birth.Possession of drugs because that is a way that is often used disproportionately against some black communities and communities of color whereas wage even though white people commit those crimes at the same rates and I would encourage the city to take funding away from instead of investing and hotels tourism to really pour that money. They were putting in the police and in tourism back into the community specifically the black community and to really hold off our black citizens up and and help strengthen those communities with that funding rather than policing and spending that money on people who don't live here. So I really urge the council to to to defund the police department and to really put those funds to better you age. Q</p>	6/8/2020 12:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Emily Carter, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Paradox Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance with furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So It Begins by investing from the police and investing in Black communities. There's absolutely no reason why I should be getting \$30 million dollars and the rest of the money just being your fractions of that going to things that actually build up the community 50% of the apd's, but it should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:22 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Katherine Crawford. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demand that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration urge the council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting flag startups and fax. It says eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City Schools. And funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual offers officers accountable. I would also like to urge the city to use the full amount. There's act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. We have the chance to be on the right side of it. Please. Please help us make a change. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 12:22 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Elise Jordan Grove, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police's killing of Georgia Lloyd and Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him and asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into instead investing in Black communities, including investing in Black businesses, including black. Let's start eliminating a racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding long-term community-led safety strategies, including an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold them an individual officers accountable. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:23 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Janet MacLeod. I'm a resident of Asheville calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares Community Development block grant the cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I am asking that you make a more overt and visible commitment to racial Justice. I urge you to pressure the city manager's office towards an ethical and equal allocation of the city's dead. And the teachers away from APD and towards sectors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class in inequality research shows that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons as much as I demand more aggressive financial support as such I demand more aggressive financial support be directed to those areas. Do not forget our poor communities and communities of color who are disproportionate targets of police wage. Violent. Justice will only be served when the police are reformed and this will not be possible until we defend them. So I urge you to consider campaign zero and wage MP. It's an organization that looks into police reform as yep. To adjust the budget. Thank you so much for having this opportunity for us the public to speak to you and for you ma'am is are the people voted into office to listen to us. Thanks.</p>	6/8/2020 12:23 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Riverpark and I'm calling in regards to the police brutality event that happened on June 2nd at 8:15 p.m. And downtown Asheville, clearly, identified doctors and medical or the city approved and medical station outside One World Brewing Asheville Police Department, then bust into the police peaceful meditation and through innocent people against the wall and pushed them out onto the street. I intentionally slash the entire stash of water bottles and medical supplies at the station and finish the Rampage by spraying supplies with chemicals to prevent any further. Use these supplies could easily been moved out and taken to a shelter actual police department is inciting violence. We want Asheville Police Department to know that not only our city but the entire country has the intention of holding them accountable for their own know we're all watching and they will not get away with this.</p>	6/8/2020 12:23 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Hannah is Laurie and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling today to stand in solidarity with our black community by demanding the following of the city council first that we divest from them and invest back into our black communities by supporting black businesses Workforce Development and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in our schools. Furthermore. We request that you Fund in all civilian a committee of the APD. We demand that fifty percent of the budget be under direct Community Control through participatory budget process and should be invested in long-term safety strategies. Second we demand reparations for black people on a national level, but we can start locally today by removing the Vance and Robert E. Lee monuments and replacing them with monuments honoring them many black box built this city. We must rename our streets named after slave owners and replace them with names of former black leaders, and we have to create sustainable programs to help black businesses and workforces Thrive if I want to uplift the community. Third and finally, we demand an end to the war on black people. We need accountability for officers who use lethal or violent Force we need an end to the systemic harm inflicted on all black. And the City of Asheville including black Trans queer gender-nonconforming and differently-abled people. We have to ban police tactics that impair breathing including show colds and worked demilitarize our police force by cutting down on the use and carrying of weapons. Mandatory body cam footage is a must in every interaction with police and automatic. Felony charges should be on the table if the officer turns it off manually I have been in resident here since 2018 and it has been painfully obvious that Asheville does not create spaces for minorities to thrive in to feel safe. There are effective ways to push for progress and this is all just to start. Please know that we are watching you as the rest of the country. I hope you agree that actual can be a leader in the changes. We need in this country for racial Justice wage.</p>	6/8/2020 12:24 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Margaret Steele. I am a long-term twenty plus years resident of Asheville City and I am calling to urge the city council to adjust next year's budget. I believe that we need a strong police force. But I believe that their duties need to be need to be more well-defined and that we can divest money off the police and invest it in Black communities in Social Services that can end things like homelessness and drug abuse and so take away money and responsibilities from the police and and give it elsewhere. I definitely encourage investing in Black startups black business office as eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools. I like the idea of funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the ADP and the individual officers accountable. So we need to make some big changes and I think now is the time so, please take everybody's opinions to heart and let's make some big big changes. For our city. Thank you so much. I look forward to hearing what happens tomorrow you will.</p>	6/8/2020 12:24 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Katie Saxon. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all of Civilian oversight committee the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at The crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 12:24 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Bella hatch and I would like to talk about your meeting holding the cops. He tore up the medication at a protest accountable for their actions. So during this meeting. I hope that you keep in mind that the whole nation is watching and listening right now. The official motto of Asheville is quality of service quality of life, and I'm wondering if you don't find it disturbing and alarming that the quality of service in a police force that blatantly and aggressively impedes protesters right to medical assistance a police force that fails to honor and protect the rights to freedom of assembly and instead Works actively to this man's life. If this is the quality of service Asheville Police are perpetuating. What does that suggest about the quality of life mayor Esther manheimer is already deemed these actions senseless. However, a public speech criticizing wage actions is not enough to incite change. The recent events Nationwide is called attention to a multitude of failures within various police departments, and honestly, the entire law enforcement system has demonstrated time and time again, that is in effect wage. And a danger to the well-being of our people the leeway Awards police officers is disgusting and it's allowed the entire system to act without fear of Consequence. The qualified immunity officers benefit from is one of the reasons why so many officers get away with abominable actions is one of the leading reasons why so many officers get away with murder while the officers who aggressively destroyed the medication may not have directly killed anybody else mentioned shadowing their actions suggest that they have no regard for the well-being or safety of the citizens. They signed up to protect Astro city council. We demand that you remove these offensive badges. They have demonstrated. They are off of honoring the duties expected of them and the lives of Asheville citizens after you take this first step. We demand you remain active and defunding the actual police department when discussing the 2020-21 budget we could by example now more than ever. We're calling upon City officials to listen to the people. They're supposed to protect and serve allocating 2.5 million dollars to an incompetent and violent police wage. Apartment encourages and rewards violent officers in addition allocating such a large portion of the budget that such a police force experienced a blind eye to the systemic oppression of black and brown bodies Across the Nation woke my ass will be complacent inviting racist and ineffective institutions. It is not enough to remain silent during these times your silence and inaction has led to a police department that feels and acts insufferably you suck. It is necessary that the actual police department is defunded with no additional funding in the future redistribute this funding for the police department detectives will help black and brown communities increase funding for public schools increased funding for the equity inclusion sector that prior to prioritize is bringing minority-owned businesses to Asheville increase funding for the planning and Urban Design structure that Target studying affordable housing plan increase funding for public transit increase funding for homeless populations and shelters. The possibilities are endless and the money is not well spent on the actual police.</p>	6/8/2020 12:25 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Shannon a bear Waldman, and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina, and I'm commenting on the fiscal year 2022 \$21 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to address next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police departments page. It should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and faith in Austin billion oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. I urge every city council member to support this essential policy shift at this commercial juncture in our City's history. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 12:25 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Margaret leak. I'm a resident of Asheville, and I am calling to comment on the actual police department's budget. I am aware that is set to increase by \$400,000. And that's the budget is already around \$30 million as you're aware the structural racism that exists in our country as well as in Asheville is coming to a head right now, and I'm asking that in order to help put an end to it and to help put an end on police brutality that you vote. No in regards to increasing the actual police department funding as well as put a hiring freeze on the APD until both performed and further defunding has been accomplished. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:25 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Good afternoon. My name is Lauren. I'm from Asheville North Carolina and I am calling in regards to the fiscal year 2020 through 2021 operating budget and its effect on the black community. I demand as a taxpaying citizen of Asheville North Carolina that you listened to the black communities demands as follows. Invest divest they demand a divestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety G's including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable number to reparations. They demand repair for the past and continuing harms inflicted on Nashville's black community wage. And is that Asheville city government or move the van and Robert E Lee monuments and replace them with monuments that honor the many black. Ash Millions who have helped build this city. They demand that the streets named after former slave owners also be replaced with names of historic local black leaders. number three and the war on black people hold not just individual accountability for officers after lethal or violent Force, but also for accountability for the entire Asheville deplete Police Department, checking the role of the police and Asheville and in America is not a radical idea. It is a necessary change for the sake of rebuilding Community Trust and relations. However, most importantly it is necessary in order to save lives. We as a community in Asheville will not stop holding a magnifying glass to this government and to the actual police department. We will no longer tolerate excuses a black life lost will never be considered a clerical error r i p Brianna Taylor and all other lives lost too nonsensical police brutality. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:25 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Paige Paris. I live in Weaverville North Carolina and I work in just outside of downtown Asheville. I'm just I'm calling to comment on the fiscal year 2020 to 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling because I'm concerned at the proposal to give an additional \$400,000 to the already extremely large Public Safety budget and wage. I think that we need to start drawing that money back into communities. I think that that money could be better spent on addressing the achievement gaps that are Abhorrent in Asheville City Schools. I think that we can reallocate those funds to Mental Health Services for black communities who have been hit especially hard by institutional racism in this city as well as gentrification. I think that she got money can go to improve our transit systems. I think that that money needs to go to supporting black businesses giving them a break on some of the taxes that were happy to hand out two companies coming in from far away like New Belgium. I think that black businesses and Asheville should be eligible for tax incentives to help rebuild the black Financial community so that the black community can be more self-sufficient wage. I think that. The city of Asheville needs to understand and start listening to black and brown communities about what they need and what they want and what is needed in their communities. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:25 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, I'm David Gwaltney and I am a resident of Buncombe County and Asheville, North Carolina. I am calling to ask that the city leaders vote against the \$400,000 budget increase for the APD and I'd also like to see a commitment to a strategic plan that would create viable Alternatives Leasing and I see potential for putting this money towards affordable housing. putting into the black community and in general defunding the APD. Thank you very much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 12:28 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Bella hatch and I think my last message didn't go through. So I'm leaving it again during your meeting disgusting accountability for the cost to tour up the medication at a protest keep in mind that the whole nation is watching and listening right now. You said tomorrow of actual quality of service quality of life and do you not find it disturbing and alarming that the quality of service involves a police force the blatantly and aggressively impedes protesters right to medical assistance wage Peace Corps staff fails to honor and protect the right to freedom of assembly and instead Works actively dismantle it if this is the quality of service, what does that suggest about the quality of life maybe rescue manheimer has already been these actions. However, a public speech criticizing these actions is not enough to incite change the recent events Nationwide called attention to a multitude of failures within various police departments, and honestly the entire law enforcement systems administrator time and time again that it is ineffective and in danger to the well-being of our people the leeway awarded to police officers is disgusting and has allowed the entire system to act without fear of Consequence the qualified. Mm. Yep. Officers benefit from this one of the leading reasons why so many officers get away with abominable actions is one of the leading reasons why so many officers get away with murder. Well the officers who aggressively destroyed the medication may not directly kill anybody the intentions shadowing their actions suggested. They have no regard for the well-being or safety of the citizens. They signed up to protect Astro city council. We demand that you remove these officers badges. They have demonstrated. They're incapable of honoring the duties expected of them and the lives of Asheville citizens after you take this first step. We demand you remain active and defunding the actual police department when discussing the budget for the new year lead-by-example no more than every we're calling upon City officials to listen to the people. They are supposed to protect and serve allocating two and a half million dollars to an incompetent and violent Police Department encourages and rewards violent officers office. In addition. This turns a blind eye to the systematic oppression of black and brown bodies Across the Nation do not let Ash will be complacent and fighting racist and ineffective institutions. It is not enough to remain silent during birth. Time your silence and inaction has led to a police department that feels and acts and suffer be immune to consequence and it is necessary that the actual police department is defunded with no additional funding in the future with this funding for the police department to sectors that will help black and brown communities increase funding for public schools increased funding to the equity and inclusion sector that prioritizes bringing minority-owned businesses to Asheville wage increase funding to the planning and Urban Design sector that Target studying affordable housing plans increase funding for public transit increase funding for homeless populations in shelters. Your job is a city council member is to listen and respond to them all of your city. So do it</p>	6/8/2020 12:28 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Matthew. I'm president of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of Grand Funk. Yep, just the budget. Best thing and blasphemy at least longer basic strategy includes up to business and public schools funding and awesome and over some committee our whole individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:30 PM	Budget
<p>Hello again. I had just called but I felt the need that I needed to make myself very clear in what it is that were asking for when I say take action and that means firing the police officers either who ordered the destruction of the medical tent the ones who participated in it, all of them really ideally be fired no more using War tactics against a peaceful, um, you know, tear gas and the like, you know, tear gas has banned but somehow it's okay to use on our own citizens publicly condemn this behavior and thoughts fire anyone who commits it. It's really not that hard don't attack your own citizens. All right, or resign expire.</p>	6/8/2020 12:30 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Calvin Johnson. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Care Act Community Development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing and black fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start up some businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in the ass City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the a d a p d and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:33 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Chelsea with 16 and I'm a resident of Buncombe County Barn Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and clubs and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individuals officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at The crucial juncture in our City's history month. He'll sell important to me that you listen to the people and honor our request because you are serving us and I bless your way and I bless your health and I bless your family and I am grateful for the way that you serve us, and I ask that you please step up and actually service. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Kate Moser. My roses in the Buncombe County. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% These budget should be investing in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in the Asheville City schools and clubs and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you together. We can make a change.</p>	6/8/2020 12:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Diana Stewart Hoover. I moved from my family to Asheville last year from Houston. I have a background as a licensed clinical psychologist. However, I'm also a health disparities research with over 50 years of experience. My work is focused on cancer prevention and health promotion in low SES and minority populations and um my family and I were attracted to Asheville because it seemed like a really Progressive and wonderful place to raise our family. I'm writing in regards to the proposed City budget for the 2021 fiscal year. I'm asking that the budget vote be delayed particularly. We said that funds are redirected from the apd's over-inflated proposed budget. We really need to focus on using our efforts wage, um to take time to listen to those from the black community and to commit to taking action to enhance racial Justice through the real reallocation of funds. I'd suggest that rather than continuing. Best large amounts of money in the AP that we focus on using this money towards Community Building particularly within the black community funds could be used to increase educational opportunities as well as affordable housing, and they could also be used to bolster small black owned businesses that were greatly affected by covid-19 over the last week. A number of much larger cities have committed to such efforts and we can really worked as an example as a health disparities and cancer prevention researcher. I understand that incredible benefit of investing in health, and in this case community on the front end, please consider foia request to delay the meeting and commit to reinvesting in our community. Thank you. This is again Diana Hoover and my zip code is 28806. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Elijah Ferguson. I've lived in Nashville for eight years and I would like to see a change in the fiscal 2021 budget. I want to see a \$50 increase in police funding and put that back into the black community and Community Building efforts. Um, I would also like to see an inventory of the correct police equipment. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:34 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Camille McCarthy. I have Asheville calling to speak on the public hearing for the budget. I'm calling today to Echo black demands fact that there should be a divestment of 50% from the current budget, which should be invested instead into the black community of Asheville. I urge Council to go a step further and follow the lead of Minneapolis English the police department altogether. This is not just about accountability for a few officers or the need for a new police chief or a few people who have a problem with the use of force the entire police department teargas, including children rubber bullets and a crowd and destroyed and medical station put together by medical professionals who are already in risking their lives every day during a pandemic. These are all war crimes one out of eight people shot with rubber bullets are permanently disabled or disfigured. We're lucky. Nobody died. The handling of the situation shows that the entire department must suck.No, I'm actually originally means to pay firefighters at the very least the same starting salary of Asheville Police Department at least \$17 an hour. We need an urban Forest. But now we need to fund Transit. I would say Council has thrown actually is under the bus on that one for years, but there's hardly a bus to throw us under at this point. In addition to these items on the budget wage Colony restroom in Homer City Manager Debra Campbell and police chief Zack to resign over the violence your actions over the last week of caused instituting a curfew creates an excuse for police to take action against people where otherwise fully existing and especially puts people of color at risk despite saying that Homeless would be exempt from the curfew there have been reports of them getting off it up along with those arrested for exercising their first amendment rights.Samira has given them excuse that she doesn't know anything about policing for how she handled the events of the last week. If your excuses incompetence, you need to step down as you should have after the fact we do not need a leader who after seven years as a major mayor of a major city doesn't know how policing works. We don't need tears right now. We need resignation funding for our cities true needs and abolishment of the APD.</p>	6/8/2020 12:34 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Camille Hoffman, and I'm calling in regards to the police brutality event that happened on June 2nd at 8:15 p.m. In downtown Asheville. So you're identified doctors and Medics throughout the city approved medical station outbound One World brewing for one will bring actual police department bust into a peaceful medical station and through innocent people against the wall and push them out into the street. Then intentionally slashed the entire stash water bottles and medical supplies at the station and finish the Rampage by spraying supplies with chemicals to prevent any further. Use these supplies could have easily been moved out and taken to a shelter wage is inciting violence. We want apt to know the not only our city, but the entire country has the intention of holding them accountable for their actions. We are all watching and they will know and they will not get away with this. Thank you. Have a great day. I hope this gets solved.</p>	6/8/2020 12:34 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Sheena Hugh Smith, and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling about the mayor fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. I would like to vote that in light of racial Injustice in the city of Asheville that we do not. Go with the fiscal year budget as it is presented, but instead take the time to re-evaluate how those funds could better be distributed for equity and Asheville.</p>	6/8/2020 12:35 PM	Budget
<p>Hey, my name is John Waters. I'm I live in Buncombe County and I am calling to encourage the city in the city council to adjust wage. Next year's budget. We would like you to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities. Half of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Please consider all the input coming in from local citizens. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:36 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hey, my name is Ethan Heller, and I'm a Buncombe County resident. I'm calling in regards to the proposed increase of the police budget and I wanted to say that I and everybody that I've talked to is very against increasing the police budget as we've seen the police chief has made some terrible decisions in terms of the protest movement. I think that we should be moving towards a more community-based model. Like they're about to do in Minneapolis. Um, I highly recommend checking that out and may I propose doing a model similar to that? We should be defunding our police departments because they have shown us that they are not working for the people. We should be investing in community outreach and Community programs that will make our communities safer. In addition to that. I wanted to say that the police destroying medic 10 a.m. Was appalling it made national news and it made this city a national and international embarrassment and to think that even a proposition of increasing the budget for our Police Department is absurd we should be defunding and Des investing from these organizations because they clearly do not have our community our best interest in mind and the police chief should step down from his position because he is shown poor leadership in both his decision to attack the medic tents and to fire tear gas rubber bullets at protesters. Both of which are acts that are considered war crimes under the Geneva Convention and his response initially wage was justifying those behaviors. He has since rescinded that and apologized but still his initial justification shows that he was behind and supported birth. Decisions, so he needs to step down and I also believe that the mayor should consider stepping down for her poor decision making process throughout this whole ordeal but to bring back full circle. I as a Buncombe County resident do not support increasing the police budget. We should be defunding and Des investing from our police departments and investing in community outreach programs like they're doing in Minneapolis.</p>	6/8/2020 12:37 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Katelyn Finney and I'm a resident of Asheville. I am new to Asheville. I've been here for about a year and while I moved under the pretense, but it was a really Progressive place. It's really become clear that it's only Progressive for white economically, uh set people so I'm calling in support of the national demand not represented on Saturday when you are talking about the budget, I urge the city council to not invest in the police but instead actually invest in the communities that already exists here in Asheville. They should be clear to you. I mean, come on. It's not that hard to see that we need to be supporting education. I mean I've done my reading has one of the worst education systems in the country and not to mention that black students get reprimanded more than white students. Do we need to invest in mental health need to log? Investment communities safe housing and it also like to see officers be held accountable for their actions. I would like the city to use the full exact which is the Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance just because you can make rent prices super hot doesn't mean you should I hope that I can can count on a support policy and I do believe that there's a lot of you on this Council who do want. What's right and who know in their hearts and then their minds what is right to do for this community, but long time we start putting our words into action and that you know, you have a pedestal of power and I hope you use it to actually build up all of Asheville. All of Asheville not just rich white wage because people are opening their eyes to this idea of progressive being a really really really limited box that you're letting people into. So let's open that box up and let's build up our communities. So the actual can truly be a progressive City that takes care of all of its community members and that invests in marginalized communities, and I'm happy Brad. Happy black lives matter movement, and I hope you have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 12:38 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Chelsea Farquhar, and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Rachel Hunter and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposal the proposed 2021 budget office in the wake of the police is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice. Am I delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from a PDS over inflated budget. Do not forget our poor report in a Unity the color can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs?</p>	6/8/2020 12:39 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Michael Whitmire. I'm a resident of the city of Asheville. And I'm commenting on the public comment section item D, which is the budget public discussion wage budget. I would like to say that it's my fervent. Hope that the shifting of budgetary monies from the policing system of the city into a comprehensive Community healing and reparations fund is ratified with the current new budget. Defund the police. Now. This is an historic moment when we can begin to make a difference in the lives of many marginalized people of color in this country. It's my heartfelt. Hope that the remaining system of policing in the city. Also be radically redesigned from the Grassroots. Do you find the police now instead fund the following community-based policing mental health for Citizens and officials including into a generational and ongoing trauma work reparations for minority and historically oppressed groups. Restructure the following end Bail Bonds are merely a way for the rich to walk free while the rest of us are stuck in jail. They perpetuate racism and end militarized policing now. But most importantly listen to the black community with its diverse set of voices. Listen to their leadership for what can be done to make real change the community that has been affected the most from our system of institutionalized racism and abuse wealth and abuse of power. Those are the people who know the changes that need to be made. These ideas are just a small beginning Thank you. Please act now.</p>	6/8/2020 12:40 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Caitlin Google. I'm a resident of the city of Asheville and I am commenting on the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to Shigs next year's budget to divest from the police force and it's been black communities fifty percent of budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start out of businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers account. May I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much for your consideration and for hearing our voices.</p>	6/8/2020 12:40 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Heidi Friedman. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm a teacher in the Asheville City school system and like many other Ash billions. I am calling to support the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday. I feel like the city council each of the members were elected because we see you as a mixture of that passion and pragmatism that's necessary right now to allow Asheville to reconcile what it's past and then to create a real and Equitable future which requires real policy change. I trust that you all are feeling like we are dealing with systems that have been in place for hundreds of years, um where there's clear scars all over our city, but I also feel that something is happening right now that feels different that change feels possible more than it has before in my lifetime and that we need your bravery and Leadership to require birth. That to turn into real change. I feel like this is a watershed moment and that we can build on the momentum that the black leaders in the community of activated. Therefore. I am with the budget up for consideration. May I urge City council's that I divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting a startup businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with a power to hold and individual officers accountable. I feel as though it's a hard time to talk about budget would covid-19 unemployment's and those far-reaching economic Rebels, but that anything less than action at this point looks like complacency and that Asheville citizen support the sort of change. I also asked that the city council commit to removing the Vance and Robert E. Lee monuments and replace them with monuments honoring. Yep. Black ash billion to build the city. I hope I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 12:40 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Nick Prosser. I live in Ashville, North Carolina and I am calling about defunding the police after all of the brutality of taking place and not in the Rays and cutting their budget down drastically and using it for their social and economic program. Thank you. I hope this goes through.</p>	6/8/2020 12:41 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Erin McGrath and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to get there like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget, um since as you know, if there has been police killings and the News George Floyd Brianna Taylor, of course, I'm more and the public protests in in light of that as well as the fact that the coronavirus a lot of cities are going to experience budget shortfalls and they're going to be looking for places to to cut funding to shrink the budget. It seems that the natural thing to do would be to reduce or actually to diesel on the Asheville Police Department, um and not doing so and would would I think show a lot of support for in solidarity with poor communities and communities of color in Asheville. So I amCity council to delay the budget vote and use this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over-inflated budgets in in the other program will actually serve the community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Mariana keen and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling not only to demand that you reject wage proposal of an extra \$400,000 in funding for the actual police department. But also the demand that you be fun with the Asheville Police Department by at least 50% and meet the man's the demand sets of black community leaders of Asheville are making right now. I am completely shameful that I have to have people calling me from all around the country because they've seen the news of Asheville Police.Inciting violence against its own people and non provoked destroying the medical station resulting in so many injuries of Asheville civilian leading to hospital hospitalizations. It's unacceptable. And if you care about the community members of Asheville, you would be putting this money towards things like Public Safety aspect. Like education Mental Health Care Transit and other things that actually helped black people and the rest of the actual community. I I'm just it's hard to even talk about because I'm completely disgusted that not only are you proposing an increase in this funding but that there's no real conversation or materialization towards the abolishment of this police department and ultimately their defunding because they are not protecting the community members you should be ashamed of yourselves and I implore that you meet the demands of these black community leaders or continue to expect resistance within this community and that you will be held accountable for these actions.</p>	6/8/2020 12:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hello. My name is Jody is Asheville Community member since 2015? We have left the city and have been delighted to call at home and spend our time and our money here. We've been proud to be a part of a city that has seen as quote unquote Progressive and quote unquote liberal as social justice issues are important to us. I am a social worker and my partner is a physician weekend and about our community which is why we are appalled at the treatment of protesters by the Asheville Police Department this past week. I personally was tear-gassed at the front brake line on the bonebridge watched my friends and community members have tear gas canisters and flash bangs dropped on them from rooftops and witnessed police destroying the medical stuff in the alley next to farm burger not just destroying it. But ensuring that if used these supplies would harm protesters who have been injured by police violence. These are current manifest wage.Are they historically problematic Police Department that already disproportionately targeted and enacted violence against people who are black and brown including beating and killing unarmed black people. I am calling you today to demand as a citizen who cares for this community that you defund the Asheville Police Department. Please do not approve \$400,000 increase for the Department. Please instead decrease their budget line by 50% and Institute a hiring freeze for the Department reallocate those funds to support real Public Safety efforts such as education Mental Health Care Transit and housing.Please move this money to areas that will actually help black people. If you must postpone your budget approvals to make these arrangements then postponed, but if you took care about this community, you will not put any more funding or resources into this harmful Department. Do you fund the Asheville Police Department and reallocate that money to where it will serve. Protect black lives health and well-being. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jim Solano. I live in Asheville and Buncombe County. This is a comment on the fiscal year two 2020-2021 annual operating budget. So I am calling with a very strong recommendation for the city to divest from the police and begin investing in Black communities here in the city of Asheville. Uh, um. Yeah, so I urged the council member to support this policy right now. This is a really important time and it's now or never it seems thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:44 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi there, my name is Gerardo and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-21 budget in the wake of the police is killing of Georgie in Minneapolis and countless black American wage for him. I'm asking that the actual city council makes a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the actual police departments over inflated budget and rather put them into programs that will support holistic health services and treatment educational opportunities and stable housing. Do not forget our poor and our communities of color. Can I count on you guys to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 12:45 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Grace. I'm a resident of Marshall. I'm commenting on the proposed budget increase with a p d I commented directly from the black Asheville demands as I stand wage black community of Asheville and support their demands 100% quote. We demand a divestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the phone number to hold the APD and individual officers accountable and quotes. Please do not allow the budget increase for the ABD. Thank you Grace.</p>	6/8/2020 12:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Andrew Hays. I've been a resident of Nashville for over ten years. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Care Zach Community Development block grant money. Cdbg funds for residential assistant parental assistance furthermore. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it's a vest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with power to hold National Police Department and individual officers account. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Brandon Davis Asheville, and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin that divesting from the police and investigate communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in New York City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APB and individual officers accountable. I urged every council member to support this attention policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 12:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Bethany Curtis. I am a Buncombe County resident who deeply cares about our community future and I am in full support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on a Saturday. I strongly urge our city council to divest from the police and invest in our black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget money should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in our schools and refunding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to uphold the Asheville Police Department and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on all of your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial time in our City's history. Like Sheriff Miller recently said publicly Asheville has an opportunity to be a role model for the rest of the country. I hope we take this opportunity wage. A real shift. Thank you all so much for all that you do and have a great day.</p>	6/8/2020 12:47 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Katie Estrada and I've lived in and around Asheville since two thousand and I'm calling to comment on the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling today to ask that the Asheville city council make a more overt invisible commitment to racial Justice. I desperately urge you to delay the budget vote so that Council may find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget. I also urge you to pressure the city manager's office towards an ethical and equal reallocation of the Cities expenditures away from Asheville Police Department and towards sectors that facilitate the dismay of racial and class and equity. Minneapolis in New York City have already begun. There are models to follow research shows that living wage access to holistic health services and treatment wage opportunities and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons my three children attend bashful City schools and everything parents teachers administrators and City officials throw their hands in the air due to the ever-expanding achievement Gap worst in the state and in the bottom five Nationwide, it's all connected. I demand more aggressive financial support be directed to those areas and within the marginalized communities within Asheville did not forget our poor communities and communities of color who are disproportionate targets of police violence. Justice will only be served with the police of reformed and this will not be possible until wage. Now is the time for big change. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:49 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Rachel Armstrong. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm commenting on the consent agenda item a as well as the public hearing Item B. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance program, or I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing please and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you so much for your time and have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 12:50 PM	Consent
<p>Hi, my name is Kai Leathers. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to say that I would urge council members to vote. No for the APD funding and would like to call for hiring freeze on the APD And in regards to the new budget \$400,000 for the APD. We believed that the those funds could be better served for communities and do not need to be allocated to the actual police department. We think that it should be more better utilized in support of Public Safety efforts like mental health public transit and education and move this money that um to areas that actual black people instead of continuing to fund the Asheville Police Department that hashistory of targeting and killing unarmed black people in our community and putting peaceful protesters in hospitals injuries and striking a medical station, which recently made national news. So I would like you to urge I'd like to urge you to make. Take my comments into consideration in the upcoming vote tomorrow, June 9th. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:50 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Elizabeth Willis. I live in Nashville city limits, and I was calling to come in on the fiscal year 20 20 to 21 annual operating budget. I want to urge Yuba City to adjust next year's budget. We need to be in diversifying and investing the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding it off to the oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I urge every city councilman will support this essential policy shift at The crucial Junction in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 12:50 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Rachel Armstrong. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm commenting on the consent agenda item a as well as the public hearing Item B. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance program, or I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing please and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you so much for your time and have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 12:50 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is David Bravo. I'm a resident of Woodfin just across the city border and I'm calling in regards to the 2021 budget public hearing. I'm calling in support of the black actual demands are presented on a Saturday the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities. Should be known that policing is be known In America which created to protect the property of freeholders. And that continues today were black people are regularly criminalized. Well, simply existing and their homes and their neighborhoods and their cars part black people are rarely served protected by the police this long history of police brutalization and dehumanization of black people like directly to the horrific murder murder of George George Floyd directly to the brutal attack by a police officer and a black man just for jaywalking right here in Nashville recently with this constant system the violence we made to create alternatives to policing plan. Since you just plan include goals timelines and action steps. The actual police department's budget is the largest single item in the city of Asheville general fund and we need to be moving at least half of that away from the police and into long-term strategies for Community safety and investment is the black community. What could that look like Sears to teach? Yep. I can look like creating a new City Department of peace and well-being that could look like having to use a social workers counselors mediators negotiators hired to be dispatched. Whoever's individuals is family life support team trained specifically to deal with domestic violence and be dispatched to home needed not necessarily bringing in guns to these situations neighborhood leaders could be hired and trained to be here support mediator six people assigned separately to handle the floor and safety of traffic services for healing stress and Trauma. There are a lot of options and we have we know there are alternatives out there that exists you suck. Oregon has a great program where that number of the significant portion of the nine one wall what nine-one-one calls to unarmed Mental Health crisis support service providers. We have great experience with the local Street Medics came here and be loved if you need like if we need examples on how to make these actually happen. So we need to Thursday. That money in terms and long-term Safety Solutions that includes investing a black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and all civilian oversight committee for the whole power over the APD. Um, I think it's also worth noting that particular. There's a \$400,000 race offered being forced to hire minute plans for for the same requirement to increase retirement plans actual police department can easily eat that by Simply Having a hiring freeze refusing to purchase any more riot gear and delaying any upgrades.</p>	6/8/2020 12:50 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Rachel Armstrong. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm commenting on the consent agenda item a as well as the public hearing Item B. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance program, or I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing please and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you so much for your time and have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 12:50 PM	Public Hearing B
<p>Hello, my name is Sarah Moran, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Care. Community Development block grant cdbg fun with a rental assistance furthermore. I also think the council needs to adjust the budget. So It Begins by investing from the police and investing and black community 50% of the eighties, but should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and plugging in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:53 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Zoe Hawkins Wells. I'm a resident of Asheville and Buncombe County. I along with a lot of other people. I'm sure calling in to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. I firmly believe we need to divest from the police and invest rather and black and brown communities as we know the fifty percent of Asheville Police Department's budget will not as we know but I believe 50% of the same police judgment should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting and investing in Black start up some businesses. Absolutely am needing the racial opportunity Gap and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers account. That's absolutely fundamental and I urge every Council number to support this essential policy shift as this crucial juncture in our City's history. I'm sure you've heard that from others, but I supportReward um, and believes massive changes need to happen in terms of where dollars are going to actually protect our community and support and uplift our communities rather than punishing further to feed them. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:54 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi there. My name is Sarah updegraff and I live in Weaverville, North Carolina. I am commenting an open public comment. I would just like to say I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act the Community Development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance furthermore. I think that the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget wage should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:54 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Reverend Amy Cantrell. I joined the mini a civilians who have cried out about police brutality and the systemic racism of the institution of policing both America and Asheville for the last week and four years. If we truly want to end systemic racism, we must listen to our African American community and act the policy solutions that they know will create real transformation for years. I have worked with many in our community to call and city leaders to divest from policing with the Millions for the people campaign and the people's budget to a solo sedan calling into question the morality of our budget and a lack of Integrity with our primary goals and the 23rd division for Asheville a stay on with the racial Justice Coalition and the demands of black Asheville from policing and invest in Black communities. I stand with Asheville and black and beige. On you to vote against the budget increase for police to initiate a hiring freeze for a p d and to commit to a strategic plan with goals action steps and a timeline for creating a new Department devoting to policing Alternatives including alternative dispatch of social workers Mental Health Counselors and to hiring and training neighborhood mediators. Do not let this time passes by do not continue to say you are Against Racism and continue to vote to perpetuate. It would not say you are devoted to equity and not commit to the action and resources that will get us there black Asheville matters. Black Asheville matters wage black Asheville matters. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:54 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Melanie Wester. I am commenting on the proposed budget increase for the Asheville Police Department. My comment is directly from the Black Box demands as I stand with the black community of Asheville and support their demands one hundred percent. We demand a divestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individuals accountable. Please do not allow this budget increase for the APD. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:55 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Charles Road. I'm a resident of Asheville and I have a question regarding the budget that's being discussed at the meeting on June 9th. Specifically my question is in regards to uh, lost investment revenues over the course of the last fiscal year. I was wondering first of all if the city could elaborate a little bit more on what constitutes the Investment Portfolio for the city why this Investment Portfolio would have been so affected by decreased interest rates and whether or not the city has investments in just walk-ins are also in other types of Commodities and stocks. It just seems that given the gains over the course of the first eight months of this fiscal year wage higher to March of this year that Investments if they were outside of the bond market, um should have actually been profitable rather than a significant loss as marked in the south. Budget, um, if this is the case that the city has invested in in multiple diverse Investments, then why does the city have such a loss on investments and what is being done to remedy this particular situation? Uh, thank you very much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 12:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Abby Sikeston. I lived in Nashville for 15 years. I know that the actual police right now is considering adding \$400,000 budget next year. I want to know that I think that I want you to know that I can talk to horrible idea black Asheville demands sent out their demands met they need at least a 50% budget cut on police based off of the police violence that systemic and Asheville and it's been happening since I did this finds need to be reallocated to supporting the black community in Asheville and being sent reparations. I think it's a really important time for Asheville to show where they stand wage and show that they are here to support black lives matter. There's no way but there's going to be any rest until that's happened. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 12:57 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>I am a resident of Asheville. Like I'm calling to or in the police beginning with next year's budget. I think that at least fifty percent of the budget should be invested in strategies to support the black community and to to make our city a better place like supporting education eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools, which is a big big deal seeing if I I went to Asheville City Schools. It's a big problem supporting black businesses and and in all civilian oversight committee for the APD to hold them accountable. I really really support this I've been disappointed with the actions of the APD recently and have you know, hope that the city council will act accordingly and in the interest of the residents, um that I think support this, um reallocation of funds. Um, thank you very much. And that's it.</p>	6/8/2020 12:58 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Tara and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to demand that actual leadership city council near Manheim. Work together with black leadership to begin the new funding and police immediately take down the van to Monument.</p>	6/8/2020 12:58 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is Sarah Luis Fernandez. I'm a resident of Asheville City in Buncombe County. I am calling to urge City to adjust next year's budget. We have to begin investing from the police budget money and investing in black community. I'd like to see at least fifty percent of Asheville Police Department budget invested in long-term safety strategies, including support black start-up businesses and finding the opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable and I urge every city council member to South Central policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much for this consideration. Again, my name is Sarah Luis Fernandez. I'm a resident of Asheville City, Johnson County.</p>	6/8/2020 1:00 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Jennifer Young. I'm coming to urge the city to adjust next year's budget need to begin investing money and fifty percent of the national public, excuse me of the actual police department budget should be invested in like safety strategies. In fact black businesses meeting opportunity Gap in schools and sending in most civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable and I urge every account phone number to support this essential policy shift at this month's crucial juncture in our City's history, and this is Jennifer. I'm the president of Buncombe County and I urge you to support our black communities. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:00 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Arianna. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the carrot act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the eighties budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start off in business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 1:00 PM	Budget
<p>Hi. I just wanted to make sure that you got my message. My name is Nia Hollister Bernie. I'm pretty sure you did, but I just wanted to call and make sure that you got it because it's really important to me again. I'm a long-time resident resident of Asheville. I grew up here or anything. It's really really important to reallocate at least fifty percent of the budget to other places that could support the black community and the community as a whole really sick. I had mentioned before investing education the black businesses civilian oversight committee to hold the APD accountable. Um, I think, you know all of these things and more are really great, but the funds and especially as a as a previous student of Asheville City Schools. I really think that bashful City Schools needs to pay attention to em up that's worth it and just really really consider that thank you very much. Again. My name is the and I just want to make sure you give me a message.</p>	6/8/2020 1:00 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Sara. Kruska of Asheville, North Carolina where I'm a resident. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the carriers act Community Development block grant the CD-ROM funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be investing long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the wrong individual officers accountable. I'm sure you've heard this message many times today or I hope you have this was a script that was posted by a an organization I support and I support every word in them. And I hope that you hear our voices and know that while we may be saying similar things. We all feel the passion equally and our hearts and we need to defund the police and we need to use the money down. Our budget to support our black community members. I've lived for a black businesses black one businesses to support in this community and sadly there are sadly. So we need more of that way we claim and we are I think a racially supportive City and if we need to access Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:01 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Grace aren't I'm calling to ask that we pull as much funds as we can and reallocate them to other parts of the city away from the police department specifically. There's a lot of community members that are willing to help research and create a more. A much safer and more community-oriented safety team. Please ask your community for that when we decide to stop giving them as much money. Thank you very much again defund as much money as we can from the APD at this time. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 1:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Nathan Morrison. I live in West Asheville and I am is 9 Mountain View Road to 6 and I'm commenting on fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget office feel like we need to begin investing from the police investing in Black communities half of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies. including supporting black startups black businesses Hopefully eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding can all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold down the police department and individual officers accountable. Urge every council member to support this policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Stephanie Harper. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance with the more I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including support startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual authors accountable. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 1:03 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Amy Paul a m i e p a u l. I live in North Asheville off of Kimberly. I am calling to ask you to walk defund the police department and to put any money that would have gone to them to things that help real people like education a Child Care Health Care all the things we need to improve the lives of black Americans and all citizens in Asheville. I do not want to live in a police state and I appreciate your Recent efforts on behalf of the people to control the police, but I want to see it go a lot further. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:03 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Emma Whitman. I am recently a home owner here in Asheville. But I've lived here about five years. I wanted to call upon the budget increase to the actual police department strongly against the idea of more of our taxpayer dollars going towards the police when first-hand I've seen that would tend to only escalate conflict. Um, they don't be escalate conflicts, um and are terrorizing communities of color in particular. I'd like to instead see more budget money go towards schools education Parts homeless Outreach, um off things for the public good. I think it's important but teachers are required far far far far far more schooling in a hairstylist required more schooling than a cop than yep. I paid for the highest salaries for a quote unquote public servant. So that's my comment. I really hope you all considered cuz people are definitely worth attention and I would expect pretty high chair out in the next election. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:04 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Charlie Schroeder. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina. And I had a question regarding the budget referring to page, uh be 11:00 in the budget looking at the wage expenditures and uh human resources and planning and Urban Design. I was just wondering if the city council could elaborate a little bit more on why those expenditures are significantly down. I think the two departments total a \$700,000 or roughly \$700,000 decrease in expenditures without making mention of any full-time employees being lost. Um, I just would like some uh more details on how this cutting expenditures was made. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:04 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, my name is Jonathan Pearlman actual resident for nearly 40 years calling about the city council meeting holding the cops who tore up the public the medic station accountable for their actions. This is egregious. This is outrageous. I can't believe how you've humiliated our city in front of the whole world at the very least. You need to make these people's identities public and fire them at the least you can do and the best you can do is reform the entire police department and demilitarize. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:04 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Emily Cadmus. I am a twenty-year resident of Asheville and the surrounding areas and I am currently living in Candler and I ask em, uh, I would like to comment on the proposal to increase the budget by \$400,000. I would like to offer express my solidarity with the local chapter of black lives matter and ask for the city of Asheville to follow in Minneapolis has lead and they're divestment of the police department and replacing the police department with community services and Community organizations that are non-violent. I would like to focus our city money on redistributing resources and reparations of the people whose ancestors built the city in this country. The first step of this divestment should be in a meeting.hiring freeze for the APD ended the dial for the \$400,000 budget request that money should instead be invested in Education Health Care, including Mental Health Care public transit housing and other non-violent organizations that serve communities. I along with many other citizens. We paying close attention and be critical of the ways of the city's handling the local process and their next steps off in in support of the use of color performative. Act of solidarity must be backed by actual policy changes at the black lives matter chapter walk in demand, and we will not accept anything less. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:06 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is John and I'm calling to talk to about the potential increase in police funding and asking the city council examine how those funds may be better utilized this year such as investing in it and long-term Public Safety strategies or mirroring. The emergency response model that the UK is adopted where there is more and more multidisciplinary team approach to emergency response. I would also like to see some of that budget be redistributed into eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight wage. That would hold power to keep Asheville Police Department individual offices accountable. Thank you for your time, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:06 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jennifer Russ. And I believe that the money that we are going to be funding and Asheville. We need to not be getting more to the police right now. We need to be allocated as funds to the black community just sort of support for resources. They need we need to help. And just need to I've just been so moved by everything that's been happening and when I'm learning, I just we need equality, and we need to Quality everywhere. Thanks need to change and I think that we can do this. We just we need to start. So please please listen to everyone and let's do the right thing off by</p>	6/8/2020 1:08 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, my name is Celeste King. I was calling in regard to the budget for twenty Twenty-One. And I would like to request 50% of the actual collage Department's budget be invested into long-term safety strategies for the black community and helping eliminate racism in this city funding different projects for black communities Parts educational opportunities gardening job opportunities helping black businesses get started. I would also like to request be on the budget for their wage to be a removal of the Vans Monument or a renaming of the Vance Monument.And also for city streets that are named after slave-owning citizens to be renamed. I appreciate you hearing my opinion on the budget and I hope that you will take it into consideration. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:08 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Reverend Sarah Wilcox. I am a resident of the city of Asheville and I'm calling to comment on fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget and I'm calling today because I'm urging you all to make major adjustments to the city's budget for next year. Have you received a A List of Demands from the black community their voice is loud and clear about what they need and how we have failed folks in the black community for Generations. We know the history. We know our participation in we know that we have benefited from it as white people. We need to make inroads for repair and reinvesting in the relationships and Reconciliation that is vitally needed for Unity and peace and Justice in our world. I'm urging you to ignifica Nelly cut the actual police department's budget and invest it in long-term strategies for safety as well as supporting black businesses and entrepreneurial ideas of elimination.The racial Gap in our schools and funding and oversight community that is all civilian that will hold a p d and officers accountable. I know that each and every one of you are sitting in this moment, uh-huh. In many different emotions I'd say and what I'm imagining is that you both realize the critical juncture that we are at and history and the ways in which you have been put in power in this moment in the Book of Esther. It's Hawks it out for being called for such a time as this and indeed you have been called to do the work and the work is clear. That is before us please do not fail this community be the change. We boldly need I pray for you and I pray for your courage to lead boldly In This Moment. Let us create the kind of community life all humans can thrive in in which we honor the lives of black and brown bodied people and live truthfully into our belief that black lives matter of blessings to you all.</p>	6/8/2020 1:08 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Sarah Godwin. I live in West Asheville. I work as a physician assistant in healthcare, and I would like to request that city council revisit claim budget for police funding in the city. We need to redistribute those funds into our communities of color. And also we should be experimenting Joe cities out west have done with implementing Mental Health First Responders into the police force and social workers so that the police are not people that are showing up to every month Paul particularly drug-related calls and mental health calls that then they just bring to the ER where there's really no help for them. They're either. We're failing our community, and we need to do better. The police already have plenty of money. They're clearly not using it appropriately. Everyone is watching eyes are on you it's time to do what's right. Thanks. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:09 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Carol in Hammond. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the attacks Community Development block grant. I think city council needs to adjust the budget that begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, like supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 1:09 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Carly Holly and I'm a resident of Black Mountain North Carolina. I am calling to urge the city of Asheville to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to vesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start up in businesses, eliminating the racial opportunities out the national city schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APB and individual officers accountable every every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 1:10 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Beth Morris. I am a resident of actual I have a zip code of in West Asheville and I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares at the community development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance from them are at least the city council needs to adjust the budget walk-ins the best thing from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses wage emanating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual offers officers accountable. Thank you so much. I hope that you will take the speed back to Heart.</p>	6/8/2020 1:11 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Katie Greer and I am a lifelong resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I was born and raised here and my partner and I have a farm out in San Dimas. I'm calling to urge you guys to adjust next year's budget. We'd like to see investment in Black communities and a decreasing. Please funding would like to support long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunities Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and also the oversight committee with the power to hold and individual officers accountable urge every council member to support this essential policy shift. It's crucial juncture in our City's history. Please please please do the right thing. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:11 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Sarah Hollowell. I'm a resident of Buncombe County in the city of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to break into investing from the police and investing in our black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including support startups in businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committees with the power to hold a PD accountable and individual officers as well. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at The crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you, and I hope you have a great day.</p>	6/8/2020 1:11 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Emily Kendrick, and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope you will listen to your Community Bank.As I believe that this is what the majority of your citizens want, and I hope you will do the right thing. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:12 PM	Budget
<p>Told my line. I'm calling in regards to the police brutality event that happened on June 2nd at 8:15 p.m. In downtown Asheville, clearly, identified doctors and Medics who had a city approved stationed outside One World Brewing Asheville Police Department bust into the peaceful meditation and through innocent people against the wall and pushed them out into the Street Apt. Been intentional Flash the entire stash of water bottles and medical supplies at the station and finish the Rampage by spraying supplies and chemicals to prevent any further. Use these suppliers could have easily been moved out and taking shelter is inciting violence. We want you to know that not only our city but the entire country has an intention of holding them accountable for their actions. They're all watching and they will not get away.</p>	6/8/2020 1:12 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Autumn Riedel resident of Hendersonville. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin the vesting from a police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable off every council member support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:13 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, my name is Peter Looper. I'm a resident of the city of Asheville, and I am calling to Orange city council to reconsider approval of the Asheville Police Department budgets at this time and to also look at alternate ways of achieving some kind of security for the city and some are the other um positive benefits at the police department has been providing in the past. It really don't think that the police department is functioning as it should be and feel that there needs to be some additional time and thought put into it before any budget is approved for the police department. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:13 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello. I'm calling in to voice my concern with the proposed Asheville City budget. My name is Talia scarpelli. And I have lived in Asheville for almost five years and the past few years. I have seen wage actual police department budget grew by millions of dollars, even though it has been shown that more police does not equal less crime. I believe that the Asheville Police Department budget should be divested meaning of the money should instead be invested into long-term safety strategies that prioritize vulnerable communities. This looks like an oversight committee made up of civilians to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. This looks like funding in education to support black students who are unfairly suspended and put into attention more often than white students. This looks like investing in Black owned businesses and startups. And this also looks like removing statues glorifying slave owners such as the Vance monument and replacing them with artwork that celebrates the black leaders that built Asheville. Yep. These are only a few ideas, but I strongly urge the city to delay a decision on the budget and consider more productive and effective uses of the city funds. Um, thank you very much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 1:13 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Tuesday feral and I love work and worship in Asheville. Um, I wanted to call in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday. I know that the budget is up for consideration. And this call is to urge you at city council to divest from police and invest money in Black communities. It's time for real change. And without it you can be ensured that unrest and visible protests will continue. This will be bad for tourism. This will be bad for your re-election prospects dead. People are no longer going to be silent. It's time for change and Asheville should be making international news for positive steps. It's it's taking not for police abuses of power that we've seen in recent times and both times. The APD definitely should not be granted a budget increase. Uh, I believe that at least fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term. Yep. Strategies which include support for black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools, uh, and definitely funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and the individual officers accountable again. It's time for real change to happen, and it's time for the corruption within our police department and the racism and violence and abuses of power within our Police Department to be addressed. Um, it's an embarrassment for the city. It's absolutely unacceptable and I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:14 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Abigail Blinky and I'm a resident in a bashful. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 1:15 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Kathy Coleman. I am a resident of Candler and I'm calling about the fiscal year for twenty twenty and Twenty-One the annual operating budget. I'm calling to offer our judge the city to adjust next year's budget. I believe that we need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Nashville Police Department's budget should be invested in a long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civil civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APT and individual officers accountable. So I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in the city's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:17 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Andy. I live in Nashville, and I'm commenting on the fiscal year 2020 to 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to see to next year's budget when you begin investing from the police and invite you back you 50% of the actual police department's budget to be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses and leading the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools wage in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the TV and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:18 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Daniel. I'm from Asheville, North Carolina, and I'm calling about item five b about the fiscal budget for 2020 and 2021. I want to change the city council to listen to the Asheville black community and their demands that they set forth. I would like to see fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department budget. The directed towards other sources in the community as as the black community develops their list demands. I hope that the city council listen to them. I'm really disappointed with the the police presence and activity last couple of weeks, and I I want to be part of the movement all across the country to figure out how we can defund the police and use other parts of our community to fill those jobs. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:18 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Anthony Brickner. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to comment on the fiscal year 2020 to 2021 annual operating budget. Um, we need to keep saying from the police immediately and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting a startup some businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support. This is Central policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thanks.</p>	6/8/2020 1:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, I'm Joey. I'm a resident of Swannanoa. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust the next year's budget. We need to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including black startups and businesses and eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Andrew love and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police's killings of Georgia Minneapolis accountants. Black Americans and asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using these times to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget. Do not pick it up and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that package priority on social programs?</p>	6/8/2020 1:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Heather Compton. I'm a resident of Buncombe County. My zip code is 28803. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget money to begin investing from police and investing in Black communities and social programs instead 50% of the police budget at least should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting the lack startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools, as well as funding in all civilian oversight committee wage the power to hold the APD and individual officers as well accountable urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Brad Schneider. I'm a resident of the city of Asheville, and I'm calling to comment on fiscal year 2020 to 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the police in investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Tech startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funny and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD individual officers accountable. I urge the member every council member to support this essential policy policies at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:20 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Laura Harris. I live in Ashville, North Carolina. I demanded the budget vote may be delayed. So that counsel may find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget. I urge you to pressure the city manager's office towards an ethical and equal reallocation of the Cities expenditures away from APD and towards San Jose facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality research shows that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and Thursday or housing are far more successful at reducing crime than police or prison as such I demand more aggressive financial support to be directed to those areas affected. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:20 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Be there, this is KJ schroer. I am a resident of Buncombe County and my daughter Goes to School in downtown Nashville at a private school, which is also where I work. I'm calling about the city council tomorrow and the budget and want to bring it out to the city council to demand and ask that y'all begin and prioritize. strategizing how to divest from spending money on violence and militarization of the police department off and shift to spending more money on supporting programs that specifically Target and Aid our scheduling black communities. including long-term safety strategies supporting black starlets and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee wage power hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. I urge every city council member to support this essential policy shift at home like crucial juncture in our City's history. I hope that y'all have been showing up and listening to the words the needs of used birth of black youth in the black community as they've been speaking out at protests and marches and I hope that y'all are listening and hearing I imagine Shaniqua has no problem with this and she represents this population. I hope they all are listening to Shamika Fowler prioritizing what she has to say and centering the voices of this specific marginalized community in Asheville. There should absolutely be. racial Raining racial Equity training for those Police Department. Before they ever have access to guns or power. There should be screening so that anybody affiliated with any. racism or Hank organization or even</p>	6/8/2020 1:20 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Courtney Nelson. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of a PDF. The budget should be invested long-term in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black Starbucks and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power off a p d and individual offers officers accountable. They do not need to be in riot gear. The actual bike police is a perfect uniform. Why are they standing next to a generational guard and they're more in riot gear than the National Guard is they need D escalation training people who work with mental health residents. Just don't have this wage.Because they are trained and how to handle these situations. Not that all these situations are mental health, but they need that training. They don't need to just shoot first and be not be held accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 1:21 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Ash and I urge you to reconsider your \$400,000. Carlie funding for this year's budget and instead consider. an alternative action to policing methods in our city Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is William Drew and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget and the wake of the police killing of Georgie Boy to Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking that to Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Nashville police departments over inflated budget into other programs that could help the community and other communities of color.Yeah, I forget our port and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 1:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Angel Perez, and I'm calling in regards to the police brutality events that happened on June 2nd at 8:15 p.m. In downtown Asheville clearly identified. And push them out into the Street Asheville Police Department, then intentionally black the entire stash of water bottles and medical supplies station and finished the Rampage by Frank supplies back to prevent any further. These supplies could have easily been moved out and taken to a shelter is inciting violence know that sucks.</p>	6/8/2020 1:21 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Bridget Ramsey, and I'm calling in regards to police brutality events that happened on June 2nd at 8:15 p.m. In downtown Nashville. Clearly identified doctors and Medics were the city approved medical station. One world Brewing Asheville Police Department burst into the peaceful medic station and through innocent people against the wall and pushed them out into the Street Apt. Then intentionally slashed the entire stash of water bottles and medical supplies at the station and finish the Rampage by spraying supplies with chemicals to prevent any further. Use these supplies could have been easily moved out and taken to a shelter a PhD is inciting violence, and this needs to be ended now. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:21 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Sarah doverspike, and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the carries a Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance wage. Also, uh, I'm calling in support a black Asheville demands that represented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration. I urged city council to divest from the police and invest in both the house list and black community of Asheville. I believe that fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies and Community programs, including supporting black startups and businesses and eliminating the racial opportunities in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable for their actions and their promises to our community. Please do not allow a budget increase for the APD. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture and our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:22 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Sarah white. I'm a resident of Weaverville who frequently comes into Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to vesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial Junction in our service history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:23 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Elijah Holly, and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville's police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools home and video with the power to hold the APD and individual officers officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at a crucial juncture in our history. Thank you very much. I hope you mhm.</p>	6/8/2020 1:23 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Seth Ellis and the resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I just want to advocate for more accountability on police siren violence. Especially regarding the lives of black Americans. I think it's important for City Council Members to no longer negotiate with police unions for the withheld information embedded in police cams, and I think it should be public domain available to everyone so that we can make more informed better decisions going forward as we negotiate. What should we should live in? Thank you. Good luck.</p>	6/8/2020 1:23 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Beth Scott. And I think that the actual City budget for the police department is way too high. I for defense the police and putting some of that money back into the community. I think that honestly we have too many police in Nashville. From what I've seen they don't seem to have a lot to do with this is not a city with a high crime rate and where we really need that money is in communities, especially the black communities could use that money for a better housing and that's that's where I would like to see the money reallocated. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Eli win calling. I'm a resident of Asheville and Buncombe County. I'm calling because I'd like to urge the city to make some adjustments to the budget for next year. We needed to begin investing from the police wage investing in Black communities 30% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses limiting the racial opportunity Gap in Nashville schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee. And this is what I think is the most important with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member support this essential policy shift wage critical Junction, our cities histories with my elected official. I hope you will take this seriously. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:26 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello city councilmembers. My name is William Hinton Edgerton. I've been a resident of Asheville for about a year and half now and I'm calling on behalf of the city of Asheville to implore that you defund our police departments due to recent things that have come to light in terms of racism police brutality militarization of the police force. I am against all of that. I am for refund police because there are safer and better Community alternatives to our current policing system that are less harmful to the community and less racist and so I'm just calling to make my voice heard. Thank you very much for hearing me out. And I hope you make the right decisions on the budget this year because we desperately need it here in Nashville. This money could be going towards dead. Things that build our community like art education. I can't stress education enough rather than going towards things that break our community down such as our police system. So, thank you very much for listening. Have a good day. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Marie Kelly and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis walk-ins. Black Americans before him I'm asking what the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville Police Department over inflated budget into social programs that will help out with folks. poor folks Mental Health Services Do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs?</p>	6/8/2020 1:27 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there, this is the Crimson Tide. I I was just wondering if you all would be filing charges against the officers involved with the medical attendant, uh incident, you know, we don't serve cups in the department froze. So involved in the person who gives the order we'd like to see them reprimanded and So, thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:27 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is garnet Fisher. I'm a resident of Asheville. I was born in Hendersonville. I've lived here. Most of my life. This is in regards to the 2021 proposed budget for the city of Asheville. I'm asking the council to vote against the proposed budget office examined critically the use of the funds to defund the Asheville Police Department. We asked the council to provide a line item budget by Department. We need to know where our money is going. We demand of estimate from the police and investment in our communities at least fifty percent of the APD budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in schools and funding on all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and officers accountable. We need to redirect money away from and divest in the police and invest in our community. We need to have a hiring freeze and no more officers or resources should be directed to the APD. We need to examine police Union contracts until we can move away from police entirely. We need to make sure that officers misconduct records cannot birth. Judgment contracts or reinstated and that fired officers cannot be reinstated. This is unacceptable. We need to examine these police Union contracts. We demand reparations for the continuing harms inflicted on ash black community. We demand that they removed the vamp and Robert E. Lee monuments the daughters of Confederacy Monument any Monument to slavery and that is against the civil rights of our black friends and said, we need to replace these monuments and rename streets that are named after slave owners. We need to rename them to honor the black Ash Williams who built this city we demand for law enforcement to end the war on black. They have to be held accountable for lethal and violent use of force. This includes harms inflicted on all black people into including black Trans queer and gender-nonconforming people. This isn't she can move away from police entirely until better into a better system. We need to remove resource officers from schools. We do not need men with guns or women with guns or people with guns in our schools at all dead. We need to implement Community selected elected Service Groups to respond to the public health and safety crisis that should that would have previously been handled by police. This is a move away from police and to a better system. We need mediators that can respond to domestic violence traffic assistance to help people change their turn signals mental health responders that can help people stay calm. We do not need a militarized police institutions need to do arm and defund the police. There are better ways to do this are actually needs to be a community. That's an example of how this can be done better. These are all ideas for transition to a better model but the actions wage legislation put in place need to be constantly evolving and direct response to an ongoing dialogue with our black community leaders, please delay the budget vote rewrite the budget. I don't care how long that takes me need. This action-packed. We need Asheville to be a community that shows that they care that shows that we are progressive that we can create a community that honors and respects our black friends and</p>	6/8/2020 1:28 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Laura called me and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for wage assistance for the more I think city council. The council needs to adjust a budget. So it begins diverse thing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civil oversight come, with the power to hold the APD and individual offices accountable.To put cams on the officers and they have those on at all times.</p>	6/8/2020 1:28 PM	Budget
<p>So, this is Zach singer. I'm a resident in property owner of Asheville. Um, I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in the city schools and funding a civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD in individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our city said, thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:29 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Kelly Sanderson. I'm a resident of Asheville and I am calling with comment on public hearing item D regarding the fiscal year 2020 and 2010 your operating budget. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance and furthermore. I am tour the city council to adjust the budget so that it begins divesting from the Asheville Police and investing in Social programs in Black communities. I'd like to see portions of the apd's budget invested in a safety strategies, including supporting black businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power told APD off the individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:29 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Lindsay Miller. I'm a Nashville resident and I'm calling in support of the proposals made by the black AVL demands organization that were presented to the city on Saturday in advance of tomorrow's meeting. I'd like to ask city council to vote. No on increasing the police department's budget and instead ask that you consider divesting from the police and investing in communities 50% of the police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the police department and individual officers accountable. And I'd also like to urge the city to use the full amount of the same exact Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I hope that I can count on your support for these policies and um, Thank you very much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:30 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Kimberly Owens and I'm a Resident Evil. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police is killings of Georgia void in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Nashville Police Department over inflated budget and into programs such as education Healthcare equity and inclusion and affordable housing wage. I would also like to express my deep concern for the treatment of our medical professionals and medical supplies in last week's wage a protest the behavior of the police officers and the City of Asheville. Absolutely unacceptable. Please do not forget our dog.Communities of color. Can you please consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on black and people of color in our community? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:31 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Lee hockey, and I am a resident of the city of Asheville. I am also a native resident of the city of Asheville. I grew up in West Asheville and um my family is also from this area. I'm calling to comment on the fiscal year 2020-2021 annual operating budget and I want toMy request and to urge the city to adjust that next year's budget. I'm calling because I believe that we need to begin to age digest from the police and start investing funding into the black communities in Asheville wage. Um, my understanding 50% of the actual police department's budget could be removed and I believe that it should be wages and invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses to eliminate racial opportunity Gap in the Asheville City schools that funding could go to all citizen oversight committee. That would have the power to hold the APD and other officers accountable for their actions. So again, my name is Lee Hackney. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina. And I want to urge city council and the member of to support wage policy shift and the critical time in our history as a city. It's time to make. change and to support community members many of which are from here and seeing laser from here time for us to create opportunity and open our eyes to what has been happening to Black citizens in Nashville and And I thank you for your time. And for the work that you do City. All right.</p>	6/8/2020 1:31 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jeremy Salyers. I'm calling in regards to the call to defund the local Asheville Police Department. I support this, cuz there has been continued abuse of their power and their funds. That brings harm to our community, and so I wish the police department to be defunded. Once again, my name is Jeremy Salyers. I'm a Nashville County Bucks County resident and I support this movement. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:31 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Emily, I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling in regards to our 20 20 20 21 the fiscal year annual operating budget. I'm calling in order to urge the city to adjust next year's budget because we need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all a million oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our history. I grew up in Asheville and my family moved here when I was about a a little under a year old and I am appalled. Yep. I the fact that we still have so many things in place in our city that keeps black folks down and I really really urged the city council to take into consideration. The what I'm sure is influx of calls and emails that are coming in that the people of the city really do care package and we are holding you all accountable as well as well as police officers. So please heat our call. Please. Take care and please do what's right.</p>	6/8/2020 1:32 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Miles and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling the urge to say to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant or a cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to both of the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:32 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Cassidy stoneburg. I'm a resident of Buncombe County North Carolina, and I'm commenting on the fiscal year 20 20 21 annual budget annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the police investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups slash businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools in funding an odd billion oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history month. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:33 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Rebecca Morrison, and I'm calling as a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that represented on Saturday with the budget consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies interesting supporting black startups in businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD wage individual officers accountable. I would also like to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I hope I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Cathy Scott. I live just outside Nashville city limits, and I consider Asheville my community and this is for the open comment suction. I understand that the budget is being discussed and that the Asheville Police Department is Seeking a funding increase of about \$400,000 a month. I asked that City Council vote. No to this request and instead take a deep dive into a listening project hearing from Ashville African American community and Latin X Community to see how they have recently and historically experienced policing in Asheville. I believe hearing about those experiences conserve to guide the city council and the city staff including the city manager is they consider the role of policing community? And what its budget needs to be and how to bring Public Safety to all sectors of Asheville. There needs to be a reckoning and the people who have had the worst experiences at the hands of the police. And that is how we will know how to direct City resources. I think all of you on city council for the work that you do in making this the best possible City it needs to become. Thanks. Stay safe.</p>	6/8/2020 1:33 PM	Budget
<p>Good afternoon. My name is Robert Maddox and resident of West Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. And I I also I'm calling cuz I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from The public's and investing in Black communities, uh fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses wage eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in city of Asheville schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD the individual offices accountable and I know it's not part of this exact meeting, but I'm also curious when theCouncil will reconvene to further the discussion about the local local hotel tax funds that seems like there's a few months had a few million dollars there that can be put to much better use than just kind of exploiting. What is the natural resources this area just for tourism. I think that there's opportunity for that to be used for communities of color and to support more local initiatives as opposed to just funding getting off people here. Anyways, uh, thank you for your time. All right. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Noel Nicole and I live in the Kenilworth neighborhood in Asheville. I'm a clinical social worker and I moved here in nineteen ninety six and I've been engaged in criminal justice reform since then until recently. I would say I'm also an advocate of police reform but the events of the last few weeks have provided more clarity for me about that language. And now I believe we must pursue transformation and not simply reformed but I know to be true is this policing in our country was not created. It was never intended to meet our community's most pressing needs regardless of training or financial resources. The actual police department does not have the capacity to meet these Community needs by continuing the current level of funding and considering an additional \$400,000. We are perpetuating policies and practices that are not only wasteful and misguided but also result in at the very least moral injury of our Law Enforcement Officers wage.As far worse continue trauma for those Among Us with black and brown skin, I urge you as you are preparing the budget for next year to reallocate money to support efforts, like community-based interventions public transit and Operational Support for the Community Land Trust most importantly. I challenge you to meet the demands of black released just yesterday including them in fifty percent of the budget toward long-term safety strategies such as supporting by businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in our schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with a means to pursue real accountability. None of this is frankly revolutionary at this point. It just makes sense and it's certainly is the next right step for the Asheville Community. I'm deeply grateful for your service to our community and I look forward to hearing ways. I can support the efforts of council and transforming the APD and building Greater. Yep.Passivity in our community to care for all of us with compassion and Equity. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:34 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Andrew Rainey. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge city council to adjust next year's budget with Bob Hope of investing from the police and investing in Black communities. I think fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Plex startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual authors accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history and</p>	6/8/2020 1:34 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Ravi bookstaver. I'm offered resident for about twelve years and a local business owner. I'll leave the fine print of exactly what defunding and refunding is being requested to those who know better than I that Shirley you are hearing from today dually. Um, I'm embarrassed at this point to live in a town that considered itself liberal and Market itself is such for tourists money that then contributes none of that money to a population. So obviously in need everywhere next to us. To continue to not listen to these demands willful harm to our neighbors. And should be a shame on your own conscience. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:34 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Brian Head. I'm a city of Asheville resident and I am here to comment on the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. I just wanted to register an opinion on two different issues on the topic first. I want to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act funding for rental assistance and second. I also think city council needs to adjust the budget, so that begins at 5 and from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I'd like to know if you all are going to support this apology wage policy today and look forward to hearing what you have to say. Take care. My name is Brian Head. My phone number is 828-712-9623. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:35 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Renee Mazurek. And I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and clubs and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APV individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our service history. Thank you so much for the work that you do. And I look forward to seeing these changes in our city.</p>	6/8/2020 1:35 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Madeline Lafferty. I am a Nashville resident and I'm calling regarding the upcoming City budget Kings. I request releasing a detailed description in justification for the four hundred thousand dollars an increase to the police budget particularly given the growth in gentrification in recent years disproportionately impacting the poor and people of color mainly black individuals rather than I think we should be investing in our community very desperate need for social services, especially housing subsidies. I recommend these funds to be diverted I advocate for investing currently funds in the office in Minneapolis and its efforts to translate at least system. I have a key rerouting proposed 400k in additional funds towards programs that directly help the community such as love it Asheville Club is Caffè Bene Collective as well as housing subsidies and other social services studies show providing stable housing reduces crime recidivism and drug and alcohol dependency while saving faithDollars investing in the community's well-being rather than its social control is proven. Not only to be the world cause of action, but also economically efficient, please allocate a hundred K and Operational Support our community land trust the ownership of affordable housing opportunities and more again in conclusion invest in our community. Am I using our public tax dollars to divest the police in favor of immediate Community needs such as Transit affordable housing Healthcare food and living wages. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:35 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Danielle shown, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget and begin divesting from the police and investing in black community that fifty percent of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start up some businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this critical juncture at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:36 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Evelyn. I'm a resident of Buncombe County. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. We need to check in a resting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police departments budgets be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black. It's like businesses eliminating the same opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual offices accountable. I urge every council member to support. This is a policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:36 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Sarah. I am a resident inn in Asheville City and I am calling about the item fiscal year 2020-2021 annual operating budget. I am calling today to ask the city council to please the line our City's budget to our cities values specifically to not give any budgetary increases to the actual police department and instead Focus wage sources on that are needed in the community like access greater access to mental and physical health care, especially for young black indigenous people of color affordable housing, um for all people public transportation basically resources, that would include increase wage D including resources in our school system like mental health supports, um School nurses, um that kind of thing. So I'd like to see some more mentorship programs as well. Our city schools along with business incubators for black and indigenous people of color businesses, so we can have greater number of black-owned businesses in Asheville. Thank you so much for your time and your work appreciate you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:37 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Steve Cooper man. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm commenting on the fiscal year 20 20 21 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust the next year's budget and in particular requesting that you do not increase the actual police department's budget as part of this and future budget Cycles. I believe we should instead invest in efforts that will strengthen the health of the black community wage, which would ultimately benefit the entire Community. I'm fully in support of the strategies and measured proposed as part of black Asheville demands, which are to support black startups and black businesses along the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and fund and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:37 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Bianca and I am a resident and small business owner here in the city of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need them and I Best Thing from the police, and we need to begin investing into black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies include supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you for taking the time to listen to this message, and I look forward to seeing you guys do the right thing this year. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:38 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Ken. I've been a resident of Asheville North Carolina for five years. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from police beginning with next year's budget specifically home. So I guess that budget and reinvest it into the black communities that would include Black start up some businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City Schools jobs funding and also going and oversight committee with the power to hold a p and it's off of theirs accountable. Thank you. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 1:38 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Scott Thompson, and I'm a resident West Asheville and I'm calling to comment on the needing of June 9th. Agenda item ugh, Roman numeral V. I d uh-ha the public hearing on the fiscal year 2020 and 2021 budget. I called earlier in the week to talk about the need to defund the Asheville Police Department and to write off black community of Asheville. And in that call I asked you to listen to the voices of the black community in Nashville. And since that call there has been a specific set of Demands brought forth from a generational Coalition of black local leaders. I wanted to express my support for those demands and express them on the record as well in this call in those demands. Are we demand a divestment from the police and investment in Black communities? We demand prepare for the past and continuing harm inflicted on. Yep. black community and we demand not just individual accountability for officers after lethal or violent use-of-force for accountability for the entire Asheville Police Department. I would urge the council to consider how their actions can directly affect the lives of black ash villains and do right by them black lives matter flag.</p>	6/8/2020 1:38 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Darcy Wade, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal in the wake of the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him from asking at the Asheville City Council made a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the Asheville police departments over inflated budget instead move the spending towards sectors of facilitate, the dismantling of racial and class inequalities. It is imperative that these funds be redirected to Aryan in the community that focus on education affordable housing Economic Security and mental health research shows that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment education opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime than than police or prisons. Plus I demand more aggressive financial support be directed to those areas. Furthermore, I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins very besting from police and investing in Black communities as well fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power of the APD and individual officers accountable dresses will only be serving the police are reformed and this will not be possible until we disarm them. Can I please count on you guys to consider an alternative budget that puts the focus on social service programs over the agency's our community is relying on you guys at this time. Thank you so much, Darcy wait.</p>	6/8/2020 1:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Liz gum. I'm a resident of Asheville Buncombe County. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I am I also think that city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in black community that fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and took City schools and funding on all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 1:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is Abby. I am a resident of Asheville North Carolina and I'm commenting for an open public comment for the council meeting today. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Care is a Community Development block grant AKA cdbg phone number for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police departments budgets should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunities. eliminating the racial opportunity Gavin, Nashville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department individual officers accountable. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 1:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is ramie Sawyer. I have lived in Buncombe County Asheville specifically for about 4 and 1/2 years. And item I'm commenting on is the fiscal year 2020 and 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust the budget for next year. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools home and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history and I feel personally that many of our problems that we rely on police to solve could be solved with the input of social workers wage. With strengthening education in with diversifying the people who are in charge of Public Safety. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Nancy Crystal. I live in Ashville, North Carolina, and I'm commenting on fiscal year 2020-2021 annual operating budget. I'm a resident of Asheville, and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to vesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers account wage. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thanks so much. I appreciate you all working on this. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:40 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hello, my name is Hilary McVicker. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm a homeowner in Longford. I've lived here for 21 years and I'm calling regarding firefighter pay I think it's absolutely imperative that firefighters are compensated equitably when compared to other firefighters working in cities with the same volume that Asheville has am also think that the work that they do and the risk what they take is absolutely valuable to the city and I think that the city should do what's right and appropriately compensated firefighters. Thank you very much.	6/8/2020 1:40 PM	Budget
Hello, Nicole Johnson, Asheville, North Carolina, and this is for the fiscal year 2020 to 2021 operating annual operating budget. I'm a resident of Buncombe County. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power off all the APD and individual officers accountable. This is so important. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. We have an opportunity to lead the country and be a Beacon of Hope and light and beautiful ideals. We live in a beautiful place and we should be leading on this front. Thank you. Thank you so much for your time. Bye-bye.	6/8/2020 1:40 PM	Budget
Hi, my name is Kelly Applegate. I am a citizen of the city of Asheville. And I am calling to let all of my Representatives know the mayor of Nashville and all of city council's that when you are considering a lauding the amount of money that you're planning to for the Asheville Police Department. I I plead of you and I ask of you could we please use some of the money that you plan to put into their action into education and into the schools in lower-income areas in our city including the South Side Community. I think it would be a much better use of our extra money and our time to either give these children a chance and give these kids a reason to come up within their neighborhoods. Thank you so much for your time. And I really hope that yep.Consider taking some of this money and putting it back into our city where truly counts. Thank you.	6/8/2020 1:42 PM	Budget
Hi, this is Hillary choose and I live in West Asheville and I'm commenting on the budget but in particular on the police budget and their requests always request took more money. I am asking you please to consider and to consider again the police budget and their request at this time. I have read so many wonderful news reports about what the words defund the police or abolish the police really mean and I don't think any of us should be afraid or should step back from that language demands should always exceed what we expect and they provide a great negotiation point for all of city council. So I am asking you please to support black business owners to support our black community to help eliminate the race racist Gap dead.In Nashville in particular in the city schools to eliminate the military militarization of our police force. I for one have never called myself a civilian. I'm a citizen. I do not want to be called a civilian and I do not want to think of the Asheville Police as anything other than guardians of Asheville. Thank you so much.	6/8/2020 1:42 PM	Budget
Hi, my name is spider light body over the years. Our city has seen was having a Minneapolis happened here as Citizens voters taxpayers and basic human beings. We will no longer tolerate the behavior that is resolved. So many black Americans locally and nationally by police to ever happen in Asheville. Again are black community members are not targets for punching bags through an inept and poorly trained officers to terrorize black Ashville is Asheville. Thank you black lives matter.	6/8/2020 1:42 PM	Opencomment
Hello, my name is Sarah Donnelly. I live in Asheville Buncombe County and I am commenting on fiscal year 20 20 through 21 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in black community that fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and business office eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.	6/8/2020 1:43 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Shay Olinger. I live in Ashville North Carolina and I am commenting on item fiscal year 2020 to 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities. We called it 50% of the the police department's budget should be invested and long-term safety strategies including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Jersey City schools refunding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable every council member to support this is Central policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much and solidarity.</p>	6/8/2020 1:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Madeline quader. I'm a resident of Clyde. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares Act. Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the Police Package investing in Black communities 50% of the apts budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting select startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap Nashville city schools and funding and all stability and oversight committee with the power to hold and individual officers accountable. Thank you to reach me back at a 2018 3/4. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 1:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Shea Olinger, and I am a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget and the dressing.</p>	6/8/2020 1:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hi folks, my name is Peter Millis. I'm a private practice social worker therapist here in Asheville and Buncombe County actual City residents. I'm a little confused as to where the actual City boundary is. Apparently I can't vote for well. Anyway, I'm calling to urge the actual city council to adjust next year's budget. There's too much money going to the tops too much of an increase is going to the police. Um, we need to divest from the police. They're not making us any safer. Unfortunately Nationwide. This is a trend that it's just seems to be the case here in Nashville. And in fact, what they're doing is is perhaps your no fault of the individual officers, but causing dissension andInstigating all kinds of problems looking bad embarrassing and so on and so on those lines so so it makes sense to spend the money surfing one hundred percent of the proposed increase in the police department budget, um to spend that instead on increased. Diversity sensitivity and safety training. I used to work in public law enforcement and public medicine public emergency medicine back in New York City and I I'm not really aware of how much power police men and women individual police people feel like they need and they're you know waving around maybe that's a reason that folks want to be Top Choice to exercise some kind of personal power you can look into it. But that needs to be addressed in some way or another this isn't about people being powerful or showing anybody who's boss or anything like that really a matter of protecting serving and it just doesn't seem like that's the main mission does it so all I have money should go to finish in that swimming pool in Black communities, and I was also a teacher here eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools is the way people talk about it. And I think in all civilian oversight committee would be a really really good idea right? Thanks for listening. And I hope you guys make the right decision. I'm just not seeing that the cops and more money for the cops are actually keeping us very much safer or any safer at all. Just not seeing it looks like a a waste of money as the department of structured right now. Thanks.</p>	6/8/2020 1:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Brandon Robertson and I live in Ashville, North Carolina. I'm currently a resident here and I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the character act in a community development block grant funds for rental assistance. I also think that the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing from the police and investing in black and underprivileged to use fifty percent of the budget should definitely be invested in long-term space and strategies including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap that has been president of life for far too long and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable for their actions off. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Carly hartsman. I've lived in Nashville for five years and I may even see a graduate a lot of us are asking you to divest 50% of the police budget and reinvest it back into our black communities, but I and I agree with the Styles think it's the bare minimum of what we can do in the long-term. I'm interested to hear about what your plans are in this long-term to lead to abolishing our police completely dead. I believe we have the resources, and I would be interested to know what y'all are going to do to make that happen. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hello. My last message was unclear. My name is Xavier Robinson Waters and I say no to increase police funding.</p>	6/8/2020 1:45 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Shay Olinger. I am a student a resident of Asheville, North Carolina, and I'm calling to comment on fiscal year 2021 the annual operating budget calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and also the oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 1:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Ally, I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act funds for rental assistance package. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Maureen Drinker, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget need to begin divesting from the police investing black communities 50% of the actual Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold off a p d and individual officer of accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Gretchen Gordon. I am a Weaverville resident and I am calling to comment on the just the year 2021 annual operating budget. Urging you to adjust the budget to start investing in Black communities and poorer communities in Asheville and particular Social Services wage, like a healthcare startup businesses education and Transit and to divest from the police forces, which have continued to get an increase in funding despite these other areas being underfunded. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:47 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Missy read I live in Asheville North Carolina in this comment is for the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. I'm a I'm a bashful and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We desperately need to begin the vesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups black businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools, as well as funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individuals and officers accountable. I desperately urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Cary Hill. And I am a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget money in the week of the police's killing of Georgie Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that this that Ashworth Council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote using this time to find ways to redirect money away from police department over inflated budget and into programming like education affordable housing Economic Security and mental healthPlease do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that put a priority on these social program? Thank you for listening. Thank you for the important work that you all are doing at this time.</p>	6/8/2020 1:49 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Tony Reid and I'm a resident of Asheville Island City to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to high vesting from the investors black communities of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap policy skills and funding and all civilian oversight committee with pilot hole the ipd and individual officers accountable. I urge every member to support this extension policy shift this crucial juncture in our cities. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:50 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Sophia Morgan, and I'm a resident of North Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to be divesting from police officer and not approving any budgetary increases for them for anything including building or walkie-talkies or any budgetary increase there needs to be a freeze on new hiring and we need to be taking 50% of the police department's budget right now and investing it in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every member of city council to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history, and we need Justice for Jerry Williams. We're still waiting.</p>	6/8/2020 1:50 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Charlie Haskins and I am a resident of West Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding on all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this criminal Criminal. Juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:50 PM	Budget
<p>God ChurchWalk-in. Strategies like home first to adjust asking. Progress money is power is powerful and you as individuals have the capacity to change what our society looks like in this so-called liberal Progressive Town. Appreciate your time and look forward to seeing your decision to be found a place for us. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:50 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Tasha at 3 and I'm a black native in resident of Asheville. I'm calling to ask the city to use the entirety of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance in our city that has one of the largest affordability gaps city council needs to adjust the budget of \$30 that is allocated to APD and invest in Black communities at it has historically and continuously destroys at the absolute least fifty percent of the apd's budget needs to be invested in Black start-up businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the AP an individual officers accountable for their actions the city through local government and policing continuously brutalizes is black community and you have yet to make up in any substantial efforts for the past seventy years of knowingly ripped apart of our communities and continue to do so the school year by fiscal year.</p>	6/8/2020 1:51 PM	Budget
<p>Yes. Hi. My name is Christopher Charlie Rose. I live here in Asheville, North Carolina, and I'm calling to ask the city to adjust the next year's budget. Um, I just really think that there needs to be more investment into the black community as well as at least a looking into the infrastructure in the systems of the police. Maybe I'm not so much in Kingsport of defunding but maybe having consequences. Um, and just that there should be long-term safety strategies and how we can support black-owned know some businesses cuz I think we all know there's a huge gap from social economical statuses dead. And just really want to hold not just the police, but all of us accountable for our actions and lack of actions. So I just urged that would all members of the city council to really look into this and just realize that for more than a century if not centuries. This country is kind of turned the other way or that that's not good, but that's not good enough anymore. So off we need action, and we need to hold people accountable. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 1:51 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Kristen done. I live in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Actually, Laurel Park and I am on the Laurel Park Town Council. I know that you guys are receiving a lot of information and input about your recent police who were destroying water bottles in a medic tent and I want to say that as a council member here in Henderson County. Um, I would be holding my police accountable. I would try to be doing everything in my power to make sure that they were not given Authority anymore because they did not look like they were doing part protecting and serving. So again with the Mantra that we want to make sure that our folks are protecting and serving the citizens of Western North Carolina. I would figure out a way to make sure that they you're not going to be part of the police force anymore. Be more than happy to talk about this in the future. If you do feel the need to call me back. My telephone number is area code seven zero four five.975-6346. Again, this is Kristen done of Laurel Park, North Carolina in Henderson County. Thank you guys for all that you are doing I know that it's tough being in leadership right now. I'm there with you, but let's make sure that our police do protect and serve hallelujah, and amen. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:51 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, this is Megan Jackson. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing for the police and not investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminate the opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the powers up to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable Council number to support this essential policy shifts this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thanks for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 1:52 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Laramie, and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget Thursday. We would like to start divesting from the police and investing in Black communities. Um 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety issue outage. He's including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to whole D and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history month, or else you won't get my vote. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:52 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Amanda Brown and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed but police budget meeting house considering everything going on right now in light of the killing and the possible. Police funding I guess. I just I want the council to make a commitment to Justice by delaying the budget vote home and finding ways to direct money from the Asheville Police Department into other community programs change something that benefits. the residents of this town Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:53 PM	Budget
<p>Hello Council mayor see manager and others. My name is Matt Shepard. I'm calling to leave a comment urging you to offer direct the \$400,000 is going to the police department to other places. I'd like to see that go back into the black community of Asheville. Furthermore. I'd like to see the militarization of our police. I saw in the I would also like. Parent budgeting. I would also like to see participatory budgeting may not be on the schedule today, but it's a related issue. I'm seeing Apple twenty nine point six million dollars of our budget and for comparison Asheville City Schools get 12.6. Um, I would like to see yeah specifically dead.Jeff 400,000 right now not go to the police. They have plenty of money. They have more than they need and there's a lot of things in our community that could use more of our budget funds and the black community in Nashville has been treated very poorly over the course of many years and I would like to see energy funds andOur hearts go to that community and see the people of Asheville and not more policing and let's figure out ways to walk, you know address underlying reasons that might be issues in our community wage in those directions. So anyway, thank you. Appreciate you all. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 1:55 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Zoe Vickers. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance office, or the more I think city council needs to adjust the budget the budget so it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and hunting and all civilian oversight committee with the power to both the TV and individual officers accountable. Please do this now. The people need you to</p>	6/8/2020 1:57 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, good afternoon. My name is Andrew Bowers and I'm a resident of Candler North Carolina. I own a small business the operates in the city of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and invest investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including Soul putting black startups businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and the individual officers account every city council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. God bless takes so much. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Catherine Shaw and I'm a Nashville resident of twelve years. This is a, about the proposed 2020-2021 budget. It is clear that police brutality and racism are systemic issues that cannot be solved more funding and training for the police department. I'm outraged at the amount of my tax dollars that go towards the police department when research has shown that education. They will have things social programs are often do that reducing crime and police say I'm asking the city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget and using this time to find new ways to redirect funds from the bank programs that focus on education housing harm reduction mental health support and domestic violence that uplift our communities and in turn reduce reduce crime rate. Can I come on YouTube app sidur, what a majority of your constituents want a Nashville an investment in the community over policing. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 1:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Katie Alexander and I am a resident of Asheville and I'm calling tonight to voice my support as a black actual demands that were presented on Saturday wage. I feel that we have an opportunity right now to completely shift the way that we think about our police force and to move away from policies and techniques and habits that are created really to protect white property to punish black people. And when I think about having social workers instead of police officers with guns responding to calls that require gas station or or that require Mental Health Services. I feel really hopeful about creating an environment that is more peaceful less violent and ultimately so much more helpful wage, then our current system at the end of the day what we're doing now is not working. We have police officers in riot gear, but the largest racial achievement gaps in the southWe have a city that Prides itself on being Progressive, but our number one budget item is for the police force. So here is my ask of the city council with the current budget of thirty million dollars. I asked the council not only to deny the \$400,000 proposed increasing budget for the Asheboro police department. But to move towards taking fifty percent of the current Police Department budget and invest that in long-term safety strategies that support the black community like supporting black businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and activity schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the Appleton Police Department and individual officers accountable, but also like to urge the city to offer full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance we can and we must do better here and Asheville and I have faith that our city is dead. Thank you for doing the right thing.</p>	6/8/2020 1:58 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Jerry Delaney and I'm from Asheville North Carolina on leaving a public message for the June 9th City Council budget hearing and I'm calling with regards to police department and after the sneak attack from the police department on May 31st that without warning tear-gassed and used rubber bullets on the peaceful protesters and not following nights destruction of the medical supply set up to help the protesters who were protesting police violence. I am calling to vote no for the funding calling for and hate and no increase of orange or \$2,000 for the police department. I would like to see the fund produced and I go to our communities to improve education mental health care and health care to our black communities where it is most needed police actions on accountability wage.It's horrifying police officers are hired and paid to protect and to serve the community violating our rights to safety physical and chemical attacks struction of property. All of which would clearly be considered criminal charges against the citizens of this community and any other in the United States of America, but they are overlooked and the police are free of any responsibility for their actions. I don't believe that they're these are the services that we should be paying for. The black community has suffered severely by the unequal treatment of their community. So we as human beings who live under the guise of freedom and liberty for all have deliberately deprived black community of affordable housing equal opportunity and jobs education Medical Care and all that the human wageTold that human message Tessa T's to improve their life situations. It is time to live up to our belief that all men and women are created equally on Thursday and start representing all of our communities equaling. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:58 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Name is Mike Orchard here. No, I don't live there. But I always considered North Carolina to be a little bit more sensible than was demonstrated by the police breaking up that medical tent. That we're when was that day or two ago? Tuesday, I guess police officers in riot gear holding her she Shields, you know breaking up that tent stomping on the water bottles. I mean, what's the point wage? If you're going to hire children at least higher children know how to take Direction you should somebody should be directing these people policemen should not be doing that kind of thing. I mean to dictive Boeing and you know people in medical tent they're not going to resist anything they're told to do but there to help people they're there to be Humane the cops are just doing something that was totally the antithesis of being reasonable and Humane or thoughtful. And in fact, it's a destructive thing for them to do in terms of the reputation of your city in the reputation of City Hall in the reputation of the mayor and the reputation of your police department. And in fact, it's national news. So it also wage Just the reputation of all the good policeman that are doing their jobs properly. I'm a retired physician and a retired veterinarian 360-903-2482. I you know, I I'm being polite by the words. I've chosen for this, but I don't feel real polite about this event. I mean, this is really a terrible thing. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:58 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Satya Austin Opera. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with the next year's budget. I think city council needs to adjust it. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and business office eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. I hope I can count on your support for these essential policy shifts at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:59 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Marlene Thompson, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm asking if the Asheville city council make more of Bert and visible commitment to racial Justice. I demanded the budget vote be delayed so that the chef find ways to redirect money away from APD over-inflated budget. I urge you to pressure the city's manager managers office towards an ethical and equal. Sorry. Research shows that living wage access to health care and treatment education opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime and police or prisons, and honestly, I can probably Google that so I don't know what you're doing a demand more aggressive financial support be directed to those areas are black communities and communities of color have been disproportionate targets of police violence for far too long. Just I will be served when the APD is reformed. This will not be possible until we defund them. Thank you so much. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 1:59 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Tracy Davis black and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think the city council needs to make a adjustments to change it to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested into long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating racial opportunity eliminating the racial opportunity gaps in Asheville schools and funding all civilian oversight committees with the power to uphold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:59 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Trudy henegar. I'm calling to make a comment regarding the budget review for the next fiscal and also just calling and and sharing how frustrated I am by the state of the of Asheville Police Force and our police force in this country as a whole but specifically and a Nashville in the use of teargas. Um, I am asking that you deny the request for increased funding for the actual police department and that the fund be you know, appropriated towards programs that help rebuild. Um, that's really focus on the well-being the health and well-being. And asking you to put our in my taxpayer dollars towards a more peaceful future. So I'm really hoping for you know cultural sensitivity training and an increase in community outreach programs and police accountability. That have the the power to investigate please silence complaints and review police misconduct and discipline offers for wrongdoing thumb seeing the police response to protesters. Um using tear gas has has just been shocking to see in our home and our actual community and seeing the police force, um dismantle medic sites making national news husband dead alarming as well to me and splashing water bottles while they wear riot gear. So I am asking that you know, there are third-party psychological evaluations for all please enforcement to be completed every six months and the escalation training and nonviolent communication mandatory for all law enforcement officers. Annually. Definitely the dismissal of all officers need to have visual Violet complaints placed against them. There has to be accountability. There has to be traceability if an officer has been dismissed off, or she should not be able to move to another County or state and get a new law enforcement job there. They need to be placed on an anti policing registry that can be viewed online. I would like to see penalties for Associated officers on the scene so that they are off.</p>	6/8/2020 1:59 PM	Budget
<p>It is this is no McWilliams. And I was just calling in regards to the medication that was destroyed. I was at that protest and uh, just leaving my sport for um, how Despicable and message that is um, and uh, yeah, I really hope that there's some justice for those offices and did that and um that completely ruined a peaceful protest uh with with regards to messing up someone's saying that we had nothing to do with the the protests really itself, but just trying to help people that were in need of medical support, so that's my thoughts on it, and thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:59 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Heidi know I'm a physician in the community and I'm calling to support the proposal by the actual black community to change. Used 4% of the budget to increase the police force funding and instead to use that to support other proposals that will support the community and a particularly within the police have been really disturbed by recent events. And I'm hoping that there will be some positive change. I'd like to think if she has not had the problems that it turns out. We really have and I do support the efforts of the police to improve their accountability to the public especially to the black community. I think some there are some really good ideas out there including some ways of of holding the police accountable within the departures. And promoting and encouraging police officers to report each other and to hold each other accountable Banning Police tactics that impair breathing including chokeholds, certainly using body cam footage and every interaction and not having the ability to just turn it on or off. And it certainly be escalation training as well as implicit bias training certainly in the Healthcare Community. We have struggled from some of the same challenges and have many of the same, um biases and problems to try to fix and I encourage the city council to do everything that they can to support the black community at this time and to help the police force become wage what? I think they want to be to serve and protect our community including all of our black community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:59 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is Rochelle. I live on the south side and I'm a business downtown business owner from pearls yarn Emporium. I just wanted to suck. Show my support for defunding the police for doing like Minneapolis is and I'm a balancing the police department as it is and reforming the the services that it provides around with new and better equipped folks for doing those jobs. No one knows better than you do. How long possible it's been to reform Asheville Police Department. We've tried so many chiefs with so many ideas and we still keep up with cops abusing innocent people whether it's uh tasing and eating Johnny Raja. or the absolute craziness but went on beating on protesters firing gas and bullets at people who were doing nothing wrong. There's there's no excuse at this point. Uh-huh. You've tried to fix it by throwing money at it and it's just made the problem progressively worse. The only option now is to is to do the hard work and start over and give the the functions of the police two people can who can do them wage better, which at this point is practically anybody else, you know, I know there's a lot of fear around what happens without capital P police, but We've seen the the dark side of what does happen with Capitol Police, and it's not going to be worse than that. It's going to be better. We just need to hang out of the vision and the courage to move forward and I believe at least some of you on Council really do have that. So, uh, you know, let's let's move this thing forward and make a better Asheville for everybody defund abolish the police. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 1:59 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Beth Johnson. I am a resident of Weaverville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the the police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black stars businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools, and I'm getting all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you for taking the time to listen.</p>	6/8/2020 2:00 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Adrian. I'm a resident here in Nashville and also a community organizer and executive director of you outrank. I'm calling to check the city to divest from blinks specifically starting now with voting on next year's budget. Um, there's a number of things as a number of reasons why I think we should be there besting from the police. I think first and foremost if we think about our own Department destroying medical supplies water food things like that and summer versus folks on the street from Medics were told they could set up there and then the police went ahead and destroyed everything that's unacceptable. Officers should be held accountable for that and I think that beyond that we have the general problem of police killing black people. Absolutely insane. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it starts divesting from the police and starts investing in black community 50% of a piece budget should be addressed in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with our Apple the whole APD an individual officers accountable. There are we know the system is here to oppress people of color specifically black folks. We're seeing this movement rise all over the country all over the the globe, right? Let's not let Asheville be last on the list to adapt, right? Now is an opportunity to prove you are really diverse community. Leadership is actually engaged and helping the most marginalized right we need to be centering the most marginalized in our community and meeting them. None of us are free until all of us are free. I urge. Yeah, it's Ville city council the mayor all of your stock. guys that from the police department Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 2:00 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Sherry Torres. I'm a resident of West Asheville and I am calling to urge the city not to jump to any immediate conclusions about what to do and rather have a whole system conversation that is facilitated. There are people in a community people of color that tends to facilitate and appreciative inquiry mini Summit or a World Cafe any number of ways of getting off this invoices in the conversation and also to be able to look at what are some of the other things that are other people are doing to respond in ways that not totally defund a police department's budget or just scrap money from it arbitrarily but to really go after looking at how do we make sure that our city job? Sunday is actually funding good policing and even more importantly funding the community in ways that we need a minimum police force. And the people in this community know how we can make that happen. We just have to work together collaborate come up with creative ideas find out best practices and then act together. So I encourage you please Beyond a project with Cortana Caldwell would be a great one. They're trained at all sorts. For location skills. I would be more than delighted to help. There are so many people that are skilled in facilitation. That would welcome the opportunity to help this city have a whole system conversation that could really really make a difference. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:00 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Abdul Lacy and I live in Ashville. I would like to leave a comment about the fiscal year 20 20 to 21 annual operating budget. Um, I am calling to urge you to adjust the next year's budget. We need to divest from police and invest in Black communities Instead at least fifty percent and ideally ninety percent of the actual patients budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups of businesses eliminating the reach the opportunity Gap National City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committees with the power to hold off and individual officers accountable. There should be more rigorous police training and an emphasis on crisis the escalation, um, and replacing police officers with professionals who are actually trained to help people and deescalate tense situations instead of escalate them into violence. Um, hired every council member to support the central policy shift wage. At this crucial juncture in the city history, and I would like our voices to be heard. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:01 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Muriel Cutler. I live in Asheville, North Carolina, and I am a real estate agent here. I am calling to demand that the actual police department not receive any more funding that there were hiring freeze and preferably that we abolish the police completely and moved to a community lead safety model. The money should go to real Public Safety efforts such as education Mental Health Care Transit as well as making sure the neighborhoods that are currently mostly made up of people of color and lower income. People are no longer food deserts. Just unacceptable for the Asheville Police Department to think that taking a knee makes it for the actions taken against the peaceful protesters in the past week with structural racism formed by the city funded by the city of Asheville must be wage and I am voting again know for funding the Asheville Police Department, and I'm calling for a hiring freeze. I want to remind the city council members that if you care for our community, you will not yep. To the Asheville Police Department receiving any more funding at this time. I thank you for listening to me as well as the many community members that I know are reaching out to you guys. I know this is a lot all at once but something needs to change and we are no longer going to stand by and allow the police departments of this city as well as every city to continue to kill brown people for no reason.</p>	6/8/2020 2:01 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Marta Courier and I'm a resident of Asheville and I've been a resident for ten years and like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget office in the wake of the police's killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the city council make a commitment to racial Justice by saying the budget boat and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from police actual police departments over inflated budget. Into programs that help people with mental health into Healthcare into the transit system That Into You Know education, um, don't forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts priority on social programs. Thanks so much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Savannah Sweeting, and I'm a citizen of Asheville, and I was calling in regard to the public hearing tomorrow for the budget, and I wanted to make sure that my city council members are going to vote to not give the police the increase that they are asking for and instead to redistribute be fun to public Housing and Community Development, and I would like to make sure that the city council members know how much of an issue. This is too many people in Asheville, and I'm sure you're getting a lot of calls and emails today, and I am, you know, just going to be another person to advocate for this as well. Thank you so much, and I will be looking forward to seeing how it turns out tomorrow. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Ben. I'm a Nashville resident. I'm calling about the the hearing on the city budget for the coming year particularly about the proposal to increase funding for the Asheville Police Department for a few reasons including the fact that the police department is already the city's greatest expenditure and property taxes and that they have added themselves to the list of police departments in the nation that have exhibited excessive and cruel responses to protest this week. I Request that this be rejected the proposal to increase the funding The Proposal I view as an affront to the movement for racial Justice that's in a pivotal moment right now and that green lighting it would be impermissible and um actually dog has an opportunity to display the they have the the moral standard required to make the changes that this country needs by choosing to reject the proposal. And to instead allocate funding towards social services such as education Public Health having more living wages of Transportation. Affordable housing a variety of things that will support black communities and communities of color and Asheville as well as everyone else ma'am. So, I think this is an important stand for the city council to take that. The people of Asheville will be behind and as long as necessary movement to be made right now the the defunding and the demilitarizing of police forces. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:03 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Um, this is Tracy Henninger. I'm at Asheville citizen. Um, I don't know if my message just got caught off or not. But I am calling about the upcoming budget meeting for twenty month twenty Twenty-One. I am frustrated by the state of the city's police force, and I'm asking that you do not approve but that you denied the request for increased funding and I am asking that the funds be appropriated toward programs to help rebuild from Thursday to rebuild. I know that I've seen on even national news the actions and the actual police department. I'm shocked to see them using tear gas on protesters and especially seeing them dismantling Medicare station flashing water bottles while they're in riot gear off. And so I am asking that you deny the request for increased funding and I asked that the actual police department budget go towards other programs such as cultural sensitivity training community outreach programs establishing a police accountability unit and psychological evaluation the escalation training just missing officers. You have the visual violent complete place to God. Against that there has to be accountability there has to be traceability. There has to be penalties for Associated officers. There has to be body cam footage and ending no-knock raids and Banning Police tactics that impaired breathing including all totals. Asking that we divest from the police and invest in Black communities and that fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies. Including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and also the same oversight committee. We need to repair for the past harm and the continuing harms that we're seeing from the police department and others on the actual black community. And we need to remove the Vanceburg Robert u e monument and name the streets after former slave owners. Replace them with black leaders. There has to be accountability there has to be repaired.</p>	6/8/2020 2:03 PM	Budget
<p>Good afternoon. My name is Claudia coronavirus. I am a resident of Asheville for the past eighteen years and a business owner both in downtown and in West Asheville, I am calling to comment on the fiscal year 2020-2021 annual operating budget that city council will be discussing tomorrow Tuesday. I wanted to speak out in support of the demands that have been made by black Asheville, like actual leaders that were present it to the city on Saturday and that we March or I want to support all three demands that have been made. I want to focus here on divesting for for the page and rerouting 50% of the police budget to support for. Like Community closing the Gap in between black kids and white kids in actual public schools and creating and overseeing organ that will check what the police is doing. I marched every single day the past week with my children who are young adults? I am white. I had never close up expire incredibly I was shocked but I would be shocked because I'm white the violence that the police in Asheville display towards peaceful protesters who are just exercising their right to free speech and free Gathering. Um, I feel sick with I feel Ashamed and sick of what the police do in our community. I am originally from the Netherlands Europe and the destruction of the the station by actual police department. They did all the way over there. My family is all over Europe and friends and they were calling me like what is happening in Asheville. I think it is a shameful thing that the police that is supposed to keep us safe. All of us not just why people is militarized wage and you just violence that incites violence. I hope you will all take my comment and comments of my friends and family that they will be leaving in fact account. And um, I hope to see you all do better.</p>	6/8/2020 2:04 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is lavender Ross and I am a residence of the Jackson Park neighborhood of North Admirals. I'm just calling to urge the city to adjust this evening, That's next to the budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities. This includes. No new funds for axle Police Department, including four walkie-talkies and building upgrades. Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our city street. We are also looking for justice for Jerry Williamsburg. We're still waiting. Thank you so much. And please vote. No on this tomorrow's vote for next year's budget wage increase</p>	6/8/2020 2:04 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Sara Kellogg. I've been in resident of Asheville for a few years and still have many close friends that live there and I am concerned about the current budget proposal and the amount of money that is being allocated for the Asheville Police Department. I believe that you should delay voting on this budget until the council has time to reassess especially given the present circumstances Asheville police departments completely unconscionable use of force at recent protests. Um and the overwhelming call from Community it to look at um, taking money away from the police budget and putting it towards initiatives that will actually improve the lives of citizens of Asheville wage. For example funding programs to help alleviate homelessness funding programs to help with education, um help with food insecurity help with phone number. Access mental health counseling all of those things could be funded by the large amount of money that is currently supposed to go to the actual parts department. So I think that the council needs to take a step back and address the budget. Thank you so much for your consideration.</p>	6/8/2020 2:04 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Ren viewing and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Care Act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance for them. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing from the police and investing and black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including a black startup businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual offices them accountable do what's right for the people.</p>	6/8/2020 2:04 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Sydney. I'm calling in regards to the police brutality event that happened on June 2nd at 8:15 p.m. In downtown Asheville, clearly, identified doctors and Medics were off medical station outside One World Brewing Asheville Police Department bus into the peaceful meditation and through innocent people against the wall and push them out into the street and intention the entire statue of water bottles and medical supplies at the station and finish the Rampage by spraying supplies with chemicals to prevent any further. Use these supplies could have easily been moved out to a shelter is inciting violence. We want a CD to know that not only our city but the entire country has the intention of holding them accountable for their actions. We're all watching and they will not get away with it. They</p>	6/8/2020 2:04 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name's Melissa Lopez. I live in Ashville, North Carolina. I'm a resident of Oakley. I'm calling to comment on the fiscal year for this 20 20 21 off the operating budget and I'm asking to urge the city to please adjust the budget that is upcoming. We need to divest from the police. There's talk about increased to the police. But this year that is makes no sense to what we're needing in the rest of the community. We need to make the police department more efficient with the means that it hath and we need to invest back instead into the black communities astral has incredible possibility to become a model and of reparations and what a truly Progressive Community could be, but we can't do that if we keep taking away from the black community and not giving back. You can't expect a community to stand up in its power off. If we're not giving the resources needed to do, so, thank you very much. My number is 720-206-9953. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:05 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Stephanie. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the care that Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to vesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunities in Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual offers officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 2:05 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Dear Asheville City Council Members, I Ruth cartridge. I'm a resident of Asheville and have been for twelve years. I am calling to advocate for a reduction of the Asheville Police Department twenty nine point six million dollar budget with no additional funding allocated the TV in the 20, 20, 20 21 budget despite years of community, the advocacy following instances of police brutality extensive the escalation training and an overall overhaul of leadership racial disparities in policing projects in the community and the context of Nationwide protests bringing attention to the violent and deadly consequences of policing in Black communities. The Asheville Police Department shows protesters down here gas and excessive force furthermore Asheville a city, which has proudly gained a reputation for being particularly Progressive is currently making headlines for the police officers aggressor. Dismantling of the city approved medical station during a peaceful protest taking place on Tuesday, June 2nd. These actions are inexcusable and I would like to know how you are elected to the lawyers are going to proceed in action against these acts of brutality. These events are unfortunately indicative of a lifetime of systemic abuse and people of color in and out loud black communities are living in persistent fear of being killed by state authorities and light of the police departments horrific use of brutal force against its citizens particularly like the citizens of color in Asheville and around the country. I'm calling today to insist that you vote against the proposed increase for funding towards the Asheville Police Department. The factions have demonstrated a profound disregard for human life and we cannot continue to invest in this department there for these vital funds need to be allocated to our city and used to suck. Communities of colors that have synthetic systematically underserved for too long. It is your job as an elected representative of our city to work towards creating a sustainable long-term change your community. What will U do to prevent sorry to protect black lives and prevent there we go further instances of police brutality sincerely Ruth cartridge.</p>	6/8/2020 2:05 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Kelly Macdonald. I am a Nashville resident and I'm calling regarding the upcoming City budget meeting. I request releasing a detailed description justification for the \$400,000 increase in the police budget particularly given the growth in gentrification in recent years disproportionately impacting the poor and people of color mainly black individuals rather than over policing. We should be investing in our community. There's desperate need for social services, especially housing status of subsidies Army. I recommend that these funds be diverted I advocate for investing current police funds into fall into place in Minneapolis and its efforts into dismantling the police system. I advocate rerouting. Oh goodness. I advocate rerouting the proposed 400k of additional funds towards the whole programs that directly help the community such as belowed twelve baskets Cafe study collected as well as the housing subsidies and other social services studies show club4fitness wage. I never providing stable housing reduces crime recidivism and drug and alcohol dependency while saving tax dollars investing in the community's well-being rather than social controls proven and not only be the most moral cause of action of course of action, but also the most economically efficient, please allocate a hundred K and Operational Support for the actual Buncombe County land trust and faith efforts to increase Community ownership of affordable housing opportunities and more again in conclusion. Please invest in our community by using our public tax dollars to divest the police in favor of immediate Community wage such as Transit affordable housing Healthcare food and living wages. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:05 PM	Budget
<p>Hey, this is Barrel sharply. I'm a resident of Asheville North West Asheville. I just like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget 2021 budget, um in the wake of the choices killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and chart with Black Americans before him and asking that the city of Asheville make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote. They using this time to find ways to redirect that money away from Nashville police departments over inflated budget. My request would be to invest that money into mental support for the community and also to redirect funds towards black community control of the police. Um may be similar to what Minneapolis is doing the their Police Department. Just please know that this community care isn't that we will not give up this fight and we will not rest until the actual police department has been partially or completely defunded.</p>	6/8/2020 2:05 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Karen and I'm a resident of Asheville and calling today to tonight for the on budget office tomorrow. I'm asking me the best money from the police department, you know, give them less of a budget and I know that there's plenty of studies showing that actually like decreasing crime is better done through improving education improving health and improving situations. And especially I want the money to go away from the police department to Black communities and communities of color wage. What do you have an indigenous communities as well or their healthcare for their education for businesses that they own?and for other things up lists that community and also really important to me is that in the in the police budget rather than investing in riot gear em a lot of equipment. I think these police officers need training and counseling and how to decompress from life situations. They need more racial Equity training and they need to be screened by people of color therapists training people of faith on the regular that they are. But they're not not racist and able to promote equality in our communities. So thank you for listening to my input but</p>	6/8/2020 2:05 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Susannah Serrato. And I'm a resident in public school teacher of Asheville, and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget wage. I really really believe especially as a teacher who's really committed to equity work and commits the majority of my focus as both District teacher of the year and third grade teacher Jones to this Equity work and anti-racist work. I really believe that we need to begin divesting from the police and putting that money into the communities that are being off behind and who are being poorly treated 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating this racial opportunity Gap in our schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable I urge. Yep.Single city council member to support this essential policy shift at this really important moment in our history Nationwide, but particularly in our community of Asheville. We cannot be a community that does not prioritize this at our hearts, we our community. We are a community that believes in inclusion and Equifax. And if we continue to engage with the funding of inequitable inequitable practices, we will just continue to perpetuate this Gap violence. Thank you so much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 2:06 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jean Curtis and I live in Asheville City. I'm calling to ask that the proposed budget be reconsidered. It would like to see money divested from birth invested in public services valued by the black community as supportive of black families wellness and quality of life. I'm tired of hearing about inadequacies of schools in particular. Let's create a school system that lifts up black children and learn from black families. I ask that you freeze hiring for APD and put resources towards hiring black and brown faculty members in schools. Please put new money towards schools and not towards the police department. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:06 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, good afternoon. My name is Kerry f g and I live in Ashville proper and I'm commenting on the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. Uh, I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget because we deeply need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities the fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department budgets should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding an Australian oversight committee with power to uphold the actual police department and individual authors accountable. Thank you for taking my request and demands seriously. I urge every council member to support the central policy shift in this crucial Junction in our City's history. Thanks so much for your time and attention. I appreciate all you do by</p>	6/8/2020 2:06 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Kathy Seltzer. I'm calling from Madison County and I'm calling to urge the city of Asheville to adjust their budget next year. I believe we need to begin investing from the police and investing investing in the black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategy, including supporting the start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power jump over a TD an individual officer accountable. I urge the council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history history. Have a blessed day. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:06 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello the truck Daisy Homolka and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the care of. Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I think the city council of Asheville to adjust the budget so that we can divest incompletes and investment from the police and instead investing that money into black communities in Asheville fifty percent of the police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startup and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the ADP and individual officers accountable. Thank you for your time today.</p>	6/8/2020 2:07 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Melissa wife. I am a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm adding my voice to tell city council to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities. I believe 50% of the APD budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I think these actions are necessary and need to happen immediately. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:08 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Rachel start. I'm a resident of Asheville and I am going to insist that the city adjust next year's budget. We may need to begin discussing from the curry and investing in Black communities. At least fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups in businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and finding an average civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I am every council member support the central policy shift as it is.</p>	6/8/2020 2:08 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Alyssa Hannon. I'm a resident of Asheville. I have been for 15 years. I'm calling to urge the city of Asheville to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant for rental assistance. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the ap's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies to include support for black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual offers officers accountable. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:09 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Desiree Watterson and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed twenty twenty two twenty Twenty-One budget. So in the wake up, the police is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis. And so many black Americans before him countless. I am requesting that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the Asheville police departments over-inflated wage budget into programs such as mental health education Transit basically any public service other than the actual police department. So, please do not forget our poor in communities of color. Can I please have on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? I was there Saturday for the protest when the when members of the Asheville Police Department gave public proclamations of solidarity to the black community and Promises to serve you better if they really mean this even if it's extended budget where to go through then they should and would if they mean it refused the extended but I believe this very strongly and I think in light of all that is happening right now that this is what needs to happen. Let us show that we actually care for our black community before Putting more money in just policing the community, which is serve our community. Thank you for listening to my message and let's please direct them and to better serve our community rather than simply policing it. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:10 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Spencer Kelly and I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina born and raised here. Uh, I'm calling in regards to the 2020-2021 proposed annual budget for the May bill. Please vote against the current proposed budget. This is specifically because of the 30 million dollar budget including a \$400,000 increase proposed for the APD. You suck these funds needs to be critically examined. We asked the council to provide a line item budget by Department last year. The budget was 131 Pages. This year is only 37 we demand transparency and ask the council address is equity in every Department. We demanded a vestment from the police and an investment in Black communities at least fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee dead. With the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. It is vital to redirect money away from the LAPD and into the funds that Target the problems of Public Safety and help promote. Our country's overall well-being. Please do not let us down. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:10 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Jake. I live in Asheville West Asheville specifically calling about the budget coming up here. Sounds like they're trying to give the money \$400,000 more dollars and I'd like to say I'm against that I'd rather the money be invested in. Anything EMS fire maintenance of infrastructure invested in the black community would just be against the budget increase for them, and I also that cares act Community grant money. I'd like for that to be used on rental assistance at that. There's something that can be done. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:11 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Lauren Graham, and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget to begin investing in Black communities. I believe that this budget should be investing long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools, and above all funding and all civilian oversight committee off the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential polish policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:12 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Poppy on Deboer. I'm a licensed clinical mental health counselor, and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget to start divesting from the police investing in Black communities thumb. The budget should include plenty of mental health support, which the police don't need to be doing. There are a lot of things that we don't need the police doing and there are a lot of other ways that we can both black nose decriminalized homelessness, and a lot of the things that we are doing that the nation is doing that are not working. So, please support this essential policy policy shift at this time. Thanks for what you're doing and listen to the people. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:12 PM	Budget
<p>I am a resident of Asheville. My name is Meredith Hale. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with it with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should go to investing in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial time juncture in our City's history on a personal note. I think it's really honestly a tragedy the way that the black community has been dead. Just completely taken down economically, but from the past decades they had a booming economy in Asheville and our city council seems to only care about the rich white tourists coming in. Yep. Other places and not the actual people living in the town. It was appalling to see active duty military guarding the RS hotel with assault rifles that sends the message to your citizens that the money in that building is more important than the citizens that you are sworn to protect. So Asheville needs to fix things big time. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:12 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Charles Haskins. I'm calling from Asheville North Carolina. And I'm commenting on the fiscal years 20 20 to 21 annual operating budget. But he was Charlie Haskins, and I am a resident of West Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups, Thursday eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers wage accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:13 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Keaton Hill and I am a resident of axle. I live in North Asheville. I'm calling because I am spouse and a mother. Like near me a timer. I'm a member of a faith community experience, and I'm also involved in Batesburg-Leesville. I am calling because the actions of our mayor and our police officers and our police chief this week. Are deeply deeply appalling to me when we are in the midst of a global pandemic that is hitting black and brown communities worse than any others. I am watching my tax dollars be used on the street to the right people money that could have been used to protect them. It was never used to ensure the safety of the people in the midst of this pandemic wage. You have no personal protective equipment on our front line for our front-line health-care workers and yet there are right gears body armor for police officers who are graduating processors. I said man. 6:30 start to divest from the AC D and invest in black and brown communities 50% of the actual police department's budget be invested in long-term safety strategies that looks like supporting Box start up some businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City Schools is funding and all civilian oversight committee with the actual power to hold a TV and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential at this crucial juncture in our City's history. And seen a lot of connections between the way our president has responded and the way our city responded to Peaceful purposes and it is disgusting. We are better than this Thursday. Do you all see how allowing the repeated your gassing of local restaurants during a respiratory pandemic causes immediate and long-term and further, see see how bringing in National Guard on the sizes and grease on the sizes already vulnerable people. You will have the opportunity to make this better. Please listen to Black leaders and community members too vulnerable actual residents who for years have been begging you to reduce the budget wage. Do not increase it. There's little to no evidence to better believe training programs or implicit bias training programs change police Behavior. We need real accountability. kind of</p>	6/8/2020 2:14 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Claire Boomer Hill. I'm a resident of West Asheville and I would just like to comment that I believe it is high time that the wage dance Monument either be rededicated to the people who were sold on that site and other than black community leaders in this City's history or it needs to come down altogether. It's time. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:14 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Latisha Walker and I have lived in Nashville and owned businesses here for over 20 years. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act month for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in black community that fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APB and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:15 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is Evan and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities off 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in the long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and off a billion oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I think the long-term goal should be a hunt for a hundred percent of the apd's budget to go to these into life not only requiring policing but have another world where we don't need police and we're all able to take care of each other. Um, thank you for listening to my input um wage. Good day.</p>	6/8/2020 2:15 PM	Budget
<p>Hello. I am dirty car. I am a resident a native of Asheville, North Carolina. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020 to 2021 budget. And the way the police is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before and after him a masking Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget office and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget and two living wage has access to holistic health services and treatment of educational opportunities and stable Housing Programs. Do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider alternate budget proposal. It's a priority on social programs. Thank you for listening. Please consider.</p>	6/8/2020 2:15 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Lisa shenkman, and I'm resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget so that we can begin diverse divestitures the police in investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies including supporting black start-up business is eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City school and funding of an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers countable every single city council member the support the essential policy shift at this critical juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:15 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Vince available. I'm I've been a long-time resident of Asheville here and I just wanted to call in to urge the city to west from the police beginning of next year's budget. As you know, the protesting Nashville are very clear and in their demands, um 50% of the APD budget should be reinvested to Thursday the black community whether it be supporting black businesses supporting equal opportunities in the school's, um, you know, supporting black artists this list money should be invested on the Block and Asheville another demand. Is that the Vets Memorial in Robert E. Lee monuments that are present in Asheville should be removed or wage to support black ass millions of our footage past. Um, you know, it's not acceptable to have smoking rooms historic race wage.Wonderful possible Community still portrayed other monuments and a final demand would be to find this Thursday on oversight committee. That would hold Asheville Police Department officers accountable in the case of violence, you know instance just about Justice. Thank you for listening.</p>	6/8/2020 2:16 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Anna and I'm a resident of Black Mountain. I've been in the Nashville area for four years and I'm calling because I'd like to express my interest in deflecting actual City police. Um, I believe that uh, the destruction of the recent medication shows just how far costs are willing to go off in order to use just blatant Brute Force instead of trying to work out issues with people in more effective. Um,More effective ways frankly. There's no denying that if a massive metropolitan area like the Twin Cities in Minnesota Minneapolis are able to defend the police that a small City like Ashville is not able to there's no denying that many of the issues that cop space could be better handled by other community-oriented people and I believe that in this city. There is a great opportunity to show on a smaller scale. Um, how we can create more leadership within the community wage type solve some of the problems that police are called out for all the time. So I'm very much interested in do you finding the police as much as possible and moving money down more towards community-oriented healing programs and activities. Thank you for your time. I hope that you all consider this.</p>	6/8/2020 2:16 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is Griffin a b and I'm a resident of Buncombe County and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. And I think that we need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities. Hi think that fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black communities and start-up businesses for black people eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable.And I hope that every councilmember supports this policy shift at this crucial time. Thank you for allowing us to speak up.</p>	6/8/2020 2:16 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Amanda. Hency. I live in West Asheville. I've been a member of the community for ten years and I'm a business owner the mall flight on Haywood Road, and I'm calling today to urge you members are Representatives many of whom I voted for to divest the funds from the APD and to reinvest them into urgent needed needs in the black community in Nashville. And I think that a lot of you are already interested in doing that and now is the chance to speak to truly represent the progressive demands of this community and I would love to see that happen rental assistance affordable housing and public transportation mental health issues all of these things, as you are already aware would be great places to start. I would love to be able to tell my staff wage.At the mall fight to call the APD when we are in need of assistance. Um, but as I have directed them many times we do not call the police on anyone who is not white and that is just the way that it is and that's our view of the APD that they are only able to serve a certain demographic and that's not a wage Police Department you'd be about thank you for your time. Thank you for listening and make us proud.</p>	6/8/2020 2:16 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Yes, my name is John Ross. I live in North Asheville. I teach forensic video analysis two cops. So not only am I white but I enjoy a bit more white privilege off because once they find out what I do, they actually say Sir, sometimes my problem with the priests and I've worked with quite a number of them at this point is an us-versus-them arrogance that is largely pervasive through the people. I've seen there's some that actually try to be open-minded and there's some absolutely do not it is vitally important that there be Extreme Measures to do accountability. That means that if you got to do paperwork you got to do paperwork. It means that they don't necessarily get access to the video describing me that before they have to write it up. It means that I have lost confidence in our new chief of police because clearly the attack on the medic tent was premeditated based on both when it happened in the tactics. They used to do it. They plan to do it. They went in there that they had a shoe Bowl people protecting them. They do not need more money. They need more accountability. If I was using a metaphor from where I asked of Teddy Roosevelt and trust busting I think Police Department should be broken up into little pieces so they can't be monolithic and I believe that they've lost the public Trust. There's some of their funds can be spent considerably better. I think that we certainly need a police department and its motion to defund is going to be a hard thing to suck but I think that we need accountability like there's no tomorrow. Anyway, I appreciate your time and I know you guys have a lot to do but that that's that's it anyway.</p>	6/8/2020 2:16 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Casey Ernst. I live in Swannanoa and I'm commenting on consent agenda items on t as well as leaving an open public, I'd like to express my support for items go in and pee all points. And my public comment would be that I'm urging the city to use the full amount of the Faith Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget budget. So it begins to divest from police and invest in Black communities with some 50% of the a. Budget could be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and fighting and all civilian oversight committee with a power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you, and I am proud of the work. Our city has done and will continue to do in the fight for equality and justice.</p>	6/8/2020 2:17 PM	Consent
<p>Hi, my name is Thomas Campbell. I am currently a resident of Spruce Pine, North Carolina. But I'm moving back to Asheville in the coming months live at 34 sales Road where my property is and I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block funds for rental assistance and furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So begins to vesting from the police and investing in the black communities 50% of this budget should be invested in long-term safety package, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the m e d and individual officers accountable. I think this is really important. I think that it's beyond time to act and I want to be proud of my city and I want my city to represent wage. Body fairly and equally, and and if you have any questions, don't hesitate to call me back at 404-317-1172. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:17 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Leah have a check and I'm a concerned resident of Asheville. I'm writing about. I'm talking about Asheville mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal recently. I've been sat in in deeply concerned about the protests that have been happening in our country wage in the last few weeks. Our country has forgotten about the black folk in America, and if Asheville chooses to do nothing in this conflict will continue. I'm urging the actual city council not Define the APD, but instead of some funds towards sectors that support and create Racial equality. If funds were relocated to Racial equality groups or new organizations were crazy. We can start to repair relationships between the APD and black vote. Additionally the city of Asheville can show their commitment to the live of black Asheville. Thanks for your time, and I hope you'll consider.</p>	6/8/2020 2:17 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Calista Morgan. And I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I am calling to urge the city to address next year's budget for the 2021 2020s fiscal year. We need to begin the vesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and business office eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the ADP and individual officers accountable. I urge every phone number to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our city and nation's history.</p>	6/8/2020 2:17 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Milo Gallagher and I am calling to express my dismay at the proposed 400k increase to Asheville already overfull did police budget this past week? Um Asheville Police tear-gassed crowds of peaceful protesters including many children. I was there on Thursday. And they destroyed medical supplies, which is considered a war crime and especially despicable during a pandemic. I think it is absolutely disgusting to continue to fund this police force in the way that we have been especially considering the pattern across the country with a police being the ones escalating the violence and every protest we have seen this past week and um throughout history, basically, so yep. I would like to take this time to amplify an echo demands of intergenerational black leadership and Asheville. I believe that we should divest from the police and invest in our black community and this includes using these proposed funds to support black businesses eliminate the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and fund and all civilian oversight committee that has the power to hold the APD and its individual officers accountable for the crimes that they commit against their people research has shown that a living wage access to education stable housing and holistic health services wage. I'm sorry better at reducing crime doesn't police car and so I believe it is the duty of Asheville. To meet these demands. I know the mayor and the city council want Asheville to be seen as this peaceful place that cares about its people but this cannot be true until we commit to real Liberation for black people from police violence. That is just the beginning. Thank you for your time. I vote my opinion is that the budget vote should be delayed to find ways to me. It's just a man's and reallocate the funds into sectors that support the people. Thank you for listening.</p>	6/8/2020 2:17 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is JT La Bruyere. I'm a resident of Asheville live in West Asheville grew up here. Um and reaching out in support of the black actual demands and prove that this past Saturday particularly the budget considerations to that best from the least, um, spending and invest in Black communities, particularly 4% increase. Um, Recommending the fifty percent of these budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies including sporting black startups and businesses loading racial opportunity Gap Asheville City schools and putting and all civilian oversight committee the power to hold the APD individual authors accountable. I appreciate the peaceful protest and how that's preceded since early last week and you know, this this wage continues and and we can make some changes. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 2:17 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Casey Ernst. I live in Swannanoa and I'm commenting on consent agenda items on t as well as leaving an open public, I'd like to express my support for items go in and pee all points. And my public comment would be that I'm urging the city to use the full amount of the Faith Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget budget. So it begins to divest from police and invest in Black communities with some 50% of the a. Budget could be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and fighting and all civilian oversight committee with a power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you, and I am proud of the work. Our city has done and will continue to do in the fight for equality and justice.</p>	6/8/2020 2:17 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Seton Hill and I'm a resident of Asheville. I am a South and the mother like near me. Like others I'm a member of a faith community. And I'm also a participant in Facebook Justice, Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from this lease and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department supposed to be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black artists and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the real power to hold and individual officers accountable every council member to support this essential policy shift. I'm deeply Disturbed the in the midst of a global respiratory pandemic that our mayor and police chief allows the seated here gassing of local people. This pandemic is hitting black and brown communities worse than others. And watching tax dollars be used on the street to brutalize people Medics equipment and money that was never used to ensure the life of people in the midst of this kind of disgusting just needs to change and you all have the power to change it. You see how it is here gassing of local residents over and over again. Please listen to Black leaders and community members and too vulnerable Asheville residents who for years have been begging you to reduce the ACC such as use those funds for things to actually strengthen or or maybe in this update. There is no little snow evidence that better please changing programs are implicit bias training actually changes police Behavior. Our own record on this cruise that point. I want to see moral courage on mine are as in the city council and do not increase funding the police chief said that he knows the actual one. I'm ability and transparency accountability looks like changes in decision-making and it looks like reducing the subject.</p>	6/8/2020 2:17 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Cecilia Tucker and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm writing in support of the black or I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for the suspension policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history as an individual. I will be doing everything I can. I hope that the city will do the same. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:18 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Janet Hurley. I live right here in Asheville on Kenilworth Road, and I'm calling to comment on fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. Um, I would like to urge the city to adjust this next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the East and investing in Black communities. At least fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies for the black community including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the AP individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's History Month. And to be a leader an example for other cities to follow throughout the nation. Um, thank you so much. I'll look forward to seeing you make the right choices tomorrow night at the city council meeting. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:18 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Taylor labath and I am a resident of Hendersonville though. I lived in Asheville for many years. I'm calling to urge the city to divert from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% or more of the apd's budget money invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and also the oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Jerrell and Susie calling. I am a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. I understand but there will be a budget decision tomorrow on Tuesday. We need to begin by investing from the police and investing in communities of color 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Flex start up some businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and falling off the oversight with the power to hold police department and individual officers Council urged every city council member for it to potential policy shift in our City's history. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Raina Jackson. I'm a resident of Buncombe County. I live in Asheville. Zip code 28805. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next month budget to divest from the police and start investing in our black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses. I'm eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the same individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift. and their other models such as Minneapolis to look too. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 2:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Christian and I am a resident. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares at Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance and furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities that home of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start up some businesses eliminating the racial opportunity to happen in a city schools and finding an all civilian oversight committee with the powers to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thanks.</p>	6/8/2020 2:19 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Emily Graham. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares at Community Development block grant funds former assistant. Furthermore. I think Asheville city council needs to adjust the budget. So it will begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities home education Public School Systems Medical Care and Community Mental Health agencies. Fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity and educational gaps in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian off-site committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Additionally Asheville city council has not provided a line-by-line budget to the voters of our community in the recent years. I am urging the city council to consider releasing a line-by-line budget to the voters of our community. Thank you for listening.</p>	6/8/2020 2:20 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Jaclyn Mendez, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm writing in support of the black actual demands that we presented on Saturday with a budget of for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business and eliminating opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian outside committee with the power to hold the AP and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you, and I hope that you listen to our voices and demands. God bless</p>	6/8/2020 2:20 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Kelly Thompson. I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to Earth the city to use the full amount of the Care Act Community Development block grant funds for rental assist furthermore. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and finding an awful billion oversight committee with the power can hold a p d and individual officer accountable. Thank you so much for taking the time to listen to this.</p>	6/8/2020 2:20 PM	Budget
<p>Hey there, this is Sienna. I'd like to make a statement about meeting tomorrow over the years their city has seen what happens in Minneapolis here in Nashville as Citizens voters taxpayers in human beings. We will not tolerate the behavior that has resulted in the deaths of so many black Americans locally and nationally by police 2 a.m. Happen in Nashville again. Are black community members are not targets are punching bags for a poorly trained officers to terrorize black Ashville is Asheville this matters to me and so many others that are off the actual Community, please listen to us. The militarized response is a p d is very heavy-handed things such as attacking a medication is a moral and unconscionable for three nights. The APD has started the violence against peaceful protesters, and this is not okay. Thank you for listening by</p>	6/8/2020 2:20 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi there. My name is Eric Meyer. I am a local business owner and resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the money and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminate the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge the council member to support this essential policy policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Evan Lucas, and I'm a former resident of Asheville. I've been lived there for just over five years and having really enjoyed living in the city. I'd like to leave a comment about proposed twenty twenty two twenty Twenty-One, but in the wake of the police killings of George Floyd Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking at the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to direct money away from the Asheville City Police Department's over-inflated budget into other programs that will benefit the community. Please do not forget our poor and community of colors. Please consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a focus on social programs. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Casey Bexley. I'm calling to say that I believe it is the city of Asheville responsibility to hold the police officers that damaged the med gear accountable for what they did. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:21 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hey, how you doing? My name is Mark 8 4 or 5 area code 542-9502. I'd like to know why you assist with this mask thing to go in stores. Um, I'm just fortunately most most of it isn't being enforced but it's still wrong these massive ran healthy, they serve nothing but you know her teeth in system and and people are tired of this and if I have to I'll just shop in surrounding counties. Okay. All right, and I'm going to tell you right now I want to know who's responsible for his eating so I know who to vote for who to vote against anybody who's for this thing. I'm going to vote against it. I hope everybody else is smart enough to do that. So I could you give me a call and explain what you're doing for right ahead. Okay, I'm disgusted that I can't speak to a human being right now. All right, that's again. It shows you don't care about the people. You're supposed to suck. Okay. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:21 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Sydney Levitt. I'm calling because actual has been complicit four years in the Injustice of racial inequality ignorance that we're facing today, and that we face for a really long time and I think it's time that we send me in that we first defined our police and then eventually create more community support and more Community Resources so that we don't have to have such a police presence in our County in our state in are pretty reasonable. I think what's happening now is unheard of but that's just my stupid.</p>	6/8/2020 2:21 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is Shannon Dawn. I'm President Bush Bill and I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next. I think the city council to the budget so it begins from the dead. Asheville School Recite committee with all the eighties and individual officers, I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift of juncture in our history.</p>	6/8/2020 2:22 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Melody pajak, and I'm a resident of Black Mountain. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin a divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council members to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you for listening. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:22 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Andy and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares Community Development black block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities. Fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in a long-term to safety strategies including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funny and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the TV and individual officers accountable. Thanks for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 2:22 PM	Budget
<p>Hey, my name's Alex Jones. I was in Asheville and I'm calling in regards to public hearing for the annual budget. I'm urging you to not vote to. Allocate any more fun. In fact, we need you to cut their funds in half so that we can distribute this to better programs that actually support our communities. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:22 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, I live in Asheville area and I'm genuinely concerned over the fact that people are saying they want to defund the police. I work primarily with women and children as a healthcare worker and have personally seen the effects of domestic violence and child abuse and I am genuinely concerned over so many more things happening. I could be from house break-ins increased crime rape. I've almost been raped twice in my life and thankfully to the police. I was able to get myself out of that situation wage. There was a guard over in the area from the man trying to block me in a bathroom. There was a police department of actual cop who got me out of that situation and I'm genuinely confirm who has a child and tries to you know abide by the law and I do not believe in defending the police whatsoever. Um, I amAll these things all these protests and I believe it is it is acts of hate. It is not bringing anyone together and the actions of these crooked police are not the actions of the ones who save lives on a daily basis, so, please see that there are people who are out there who are wanting the police. I believe in good good police that are out there, and please hear our voices as well for the people who want to be safe wage. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:23 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>This is James Schneider. I'm a resident of downtown Nashville, and I just want to call and urge the city to divest from the police department here and took some of the 30 million dollar budget for um supporting black communities. Um, I would urge some consideration to use up to fifty percent of the budget to invest in long-term safety strategies, including, you know, black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and Public Funding and oversight committee with the power to hold the police department and individual officers accountable for their actions. Um, I think that the current budget for the police department is a vast and there is room to help make the system better, so please consider those when looking at the budget. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:24 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Julia Ross and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to make a comment about the proposed 2020 to 2021 budget in the wake of the police killing of Georgie porgie's the Apolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget and two other programs such as transportation and other endeavors that will help people of color other areas that I think need more money instead of the police are universities and education mental health care and other Public Safety efforts. The larger demand is too defined the Asheville Police Department. Please care for our community and do not approve more funding for the police department and do not forget our poor and Community are poor and communities of color. I hope I can count on you to consider an alternative proposal that puts them priority on social programs. Thanks so much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:24 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Katherine Dewey. I would like to ask the city council to rethink the budget and consider reinvesting part of that budget into the black communities and urge. You do social media lie. Look forward to hearing progress back from actions that you guys take. Thanks so much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:24 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Shelby Stovall and I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina. And I'm calling to talk about the defund man demands that have been given recently. I am writing or calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from police and invest in Black communities off 50% of Asheville budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and black businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. I believe that they Community is going to be a great help in making them accountable and making them act better towards our citizens and I hope I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this time in our City's history. We know the club.Built upon black individuals and black people's work, and we need to start showing that and appreciating that. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:24 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Michael Gonzalez. And I live in Nashville. I believe that the police department budget should be used to go toward birds are awful housing. Christ-like prices are keeps getting worse and actual as the rent keeps going up. I do not think it should be used to pump more money into the police department. That is already dead taking up too much money. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:24 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Banks Anderson. I was just calling in regards to the Rays and funding for the police department of Asheville and off I want to just say that I don't believe that that is a good cause. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:25 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Thomas Montero, and I'm a resident Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling you support of the block Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget of participation. I urge the council to divest from the police and invest in black community 50% of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term system strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses and eliminating racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy ship at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:25 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Sarah meloche, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget as you divest from the police. I hope you re invest this money in Black communities specifically 50% of Asheville Police Department's budget should be reallocated to Black startups and small businesses eliminating the racial opportunity. Got a Nashville Public Schools and funding towards all civilian oversight committee with power to hold Asheville Police Department individual officers accountable. I hope you vote in favor of defunding the police this Tuesday, and I'm excited to hear your support. Thanks. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Layla and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police killing of George Floyd & Co Apolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to read I direct money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into increasing access to stable and affordable housing facilitating actual businesses to pay their employees wages and increasing both the educational quality and opportunity in our city in creating a new more Equitable budget. It is important to consider the poor community and communities of color here in Asheville, since they are disproportionately and often negatively affected by these decisions that you are making can I count on you guys to create support wage?Act an alternative budget that puts a focus on social service programs. I hope I can thank you for your time and consideration of these points.</p>	6/8/2020 2:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name's Freddy Brian Hollister, and I'm a resident of Asheville with my daughter's knee and Serena. I'm writing to support of the Black Box Asheville demands that were just presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urged City. Council's to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% off. The apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses Illuminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope you can count on you for your support for this extension policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you very much. Take care.</p>	6/8/2020 2:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Molly clay and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to home the actual police department and individual officers accountable. Can I count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history?</p>	6/8/2020 2:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hey, my name is Corey Meyer, and I've been a resident of Asheville for twenty-five years and I am commenting on the proposed budget increase for the Asheboro Police Department. I stand with the black community of Asheville and support their demands 100% Um, and so some of those demands are divestment from the police and investment in Black communities, um, specifically 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategy, including supporting black businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and also the oversight committee that has the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. Um, so again I ask that you do not allow the budget increase for the actual police department is the money could be much better used elsewhere. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:27 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, my name is Bill norlin, and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to have I'd like to city council to support the black lives movement off the best, uh, you know, the the the increase in the budget of the Asheville Police Department and reinvested in Black communities. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:27 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Marika straw and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge the council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including support startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I would also like to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history heartfelt sentiments mean nothing without real substantial policy change censoring The Voice. Those most impacted. Thank you so much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:27 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Mateo bosone and I'm a Nashville resident. I'm calling to encourage the council to defund and eventually abolish the Asheville Police replacing them with a compact the safety organization similar to the initiative taking place in Saint Paul, Minnesota. I'd like the Asheville city council to vote. No on APD funding, especially the \$500,000 budget item for the actual police and the upcoming budget. I'd like to see that money go towards increased public services such as mental health care, perhaps the establishment of a public safety organization education public transit. There's just so many other things that have to be better spent on in addition to that action item. I'd like to see the city council implemented a licensure process for its officers. If it does insist on keeping the police in place, I'd like to see accountability. I'd like to see the city no longer work with the police Union. I'd like to see licensure in the case that they use Public Safety organization replaces of Police. I'd like to see who I can share in that organization as well. The police have too much power. They're preserving a racist system. And yep. You're helping to preserve the police you're helping to preserve the racist system as well. And I'd like to think that our city councillors are better than that. If you believe that you're not racist, please do not act racist or in ways that preserve racist systems, please move the money on the the \$400 budget before hundred thousand dollar budget item to something that will actually help this community black people. And the World At Large do the right things that y'all thanks for your time, and I hope that you make the right choice.</p>	6/8/2020 2:27 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Katie Marie. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think the city council just a budget. So Begins the best thing from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial wage Gap and actual City schools and Sunday and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thanks so much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:28 PM	Budget
<p>Thursday which is huge for Asheville. We invest in long-term safety strategy with like, oh that's basically spending an almost a billion oversight month.</p>	6/8/2020 2:28 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Rossi bookstaber. I'm resident of Asheville. I'm calling to support the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police invest in Black communities 50% of a piece budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and a strong schools funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift this crucial juncture of our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:29 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Trey wheeler and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of all these budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Jersey City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the Astro police department and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:29 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Tim and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina specifically, West Asheville. All right. I'm calling to urges ability to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police departments. That should be invested long-term safety strategies including supporting black startups business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools funding in all civilian oversight committee. Wish I were to hold the APD and individual officers accountable pretty much every council member to support the central policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history personally over the past week at the time that many peaceful protest and heard many black community members speak about the direct racism. They experience from the LAPD home and a lot of the stories are truly heartbreaking and I'd like to see as a citizen and resident and Community member. I'd like to see everyone treated equally by the police. And that is all I hope change does come. I hope you as a city council have the power and strength to come up and the accountable and hold others accountable who are oppressing and keeping specific groups such as black community down within our community. Thank you very much. I hope to see the change. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:30 PM	Budget
<p>This is Rebecca streimer, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and fun and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our cities home. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:31 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Kristen Allen calling in reference to some demands. I'm going to support Asheville are black man's wanted to urge the city council to divest more from police. I definitely support the 50% of APD budget being invested in long-term safety strategies. I'm trying to eliminate the racial Gap in Asheville City Schools, very very very strongly support the concept of an all civilian oversight committee to work in tandem with Asheville legislators, just to make make a change. I think that we are in a unique position Nashville is a relatively small City. We can create an excellent athlete that can hopefully be the mirror throughout the country. But with a smaller population. We also have the opportunity more readily and easily make an impact. We also have a new police dog. It's a way to start on the right foot with him. I'm sure of course. He doesn't want the police department to be defunded but we can start out on the trajectory. That's much more healthy much more life synergizing of citizens with our law enforcement which is very important. You know, North Carolina is along with a lot of the South has a very very long. Racial issues that go back very very far and wide I've lived here since I was fourteen I've I've I've seen it as a as a white citizen so I can only imagine it's going to be African-American and we really have an opportunity again to make constructive change and to also realize that the police department I think making these moves really important in order to better their relations and allow us to go better support each other but things need to shift and I don't think we need to follow in line with the national narrative the way it's birth. Calling it's it's pretty just a really really critical time for us to make these changes and I hope that Asheville will walk away were unique community and some of the choices that were made in dealing with the protests are not acceptable and I felt were really following a national narrative more so than looking at what the particular needs of our community were. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:31 PM	Budget
<p>Hey there, my name is Jenny and I am a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city of Asheville to divest from the please and hoping to start that up with next year's budget. I'm twenty Twenty-One. I think that the city council needs to adjust the budget so that it begins to divest from the police and invest in Black communities. I really really really love and appreciate people of color around our city and I cannot help but notice that there are fewer and fewer than a year and I really sincerely believe that making sure to invest in things like black startups black business office and focusing on eliminating sort of racial opportunity Gap in the city schools and Focusing on on programs that support black people and people of color would really be beneficial in this city wage attended the vigil the other day and just hearing some of the voices from people who have grown up in Asheville with people of color. Um, my heart just broke for them. I am a white woman and I've always known that this is probably their experience of Asheville, but didn't quite really know what to do and I am still young somewhere around thirty two, I think and ready to get up out of my seat and start to work with y'all. Really appreciate y'all's work and helping our black community and starting to invest in them because I really believe that it's super important for us to be more diverse. Thank you so very much for all the work that y'all do. We really appreciate y'all and all eyes are on y'all. Thank you so much, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:31 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Eva Humphrey and I'm a resident of downtown Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. I'm asking that the city council makes more overt invisible commitment to racial Justice and demand that said budget though be delayed. So the council may find ways to redirect money away from the actual police department over inflated budget and towards sectors of dismantling racial and class and equity research shows that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime and police or presents as such I demand that more aggressive financial support be directed to these areas as our city council. I also ask you to create an initiate a strategic plan to meet the demands from Ashville black community to divest from police and invest in Black communities specifically 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies. That includes dead.Startups in businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual account officers accountable within the budget. I also asked that you allocate funds to the following programs that will include our police force with the knowledge and experience to handle sensitive cultural conflicts without Force cultural sensitivity training resulting in a license that should be renewed for all officers every six months and an increase in community outreach programs to connect police with the communities they serve in addition or do you turn a racial Equity lens on every aspect of city government operations and engage leaders from Community to reimagine Asheville City policies that we can actually become the progressive Innovative City that we like to think we are if you said these policies willing as a citizen to do my part to pay for them support any tax increase Pond effort or other means of funding to support racial equity and wage.However, I believe a significant percentage of the necessary funding can and should come from the police department budget. I ask you as our city council to help unite our city and demand reform. Thank you, ma'am. How many?</p>	6/8/2020 2:31 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Madeline Wilder. I'm a resident of Asheville and I am leaving a comment for the fiscal year 2020-2021 annual operating budget, and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville police departments, but it should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APB and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you very much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:32 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name's Sophie pain. I live in Asheville. I'm calling to comment on the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. I've live in Nashville for much of my life as has my family life. I'm calling to ask that the city council here the request of our community to change allocations for the 2021 budget. We need to stop the vesting and police and instead invest in our black communities 50% of a p d is funding should be directed to long-term safety including the support of black business eliminating opportunity to Gap and Asheville City schools and funding a civilian oversight committee to hold the actual police department accountable. Please city council support and hear the requests of your community. I would also like to mention a report recently published by the ACLU which examines the Public School Systems Nationwide one point seven million students go to schools with no counselors, but a police presence three million.With no nurses but a police presence ten million with no social workers et cetera, but less continues all in all 14 million American children in the public school system do not have access to necessary mental health and physical health resources and yet they are policed as an individual who attended the public school system and graduated here in 2018. I can confirm the lack of resources in our schools as well. Having been in contact with police every day of my high school career, but never once being able to access the school nurse, even when I needed one for my black. I cannot imagine the stress of an inherently racist and violent system policing a threatening not only their home lives but their education as well. I urge you to explore other alternatives to policing of schools and communities such as an unarmed mediation team intervention team to Mental Health Care Community level democracy and restorative justice job.As has been successful Nationwide and worldwide and replacement of violent and racist police systems. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 2:32 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Emily c r. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm writing and speaking to you in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday off the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in a long-term safety strategies including supporting black startups businesses eliminating racial opportunity gaps in the Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this time in our City's history. Thank you for your time black lives matter.</p>	6/8/2020 2:32 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Lauren Sims, and I'm a resident of Astro. I'm writing in support of the block Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget of three consideration. I urge city council to dine with us from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential quality shipped at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Laurie Greenberg. And I was in Nashville. The reason I'm calling is I'm asking to the city council to support the black actual demands wage, um citing that first divestment completely happen and some of the investment go into the black communities. Um, I want people to hear that. That's what I said. And um, yeah. All right, that was like fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term strategy strategies to help support start-up businesses for the black community. Thank you so much and uh say cool and make good decisions back.</p>	6/8/2020 2:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Virginia County. I live in Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to have the police investing in Black Community National Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses and eliminating racial opportunity Gap National City Schools, including and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the individual officer and accountable urge Council number to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is Ren and I'm residents Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. I need to begin divesting from the police and investing in black community that fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses am getting the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and Sunday funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the five key and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support the central policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:34 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Hannah and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Care Act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting box setups and businesses eliminating the same opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APB and individual officers accountable. Thanks so much, and I hope you all can follow through by.</p>	6/8/2020 2:34 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Ana Brandt and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city canceled to divest from the south east and invest in black community fifty percent of these budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses a limiting the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this to Central policy shift in a crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:34 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Marissa and I am a resident of Asheville. I am writing I am calling in support of black Asheville demands that we are presented that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urged city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including support supporting black start-up businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all faiths and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift. That is correct. So that is a crucial juncture in our City's history black life matters.</p>	6/8/2020 2:35 PM	Budget
<p>I love surfs to ask that when voting on Thursday the 20 21. Start to invest in Black communities and you know think about the police department month by month. Hold the police wage phone number to support this essential policy and make a difference. We need change and it needs to start with the police department, and you guys are responsible for that. So, please do your best to make things more fair and to implement some some change in the coming years any programs that will make a difference. Thank you so much for your time, and have a nice day. And again, my name is Kim Belair. My number is 916-231-5576. If anyone would like to call in again, I live in Leicester, North Carolina in Buncombe County. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:35 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Patrick Ingram and I have been a resident of Asheville for eleven years. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community block grant funds for rental assistance. Most importantly I'm writing calling in sick.</p>	6/8/2020 2:36 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, I'm my name is Sammy office. I'm a citizen of Asheville North Carolina and I am calling just to say that I think that the money wage going to the police are or the police force should be defended and not that should be instead put towards community-based systems and operations like more Social Services for schools and after-school programs. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:36 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Justin Edwards, and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance moreover. I believe city council needs to adjust the budget begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses investing education Mental Health Care Transit eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable in short City Council Members. If you care for our community, you will vote no for the proposed funding increase for the Asheville Police Department, and instead work for is allocating money to resources that actually helped black people and black community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:36 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Estelle, This is white and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm writing in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our history.</p>	6/8/2020 2:36 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Logan. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to encourage the city to use the full amount of cares act for rental assistance and to take most of it from a Peavey. And invest it in long-term safety strategies. Including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee with the phone number to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thanks.</p>	6/8/2020 2:37 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Samantha our way, and I'm a resident of Asheville City. I'm calling to comment primarily on public hearing item D the annual operating budget. I'm calling in support of black Asheville demands. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funded in all civilian oversight committee with the power to home and the individual officers accountable. I hope I can count on your support. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:37 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Patrick Ingram and I've been a resident of Asheville for eleven years. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community block grant funds for rental assistance most importantly, I'm calling in support of the the black asphalt demands that represented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should bring in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the facial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the the actual police department individual officers accountable. I have first-hand experience with actual police departments violent behavior from a 2015 misdemeanor charge when arrested I was thrown to the ground and handled so aggressively that resulted in in elbow fracture to this day, I believe because of my whiteness, my life was spared for black and other people of color who are members of our community. There is a constant threat of our police force. We've seen it here. Yep. Our own City where police have disproportionately acted violent towards black people sometimes even resulting in senseless murders. This is a complete disgrace to the Asheville Community. We must change our Outlook, please reform has proven to fail and Thursdays all over our country due to the fact that the police force is historically deeply rooted in racism and violence. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 2:38 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Hunter and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm writing in support of black actual demands that represented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies include including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Nash schools and funding on all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this is Central policy shift at this crucial juncture with our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:38 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Emily Wooten and I'm calling in relation to the budget for the Asheville Police Department. And I would like to see the actual Department. Do you find it? I do not think that they need an increase in funds. There are many other places where that money could be put including putting it into segregation and gentrification for black Community Bank in Asheville. I don't think it's a police department needs more money so that they can shoot people with rubber bullets and use tear gas on their own citizens. Thank you. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:39 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Emily Bigelow. I am a resident of Asheville and I wanted to weigh in on the boat that you are having tomorrow. I am currently ashamed to say the Asheville is where I call my home this city deserves more than this. Will you not need to invest money into the Asheville Police Department instead. We should be investing in long-term safety strategies to support our black communities. They need our help wage and the racial opportunity gaps in Nashville has to end.</p>	6/8/2020 2:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Jessica hulkower. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act for rental assistance furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including wage according black start-up businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:39 PM	Budget
<p>Jersey City councilmembers. My name is Laura Addis. I'm a resident of East Asheville. I'm calling in regards to Mayor mannheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal am asking that the Asheville city council make more over invisible commitment to racial Justice. I asked at the budget vote be delayed to that the council may find ways to redirect money away from the actual police department over inflated budget. I urge you to pressure the city manager's office towards an ethical and equal reallocation of the Cities expenditures away from the APD and towards sectors that facilitate wage dismantling of racial and class inequality. We know that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunities and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime than police or presents has such I'm asking for much more aggressive financial support to be directed towards these areas and away from home. The police department Justice will only be served on the police are reformed in this will not be possible until we redirect our friends. We're counting on you to consider an alternative budget that puts a focus on social service programs. I'm looking forward to watching the meeting this evening and hearing your responses to thanks so much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:39 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi cancel numbers. This is Cory Kennedy. I am a resident of Asheville and I'm commenting on the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. Basically, I'm I'm feeling that we need to begin divesting them funds from the police and investing in Black communities. I really feel the police are important and I've in general really supported our police chief and and the direction of a lot of things and I and I think Thursday, I mean they've been very supportive in lots of things that our family is needed and I don't want to abolish the police but I just really want to make sure that we're thinking about our funding and making sure that we are looking at the causes of crime in the first place and studies that I have read and I really looked at a lot of them are showing that if we put more moneyMoney into our communities of color that we're going to really solve more problems at their core. So I believe that fifty percent of a Chicago Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in the Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight commission with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. So thank you very much for your time. And I really appreciate it.</p>	6/8/2020 2:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Brianna Messmer. I am a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling you calling to urge the city to address next to yours physical budget. We need to begin with the investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up business is eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable higher wage every council member to support this essential policy policy shift as it is crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jonathan Harris. I'm a resident of barnardsville North Carolina. Just north of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that represented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration is the city council to divest in the police and invest in Black communities. At least fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategy, including supporting black startups businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools.The funding and funding and all citizens OverWatch committee with the power to hold the APD individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on leaders support what is essential policy shift at this crucial Junction in our City's history defunding the police does not mean getting rid of the police responding wage that need help in these times. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Olivia Shelley and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling about the meeting that's happening tomorrow and the meeting about the fiscal year 2020 to 2021 annual operating budget. And I just wanted to call and put in my statement to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. I think we need to begin divesting from the police department, and I'm getting back into black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses with eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable for their actions. May I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift and this crucial juncture in our City's history. Please take into consideration, and thank you so much for your time. Bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:40 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Chloe Carrington and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city of Asheville to divest from the police beginning this next year's budget office. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startup startups and businesses.It would be the racial opportunity happen Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to uphold the Asheville Police Department with individual officers accountable. I hope that not only myself but the other citizens of Asheville can count on your support for the essential. This is Sam policy shift as this is crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 2:40 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Megan his love. I was just calling cuz I know the city of Asheville meeting about the police today or tomorrow, and I wanted to call for a no vote for the Asheville Police Department funding as I feel that it makes so much more sense to fund other officials to do a lot of the things that police are doing and I think a lot of people cuz the escalate many situations better than police some at first. It felt very radical to be thinking about defunding the police. But of course I've educated myself and started looking at the numbers. It really feels like it makes the most sense and it's really time for us to do to make money.Radical change that in everyone's best interest. I think including the police department. I think that money should be used to support real Public Safety effort such as education and mental health Transit and move money to areas that actually help black people and people of color. I really hope that these messages are being received with an open mind and I really want to set an example for the rest of the state and the country and uh used to live in South Africa and I'm getting messages from my friends. They're feeling really inspired about what's happening here, and I hope that we live up to that. Thank you so much. I hope that you all are having a great day, and thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:40 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is gerhardt gergen. I am a resident of Asheville North Carolina and I'm commenting on the fiscal year of 2020 to 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police officer investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity life and actual City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.Thank you so much for hearing this message. Thank you. Take care.</p>	6/8/2020 2:40 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Hilary. I was raised in Asheville, North Carolina, and I'm currently a resident of Bend, Oregon. I'm calling in regards to the meeting today to urge the song to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to besting from the police and investing in Black communities, especially and sucking</p>	6/8/2020 2:41 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Chloe Carrington and I am a citizen of Asheville. and I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I think that the budget should also begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strap, including sporting black startups and businesses where a better Asheville because of them eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools, as well as funding and all civilian oversight committee what the power to uphold the Asheville Police Department and individual officers accountable. I hope that not only myself, but other citizens of Asheville other residents of Asheville can count on your support for this essential policy policy shift at The crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Michael Metz actress. I'm a resident of Asheville. Um, I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to invest in from the police and investing in Black communities. Um, hopefully this leads to the the pollution of our police department and invested new Investments and long-term safety strategies, including black startups and businesses eliminating race. Racial Unity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable for their actions. Yeah, so please reinvest in our black communities and listen to your citizens. Thank you so much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 2:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Jeremy Lively. I'm a Nashville resident and I just wanted to call and encourage that the city consider adding or or using more of our police budget and resources to community resource officers and community-building operations more events that bring our um, our police and community resource officers together with Community to create more trust wage. All right. Thanks so much, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:42 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Meg castelloe and I live in Nashville, and I'm commenting on the budget. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act funds for rental assistance. I think the city council also needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to have vesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. Thank you very much. Good. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:43 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Brady. I have been a Nashville resident for six years now and have taken part in many political demonstrations and that time of watched The Police become increasingly aggressive and their communication with the activist community and more and more proof of the use of excessive force has been published over the years in the beating and teasing of our black neighbors. They're harassing a black youth enforcing the gentrification of black neighborhood and upholding. The name is verity between white and black communities in this town their actions this week which mean national attention and have made clear their thoughts on the black lives matter movement a movement that in this town is headed by black leaders home operate with tact and decorum and their refusal to cooperate the APD have shown the intent to escalate and further harm the residents of the City by harassment Street Medics and destroying their efforts to protect us and our Second Amendment rights fortunately going against the Citywide ordinance that's stated Medics were allowed to do their job shows me that the police will not be governed. I cannot as a resident abide by the funding increase for the police force that actively choose. Yep.Citizen I stand behind black lives matter and will be communicating that to the city with my voice my boats and local government and where I choose to spend my money be fun to be a piece.</p>	6/8/2020 2:43 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Sal Navarro. And I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I'm calling for an active defunding of Asheville Police Department and a freeze on hiring. I'm also calling to emphasize the Deep need for the ultimate abolition of the police department in its entirety off and the building of a community-led public safety model and its replacement. I strongly believe that city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins the process of divesting from the money and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers account. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this critical juncture in our City's history. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Taylor and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a public comment about the proposed 2020 to 2021 budget. I'm asking that the actual city council make a more overnight and visible commitment to racial Justice and make sure that this commitment is reflected in the budget. I implore all of you to consider delaying the budget votes so that the council may find ways to redirect money away from Nashville police departments over inflated budget and I urge you to pressure the city manager's office toward an ethical and equal reallocation of the Cities expenditures away from APD and took sectors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality all kinds of research show that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime than police more prisons. This can be done. The Minneapolis council is voting to dismantled their Police Department dead.Asheville we can lead this movement in North Carolina. We can't risk the lives of our black community any more than we already do dismantling the police and institution that was born out of racism wage slavery is the only way Justice can be served and I hope that has our Representatives that you listen to the people of Asheville and consider an alternative budget that puts a focus on social service programs. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jamie Munro and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget in the wake of the police is killing of George Bush and countless black Americans before him I'm asking you the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find a way to reach me direct money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into Asheville ability to respond to nine-one-one calls with health care workers wrap response social workers and emergency medical personnel for calls involving such situations as substance abuse domestic violence homelessness and mental health.Do not forget our port and communities of color. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:44 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Apologies my last message got cut off. My name is Hilary, and I'm a resident of Bend Oregon. I was raised in Asheville, North Carolina. So it's something very dear to my heart, especially seeing all of the footage going on all over the media everyone knows what's going on in Nashville right now. So, I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities, and at least fifty percent of the average Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding it all civilian oversight Community with the committee with the power to hold the LAPD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our history and life history, but it's still my city and everyone's watching and I urge you to look in your heart and please please please make a change.</p>	6/8/2020 2:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Rachel Waterhouse and I have been a resident of Asheville North Carolina for about thirteen years in those 13 years. I have seen this beautiful mountain town transformed into a 2015 the native black population shoved the corners to be kept out of sight police to their wit's end and generally ignored by their leaders in response. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police the department that began as a patrol to re-incarcerated escaped prisoners or slaves and investing in Black communities and actual Public Health 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunities a gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I also believe that we need to be more Vigilant in the vet wage. Our officers and enforce psychological evaluations and mandatory D escalation training. We need to heal the obvious divide in our community Through preventative social medicine rather than violent militaristic intimidation tactics. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Ali smarter. I live and vote in Asheville, North Carolina and I'm calling to leave public comments for the June 9th meeting regarding the funding of policing. I support critical evaluation of police funding and re-appropriation of a significant portion of those funds to other training and Community Services, which have been shown to more significantly impact crime rates and reduce instances of police violence wage. Some of those services and trainings might include but are not limited to an expansion of mental health and substance abuse counseling services investment in schools Parks and Recreations and local businesses and expansion of resources and support for victims of domestic violence. The establishment of specialized teams that are specifically wow. Praying to respond to the various types of calls that are received by law enforcement. Um generally for all officers cultural sensitivity training and unconscious bias training as well as the escalation training and protocols in place that require the use of de-escalation tactics before resorting to Thursday use of force periodic psychological evaluations of all officers. Mandatory use of body cams and into no-knock raids and bands on maneuvers that would impair breathing. I also support the establishment of an oversight and accountability board, which has the power to discipline and remove officers that are found dead to have engaged in misconduct and most importantly I support ongoing conversations with marginalized populations to continually evaluate and refine the system so that young people will feel safe welcome and respected in Asheville. Thank you for listening to my comments.</p>	6/8/2020 2:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Maria Lopez Ibanez, and I am a resident of North Asheville. I'm also a business owner with a business in West Asheville, and I am calling today and leaving a voicemail and support of a black demands that were presented on Saturdays. With the budget up for consideration. I want city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities half of the a PDF page. It should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black Stardust and business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and fund with an Australian oversight committee with a power to hold the APD the Asheville Police Department and all individual officers accountable. I want your support. I hope I can count on your support, but it's essential policy shift at this crucial Junction in our City's history, please please please be on the right side of History do what is right do the right thing. Thanks for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 2:44 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Eric cheslik. I live in barnardsville, North Carolina. I work in West Asheville and I am wanting and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing our black communities 50% of the actual police departments, but it should be invested in long-term safety static strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD at the actual police department and individual offered officers accountable every council member to support this essential policy shift long as it's crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Christopher O'Riley. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina and I'm calling about the budget next year in a city budget specifically, um the police department budget. Um, I'd like to just support the demands of the black community around reinvesting a significant portion of Asheville Police Department budget into long-term safety strap supporting black startups and businesses and Elite eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools, as well as civilian oversight committee and accountability. I'd also like to say that restricting a location on the APD budget so that it doesn't go to like fancy guns and cars. And in fact that goes to like Psychotherapy and Trauma awareness training and all of that for the officers education and support for officers so that they can always do a better job. So I would advocate for also a reallocation restriction of APD funds so that they need to be used in certain ways in addition. Into the mentioned, um investments in the black community to fix some of the problems or too hopeful support correcting some of the problems from the past. Thank you so much. Really? Appreciate you taking the time to listen.</p>	6/8/2020 2:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there, my name is Allison harness and I live in Asheville, and I am calling to comment on the fiscal year 2023 20:21 in the annual operating budget. So I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of those Asheville Police Department's budget money invested in the long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses a limiting the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold down Asheville Police Department and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Charlotte Huggins. And I'm a resident of camber. I'm calling about actual mayor's Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. I'm asking at the Asheville city council make a more overt invisible commitment to racial Justice in the black community of Asheville. I think the budget office should be delayed. So the council can find ways to redirect money away from the police department budget. And I urge you to put pressure on the city manager's office toward an ethical and equal reallocation of the city's money away from the APD and towards sectors facilitate the dismay of racial and class inequality here in Asheville. My son attends Asheville primary and we have felt very important fact that he is learning in a community of that includes black members of our actual community and black and the Teachers Lounge and I am very proud of Asheville primary for teaching and ethic of anti-racism. I hope that what we teach our kids is reflected in the policies that can change here in Asheville. I would also like to see a place for black people to speak pig.Voice and for white people to listen, it's been incredibly humbling and honoring to listen to the black people of Asheville and support them in their demands met. Thank you for taking this time seriously and showing us all that your commitment is to all the people of Asheville. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Emily and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm writing in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council took the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap National City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history month. Thank you very much. My name is Emily Burke and</p>	6/8/2020 2:45 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Maggie Clinton. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think city council needs to adjust the budget for a begins directly from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity grabbing a city schools and founding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 2:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Owen Stone. And I'm a member of a community. Just wanting to enclose the city council's to divest in the in the APD and said money to community safety and long-term Community efforts to bring the black community, uh into a better situation and Asheville. They have long been uh Supreme and communities have been gentrified and just the treatment of black people in in Asheville so far has signified to the rest of the song that black lives do not matter to this city. And that is something that I'm fundamentally opposed to and I think in a massive divestment from Apple TV would be able to start the process of you know up ending the gentrification that we've seen in Asheville so far. I know it sucks.30 million dollar budget, I think that you know nearly probably, you know twenty nine million five hundred thousand dollars of that is completely unnecessary and not the I think personally that the police don't need to be a part of Asheville life because they don't make anybody in the community feel safe. They're they're uh at any, you know, Pennsylvania racing with the ability to cause Havoc they they they are arriving to scenes of emotional distress with guns, you know that they are there to escalate the situation have the tools to do so and in many cases they do and I think that this is a systemic issue that's something that needs to be taken down completely and not incrementally, uh, taking down the system of racism and white supremacy in American money.Does not look like not increasing the budget for it the budget for it is already way too high the pluses for it may already more than any investment into communities and Community safety efforts and rebuilding, you know this in in a way that it's black folks in particular know that they are welcome here. So, um, if you are a city council member that doesn't believe in defunding the APD, I believe you should step down from your seat because they are not representing the city you're not representing the human side of the city, you are representing A system that is built to oppress people and you are upholding a system and supporting that system and that system is not human that that system is billed to</p>	6/8/2020 2:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there, my name is Mary Ellen. I live in Nashville, and I think that the Asheville Police Department's budget should be reduced in those funds should be reallocated for a variety of things. There should be an oversight Committee of all civilians to hold the department accountable, and we should be investing more in our social services and our education system to eliminate the racial opportunity Gap in our schools, and we should be supporting black owned businesses. Additionally. I think that the Vance Monument should be removed from its current location and either destroyed or maybe moved to the birthplace and contextualize. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is leaders there. I am a resident of Black Mountain in Buncombe County. I am calling to urge Asheville City to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to vesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black woke up some businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. May I urge every council member also to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history, and then just over the Border, but I think of it as my city 2 months and sometimes today's. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Rachel. I am a resident of Asheville as long as the social worker. I'm calling in support of black Asheville demands that were presented recently and I'm currently urging city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities. I believe that the police department here in Asheville is honestly being asked to do too much at this time and age there is a better means to maintaining safety in our community such as investing in social workers. Um, so just wanted to share those thoughts with you guys. Thanks for all that you do wage and and stay well.</p>	6/8/2020 2:46 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Brandy Marek, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant C ROM. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Eleanor Farnham and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to rethink the current budget proposal. It is imperative that there is an ethical and equal reallocation of the expense budget away from the actual police and towards social services and education programs schools investing in Black communities 50% of the police budget should be reinvested and long-term safety strategies. We can accomplish this by redirecting the spending to support black startups and businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and also the oversight committee with the power to hold the ADP and individual officers accountable as a community. We demand that the local politicians develop non-police solutions to address the problems poor people face wage. We must invest in helping employment and health care that directly Target the problem of Public Safety.This is opposed to finding the actual police officers who have gone viral for all the wrong reasons. We should re-evaluate the current police budget and instead of reinvesting in more riot gear. We can look into regular requires i t s implicit association test and psychological screening for all police officers. Thank you for consideration and have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 2:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Parks Harper and I'm a local physician assistant. I'm calling in to say no I do not support the \$400,000 increase in the police budget. May I suggest that the police be defunded and dispense disbanded as many cities around the country are now doing time. And again, I have seen the police brutalize our friends neighbors and loved one. I've seen the horrifying aftermath of these mental and physical injuries and I have done my best to help. These injuries are inexcusable funding Community programs for Mental Health First Response housing food schools these things get to the root of the problem and a healthier and more cost-effective way. The police are a clear and present public health hazard and must be defended. I suggest also that they be disbanded and a different approach a healthier choice.To public health and safety be considered no to the \$400,000 increase we can do better Asheville. We must do better decrease the monthly budget put the money into health and safety initiatives that build our community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name's Chris ciphered. I'm a resident here in Asheville, North Carolina, and I was calling to say that we need to defend the police departments and strip them from all of them. They'll pay equipment provide a comprehensive training and be escalating violence situations. I would like to see if Federal appeal qualifying of qualified immunity and I would like to see required box and all offices. I would like to see required training and education mandatory degree in criminal justice. I would like to see every single use of force investigated by a third-party legal counsel and I will love to see full accountability for a legal actions and harsher penalties for breaking the law for police officers. Thank you for your time, and I hope to see you soon change I have faith in you guys think by.</p>	6/8/2020 2:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Carol Roberts. I'm a Nashville resident. I'm calling to demand that city council defund the Asheville Police Department in Georgia doing that allocated money for the upcoming 2021 budget. The police department is being budgeted an absurd amount of money relative to other programs better ways. You can use this massive police budget include rent relief off providing quality housing opportunities for people below the poverty line improving public transit providing free public transit providing trained mental health professionals 4D Escalade tactics. As opposed to Police Department coming in with no adequate training for dealing with mental health situations providing funding to parts and after spaces making them safer for people of color to participate in free after-school program programs and daycare providing your food options in schools free health clinics. providing living wage community-wide living wage creating jobs that actually benefit the Asheville community and not Spending a an economy that is completely tourism censored. In short Asheville doesn't need or deserve a budget completely allocated to the police department. I urge you all to please reconsider. and adjust</p>	6/8/2020 2:48 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Philip nervous, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling regarding the proposed City budget and to urge the city to use the full amount to fund rental assistance for residents of Asheville wage. They're more I think that the city should begin allocating budget away from the actual police department, including an immediate divestiture of at least fifty percent of the apd's budget, which should be invested into long-term safety packages for black students and businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools. Thank you for your consideration. And I hope that you'll take these comments into account page when proposing the budget for this year.</p>	6/8/2020 2:48 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is David Bauer. I am in Nashville residents. I own two businesses here one called farm and Sparrow. I also own a restaurant called Pizza on the river Arts District. I'm calling about the funding meeting that you guys are having and I would like to infatic Lee that you follow the example set in other page currently where we could do a divestment from the police force into our local communities. I think it would be great to find a way to break up the situation that currently exists that only in neighborhoods, but also in schools Health Care access and opportunity gaps that currently exist and I would love to see George Bush meant of some sort of community-based system of of security. Um something that is not currently what we have with the traditional wage.Course, but something that can be constructed with Community input and look civilian oversight. Um, please make sure this information is passed on at the meeting is very important to me as a business owner and as a parent in our community that these issues be addressed and addressed right now. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:48 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Holly Mason. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge city council to do the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think uh city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to divest from police, and I'm asking in Black communities 50% of APD budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap and Ash faithfals and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thanks so much, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 2:48 PM	Budget
<p>Yes. Hi. My name is Deanna Chilean. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. I know you have a meeting coming up on Tuesday the 9th, which is tomorrow. Specifically, I would really urge the city to take another look at the budgeting around the police officer. I believe we begin we need to begin investing some of the funding that's being dedicated to policing and reinvesting it into communities in specific black communities and then also into really focusing on community policing and reform as far as use of force in the community.I believe that fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be reinvested in long-term strategies. I'm going to urge every council member to support. Really digging in to develop policies that are responding to the issues that are on the ground that have been studied and documented. There's plenty of information resources out there to guide the city. It's not time to do another study or set up another commission. It is time to take action. Thank you, and I will look forward to learning about the results of the meeting tomorrow.</p>	6/8/2020 2:48 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is my arroz tripping and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling in regards to the proposed increase for the police budget wage this year. I'm calling to support black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday and to call for city council not to approve this funding and not only that but to cut the police budget by 50%And to put a hiring freeze on the APD just like there's a hiring freeze on everybody else in the city. I live right near a majority-black area of Asheville. I'm personally white but I have just been so I just feel like it is so striking how I only see police. sitting and waiting to you know, whatever you want to call it catch people or you know, basically sitting and waiting on the street corner and targeting really very clearly targeting individuals and communities in this area and I see it almost everyday um, and it has always been very striking to me that I have never seen a single cop on my street even though they literally sit and watch people's houses when there is nothing going on two blocks away from me daily, and I I think that's a pretty normal circumstance that cops are really targeting, um, black and brown individuals and that is not just a Nashville but it definitely is here dead. And I I think that we know that we can invest in community health and safety in another way that does not involve the police department. I mean, yep. Mental health and um, I encounter individuals in distress every day and I have never felt any need or desire to harm anybody and yet. We see the police do it all the time and they call it public safety, you know, I mean, it's just it's just covering up what this really is, which is just racist practices. And those are so ingrained in the police department and in all police departments. And really the only thing that we can do about it is Thursday fund the police and invest in housing and Transit and community support and actually pay firefighters a living wage, which is like what Asheville that we don't and uh,</p>	6/8/2020 2:49 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Colin Miller. My previous comment is cut off. I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black actual demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I or should I invest in invest into black communities 50% Maybe these budget should be invested in the long-term safety strategy, including supporting black stereotypes and businesses off dating. The racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City Schools is funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to uphold the APD to hold the vapt and black boxer's accountable. I hope that I can count on you for your support for this Central policy shift at this crucial juncture in our history month.</p>	6/8/2020 2:50 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Kayla Smallwood. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from off lease and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in the Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD an individual offices accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:50 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Grant Mary. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina and I'm calling in support of the black actual demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council. So to divest the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding it all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. I would also urge the city to use the full amount of the cares at Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift of the council. This is a crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:50 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Jennifer blatnik, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm in the zip code 28804. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses Thursday evening, the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to uphold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much for listening to the verge of Asheville and have a great day.</p>	6/8/2020 2:51 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Neil Levine. I live in Asheville, and I'm a student at Asheville. Hi, I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the APD who have been abusing their citizens over the past week publicly and long before as well. The city needs to invest in Black communities and the desegregation of Asheville. The city of Asheville is extremely segregated both geographically and not really and as a high school student. I have noticed that most of my upper level classes are entirely white this needs to change and you need to take the steps to create an opportunity for Asheville black citizens actual also needs to invest in all civilian oversight committee that can hold the APD accountable for their abusive actions to make Asheville and more safe place to live. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:51 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, I'm Brayden DeWitt. I'm calling with regard to ABC's budget. I find that actions taken by a PhD during these protests to be appalling. I do not find David zax empty words to be adequate preparations for the damages and harm done by his officers do to this abuse of power. I believe we need to cut their budget. We already a lot of record number of dollars per capita to beliefs in our community these the police and back to use these refunds to an act violent against Asheville citizens. Therefore not only should they be denied the additional \$450,000 in funding, but their budget should be cut from 30 million to 15 million and these funds instead be allotted to the black community who are friends and neighbors and deserve reparations for the violence that they have been experiencing for Generations. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:51 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Denise Ballard. I live in Asheville. I was actually at the protest in left before curfew and because of live stream we were able to see what happened. Once we left and how the police officers attacked the medications and smashed everything and I feel like it was done so that when the media did show me it looked like the protesters had trashed everything to make it look like it wasn't peaceful. So I hope they are held accountable for that because that was ridiculous. That could have gone to a lot of needy people. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:51 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Pamela Millis. I'm a resident of Asheville, and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Nashville Public Schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this club juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:52 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Diane. I'm a resident of Asheville. I just was cut off by the voice mail machine, but I want to continue what I was saying that I believe that I I urge the council to the vest for the police and invest in Black communities. I think you all know but there's an ask for 50% of these budget to be invested in long-term safety strategies supporting businesses and startups and working to eliminate the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City Schools, which is just unacceptable the end of fund and all civilian oversight committee. Mom told police officers accountable if the police department continues to exist! also want to ask the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant to fund rental assistance. That's a separate thing. I you know people say what would you do if you if we defunded the police that just wouldn't work but that's just not true. You know, I like I said, I work in mental health and the city could invest in a team of social workers and counselors, uh people who are actually trained and be escalation strategy. Like I am people who are trained in domestic violence prevention and support Community leaders could be trained as peer support specialist. Um, there could be people assigned to handle traffic and who don't need to be armed with guns. I mean, there's just literally no reason that you get shot for getting a speeding ticket. There's no acceptable reason. Yep. There could be people who are trained in supporting folks who've been through trauma like you could invest in addiction programs housing program. I mean There are just so many other things that we could do for Community safety that might actually help folks instead of investing in a system that was designed to police black people and judge support rich white people and their property. So I hope that you know, if you really care about me you live in that you'll choose to offer different from the police and invest in the community.</p>	6/8/2020 2:52 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Brady praise. I live in Asheville 6 Laclede Avenue 28804 twenty-year resident and I'm calling today to express my opinion that I would like for the city to divest from the actual police department in light of the recent demonstrations. Um, and what's happening around the country. I firmly believe that resources should be allocated for long-term strategies rather than. Bring a excessively forceful police task force, which I believe is what we're seeing in Asheville recently and over the past years. So long term strategies, please economic bolstering for racial equality achievement gaps in schools and things of that nature.Sure. Um, just what I'd rather see the funds used for. Thanks very much for hearing my opinion.</p>	6/8/2020 2:52 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Nicole Lund and I am a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the Apec over-inflated budgets into the following programs.Invest divest reparations and ending the war on black people to invest in to the man the divestment from the police and investment in Black communities. Reparations we do man repair for the past and continuing harms inflicted on black communities. We did man that the Asheville government removed advance in Robert E. Lee monument and replace them with monuments honor the money black. Ash billions who have built this city with a man that streets named after former slave owners also be replaced with names of historic local black leaders and the war and black people we demand and not just individual accountability for officers after legal or violent use of force, but for accountability for the entire APD, we demand an end to the systematic harm inflicted on all black people wage. We asked you the city council to help unite our city and demand or form. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:53 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Sydney Swaim. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares at Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance and furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to vesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual PDF budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight commission with the power to hold Asheville PD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:53 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Mary Suzanne a singer. I am a resident of Asheville North Carolina for almost twenty years now, and I would like to leave a comment on the annual operating budget for fiscal year 2020 to 2021. I am urging the city to please adjust the budget as following Begin by divesting away from the police officer and back into black communities by taking 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget and investing that in long-term strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools. Please find all civilian oversight committees with the power to uphold the APD and each individual officer accountable. I'm urging every city council member to please support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much for hearing me. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 2:53 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Kimber Meyer. And I am a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the month. D a r e s a c t Community Development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it began affecting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you. Please do the right thing.</p>	6/8/2020 2:54 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is David. I'm Zeke and I'm a Nashville citizen resident. Um, I like many of you have benefited by being white, but I'm taking responsibility to use my voice and speeds up against the proposed increase in budget for the APD. As I am aware. We already have millions of dollars going to them approximately Thirty million dollars a year. I do not agree with the increase of \$457,000 to the police department. Thank you very much for life.</p>	6/8/2020 2:54 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is summer. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools where I work and funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to home the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at a critical Junction in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 2:54 PM	Budget
<p>This is Linda Layton and I live in Durham North Carolina and I am appalled at what the Asheville Police did. I have to say I think the buck stops with the police chief because I doubt that those policemen would have had the guts to do what they did. If they didn't know what their boss thought. They're there to protect and serve. So what do they do slash water bottles? So the Marchers have no water. Good great and shame.</p>	6/8/2020 2:54 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Sawyer Johnson. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act community development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 2:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Allison Williams, and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to ask our city council to address next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies including supporting blacks startups. And including black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools is of utmost importance and funding an all civilian oversight committee that the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this time. Thank you for your time, and I hope you do what's best for our city and for the people of our city. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:56 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Patrick Ingram and I have been a resident of Asheville for eleven years. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community block grant funds for rental assistance most importantly, I'm calling in support of the black Castle Dammam that were presented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the facial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with a power to hold the actual police department in a individual officers accountable. I have first-hand experience with the actual police departments violent behavior from a 2015 misdemeanor charge when arrested I was thrown to the ground and handled so aggressively that it resulted in an elbow fracture life to to this day. I believe because of my whiteness my life was spared for black and other people of color who are members of our community. There is a the constant threat of our police force. We have seen it here in our own City where police have disproportionate. Acting violent towards black people sometimes even resulting in senseless murders. We also saw it over the past weeks where police responded violently to Peaceful protesters with tear gas and rubber bullets. This is a complete disgrace to the black community and we must change our Outlook police reform has proven to fail and cities all over our country due to the fact that the police force is historically and deeply rooted and racist racism and violence. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 2:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Sawyer Johnson. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of these budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in National City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 2:57 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is. Brewer and I am a citizen of Asheville and a journalist. I would like to request a no vote for APD funding a hiring freeze on the TV and that the \$400,000 extra go to places that can be better served in our communities as opposed to the APD. I do not feel that they need a funding increase especially not after witnessing the violence and police brutality wage by protesters downtown this week. As I said, I'm a journalist and I've witnessed these things firsthand the use of tear gas and rubber bullets on civilians, which is a war crime. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Cheryl and I'm a concerned citizen. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-21 budget in the wake of the police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis. Black Americans before him and asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using the time to find ways to redirect the money away from the Asheville Police Department over inflated budget into homelessness and affordable housing. Do not forget the poor communities and communities of color in our city. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	6/8/2020 2:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Claire Eubanks. I've lived in Weaverville North Carolina for about thirteen years and I just wanted to say that I support holding the Asheville City police accountable for their actions of destroying a medical station several days ago that made national news national news and is a very horrible action. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:57 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hey, this is Thomas. I've been a resident of North Carolina majority of my life grew up, right Nashville and would really like to baptize my um discontent with the way that bashful police department has responded to the current events as well as the police brutality and violence that I am seeing come out of this organization that I believe needs to be defunded immediately. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:58 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Karen Hannah and I am a resident of the city of Asheville. I live in West Asheville 28806. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. I've been listening to our black communities. I understand that we need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities. Increasing our police scores will not make me feel more safe. I agree that collectively we will be better off to follow. these guidelines reducing 50% or 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in our schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I would like to see a shift from the mentality of more policing toward a strategy equality policing I urge every council member to support this essential shift at this critical juncture in our history.</p>	6/8/2020 2:58 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Rebecca Davis. I'm calling to express concern over the proposed budget and the allocation of funds to the Asheville Police Department. And it actually it blows my mind to see that there's Thirty million of our tax dollars going towards an institution that's failing the people that it's it's meant to serve if that money were invested into community and to sustainability into programs for minorities and for everybody else then Gardens and and activities that could keep people keep Community Spirits high and keep crime wait slow. Just what the six mini mini Annapolis is doing at the moment. They are they are investing in community watch groups that are proven to to help birth. You know police uh organizations, so it's it's very obvious at this point and and everybody that we've been associated with and talking to is in agreement that it is time for change and we are are you know, we are spending we want to spend our tax money where we know it's going to help and that is not to go towards the police departments. It's a very obvious that there has a has been a huge disparity in equality that and committed from from the from these agencies and it's a 2004 change its there's absolutely no reason that the police department's funding should should go up or there should be that much funny to begin with. There's \$769,000 going toward sustained. Already, our future is in sustainability. Our future is not in policing its interests a nobility. It's in community Okay police is not going to help matters of survival and thrival going forward humans have had enough impact the Earth. It's very obvious at this point that that's where our tax dollars. Our funding is to go not not towards Faith organizations that have failed us. In policy and in and violations constitutional violations and being protected from from that at the same time. That's yeah, that's not what Ashville is about Asheville is about equality, Asheville.</p>	6/8/2020 2:58 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Christine mellow and I live in Ashville, North Carolina. I'm commenting on fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. And I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities and the underserved communities in our area fifty percent of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating them off Rachel opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and interval individual officers accountable accountability is one of the biggest things our community is missing and need to take action to be an example for responsible care and connection in our community. May I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 2:59 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, good afternoon. My name is Vanessa Toto's. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling in regards to the fiscal year the 2020-21 annual operating budget. I believe that we need to begin deducting from the police and invest in the city percent of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term strategies, including supporting black other businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and sending an officer in oversight Committee of the power to hold that you could do an individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support the essential police policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. I feel like the people Asheville are speaking up a cloud and clear. As the black community and Asheville part of it's easy and it's time for us to listen and to act from their thanks so much.</p>	6/8/2020 2:59 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, I'm calling to express my concern for the actual budget for the city police the APD I urge city council to invest 50% of the the apd's budget and long-term safety strategies for black start-up businesses to eliminate the racial Injustice that's happening in Asheville and towards schools that are attended more by black people.And just a general well-being and Equalization for white and black people in Nashville area. Thank you. And once again, I am calling to express my desire to help with the defund the actual City police and reinvest that money into services for black communities. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:00 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Isabelle Ennis. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance for the more I think city council needs to adjust the budget budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities sixty percent of the budget should be invested in the long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding on an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you so much for your time and hearing my opinion. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 3:00 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Allison Williams. I'm a citizen of Asheville, North Carolina. I apologize if this is a repeat message, but it sounded like I was cut off previously and I feel like it's very important to me that my voice as well as others is hard right now. I'm calling to ask our city council to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities Asheville Police Department budget should be cut by 50% and those funds should be spent on investments and long-term safety strategies and supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the commercial opportunity Gap a national city schools is a utmost importance and funding and all civilian oversight committee within with the power to hold the APD and include an individual officers account, I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this critical juncture in our cities. History. Thank you so much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:01 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Patrick Casale. I'm a resident of West Asheville, North Carolina 28806. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and suggesting in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in the Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's History Month. My name's Patrick Sal. I'm a local addiction and mental health therapist, and I really encourage this message.</p>	6/8/2020 3:01 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Coco and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in to support the black actual demands that were presented on Saturday with budget up for consideration. I urge city council the divest from the police and invest in black community 50% of a PDF budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start up in business life and eliminating in eliminating the racial opportunity Gap National tools also funding and all civilian oversight Community with the power to hold the apdp an individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy V shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:01 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Rachel haldar and I live in Ashville, North Carolina. I'm commenting on the fiscal year 20 20 21 annual operating budget, and I'm calling to urge the city to Thursday. Just next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies as opposed to what is being invested in now, including supporting black startups and businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in the city schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power for the ADP and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you for Ford hearing this, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:01 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Kelly Berry. I am resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance for the more I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers account. Thank you very much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Morgan boss. I am a resident of the city of Asheville in zip code 28804 and I'm calling ahead of the city budget meeting to strongly urge the city council to say no to the \$400,000 increase for the police budget. Um, if that money has been chosen by the state to go towards retirement, I urge the city council to find funding within the already twenty nine million dollar budget that the police department has and just to not give them an increase and instead take that \$400,000 and you took it to make sure that the firefighters are getting paid a living wage. Currently the city is in violation of their own living wage policy. I also think that funding should be used to provide Operational Support for Asheville Buncombe County Community Land Trust the city the city should invest \$100,000 in Operational Support for that land trust and I'm also asking the city council to provide birth.Transparency and spending for the Asheville bus system. Again. My name is Morgan Bost and I'm calling to urge the city council to say no to the police department's request for an additional \$400,000 in funding and I would also urge the city council to greatly reduce their already-existing \$29 million dollar budget. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 3:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Alexandria Cummings. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm writing in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest. In Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies which includes supporting black startups off slash businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee took the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:02 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this this time I'm calling on behalf of mini Asheville residents and and even greater Asheville specifically barnardsville community and people that live in both Asheville and come out to do community farming and and Gardens and creative projects. And there's I mean, I could list all the names but there's hundreds of us that are on the same page of deal funding Asheville Police Department at least not increasing their we don't want our tax dollars going there. That's it. We don't we don't believe in the future of policing at least in the in the system that's currently set up. It's failing us. It's very obvious that is failing us and it has failed us for for decades. Now we want change. And and true truly change is going to come through sustainability. So the budget that's allocated for sustainability is the least \$769,000 and then a police get Thirty million or and then there there's a proposal for an increase. No. No, that is that's not okay cuz that's not where our future lies and and there's a mini mini concerned citizens right now and starting to wake up and understand that you know, we're the ones that are are creating this it's coming from our tax dollars and and it's time for change some real change and that's investment in community and investment in programs that will help the community and and lower crimes and and get people off the streets and that's where funds need to go to at this point not to the police department that has failed us time and time again. So on behalf of Minneapolis residents that didn't call in today, but wanted to or or you know, or home, you know, they will get more active in this in the future. They see what's, you know being played out with everything, but we do not support any budget increase and we're the ones paying for it. So we want our money to go towards things that are actually going to help the community not police the community help the community like sustainability like Community programs, you know, like housing like like a business loans, that's kind of stuff and that's that's where we can affect some real change. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Jasmine and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of police killing of George Floyd Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking the actual city council make a over commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the actual police departments over inflated budget into public schools housing public transportation and Health Services defund the Asheville Police.</p>	6/8/2020 3:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jackson Whitfield, and I live in the Asheville area, and I'm calling to comment on the budget issue 5D off the way the way the current proposal seems to have in my opinion way too much proposed budget going to the police wage, you know would like to ask the question. Are we we trying to, you know, go after the calls or or the effect, you know the symptoms or the disease, I think that if we focus those funds towards things like uh, sustainable housing, you know Transportation Parks and Recreation, you know, those will make our city home much better place to live and you know, what will in effect, you know require not having the need for as many cops out on the street. So, thanks. Keep your consideration by.</p>	6/8/2020 3:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Emily Miranda. And I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling today in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration. I urge the city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the Asheville Police Department and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential polish off his shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. I know that Asheville house itself is a very Progressive City, but it's got to put its money where its mouth is dead. This is a long-overdue thank-you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:03 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Dylan Hendrickson. I'm a resident of Boone North Carolina and during my time up here in Asheville over the past two days. I could hear the Asheville Police Department firing tear gas canisters into crowds of peaceful protesters. And I would like to know that a \$400,000 budget approval to the APD off. Will not happen and will not sound like that cuz that's what I'm hearing. I'm hearing. Gas canisters fired. I'm hearing that that budget approval to continue violence against a black LED movement and people in support of it. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:03 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Heidi and I have lived here in Asheville for 16 years working as a nurse. I have seen first-hand how racial discrimination impacts the black community from higher rates of birth death disproportionate deaths and black communities from covid-19 providers not taking black patients seriously staff simply avoiding rounds on black patients wage to even making fun of their names as our nation becomes more educated on how police departments across the country practice racial profiling and use of force against black citizens including killing black people at a shocking rate approximately two and half times the rate of their white counterparts. I strongly encourage each council member to vote against increasing the Asheville Police Department budget for the fiscal year 2020 to 2021. Furthermore. I would like to see a 25 to 50% of their budget decreased and funneled into black communities to help provide an Choi.Education opportunity to black students investing in Black startups and companies and perhaps the most important of all creating an all civilian oversight group to hold Asheville Police Department wage and individual officers accountable for their actions. Please heed black actual demands Asheville has a reputation of being all-inclusive. Let's be a leader during this crucial point in history black lives matter.</p>	6/8/2020 3:03 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Savanna Bendis, and I am a resident of Asheville. I am commenting on the proposed budget increase for the APD. My comment is directly from the black Ashfield demands as I stand with black community of Asheville and support their demands a hundred percent. We demanded divestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD wage officers accountable. Please do not allow the budget increase for the APD. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:03 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Ken Kaiser and I'm a resident of 17 North Pershing Road, Asheville, North Carolina 28805. I'm calling to urge the city of Asheville to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development. Black block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance for a more I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from home and that's being in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses am needing the racial opportunity Gap and actual City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:03 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Danielle Jackson. I'm a resident of Asheville. Zip code 28803. I'm calling about Asheville mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal wage. I'm asking that the city council read of redirect funds away from the Asheville police departments over inflated budget and directed to towards an alternative budget off the focus on social service programs instead. Thank you for your hard work and your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:04 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Sam Tsui Marty, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the care act as a community development block grant or cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So I begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups or businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee off the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you very much, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:04 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Emily and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm commenting on the fiscal year 2020-2021 annual operating budget and I'm calling from the city to adjust next year's budget over the course of this past week and a half. We have experienced as a community both the best and the worst of Asheville. The clashes between APD officers wage in riot gear and protesters demanding Justice for black lives lost to police violence is just the latest in a long history of police violence and brutality against black people in Asheville. I've been heartened by statements by some of our elected officials including some of you on city council to hold you accountable to make real change for our black neighbors. You all have a great opportunity right now to walk that talk I stand in support of the black a vehicle demand to divert proposed budget increases and instead. Invest those funds in long-term safety strategies for our black communities including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and finding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this critical time in our City's history. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:04 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Laura Woods, and I am a resident of Asheville Highway 134 sales Road. I'm calling to urge the city to use the total amount of Security Act Community Development block grant for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins Augustine from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the AC off it should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all the civilian oversight committee with our can hold the AC D and individual officers account. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:04 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Sarah and I wanted to voice that I am opposed to providing more funding to the actual police department. I have been a journalist that has been at the protests every single night since they started and every single time. It has been escalated with police brutality and way excessive amount of force than is necessary. In order to handle the situation wage. I feel like the money would be better diverted towards our community resources and ways to help marginalized groups in our community rather than just attacking people with excessive amounts of force.</p>	6/8/2020 3:05 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Britney McNally and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools funding and all civilian oversight committee with power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential police ships and This Crew home at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 3:05 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Alex lines. I live in North Asheville. And I am calling to support of the demands that were presented at the March and vigil Saturday to start divesting from the police as we have seen in the last couple of weeks. The Asheville Police Department does not keep everyone safe wage and is in fact harming the black people of Asheville and it has turned against all people of Asheville and attacked wage protesters. Um, and it is not acceptable to consider giving them even more money, especially when there's so many other things in the community that really need to be suspended to increase actual Community safety like Transit and education and living wages and so like yep. How many other voices in Asheville I'm calling to ask that you do not approve this increase in the police department's budget and that you in fact start investing from the actual police department in order to invest in real Public Safety and into the black communities and Asheville and start seriously seriously addressing the racialized harm that has been done and continues to be done and not just talk about it. Not just commit to doing something else, but really listen to the people that you represent and start doing something and you can start by divesting and listening to the demands of your community. Thank you, ma'am.</p>	6/8/2020 3:05 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Brett sculthorpe. I am a resident and my concerns are for the budget tomorrow living wages for firefighters wage investment in the Asheville Buncombe Community Land Trust and more transparency and accountability around the cares act funding for transition. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:06 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, I'm Kristin, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration hired city council to the divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups in business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to uphold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:06 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Brandon from Browski. I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling for the city to the full amount of the cares a Community Development block grant funds rental assisting furthermore. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the total budget should be invested in long-term safety strategy, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools off and bonding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I do not want to see the money invested.Further into the APD. Thanks for listening. Good night.</p>	6/8/2020 3:06 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Veronica Hamada. And I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares Act. Funds for rental assistance furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the total budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and also the oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and in the individual officers accountable. I strongly urge you to do this. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:07 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Teresa on a free oh, and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to support the black demands that were presented on Saturday, Since you're considering the budget. I would urge the city council to put its money into black communities 50% of the APD budget money could go a long way towards increasing safety and start-up businesses eliminating racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and funding and also civilian oversight committee.I'd also like the city to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act the Community Development block grant funds for residential assistants off. I hope that I can count on your support in this essential policy shift since this is a crucial time for our City's history. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 3:08 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Beth Hill, and I am a resident of Asheville, and I'm just calling to support the defunding of the Asheville Police Department the violence that they've perpetrated. That's just an example of how these departments cannot be reformed, so, please consider divesting them and invest in our education and our black community, especially choose to be a former friend of justice and positive change in this time. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:08 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Heather Waters. And I'm a resident of Asheville City. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities as well fifty percent of the budget money invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:08 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Katharine Graham, and I'm a resident of Buncombe County 28805 is my ZIP code. I'm commenting on the fiscal year 2020-2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to ask if you could take fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget and invest it back in the community. I know it's been proven in other cities that this helps the crime rate. So please do so. Thanks so much for your time. I appreciate it Kathy Graham, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:08 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Caitlin Kelleher. I'm a resident and Community Health worker in Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block. Grant funds the rental assistance for the more. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a PD an individual officers accountable. Please do everything to the fullest extent of your power using your platform to hear the demands of your community members as we are not going to stop asking until there's actual measurable long-term change. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	6/8/2020 3:08 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Justin Plunkett. I've been living in Asheville for four years now. I just wanted to call and comment on the budget process this this meeting and just you know, Asheville committed itself to becoming a sustainable City by 20:30, right and the amount of the back portion of budget of you know, Thirty million to the police and less than a million for sustainability is absurd and we need to focus on priorities like helping people in our community and helping them our water clean and just we need to zoom out and think of the bigger picture here and just do better. Um, I've always loved Asheville and I want us to continue to be a great City and continue to wage of the curve and these kind of things that really this, you know, shouldn't be head of the curve of having a police fund or having balance and budgets and having police that don't suck. Lives, so let's do better Asheville. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:08 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is benedetto Maniscalco and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm just calling to support the black actual demands that were presented on Saturday. I think they were all pretty clear and pretty Justified with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police invest in black community that fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding it all off and oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I'd also like to erase the city to use the full amount of Care Act Community Development block grants and funds for rental assistance. I hope that I can count on your support is essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history and the city and the history of the US. I think that. There's way too much money going into policing and I think that we could do a lot better without any actual place. And there's a lot of really great ideas out there about separating it into a massive different professions or different directions where people would be in charge of different things so that cops wouldn't be in charge of all of it. And none of them are very level of them would be armed. I also think that would be in most of those situations or in most of the positions. We would need at least four years of college in criminal justice. And I think just general background checks would be important on police officers or the the different positions replacing them. Beyond that just to speak to the racial thing. I think that most of that money if not all of the money being put into our Police Department wage going to helping the city grow, especially racially and in those communities because they've been so devastated by Asheville as a whole. It's tourist Mecca. I think that it's just incredibly unfair that they've taken so much from them. You see a communities that used to be extremely black just so much gentrification. Um so much wage and everything. It's really unfair. I mean.</p>	6/8/2020 3:08 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Brianna Chevelle and I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina and I'm calling with comment on public hearing Part D the consideration of Asheville fiscal year. 2026 Twenty One annual operating budget given the history of police brutality and Murder by those who have sworn to protect citizens and their constitutional rights and given the disproportionate rates at which the police department targets black communities is unforgivable. Asheville, North Carolina is 13% black yet that population makes up 36% of them stops three times the black population the Asheville Police Department budget in 2019-2020 was \$29 million dollars over twenty-five million dollars. The proposed 2020-2021 budget is 30 million. Stated on page fifteen of the budget proposal Asheville promotes and supports minority business as a means of strengthening our local economy. We use a racial Equity lens to review and Achieve our city strategic goals in health education housing and economic Mobility. If this is something that the city of Asheville truly intends to stand for then the Asheville Police Department should not be given a budget increase the police department budget would be defunded and reallocated to community organizations that address mental health poverty and social issues in Iraq, informed and person centered manner. Why is it that the budget for equity and inclusion in Asheville is only \$454,999 a month less than a million dollars if the city reportedly stands for Equity the city of Asheville needs to invest in Black businesses Workforce Development and needs to address the racial opportunity Gap in Arsenal City Schools, the reallocation of funds needs to have direct input and oversight from the black community Asheville must put their money where they claim their values lie. The Asheville Police Department should not receive any additional funding and present funds must be re out. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:09 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Louise miracle. And I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I'm commenting on public hearing item d off the annual operating budget. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in black community fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold them and individual officers accountable. Can I count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:09 PM	Budget
<p>Hey, this is Mark Hennessy and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city city council to adjust the budget next year this budget. We need to start divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Astro Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the individual officers accountable 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in these long-term strategies. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Do what's right.</p>	6/8/2020 3:09 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Jacqueline Jackson. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I am calling to comment on fiscal year 20 20 21 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget to listen to the call of black leaders in the community. We need to begin divesting from the police officer investing in Black communities in order to show that we really support these communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to home and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial Junction in our City's history. Everyone is paying off. And The Time Is Now to make the right decisions. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:09 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Jessie Shafer. I'm a constituent of the city of Asheville. I was calling regarding upcoming budget meeting. Um, there is an increase of \$400,000 in the police budget of the city wage and not only should we not be increasing the budget currently, but we should actually be cutting it. So I'm as a constituent asking that we do not increase funding for their budget, but rather than decreased their funding and use that funding for other parts of the city government. I know that we're currently having a lot of austere conditions in the city budget because of coronavirus and the thought that at a time when we're cutting so many different aspects of our budget that we would be adding more to the police is just really confusing to me. So I really hope that we can understand your time. The first thing that we should be cutting is police force rather than basic Services. Thank you. Have a great day.</p>	6/8/2020 3:09 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hey, my name is Garrett and I've been in Asheville City resident for eight years and I am calling on behalf of the budget shift that is proposed for them to this Tuesday, June 9th there just a couple of things. I wanted to bring to the attention of the people that are making decisions for how actual function off. I have noticed looking at the new budget. That what's proposed is 134.5 million dollars for a total budget and off-budget 71.4 million hours are from property taxes. So in the eight years that I've lived here, I've noticed a huge uptick off and a lot of new properties and condos and things being built almost exclusively all of which are places that people that I know and I'm a regular person. I just work in a restaurant wage. Can't afford to live in these places. So I can't even imagine how it would be living in a society being a black person and then not even be able to find decent housing and then on top of that also not even being able to afford the next level up that I can even afford. So that's 53% of the budget wage. Its property taxes of that one 34.5 million. The APD budget is \$30 million dollars as compared to two point six million and transportation only 2.8 million and community and economic development \$455,000 for equity and inclusion and only one point 1 million on a City attorney. So it just seems like what is happening in the city is we're essentially deploying police to protect the property of people and new Investments and new money wage. But what that looks like is violence because people are being moved out of their neighborhoods and becoming further gentrified Hillcrest is still a food desert Lee Walker Heights has been shut down and the residents weren't told they can go anywhere specifically there was nothing they put in place as a safety net and Asheville, the the black population has less than they have in the past couple of decades. So I think it's loud and clear what needs to happen. We're demanding that the police department be defunded by at least fifty percent of this next budget proposal because if we're going to be a progressive liberal City, we need to be on top of what it's actually Progressive which is defunding our local police and stop having armed Whitesburg mrs. In the streets terrorizing black and brown people. Thank you for your time. Do you find the Asheville Police Department at least by 50%</p>	6/8/2020 3:09 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Zoe song and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm commenting on the proposed budget increase for the actual police department a stand with the black community of Asheville and support their demands 100% off. He demand divestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies in place for a black startups or businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools, and sending and all civilian oversight committee with power to hold the Ashland police department and individual officers accountable. Please do not allow the budget increase for the actual police department. Thank you so song</p>	6/8/2020 3:10 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Polly medicott. I'm a resident of Asheville. I tried to call me for but I'm not sure it went through. And since I'm as a senior not able to walk be in the street protesting peacefully as I would like to I want to make sure that you get my comment. I'm calling about the next year's budget for the city and asking the city council to. Divest funds from the police and invest in black community the black community of Asheville. Fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in the schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. This is the time when we can change something finally and do something and research has shown that these kinds of services Community Services will actually end up being less expensive and more helpful to the people. Our city and our community who have for so long been treated unfairly and unjustly, please please take this into consideration. It takes some time. Do you lazy approval of the budget until you can take a look at other possibilities? You can't keep going on like we have been we just can't. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:11 PM	Budget
<p>Hey, this is Seth goes known a number of resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin the vesting from the police department and investing in black community wage 50% of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and flung in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture City's history. I'm sure a lot of other people feel the same way, and I believe that we can make a great change if we push for it. So thank you for your time and thank you for listening.</p>	6/8/2020 3:11 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Emma Allen. I live in Nashville 28806. I'm just calling to encourage the council to be brave and two am here. The call is happening. So strongly in Nashville and around the world for budgets to be cut significantly for the police department and to look into Progressive ways to reallocate those funds to create positive change in our black communities. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:11 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Nick Laney, and I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina. I'm calling you. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to vesting from police and investing in Black communities off 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committees with the power to upload the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council members to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture wage history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:12 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Rebecca King and I am calling because I'm appalled at the behavior of the Asheville Police and destroying the medic table and destroying the waters and I'll say that you said your gas from a bridge when it wasn't necessary and they and then the police chief actually did not tell the truth because the business office were the right account was setup has has publicly stated that they gave permission for that to be there. We really need to change this. We've got to get off least not acting this way and and actually not fabricating things that aren't true and not reacting with violence. It's time to do something about this month. Thank you and I will be watching to see what you guys come up with.</p>	6/8/2020 3:12 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Abby home. So I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the care that Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and busy eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:13 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Joshua Overbay, and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm commenting on the fiscal year. Twenty two twenty twenty twenty two twenty Twenty-One and you operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheboro City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at the at this crucial juncture wage in our City's history. Thank you so much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:13 PM	Budget
<p>Hey there, my name is Michelle Coppell. I am a resident of the city of Asheville. I am calling to comment on the fiscal year 2026 annual operating budget. I am urging you to adjust next year's budget. And to listen and to follow the demands of black, Asheville. We need to follow their leadership and set white leadership aside. mayor mannheimer urge you to listen to these voices above anything else fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to home the APT APD and individual officers accountable. It's crucial at this moment to support. the movement to equity and to begin the process of reparations. And to follow the demands that have been laid out by the public. So demonstrably over the last few days. Please use this moment to step on the right side of history and change what has been true. Since the conquerors came to America. This is Our Moment to do this to step into the hard and to find our way to a new way Police shouldn't be policing. The problems that have been created by an equitable system. Wouldn't it be better to show up with a social worker? Who knows how to talk to people and deescalate rather than defending someone with a badge and a gun who thinks they have authority over everyone. Let's do this differently.</p>	6/8/2020 3:13 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Molly Morning Glory. I'm commenting on the proposed budget increase for the Asheville Police Department. My comment is directly from the black Asheville demands as I stand with the black community of Asheville and support their demands one hundred percent. We demanded divestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be investing long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Please do not allow the budget increase for the Asheville Police Department. Thank you Molly Morning Glory.</p>	6/8/2020 3:14 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is James hubka. I am a Nashville city residence. I live on the south slope and I'm calling just to let y'all know that I think a lot of people including myself seriously consider and think it's important that we question how much money we're spending on the police given that a they seem to be often very counterproductive when it comes to Public Safety and be the fact that we're going to probably pretty big, uh tax revenue shortfall with the coronavirus shutting down the economy for a while. So I would like in response to these things and also the black lives matter protest which are really important. I think we should seriously consider rapid, uh deeply reducing a budget allocation to the police and certainly demilitarizing them and questioning how much of a role that they play and what other things like Mental Health Counselors. Yep. Used to try to diffuse some of these situations. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:14 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is charisa Keen. I'm an Uber home owner in West Asheville. But I have been a resident brush of Asheville for about twelve years. I'm calling to voice my unyielding support cache from demands that were publicly presented to the mayor the vice mayor police chief and the hundreds of supporters on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge the city council to divest from the police invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety. Um those strategies should include supporting black start-up businesses eliminating off dating racial opportunity gaps in this Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight Community Committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope I can count on your support for this essential shift and the justice system of our city. We are a bubble in the South we should pave the way. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:14 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Bailey Sheridan, and I'm a resident of Asheville and a student at UNC Asheville. I'm commenting on the budget and for the public hearing. I am calling in support a black Asheville demands for the budget. I believe that it is important that we stop in. We stop investing in the police and start investing in Black just begins with divesting from the police 50% of a PDS budgets should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools, and spending it all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable their significant research to prove that by investing in Black communities young women ate crimes of poverty, and therefore the need for police and goes down. I urge you to support this and we're watching you and we need your support. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:14 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Madison Watson. I am a resident of Arden and Asheville. I am commenting on consent agenda item a public hearing Item B, and I'm making an open public, I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing from off lease and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope you will make these critical and necessary changes. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:15 PM	Consent
<p>My name is TJ hayslip, and I am a resident of Asheville City. I think that the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to vesting from the police and investing a black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 3:15 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Megan Myers. I'm a recent graduate of Western Carolinas program for clinical mental health counseling the master's program, and I'm a resident in Weaverville. I am calling because I would like to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act the Community Development block grant for funds for rep assistance. I think it would be more beneficial for the city to adjust this budget, especially considering that we're heading into a recession and it would be more it would behoove the city more to focus on the cares act as opposed to investing further in the cities APD. I appreciate your consideration for this and at least fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting.Start up businesses in the area more focus on the black community in eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools jobs funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:15 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Marcia heiman. I'm calling I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police. Ideally. Holy I think that we should abolish English the police and revert to a community-led public safety model. But as far as defending goes and divesting from the police, I would like to begin with next year's budget. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the APD budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and an individual offers officers accountable just based upon all of the actions that I have seen this week. Let alone what I have heard and know to be true of the apd's action. Yep.in the past It's reprehensible for them to be able to continue going on the way that it has there needs to be accountability there needs to be no police force there needs to be more community resource or more people specifically black and brown people. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:15 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Grace ma'am Martinez and I am calling in reference to the fiscal year 2020 to 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to express our concerns about the increase in police funding and to ask that you cut the police budget in half and reinvest those funds into the community to support our community members. Um and to help create a change that truly Fosters what our city is all about in supporting our community instead of using police to brutalize our community wage. I would also request at the city Paso resolution to end the use of chemical warfare on our own citizens.</p>	6/8/2020 3:15 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Madison Watson. I am a resident of Arden and Asheville. I am commenting on consent agenda item a public hearing Item B, and I'm making an open public, I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing from off lease and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope you will make these critical and necessary changes. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:15 PM	Public Hearing B
<p>Hello, this is Matthew Manus and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in regards to consent agenda item J. Wish to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act community service block grant funds for rental assistance furthermore in regards to public hearing item D. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and find all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:16 PM	Consent
<p>Hi, my name is Jocelyn and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares active Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So that begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up sicknesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee for the with the power to hold the APD and individual offers Council.I hope I can count on your support for this essential policy shift. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	6/8/2020 3:16 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Christina Romero. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city of a to adjust next year's budget. You need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap and off actual cities individual offers individual officers accountable every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 3:16 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Kate stamps. I'm calling to come in on the fiscal year of 2020-21 the annual operating budget. I am a homeowner here in Montford and also a business owner of a wine important Distribution Company. That's based out of Asheville. And I really feel like I wish I had actually gotten involved long before now, but long overdue and I'm calling to hopefully add my voice come to the meetings that are about to happen in which I would like to ask that the APD funds should be reapplied to the long-term safety in our community. I have a daughter who is nine and eyewitness the disparity an opportunity gaps every day in the actual City Schools between yep.My daughter and those that are black and have color and I would like at least fifty percent of those funds to be redirected towards black businesses and opportunities. And I think that we should fund some kind of Civilian oversight Community simply to hold the APD accountable. I don't think they need to be completely off the stand it but I think that there needs to be checks and balances that are not in place right now and I witnessed this myself on my street living in Montford and when people ask me the bath pros and cons of living in Nashville, when they're considering moving here those that are positive are just prolific that those are negative. One of the main things I think about is the fact that we're supposed to be a liberal City, but we are disgustingly behind the times and social inclusion and racial Justice and I think our Police DepartmentThey do absolutely nothing to help that I think they exacerbate it think there's so much ego so little oversight and I think it goes so far back. I heard these rumors before moved to Asheville and I didn't believe they could possibly be true and I've only found it more true being a homeowner and a business owner here. I would like my voice to be heard. I think we need to take a stand this needs to change and I think that there needs to be a huge huge overhaul of the AP v a p d wage structure that's in place right now. Thank you for hearing my comments.</p>	6/8/2020 3:16 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Matthew Manus and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in regards to consent agenda item J. Wish to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act community service block grant funds for rental assistance furthermore in regards to public hearing item D. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and find all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:16 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Trevor Clarke, and I am a citizen of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and the investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee along with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:16 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Mitchell Nancy, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration. I urged city council to age best from police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies that include supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift and the crucial juncture of the in the city's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:17 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Joe gladstein and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for office assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the AP budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:17 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Kelly Spencer. I am calling to say that I am in support of the black actual demands that were presented on Saturday and with the budget up for consideration. I am city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses off eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and fighting and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:17 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Nathan Andrews. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I have been for the past ten years or so. Um, I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police begin with next year's budget. Uh I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and the investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and business. eliminating eliminating. Sorry Let me see if I can grab and I still see the schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee. Also, I would just like more General transparency in this budget to begin with. It'd be great to see our firefighters get paid a living wage. All of them get paid a living wage and but yeah, definitely we need to divest from our police force and stop militarizing our police and a pressing our our community. It's it's a bad Trend that that needs to end off. I got two young kids choosing to raise in the city and I want them to to live in a place where they don't have to have fear about the people that are supposed to be protecting them. And yeah just be really nice to see the city take appropriate action. I really like to be able to count on them for that. So thank you for your time city council. I hope you all make the right choice by.</p>	6/8/2020 3:17 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Amanda and my resident I am a resident of Asheville. I am writing in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consider is a considerate consideration tired city council to divest from the police. And invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminate the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold they Pee Dee and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential Paul shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 3:17 PM	Budget
<p>And I'm writing in support of the black asphalt on Saturday, but the budget up for consideration City police officer black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminate the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and also the civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for assistance with all of these kids at this crucial. Okay?</p>	6/8/2020 3:18 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Jasmin and I want to leave a message for the Asheville Police Department to say that they do not deserve or need any more money off their budget. Actually, this should be defunded and any money that should be going to them and any money that is taken from their already way way overboard budget should be back into communities that completely need. It should be given to families should be given to education because knowledge is power and knowledge is a web app cannot be taken by any kind of force and that's what you all are afraid of. That's what you all are afraid of your afraid of the biggest weapon ever knowledge knowledge to the people knowledge to Young people's power to the people. There's no tank that can kill an idea. There's no bullet. There's no teargas that will ever kill our idea. Y'all should be defunded immediately immediately. This is a crime against humanity. How how is the is the public supposed to be informed enough to vote for anything when they are denied the most basic education when schools and off underprivileged neighborhoods are getting crappy text books and old information. How is anybody how is our country supposed to rise from anything? If none of those needs are being met most basic needs of our twenty-first-century society are being denied to the people because the police wants to flex power not okay be fun the police. No justice. No. Peace.</p>	6/8/2020 3:18 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Erin and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget to it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and in a visual officers accountable. I would like to reiterate the APD does not need more money in their budget. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:18 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Solomon Island born and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of black demands that were presented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration. I strongly urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses emanating the racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual offers officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at such a crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:20 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Hannah Berlin and I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares Our Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So Begins the investing from the police and investing in Black communities, 50% wage budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startup startup send businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:20 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Sarah Iigocki. I'm a resident of Buncombe County and Asheville North Carolina for over thirty years. I'm calling to urge the city council to adjust next year's book that we need to begin a testing from the police and investing in black community and other communities in the fifty percent of the police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety package, including job creation for restorative justice for news programs and other.misdemeanor situation mental health care across the city and all civilian oversight committee accountability for the APD officers individually community members to support this essential policy shift is crucial in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:20 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Alison Jordan and I'm a resident of Asheville and have been a resident for over twenty-five years now and I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police officer starting with this upcoming budget. I think that city council needs to adjust its budget so that we stopped the best thing from the club thing from the police and begin investing in our black communities. We need to be looking at some longer-term safety strategies. How are we how are we supporting black startups and businesses eliminating racial opportunity that Gap the city schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee. This is an opportunity right now to do something different. It is an opportunity for us as a community to be leaders and to reimagine a world that works for everybody as opposed to a world wage. We're living in right now. That doesn't so I am urging you City Council Members. Take a step back and have the courage to do something differently. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:20 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, I am very concerned about the factor. It could be no accountability for the the police officers and also the commanding officer that gave the order to the strong medical station at the protests last week. I want the city council in the city itself to stay on it, and I want there to be accountability or we will make everybody else account. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:20 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Lori Jackson. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm a licensed clinical mental health counselor here and I am calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget wage. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to have testing from the police and investing in Black communities. I have seen the trauma that is falling on black communities. And persons other persons of color from police violence that the police are trained to carry out and not held accountable for I think fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses who know best what's needed for their communities and our school eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and endings and neglect that has been going on for so many years and funding and also the oversight committee with the power to hold the Asheville Police Department in individual officers accountable. This should happen as soon as possible. Thank you for listening by.</p>	6/8/2020 3:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Esther Hales, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares Community Development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance furthermore wage. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So begins to investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up jobs and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Richard Jeffrey Dalton. I am calling about the budget and request that the budget vote be delayed. So the council can look at ways to redirect money away from Nashville police department and put it into areas that will make our seating more Equitable and just thinking.</p>	6/8/2020 3:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Mallory Birdman. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget points to make I think city council needs to adjust the bumper. So it begins divesting from the place and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and business the listing the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope I can tell on your essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in the city's history. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Ahmad and I'm calling to ask the the city council. Do you find the Asheville p d and there's a meeting today. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:21 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Andrea, and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police in investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity job in National City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the ATP and individual officers accountable. Can I count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:22 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hi, my name is Emma and I'm calling to ask the Asheville city council. Do you find the Nashville PD this afternoon during their city council meeting? Thank you, bye-bye.	6/8/2020 3:22 PM	Budget
Hello, my name is Elijah Higgins. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge you to reconsider the budget increase to the APD Asheville Prides itself on community that liberalism and environmental awareness yet are paid officers have now been seen globally destroying plastic water bottles and tear-gassing its Citizens Bank notorious for unfairly, targeting our black communities and taking a knee is not enough to make up for the systemic racism that they perpetuate the APT did not need four hundred thousand more dollars that could instead be used to support areas that directly help our black communities education public transit investment in Black owned businesses and start off and Mental Health. Care are just a few things that this money could be used for instead. Please don't become so blinded by the tourism industry the Dead.You forget about the people who live here and work here all year round. We need to focus on the power of our community. We can be strong together, and we can protect the safety without the force of the APD, and if you truly care for all the people of Asheville that means all of them, please. Please don't approve this funding to the APT turn to the people, and we will tell you what we need, but it is not a stronger and more wealthy police force. Thank you so much for your time. And please consider all that you hear from the people who make Asheville what it is. Thank you so much. Bye.	6/8/2020 3:22 PM	Budget
Hi, my name is Sarah Schultz. And I'm a Nashville resident. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that are presented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power off the TV and individual officers accountable.I hope I can count on you for your support and this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history because y'all really does mean y'all. Thank you.	6/8/2020 3:22 PM	Budget
Hello, this is Cameron. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses elimination the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. Thank you.	6/8/2020 3:22 PM	Budget
Hi, my name is Mary Dalton. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups in business with eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. I hope I can count on your support for this essential policies policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.	6/8/2020 3:22 PM	Budget
Hello, this is Victoria more. I live in Etowah, North Carolina. And I'm calling to leave a comment a message to the mayor of Asheville and let you know that I absolutely and no way support you guys funding the Asheville Police Department. They actually they arrested my daughter for on an absolute BS charge her and her husband were marching peacefully in the street literally doing absolutely nothing alone. Not practicing their first amendment in the police the Asheville Police Department through tear gas at her took her to the ground and rested her and charged her off and she was literally doing nothing but peacefully protesting we have video of her peacefully protesting. There's absolutely no way that these cops are going to win this month.Absolutely, no way and twenty people in one night. That's ridiculous. 57 total 57 Asheville citizen went to jail by the police. The very men that are supposed to be protecting our community take that money and do the right thing with it put it into education knowledge for children children of birth or children anybody but the police they have enough they ride around in those chargers. They have all that National Guard looking here. That's ridiculous defund the police. No justice. No. Peace.	6/8/2020 3:22 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hello, my name is Darren, and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I would like to see the North Carolina Police Department funded and resources allocated elsewhere, and I think that would be a good thing for our community. Thank you for your time. Thanks.	6/8/2020 3:23 PM	Budget
Hello, my name is Ethan. Definitely a Resident Evil and calling about the uh tomorrow mom and my customer is the meeting in terms of recording black comedians that were presented this past weekend of the month since 2013. And so many meetings as a person who works in a community here and around the country many years about the disproportionate amount that is devoted policing, you know home, and I am really encouraging the city council to call this morning from policemen toward investment in these particular communities is dead. Is from anywhere. So what percent has been dedicated towards policing to the relative to other cities and states as a nation wide and down even more than this needs to impact on safety strategies including class starts off in the city schools and actually finding and ultimately, you know, it was like, wow I know from living in like all these specific issues that have daily and ongoing impact where I live and I know two things. And president and I really need to focus specifically wage. Economic ship it will support higher level of health and general mailbox number has a greater focus and beer microbreweries package messages and really need to shift social life expectancy. She's related to like traffic very strange. So thank you very much for your plans to discuss the assistant back.	6/8/2020 3:23 PM	Opencomment
Hi, my name is Carlisle Harper and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act for rental assistance. Furthermore. I do think that city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apts budget should be investing long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Nashville and funding and all civilian oversight committee along with the power to hold the APD and individual offers officers accountable. Thank you so much for considering and I hope to see you good decisions made in city council.	6/8/2020 3:24 PM	Budget
My name is Kelly Kelly. I live in West Asheville. I'm calling regarding the fiscal year 20 20 20 21 annual operating budget. I'm calling to confirm the city and city council to adjust next year's budget. I do not support increasing funding to the Asheville Police Department instead. We need to invest in Black communities through long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Nashville schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power off hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I want to also Echo the suggestions from Ashville and black leaders that instead of increasing funding to APD. We should decrease that founding and put the money into a myriad of community-based programs such as hiring social workers mental health workers counselors mediators trained domestic violence experts and negotiate. To be First Responders. I urge everyone on Council to show support for these plans at this very critical moment for us in Nashville. Thank you.	6/8/2020 3:24 PM	Budget
Hello, this is Alexandra willensky and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares at Community Development block grant block grant funds for rental assistance with furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the AP an individual authors accountable. Thank you.	6/8/2020 3:25 PM	Budget
Hello, my name is Patricia Herron. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling with comments regarding the annual operating budget for fiscal year. 20 20 20 21. I would like to see the budget begin to divest money from the police and begin to invest it in Black communities. Into strategies like long-term safety supporting black startups funding and all civilian oversight committee with power to hold the police department and individual officers accountable. I hope every council member will support this type of policy shift now is the time for marching and and holding signs and indicating solidarity with the Marchers. It's past its time to act and make real change. Thank you very much.	6/8/2020 3:25 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Rachel winner calling from Mills River and I'm calling regarding the fiscal year proposed annual operating budget for 20 20 20 21. I'm calling to call attention to the proposed increase the police department's budget in the amount of \$457,621. During a national Revolution. I show has always claimed to be at the Forefront of change and acceptance. It is in a vision statement that the Council Claims to uphold that we have created a fair and balanced Society where everyone can participate and has the opportunity to fulfill their potential because they have access to healthy affordable food Transportation quality education and living wage jobs. And later, it says that we use a racial Equity lens to review and Achieve our city strategic goals in health education housing and economic mobility in the current climate. I implore the leads to this city to follow the voices of those who who are not being folded into the equal opportunities of the society that we aspire to have pouring more money into the police force. Even if it would be for DS club and non-violent training is not truly hearing the people protesting on our streets right now. In fact, it would be putting a Band-Aid over inherently racist social structures and policies, even if they weren't intentionally wage such. I implore you to please consider defunding the police cutting its budget and putting the money towards three things living wage improved City Transit based on the timely execution of the truck master plan and the expressed needs of lower-income neighborhoods and affordable housing doing so will reshape the systems that have led us to our current data chaotic situation and the need faith in the future and I implore you to do all of this with the utmost transparency. Our community needs to rebuild trust among officials and all of its members right now withholding information, like trimmed budget reports or decisions regarding the transit master plan is slowly leading to fear and mistrust by members of the community, even if they are not intended to so I urge you to reconsider ways to expand transparency. Thank you very much for your service and everything you all do.</p>	6/8/2020 3:25 PM	Budget
<p>Hey, this is Vigilance dedman and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and the individual officers accountable. I'm hoping I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:25 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Laurel ippolito. I am a resident of Asheville North Carolina and native born and raised in the area. I'm calling to voice my opinion about the \$400,000 increase in the police budget Not only would I like to see this not happen at all. I would like some transparency as to what in the world. This could be going to I think that the budget meeting should be delayed and we should be looking at putting this funding into our resources that help the community living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing have all been wage are proven to be far more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons. I also just don't think that we should be funding a subset of the city that in the past week we can half is committed countless wage war crimes. They've teargas our citizens. They destroyed medical equipment. We have gotten National coverage for the apd's disgusting behavior, and this is not the first time. I am asking you to please defund the Asheville Police Department and reallocate those funds to bettering the community to paying or firefighters and to breathe services that actually work. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:25 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Adam Garner. I'm a resident long-time resident of Asheville. My family are long-time residents of Asheville and Old Fort my grandfather was the postmaster of this town calling, you know to demand do not perceive with any proposed further funding of the police department wage. After what I've witnessed in the streets this weekend. They continue to brutalize Citizens. They fired deadly weapons at people's faces and chests. Not the ground off even know why some of those weapons even need to be implemented in most situations that happen in this city that was ridiculous and it just goes to show you what how the police becomes this impenetrable wall, which it was not meant to be in the first place other than the fact the first batch is on this continent with slave-catchers. However, there's way too much militarized power in the force. It's completely unnecessary dead. Most of the time you guys don't even solve crimes, you know what I mean, while rapists and molesters and white supremacist Nazis walk around this town freely. You know what I mean. So obviously it's not about the crime. If you want to talk drugs, then we'll talk economy. So what's not talk that either so let's start with All this unrest in the country. It's it's it's not coming out of nowhere. It's coming out of centuries of Oppression and things and people continued to get murdered attack charged setup harassed by the police because they come from a colonized stand point of view that they are white and they are cops or if they're just cops. They protect capitalism and the system and property of rich people. Okay, that's initially all their their life. So while people are being murdered and attacked and they have no real constitutional rights, you know. Now you have a unique time not only through your historical relationship, you know here and that's all white people including myself off, you know. To change this and do not fund these cops. And here's what I'm going to tell you. You put that money. In to the black and Indigenous communities and you do it whether it's a Mexican, even if they're immigrants, you know, what they were here before white Europeans so long, I want you to not only returned some of those resources to the communities. They belong in I want you to put it in writing as a stance of reparations to the black community.</p>	6/8/2020 3:26 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is Carol Brown, and I'm a resident of Asheville. This is a comment for fiscal year 20 20 20 to 21. I'm calling to talk to some of the money from the police force at this time. I do think that we do need to reinvest in our people of color communities for me. I would like to see things towards education and giving more voice to these communities. I'm giving them more opportunities to have a business in Asheville, and more to be seen seems to me that there's been an imbalance in there. We don't always have all the right answers right now. I appreciate your efforts, but I think fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget could be diverse and simply positive ways people were positive change. Thank you so much, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Liam resident of Asheville. Really am calling to urge the city of Asheville to use. The full amount of cares act Community Development block grant money grant funds for rental assistance furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of wage budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including support support for black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an office billion oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:26 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, my name is Christine Hester. And I have heard about the Asheville Police and know there's a meeting tonight about I want to say I am outraged for what the police have done. I come from a police family my father grandfather and three cousins and friends had been police officer some had retired and some are still on the force and y'all are given them a black eye and the good ones. Thank God.</p>	6/8/2020 3:26 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Ellen Justice. I'm a resident of Weaverville North Carolina. I appreciate the police chief vax announcing that the police department will be supporting action for black lives and positive community relations and more. So I urge the an operating budgets for 20 20 21 to adjust it. So we can begin divesting from the police investing in Black communities some of the budget money from the police department about 50% should be invested in safety strategies start up businesses businesses, eliminating racial opportunity Gap in the city schools and also funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge the council member to support members to count. Yep.This is Central policy shift. It's crucial at this juncture to show our support for our black communities for all of our communities. Let's end militarized am leasing. Let's show that most police officers want to protect and uphold the rightful laws of this country and let's invest in our communities. Let's uplift everyone together and let's start with our black community members and it will be a beautiful thing. I appreciate the peaceful marches that have happened in the past few days that the police department has showed up.To protect those Marchers and make space for civil protest in a very difficult time. Thank you, and let's do the right thing off from a place of love. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:27 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Irene. Carrizosa. I live in Nashville, and I'm commenting on the fiscal year 20 20 21 annual operating budget am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:27 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Tatiana, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm writing in support of the black actual demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration consideration a city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups slash businesses along in the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with a power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential shift and this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 3:28 PM	Budget
<p>Hello councilmembers. My name is Matthew gorrell and I'm calling to request the defunding of the Asheboro Police Department as a non-black person of color. I do not feel that my the police prioritize my safety and know that this fear and highly warranted distrust is only Amplified among my black friends and neighbors while this is a nationwide problem the Asheboro Police Department specifically has proven over the past weeks that eagerly uses its funding to militarize and violently assault those who it claims to protect.This behavior is beyond unacceptable and increases in funding only served. To condone and increase this violent and racist method of policing frankly. I'm disgusted with the ugly dog inside of our city. We are showing to the nation and in far from alone in that sentiment. We must instead lead by example and reallocate taxpayer money to community lead public health and safety professionals. Please make our community a safer place for us all and defund Asheville Police Department. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:28 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Savannah Jones. And I live here in town. I have some comments about the police budget and I'm going to keep this short because I'm aware of that others are going to call in and provide a much higher level of detail page regards to what I'm about to say. I'm calling the urge you to reconsider increasing our police budget rather. I would like to see the APD be funded completely diverting the funds into programs. We do as a community will benefit us more. Well, if you actually keeping us safer in the long run better opportunities for Education access to health care and stable housing are just a few of the conditions. We need to create in order to Thursday for Community. If we take funding from our police force and channel it into program pre-existing a new that create Better Health outcomes for the community. We are doing a great service to everyone else in the past. The focus seems to have been limited to protecting our jurists hoteliers and upper class citizens. I think the time has come for us to critically examine. Our values is a progressive City that preaches acceptance for all dead. The best way to live our values authentically will be to treat our most vulnerable citizens with the same quality of care that we treat our most well-off we can do this by giving them what they need instead of keeping it out of money and brutalizing them when they try to reach for it. Thank you for listening to my voice as a citizen of Asheville. Do you find a p d and have a nice night?</p>	6/8/2020 3:28 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Vicky nice and I am the director of just economics and Ash West Asheville residence first. I want to start off my comments today saying that a second to be understand the intrinsic link between racial and economic Justice and we see have this black leaders calling for changes in how we invest in community. I want to name a couple of things about the actual City budget that I I want to bring to your attention. First of all pay for firefighters. Y'all are out of compliance with your living wage policy page notes from the June 25th, 2013 meeting of city council regarding living wages specifically named firefighters in the employee cost section of the staff report, but that time y'all were considering them an hourly employee who is subject to the living wage policy are living wage requirement would put them at Birth. Minimum of \$14 an hour starting July 1st 2020 and we are in solidarity with firefighters for \$15 an hour wage floor or firefighters wage second. I want to name the support for asheville-buncombe Community Land Trust. It's an important time to be investing in affordable housing and the Land Trust Em operating support to be able to move the efforts forward and begin to to create affordable housing opportunities that are owned by the community. Finally. I want to talk about Transit and I want to ask for greater transparency with a 37-page budget without a department by Department comparison is very hard to follow the cares after funding hard to follow how much of the cares act funding is offsetting the costs associated with a full year of the route changes that were implemented in January and how much deadls being spent on other aspects of the transit budget or other parts of the general fund budget additionally when regards to Transit. I see no plans in the capital Improvement plan for a bus garage. This was a maned need in the transit master plan. Maybe I'm missing it, but it looking through the budget. I don't see any area where that is named in that is a significant need. I want to thank you for your time today and ask you to please consider a budget with more transparency and making sure that you are investing in community needs. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:28 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Laura Ko Floyd, and I'm calling you from California to express my disgust with what happened to the medical tent at the hands of your police officer expected to see this in the United States of America's little oh Nashville city. I've always been proud to call part of Carolina, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:29 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name's Jamie with soda, and I'm a citizen of Asheville. I would like to demand a divestment from the police and an investment in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in a long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and funding and I'm a civilian oversight committee with a power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:30 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Sarah Dave and I'm a resident of Yancey County. I'm calling to reach the city of Asheville to address next year's budget. We need to begin by vesting and diverging from the police office and Department investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses limiting eliminating the racial opportunity gaps in the Asheville Catholic schools and funding funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift and it's crucial juncture studies history. Thank you for your support.</p>	6/8/2020 3:30 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Yes, my name is Scott Miller. I'm a resident of Nashville commented on the fiscal year 2020-2021 annual operating budget, and I'm just encouraging and urging the city to adjust next year's budget. I'd like to see a decrease in funding for the police department that goes to militarization. Um, I'd like to see the increase of funding for hiring practices that are involved good psychological screenings more funding for training for police e&d, escalating particular box and aggressive confrontations, uh one-on-one all the way up to riots, and I'd like to see more funding we can get training around diversity issues. I'm not suggesting that we defund the police force, but I agree with you re counseling with this to support this this uh, focus in policy at this critical juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:30 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there, this is Sophie Hall. I am a resident of Asheville North Carolina. I am calling to urges adjust next year's budget. That is the fiscal year 2012 or 21 annual operating budget. We need to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding it all civilian oversight committees with the power of the APD and individual officers accountable tires. Every council member support. This is Central policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:31 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Emily and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the caradoc Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins die divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies in wage supporting black startups and businesses in eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold them in individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:31 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Lauren Bacchus, and I am in Asheville citizen. I'm calling in regards to the increase funding request for the actual box Department with the request that that funding instead. Go toward other community building and Improvement projects and that we also examine how much disproportionate funding is put into our Police Department when there are so many other parts of our city that need to be improved and I request that we divest from the police department app invest in our community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:31 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is John Handelman. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and helping you guys out Colin Saxton. We got to get out of this dumb dumb inherited Supremacy that we've got. It's it's wrong shity. It's uh, it's just sucks. It sucks to be a part of even when you're benefiting from it, and I'm a white person and I totally benefit from it. But you know, I it's hard to live with myself cuz I just I'm on the backs of of slaves essentially so wage it's uncomfortable and stupid and I don't know. We're really to start except by calling you all and saying hey, let's let's try and invest more money into them. So, I hope that lens on some ears who are willing to listen. I hope you have a great day.</p>	6/8/2020 3:32 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Serena meirson. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares a Community Development block grant cdbg phone number for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:32 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Ashley C. And I am a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Care Act Community Development block grant the cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and instead investing in communities fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses wage dating the racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. So again, this is a comment on the fiscal year 2022 through 2021 annual operating budget. Thanks for listening and thank you for taking my comment into consideration.</p>	6/8/2020 3:32 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hi, my name is Leah Carter, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest by half from the police and invest that money instead into eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools to committing to Mental Health Services that keep our communities safe to increasing black homeownership and increasing economic opportunities for black businesses off. Thank you.	6/8/2020 3:32 PM	Budget
No, this is a resident of Asheville. I'm commenting and fiscal years 20 20 to 21 and you will operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and use those resources to invest in community programs and initiatives that address the issues are community-based such as insufficient access to health care and Mental Health Services housing and our schools achievement and entertainment gaps 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and Sunday night and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold Asheville Police Department and individual officers accountable. I urge every city council member to support this essential policy wage.At this crucial juncture in our City's history cities and communities across the country are looking at the solutions to make systemic changes now is the time to start investing in Real Change solution. Thank you for your passionate leadership.	6/8/2020 3:32 PM	Budget
Hello, this is Kia Hallock, and I am a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act wage Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and business office dating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight Community with the power to hold the APD and individual officers wage accountable. Thank you.	6/8/2020 3:33 PM	Budget
My name is Emily Armour, and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urged city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the AP. These budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opera The Gap in Asheville City schools and signing all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD in individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this club juncture in our City's history. Thank you.	6/8/2020 3:33 PM	Budget
Hi, good afternoon. My name is Lindsay and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm writing about Ashley mayor Esther manheimer is fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a more overt invisible commitment to racial Justice and a man that the budget vote be delayed so that the council may find ways to save money away from the Nashville Police Department over inflated budget urge you to pressure the city manager's office toward an ethical and equal reallocation of the city's expense jurors away from APD and toward sectors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality research shows that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons the source for that is popular democracy.Especially demand more aggressive financial support be directed to this areas. Do not forget our poor communities and communities of color who are disproportionate targets of police violence. Justice would be served when the police are reformed, and this will not be possible until we defend them. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget that puts a focus on social service programs such as these off forward to hearing back from you, and I'll be thinking about you and praying about you as you all have your meeting shortly. Thanks.	6/8/2020 3:33 PM	Budget
Hello, my name is Andrea franchini. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next week's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity in a city schools and funding all citizen oversight committees with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this is central office policy and shift at this critical juncture in our City's history. Thank you.	6/8/2020 3:33 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Jennifer place and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to comment on the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses with eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in the Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the Asheville Police Department. And in fact officers accountable, I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial Junction in our City's history. Thank you so much for taking the time to listen to my comments.</p>	6/8/2020 3:33 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Heather Talley. I live in Ashville, North Carolina, and I'm calling to comment on fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. I am urging the council to begin divesting from the police department and reinvesting in Black communities in a number of ways. I just the plan outlined this weekend the demands Outline by and generational group of black leadership and Asheville provides a roadmap moving forward then includes investing in long-term safety strategies and community-based solutions supporting black businesses and start-up money eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding more oversight for the APD urge every council member to support this policy Chef. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:34 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Bryce the artisan and I am a resident of Asheville North Carolina and I am a business owner here and I would like you to move forward with defunding the police and divesting funds. for marginalized communities and I would like to see the \$400,000 increase in the proposed budget for the police be reallocated. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:35 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Julia stains, and I am a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust the next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the of the Asheville budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the powers hold the APD and individual officers accountable for their actions urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Please make Asheville safer place. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:36 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Katy Hudson. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to address the proposed budget public hearing item D. The 2020-21 operating budget. I want you to go back and reconsider the budget according to the black Castle demands that are presented on Saturday from the past week of organizing. Um, please divest 50% of the actual police department's budget and not turn that into investment into the black startups and businesses in the community eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding it off civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. This is the very bare minimum steps to good face with the dog.Monday and we desperately need some sort of leadership in this. Situation, please. Please. Please listen to the Black Asheville demands and do not increase the police budget at the wage very least. Thank you very much for your consideration by</p>	6/8/2020 3:36 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Walton Jones. I am a resident of Asheville and I have been for my whole life. I'm calling to urge the city to divest a police beginning with next year's budget. I think it's city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins sorry. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So begins investing from police officer and investing in a black communities fifty percent of budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in the schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Can I count on your support the central policy shift at this critical juncture in our City's history. I hope that I can and you know, y'all vote in the next election Council on it got to do. This is Jeff. Fifty percent of the APD budget reinvest it. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:36 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, I'm calling regarding the true Hotel sign and speaking on behalf of myself through Crawford and my business DIY tiny. We are next door neighbors to the hotel back in 2017 our Campground spoke in favor of this easy as we always knew the old hotel would be replaced with a new hotel. I speak in favor again today, the fencing provided by HP. The true Hotel developer is adequate for separation and HP is supportive of providing the needed right-of-way to build affordable housing on our property. We didn't expect are affordable housing project to get caught up in the larger struggle Asheville was having with hotels and lodging wage was. Sometimes your house is on fire. You get some water damage. It can be repaired. We can build affordable housing and have hotels in able please bring forward a project manager who can Shepherd these frequently complicated projects through the city and please complete the process of rewriting you deem in short HP is a good neighbor to sign as reasonable and Asheville has more pressing matters to address. For example, \$400,000 could be spent rewriting the Udo and bringing and Bridging the funding gap for for more affordable homes. Dakota Eisenhower every gun that is made every warship launched every rocket fired signifies in the final sense a theft from those who hunger not fed, those who are cold and not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers The Genius of scientists and the hope of its children. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:36 PM	TruHotelSign
<p>Hello, this is Alan stogner. I live in Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities. I believe 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and finding an all civilian side committee with power to hold the escrow police department and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:37 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Jason height of Asheville North Carolina. Just wanted to put in my my support for defunding the the local police. We need to live in a commune. I need that stuff. Like what happened last week doesn't happen in where the police know better than to escalate the situation if that means that they are wrong if they're taking away and relocated into areas of our community that needed specifically black communities and and communities of lower-income. We need to help everybody else rise up to where everybody should be. It's for your time. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 3:37 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is dr. Karen Sigmund, and I've been a physician and a resident of Asheville since two thousand and calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think that the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's page. It should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunities Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individuals officers accountable. I hope I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this critical time and our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:37 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Matthew Decker and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville and fiscal year 2021 budget proposal of the police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the city Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the bumper boat and using this time to find ways to redirect money from Asheville police departments. Over inflated budget and instead move this funding towards sectors that facilitate the dismantling and racial and class inequality. It is imperative that these funds be redirected areas in the community that focus on education affordable housing Economic Security and mental health research shows that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime and police or prisons the side demand more aggressive financial support to be directed to those areas. But the more I think the city council needs to adjust the budget so it begins divesting from police and investing in Black communities as well fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in a long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight wage. What's the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable Justice will only be served when police are reformed and this will not be possible until we have until we defend them. Can I count on you consider an alternative budget that puts a focus on social service programs over ADP. Our community is relying on you at this time. Thank you Matthew Decker.</p>	6/8/2020 3:38 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Laurie Thomas. I'm a Nashville resident. Um, I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget wage. I think I want the city council to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting the money away from the police and towards the black community investing in Black businesses. Black Health black lives black children education equity in the school's name, and I just want to say I first was on a personal note. I was first month disappointed by the Asheville Police back in 2016 when Jerry Williams was killed by a police officer, and I'm glad that we're finally addressing this issue after. These years please define the police divest from the police. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:38 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi there. My name is Louis Dom. I'm a lifelong resident of Asheville North Carolina born and raised. Uh-huh. I'm calling about the city budget. Um, I'd like to urge city council to cut the actual police department budget by 50% and Flynn all those resources into things like education and job creation for our black community. I am a graduate of Asheville City Schools home and I find it shameful that our Police Department's budget isOver twice the size of our city schools budget as of right now. I think that. We can get a lot more done by investing in our communities first, especially in our black community. For more information and for more details on what I consider to be a very effective plan. I would urge you all to visit black AVL demands. Org. Okay. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:38 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Carter James. I'm a resident here in Asheville, North Carolina. I've lived here for about five six years and own a business here in Nashville. I was present at the protest I've experienced tear gas and flash bangs from the police force, which is completely unacceptable. I was there when they destroyed the Medics I just the center bulb is against the Geneva Convention during war article eighteen and our police force. Did it during a peaceful protest? This is completely unacceptable. The people have spoken the people that put you in office off. We want the police force defunded. We want that money going back into the community specifically black own community that actually has taken away from constantly. Thank you so much for doing what we put office to do and please take this into consideration.</p>	6/8/2020 3:38 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Colton Alison. I'm just calling in regards to I guess recently everything that's been going on with the Asheville Police Department. Just as a resident here. I no longer feel life with and running our streets and doing what they've been doing. Um, I'm just calling on you to defund our police department and put those resources back into programs that will keep our community safe and that will be looking out for the interests of all of the people here in Nashville. Thank you. Have a good one.</p>	6/8/2020 3:38 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Johanna Asheville has one of the highest grossing tourist Industries in the country and yet one of the lowest ranking City school systems in North Carolina don't need that diverting funds from a police force has been militarised beyond necessity is a wonderful solution to fixing the gaps and Excellency in our city. We need to acknowledge the oversight of police brutality in the cases of individuals like a j and Marion and Johnny Rush who has been killed and disabled by accelerated use of force, and we need to acknowledge the function of police departments across this country as an enabling mechanism for such violent Behavior.As a resident in voter of Asheville who has lived here for over thirteen years. I am in favor of defending the police and reverting those funds to reparations for the African American Community who are still affected by the Injustice of slavery. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:39 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Jacob Bartlett, and I am a resident of Asheville. I am calling in support of a black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration Iron City Council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups slash businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power of the APD and it's an individual officers accountable. I hope that city council support the black voices in our town on this. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there, my name is Deborah Clark and I live in Black Mountain and for what it's worth. I am requesting that the Asheville Police Department budget be shifted at least maybe half of it or some good chunk of it took over to other community services and a really hope that the council will consider that change in their policy and know that my thoughts and prayers are with the council as you all make your choice important decisions for us. Thank you so much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:40 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Sidney Jones, and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city today best from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think the city council needs to adjust the buck up against a vesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville of budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses wage eliminating the Rachel opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold accountable and individual officers accountable. Thank you so much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:40 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Vanessa Noah. Can I have been an actual local for the last eight years? I would like to make a formal public comment on my belief of how the actual city council should proceed now and in the future, I demand a divestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term strategies including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable the events of APD tear-gassing the citizens of Asheville on May 31st, 2020 while protesters were peaceful is heinous and they should be held responsible for any mental or help damaged. I have been diagnosed with chemical pneumonitis since being tear-gassed. Yep.I've had to pay out-of-pocket for treatment reimbursement should be an order I demand repair for the past and continuing harms inflicted on Asheville black community. I would imagine Asheville city government removed the Vance and Robert payments and replace them with monomials that honor and many honor the many black a civilians who have built this city home. I demand that streets named after former slave owners also be replaced with names of historic local black leaders. I demand not only just individual accountability for office after lethal or violent use of force, but for accountability for the entire actual police department the events on June 2nd 2020 when I destroyed the civilian made and run medic triage station was tragic and Humane the officers and the person who gave the order to destroy it should be held accountable and yep.Think that reimbursement should be made from those individuals or APD to any of the organizations that support black lives matter lastly. I demand an end to systemic harm inflicted on all black people including black Trans clear and gender-nonconforming people as well as any and all people of color. Thank you for your time and have a blessed day.</p>	6/8/2020 3:40 PM	Budget
<p>My name's Phillip Miller. I live in Candler and I don't believe it needs more funding \$100,000 seems like a life go to communities of color and I feel pretty safe and don't see why we need to spend that money on more policing doesn't seem to make sense to me be used in a variety of ways such as funding or schools that seem to be off.Kind of underfunded. So I hope you hear us and Do the right thing?</p>	6/8/2020 3:41 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Monica greedy and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm commenting on the fiscal year 2020 to 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin by divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the bulb an individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 3:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Kimberly Burns. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I have been really disturbed by the past week of news on how the actual police department has Hancock the protests in Asheville. I would like to request that. Um, we take money from Asheville Police Department. So it looks like we are trying to allocate Thirty million dollars. I would request that. We would like to reallocate those funds to racial and class inequity as opposed to that much to the police department. I would really love to see them as a resident of this city. Thank you so much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jessica Bowie and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police killing of Georgia Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him asking the city of Asheville. Make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the actual police department. Do you not forget our poor in communities of color? Can I please count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal proposal that puts a priority on social programs. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:42 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Darrel Cooper and I live in Canton and I'm commenting on the fact that city of Asheville only pays their firefighter. I think it's \$11.62 an hour starting out while they raised the rest of city employees up to a minimum of \$15 per hour. I think it is ridiculous that you only strongly support the firefighters make fifteen dollars an hour. If you look across the country really what we pay firefighters in this city is way below the market value and they're unappreciated and I do not support City council's comments on reasons why they do not get paid a minimum of \$15 an hour.</p>	6/8/2020 3:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is Alison Lee Sikowitz and I'm a resident of Asheville. I learned recently that there is a proposal in this budget hearing to increase Police Department's budget. And yeah, so I'm just calling in because I find that really upsetting. I had a friend who was in a mental health crisis and the cops are called in her they put her in handcuffs and I visited her in the hospital the next day and she said the worst part of that Mental Health crisis for her was that she had this interaction with a cop that was really hostile and we traumatizing and my friends Foundation. She's not black so I can only imagine how that would have gone down and she was black. Um, and I think that we should be investing in the longer term strategies that are going to be helping black people instead of yep. Using ma'am and everyone. So I really just want to urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities, whether that's economically or birth and education or when it comes to Mental Health Services. It just think that yeah, there's a lot we could be doing four people right now that we're not doing and I feel really disappointed to see uh, faith is going to Asheville Police Department when they already take up so much of the budget. So yeah. Thanks for your consideration. And yeah, hope you stand by the people.</p>	6/8/2020 3:43 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Caroline, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I am reaching out and supported the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of that budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses often ating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with a power to uphold the Asheville PD an individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Eileen Comerford. I am a resident of Asheville, North Carolina, and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. I believe we need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies interesting supporting black startups and businesses from eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold them a p d and individual officers accountable and I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Megan Carol, and I'm a resident of Lucerne Park in Asheville, and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin by investing from the police and investing in our black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee needs to hold an APD and an individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial time in our city and our nation's history month. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, I'm commenting on public hearing item D. My name is Shannon Cooper and I'm a resident of Hendersonville, North Carolina. I am in support of increasing Asheville firefighter pay to a minimum of fifteen dollars an hour. I am the one of a Nashville firefighter, and so my husband personally makes just over fifteen dollars an hour. I would like to again say I support going over or getting \$15 an hour for all Asheville Firefighters a minimum. Thank you very much for taking this into consideration and Thursday. We appreciate you. Thanks.</p>	6/8/2020 3:43 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Robin kick. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling because I hope the city council seriously considers how their budget is structured. It's absolutely absurd that there's over thirty million dollars allocated for police force has less than a thousand per sustainability. Let's see some of that money go towards education Transportation mental health literally anything but policing as we've seen in the last week and half is not creating peace. It's only upsetting residents and people that care about what's going on in our climate today politically socially economically, you guys took really do better and the citizens of Asheville are really depending on you to help get this budget. Away from brutal police from people that are using forces violent Force to direct its people we can do a lot better off. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Dana Gibson and I'm calling to say that I oppose the increase to the APD police budget and filled the money should be better used to support to health maternal health and the day-to-day lies of our community and set of to the police department. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 3:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Joyce Ayler. I am a resident of Asheboro. I'm calling on behalf of the budget meeting or the budget aspect. Um, I want to urge the city tap the best from the police beginning with this budget. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apts budgets. She invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, I hope you're doing well. My name is April. I have been a resident of Asheville for about nine years recent events have said lights on the Uber abundance of power and resources available to the public and they need to invest in other forms of community protection and support. I am requesting that you vote not to increase the actual police department budget for 20 20 through 21. I recognize that restructuring A system that has existed for decades is difficult to imagine the recent events are the worst case scenario of policing holding too much power and not enough accountability. A majority of police calls are four issues that could be handled by other entities. For example, mental illness experts homelessness Rape Crisis people who work in those fields over next year's I would like to see Asheville shift pack away from the police as the only form of community protection to a diverse network of specialized organizations examples of other areas to divert funds also include affordable housing wage. After school youth programs reparations for the black community and public education. It will not be an overnight process. It will take time to shift how we support the actual Community, but this change has been a long time, Please take these ideas into consideration when voting on June 9th. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Bree tariff, and I'm calling because I'm disturbed by the way Asheville chose to handle the BLM protest. I'm also Disturbed at the way our police handled the volunteer medic tent I am disturbed that the city didn't come together initially to kind of lead a rally to say we don't stand with these kind of actions and instead just kind of created an us-versus-them atmosphere, which was not what I had expected for my home of Asheville. I would also like to look into the destruction of the George George Memorial and the supposed swastikas that we saw pictures of on the sidewalks. I think that our city can do better than this and I think that we need to really look at how we're training officers in the escalation techniques versus militarizing them rubber bullets and teargas have no place. In our city and I'm really Disturbed if that was ever even considered. I guess that's pretty much everything for right now. Thank you so much for considering this as a topic to discuss and I look forward to hearing what happens at your meeting.</p>	6/8/2020 3:43 PM	Opencomment
<p>Good afternoon. My name is Melissa faustin a new resident of Weaverville North Carolina calling in regarding this year's budget meeting taking place tomorrow. Wanted to recommend divestment and the police department and investing additional funds into our minority communities. One of the things we loved about Asheville when we visited so many times before moving was primarily a bed bath. What seems to be the open-mindedness of the community here and we've been really disappointed to see the recent events in regards to the protests and the unjust judge shown by the police here. Just wanted to recommend supporting black start-up businesses, uh, giving more money to bridge the gap of racial this opportunity and city schools and finding all civilian oversight committees and the power to hold the police department more accountable than they are to this day. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 3:44 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Walker Farrell a resident of Asheville calling to talk about the fiscal year, 20 20 to 21 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget city council must urgently adjust the budget to begin to investing from the police and investing in Black communities. At least fifty percent of the apd's current budget should be reinvested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the apde individual officers accountable. Can I count on your support for this essential policy shift? That's crucial juncture in our City's history. History will judge the decision you make this week. And so we'll couple of this city. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 3:44 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Liddell Shannon and I'm a resident of the city of Asheville and I'm commenting on the fiscal year 2020-2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget, please do not Grant the requested \$400,000 increase to Asheville Police Department, please instead begin to investigate the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. We owe it to the black community. We owe it to age. Every member of the actual City Community to fight against the Injustice has that have occurred at the hands of Asheville Police Department wage and others. So, please, you know, listen and take this public input into consideration in the meeting. I appreciate it. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Mary limo. I live in Ashville, North Carolina, and I'm commenting calling to comment on the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and also took oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there, my name is Zach Kardon, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I live in the Five Points neighborhood. Um, I fall it says at the city council meeting. I'd like to request a vote to not increase APD funding. Additionally, I would like the the funding that is allotted to the APD. I'd like for half of it to be be used towards investing in Nashville's black community. So that could look like investing in Black entrepreneurs. It could look like investing in a means of keeping neighborhoods safe, but I don't want that money going to the APD. I think there are better ways to keep our city safe and I think we're small enough that that we owe it to ourselves to try a new model here. We're not a big city. We we we have the opportunity to to try and do things differently in a more Equitable way. Um, so I'd like to see that happen. See if I got anything else. Really? I I would just like I would like the demands that were stated at the march on Saturday like for those to be with you in. So yeah. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Nicola vigilia and I live in Ashville, North Carolina. I'm here to comment on the public hearing item D in reference to the 2020-21 operating budget. I'm here to say that I support the increase in Asheville Firefighters pay to a minimum of fifteen an hour, which I understand as of now is based on a forty-hour work week, but the firefighters of Asheville do not work a forty hour work weeks. They work with fifty five or fifty six hour work week and this leaves 70,000 of their firefighters sitting at below \$12 an hour and I find this to be unacceptable for someone for men and women who support and protect our cities our communities. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 3:44 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Nina Rossini. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to fasting from the police and investing in Black communities. This is long overdue. Did you present of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies including supporting black startups business eliminating the racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and funding and authors and oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every city council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history wage. A lot of people are calling with this information. I have first-hand information of being in Asheville for over 20 years and for seeing the changes of it happened downtown and we know the history that our town has we know about the red lining we know about people of color and marginalized communities have been pushed to the edge of Asheville and I'm in the tourism industry wage. I do everything that I can to talk about black businesses and black people that have influenced and things that are going on downtown and they are being pushed out constantly Eagle Street is now of mega hotel and a restaurant and we have just completely overtaken the city and push marginalize and people of color communities out and to the outskirts and then we see the problems with the police like when they've shot and killed a black man from here in Nashville or when they have um, you know attacked a man for jaywalking and beat him up so badly because he was a black man and I urge you all to understand these issues and know that this is a big deal and we will not stop fighting until there is change in the city. We deserve it the people of Asheville deserve it and the people of color and Asheville overall. Yep. They're way better treatment and consideration and inclusions and they have been given here in Nashville. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 3:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Shannon Dawn and I'm calling because I'm a resident of Asheville and I called before but I have bad service out here. So I have no idea if it actually went through so I'm going to call again. I'm writing and calling and support at the black Asheville and demand that were presented on Saturday and with the budget up for consideration. May I urge that the city council divests from police and invest in the black community 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and finding an all civilian oversight committee with the power hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 3:45 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Craig cologne, and I'm a resident of Asheville city council must make a commitment to racial Justice and redirect funding from APD and two services that will bring Equity to our city such a thousand Transit the Arts and sustainability this cannot be done for the scheduled vote on June 23rd. The vote must be postponed and I count on all week to rise to this historic occasion a stand Against Racism. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:45 PM	Budget
<p>Okay, my name is Jesse Brandt. I was born here in Asheville, North Carolina and still reside of the resident. I would like to request that this actual city council create a strategic action plan for them to policing and deny the \$400,000 budget increase to ask the police department and you can look into defending them further. We need to find things to actually truly keep us safe. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jeff Rose and I live in Nashville. So I'm outside of the city voting boundaries. I believe very strongly that it does not help our community to increase the budget of the Asheville Police Department by \$437,000. This time are you referred you to remove this increase from the budget before it is considered for a vote. I understand some of the increases in funding are in response to State mandates wage state mandates. I believe the city and APD leadership can cut expenses and other areas of the almost thirty million dollar budget without increasing the overall cement on epd. Lastly I asked you established listening sessions on public safety and make a commitment to respond to our communities calls for a new way forward and policing these sessions must be structured to encourage and send your participation of black leaders organizations and community members. There are many approaches to policing that deserve consideration from the city of Asheville and listening sessions with community members will help the council understand our community's needs. I also encourage the the national leadership to reach out to other cities in North Carolina such as Durham that are looking at alternative approaches to Public Safety. Thanks for your time and careful consideration of all the public input you will receive on this issue.</p>	6/8/2020 3:46 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Courtney Brooke and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to urge City to please adjust next year's budget. I really feel deeply that we need that pack leader the Nashville like people look at Asheville as a forward-thinking community and we need to be leaders in this way of divesting from the police and investing in community 50% of the Asheville Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses and lots of other things and go to the police department for what they're doing. That's awesome. But like it police brutality is not awesome. What is twenty-twenty we need to uplift life. So please eliminate racial Equity opportunity Gap and City Schools Public Funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold and individual officers accountable so that we can be examples for the rest of the nation. I urge every council member to support is essential policies. Yep. This crucial juncture in our City's history and I just want to say hey like a hoe to all of you for what you're doing on behalf of our city. Like thank you so much for investing your lives and making our city better. I would appreciate that and just feel like, you know want to take care of the children want to take care of a land want to take care of the heart of humanity and yeah, stop funding things that don't matter. My teacher tells me that you know places with Fierce, you know, police institutions policing institutions and hospitals those two things come hand-in-hand when people are well that is not happening and I just think that you know in the western side of things we could really learn from indigenous communities about this, please ask the wisest women, you know for advice when you don't know what to do. That's what my teacher told me. Please ask who I'm Keepers Elders indigenous people what to do when you don't know cuz we all don't know. So thank you for what you're doing, please adjust the budget. I'll ho.</p>	6/8/2020 3:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Marina social and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support at the black Asheville demand that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap. And Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight Community Committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 3:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Tyler Jima call. I'm a resident of Asheville and a local small-business owner. I'm calling as you review the City Council budget for next year and support a black actual demands that were presented on Saturday, and with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police department and invest in our local black communities 50% of actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety packages, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity gaps and actual City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual offers officers accountable. I hope I can count on each of your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Brian dones. More of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to comment on part 5 Section D of the meeting notes the annual budget. This is a message for the city council of a would like to add my voice to the others around our town calling for a slashing of APD funding's to at least fifty percent their current levels due to covid-19. I'm sure your aching is from spending and those cuts need to come from the dead who is harassed beaten shot at and terrorists are Community for the last week. You must also take the lead to other Progressive cities in the US have given and begin the process of demilitarizing funding police activities in our community. Those funds must be redirected to new avenues of social spending that in many ways will alleviate the need for such profound police intervention. I also call on the following officials to resign due to their dismay authoritarian handling of these police riots and make no mistake. That's what they were chief of police David Jack and city manager Debra Campbell. I would also same as manheimer as well, but we'll continue to plan the vote her out in November month.</p>	6/8/2020 3:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is Nikki shosha and I'm a resident of a show. I'm calling to urge Insanity to use the full amount of the exact Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance and took the city council needs to adjust the budget. So begins investing from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thanks so much.</p>	6/8/2020 3:46 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Anna Decker. I live primarily in Hendersonville. But I frequent Asheville, uh quite quite a lot. Um, I wanted to talk about the funding wage that's being proposed for the Asheville Police Department, and I wanted to voice a very loud and definite know for that for such a liberal City that actual like a claim to be there's a lot of covering up of police violence, especially against police violence against people of color. The actual police department is notorious for targeting black folks in their communities wage the large amount of killing of unarmed black people even yes in Asheville the Asheville City the especially around the world, um is being documented and the police should be held accountable for that and they should not be receiving More Money More military training more military weapons to harm them. Love their Community the most vulnerable members from the actual police department does not need the \$400,000 that money should go towards supporting the community directly. It should be put into public safety efforts education mental health, uh chemical health care public transportation putting the money back into the community to actually help black folks putting money towards the police and not going to help the most vulnerable members of this community. And those are the black members of the community. We want to defund the actual police department, um and put money towards things. That'll a help our city.</p>	6/8/2020 3:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Sara Cena Landis. I live in Buncombe County. Operating budget and I wanted to know that we really need to begin investing from the police funding the police and actually investing in our black communities off 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies supporting black startups and eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and the funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and officers accountable. I urge every council member discipline policy shift. Please it's important time in our city history.</p>	6/8/2020 3:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Eric Naka. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city council to change next year's budget. I think we we really need to begin divesting from the police officer investing in black community specifically in Asheville. Um 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the Asheville Police Department and individual authors accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial Junction juncture in our City's history, Please do consider this. It's really the momentum is here the the change can happen and you you all have so much power to to do something. Okay. Thank you for listening and thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Owen scarberry. I am a resident of Asheville calling with concern to the 2021 budget. I want to call and say that I strongly disagree with the increase in spending for the Asheville Police Department. And I stand with I believe many citizens demanding a decrease in the price of anywhere from 10 to 100% Those funds might be reallocated to police Alternatives such as low income housing accessible mental health care and substance abuse Rehabilitation and other beneficial Community organizations, especially those benefiting wage citizens of color. It has been made clear by Decades of police inflicted violence as well as the excessive and unnecessary for dead. Citizens of Asheville this past week that the answer is not to reform but to redistribute funds to programs and organizations that may look after our community. Let me repeat safely ask you to hear our demands to keep our communities safe, especially our community members of color choice care about human rights. If you care about your community, I believe you please define Asheville Police Department you find. Thank you and have a nice day.</p>	6/8/2020 3:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Francesca Lopez and I'm a concerned citizen of Asheville. I'm calling about Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget. I would like to see a more transparent budget proposal than just 37 pages and why the police budget has increased \$400,000 in the wake of the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him and let's not forget Johnny Rush who was killed here in Nashville for jaywalking. I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a true and honest commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money off. Away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into black communities public schools and racial Justice programs living wage for Asheville Firefighters and add a fordable housing.</p>	6/8/2020 3:48 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Libby and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget preparation. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in up in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies. I'm supporting Black start up some businesses eliminating the racial opportunities Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold off an individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential files policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:48 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is roly rats. And I am a resident of Asheville. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and invest in a black communities 80% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you very much for your time. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 3:48 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is Amelia Smith and I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina. And I am submitting an open public comment. And I I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act cdbg funds for rental assistance. And I also believe that the city council needs to adjust the budget to divest from the police and invest in Black communities. Um, you see that fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee issue with the power to hold the police department and individual officers accountable. I thank you for your time, and you can reach me at 703-861-9619.</p>	6/8/2020 3:48 PM	Budget
<p>Good afternoon. My name is Courtney. Crane. I'm a resident of Biltmore Forest. I'm calling to comment on a public hearing item D tonight regarding the increase in firefighter pay off \$15. My husband and I are transplants from the West Coast where firefighters make six figure salaries. We understand that that's probably not possible here. However, \$11 is absolutely unacceptable. We fully back wholeheartedly support an increase to \$15. We expect nothing less of our in public voice. Thank you so much, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:48 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, this is Robert Lindquist of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the the city council to adjust next year's budget. I believe we need to begin investing from Leesburg operations and investing in Black communities. Fifty percent of the police department's budget should be invested in long-term safe strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in public schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the police department and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift wage at this critical juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:49 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Nadia and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police in investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating their racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools in funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the individual officers accountable urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this time in our City's history. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:49 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Elise demel Otis resident of Asheville North Carolina commenting on the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urges City to adjust next year's budget by divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety and Community Support strategies, including supporting black businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold off police department and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history so that we can be the same town that we Think we are. Thank you so much. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 3:49 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Rebecca Gibney and I am a ray of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to raise my voice for hoping that we can defund the police department found that we can start divesting rather from the police department and rather than reinvest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budgets would be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups black businesses and eliminating racial opportunity gaps andAnd funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I love Asheville Asheville, and I really hope you change. So we see a more peaceful Nashville. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 3:49 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Katie bender, and I'm a resident of Asheville zip code 28804. I'm calling to urge the city of Asheville to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget so he can say vesting from the police and investing in black community fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including starting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding in a civilian oversight or overview committee with the power to uphold the APD and individuals accountable. I would like to see this done and I would like to know the plan that is missing on. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:49 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, I am a local Citizen and I would like to ask the city council if they have access to all of the security footage from throughout the city and bought the police department could actually protect and serve and find the people that actually perpetrated and organized the violence that was started that includes the police department and fax numbers of the National Guard the use of the catalytic tactics to push people into structures to gas them should haunt you for the rest of your lives if that is true. If that is what you've done to these people. You should be ashamed forever the water bottle incident and the the destruction of the Aid Station has put you on the world stage in the worst possible way and I hope you all lose your careers because of this you could have been out there stopping this and standing with the people instead you hid and let them get brutalized shame.All of you in especially those of you in uniforms. How dare you how dare you cover up for each other in such a way. The only reason why this is happening. The only reason I ask is because we expose you you lied every time you covered for yourself every single time instead of telling the truth. The only reason why you're apologizing now is because you were exposed single-camera that was on that street had a thousand a thousand eyes behind it a thousand people per phone watched you do what you did.You should all be ashamed of yourself. You should all immediately throw yourselves into change. Don't just placate don't just give. Speeches that don't actually mean anything change this you are the ones with the power change it.</p>	6/8/2020 3:49 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Tony Gonzalez, and I am concerned about the destruction in the racial slurs of the swastikas and bought a white screens that were in town and destruction and if it would be looked into I would highly appreciate it. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:50 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Hannah. Norelle. I'm a resident of Asheville. I am extremely upset by the police brutality being put forth by the APD and I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the beginning of next year's budget. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and clubs and all civilian oversight committee would be power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I need to count on y'all to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture of our City's history. Thanks very much.</p>	6/8/2020 3:51 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Juliana an hour and I've been a full-time resident of Asheville, North Carolina for the past fifteen years. I'm commenting on the annual operating budget for the fiscal year of 2022 age 21. Hi, this is Juliana an hour, and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust the next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the the opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every Club member support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:51 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Jackson emack. I strongly advise you Esther manheimer to defund the Asheville Police Department. If the city of Asheville can afford to spend tens of millions of dollars on the police department and still want to increase it tenfold but not properly trained said police to protect and uphold the law themselves. Then that money is better off going back into the community Esther manheimer consider firing and Prosecuting the ten police officers that committed war crimes June 2nd Tuesday night by infiltrating attacking to your gut tear-gassing and shooting Medics and then after destroying medical supplies, that is a war crime consider using the millions of you and this town make from tourists alone in Port back into black communities. There are off there is a reason that within the last decade after that African American population has gone from 23% down to 6% and it is because the justice system that you ageAnd make even more powerful has targeted wrongly wrongfully convicted and killed tens of thousands of black lives instead of increasing armed within the department that threatens their life every single day. How about you set up trading training programs and psychological assessments designed and taught by black people to reach rain cops to DES office communicate properly and reach for the gun as a last resort during a truly life-or-death circumstance disarm cops with psychologically prove racial biases or History of unprompted Violence Against people of color use the millions of dollars already being wasted on Asheville's corrupt justice system too long black people who have been unlawfully prosecuted, especially if not given a proper Fair trial despite not committing a single crime do your job Esther manheimer and improveStop sitting down and sorrow and watching the fire spread when in it is your job to create change that will benefit the lives most affected by your silence Listen to Black life make the change that what they rightfully demand or resign. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:51 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Zachary Newman. I'm a resident of Queens New York City, but for four years before hand, I lived in Nashville live in North Nashville and West Asheville, and I love the community. However, I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Blackstone know businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD in individual officers accountable. I urge every council member of this is Central policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thanks.</p>	6/8/2020 3:51 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Alina ever and I'm a resident of Buncombe County for a long time now and I'm calling because I want to ask the city to change next year. But we need to begin digesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies wage, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the app police department and individual offices accountable. I want to urge every council member to support this essential shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history and to realize this is a worldwide movement and Uprising against growth and brutal racial Injustice that has gone on for four hundred years. It's kind of effort to age.And this needs to happen. I want us to look at Minneapolis and their example of defending the police and putting the money towards humans and Community Services. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:51 PM	Budget
<p>This is Anthony Rolando. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina 28806 and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget We Begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities. We've given it a fair shake this current method of policing and it's clearly not working. We need to take some of the public funds Immaculate police department and put them towards long-term safety strategies including supporting black startups businesses.Eliminating racial opportunity to have National City schools and funding all civilian oversight committees with power to hold an individual officers accountable wage. I think it's imperative that we do this because I still has always been a leader in Western North Carolina. We can continue to do that. I mean to make Asheville page. Everybody wants to continue to come to cuz it's safe fun and a great place to be. So I hope you'll consider this seriously. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:51 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Jessica and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday, but the budget up for consideration urged the city council to to divest from the police and invest in Black communities. I don't understand how the city claims itself to be a more liberal and Progressive, uh like City, but has failed our black comedian and his glad for racial discrimination and lack of resources for this population of Asheville in particular of recent events handling of the legal and peaceful protest for the black lives movement have been very disappointing a disgrace to the values of the true community of Nashville as demonstrated with the support. We showed against a beauty this past week. If you divinely attacked non-threatening protesters with tear gas, which is an illegal War weapon and brutal force upon innocent people who were dead.Non-threatening, they had no weapons or proof of posing a threat on top of of all of it violating the constitutional rights of the protesters and sending a curfew and treating Community like naughty children is interesting and if a lie of humidity, I'm disgusted with with behaviors of the APD and insist that the funding of this disgraceful Department be invested in areas that are much more beneficial to the same thing maybe request is no increase in funding the APD having a hiring freeze on the APD and investing 50% of the ABCs budget in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses and limiting the original opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with power to hold and Page will officers accountable. It would be ideal to see new Department of Public Safety be created that show more Humanity towards people especially our people of color Community. For example, yep.He was social workers change the handle domestic violence cases and planning people to uphold the flow and safety of traffic. Why do point out that medical and therapeutic professionals deal with severe cases of patient outbursts kind of question all the time and never have to resort to violence to be escalate the situation. I myself have worked in mental health and if I ever resort to violence to handle and escalate a situation, then I would have been fired off my co-workers and I have always found a way to handle the situation without putting anyone's life In Harm's Way. So if we can do it, so kind of city of Asheville and on top of that if Minneapolis kind of dollars the police department in general so can astral I would also like to urge City to use the full amount of the carries a Community Development block grant fund for rental assistance. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. You can do better y'all. Come on.</p>	6/8/2020 3:51 PM	Budget
<p>City council needs to look into and hold accountable those responsible for the destruction of the medic stations and the George Ford Memorial downtown actions of the police whether they were local or otherwise, it doesn't appear to be clear with way way way over the line and the person responsible for those orders and responsible for directing those officers needs to be held accountable for that decision.City council needs to stand up for the people of Asheville who are already here who live here and make their lives here and take a little bit of focus of getting more people to come here and spend their money in hotels. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:51 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is Sandra J W brown. I live in West Asheville. Zip code 28806. I want a full investigation into mass destruction of the medic station as well as the George floored Floyd Memorial. That was left with racist graffiti and set on fire.</p>	6/8/2020 3:51 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Kate Shelton, and I'm from the city of Asheville Buncombe County 2020. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget and need to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold individual author accountable average every council member to shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you very much. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 3:52 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Julia and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up business eliminating the racial opportunity gaps in the Asheville schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and if it's individual officers accountable, and I count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much. I appreciate your time and your consideration. Have a great day.</p>	6/8/2020 3:52 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Rachel Nussbaum. I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I implore city council to divest from the pole, please and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups home businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support to this essential police shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. At this point reform is code for status quo, and we know it is time for change. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:52 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Brian Brown, and I am a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin the existing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and business office additionally eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools. Also funding and all civilian oversight committees with the power to hold the ATP and in the individual officers accountable urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history is Thursday right thing to do. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:52 PM	Budget
<p>hello, my name is Kelsey Bernhardt button, and I'm a resident of Madison County and</p>	6/8/2020 3:52 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Sebastian Colette and I've lived in Nashville for twenty-two years why I'm also a home in business owner. The actions of the actual police department have once again brought violence and unrest to our city the past week alone APD launched tear gas at unarmed peaceful protesters and destroyed medic stations that were supporting everyone's safety that behavior is not with the city represents and we will not tolerate it off. There has been a long-standing standing pattern of Injustice within our city police department and changes must happen immediately to allow for residents to move forward in a relationship of trust with those who are hired to protect us off. The actual police department needs to be reminded that they too are not above the law. We hereby demand a moratorium on the proposed budget increase to ask to the actual police department with some of the highest racial disparities in traffic stops and enforcement in North Carolina and ongoing outright discrimination and violence towards black residents among others that department has not even remotely earned a budget increase the wage. One should instead go to meet Community needs such as affordable housing Transit Mental Health Services mediation and Crisis Intervention research has shown that a living wage access to holistic services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons. The Minneapolis city council has already paid for the way setting an amazing example and demonstrating that the goal of replacing the police were more just and Humane Community community-based Solutions is entirely within reach when the political will exists numerous Community groups are already creating these alternatives to policing here in Nashville, but they are drastically underfunded. It's time to bring these groups to the table and let the residents of Astral decide who can make them more safe, We reach that goal. We demand the following reforms mandatory third-party psychological evaluations for all police officers and law enforcement to be completed every six months the escalation training and nonviolent communication. Training mandatory for all law enforcement officers just dismissal of all offers officers who have a History of Violence complaints placed against them accountability and traceability if an officer has been dismissed he or she is not allowed to move to another County or state to get a new law enforcement job. They will also be placed on the anti policing registry that can be viewed online penalties for Associated officers on Thursdays are also considered to be accomplices or legal purposes in the offense mandatory body cam footage and every interaction with the public automatic felony charge if it is turned off manually on a no-knock raids and band police police tactics that impaired breathing including chokeholds in addition as a white resident of Asheville and as someone who benefits daily from the many contributions made by people who are ineligible, I feel there's the least I can do to put my full support behind the demands of Astro black community firstly invest and divest we demand a divestment from police and</p>	6/8/2020 3:52 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Amy Meyer and I live in Asheville. And I would like to follow the black leadership suggestions for this town and reform police in their training. I would like to. Have complaints against them taken seriously and get rid of people who have repeated complaints especially if they're violent ones. I would like to divest from the police and not give them any new funding but instead any new funding that was going to go to them should go to the black community that has been Had a terrible outcome educational Gap Gap employment gap and a safety Gap Justice Gap and work towards correcting some of those wage, um reparations towards them to help them heal help him get back into being in a truly Equitable position with the white people in town want to remove the Vance monument and the Robert E. Lee monuments and respect the black people that have worked to build this city as well as the rest of the country and how it them have input on that or full Dispatch they get to decide and and the war on black people and to not use violent force in our police force. We shouldn't need to and we need to study and take recommendations and and systemic racism and the police force as well as in our cities practices. Also, I think the police chief should be fired David Zack did not show leadership or dead. That he was protecting and serving our community. Not sure what kind of chip if he's got on his shoulder, but it seems like he's lied to us more than once already and just the last week and he um doesn't seem to fit with this community seems to want to punish us for being ourselves. So I think he should go and we should find someone more suitable. Maybe somebody who already has a trusted position and watch t thank you for listening to my comments, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:52 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Riley Thompson, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were Pros tested on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I am city council best from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including suggesting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity crap in Asheville City schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to home APD and individual officers accountable. I would also like to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy ship at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:53 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, my name is Curtis Brock, and I wanted to call to say that it's time to begin to defund the police absolutely do not approve of increasing the police budget wage. Should go to social programs instead. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:53 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Martha Seagal, and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to develop the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term security strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on you for your support for this essential policies except at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:53 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Eleanor Morris and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020 to 2021 budget in the wake of the police is killing of George Floyd in Indianapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into Social Services.And sectors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality. Do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:53 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Diane Christmas. I live in Asheville North Carolina and I am commenting on the fiscal year 20 20 21 annual operating budget. So, I am really wanting to urge the city to adjust a next year's budget in light of the events revealing incredible demek racism. I want to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools also should go towards funding and all civilian oversight committee off the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. This is really important and we need to put our money where our words are and we need to you know, put our money where our mouth is so that we can actually say we're serious about this month and it's time for change and we support change through Nashville Minneapolis, which is where I'm from originally their city council is the funding the police and are asking for a refund but to reduce the funding and to allocate those funds in places where they can actually address these issues. So I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial moment in our City's history this and how we respond in this moment says a lot about where we are and where we're willing to go for equality and equity for everyone. Please do what you know is right and let's stand up and speak on behalf of all of our brothers and sisters here in Nashville. Thank you suck. Much for taking the time, and I hope that this can be part of a voice in Asheville. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:53 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Jesse Wharton, and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I take city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing from off lease and investing in black and brown communities 50% of apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminate the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable creating unarmed crisis response teams that may include mental health professional. I also urge Asheville to create a peace and Reconciliation Commission to address the centuries of Oppression in this community and to remove Vance Monument, which stands a symbol of that oppression. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:54 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, good afternoon. My name is Caitlin Farrell Davis, and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm writing in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday this past weekend with the budget of consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift during this very crucial time in our City's history, and I thank you for all the work that you do. I hope you have a lovely evening.</p>	6/8/2020 3:54 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Mark and Asheville, North Carolina Buncombe County and I am commenting on the fiscal year 2012 or 2021 annual operating budget. So I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you very much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:54 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Benjamin Spencer. I am a resident of South Asheville be proposed budget. You were discussing tonight allocates more than thirty million dollars to the Asheville Police Department. This is the girls are just single expenditure on your budget and it's more than 60 times the amount budgeted for equity and inclusion and nearly 40 times the amount budgeted for sustainability the math speaks for itself many of you put your bids for office ran on a platform claiming to care about diversity claiming to care about the environment the amount spent on the police being so far in excess of these things, which you Claire to care to Claim about is patently absurd in addition to these figures being a grotesque Distortion of what you claim to care about. They have a direct and negative impact on the citizens of Asheville the APD in the city at large have a clean record of police abuses and infractions notably the case of Johnny Rush a case which has yet to be adequately dealt with by the department or by the city despite nearly three years passing since the incident occurred wage.Last week police and Asheville showed their willingness to put their abuses on National display and destroyed medical supplies and water from peaceably assemble protesters in their initial statement. They suggested that the officers had some reason to be afraid of water bottles and basic first aid supplies, uh, in addition to that. They repeatedly disrupted a peaceful and constitutionally protected assembly the APD officers used violence to disruptive protests about police violence a sad and profound irony to allocate so much money to the police department is to Grant explicit approval for their continued in fraction and to reward racist and violent Behavior. The time for nice words is over now is the time for action and change no more tepid apologies. No more symbolic gestures as an active voter and a caring sit home and I urge you to put your money where your mouth is do it now delay the vote on the proposed budget and work to reallocate the funding for the APD towards programs and institutions that uplift the community and work towards creating.A more sustainable and just future do not reward a department who violently assaults a black man for jaywalking. Do not reward an institution that perpetuates excuses for violence against non-violent thousands. No more promises. The work Starts Now defined the APD work to build actual Community Resources and together as a city. Let's rethink what is possible. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:54 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is Lily and James. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to make a comment about section five part D public hearing about the proposed budget for the 2021 fiscal year. I'm calling but the actual police department be defunded have significant reductions in their funding Thirty million dollars is worth far too much for a police department that murders black citizens that commit acts of Terrors against citizens who are protesting by destroying medic tent that is an acting chair shame on the actual police department. Same on the city of Asheville shame on the mayor's office here on the city council if they do not reallocate the 30 million dollars that have been proposed to the actual police department to be uh to be redistributed to development services equity and inclusion services or sustainable Transportation. The actual police department has blood on their hands and Ed.Should not receive any funding shame on Asheville. Thank you. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:54 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Samantha Strahan. I have been living in Asheville for about a year now. I work for a tech business downtown. I know some incredible work around the city. So I just wanted to say did I think what happened with the police was just absolutely ridiculous wage and I cannot believe that a place that I grew up. Like wanting to move to and wanting to be part of this community would allow something like that to happen under its governance. I'm going to try not to get too worked up here, but I just want you guys to know that at least personally for me the stress of everything that has been happening. Like I have had like muscle spasms. I have been tear-gassed. I have been absolutely in shock of the militarization and abuse of power that we have allowed the police to have and I think we really need to figure out how we can allocate those funds into dead. More specialized well-trained like community-based and social worker based organizations that will actually benefit this commission did not beat them like like someone I know is in the hospital right now with shards of his skull pierced into his brain dead because of one of your officers and I don't claim that they are not my officers one of your officers and I am not going to have my tax paying dollars going to this wage. I like I mean, I am ashamed you should be ashamed. Then we have allowed this to go on for as long as we have for City that claims to be built on love and respect. This is atrocious and just like we are finished with everything else. This was a sham just as much as the bigger sham that that we have been coexisting in all of this time. We need to do better job opportunity. We cannot allow fascism and white kind of see. In to our live any more than I have already been imposed. And we must take a stand because you don't see it for something you will fall for anything. And they're not coming for you now, but they will come to you eventually if I mean and I mean who is in power right now? Not the people who is in</p>	6/8/2020 3:54 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, this is Lindsay and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cashiers act Community Development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget office. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups in businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the table and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:55 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Kelsey Sutton and I'm calling about the budget public hearing. I've lived in Madison County North Carolina in my whole life and I've always been so thankful to be close to the diversity and beauty of the city like Asheville. However, I'm extremely concerned about the police brutality of the actual police department. Not only over the past few days and it's protesters in that extent but also against Germany Russia in 2018 and many more cases that have never made the news. I want to clarify that these instances or not due to just a few that officers that are rather due to systemic racism within our criminal justice system and police forces. Therefore. I'm calling to urge you to vote against the \$400,000 budget increase to the actual police department the funding and president of the APD are actively harmful to marginalized communities including black people other non-black people people of color and the LGBT community in Asheville as well as those of physical and mental disabilities and said, I believe we need to be funding and investing in other community and social services such as public health programs Mental Health Services black businesses and other programs in, Georgia. Chen's that will protect and serve the people of Asheville. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 3:55 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Blake Becker. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act can be dealt development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the tip Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and actual City schools and funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you. Good day.</p>	6/8/2020 3:55 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Max Adams. And I am a resident of North Asheville. I'm calling today to leave a message with regards to the upcoming, uh, 2021 budget proposal. Um and specifically I want to add the case against raising the budget for the police department. Um, yes, specifically I'd like to see the police department divested. Um, and uh, so that would include not only with uh, Refusing any increase in their budget, but also specifically I'd like to see fifty percent of the current budget, um reinvested in the local Asheville black community and I'd like to see some long-term safety strategies put in place to support those communities including investment in Black startups offices, um like to see um, virtual opportunity gaps in Asheville City Schools eliminated through that funding and uh funding for an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable in the past week. I've seen personally some pretty horrendous, um policing from the actual City Police Department including teargas of young families dead. Children, I'd seen the police department shoot up around and rubber bullets at peaceful protesters and and in severe cases wage protesters who even in the Panic of fleeing from the violence that the police had instigated certain certain protesters had fallen to the ground and and even in that case the police would continue to shoot at them which which just seems like really horrendous to me. Um, so yeah, it just seems um more more and more that not only has the actual City Police Department not cared for protected or served their local community and I'm I'm starting to realize that more and more but also in this current wage national and Global crisis of um, police brutality. They both see met sort of those concerns more violence. Yep. So yeah, they they seem completely untrustworthy. Um, and and that's why I'm voting against any budget increase for the actual City Police Department. Um, and I'm hoping that the council will take this heart and hold off on the budget so that it can be revised with those interests in mind.</p>	6/8/2020 3:55 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Christy Stuart. And I'm a resident of Buncombe County. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities thousand the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 3:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Andrew Gatlin, and I would like to comment that I would like towards budget increase for the APC to not be incorrect and I would request that the money that would have gone towards the police department be considered to go towards other actions such as of Education Transportation mental health care or something that actually benefits the community and black lives in Nashville. Thank you very much for considering. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 3:56 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Kim Roni and I'm commenting for the sixth year on our city budget first. I stand in solidarity with the multi-generational efforts and demands cuz then it by my black neighbors here in Nashville. We urge you to divest from a lease and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. So I cannot hear with my code thank family and demanding a recurring line item for 15 to 20 million dollars annually in the budget and or all proceeds from all tourism taxes allocated to racial Equity oil change and addressing systemic racism across the community third Joy Nashville and black and calling on our city leaders to vote against the budget increase for a PDT in this year's budget and commit to creating a strategic plan now to create viable alternatives to policing as well as allocating funds to begin resourcing action steps in this plan fourth. I join in chorus with just economics better buses together Ashburn works and sunrise movement and again advocating for things that agree new deal with erasing class analysis. Looks like deeply affordable housing support for the Asheville Buncombe Community Land Trust bus service that works for the people who need it restoring our tree canopy and keeping our living wage policy by paying our firefighters a living wage. We have been here over and over again filled out surveys and attended public engagement sessions. Yep. Has a lot of healing and repair to do I hear and understand our neighbors are weary the damage inflicted on black people and neighborhoods from generations of systemic racism two Gears of planning to cause us harm and it's going to take both of us coming together as a community to ensure meaningful response. If we're going to be serious about Equity is going to take time to be intentional here are some ideas for Solutions one-pass an interim continuance budget too. Long time to get it right. We'll give us a better projection of our Revenue capacity to restart the public board and commission meetings immediately joining cities across the state. This will increase opportunity for public engagements apparency and policy recommendations, three direct staff to hold a two-week budget input using our gear program to ensure public input is equitably accessible. We have experience doing this with the noise ordinance. Make sure those most affected by budget and policy were heard and we can do it again. We are ready for you to make time to get this right instead of ignoring the pleas of the people as has been done so many dead. Because our tax dollars are being used to harm our neighbors. We need your courage to divest from systems where racism and oppression have thrived so that we can invest in a resilient Community to keep us safe, We're eager for a cause for celebration. We will support you doing a great thing. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Michael Johnson. And I want to know how the Asheville Police Department is going to write the wrong that was done last Monday with the peaceful protesters being attacked the medical supplies being slashed and destroyed which has been on National media coverage. So if you plan on any long-term solutions to prevent such senseless brutality in the future then like to know about it. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:56 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Andy Pond. I'm a resident of Asheville and I would like to give some input I would please like for you not to approve funding for the budget. Yep. I would like for you to delay the vote until a few key points are met. I'm going to list those now. I would like d escalation police practices in place with a commitment to racial Justice funding for social services organizations and other alternatives. I would like to defund the APD and have a hiring freeze. Thank you for listening.</p>	6/8/2020 3:57 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Johnny Burton. I'm a Nashville resident. I would like to request that the Asheville city council create alternatives to policing and deny the \$400,000 budget increase to the Asheville Police Department wage use our City's leadership to set a better example for funding things that keep us safe. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Edward Peters and I live in West Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds offer assistance furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% off the Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:57 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Hannah cats and I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina. I'm calling in support of the black asphalt demands that were presented on Saturday, June 6th with the budget up for consideration a urged city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups startups and business is eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope I can offer you for your support in this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 3:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Heather Montreal and Vancouver resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the caradoc Community Development block grant. We do offer rental assistance furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So if you can say vesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term same strategies, including supporting black socks and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the fact that individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Marin Cheryl, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling is for the black Asheville demands with the budget the consideration Ur city council divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the APD budget should be invested in long-term safety strategy, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and finding a number of Civilian oversight committee with that power to hold the APD and an individual officers accountable. I'm also asking for firefighters to be paid a living wage from there is quite a difference between what factors are getting paid right now and the police department. So I'm hoping that that \$400 budget can go to help that as well. Thank you so much for your consideration and listening to this message. Have a great day, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:57 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Tristan Turner. I firmly believe that we need to defund our Asheville Police Department. They don't need to have the weapons that they have to shoot teargas life and children and people who are peaceful protesting and people who are out downtown trying to help other people who get hurt because of their weaponry and then they go and Destroy of their medical supplies that nobody can get help in all their water and the assault children who are working there as well. And I don't see them doing anything else except for sitting on their asses on the side of the house ways to pull over people going five miles over the speed limit and I don't think that they're very useful and I think the education is way more important to our community and I grew up in Nashville and when I went to school I could say for sure that I needed some a little bit more attention for my learning disabilities and I didn't receive any help and I had to learn how to ageFor myself and I didn't have any of the resources. I needed to become a better student and it really took one teacher when I was in high school to support me and to put me on the right track. Whereas I should have been supported. The entire time education is where money be put the future is important not to police officers. Not the people who are going to shoot innocent protesters. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:57 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Becky Lloyd, and I'm a resident of Clyde, North Carolina. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the Asheville Police Department and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:58 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>So I'm marrying Newman a resident of Asheville calling about the proposed City budget like many others. I'm sure I'm urging you to greatly lower the amount. I needed to the actual police department and to use the funds bus freed up to farm better conform to the budget principal stated early in the budget document off of these is to direct new and existing resources toward achieving Community Council and staff goals. We've heard clearly this past week major consensus commedia see of long ignored Community goals Council goals described in its twenty thirty six Vision also included in the budget document in class among other pertinent things and Equitable and diverse Community quality affordable housing and transportation and accessibility. Various groups stated in some what is needed and needed now to move us meaningfully toward that vision. Among them black Asheville demands that we redirect 50% of the apd's budget to long-term safety strategies, including supporting a startup and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the e e d and individual officers accountable. A change or Ford petition to find some ways funds can be used for the care and safety of people in communities the piece of the city and the well-being of our residence. It outlines many ways in which unarmed support teams could solve and perhaps prevent problems that now burdened overstressed and over armor police officers. I know that some of these techniques have recently been added to what can seem like endless but still not adequately effective police training how much better safer and more efficient to assign them to non-police person now, I asked that you act to make these changes. So things can move on to be truly different in the immediate future. Thank you for listening.</p>	6/8/2020 3:58 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Julia and I am a long-time resident of Asheville North Carolina. And I want to leave a public comment about the proposed 2020 to 2021 budget and not wake of police brutality that is rampant all over the world. But still here in Asheville as well. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying wage boat and using this time to find ways to redirect the money away from the Asheville Police Department and they're over-inflated budget. They have the largest budget of all sorts of Public Services, which is ridiculous considering what they offer and how they treat the community that money could much better be spent in Social programs specifically mental health Outreach which would help reduce crime in the country in general. Please do not forget our poor in communities of color. They are the ones suffering the most with the least opportunity to change their situation would really like to be able to count on you to consider an alternative dead. Budget proposal. Thank you for your time by.</p>	6/8/2020 3:58 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is grimalkin and I was born in Nashville. I've lived here all my life. Nothing not even my solid familiarity of the oppressive Tendencies of the APD could ever have prepared me for June first when I saw my beloved Town become another Cog in this fascist Hate Machine called racism. You might notice I have a big of a cough. I've been feeling under the weather and I feel like that might have something to do with the fact that we did with the steering a pandemic. The APD attacked the town of Asheville with gas my my people my fellow villains off gas in our own streets, like they'd never never belong to us. It was a message. It was a message that I think all of us are always going to remember that came from the APD nothing will ever instead he'll and sorry can still my faith in the APD again other than defunding measures. Thank you for listening. Have a nice day.</p>	6/8/2020 3:58 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Catherine Shanks and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black Ops and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable every council member to support. This is Central policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much. Catharines.</p>	6/8/2020 3:59 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Rosie and I'm a resident of the town of Black Mountain. I'm calling to comment on the fiscal year 2020-2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to a desk next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual authors accountable every council member to support the central policy shift of this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:59 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Carol Asia. I live in West Asheville. I'm calling to ask that the city of Asheville in their budget. Do you find the police department and reallocate resources to mental health care pro? Partitioners and to those helping a diverse Community. This is essential based on the protest we've had the police is not in a position to take care of its people Thursday. We need to with a diverse. Social economic Community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:59 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Emily tarac. I'm a resident of 5 Wornall Place Asheville, North Carolina 28804. And I'm calling wage Purge the city of Asheville to adjust next year's budget to begin investing from the police and rather investing more towards black communities wage right now 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget. I believe should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black sort of businesses in the same opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an author billion oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable and fired every council member to support this essential policy shift. This is crucial time juncture in our City's History Month. For your time and hearing my request and specifically I am commenting on the fiscal year 8020 2021 annual operating budget and summary. My request is to begin they busting from the actual police department and to invest more towards that community. And social education. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 3:59 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Amy Tracy and I am a Nashville resident and I'm commenting for the open public comment section of the meeting. As you know, many actual residents have been outraged by the police response to the black lives matter protest downtown. The police have used unnecessarily aggressive and violent tactics against mostly peaceful protesters, which is only increased Community anger and further proof of the reason these protests need to happen the rating of the Medical Aid tent in the direction of their medical supplies made national news, and it's a clear example of a police department, which is not responding to the best interests. But instead has increased too combative us-versus-them mentality Chief David Zack has been the director of this has attempted to justify it when brought under a mint public pressure couldn't even say it would stop or that the police perpetrators would be disciplined. I created a petition to ask for his removal as chief of police and the hopes that he can be replaced with them to embrace a more Community engaged approach as of Monday afternoon that petition is over 3,500 signatures and many many comments. Please take this petition seriously and take action to remove and replace dead. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 3:59 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is Savanna Kelley city of residence is Wilmington, North Carolina, and I'm commenting on the case for public hearing item. D as support increasing Nashville auto pay to a minimum of \$15 an hour as a feature HealthCare Employee for the city of Asheville. I know the amount of compassion and dedication it takes to help wants Community. These firefighters have been working tirelessly through a paying job and deserve the right to have a decent pay the deserve this pay increase as both recognition of their hard work and as a means to support their cost of living comfortably, thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:00 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Tyler loud. And um I am calling in regards to the current situation is going on across not just Asheville but across country and the whole world and I am kindly requesting that Asheville City Council. Divest in police funding and instead put more investment into Community Building Community Resources for each other. And this is a matter that is very important to not own know me and the community but the entire country we need our communities. be here for each other and police are not being used for the right purposes. So, thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:00 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Eunice want Sullivan, and I'm a Nashville resident. I want the budget to be considered to go towards the black Asheville demands. I urge the council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses wage dating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funny and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual offers account officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at The crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:01 PM	Budget
<p>This is Jennifer love it, and I'm calling because I would like for the a reduction in the police budget to go to other public services and works package that would benefit more than the police. Thank you. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 4:01 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Robin Funston. I'm a resident of the city of Asheville. I'm commenting on the annual budget for fiscal year. 2021. Um, I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to divest from the police department and invest in our black community. I'm proposing that 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses including the Black start up businesses. Advocacy. I'd like to mention. Um, if you are going to use Mountain bizworks as a way to distribute funds to local black owned businesses, then their Equity lens needs to be reviewed and adjusted. They do not have a reputation in the black and brown communities of Asheville for being an equitable funding source distributor. I also believe that we need to focus on eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City School. These are the 5th worst in the nation and flag embarrassed sent. The funding for an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold actual police department and individual officers accountable to wage increase safety concerns by the conduct of actual police officers and urging every council member to support the essential policies shift because right now we have an opportunity to get it right if the proposed budget for over \$450,000 increase to the city's Police Department budget is approved. You will be failing New Jersey City residents and not listening to our voice. Thank you for your consideration. Thank you for your public service and I look forward to seeing you make make the right decision.</p>	6/8/2020 4:01 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Denise carbonell and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be vested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and faith and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD individual authors accountable. I would also like to urge the city to use the full amount of the Cara's at Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I'm also Pro reparations for the black community to be given because of homes that were destroyed in the seventies. I think we should create a new City Department of peace and well-being that will take task with the care and safety of our people and communities there should be could be new roles to support the Peace of the city instead of turning our city into a police state. I realize that the police are not social workers. And I think that's why they don't need to be put in the role of social workers. They should they just don't they don't need extra money to be doing that and I think they have enough money that they said that they can do their job without having another 400,000 put on top of the \$30 million that they already have. I think that they could do a lot better with their money. And what they're doing. It's an embarrassment for people of Asheville to have to see how the police treat people here. Then women home. Mainly black men. And I just like a list of policies. That will prevent further police violence on this community. When people are protesting peacefully and you're doing things like destroying a medic table, I I just don't get that. I don't know where they have the right to do that. They're hurting people. They're not helping people. and I'm just so sad to live in this town right now, and I got a lot of people are. thank you for listening to my call and I hope that you Goodnight, a \$457,000.</p>	6/8/2020 4:01 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Elsa Klein and president with the city of Asheville. And I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. I really don't support the proposed increase in the police budget and think that would love to see that money that goes and the APD.refocused and put towards black communities</p>	6/8/2020 4:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Olive Wilbur. I live in Ashville, North Carolina. I'm calling to join many others in the community to ask city council to re-evaluate the proposed funding increase for a p d a m s s the upcoming 2020-2021 budget and light of the murders of George Floyd Brianna Taylor and countless others at the hands of law enforcement many in the community are hurting, but we insist that the that the city of Asheville worked to defund APD by cutting its budget by 50% and putting that funding into initiatives which support the troops Public Safety for all including a reconsideration of pay increases for our firefighters and renewed focus on our racial achievement Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an All-Star Game and oversight committee, which will work to hold a PD accountable. I thank you for your time and service to our city and citizens like me. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:02 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Elizabeth Oglesby and I am a resident of Asheville City North Carolina. And I am calling about the meeting that is to be had today after 5. I am calling in reference to not approve to not approve the increase funding for the APD. I've read that there is to be a \$400,000 increase to the budget for the APD and I'm calling for that to not be approved. I do not think it should be approved. I think that the budget that we have is more than plenty. I think I think something that that we already have could be put into black communities to help raise them up. I think that we could use that money. Yep.For water in Flint. I think we could use that money to help the some of the poorer parts of Asheville, and also to help black communities so that we can have more black people in Asheville and that they can feel safe and that is what I am calling for. Again. My name is Elizabeth Oglesby. I live in West Asheville, North Carolina. I live at 303 West Forest Lane 28068, and my phone number is 910-214-1593. Thanks so much, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Olivia Jones, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling in support of the black gospel demands that were presented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration. I urge the city council today that's in the police and invest in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including support start up some businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the Asheville police departments and individual officers accountable. I hope that you can count on your I hope that I can count on your just support for this essential policy shift at The crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Carter with Claire. I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight Community with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I would also like to urge the city to use the full amount of the exact.Funds for rental assistance. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift and this crucial juncture in our City's history a serious strategic plan could look like creating a new service department of peace and well-being tasked with the care and safety of people and communities under this new Department. There could be new roles to support the Peace of the city and well-being of its residents unarmed support teams could be dispatched a moment's notice. These could look like a team of social workers counselors mediators negotiators. They could be hired to be dispatched. We're needed to support individuals and families a team trained in domestic violence could be waged patch the homes as needed neighborhood leaders could be hired and trained to be peer support mediators people assigned to handle the flow and safety of traffic people uphold human and civil rights and housing and wages and employment. We need more services for healing stress and Trauma allocating funds towards investment in current incubation of African American and Latin owned businesses wage Equitable economic and educational opportunities living wage jobs poverty remedy remediation alleviate root causes of the crime. I would also like to see some transparency transparency. On what the budget is spent for? Especially for the bus system city of Asheville is highlighting the cost of a full year of the route changes implemented in January 2020 as the major increase in the general fund without transparency around the 3.6 million dollars given to the city for Transit from the federal cares act Additionally. The city is postponed increased evening service hours part of the first phase of the transit master plan. Black people in Asheville make up 12% of the population but 36% of APD traffic stops. This needs to end. And I hope we can count on you and your support in this time of change. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is Jay Weatherly. I'm a business owner in Asheville, North Carolina calling for the council urging you all to basically suck the like actual demands of reconsidering the budget and how the the budget for funding for that is considered. Am I 50% of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies that have what it's currently leaning towards as well as many other things. But with another immediate is the consideration of the monument in the streets in downtown renaming removing monuments or rename those monuments.to reflect African-American struggles within the community. So all of that needs to be put on the table. I will continue to check in and see what's the agenda for the following meeting will be and thanks for your concern. Thanks for your ears. Please continue to do this work. We will be holding them accountable as well as ourselves. Okay. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:02 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Sam Weldon, and I'm president of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020 through 2021 budget in the wake of the police's killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis in countless black ones before him. I'm asking if the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice when I delay the budget vote even this time to find ways of redirect money away from the actual police departments already huge budget and putting it towards social program said counting on you consider the ultimate budget proposal to put money where our mouth is and takes action towards the good of the community and not just the actual PD. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Kelsey Hines. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about public hearing item D mayor manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. I'm asking that the the city council step up and fully committed to racial Justice and take concrete actions with complete transparency the proposed increase for the already bloated budget of the Asheville Police Department must be denied and the money reallocated towards programs to remove the racial and class inequities present in our city. The Asheville Police Department does not need more money. It needs the APD needs to be demilitarized and defunded instead of being mobilized against its citizens exercising their constitutional right to peaceably assemble and petition our life and and instead of unconscionably destroying a medic tent and it's supplies in the middle of a pandemic there can be no justification for such action police violence wage. Which are poor communities and communities of color has become endemic. The only measure that has been shown to deter police violence is demilitarization. How on Earth can you justify the need for riot here tear gas or other chemical irritants and so-called non-lethal bullets against peaceful protesters. The city council is elected to represent and serve the people of Iraq and you should be Seeking Justice for us which will only happen from the police are reformed and this is not possible until we defund them. This is what we want and you need to listen to us. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:02 PM	Budget
<p>This is Ryan Gustafson. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina and I am hey game y'all. To rethink and adjust the budget for next year and defund the police by at least 50% put that money into black box it up. And safety measures that are different, you know finish this can all look so different than it is. There's examples out there. There's lots of writings out there and we need to put the mental health of the wellness. Of every citizen and non-citizen every person first and this is a compassionate way to change the future and what we have right now is not working wage is really obvious. Tomorrow you have a chance to make some revolutionary steps, and I really hope you take them and we can start to reverse this crooked system off and help people in a real way, please please do it.</p>	6/8/2020 4:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, I'd like to leave a comment for the city council meeting regarding the Asheville Police Department. First of all, I want to say thanks for the work that you guys do for a city. I'm looking forward to a voting this fall for the new Fiat that are open. But I want to voice my opinion that I think we should not entirely defunding a police department but severely cut its budget after seeing what's what they've been doing and reaction to the protests the past week, especially the club scene and then just throwing the medical tent that's just appalling behavior. Um, and so I think we need to take some of their budget and refocus it towards other community building activities and try to create a police president that's actually part of the community and for the community instead of this. Hyper-aware militarized unit that wants to do whatever they want without any kind of accountability home. So I hope that we can reuse some of the funds for something better for the city of Asheville. And also am I don't know if we're practicing. I forgot what it's called, but the the police's actions of being able to the Civil forfeiture. I think that's wrong is um, taking belongings and from citizens and then selling them for their own profit as part of a rest. I think that may be abolished if we're still doing that. So thank you for your time. And I hope the meeting goes well and like mm. Saying what city council decides on?</p>	6/8/2020 4:02 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Jennifer Worthen calling to make an open public comment. I am a resident of Asheville calling to implore Asheville city council to divest from the police beginning this fiscal year. It is beyond time to divest from the police and invest in our black community 50% of a PDS budget would be well placed in long-term safety strategies, including black start-up businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools, uh and instead funding wage in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:03 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Melissa down. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina. I am I'll calling the city of Asheville to comment on public hearing item D wage for the annual operating budget. I would like to strongly strongly urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. And I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So that begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies include wage according black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and finding in all civilian oversight committee the power to hold to a beauty and individual Officers Club. I hope I can count on all of your support for this essential policy change think this is very crucial for our city and our country's history. The time is now for deep respect and to bring the people together. Thank you so much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:03 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Terrapin Sheltie Hilton. I'm a resident of Asheville in West Asheville. I'm calling to request at the city defund Asheville Police Department by 50% off and I would request that money goes straight to helping invest in Black communities, um and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools. This is really important to me is the actual Citizen and I hope you'll take the time to hear our concerns. Thank you. If you need to contact me, my number is 828-423-3320 or my email address is t e r r a p i n o z.</p>	6/8/2020 4:03 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Daniel for f o o r a live in Swannanoa with my family and I have business here in Buncombe County and I'm calling to check Orange City city council to adjust the budget for the coming year to divest from police. So heavily and certainly cannot increase funding for police officer and instead to direct that toward black community and Astro and to listen in this acute historic moment to Black leadership. Um to just start having the cops bless them do less and to focus on the few things that really are important for them to be doing would be Thursday theSuch a good message of inclusion and listening and responsiveness here considering how Progressive Asheville wants to sneak past. So it's a moment to listen and pivot. So I hope city council can actually do that. I know we don't live in city limits, but look, it's not a big bank account here. So I hope you take a diet at the bottom beloved in Nashville. So yeah. We're raising a family. Thank you so much. Take care.</p>	6/8/2020 4:03 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Michelle Boudreau residents of Lincoln County Asheville, North Carolina. And I'm calling to urge the city to use the exact amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Also, I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of apts budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee met to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:03 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Sebastian co-ed. I'm a twenty-two-year-old 22 year resident of Asheville have been here twenty two years and I am calling to express outrage about the recent behavior of the actual police department during your meeting discussing the accountability for the crops who tore up the medic stationed at a protest recently. Keep in mind that the whole nation is watching and listening right now. The official motto of Asheville is quality of service quality of life. Do you not find it disturbing and alarming that the quality of service involves a police force that blatantly and aggressively impedes protesters right to medical assistance a police force that fails to honor and protect the right of Faith Assembly and instead worked actively to dismantle it if this is the quality of service, what does that suggest about the quality of life? What message does that say to people who may be interested in visiting or moving to Asheville? Mayor Esther manheimer is already deemed these actions senseless. However, a public speech criticizing these actions is not nearly enough to incite change. The recent events. Nationwide have called attention to a multitude of failures within a police departments all over the country. Honestly, the entire law enforcement system has demonstrated time and time again that it is ineffective and a danger to the well-being of our people the leeway awarded to police our officers wage disgusting and has a liar allowed the entire system to act without fear of Consequence. The qualified immunity offers benefit from is one of the leading reasons why so many officers get away with abominable actions. It is one of the leading wrong reasons why so many officers get away with murder while the officers who aggressively destroyed the medication may not have directly killed anybody the intentions shadowing their actions suggest that they have no regard for the well-being or safety of the citizens. They signed up to protect Asheville city council. We demand that you remove these officers badges that they have demonstrated. They are incapable of honoring to do these expected of them and the lives of law. The citizen after you take this first stepped we demand that you remain active in defunding the actual police department when discussing the 2020 and 2021 budget. Please lead by example the example of the Minneapolis city council now more than ever. We are calling upon City officials to listen to the people. They are supposed to protect and serve allocating two point five million to an incompetent violent Police Department, encourages and rewards Violet officers and a culture of violence and oppression in addition allocating such a large portion of the budget to such a police department turns a blind eye to the systematic up in a black and brown bodies Across the Nation do not let Asheville be complacent in in fighting racist and ineffective institutions. It is not enough to remain silent during these times your silence and inaction has led Police Department that feels and acts insufferably immune to consequence. It is necessary that the actual police department is defunded with no additional funding in the future. Instead we distribute funding for the police department to sectors that will help all communities in Asheville increase funding for the public schools increased funding for the equity and inclusion sector that I was bringing minority on.</p>	6/8/2020 4:03 PM	Budget
<p>Hello. I'm a resident of Buncombe County and I'm calling to request that you heed the emails and other policies gotten asking them to take funding away from the Asheville Police Department and diverted towards Community Resources. That would better serve the community than an overview funded. Police Department, I can't stress enough how important this has. Please do not increase the funding to the APD. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:03 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Erica Lewis. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to say that I'm standing with the black lives matter movement off the black leaders that are representing their community and Asheville and that I hope you are willing to work with them and meet demands of not only them, but all of these people who are in support of them to divest from the police department and invest in Black communities and reparations to Black communities. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:03 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is Mariah Kassim, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget in the wake of the police killings of George Ford Minneapolis. And can I ask Americans before him? I'm asking the Asheville city council to make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget boat and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments am excited budget and engine eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City Schools supporting black startups and businesses and funding and all civilian oversight committee off the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Do not forget our poor and communities a couple of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social program? Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:04 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is tahan East approach and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to comment on the proposed 2021 budget, please deny the \$457,000 proposed increase for the police department and begin the process of shrinking demilitarizing and defunding Asheville Police. I support like Ashville demands that please funding be diverted to support the black community, which has suffered so much through our City's negligence and abuse. If you missed the testimony at Saturday's vigil, I urge you to listen to a recording. I also urge the city to use the full care development block funds for rental assistance to pay all firefighters a living wage to invest a hundred thousand into the land trust and to provide transparency about the use of the cares act money for Transit. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:04 PM	Budget
<p>My name is coral almond. I'm a resident of the city of Asheville, and I'm commenting on public hearing item regarding the 2022 20:21 operating budget. I am calling in to support the increase of the fiber to a minimum of \$15 an hour. The fact that we do not do so already is absolutely frustrating as someone who has personally been a beneficiary of some of the fact that our firefighters have provided. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:04 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name's Kerry. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the block Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urged them cancel. Did I vest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black and black people of color startups and business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and actual City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD an individual officers accountable. I hope I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our city and our country's history. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:05 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Miles Anderson. I'm a resident of Asheville commenting on the fiscal years 20 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling today to urge the city to use the full funds from the cares a community block grant for rental assistance. I think this would be a wonderful way to support the actual community in light of the pandemic. Also, I think the city council needs to adjust. It's only twenty Twenty-One budget to divest from from the police department. I believe 50% of the proposed police budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies. I believe these strategies should include supporting black owned businesses and startups funding in all civilian oversight committee to hold a. Individual accountable for their actions and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools. Thank you so much, and bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:05 PM	Budget
<p>Good evening. My name is Kate. I'm calling from Hawk Creek. I'm calling regarding my concern with public hearing item dereferencing the city budget, especially in the last few months. We have asked so much from our City's First Responders. The least you city council can do is provide them an acceptable living wage of \$15 an hour compared to other cities of this size. That's still a number that leaves room for improvement, but \$11.65 an hour for the broad range of responsibilities that they assume including responding to major car accident preventing a home or business on that's on fire from completely burning down in the middle of the night to assisting a patient in Cardiac Arrest. Their pay is not reflective or appropriate compensation for someone who is an instrument. In Saving someone's life. Potentially we can do better by our firefighters city council. This is an emergency. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:05 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Abigail billanti and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm writing in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget wage consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including support start-up business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Again, my name is Abigail on T. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm writing in support of the black actual demands that were presented on Saturday with the with the back up for consideration. I urge City council's that's when the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Blackstone know businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:05 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Yes. Hi. My name is Christine burning here. And I've been a Nashville resident for sixteen years. This is for the city council meeting tonight for the public budget public hearing. Uh, what else? I'm commenting on the Asheville public Police Department. I believe that this should not be funded and any thoughts continued funding, excuse me, the recent events have shed light on the overabundance of power and resources available to the police and the need to invest in other forms of community protection and support. I'm requesting that you vote to not increase the Asheville Police Department budget for twenty Twenty-One. I recognize that restructuring A system that has existed for decades is difficult to imagine but recent events show the worst case scenario of policing too much power and not enough accountability a majority of police calls or for non-violent issues that could be handled by other entities example mental illness homelessness rape crime. Et cetera over the next year's. I would like to see Asheville shift Focus away from police as the only form of community protection to a diverse network of a specialized organization other examples of areas to divert funds include affordable housing after-school programs for youth reparations for the black community and public education and I'm sure you know along the lines of massive of uh education for the police force in decent wage and since since training going out and meeting the public and their Community every day on the streets actually talking to the to their own know the citizens, they protect and serve getting to know them anger management courses, and I know it's the few bucks. The few that are continuing the racism inequality all over this country, and yes, I'm outraged. Thank you for listening by.</p>	6/8/2020 4:05 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Olivia and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it brings divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual PDF budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses off eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funny and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:06 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Ally Larkin. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling about the Asheville fiscal year 2020 to 2021 annual operating budget proposal. I urge the city council to make a more overt and visible commitment to racial Justice or do not only to deny the budget increase, but to redirect this money away from the budget wage and instead reallocate this money towards sectors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality research shows that educational opportunities stable housing living wage is an access to holistic health services are far more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons with this in mind. We must make our communities safer by deducting from policing and instead of investing it in community-led Solutions concrete legislative actions must be taken. I urge the reallocation of the apd's budget be the first in a long list of these actions. I'm in full support of the black actual demands that were presented on Saturday to reiterate those demands for fifty percent of the apd's budget to be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting box startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for these essential policy shifts at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:06 PM	Budget
<p>Hey, good afternoon. My name is Amanda levalley, and I am a Nashville city resident. I've lived here now for ten years. I would like to comment on this year's upcoming annual budget. I not only would like Ashville to not give the police department that budget increase but I would like to see them cut about half of that page million and reinvest it in our communities. Um, I'd really like to see you guys support more black startups and black businesses eliminate the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and fund and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individuals individual officers accountable for their actions and for any misinformation that they're filing in reports. Um, I urge every city council member to support this essential policy shift at this critical juncture in our City's history. And I would love to see you take the Vance Monument down while you're at it. Thank you for listening by.</p>	6/8/2020 4:07 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Derrick. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council wage best from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including support of black startups and businesses wage eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers account, I would also like to urge the city to use the full amount of cares act Community Development block grant funds for residential assist rental assistant. I hope that I can count on life support for this essential policy shift is the crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:07 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Sophia and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed twenty twenty two Twenty-One budget in the wake of the police's killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into better social programs that address the causes not the effects of these issues. Please do not forget our palms and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:07 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is MC dehlinger and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies include the including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 4:08 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is a Hamilton resident of Asheville of for many years and a parent of two kids. I am seeing severe injuries in our local you simply for standing up and uniting for racial Justice and deep changes to our systems everyone in this city who was allowed this to happen should be ashamed especially including leadership. The police are attacking our youth there have been very serious injuries heads eyes lacerations off. Next are just some of the things I've seen this week. This is unacceptable. The police are shooting chemical weapons and projectiles at our youth and life supporting this movement and that needs to be stopped immediately. The Vance Monument needs to be removed and at this point I am in favor of wage.Refunding of the police department, which I do not see brings us Public Safety. I think that we need to deeply rethink our priorities and our budget currently shows what our priorities are which is repression of our youth repression of our communities of color. And uh, March away from Justice rather than towards Justice. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:08 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Michael keep Rose and I live in Nashville area and doing a lot of business in Asheville, and I am calling to voice my concerns about Police Department in Asheville, and how they have responded to protests and in a violent Manner and in a way that it's unsafe for Citizens Bank, and I'm calling to demand the defunding of police refunding of belief funding other organizations and groups to take over some of these people jobs that they should not be performing currently.Ask that y'all take a look at coming up with some plan in order to make the system better make the system much less racist not racist at all. Y'all need to do better.</p>	6/8/2020 4:08 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Chancey Rogers. I live in Ashville, North Carolina and I'm commenting on the fiscal year 20 20 to 21 for your City Council. Next year's budget. I believe we need to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the APD should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including Box start up business eliminating the original Gap funding and all civilian oversight committee with the powers to hold accountable urge you to support this essential policy. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:09 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Amy Miller. I live in Asheville and I am calling about the police funding increase and hoping that you guys will consider not giving birth and the \$400,000 increased and instead putting that money toward the things like affordable housing and um black non-profits in the area and off a fordable food and basically anything that can lift up our communities more than more of the violence we've seen. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:09 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Logan. And I'm a resident of Nashville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget back up for consideration. I urge the city council to divest from the police force and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I would also like to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance.yeah, I very much support the carries act and then that Grant because the issues were seeing in our city are bad with all the gentrification and other things so I'm urging you to Take take this step forward and I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:09 PM	Budget
<p>Good evening. This is Carol marks of Asheville North Carolina. I'm commenting on is public hearing item, v as in David. I support increasing Nashville firefighter pay to a minimum of \$15 an hour in last year's budget discussion, mister young stated bring up all who do not make fifteen dollars an hour including the firefighters. This was a year ago. You brought every employee up to that \$15 an hour wage, except the firefighters firefighters work nine hundred more hours per year than at two thousand and eighty hours worked per year or the 24 hour long shift is just that a shift of work in trade for pay time. A it's proven dead.Sleep interruptions and deprivation is not a positive for anyone's health and when they leave their shift, they go home and sleep worse. They go and work and took a job because as we all know the cost of living in Asheville is very high. There is no study to tell us that there is argument for compress the Voyages a plan can be created for that additional compensation for any fire fighter making fifteen an hour or more now. It's not reason to state that I am available. Now there were approximately three point seven million dollars from the carrot or any Transit need the city transit wage budget is in the same general fund budget as the firefighters payroll for Transit workers could shift to the care monies and the additional funds are now covered or it could be increasing.And part of the contingency budget fund can be used for that increase. There are solutions to this issue Simple Solutions, the community needs our firefighters to be that works caring and focused. They always have them they have never proven to be anything. Other than an excellent asset to this city all of its people and all of its jurists. Thank you Carol mark</p>	6/8/2020 4:09 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Andrew Wagner. I live in Asheville. I would like to comment on the last week's actions by the police force and after the fact that they need.</p>	6/8/2020 4:09 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is Dolores Stafford and I would just like to express my great dismay at the destruction that he did talk to the water and to the supplies that were there at that particular Point as the daughter of a law enforcement officer myself. I do support a police officers, but only when they do the right thing, and this was not the right thing. This truly was an inexcusable action, very unjustifiable, and I would like to see some more oversight of our local police department. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:09 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Chelsea Loftus. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I'm calling for an active defunding of Asheville Police Department in a freeze on hiring. I'm also calling to emphasize the Deep need for the ultimate revelation of the police department and its entirety and building of a community-led public safety model. I strongly believe that city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins the process of divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee job.Committee with the power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable. I hope I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:10 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Chris scammer. I'm a citizen of Asheville. I would like to encourage the city council to not increase the police budget and instead divest some money away from the police budget money and invest it in a marginalized communities in town to fund social workers and other alternative safe measures to keep our communities safe. I do not think about increasing a weaponized police force is the right move at this time. Thank you for considering my opinion.</p>	6/8/2020 4:10 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, Mary, mannheimer and the rest of Asheville city council. My name is Sally Timms and I am calling in today in regards to the proposed City budget that you're voting on on Tuesday, June 9th. And I noticed that within that proposed budget is a \$457,000 increase for the Asheville Police Department. Already. Thirty million dollars of our budget is spent on the actual police department and truly appalling to think of granting this department a single penny more especially after the horrific ways in which they responded to the Past week's protests in downtown. Not only were peaceful protesters including children that with tear gas and flash bangs with the APD intentionally sought out a medic station and destroyed hundreds of dollars worth of supplies dedicated to keeping Asheville citizens safe that is supposed to be the job of the police department. But the past week is proven in clear terms that the goal of the APD is to exert power and force over citizens not to keep us safe. Additionally. It has been proven time and again wage. That increased policing does not reduce crime and in some cases defunding police decreases crime rate. There are so many meaningful and productive ways. This money could be spent such as increasing public transport hours and provide citizens with free transport options paying firefighters living wage helping provide coronavirus release investing in local food and just housing transitioning to sustainable energy and so many more money and it's vital to acknowledge implicit biases and the systemic racism when we address the issues of police brutality targeting black people. The protests have have risen this week after the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, but that incident is not isolated and Asheville is not an exception to this pattern. If you truly care about the citizens of Asheville and you have been elected because we believe that you do I urge you to divert Public Funding to community building funds and public works as mentioned above additionally this past week. I have seen the same pictures of the APD destroying medication and meeting people protesters with violence. Yes. All over my social media from my friends and family around the country, and it has made me truly ashamed to be a citizen of Asheville North Carolina Minneapolis is leading the way and their city council has just announced that they intend to disband the Minneapolis Police Department, and I encourage you to do the same for Asheville at one time abolishing slavery was seen as a radical and insane proposition. And what is the police and the incarcerated State we live in if not a modern form of segregation and slavery. I encourage you and urge you and demand that you defund the Asheville Police Department and leave the way in abolishing Police Department to make room for community-based Public Safety. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:10 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Monica when I live in East Asheville, I'm calling in reference to the fiscal year 20 20 21 annual operating budget. The concern is increasing wage increase in the amount of budgeting for the actual police department. I do believe some of that money could be used more wisely in things like life Crisis Hotline Crisis Intervention Program where uh trained counselors can come to a situation that is Tom recharged instead of having police come with force and weapons. Also, I do believe that increasing the funding for school, especially after school programs and make sure your lower income areas would help decrease the potential for violence in our city. Thank you very much, and I hope to hear from the dead. Decision in the near future best wishes, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:11 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jasmine Whitmore and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget and the wake of the police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect em away from the Nashville police departments over inflated budget to programs that support color and fight racism such things as Housing Development and Education Act should be given the absolute priority. If you're really concerned about crime this money will go to things that improve quality of life and minimize maximize wage options besides crime. Do not forget our poor and communities are poor communities of color. I hope I can count on you to consider an alternate. Yep. That prioritizes social programs, especially given the horrendous treatment of protesters a Nashville resident by the police department they in no way should be rewarded for such brutal and on called for treatment.</p>	6/8/2020 4:11 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Melanie Goodman and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm writing in support of the black Asheville demand that we that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration urge city council to divest from the policy from the police and invest in black community 50% of the apd's budget money invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and fighting and all civil and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the AP the APD and in the individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this.essential policy shift at this crucial Joel sure in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:11 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Charlie Marcotte. I'm a resident here in Nashville with all that's been going on lately. I have a strong feeling that we could redirect some of our police funding towards more community actions, you know actions that would directly impact the lives of you know, those who are hurting right now. I think that redirection of money would seem very positive impact on the community and you know, I really want us to think about delaying this budget change or, you know, just for going it putting that money towards Worcester to new programs. I really thank you for listening to me today. Hope my voice is heard as long as the with the others in the community, please have a great day. Thanks. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:11 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Janine Tyler Jones, and I'm a business owner in Asheville, and I am calling to ask that there be a budget adjustment month and more divesting of money from the police to investing in Black communities. I also really want to see long-term safety strategies, um that wage are moving towards support and having Community involvement so that we don't have to move to violence and death situations that escalate easily. I want to see relational long-term strategies built-in. So I would ask that some of the public monies be moved in that direction. Thank you so much. My number is 828-712-6632. My name is Janine Tyler Jones. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:11 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Erica Mullis. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina and a registered nurse at Mission hospital. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin practicing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black Stardust and businesses off eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thanks for your time by.</p>	6/8/2020 4:11 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Gareth medvec. I am a resident of Asheville and I am commenting on the fiscal year 2022 2100 operating budget. I'm calling to see to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing from police in a dress in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department budget should be interested in long-term safety strategies and concluding support and black start-up business Illuminating the racial opportunity to happen Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers wage accountable. I urge every council member can support the central policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:11 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Andrew Wagner. I live in Ashville, North Carolina. I would like to comment on the police chief David Zack needs to be fired off. His police force is war crimes against peaceful protesters are absolutely appalling. He has radicalized a section of the city name is no longer in the public trust. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:11 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Wendy Williams. I live in the city of Asheville. I own a small business and I was calling to comment about reforms of the police department. I love the police department, but they are over-reaching severely if we could move funds to number one increase pay of incoming people. Then we would get a better crop phone number to give some some type of stipend so they can actually live in the city living in the city and being part of the community is a huge part of the police wage job and none of them hardly can afford to live in the city or in the community Staples, which pretty huge disconnect between the public and police. Nobody knows any of each other off and all input part of the money. They've been sending on military gear towards more training 850 hours is not enough for training. That's yep. For the hairdresser needs to cut hair. That's ridiculous. I'll put it toward de-escalation training Mental Health Training in the escalation. Keys tools and also put it towards body cams. Although we already bought him. Although I'm brought up and reprimanded for not treating a political criminal but not charged with anything and found that it was charged or they falsely accused someone then they used to put on their permanent record. And if it happens, then using the hell out and note it on a nationwide database or Statewide database. So other counties in jurisdictions. Can they do that. They have a bad cop a loose cannon on their guns. It's not acceptable that there's no tracking of these situations. Thank you so much for your help. And I hope you listen to these comments and I hope to see some and I would love to have some cooperation with the protests both walk as and our protest it would go a long way off. to help fix their reputation in the city, which breaks my heart what's happening? So if they could actually support the next, that would be fantastic and also join in March and protect the peaceful protesters from the losers, that would be great. Thank you so much and have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 4:12 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Charles Lee and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black actual demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police deny. The proposed \$400,000 budget increase and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial the opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the apda the visual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture and our city cities history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:12 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Caleb Emerson. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the 20 2021 or a 2021 budget. I'm asking that the city council make a more often invisible commitment to racial Justice. I demand that the budget vote be delayed so that the council may find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget. I urge You Tube app to the city manager or the city manager's office towards an ethical and equal reallocation of the Cities expenditure away from ATD and towards sectors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality research shows that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at Renee's crime think police or presents do not forget our poor and communities of colors justice will only be served when police are reformed and this will not be possible and yep. To fund them can I count on you to consider an alternative budget that puts the focus on social service programs. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:12 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Jake Calloway. And I'm in Asheville City resident. I'm calling to Urgent City to use the cares act Community Development block grant.</p>	6/8/2020 4:12 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Chloe Green and I live in Nashville. I would like to see a portion of our funding for the police department to be redistributed into the housing crisis and back into our communities and education systems. I would also like to make a statement against the use of tear gas and rubber bullets against protesters as the attack are in direct violation of the First Amendment which protects our freedom of speech the press the right of the people to peaceably assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances. The people of Asheville have a right to assembly with the police departments duty to protect our constitutional rights.</p>	6/8/2020 4:12 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Terri harshbarger, and I live in outside of the Asheville City Limits and I watched what happened to that medic station. I am appalled and angered about those police officers. They went against the Geneva Convention that needs to be dealt with. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:12 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Grace angle. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual offer officers accountable. I urge every city council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:13 PM	Budget
<p>Hello. My name's Elliot Miller. I'm a resident of Asheville for the last six years. Um, and I just wanted to say that I will be watching very closely based on what city council decides to do with the increase in Asheville Police Department budget and which I opposed wage listening. Um, hope that you made the correct choice.</p>	6/8/2020 4:13 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Bridget Bollinger. I would like to make note that I disapprove of a budget increase for the Asheville Police Department police disproportionately use Force against black people and are more likely to arrest and imprison them. I would like to see their budget reduced and reallocated to support people and services. It's time we end the culture of punishment wage and invest in our Asheville communities. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:13 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Graham Webb, and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in communities fifty percent of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and the individual officers accountable. I urge every council member has to support this essential policy shift at this point in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:13 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Peter and show I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina. I'm leaving a voicemail and support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget and consideration. I strongly urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term same strategies including supporting black startups and business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to both the APB and individual officers accountable. I hope I can count on you for your support and ours and your support of these demands so that we can move Asheville forward beyond that prepared statement that aligns with black demands are black demands. Minnesota is leading the way to potentially fully defund and disband birth.Police Department is Asheville really wants to align with this message that we're a place for for mental healing Community engagement and the interaction with the name that surrounds us. Um, we should be aligning with the values of Minnesota is presenting where the community should be the ones providing Mental Health Services and potentially policing for our community that I strongly urge you guys to look at the budget as you've had it for years that increases funding for the police instead of increases funding for Education Community bout reach and Environmental Management. It's an absolute disgrace that our police budget outweighs these essential Services by almost 30 to 50 times depending on the service and I highly encourage you if you guys want to stay in the offices that you were voted into by the People by the residences residents of Asheville, North Carolina that you see dead.Birds of people leaving these voice mails because your position relies on us believing in you and right now nobody believes in you defund the police. Thank you for your time, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:13 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi there. My name is Rebecca lebleu. I've been a resident of Asheville North Carolina going on fourteen years and I'm calling in regards to the budget for the upcoming school year. It's specifically like to comment on the proposed increase to the APD budget which is as I understand an increase of about \$400,000 on top of an already took \$300 million dollar budget and in light of what we've seen going on across the country as well as their own Community. I'd like to urge our Council to reconsider this proposed increase even going as far as to say to actively defund actual police department by at least fifty percent. I believe that we've seen on a national and local scale that the police policing each other phone does not work and it has not worked on many occasions in our own community and overhaul of training after incidents of police brutality has not really LED fog.Any sort of notable decrease in these incidences and so I believe that the only way to effectively assure the safety of our community is to allow the people that are members of that Community to do what majority of that work. Therefore. I asked that at least fifty percent of that actual police department budget be redirected directly into black communities back into black businesses and startups and also through rental support and affordable housing. I also believe that the money should be used to close not just the achievement but more appropriately the opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools. And last as far as Public Safety is concerned. I believe that this money should go toward creating a civilian oversight committee filled by black people people of color that are able to oversee the actions of decreased Police Department again, police policing each other even after over dead.And training, um doesn't do the work that we need to need it to do to keep people in this community safe, and if we reallocate that these funds to actual communities that are affected by police brutality. We can prevent unnecessary violence against people of color by police and communities that don't belong to them in which they don't understand or Handle With Care. I believe we watch Cops to do too much in this country as well as in the city and that is imperative that we take a first step as a so-called so-called liberal City back to you know, put our money where our mouth is in in remedy these problems without waiting to follow some national directive. It is our job to do this first. Thank you so much for allowing the comment and I urge you to follow through. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:13 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, I'm calling to voice my support for defunding the police in Asheville. My name is Lisa Britton Washburn. My number is 843-475-3433. And my zip code is 28803.</p>	6/8/2020 4:13 PM	Budget
<p>Ashley. My name is Donna Mac. It needs to be on Saturday.</p>	6/8/2020 4:13 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi there, my name is Robin Carter. I'm calling to express my support for demilitarizing defending and dismantling the Asheville City police. I am a white woman who has been the victim of multiple crimes committed by white men throughout my life and the police have been in my experience worse than useless. They don't go after the white men committing crimes. Um typically in my experience especially the man is rich and can afford a lawyer. They think it's too hard. I don't feel like a paper especially when so many police abuse their spouses and sexually assault the public women in the public. I'm sure men. Mm. Yeah, and they just have been harassing and brutalizing our communities of color and I think that we can do a lot a lot better with people who are educated seriously education.And trained in the escalation mental health sexual assault and the consequences of poverty and I think that we should take the ridiculously inflated budget of millions and millions of dollars and redirect that into the social programs the housing the poverty release the education the things that actually make a difference in people's lives instead of brutal our communities of color and murdering are black Citizen. Please take this. Seriously. We do not have to have police departments. We don't suck I said in my experience they have been less than than effective and I also want to bring up the fact that there is a man in this town Shawn Johnson who they still have not corrected fight having uh evidence that he has committed multiple forgery which is what George Floyd was murdered for Shawn Johnson has done this on multiple documents and he has done a game.A lot of other bad stuff to the community and they have not acted on it because he is a rich white man. So, uh, yeah, please take this seriously do the right thing. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:13 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Kim women and I am a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares active Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it back in a vesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies in clubs supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight commission with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you for listening.</p>	6/8/2020 4:14 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Scott. Slusser. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to encourage the city council to adjust the budget like that vesting in police and investing in Black communities in the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including black startups and businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap and the city schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable with each City Council Members support this policy and ship and shift at this juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:14 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Sage Hopkins and I grew up in Nashville. And I'm also currently a resident I went to Asheville. Hi, I'm twenty-five and I I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares Act. To the Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins with testing the from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountants, but I just think that now is a great opportunity for Asheville to become a leader in anti-racist wage in the South. Thank you for listening to my voicemail.</p>	6/8/2020 4:14 PM	Budget
<p>Good afternoon. My name is Amy Weisner. I am a resident in Asheville, North Carolina. I am also a teacher at Ashville high school and have been dead for the last sixteen years. My children are students in Asheville City Schools as well. And I'm calling about tomorrow's city council meeting in hopes that each member of the city council will divest at least fifty percent of the city's police department and use those funds to reinvest in Nashville's black community. I was a part of the protest the security team. Come on set during Saturday's March. I attended the space communities of protest and speaking on Thursday. We're here Miller and and Aeris timer spoke as well as other leaders in our city. I hope that the quad action is being loud and clear. And again that that definite in our police department will happen along with reinvestment in Black owned businesses black community center wage and our students in in Black leaders who will help close the opportunity that's been in our schools for so long. Thank you again Amy Weisner.</p>	6/8/2020 4:14 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Michelle and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget and the week off the police's killing of George fluid in Minneapolis and countless black Americans beforehand I'm asking about the Asheville City Council made this commitment to racial Justice scheduling the budget mode and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget and two programs likeThe for the homeless shelter the black lives matter of Asheville off. There's so many other programs that could use this money other than the post. Don't forget our poor job in conveying the color and I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:15 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Amelia Ruben and I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration wage urged city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startup and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools in Buncombe County Schools. That's different issue and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial Junction in our City's history. Also, I'm a public school teacher in Buncombe County and I just our budget didn't even get approved this year. Most of my students are black. How can we be saying that we're starting a black community when we don't even properly fund education, please. Police don't need full riot gear schools need more teachers to meet the needs of our students. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:15 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Christina Lusby and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black actual demands that were presented on Saturday. It's a budget up for consideration. I urge City council's to divulge Gentiles and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business office, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable month. I hope that I can count on you for your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 4:16 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hello, my name is bahram. Bulla. I have been a Nashville resident for around five years now, and I'm calling to request that city council defund the Asheville Police Department section of the budget for 20 21, um various black leaders and black organizers with a Nashville have created a list of Demands, uh, in which the money be placed elsewhere wage. I requested city council consider these demands and make the choice of this community needs please stop.	6/8/2020 4:16 PM	Budget
My name is Wyatt Roper and I would like to ask city council to defund the police.	6/8/2020 4:16 PM	Budget
Hi, this is Rachel. I am calling from the city of Asheville in the item. I'm commenting on is the fiscal year 20 20 21 annual operating budget. I am a resident Nashville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget to be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and the individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift as it's crucial juncture in our City's history.	6/8/2020 4:17 PM	Budget
My name is Christina. We'll see and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to dive bomb in the police and invest in black community fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committees with the power to hold the TV and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on you for your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.	6/8/2020 4:17 PM	Budget
Hello, my name is Elizabeth Ellington. I'm calling concerning the city budget in the vein of Lucky in our community and not in police action would suck to not give Police Department before hundred-thousand-dollar boost. You were intending on getting them that money should be invested in Small Business Development affordable housing and not making our city. I moved toward solar power. I there are an awful lot of community agencies already doing this work green opportunities has been doing that work. They also serve who incidentally or not do a lot of work with so different color, you know, we should be moving our city towards a sustainable future and making job opportunities and business opportunities for our wage president since we spent years destroying our black business dress direct with red line and policies, um, something resembling a you know, City business incubator could be fully funded by that 400 off.\$1. I don't think we should start anything new. There's people already doing good work with structures established on the ground. We need to take that \$400,000 and put it towards Community Development for groups that are already doing work here. We need to be focusing on Small Business Development and green Small Business Development. Thank you very much.	6/8/2020 4:17 PM	Budget
Hi, my name is Shelley Jackson. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to speak against the funding of the Asheville Police Department. I was reading about the budget the annual budget and how a very disproportionate amount of money is going to the police department mean a city schools and libraries and the County's Public Safety budget are completely unattended to this is totally unacceptable. And this is not the sign of a progressive Nation. We need to stop finding the police and is the citizen of this city. I believe the Asheville is just the right size to make these changes and to just listen to the people listen to what they want. It's unacceptable to spend 30 million dollars on the police. It's too much to ask of birth.To take care of all this also so we need to defund the police he find the police and and increased funding for schools first and finest schools, especially in black neighborhoods. Thank you for listening to our voices.	6/8/2020 4:17 PM	Budget
Hello, this is one of your constituents over in enka-candler. And we're just calling to let you know that we support any measures you take to distance yourself from the police department took. We're anxious to see a condemnation of the actions taken against the medical personnel and the water bottles during the protests and we're anxious to see much more support from the city for just defunding and redistributing funds into communities that need funding like minority and black communities off. Thank you very much and best of luck to you all in your discernment.	6/8/2020 4:17 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Travis Carter, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest by 50% from the police and invest that money into eliminating the racial opportunity Gap. This time is better spent in Asheville City Schools expanding Community Health mental Mental Health Services increasing black homeownership and increasing economic opportunities for black owned businesses now is the time to make brave moves toward a just future for all of Asheville. I hope I can count on your support in this critical moment in our City's history black lives matter on Cherokee land. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:18 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Heather Miracle. I'm a citizen of of the city of Asheville and commenting on public hearing item. Not item D. Excuse me, the annual operating budget wage. My comment is that I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business with eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools, especially in funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the ABD and individual officers accountability account all thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:18 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Loren Bolden calling in regard to the Asheville 20-21 proposed budget for the city. I have been in Asheville North Carolina resident for about five years now and I am calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. Um, I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating racial eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you so much. I'm asking this on behalf of the Asheville Community. It is what we need. It is the step toward a better future and it's a step toward abolishing systemic racism. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:18 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Amelia tokarski. I live in Canton and I work in Asheville and I am calling to come in on the public hearing item be the proposed budget for the coming year. I'm calling us that you'd be fund the police and instead prioritize social services and Equity initiatives the police do not need more money. They need less power. They have overstepped their bounds far too many times and I cannot be trusted 50% of a PDS budget should be invested in initiatives to support black businesses eliminate the opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and fund an oversight committee to hold the police accountable. If you are not ready to follow the Revolutionary example of Minneapolis and disband the police all together and the least you can do is defend them and start figuring out what alternatives to policing you can Institute in this city long. You have seen the thousands of people in the streets over the past week. You have heard their voices and you have heard the demands of the black community in Nashville. The people who have suffered the most at the hands of this city gentrification and the 5D. If you are not ready to drop everything to listen to them and try to do anything, you can to meet those demands then you are not listening to the citizens of Asheville and you do not deserve a seat on City Council. Please define the police. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:18 PM	Budget
<p>Jimmy Garcia about holding the cops accountable for pulling up the medication on box. I think so. Clear to me, they need to you know by their paper what they did.</p>	6/8/2020 4:18 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Summer Willis. I'm a resident of Asheville. I am commenting on the proposed budget increase for the APD. My comment is directly from the black Asheville demands as I stand with the black community and support their demands one hundred percent. We demand a divestment from the police and an investment in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to both the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you. Please do not allow the budget increase for the APD.</p>	6/8/2020 4:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Sarah and I am calling to comment on the proposed increase to the police budget. I would like to urge city council to not increase the budget for the police and to instead put that money to good use helping out the community especially are marginalized communities. I believe that the majority of the city agrees with me in this and I believe you have seen that very evident as well. That would just urge the mayor and the city council to take them to heart. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:19 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Donna. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday. I ordered city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities. At least fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term. Say do salute safety strategies, including supporting black Starbucks and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you very much. If you'd like to reach me. My phone number is 828-674-1245. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 4:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Jason Thompson and I am a resident of Asheville. I am calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were protested on Saturday with them back up for consideration urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities to 50% of the apd's back to be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I would also like to urge the city to use the full amount of the Care Act Community Development block grant.Trains for rental assistance. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift of this crucial juncture in our City's history. I appreciate it. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Spencer Stephens. I'm a resident of Asheville. I have an open comments at a city council meeting of April 9th 2020 as we have seen in public relations between Iraq and the public are pretty tense right now. I am seeing and experiencing a lot of them is just in the way our local government is handling violent actions will loose I'd like to propose one form of attar's totally over Deuce. Councilman, Bryan Hayes proposed several months ago that budget be cut by 1.2 million dollars, which I fully support. It's only four percent of the twenty-seven million BPD receives currently and in addition to that. I'd like to propose that the funding be spent on public defenders of district 28 funding for public defenders is Christian was time and would be one small step towards mending current issues. That is all. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:19 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Tiffany poke and I live in Weaverville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin diverging from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountants. May I urge every council member to support this essential policy policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. I'm really excited and heartened to hear back happening in Minneapolis. And and I feel really hopeful that we as a community as a community can take steps to grow and evolve in this way Jose. much</p>	6/8/2020 4:20 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Davion young. I lived in Nashville for three almost four years. Now. I work for covid-19, which does racial Equity philanthropies. I'm calling because I want to decrease the funding for the police department. I know you have a proposed budget of almost \$400,000 and I'm asking you to not approve this budget increase specifically. I am calling to ask for 50% of that budget to be directed back into the community for the money budgeting process. Um, I'm also asking for part of that to go to removing the fans and Robert E. Lee monuments around the city.And on top of that. I just want to stress that I want the city council and this funding and also just just the work that y'all do to start thinking about ending systematic harms inflicted on black people by the city of Asheville, and by the federal police department, so thank you so much for sharing this comment, and I hope that you listen to the community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:20 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Julian Atherton. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with a budget for consideration. I urge to be counseled today. That's from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety package, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and sending an an all civilian oversight committee off the power to hold a t p a t a p d and individual officers accountable. I hope that you can count on your support for this essential policy shift.And this and our City's future. Thank you very much. Good. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:20 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Elizabeth Underwood. I am not a 27-year Nashville resident and I operate a business on Eagle Street downtown. I would like to express that I would very much like there to be an investigation into the behavior of the Asheville Police Department in regards to the protests around the Georgia stuff. Thank you very much. I appreciate your work and your consideration.</p>	6/8/2020 4:20 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is Amanda Flores. I am a resident of Asheville, North Carolina, and I am calling to impose a substantial budget increase you the police for until they can take accountability for extreme force with peaceful protesters wage. I think what has been shown in Asheville with the medication is absolutely unacceptable. We are supposed to be a progressive City. I would like to see that progressiveness move towards more moral standings in our black community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Jenna Graham and I am a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think that the city council needs to adjust the budget so that it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to home and individual officers accountable. Thank you for helping me to trust that. I can count on your support it look forward to learning more tomorrow at the meeting.</p>	6/8/2020 4:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hello. My name is Eugenia Borkowski sypherd, and I'm calling to ask you to do the following things to defund the police department and strip them of their military equipment. I'm calling for comprehensive training in the escalation in violence situations and also for people with mental health issues or with addiction issues. I don't think police officers should be the number one responders for those situations. I'm calling to require to ask that body cams are required on all officers. And the body cams are required to be turned on before they go into a call back. I think that there needs to be much more training and education there needs to be a mandatory mandatory degree in criminal justice or something equivalent to that in order to a police officer the amount of time and training that goes into being a police officer is ridiculous. I think that every single use of force needs to be investigated by birth. Party legal counsel, and I'm calling for full accountability for illegal actions and harsher penalties for breaking the law for police officers. Thank you for your time, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Grand Angel. And I'm in a I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget in the wake of police is killing the void Minneapolis and countless Americans before him I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget boat and using this time to find ways to redirect the money from Nashville police departments over inflated budget wage the local interracial communities and back into the school system and into preserving mountains all around us back and and eating that the confusion you really need to thrive especially in times like this pandemic. Do not forget our poor and comedian color. Can I count on you to consider it alter a budget proposal that puts a priority on our social programs. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Katherine are Barak and I'm calling in regards to defunding the Asheville Police. I feel like it's a necessary measure and would be interested in any first name. Information on that happening. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:21 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Jesse Reiner. I have a resident of Asheville. I'm promising on the proposed budget increase for the APD I, is directly from the black demands as I stand with the black community of Astral and support their demands one hundred percent. We demanded investment from the police and investment in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including sporting black startups businesses and limiting the racial opportunity Gap and National City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold off a p d and individual officers accountable. Please do not allow the budget increase for the APD. Thank you, Jessie reyez.</p>	6/8/2020 4:21 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Madison. I'm a resident Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the month lease department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:21 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Kelly Miller Asheville, and I was calling to urge the city to adjust the budget for the actual police department and said that it would be important to divest from the police department and investment black community for long-term safety strategies such as my start-up business wage is eliminating the racial opportunity Gap National City schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable and would encourage council members to support that policy shift particularly at this time. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:21 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, my name is Christine Hester. And I've just heard about what the police officers did for the Asheville protesters this weekend, and I just wanted to call and say I'm outraged the chief should lose his job. I come from a police family my father his father three cousins and lots of friends some retired something along the course you're getting them and the others the good ones a black guy. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:21 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is Rachel Reser. I am a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to comment on the budget. I would like to share my support of the black Asheville demands that were presented at the march on Saturday, with the budget up for for consideration. And I understand it's only for one year. So why don't we do something different this year. I am urging city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities invest in things like long-term safety strategies supporting black startups and businesses wage and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools, which is a thing that has been plaguing our city for years. It would also be great to fund them all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable when I first learned of these demands, I found it to be dead. Difficult thing to ask you all for and it does seem like these are some big changes that would take a lot of time the more I consider these asks and the more I research and listened to tanahashi Coates speaking with Ezra Klein to Michelle Alexander and different people who have a shared what it might look like to reallocate funds from police forces the more I learned and now I feel strongly that these initiatives need to be exposed and implemented the black community in Asheville needs to be recognized heard and lifted up many other cities are acting quickly to uh, restructure their choice Force take down Confederate monuments change street names. There's other cities making bold changes and changes not easy. It's going to take more work on your part as our song. Leaders, do you guys want to be change makers or do you want to keep up with the status quo which here in Nashville? And in most parts of our country do not adequately support people of color. We all have the responsibility to listen to our black neighbors, especially those of us who are white have the responsibility I listen to our black neighbors and to work towards policy changes that benefit people of color. Are black community members deserve that and they deserve a hell of a lot more from us as well. And if we truly believe in equity then we will work to push these policy changes as creative and interesting as they maybe I hope that I can count on your support for this.</p>	6/8/2020 4:22 PM	Budget
<p>This is Michelle. I pulled I live in Ashville. I'd like to leave a comment about the budget proposal for 2021 with all of the different killing and Murder by police of by black Americans. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice and delay the budget vote and find ways. I direct the money. Please. Don't forget about our poor and communities of color, and I really hope that we can count on you to to make the right choice. Thanks. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:22 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Victoria Hall and I live in Asheville. I'm calling to ask you for funding to be redirected away from the APD and put towards Continuum of Care projects such as there to housing project support for domestic violence violence survivors, as well as other projects and programs that contribute to affordable housing and educational resources and minority populated areas as well as EBT food stamps furthermore an effort to curb and Rachel targeting. I asked the performance quotas be reviewed and eliminated. So the police officers are not in incentivized to Target minorities. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:22 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Yes. Hello. My name is Josiah McGee. I am a small business owner in Asheville, North Carolina. I'd like to leave a message regarding public hearing item D proposed to 2221 annual budget. Um, I would like to support defunding of police. I believe that the action the decision to add more money to the budget of the police department is wrong, and I think you guys need to stop that. But thank you very much. Please listen to the people and do what the people say. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:22 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Carol in general. I've lived in Nashville for about six years now after attending morals in college. I just wanted to call and say that I agree with a lot of people who are calling, asking actual city council to please redistribute the budget. Um, I think that the police are getting too much money, and they certainly do not need to be given more. Um and approved for more this nation Council. There are a lot of other organizations that need that money especially schools have a sustainability initiatives and your initiatives to work with equity and inclusion. Those are definitely much more important in building a better Society for everybody who lives in Asheville. Hope you have a good day. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:22 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Molly Harold, and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'd like to leave my comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless Americans before him I'm asking the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the Asheville police departments over and Faith budget into alternative programs, including therapeutic support education Crisis Support domestic violence, please don't forget our poorer communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on our social programs? Thank you. And I appreciate you for considering my words by.</p>	6/8/2020 4:22 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Marissa and I am a Buncombe County resident and I'm calling to voice my concerns over the proposed budget. It's absolutely insane that 30 million dollars would go to the police bulb or a hundred and something thousand go to equity and inclusion. We won't stand for it, and you'll find us at your doorstep again if you vote for this, so, please consider the people who you're supposed to represent. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:22 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Courtney. I'm from West Asheville. And I'm commenting on public hearing item. D i support raising the pay of city employees to Fifteen dollars an hour. But every employee should have been included in that pay raise like the 77th firefighters who are excluded using the firefighters schedule structure as a reason for not paying them more is just an excuse an hour work is an hour worked. And right now firefighters are being paid less to work more make it right actual city council and quit saying value their work show them give the \$15 hour minimum two firefighters. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:22 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Priya Ray and I was calling to leave a comment about the Deep divesting money from the Asheville Police Department into the community particularly the black community the disabled community and the lgbtq community. So my what I'm saying, I'm pleased I invest money from the police department and invest in our communities. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:22 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Walter Hill and I am a resident of Asheville North Carolina. I am unable to attend the meeting tomorrow, but I want my voice to be heard as a voter and a taxpayer. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget and the wake of the police is Kathy Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget votes and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville Police Department over inflated budget and into black small businesses into our communities of color. And into other social program do not forget our poor and our communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:23 PM	Budget
<p>Hello. I'm a resident of Asheville and calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act funds for rental assistance office. I also think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in black community 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term strategies, including supporting black startups business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and the funding and all civilian oversight committee off the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:23 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Pauline Phillips and I am calling from Asheville NC and I would just like to say. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance for the more I think six Council needs to adjust the budget. So begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities, at least fifty percent of these budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies in class is recording black startups and black businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committees with the power of the two homes AP D and individual officers accountable. The other night when we were protesting was the first time I've seen our community actually filled with our community members including black lives matter individuals and people at the black community wage actually going to enjoy downtown for the first time in a while. I want our funds to reflect that in to protect them. Thank you for your time. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:23 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Molly come early. I have been in resident of Asheville for thirty years. I am calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think city council needs to adjust the budget so that it begins to investing from the police and investing in Black communities. I think fifty percent of a PDF budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools. Also defending funding and also to send overnight wage state committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that we can count on you and your support for this. Shift at this crucial juncture of our City's history. I've been here for a long time. I've seen a lot of changes and they're not all good. We really need to get it together. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:23 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Pearl Farley. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to comment on the fiscal year 2020 to 2021 annual operating budget, this is Pearl Farley, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual offer officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:23 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Hannah Peterman. I'm a resident of Asheville and I am calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with a budget up for consideration and city council the council. Please divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget really should be invested in long-term. Safety strategies, like supporting black star. Sandberg. This is eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I like to to urge the city to use the full amount of the Care Act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I hope that I can count on you to support the suspension policy shift. This is really a unique opportunity for Asheville to be a leader and the world in our country and our state um, and it Jeff. And for the sake of human lives, thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:23 PM	Budget
<p>Hey, my name is John Kenneth. I am a citizen of Asheville live in the southern portion, and I'm calling in regards to the \$400,000 allotment wage increase to the APD for this next budget, and I'm calling to express my concern that there is not very often do studies shown to invent an increase in budget will increase uh-uh efficiency within a police department. They are already dead using their budget against the community in the forms of right here and tear gas and we need to step that back and reallocate that fund towards a more community-based initiative. But yes, my name is John Smith. I support this message, and thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:24 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Veronica Weber, and I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina more specifically Shiloh. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting the police and investigate black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety charges, including supporting black star types of businesses eliminating the racial wage in Asheville City schools, and as a teacher, I firmly believe this in funding and all civilian oversight team with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable page every Council number to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much for listening, and I hope you do the right thing. Thanks. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:24 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, I'm Isaiah McKenzie. And I lived in Asheville North Carolina since nineteen ninety seven for most of my entire life. I just wanted to call and say that I think that we need to divest from the police in a serious way starting immediately. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget and start investing from the police and investing in actual black is in Asheville that I mean need support. Now more than ever fifty percent of the eighties budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including home supporting black startups and businesses and eliminating eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountants. And that's all I have to say. I hope that you think about that and listen to your constituents.</p>	6/8/2020 4:24 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Lee Edwards. And I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance for the more I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating racial.Opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the powers to hold the APD and individual officers accountable for the more. I'd like to ask that the budget increased be sent to Transit homeless stability and education versus the actual police department. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:24 PM	Budget
<p>All right, my name is Noah. I live in Nashville. I don't see any reason to increase the police budget. I think we should decrease it. I think if there's crime in our community is not so by sending around armed officers with guns to solve problems that they are incapable of solving. I think that also the fact that you see them destroying Geared for protesters and just generally beating throwing tear gas at and just abusing actual residents protesting our rights and protesting police brutality against black people. I think it just is a sign that they are not a necessary part of the community, and they're clearly not here to protect and serve defined them. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:24 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is I'm a Hispanic resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I would love to see fifty percent of our budget invested in safer and longer-term strategies to keep the residents of Asheville safe and connecting wage and diversity supporting black startups Hispanic Latino communities and other minorities. Uh, I firmly believe as a naturalist that the diversity of the forest of a healthy ecosystem reflects. In fact in the way humans interact in communities, and I really believe that The way that we treat each other and treat the minorities in the city we can make small changes, but I firmly believe we will all benefit from investing in each other and people that struggle uh with education investing in education and general awareness. Opportunities for people and struggling. Thank you so much for listening. Again. This is. He's really hoping to be more involved in taking action with the and and being involved with the government local government. So really appreciate what everybody's doing a recall doing our best. So, I'm really thankful to live in in the city of Asheville. Thank you so much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:24 PM	Budget
<p>But hey, they're just adjusting Spagnola. A telephone number is 315-436-1382. I was calling to let you know that I fully support the demands made by our black leaders in our community. I believe in defending the actual to Police Department demilitarizing the police department. I think it's wrong to the police department to threaten violence or use violence against peaceful protesters. Very very unhappy that y'all let this happen. You're supposed to be leaders. We need you to be talking leader right now.I think the city council needs to adjust the budget and begin to vesting from the police and investing in Black communities half of the APD budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including black businesses startups eliminating racial opportunity racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools in funding that all the civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual police department page individuals officers accountable. I would like to be able to count on your support for this policy shift at this juncture in our City's history on the property owner and I am the owner like you to consider my opinions and realize that I represent the voice of a lot of other people in this town. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:24 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Anne Reese. I live in Nashville feeling about the city of Asheville budget for twenty Twenty-One. I support the increase in the fire fire fire fire fire fighters minimum wage to a minimum of \$15 an hour there on the front lines and deserve to be well paid.</p>	6/8/2020 4:25 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, I'm Joy Smith. I live in West Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city council to adjust next year's budget. I would like to see us the money from the police department and invest in Black communities. Fifty percent of the Astro Police Department's budget could get invested in long-term safety strategies supporting black start-up businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville school and spending it all civilian oversight committee with power to hold the Asheville Police Department and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift in this crucial Junction of our history. We have had issues of racial abuse and the police department and I would like to see it off and I would think that one addressing this issue with the officers and to setting it up to where the black community has more access to public funds to Services both in schools, and otherwise, thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:25 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Magnolia Wilson, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that we presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration wage. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the AP and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:25 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Matthew lamb and I am a resident of preferred. I'm calling to urge to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the month lease and investing in Black communities 50% of the police all ask Tayo Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses am dating the racial opportunity Gap in National City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable tires. Every council members support the central policy issue of two at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:25 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Rose fairly. Um, I moved to Asheville in 2015 and I've been living in Asheville Weaverville and now currently in the Marshal area for the last five years. I'm calling about the public hearing item D the budget. I'm calling to request that the council declined to increase the police budget. I think instead of adding funding to the police. We should be looking at the rules. Please are currently performing in our community and think about other ways Thursday might be better served by uh other other roles such as um, you know, supporting people's mental health supporting supporting their um, physical health and well-being, um, supporting um, community-based organizations that can suck. Can provide critical services that are actually better equipped than the police to do that particular work and in particular we should be listening to our black community that right now, uh to make sure that they have the resources the funding that they need in order for their health and well-being to flourish in our community. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:25 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Alice instrument Gilliam and I live in Ashville, North Carolina. And I would like to be coming down the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. I am calling to urge City to address next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the police police budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses, eliminating the racial opportunity gaps in the city schools and funding in all citizen oversight committee with the power to place a p d and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential shift in policy, and it's crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 4:25 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Ryan Sweeney. I'm a resident of the city of Asheville. And I stand unified with the black lives movement. Um, I we demand that divestment from the police investment in black comedians who demand repair for the past and continuing harms and puts them actual black community. We demand an end to the war on black people not just individual accountability for Officers Club after legal or violent use of force before accountability for the entire actual police department. We demand that you've follow the rest of the demands put forth by the black lives movement here in Nashville, and that the actual police department be dissolved and replaced with a d escalation task force thinking.</p>	6/8/2020 4:25 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Justin Hall. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I want some I want my representatives to support the black lives AVL demands off. I hope I can I hope I can count on you for this support. I show up every every voting term and this is something that's important to me and something that I will be checking into and I will remember your stance on these, um important important steps to reach a more Equitable future months 50% of 88 TDS budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I I went to school here. I saw the racial inequality from from Isaac Dickson to Asheville middle to Asheville High. I thought I saw it firsthand and um, it's it's 20 20 all so let's do this.</p>	6/8/2020 4:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Leah Fagan. I am a resident of Asheville and I'm commenting on the proposed budget increase for the actual police department. My comment is directly from the black box. And as I stand with the black community of Asheville and support their demands one hundred percent. We demand to divestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% of a PDS budget should be addressed and long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with a month to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Please do not allow the budget increase for the APD. Thank you Leah Fagan.</p>	6/8/2020 4:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there, this is Alex lapis. I'm a resident of Henderson County and I'm calling in regards to the budget. We need to define the police. It looks like our communities of color need our help and support them.</p>	6/8/2020 4:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Emma Carmona. And I am a resident of Black Mountain. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Community Development block grant funds for a rental assistance for the furthermore. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from police and investing in Black communities off 50% of apts budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in the six schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Kat Davis black. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm commenting on fiscal year 2020-2021 operating budget I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police investing in Black communities. So, um 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business eliminating a racial opportunity job in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every said councilmember to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. I really appreciate you taking the time to listening listening to message and the message of others around centering putting more emphasis in centering black communities and black lives off due to what is husband happening and what is happening in our country and in a world, so I appreciate it and look forward to seeing how this pans out. Thanks a lot again president of Asheville, North Carolina. Thanks, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Iris Rountree, and I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think in the city council meeting. We need to assign a 2 beginning to begin to die fast the money from the police and invest it back into the black communities. I wanted to voice this concern and I hope you all show your support for this essential policy shift as we are in a crucial juncture in our nation's history, but also on a local level in Jersey City sister as well. Thank you so much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Andrew Whigham and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust the next year's budget need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be. Invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with them to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every city council member to support this essential policy shift in the in the crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:26 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Dave Alexander. I live in Asheville, North Carolina. I'm a city resident. I support increasing firefighter pay to the minimum fifteen dollars an hour. I can't believe we would consider raising pay for all other city employees and ignore fireman. That's extremely underpaid and do a dangerous job and do a benefit to the community. Please consider raising their pay the fifteen an hour at least including overtime.</p>	6/8/2020 4:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Bianca Greg. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demand present at this last Saturday. I urged city canceled to divest from the police and invest in public entities 50% as a PDF budget should be invested in the long-term safety strategies, including supporting black stripes and businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity to have an actual schools and Buncombe County schools at all area schools, including private and public schools and finding an all civilian oversight committee with power to hold a p d and individual officers cattles. Hope I can count on your support. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:26 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Ryan glass. I'm a resident of Asheville in 28803. I'm calling today because I know you're having a city council meeting tomorrow. And I'm I'm just so upset to watch my tax dollars being spent on tear gas and rubber bullets and completely unnecessary aggression. I don't think that that was the way the I would like my city the city that I've lived in for ten years to respond to people asking for help. I wish that you would consider the points that. Certain groups here have made including black lives matter the local black lab or black Asheville demands. I wish you would listen to the people who would like the police budget to behave differently. I think there's a lot of ideas and a lot of conversation to be had. But if that's your best use of my money is to shoot the people that come to the Town Square for redress off and that's not a way that Americans spend money, and I'm going to continue to call and I'm going to send you to be here like a lot of other people and I please please please ask that you listen to people now. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:26 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Hannah Fagan. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm commenting on the proposed budget increase for the APD by calling is directly from that black Asheville demand wage as I stand with the black community of Asheville and support their demands a hundred percent. We demand a divestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Please do not allow these budget increase for the APD. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:27 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jacob Tedman. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget in the wake of the police killings of George Floyd Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him and after him I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial and racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect em away from the Asheville Police Department over inflated budget into more successful social programs. Do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs?</p>	6/8/2020 4:27 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Jacqueline Silva and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to comment on the fish bowl year, 20 20 26 and operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses off eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift as this crucial in this crucial juncture wage. City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:27 PM	Budget
<p>I do believe that there should be an investigation into what happened with the medical supplies and the George Floyd Monument in downtown, Asheville.</p>	6/8/2020 4:27 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>This is Sarah Scott. I'm an Asheville citizen and I want to comment on what I'd like to see done with the fence and Robert E. Lee statues impact Square Off The Monument to Robert E. Lee should be removed in its entirety the Vance Monument. I think could be transformed and left but remains something like renewal and make it uh in honor of the spirit of the city which renewed itself after the Great Depression and successfully paid off its huge debt Zone renewed itself again, after the urban Collide businesses downtown in the seventies and eighties and renewed itself now is right in the midst of it off with the shutdown and I think that we have such creativity here that submissions could be called for from local artists too long. Transform somehow that keeping it but changing it so that it reflects the spirit of renewal and creativity. That is at home. Thank you very much. I hope you'll consider my comment.</p>	6/8/2020 4:27 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is Ruby Sharon and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses wage and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools, and also funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this Central policy shift at this crucial Junction in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 4:28 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Lee Flynn. I've been in Nashville for eight years, and I'm calling to leave a comment about the 2020 to 2021 budget in the wake of the police is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and all the black Americans before him and what's been going on in Asheville over the last week. I'm asking please that the actual city council commit to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote. Please use this time to find ways to redirect the money away from the Asheville Police Department over inflated budget the poor communities and communities of Color Race really need support an opportunity to be a hero. Um, some asking again, please consider an alternate budget proposal that puts priority on social programs. Um, please please please and thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:28 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jacob Tedman. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget and the week of the police is killings of George Floyd Annapolis and countless Americans dead before him and after him I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the actual police departments over-inflated bring it into more Equitable social programs. Not forget about our poor in communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs research shows that are living wage access to the list of health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing or four more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:28 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Meredith. I'm I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about the fiscal year 2020 to 21 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police departments, but she should be invested in long-term safety strategies including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and funding it also needs an oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture City's history. Thank you, and have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 4:29 PM	Budget
<p>This is Adam McDaniel AMA Asheville, resident 101 Vermont Avenue. I would like to divest from I'd like to see the city divest from police expenditure and uh funding and invest in um measures that improve communities and the well-being of others off and I would like to also to meet or understand the police force and integrate the police force with a community coffee with cops is a cool program, but it needs to be more frequent something of that sort. The scope of the police responsibilities is perhaps too large and when it comes to social work should be for social workers. I believe and a little bit rambling. But basically I agree with what everyone is saying when it comes to the police force tend to divest and re-direct those funds to be social. Let's see here. What was I going to say like social work and community building? And yeah. Thanks.</p>	6/8/2020 4:29 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Janine. But I live in West Asheville. I'm calling concerning item d i support increasing Nashville firefighter pay to a minimum of \$15 an hour. Yep. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:29 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Tatum young John. I'm a concerned citizen of Asheville. I know that you guys are going to voting to raise the budget for the service department and I'm sure that you're getting a lot of these voicemails and emails but let's not let's not raise the budget money, but let's defund. Well not yeah, let's let's change. I feel likeYou guys will do take on the best decision you'll do what's right. I have faith in Asheville that changes coming changes coming for the better. So, let's not raise the budget. Let's use that money to reallocate our resources wage and create a new system A system that works. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:29 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Elizabeth Taylor and I'm a resident of Asheville. I am writing I am speaking in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I heard city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including support taking Blackstrap and business is eliminating the opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the individual officers accountable. I would also like consideration into removing the events Monument as well as other monuments that are tied to individuals who have outright offended or abused black communities that includes monuments and street names as well and I would like to see dead.Replaced with black leaders and Builders of this of Asheville and as a means to honor them as they worked incredibly hard to create Asheville and Construction in the way. That is I would also like that all these considerations be taken seriously and cake. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:29 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is John Hall's and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed. 2020 to 2021 budget in the wake of the police is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice wage by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the Asheville police departments over inflated budget into more affordable housing programs. Do not forget poor and communities of color. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:30 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Carolyn Mabry and I'm calling in reference to the 2021 budget that I know y'all have to be discussing tomorrow. I would like to ask that in a wake-up George Floyd murder and Minneapolis and the abuses that we have also witnessed by police officers in Asheville that we redirect some of that money from the police department to actual programs that help people and would prevent the need for such policing programs like housing and education and Mental Health Care. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:30 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Cory Adams, and I am a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling the urge the city to adjust this next year's budget. We need to begin digesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity gaps in Nashville seem cool and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the LAPD and individual officers accountable. I urge every city council member was applied this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:30 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Jessica and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. Annual operating budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the Asheville Police Department and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:30 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Kato shelley, as you know, the police department takes up the largest chunk of our city budget budget session after budget session week are proposals to increase the department that you've already bloated and demonstrable inhumane. This communicates a lack of imagination from you are Representatives about how to keep Asheville safe and a lack of concern for the welfare of our black and took residents who continue to suffer for the comfort of rich white tourists black leaders of Asheville call on you to divest from the police and invest in Black communities to repair past and continuing harms and selected on Nashville's black community to end the war on black people through increased increased accountability. These motions are imperative, especially now, I'm actually as the senseless murders of black people at the hands of police and Science and international rebellion, in the midst of a pandemic we're in dead bodies are piling up as the result of a seriously underfunded and racial wage.Public Health Health Care Systems as the world watches on and condemned the conduct of APD and response to Black lives matter protests as Asheville jails are unequivocally dead the greatest threat to Public Health in this city. We will not allow you to trade away vital funding for public education to better armed a department that unabashedly name is children. We have not forgotten Jerry Williams and we will not forget your name. If you choose to move forward with this budget. If you sign on to throw more money at home expect to lose your jobs expect to lose your dignity in this community some of y'all responded to calls to NPR city jails during covid-19 by claiming that white box to send the size. It is not in the counsel of jurisdiction to do so. Well, it is your job to decide the budget not only should you vote against the proposal to expand a PDF budget dead.You should make a pledge right here right now to defend the police department and the session a pledge that we your constituents will hold you to.</p>	6/8/2020 4:30 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Christina Hughes. And I am a resident of Asheville and a first grade teacher with Asheville City Schools. I am calling to urge the city to divest from Off Lease beginning with next year's budget. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting the police and investing in Black communities.</p>	6/8/2020 4:30 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Annie Livengood. I am a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget. She invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups, um and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and the visual individual officers accountable. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:30 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. This is America car and I am a resident of ocean to be a resident of Asheville. But my boyfriend is there. I'm calling to urge City to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the police, uh in the investing in Black communities. I'd also like to see the police training in Compass Mortgage hours of mediation and believe that fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies wage reporting black startups businesses and individual opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools, as well as funding and also an oversight committee for the power to hold the five key and individual officers officers accountable urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:30 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Camille strong heart and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling about Asheville mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal wake of the police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using them time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into these programs. Do not forget our poor communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs?</p>	6/8/2020 4:31 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Phoebe tool and I'm a resident of Bloom County. I am calling to reach the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much for taking the time and solidarity the wild abundance team.</p>	6/8/2020 4:31 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Nina laferla. And I am a lifelong resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with this next year's budget wage. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in the black communities that are so precious to Asheville its history and its culture fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses and limiting eliminating the racial opportunity Gap to Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the AC D and individual officers accountable. I was born and raised here. I'd given my life as a teacher to support this community and I understand very clearly that it's time to make a change. Can I count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our city of his birth?Please think about these demands and defund the police support our black community. Thank you very much. Again. This is Nina in support of em matter investing in Black communities and defunding the police. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:31 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Mackenzie Hamlin. And I'm resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to address Texas budget. We need again divesting from the police and put more money into black communities to 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies. There's a which include Dean supporting black businesses with eliminating the racial wage Gap and actual City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee that the powered up hold and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support the central policy shift that was crucial juncture of History. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my voicemail. Please consider all our voices and take actions.</p>	6/8/2020 4:31 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Dylan Jordan citizen of Asheville for about seven years. I'm calling on the Council of the from the police departments. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:31 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Zoey Lynn. And I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with the next year's budget. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term. Same strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the TV and individual account officers accountable. Can I count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history? Thank you. My name is Joel in.</p>	6/8/2020 4:32 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Claire. I pulled and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020 and 2021 budget in the wake of the police is killing of Georgia Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking of the city of Asheville Council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over-inflated judgment budget into programs that support affordable housing and the access to education. Do not forget our poor communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:32 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Jessica Benson, and I am a resident of Asheville. I'm writing in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration package city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black Ops business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:32 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, John, Eckert here lifelong 29 year old resident of Buncombe County. I'm just calling to let it being in that I'm not in favor of completely defunding the police department by 50% but 25% It's you know, that's all to be determined. What I would like to see is any future raises to that budget and a significant portion of that budget wage start to be put towards nonviolent intervention tactic training and we need an oversight board comprised of civilians and of police wage and \$20 all work together on this. I think that's the best way to go about it. Thanks for your time by</p>	6/8/2020 4:32 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Yeah, my name is Jonathan Esslinger. I'm from Asheville calling Purge the city youthful. A. Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I also think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to invest in from the police. I think they should fund them all civilian oversight committee. I also think that The individual in charge of the police who? First responded about what they did to the medical supplies is the perfect example of everything wrong with the police. From the top down. They need to be protecting and serving as a primary. objective not serving as punishers or They don't decide the law and give judgment. Fact that he had to come back and re apologize really highlights from the top down. There's a complete lack of understanding. What is required? When you have unjust laws, the police are going to always seem unjust and when you have a system in which the priority is not the protection of individual rights. rather the enforcement of Mazda Trump those individual rights abuse of power that police chief or whoever that was it's got to go one of the largest shames and the fact that he doesn't get it really signifies. He's not going to be able to be 1 to send the right kind of. Message about how important. black lives are and the rights of others</p>	6/8/2020 4:32 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Miriam to president of Asheville, North Carolina. I am calling about the still too for the for the police of Asheville and their budget that's coming up in the next meeting and I wanted to share my opinion on what this money should go towards. It should not go all to be raised to go to the police. There is a huge Community Bank in Asheville that is loving and caring and this money should go into Community organizations that specialize in social work and not dedicated to health and wellness of the community of the people who live there and the police should be left behind that because of citizens. We should be empowered to grow into Thrive and have a place where we can express our opinions and be heard more community-based and not more control base as well. Incredible incredible resource of young people that are educated in that are understanding that are caring and that want to grow Asheville and keep it the beautiful based out of there needs to be a place in our community to help to allow us to help one another to grow ideas to help us create artistically nationally and continue to grow Asheville in the way that we know that we want it to grow cuz it's not left or right. It's forward actual is always been on the Leading Edge of understanding and the way the new error of humanity and there is so much promise in Asheville, and we need to reinvest back into our citizens and not into the totalitarianism and the police officers that are under mining our creativity and our ability to gain as a whole and I really home. That you will consider the in the meeting a shovels a beautiful place. If we're not taken seriously, then it will lose it Shimmer be the beautiful place that I know that I grew up in. So please hear us. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:32 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Aliana Luke, and I am a native and resident of Asheville and I am calling to urge the city to divest from the actual police department posting with next year's budget. I think the city council needs to divest from the actual police department and start investing directly and Community safety initiatives own know the city's already done this in small forms, and we have such pilot programs like mobile crisis and other forms of community-based health and safety initiatives that I think that wage actual police department's budget should be going towards those Community initiatives instead of the oversized budget that is used to disproportionately police. And um, Harm black communities in our city and I think we also need to be investing in Black startups and businesses and looking to fund more actual City Schools programs and also help with the really really intense and horrible segregation in our city and I compel the city council to start taking those funds and putting it more directly towards our um, black community that has faced so much, um for the past hundreds of years. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:32 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is an abhorrent and we have actual North Carolina. I am calling about the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to check the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to messing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety G's including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in the Asheville City schools and funding involve civilian oversight committee with the power to hold off an individual opportunity Council every council member to support this essential policy shift with this crucial juncture in our system. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:32 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Kathleen Clark filter and I'm a resident here in Asheville. I like to leave a comment about the proposed twenty twenty two. Twenty Twenty-One budget job in the wake of the police's killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget votes and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from actual police departments over inflated budget into other minority group programs living wage Health, et cetera. Do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate in it budget proposal to put the priority on social programs?also asking that you do not approve the funding put a hiring freeze on the Nashville police department and to Define actual police department. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:32 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is James Mulder and I am a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to investing from the police and investing in Black communities represented by the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support the central policies long as this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you, and I hope you make the right decision.</p>	6/8/2020 4:32 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Sam querrey, and I live in Nashville First full amount of development block grant money. I would like to see last few weeks years and centuries as Minneapolis has led us into this particularly painful moment. Let Minneapolis likewise guide us out of it. I call upon the city council to develop at least fifty percent of those funds and long-term safety strategies, including those live out by the young black leadership and Community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:32 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Terry Bradshaw and I'm calling to condemn what the Asheville City police did to the medical tent on the evening of June 4th. I believe I am absolutely reprehensible that they destroyed all of those medical supplies that could have been donated could have been saved was unnecessary for them to delete all of them and I do think that there should be consequences from that.</p>	6/8/2020 4:32 PM	Opencomment
<p>This is for item D. I want everybody to know that I support the Asheville Firefighters getting a minimum payment of \$15 an hour. I further want to say that I was in shock to learn that they aren't making at least that much for all the things that they do and for men and women risking their lives to help the community and and all of us. It's really sad that they're making as little as they do. Please give this year serious consideration off. These are good people First Responders there when we need them and they deserve so much more than what they're getting right now. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Golden Lion Heart, and I am a resident of the Asheville area and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police officer investing in Black communities. So I see the fifty percent of Asheville Police Department's budget in. My opinion should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting startups and businesses and eliminating the rule the opportunity Gap the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the the Asheville Police Department and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this assemblage policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Kevin George and I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 4:33 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Kat Matlock, and I'm a resident of Candler and I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. I believe we need to wage and the Asheville Police Department. It's clearly time that we need to make huge changes in the way that we run police operations in this country. And also in the city of Asheville. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategy strategies, including supporting black startups and black businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the Asheville department and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial Junction in our City's history it is time. It is time for us to look at policing in our country and in our communities. We need to look and see how policing negatively affects our black brothers and sisters and thank you for hearing me and I truly hope that the actual city council steps forward and makes these important changes.</p>	6/8/2020 4:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Sean Miller. I'm a resident could you Asheville I live in West Asheville? I'm calling to leave the comment that I believe the police force of Asheville. North Carolina does not need a budget increase what whoever is anything they can stand to be defunded a little bit. That is my opinion. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Michelle Myers. I am a resident of Asheville. I live in East West Asheville. I'm giving you a call because I support the demands of black Asheville which include a defunding the police by 50% and reinvesting those funds into the black community including closing the achievement Gap in Asheville City Schools may need to look for opportunities for entrepreneurship and our priorities that Advance equality such as um, improve public transit and potentially funding startups. That would also help stimulate the green economy. Um, we need more black owned businesses and um less over policing. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Sam Almon. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina, and I'm calling to come in on public hearing item D on the minimum wage were firefighters. I'm calling to require the city reconsider decision, and please give all firefighters a raised to a minimum wage of \$15 per hour. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Alexandra's place and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget specifically the budget allocations for the police department off in the wake of the police is killing of Georgie void in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the Asheville city council makes commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote em in this time to find ways to redirect money away from the Asheville police departments over inflated budget and into our public schools are public health programs. And any other social services communities needs especially in the wake of covid-19. Do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs way I can thank you Alexandra sloth.</p>	6/8/2020 4:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Isabelle, and I'm a resident of Franklin County. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black stripes and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:33 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Elizabeth lunch. And I am a resident of Asheville. I am calling to comment about mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. I'm asking that the actual city council makes them more over and physical visible to racial Justice I demand is that the budget will be delayed so that Council may find ways to redirect money away from the actual police department over inflated budget. I heard you to pressure the city manager's office towards an ethical andEqual relocation of the Cities expenditures away from the APD in towards factors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequalities research shows that living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunities and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime and the police or perhaps more aggressive financial support be directed to those areas. Do not forget our poorest communities and communities of colors or disproportionate targets of police violence customers will only be served when the police are reformed and this will not be possible until we defend them. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget that puts the focus on Social Service program. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Carol Buffalo and I have written to all of you via email, but I wanted to also tell you that I just really want you when you are you focusing on the budget tomorrow evening that you do not even begin to consider the \$400,000 increase by the police that is requested. But rather make them compete equitably with all the other departments and people who are asking for money for that reduced sort of austerity month that you're talking about. They do not deserve a increase at all based on the fact that they have not shown any inclination towards doing anything differently and it's very clear from this past week's demonstrations in the horrors that Asheville City police did.They're part of a culture that is continuing just that white supremacist police type culture and we need something different. We need something completely changed courage you to consider the black Asheville demands, which they talk about divesting from the police and investing in Black communities. I'm not sure exactly of the percentage they're asking for fifty percent of Asheville's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business page dating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding a civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the and officers accountants. That's just their first demand. They have lots of other demands about what to do with the budget including reparations, and I heartily support that I think that we need to follow this group home.Asheville demands that seems that there are amazing Coalition and for a change Asheville needs to show what Equity really means and follow demands of the strong Asheville black community that we have here show the world what Equity what inclusion what sustainability means because sustainability is not just talking about the environment of let's not have you know Cole or or false fuels anymore sustainability means that the whole Community which includes the black and brown Community needs to be part of the community in this community, especially with this covid-19.Sustainable unless we all work together. It's time to</p>	6/8/2020 4:33 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Christina Bertelli and I am a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget would need to begin divesting the police money and investing away from the police department and towards black communities 50% of the Asheville month lease Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business eliminating the office. So opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD wage individual officers accountable.I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:34 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Karen Marshall. I am a resident of Asheville North Carolina and I am commenting on the school year 20 20 21 annual budgeting off our annual operating budget.</p>	6/8/2020 4:34 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Laura Beck. I am calling in reference to public hearing item D. And I support increasing Nashville firefighter pay to a minimum of fifteen dollars an hour like every other Asheville employees. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:34 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Heather Tate. I am a resident of Asheville city, which of course means Buncombe County and I'm calling to comment on the fiscal year 20 20 21 annual operating budget. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history as a native of Asheville going back multiple Generations. I feel like it is absolutely time that we begin listening to the black voices in our community and centering them and off. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:34 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Charles Somerville. I am a resident of Asheville and have been for twenty years. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from police beginning with next year's budget. I believe that in this divestment, the black communities need to be supported financially fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term strategies, including black start-up businesses eliminating the racial Gap opportunity Gap in the city in Asheville City schools and funding an all-girl oversight committee that committee with power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. This is particularly important after seeing Nationwide videos of our Police Force destroying the medic tent during a peaceful assembly. Can I count on you all support to actually make this happen. Thank you much. Good. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:34 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Susannah. I am a resident of Asheville and I'm calling in support if the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I have strongly urge the council to divest from the police the APD and invest instead in Black communities half of the apd's budget, which is fifteen million dollars should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual authors accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Again, that is 15 million dollars that I am demanding be redirected back into a Community Fund specifically the black community. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:34 PM	Budget
<p>Good afternoon. My name is Jamie bratcher. And I live in Ashville, North Carolina. We are asking the city council to support all of the black Asheville demands. It was starting with the first one divestment from police and investment in Black communities. We will be calling up an emailing all members of city council and keep members of the city staff urging them the budget in accordance with the black actual demands. Right now city council is set to discuss the budget at the June 9th meeting. So it's imperative that we reach out to them now and make sure that they are moving toward this important stuff. With the with the budget up for consideration, I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget of the invested in long-term safety struggles, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee off the power to hold the TV and individual officers accountable. I hope that you we can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 4:34 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Myra Kylie. I am a resident of Asheville. I I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget for Asheville in the wake of police killing of Georgie Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him and asking and asking you an urging you that the city council make a commitment to racial Justice by the name the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget money into better programs for living wages for people access to holistic health services and treatments educational opportunities and stable housing. There's a much more important items to put money towardsAnd do not forget our poor in communities of color. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:34 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Christopher Mara and I am resident of Asheville North Carolina and I am calling uh-uh to ask you all to bring bring about a 50% reduction police spending and instead invest that and safety programs for black communities wage. Including uh. Besides safety education and mental health and black start up businesses and also funding civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers responsible. I Review all to consider this seriously and reducing the apd's annual budget. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:34 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Dave L word and I'm a resident of West Asheville calling to comment on the fiscal year 2020-2021 annual operating budget in light of the recent protests by staying with the citizens that are supporting a divestment from the police state wage. So we're asking that the Asheville Police Department's budget be cut in half and that money be used instead to support, you know, the black community of choice. So I think we see with drug legislation as well in the way that we deal with that crime more as a health care issue versus criminal issue. We find better results. And so I think that also applies to poverty and what poverty drives people that do. So I definitely urge the city council to consider this process. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:34 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Iliana grams Moog. I'm a citizen of Asheville and have been for 45 years with a consistent record of Civic involvement. I've taught it UNCA for many years until my retirement. I generally have a very positive attitude toward law enforcement officer. However, I've been aware through my long life in Nashville that the police department is not well trained particularly in the area of fairness. Not necessarily only with the matter of having to do with the matter of race. Our usual reaction to any threat of civil unrest is to reinforce police power off the wrong reaction. I am urging the city council to act on its convictions and it's better nature and require the State Police Department to stay at the current budget level to justify any that they make and to move Choice funds which don't seem to me to be resulting in better policing two areas, which will really address the cause of civil unrest here bouncing Fair job opportunities federal law enforcement at both the police and Court levels. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:34 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Alexa Duncan. I am have been a resident of the city of Asheville since 2001 when I came here. I have to go to college at UNC a a wage. I have worked here in Nashville all of that time and I believe that it's time for us to defund the Asheville Police Department and reallocate those funds to um services that better Serve and Protect our community such as schools, um Transit affordable housing and other wraparound services that support people rather than criminalizing and injuring them. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:34 PM	Budget
<p>Hey, this is Chelsea. Guess I am a resident in the Asheville area, and I'm calling to be fun the police and And work on Racial equality and I would like to do anything I can do to put a stop to This Racist.</p>	6/8/2020 4:34 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Cherry I go see I live in the Montford area of Asheville. I'm calling to ask that in this next fiscal year, We just we make the distinct decision to defund the Asheville Police Department and put a an immediate halt on hiring any new police people. I'm asking that we Divest from the police and invest at least fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget in long-term safety strategies supporting black folks and found black businesses black startups eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold p a p d and individual officers accountable for their actions. Um, I believe it is extremely important to repair the past harm that Asheville and America as a whole has inflicted upon the black community. We really really would like it. If you guys would take down the Vance and Robert Lee monuments and replace them with monuments that honor black villian who have built this city by Hancock and I personally believe that we have to end the war on black people in Asheville. There are so many systemic off alarms that black still experience especially but not limited to black Trans and queer and gender-nonconforming people and the entire um City, Asheville the actual police department and mayor mannheimer must all be accountable vocally to the people of Asheville about what we are going to do. I help support black people in this town. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:35 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Joe Chang, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins that back from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startup slash business office emanating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APB and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:35 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Craig Armstrong. I live in Asheville, North Carolina, and I'm commenting on the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to address next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police in investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget. She invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools in funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power of the hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial moment. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:35 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Ryan. Emhof. I'm calling about the budget hearing and what the black community is asking for the funding of the actual police departments talking about having their budget already from the thirty million dollars to \$15 and allocating that money towards supporting different off whack LED initiatives. I think. This is a very Modest Proposal. Honestly, I'd like to see the entire police department done away with we will not stand for them murdering black people on the streets and getting paid to continue to be racist. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:35 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Karen Marshall. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina, and I'm calling to comment on the fiscal year 20 20 21 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust downstairs budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department's budget budget should be invested in the long-term safety strategies, including support startups and businesses a limiting the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the TV and individual officers accountable urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our in our City's history. Again, my name is Karen Marshall, and I'm calling to ask you for justice.</p>	6/8/2020 4:35 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, my name is Parker Brown. I'm a resident in West Asheville and was calling due to my concern over the lack of fifteen dollars an hour minimum wage for the firefighters in Nashville. Who are the only way the employees not paid that per hour several of the council members in received responses bearing on the number of hours firefighters work versus the average individual wage. If they work more hours, it should be paid equally fifteen dollars an hour regardless of what their hours consists of because it can work all the 24 hours on the shift. Thanks for your time duration.</p>	6/8/2020 4:35 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is Sarah Lynch Thomason. I'm a resident of Asheville. I've been a resident for about eleven years and I'm calling to in regards to leaving a comment for the school year for the city from the for the annual operating budget from 2020-2021. And I'm calling to urge uh city council to adjust next budget. I believe it's important at this point that we've been we begin to divest from the police and invest in Black communities and Asheville that for so long have been invested in like people have been pushed out communities have been dismantled essentially for white communities to move in. I would like to Advocate that fifty percent of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools, including uh support. Black startups and businesses of which there used to be so many more in the city, especially in downtown. All of that is gone now and that money should also be used to be a foreman oversight committee that could be also all civilians all residents with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable in a real way. I want every council member to support wage policy. This is an opportunity for us to be on the right side of history after this investing in Black communities in Asheville for over a hundred years. This is a real Turning Point other place like Minneapolis are taking huge steps in this direction and if we're going to live up to the idea of Asheville being a progressive City like a truly Progressive City and we have to honor the humanity of all of our residents and this is a real way to show that after dis investing for so long and continuing to crowd black people out for the sake of Tourism. So, thank you so much wage. Really appreciate you really considering the suggestion. All right. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:35 PM	Budget
<p>I'm sorry. I think I got cut off earlier. This is Chelsea. Guess I'm a resident at Nashville and I'm calling to defund the police then they find something that can better keep the citizens of Asheville safe. I'm just really kind of at a loss for words, and I hope that we as a community can figure out a way to keep racist people out of the mix of our wonderful Community. Okay. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:36 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello. My name is Forrest smok. I am a resident of Asheville. I live in West Asheville. I'm calling to leave a comment about the budget proposal for the the actual police department and to encourage the city council to redirect those funds away from the current policing behaviors in an effort wage to D and incentivize what we've seen play out over the last few weeks here in Nashville and around the US. Um, my desire would be to get those funds reallocated into the development of our poor communities and communities of color that make ask for what it is working to support those Indian and Community organizations that would facilitate. Um the the effective.Decrease in crime and crime rates that the actual police department espouses to do in their efforts wage. Um, but obviously sales. Um, thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:36 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Emily Whitmire and I live in Ashville. I believe very strongly that it does not help our community to increase the budget of the actual police department and buy for \$511,000 higher judge you to remove this increase from the budget before it is considered for the boat. I understand some of the pieces in this funding or in response to a state mandates to meet these mandates. I believe that the city in APD leadership can cut expenses. In other areas of almost thirty million bucks to meet those mandates without increasing the overall amount spent on APD lastly. I ask that you established listening sessions on public safety and make a commitment to respond to our communities calls for a new way forward on policing these sessions must be structured to encourage. Yep.Center participation of black leaders organizations and community members. There are many approaches to policing that deserve consideration from the city of Nashville and listening sessions took a community members will help the council understand our community needs needs. I also encourage the city of Asheville leadership to reach out to other cities in North Carolina such as Jerome that are looking at alternative approaches to a public safety. Thank you for your time and careful consideration of all public input you will receive on the same. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:36 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Michael Lynch place. I live at 180 Turkey Creek Drive in Hendersonville. I'm calling in support of Asheville Firefighters getting a payment of \$15 an hour. I think this is absolutely necessary to show that we support the men and women who risk their lives almost on a daily basis and do so much more for us that they deserve Fair compensation for all they do. It's really astounding to me that they are not compensated more than that. Thank you for listening and I do hope you give them your serious consideration. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:36 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Corey J Randall. I'm a resident of Asheville. Pardon. My voice is too much tear gas in the early. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed twenty twenty and Twenty-One Twenty-One budget. It's just with everything that's going on right now from George Floyd to the president of the United States. So the cops that are just attacking people for protesting police brutality. This is not the time to be dropping too much more money into a budget than to a police budget like this and asking that the city council just try and do better by its people by its. It'll make some commitments to actually getting racial Justice in the neighborhood. If you could redirect the money to either the community centers around town our voice for their domestic violence work off during women there. There's just the last thing we need is more money for more police at this point. I recognize there's a tourism business that needs to be protected and all of that but yep.not the way to do it and we made the Colbert The Late Show with Stephen Colbert for police attack again nurses station. Tear gassing pedestrians is Geneva Convention violation, like come on actual supposed to be better than this. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:36 PM	Budget
<p>This is Carmen Ramos Kennedy. I live in Leicester North Carolina. My comment is to our leaders to our elected officials. You have heard the voices of black people in Nashville and our allies and you have surely seen the voices and not heard what is going on around the world about black lives matter increasing. Yeah.Can I delete this?</p>	6/8/2020 4:36 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, my name is West Arie and I live in Ashville, North Carolina. And I was calling in to learn city council to defund the APD off and to take the proposed increase in the apd's budget and redirect this. Money into the community services better serve the Asheville Community moreover. I'm urging wage Council to investigate the police officers who were responsible for destroying a medic tent and water bottles for a protesters on how everybody has seen the footage and I think that every officer-involved. It should be removed from their position. So I'm urging city council again to defund the ipd and to investigate the officers involved with destroying a medic tent and flashing water bottles were protesters. I appreciate your time and listening a message.</p>	6/8/2020 4:37 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Morgan Johnson, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance, but I also think that city council needs to adjust the budget. So Begins the best thing from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold and individual offers accountable. I hope you take this message in a situation. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:37 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Brandy who be ack I'm a Nashville resident and I would like to say that I support the idea of postponing the month the budget in order to come up with ways to redirect funds from the militarized police department and rather than putting some of those funds into things that helped to bring more racial Justice to our community's support more affordable housing support wage job training and more opportunities for education and for rehabilitation programs and all kinds of other ways that we can bring. Crime rates down without incarcerating or terrorizing anybody especially people of color who are put at greater risk. finding themselves in positions of desperation when we have massive gentrification going on in our community. So less funding for the police unless it is going into training to help them to have better resources for mental health issues and uh Power dominance issues help them to get training around how to how to deescalate conflict so I don't think that our police need to be walking around with weapons or military vehicles as much as they need to have faith to health and a clear intention to deescalate tensions, and we need to do a lot more too. To integrate our community and to protect all people and to give everybody. More opportunities. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:37 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Cheryl Handley my husband and I moved to Asheville six years ago this week. We have been very disturbed by what we've seen in our city since the riots the days a week ago. I want to make a comment about this for the council. What happened to George Floyd was horrible the officers responsible for it should be punished to the maximum according to the law. The protestors that are calling for defunding or cutting funding for the police are alarming to me Saturday. I was approached by an acquaintance who does not even live in Nashville, but it's participating in the protests because I we are residents of Asheville. She asked me to contact you and ask you to cut funding for the police. I was shocked and appalled by this as I thought about this over the weekend the Ghostbusters theme song came to mind who you going to call my response to all of those who want you to cut funding is who they going to call if they're auto business or home is Burger wise if a friend relative or stranger is abused or attack if it's a friend or a relative is raped if a child is abducted if there's an active shooter at a school or university if you hear a noise out of your side of your house, and you're afraid of an intruder song cetera You get the picture. Please. Don't get cut the funding. These people are trying to make it sound like all police officers are bad. It's like any profession or occupation in the world. There are some wage and most of them are good. Please don't cut the funding. It's been nice to have a downtown unit and actually see officers on the south slope. I realize that there have been issues during the protests in the water bottles and so on. I probably would have cut them too because they've been used as Weapons against the officers. No one anticipated. The national of all places would have protests that had violence against police and against property. We feel that the APD has done a remarkable job handling this given such unforeseen circumstances who would have ever thought this would have happened in nice nice and beautiful Asheville. Thank you for your time. I appreciate it.</p>	6/8/2020 4:37 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is legal name is Christina Flores and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget in the for the Asheville Police Department. I stand with our black community and in the demands that they requested there is a link. I have emailed you. All you should have that information. It is not hard to find but I do think that we need to reallocate funds and I totally think that there's other programs that we should have just like divesting that and putting more into training giving back to black community raising our voices here to redirect him no money away from the police department and the militarization of the police. I really would like to reach back and tell people about the black Asheville demands and I support all of those demands you can find that information off.on their website, but basically I just want it to be invested in long-term safety strategies to support our black startups and businesses. I want to eliminate racial opportunity gaps in the Asheville City Schools. I would like to put more of that money into education mental health health system, all of these things. I do not approve and I was appalled at how the Asheville Department were violent using tear gas on Peaceful protesting. This is not who actually is and this is not acceptable. I really want change in this community. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:38 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Ken stronger and I'm a resident of Asheville calling again about actual mayor Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. I'm just calling and asking that their actual wage Council make a more overt invisible commitment to racial Justice. I demand that the budget will be delayed so that Council me find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated Budget. Tire used to pressure the city manager's office towards an ethical and equal reallocation of the city expenditures away from APD and towards sectors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class in equity research shows that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime and police or prison. Don't forget our port and communities of color. Justice will only be served on the police are reformed and this will not be possible until we defund them.</p>	6/8/2020 4:38 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is dr. Alexander. Kovalsky. I'm the one of the Physicians over it may have here in Nashville. My zip code is 28803. I just wanted to call in sick voice my support for utilizing the proposed 4% increase in the also police department budget towards programs such as increasing community outreach program and a civilian police accountability Council to help review police misconduct and complaints. Um, I believe that these particular month.Cuz the engine councils would much do a much better job in benefiting the community as a whole and decrease the need for overall a policing. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:38 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Krista Slavic. I'm a Nashville city resident calling about the annual operating budget for 20 20 20 21. I would like you all to follow Los Angeles home and decorate the funds from police Back to Black communities Latino communities and other minorities. Um, we need that money to go back to the people who actually needed the money if you can imagine where that money would go. I'm thinking a city employee comes by. So save some people are sleeping on the benches in the park. Imagine that a city employee comes by and checks in to see if they need a place to sleep food water health care and then our lady those who want a different place to sleep have one that feels like more like Public Safety to me so stuff like that dead people are also calling for support with black startups and businesses because they've been screwed over for so long no more racial opportunity gaps in schools funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. That's a big one. So, please consider turning this is twenty-twenty. I know we can do better we can work together on that. I know we can work with mutual Aid cooperatives to police ourselves and to police the police wage. Thank you for your time. Thank you for what you're doing for the people.</p>	6/8/2020 4:38 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is attorney Lakota Denton. I'm a resident of Asheville. I have some comments on next year's budget being considered by city council. I strongly believe that we should not from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the police department budget should be put towards black communities and safety strategies home and finding way to have consequences for police who abuse their power. I hope every city council members supports this this should be a unanimous shift away from police and fire to safety and community outreach.</p>	6/8/2020 4:38 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Billy Martin and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm riding the ball Asheville mayor Esther manheimer. Is this for your 2021 budget proposal? I'm asking about the special city council met moreover invisible commitment to racial Justice Adam and with the budget vote be delayed. So that counsel may find ways to read all this money away from Asheville police departments over-inflated budging. I urge you to pressure the city manager's office towards an ethical on equal reallocation of the Cities expenditures away from APD and towards sectors of facilitate the dismantling of racial and class equality. Research shows that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment education opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crimes and police or prison am a such a demand more aggressive financial support be directed to those areas. Please do not forget our poor communities and our communities of color who have disproportionate targets of police violence. Justice will only be served from the police are reformed and this will not be possible until we do find them. I hope that I can count on you to consider an alternative budget that puts a focus on social service programs for our community. Thank you so much Billy Martin.</p>	6/8/2020 4:38 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Bethany Roundtree. I'm calling to ask the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I know you guys are meeting tomorrow to talk about next year's budget and I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. Please I would like to count on your support for this essential policy shift, which is crucial at this juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:38 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Matt and thousand. active member of Asheville service community Helping Services therapist have a small Private Practice worked for community health care practice as well. My wife is also a counselor in the area in a college professor. We've been. I'll speak for myself. I have been aghast at the response from the Asheville Police Department and the lack of response so far from the mayor. What we've seen from protests. Yeah continued abuses. aggressiveness of the policing in the city especially against those of color and those without means absolutely one hundred percent unequivocally pose increasing budget to Asheville Police Department furthermore I support reduction defunding ultimately dismantling of the Asheville Police Department There's proven. effective Community public safety programs outside of policing both in this country and in others like to see them explore and I will hold those who vote. To continue in justices and social upheaval in our city. Hold those who vote not to address them accountable. I felt in every election. I will remember how votes are cast. I appreciate your time and thank you for the public service you do.</p>	6/8/2020 4:38 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Stephanie Tiago. I'm calling from Asheville North Carolina about fiscal year, 20 20 to 21 annual operating budget. I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin. Do you have a Sting from the police and investing in black community? So to persuade Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and funding all funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold it Asheville Police Department individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift in that at this crucial juncture in the city's history wage. Taking the time to listen to my message. Have a great day.</p>	6/8/2020 4:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Nathan Chrysler. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling for the City of the Dead city council me to adjust the budget. So it begins the best thing from the police and sting in Black communities 50% of the CD does it should be invested in long-term safety strategies including supporting black startups business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. This is of extreme importance. I am a taxpayer and have been since Nineteen Ninety Six. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:39 PM	Budget
<p>This is Carmen Ramos Kennedy. I live in the city of Worcester in North Carolina. You've heard the voices of black people here in Nashville. I'm sure you've seen and heard the voices of black people around our country and around the world. You've heard the pain you've heard the anger. You've heard the stories. You attended a protest on Saturday. I am asking you pleading with you more like demanding that you do something about the way policing is done in our city. This is an opportunity at budget time to take advantage of not giving the \$400,000 that's expected and to use those funds to bring about a different way of policing. I know it frightens everybody. When you say the word de fund there are certain avenues that police are welcomed on but there's so much of a work that they did that their presence is unnecessary. It's unnecessary because first of all, it's a volatile relationship between police and black people. Often they don't have the expertise or training to deal with some of the issues. They deal with we can do this another way make it more about community and I can see a difference. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:39 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Kelsey winterbottom and I live in Nashville. And I would like to comment on the proposed 2020-2021 budging in light of the police's killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I am asking that the actual wage Council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget boat and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over-inflated five-digit into programs like mental health public transportation.And other things that benefit the community, please do not forget about our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you very much and have a good day, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Bobby Sanka and I'm a resident of Montville main former Nashville resident. I'm calling to urge the city life. Just next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities. Do you percent or more of the actual police department's budget wage should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including black startups and businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools, and also suck oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable or Jerry councilmember to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much for your time, Bobby.</p>	6/8/2020 4:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Lily Coleman. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. Um, I'm really concerned with the way that the police has responded to these protests and to the black community in general. So I feel that we need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities. I'm asking that fifty percent of Asheville Police Department's budget be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black community started businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual awful officers accountable. I urge every every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much. Goodbye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Colin Martin. I've been living in Nashville and silver for you know, most of my life and I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget wage as I'm sure you are all aware Ashville is sort of seen as this Oasis of of progressive virtue in a Red Sea and Asheville profits off of that image. In fact, it's the economy is run on you know sort of that perception and I think now is a great opportunity for Asheville to get back to you know, the communities that is sort of perceived as supporting in the wake of the police is killing of Georgie in Minneapolis and countless, you know black folks before him. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using time.Find ways to redirect money away from Nashville police departments over inflated budget into you know, long-term solutions for Public Safety that don't rely on the police officer or on, you know armed paramilitary groups. I'd like to see Asheville go out of its way to support people of color and it's Community particularly in Shiloh where I've worked. Yeah, and I hope that that we're heard. I think the size of the size of the country Iran you so, please don't forget about poor communities of color and I hope I can count on you back there an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs and not on police and prisons. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:39 PM	Budget
<p>Hey everybody, this is Reverend tomorrow. And first of all just want to say thank you for all the hard work that you're doing. I'm holding you each in deep prayer and send in my love life and I just want to join my voice with the other Australians that we need to think about our policing differently. We need to think about our economic differently as I know you all are as I know that you are. So just adding my voice to they're so grateful for the rising up and the speaking out and the collective desire for real struggle and real change. Peace to you all and my prayers are with you by.</p>	6/8/2020 4:39 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Shannon switch and I'm calling in regards to the police brutality event that happened on June 2nd at 8:15 p.m. In downtown Nashville. Clearly identified doctors and Medics were at a city of Chicago Medical station outside One World Brewing Asheville Police Department bust into a peaceful medication and through innocent people against the wall and push them onto the streets and intentionally flashed an entire stash of water bottles medical supplies of the station and finish the Rampage by spraying supplies with chemicals to prevent any further. Use these supplies could have easily been moved and taken out into a shelter eighties. And I also they are leaving an insane amount of plastic and trash in the streets. We want atp's to know that not only our city but the entire country has been has the intention of holding them accountable for their actions. We are all watching this and they will not get away with this.</p>	6/8/2020 4:39 PM	Opencoment
<p>Hi, this is it Riley longtime Asheville resident. I was calling to Advocate and encourage city council to work on demilitarizing the police and invest in more Community type programs throughout Asheville with a nice focus on the African American communities. I feel like they've been getting the short shift and redirect some of our law enforcement efforts also from harassing people of color to doing more with criminal activity dealing with white collar crime that is running rampant in the community and dealing with issues like that and the abuse of Air B&B properties during the violation all those things. I think that the riots and the protest right now are are timely and accurate job.We need to get these things under control. Mr. McKibben really stepped in it when he started complaining about all the Thugs and he doesn't even pay his office workers a living wage. So I think we need to really look at where we're going as a community and how to redirect our energies. Thank you. Good luck tackling this problem. Appreciate it by</p>	6/8/2020 4:39 PM	Opencoment
<p>Barbara Lynch place I am calling to ask you to increase the fire department salary to at least need at least \$15 an hour. I feel they are under paid I come from a long line of fire fighters in my family, and I know all too. Well the hazards are job. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:40 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Suzanne again. I live in Asheville and Buncombe County, North Carolina. I'm calling regarding defunding the Asheville City Police Department in such a liberal City officials. Try to cover up police violence with cops taking a knee and empty words of support Asheville Police Department is notorious for targeting black folks and communities of color the incident with the medication last weekend was abhorrent and has made Asheville.You know has been a huge stain on our on our city and our reputation across the world. So, I'm calling to please demand that we defund the Asheville Police Department. It does not need \$400,000 that money could be used to actually serve our communities. We believe this money should be used to support real Public Safety efforts such as education and Mental Health Care Transit move this money to areas that actually help black people. Thanks for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:40 PM	Budget
<p>My name's Ernest Boyd. I live in Montford. I'm calling in regard to the black Asheville demands on the police department. And I want. Okay, my wholehearted support for all of them and I would like to add this note. I assume the city is going to say well gee we're going to have to cut off budget and we won't be able to invest in the black community. We may cut the police department, but we certainly aren't going to be able to increase our investment in the black community that I would like to just say. This is an incredibly Rich City in terms of its tax base and any any concerns about raising taxes off on the really increasingly affluent batch of people moving in here seemed inappropriate. So get get the money. Thank you very much. Appreciate it home. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:40 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Jaden lab. I'm a citizen of Asheville lived here. Most of my life for a million attorney at Pisgah Legal Services was out at the protest Thursday night last week, including all the nights that the actual police department and state troopers energy County Sheriff's department. And whoever else is out there tear gas and shot out. Our fellow citizens including me. I'm here to call to support the police department and the reinvestment of those funds in the black community in the greater, Asheville community.Having witnessed the police departments first actions first-hand watching them make very little attempt at the escalation result to violence of their first order response to Citizens industry always peaceful protesting. Yes. There were at times kids lobbying fireworks amongst the crowds the police always escalated the tensions and acted in symbiotic relationship with the more destructive elements of the crown causing chaos by pepper-spraying tear-gassing shooting at us with non-lethal rounds multiple times slightest provocation, pleaseSimply do not report reforms anymore at this point the police as they are in this city and all across the country are illegitimate and need to be defunded. Thank you. Again. My name is Jaden lap. I live in Nashville. The number is 828-604-8660.</p>	6/8/2020 4:40 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Caroline Wilson. I'm a resident of Asheville. I am calling in for the June 9th meeting. I know that the city council will be looking at the budget for the upcoming fiscal year and there's been a call from black Asheville demands to really critically rethink the way that we're using our money in the city of Asheville package, which has time and time again, really really, um I don't want to say fallen short has really betrayed the trust of the black folks who built this community. So what I am urging city council to do is to consider divesting from the police and investing in Black communities, um, black actual demand was acting that 50% of the actual police department's budget be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officer wage accountable. We know even by the fact that the officer who shot Jerry Williams is still on the force that this is something that is really delayed and times up I oh so am asking and urging that um, the city manager's office and the budget also consider what are the expenditures. Um, can we really invest that money in a living? Wage Access to Health Services education stable housing. These things are more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons and we are really seeing our city suffer. Um, this is a moment in time for Asheville to really step up and take care of its black citizens. Um, it's a moment that we could be proud of or it's a moment that we could be really wage very deeply ashamed of because this this could be a moment to really turn away from violent white supremacist tactics toward creating a Nashville where our black citizens can really Thrive. Thank you for taking my comment and I hope you all will seriously seriously consider divesting the budget from dapd.</p>	6/8/2020 4:40 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Hunter Jesse. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. I need to begin by investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the month lease department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies.</p>	6/8/2020 4:41 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Sarah, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget in the wake of the police killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black black Americans before him. I'm asking that the city the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into public housing education and other programs that Aid communities of Faith. Do not forget our poor communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:41 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is David Garrett Marsh and I live in the city of Asheville. I am urging City to use the full amount of the cares a Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. I also urge the city to divest from the police and reinvest backwards and they're back into our community and open up Social programs and Care programs that allow for our Community to police ourselves and non-violent and ways if any less than 50% of the apd's budget may not be funded and rearranged. Um, I don't know. At least half for now and to set a plan the city council to set a plan in action to move forward into a world without police officer and abolish police. Thank you. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 4:41 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, I support the Asheville firefighter pay \$15. My name is Christopher Wayne.</p>	6/8/2020 4:41 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name's Terry Burke, and I request that the actual City Police Department be defunded. I opposed the budget increase wage and I'd love to see Asheville City Police Department. Um completely funded and just banned removed from the city, and I'd like the public and the people of the city trying to take control of their City without the oppression of the police department. Thanks. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:41 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Rebecca Linton, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm writing in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge city council to divest from the invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating racial opportunities job opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and funding and also the civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support wage is Central policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:41 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Heather and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget, and the wake of the police is killing of George Floyd Minneapolis and countless black American life for him. I'm asking that the city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote using this time to find ways to read it redirect money away from the actual police departments over inflated budget. Do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:41 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Nick copenbarger. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina. And I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin. Vesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in the Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD. And in fact officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial Junction in our City's history. Thank you, and have a good evening.</p>	6/8/2020 4:41 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Bobby Joe Skipper and I am contacting you to express my concerns with the proposal the \$457,000 increase in the Asheville Police Department as I'm sure you are aware a medic tent was destroyed members of the APD on June 2nd. I will repeat a medical tent was destroyed by members of the APD. Why should there be a budget increase for an outdated organization that destroys civilians property? For some reason you might be thinking there is a reason there were water bottles being thrown at police officers. You can you tell me that a grown adult trained albeit not enough on violence outfitted and if \$500 right dear life scared of one tank water bottle. If they are nervous in this type of situation. Why would they be the the people that civilians call in an emergency? Please add the government entity should be held to the strictest extent of the law not hold above it on the website. They claim that they stand for integrity meaning honesty compassion trust and accountability fairness. The police department will treat everyone impartially without favoritism or bias respect to police department will treat everyone with dignity and courtesy without prejudice professionalism the police department deliver quality services through cooperation open communication and the commitment to continuous Improvement get everything they have done in the last week shows the opposite of what is stated above. I wouldn't have cured ethnic children as fair and Equitable that is not so professionalism rather than abuse of power that is unfairly given to officers reject the increase in budget and figure out a way to die first the 30 million dollar budget. They are given to any other program around the city help civilians and not harm them and we'll also add that the guiding principles listed for the APD state that they will not let Prejudice blind them when on duty but time and time again, we are shown otherwise The job they do disproportionately affects black people. Don't fund the system change it. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:41 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Abigail Underwood. And I would like an investigation into the behavior of the Asheville Police Department. by regarding the protests</p>	6/8/2020 4:41 PM	Opencomment
<p>Yes. Hello. This is Melissa Clark calling. I'm calling in the wake of being to your gas downtown. I was downtown with an ER doctor wage and we were being completely legal on Monday night. And I was tear-gassed in my own town explosions going off everywhere. My town was turned into a war zone. It was completely peaceful to that moment. And then some property destruction downtown occurred after birth. You know, we had war crimes committed against us. I've always really hoped that my city would stand with us if it came down to it. And what I discovered is that they won'tIn my police department does not stand for me or for black lives. And it's really heartbreaking. And I think y'all need to table this budget. It's coming tomorrow until a lot more black voices are brought into that conversation. I'm disappointed and I'm really sad with my City right now. And I don't think that our little police department needs more money. I think our social services departments need more money our education needs more money. You know people whose first responses aren't to tear gas you I think they might need some money. Okay? Thank you again. I think it should be doubled. We need a lot more Community conversation here. Thanks.</p>	6/8/2020 4:41 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Ben. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling the urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance for the more. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and in this and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power off all the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Jill Gossman. I am a resident of Asheville and I would like to submit this comment over the phone about the operating annual operating budget for FY. 2021. I would like the city to adjust next year's budget with regard to our police department and I am asking that Council votes to adjust our budget for next fiscal year to divest from our police department and to invest in South African American communities. I'm supporting the idea The Proposal that fifty percent of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term strategies for Community safety to support black-owned businesses and startups and initiatives that will eliminate the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools. I also believe that we need an all civilian oversight committee that has the power to hold accountable. The officers wage within the actual police department and the department itself. I ask that every council member support this policy shift at this very important time in our history. Thank you very much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Caroline and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget begin to investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested and long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business eliminate racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable black lives matter of Asheville Police.</p>	6/8/2020 4:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Michael Galvez, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget, and the bank of the police is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him as well as the Myriad instances of police brutality around the country. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the actual police department's budget into social Aid programs and other programs to Aid the community rather than reinforcing a already owned no inflated budget for the police. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Olivia Barney, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis countless, black Americans before him. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect that money away from a Chicago police departments over inflated budget these programs. All right, so do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal with a priority on social programs? I don't think any of this money needs to go towards the police department. They are overfunded and you need a demilitarized the police. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:42 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, I'm Arial McIntyre. I live in Nashville and I'm calling to comment on public hearing item D the proposed \$400,000 budget increase to the Asheville Police Department. I believe it is the best interest of the city too instead allocate this money to initiatives that will start to address the chronic issues that we're facing as a city and here's an area that I think the funding would be more wisely spent to create long-term solution a number one funding and oversight committee with the power to hold the APG and individual officers accountable number two to the development of a 24-hour non-police Mental Health crisis response team number three investment in mental health treatment number four for investment and drug treatment facilities number five supporting black businesses number six investments in affordable housing number seven Investments and underprivileged schools. I think that the days of sweeping our long-standing issues under the rug to tidy for our visitors are over and that we can do better. We want our resources put towards long-term Solutions and I think it's time to get serious about creating and funding programs to address these chronic issues that our city has not addressed Asheville can become a prototype for cities moving into this new chapter of History Month and we can create a city that actually acts in alignment with the face we present to tourists. So let's be the progressive and peaceful place that we claim to be defund the Asheville Police Department. And instead is this money in long-term Solutions. Thank you for your time. And I know that you will make the right decision.</p>	6/8/2020 4:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Betsy. I'm calling to comment on the fiscal year 20 20 20 21 annual operating budget. I live in Oakley in Nashville. And I teach third grade in Asheville City Schools. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and invest instead and black communities 50% of the money should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable and especially eliminating the opportunity Gap in ACS Asheville City Schools. Like all North Carolina Public Schools will struggle to reopen in the wake of covid-19 Nam mention that before the pandemic schools were already operating with a skeleton crew splitting essential Personnel, like social workers nurses and counselors between buildings. You have already proven. Yep. Angry protesters respond to D escalation and Earnest listening. So we are quite capable of peacefully organizing does not need riot gear more than students need mental and emotional health support culturally responsive academic programming and meaningful Home School connections. Nelson. Mandela said, there can be no Keener revelation of a society Soul than the way in which it treats children. I would add that the only Keener Revelation about the soul of a society comes when the leaders choose to buy riot gear for a militarized police force instead of pouring its resources into the educational being of its children. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Abigail King. I live work pay taxes and the City of Asheville and I just wanted to call regarding a proposed budget by Maryland Heimer and I just wanted to publicly and strongly I agree and demand that the um allocation of the axle police department and the funding that the increase in funding that is proposed to be diverted from the police department and invested. In other aspects of the community that are being sorely underfunded. I think that the actions of the Asheville Police Department the past couple of weeks in response to Peaceful protests have been abhorrent they received National recognition, and I think it's time to re-evaluate where wageputting your money, I think that it's time that the extra for the council recognizes the intense and gentrification that they've inflicted upon me that the African American community in Nashville, and I Think the first step in combating that and in giving the black community of Asheville the tools they need to actually invest in our community and I have any chance of upward Mobility is to defund the police and invest those funds in um, various Community organizations and programs that actually would help the Asheville Community Thrive and grow specifically the black community of Asheville, which has had the rug pulled out from under them in the past few decades with the intense gentrification and criminalization. Of Asheville and a black bodies. So thank you and I hope you will consider. Defunding the actual police department and investing in programs that actually matter and actually have data supporting. The fact that they help Community Thrive, thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:42 PM	Budget
<p>Hey there, good hard-working Folks at the city council My Name is Kerry Welsh Craven. I live in Asheville City Limits, and I am just calling to leave a message to request that you listen to the Black leaders in our community and meet the demands that they are setting out. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:42 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hey y'all. It's time to defund the police know more extra money for these guys that obviously day one rolling in full freaking Stormtrooper outfits and attitude I was there. You got us our city cover of USA Today good job fools. No more extra money for them. Take the money away. They're wasting it. against the Citizens You know how I'll be voting.</p>	6/8/2020 4:43 PM	Budget
<p>Good afternoon. Hello, my name is Robert + caption. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of police killings of George floors and countless other black Americans before him. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to home redirect money away from actual police departments over inflated budget into alternative programs such as education affordable housing and possibly even Mental Health Services. Please don't forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Natalie. This is still calling and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to address next year's budget. I need to begin investing and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up business says eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with power to hold the AC D and individual officers accountable urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Karina and I am a resident of Asheville. I think that city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable furthermore. I believe that racist wage statutes such as the Vance Monument should be replaced with some prominent black figures statues and the roads such as wage.Paxton Avenue should be replaced with the prominent black figures names just so that we are setting an example for the rest of our community that we do not condone racism. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Martha and I'm asking that the city council of Asheville make a more overt invisible commitment to racial Justice. I demand that the budget vote be delayed so that Council let me find ways to redirect money away from the Asheville police departments over inflated budget. I urge you to pressure the city manager's office towards an ethical and equal reallocation of the city office hours away from APD and towards sectors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality research shows that a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stable housing are far more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons as such I demand aggressive financial support be directed to those areas. Do not forget our poor communities and communities of color who are disproportionate targets of police violence. Justice will only be served when the police are reformed and this will not be Poss.And so we Define them as a member of the actual Community. I urge you to stop condoning the deplorable behaviour of the APD that we witnessed against protesters and Medics put your money where your values are and come back with an alternative budget that put the focus on social service programs. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:43 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Jared hooker. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think city council needs to adjust our budget. So that begins to investing from police investing in Black communities. At least fifty percent of a PDS budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and black business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold off a PD and individual officers accountable. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:43 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Amy. Hinesley. I'm a resident of Asheville like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget as we know them with the focus on police safety and the wake of the George Floyd event page black Americans in general facing police brutality increase number or higher number than Y8 that Americans I'm asking that actual City Council made the commitment to racial Justice. I believe the budget those and using the time to find some ways to redirect money away from home. Programs that would perpetuate the status quo. or even fly thing sideways, like I know that they've done it's hard to explain and really look at focusing some money and resources into things like Screening new police officers putting them on the daytime beat instead of the nighttime beat first. Do you think they can just change the budget and of itself if we can look up non-violent communication strategies and then more money on cameras and more monies on review boards spend more money on Thursday establishing training for the escalation and making out of standard and a requirement. I know cops get a lot of things changed a lot of things handed to them. I'm a teacher I did it. It happens with us too. But we're all set on required to use non-violent interventions in my field and I work with kids who are dangerous thing that can happen and I know it's not part of the culture needs to be I know also that there are some programs and a lot of people are pushing for Community programs and I would love to see the program linking police and the community more in a month and Thank you. Thank you for your attention.</p>	6/8/2020 4:43 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Jamie. Hello. My name is Jane English. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina in light of recent events. I would like the council to seriously reconsider their four hundred thousand a budget increase and consider redirecting that money towards black businesses black Community Resources and a restructuring and accountability for the police involved and I would like to some consideration retroactively over other recent wage. Um harassment issues concerning a PD. Thank you for your consideration and have a good day. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:44 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Will Ferrell, and I'm resident of Asheville. I'm willing. I'm writing in support of the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration urged city council to die to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including black startups and business with eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Audrey McClelland. I am a citizen of Asheville and I I am calling in today to ask our cities elected officials to please vote. No on increasing Nashville's funding for the police department and instead I had asked that you would please consider funneling These funds into black and brown communities in the city. I have seen. The police brutality lately and I am hoping that our Collective voices will be enough for you to reconsider this movement to fund the police and all these funds can be used for something more constructive where our community thank you for considering my request and may you do the right thing.</p>	6/8/2020 4:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is guy. Will it be and I'm a resident of Asheville. I like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police killings of George floors in Minneapolis, Chicago Black Americans before him I'm asking that to Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Injustice by delaying the budget vote and using this time wisely defined ways to redirect money away from Asheville Apartments over inflated budget.</p>	6/8/2020 4:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there, this is Zachary service and I'm a resident of Asheville firstly. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares active Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. And secondly the city council. I'd like to say needs to adjust the budget to it begins divesting from the police begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and business in eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable wage. It's this is a pretty. Crucial time and in history, and I would love for my city to start doing better. Thank you so much. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:44 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Banks Anderson. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting of the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APB an individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Cassandra Rodriguez. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina, and I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin that divesting from the police officer in investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start up startups business office and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:44 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jeff Jones. I live in the city of Asheville. I'm calling for comment on the the budget hearing which is tomorrow, June 9th. I suppose I had em comments for you. I know that my wife and I were participating in a peaceful March last Sunday May 31st, heard no warning. We were on the Boeing Bridge we heard no warning and yet we were hit by teargas. We had stinging eyes. My wife got hit by what we thought was a rubber. I think it probably was a pepperball doesn't matter. It hurt her. It was no warning was a peaceful March. So I'm having difficulty supporting any increase in the budget for the police department. I think more importantly though and I want to say more importantly forget everything. I just said more importantly I have participated in the events dead. Every March that we've had last Sunday through this past Saturday and I urge you to listen to the voices of black Asheville and what their needs to make an equitable budget and Equitable police system an equitable Asheville, please listen to the voices took a black, Asheville. That's where real change can happen. That's where U City Council can make a difference. You've got a hard job. I wish you well. My heart is with you. This is Jeff Jones, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Jared Porter. And I'm a lifelong resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling upon the city to use the full amount of the exact Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance Community Development block grant phone number cannot be used for the general kind of city government political or religious activities fundraising cash payments to individuals or construction of new housing except by see videos. Furthermore city council needs Thursday begins to investing from police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity wage and actual City schools and funding and all civilian oversight power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable for their actions. I also wanted to make a point that doctors and nurses deal with mentally unstable patients on the farm or daily basis, then do police. They're trained and expected to get to deescalate situations with disruptive patients using minimum force and restraint. How often do you hear about doctors or nurses job? So when their patients because they were resisting and if they were found to be guilty of malpractice, they will be reviewed by their peers and their licenses may be revoked barring them from treating patients cops should be held in to that same standard.</p>	6/8/2020 4:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Caitlyn Kelly from Asheville, North Carolina. I wanted to say that I don't support the plan to increase to the police budget the police already received more money than all of our other public services, and we have seen no return on investment in public safety and suggest that we used that money to invest in the black communities of Asheville. Thank you. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 4:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Robert Williams, Indiana resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking it up to Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget in the police program education mental health support. And Addiction Services do not forget up for communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:45 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi there. My name is Janice Brewer. I'm a resident of Asheville for three years. Now. I'm calling in support of the black Asheville demands often presented on Saturday. This includes city council to vote to divest from police and invest in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups in businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools, additionally funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual the police department and other individual officers accountable. Working in this this area is social services and I grow food for donation to people experiencing this absolutely relate to the way that we serve people and I see it every day on the ground, and I really hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our our City's history, please stand with us. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Krista Hebel, and I am a resident and have Asheville for almost twenty years. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget and the week of the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I am asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by the way in the budget votes and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the actual police department over inflated budget. In fact to other programs that can be more supportive of our community. Please don't forget our poor and communities of color can I count on you agent please to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? I want to be a Community member of Asheville, and we have to do what we can to participate in positive changes moving forward. Thank you so much for listening and for considering the inhabitants of the amazing community of Asheville. Let's make it even better. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Catherine long and I'm a Nashville resident. I'd like to comment on the proposed twenty twenty and Twenty-One budget. I'm asking that box city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the Asheville Police Department page over inflated budget into programs for Education young education in particular young early childhood education. Um, Please do not forget our poor and and our communities of color. Can I count on you please to consider a an alternate budget proposal that puts priority join social programs? This is this is really necessary. And I'm sure that you've seen what's happening in the street. So we're serious about that. Thank you for taking the time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:45 PM	Budget
<p>Hello. One second. I'm so sorry. Hello. My name's Constitution. I'm calling in regards to the police brutality event that happened on June 2nd at 8:15 p.m. And downtown Astro Boy, identified doctors and Medics or at a city approved medical station outside One World Brewing. Ask for the police department burst into the peaceful meditation and through innocent people wage against the wall and push them out of the into the Street Apt. Then intentionally slash the entire supplies at the station and finish the Rampage. By spraying everything down with gasoline and chemicals prevent any further. Use these supplies could have been easily moved out and taken to a show through a PT is inciting violence. We want apt to know that not only our city but the entire Community country has the intention of holding them accountable for their actions. We're all watching and they will not get away with this also, like if you don't do this, that's really what kind of city do you run bro?</p>	6/8/2020 4:45 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Clarence C. And I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance for any more. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Eliana Rodriguez, and I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I would like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of police is king of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless countless black Americans before him. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget office and using this time to find ways to read redirect money away from the Asheville Police Department over inflated budget to other programs. Please do not forget about our poor and communities of color. I'm counting on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts these poor and communities of color as a priority. No. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:46 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Mary Hensley and I support increase in Asheville Firefighters paid to a minimum of \$15 per hour. They do jobs that you couldn't get nobody else to do and they are very brave men and women to do the things they're doing so they deserve \$15 an hour, especially those that has a family to raise kids that are in school and the palm trees are sky-high and our fire department deserves this raise that they won't have to work all these extra shifts and don't get to spend time with our family and watch their kids growing up like, please consider increasing their wages to Fifteen dollars per hour. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Julie an hour and I'm a resident here in Asheville North Carolina as well. As one of the people volunteering at the medic stand that the majority and the Asheville Police displayed an extreme amount of aggression at earlier this week. And as a result of a chef. So as a city and Asheville Police Force in particular systemic mistreatment of our black and brown citizens as well as low income citizens. I'm calling with a strong interest to see the city divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I strongly believe that the budget for the Asheville Police needs to be reinvested such that 50% of the bumper shift towards long-term safety strategies that support black and brown startups and businesses focus on eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and continue to maintain civilian oversight in regards to the accountability of the Asheville Police Department. They kind of militarized compression of black and brown places in this city is beyond unacceptable and Asheville deserves better.</p>	6/8/2020 4:46 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Chris Szymanski. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to support the black actual demands that were presented on Saturday with the budget for consideration Iowa City Council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of apd's budgets should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups off businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. I also urge you to remove the use of teargas. from the police departments abilities within their</p>	6/8/2020 4:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Erica Vanessa a resident of Asheville to 885. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from police beginning with next year's budget. I think is really important that we invest in Black communities. I think you know, it's it's very obvious that the time is now and we need to be working on more long-term safety strategies is not just policing the people. You can call me back if you'd like. My number is 828-747-9282. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:46 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Trinity stolen and the resident in Swannanoa, and I'm just calling to be heard that the actual police department certainly does not need to receive any larger of a budget from our city and that any money that was being considered to be added to their budget should be put towards securing housing for house with people in Asheville, North Carolina. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is James Hemphill. I live inside the city of Asheville. I am calling about item D the annual operating budget. I'm a privileged white middle-class male, and I have some comments on May 29th. There was an incident in Hillcrest two officers were walking someone that they're arresting to their car. One of the officers had his pistol and Holster did by his side with its points to a problem watching the APD line up. Like they needed to defend the station against the citizenry points to a problem the data showing that are black and sisters are more likely to be stopped per capita and white folks points to a problem seeing the APD Trot out officers in riot gear for a protest points to a problem with an officer assaulting a citizen because someone else through a water bottle at them points to a problem witnessing the APD tear-gassing citizens of the United States who were dead. We assemble to petition the government for a redress of grievances points to a problem all of these issues that we are seeing point to a cultural problem in an Institutional a lack of understanding. This is not the time for the APD to be hiring new officers when we see what their training gets us. This is not the time for expanding the department at all. This is the time for the APD to look inside and evaluate their failures. This is the time for the ABT to realize what Society actually needs in one seemed to be rather than what they wish to be. This is the time for the APD to restructure itself to correct its own shortcomings and institutional failings towards that. I hope that you will all vote no on the expansion of the police budget. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:47 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Alicia and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support the central policy shifts at this crucial juncture of our City's history. Thanks for listening.</p>	6/8/2020 4:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Mike mulhern. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities investing in long-term safety strategies and supporting like startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and a city school and funding civilian oversight committee the APD.</p>	6/8/2020 4:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Gabriella Santander, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I am city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities. At least fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies include not reporting back startups businesses and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City Schools some funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold two thousand individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Ray Liam talk and I reside in Asheville and I'm calling to comment on the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget and emerging the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startup and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and also offer an oversight.Committee with the power to hold the APD an individual authors accountable every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history month. Thank you so much for taking the time to listen to this. I would also like to urge the council and separate from the budget. I would like to urge the removal of the Vance Monument from downtown. I think it's a travesty that that is the center of our downtown area. So, thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:47 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Stephanie Wilson. I live in Ashville, North Carolina. And I'm talking to you today about the fiscal year 20 20 21 annual operating budget. I would love for our city council to consider strongly adjusting next year's budget and to begin divesting from the police force and investing in Black communities. I would love to see that we support black startups and eliminate the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City Schools wage adding an all civilian oversight committee committee with the power to hold the APD an individual officers accountable.Every council member to support this essential policy shift. It's a good start. I also want to add that. I hope to see the deal funded mental health system be refunded in North Carolina as a whole but we need to start in our own City if like there needs to be vast training wage and increased requirements in the education field for Ashley police officers with promotions based on education achieved in Psychology sociology history criminology the history piece helping folks understand how we got here where we are and what we can do to get out of it based off and to their to be improved increase links so our improved mental health system.Between the actual police department and the mental health system there needs to be different kinds of Nets. There's only a few options and then folks get released. So thank you for hearing me.</p>	6/8/2020 4:47 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Tom Zimmerman. And I'm just calling about the police brutality incident that happened on June 2nd at 8:15 in downtown Asheville. Um, they're very clearly identified doctors and Medics there to assist people and they were at a city approved medical station outside One World Brewing the actual police department just bust into there and destroyed office supplies. It was a peaceful medical station. They threw innocent people against the wall on person Mountain the street, which is very Reckless AP then 10:30 / the entire stash of water bottles and medical supplies at the station and met this by spraying the supplies of the chemicals prevent. Any further used. Once again, this is entirely unacceptable and just absolutely barbaric. These supplies could have easily been moved out and taken to a shelter dog fighting and violence with this I once again just find this incredibly unacceptable for a city like astral to have their police acting in such a way. We want apt to know that not only our city wage. But the entire, um State the entire country has the intention of holding them accountable for their actions, and we're going to come out every night and we're going to make sure that y'all don't get away with this.</p>	6/8/2020 4:47 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Sarah Seldon. I'm a local farmer. I'm calling to support the black actual demand that were presented on Saturday with a budget coming up for consideration. I'm urging strong the council to the vest from the police department and invest instead in our black communities 50% of a budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black stores and businesses and Commercial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I don't think that at this moment increasing apts budget is The Right Use of our resources as a city and instead I would urge the city to use a full amount of the cares a Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance, and I hope that we can count on your support for the central policy shift at this crucial moment in our City's history. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:48 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Francis color, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I am writing to support I'm writing in support of the black actual demand who are presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I urge the city council to divest from off lease and instead invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on you for your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial time in our history. Thank you so much and have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 4:48 PM	Budget
<p>Hey, this is Mike henegar, and I am a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I am calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the actual police department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial operates a gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every city council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:48 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Andrea Smith. I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in the long-term safety strategies, including blacks startups and business eliminating eliminating the racial opportunity gaps for in Asheville City schools and the funding and all civilian oversight committee along with the power to hold the APD and individual offers accountable. Can I count on you for your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our history? Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:48 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Vivian Campbell and I am a sixteen-year-old citizen of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling urging you to create a strategic choice to create alternatives to policing and deny the 400,000 budget increase for the actual police department. We need to get this money for things that actually will benefit our community so that we can see real change and help all citizens. This includes the diverging this money to wage Rachel activity programs and supporting businesses and communities. This is long overdue and needs to happen. Now, we are off all citizens are telling my new to help our community and being crucial times. Please make a good decision about this fun about these impact every single citizen every day. This is why I'm calling to you where elected to office counting on you to denied this increase in diverted to other communities, Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:48 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Ciara and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020 to 2021 budget and the wake of the police is killing of George Floyd Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking about the city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the Asheville Police Department over inflated budget and two programs that can further help the community and especially communities of color do not forget about our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs saying?</p>	6/8/2020 4:48 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, this is Angelica. When and I was calling in support of a 50% budget cut of actual police department and a rebirth best man in longer-term strategies that he'll create safer communities across the board including supporting black startups eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Nashville and funding and all civilian oversight committee to be able to have the power to hold actual police department and not individual officers accountable And subscribe to transform what has historically been a problematic Police Department into one that we can all be proud of off of the nation and even serve as a model. Thank you so much for listening to my input and my hope is that you take it and we are able to age.To start the title change. Thank you so much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:48 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jimmy Bittner Huey and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis with Taylor and countless other black Americans before them. I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect the money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into programs that benefit are working for and communities of color. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:48 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Matthew Reed. I have a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling you about Asheville fiscal year two thousand two thousand and one annual operating budget proposal. I heard you urge the city of Asheville to make more of a visible commitment to racial Injustice. I urge you to not only deny these budget increase, but to redirect the money away from a budget instead allocate the money towards sectors that facilitate dismantling of racial class inequality.I'm in full support of black afro demands that were represented on Saturday to reiterate those demands and it's fifty percent of the budget to be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and finding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for these social policy shifts off this crucial juncture in our history. Thanks.</p>	6/8/2020 4:48 PM	Budget
<p>I would like for you to look into the destruction of the medic stations at the George Floyd Memorial downtown. I would I would encourage you to look into Nashville police department. And what action is being taken against them due to the destruction of those medications and those legs being put at risk. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:48 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, I'm calling about the increase for the APD budget. I'd like to vote. No for this funding. I'd like there to be a hiring freeze on the APD and I'd like the police budget to be cut by 50% and respond the black demand. We'd like to I'd like to defund the police. So thank you for listening.</p>	6/8/2020 4:49 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Brandi Dean. I live in West Asheville. I'm calling concerning the public hearing item D the 2021 fiscal year operating budget. My call is addressing the operating budget of the actual police department wage is over thirty million dollars the city council should adjust a DPS budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Nashville's minority communities 50% of the time invested in long-term safety strategies for these communities, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunities often also City schools and funding and all she billion oversight committee with the power to hold the ADP and individual officers accountable for offenses. I specifically want to see Asheville interesting programs that provide assistance to people of color to the office home and business owners. I would like to see more resources allocated to the Burton Street Community Center and Burton Street Community peace Gardens. I want Asheville to be a leader in creating a diverse emergency response Department that does not involve policing police are doing social work and that's not how Asheville should run off. I would like to see Asheville employee social workers and behavioral health professionals that can respond to crises that are non-violent. 15 million is a lot of money. So obviously the allocation of this money cannot be decided in one day. So I'm also proposing that the city council postponed a decision on the budget until a later date wage. I will call again.</p>	6/8/2020 4:49 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Jeremy. I'm a student at UNCA and I've lived in Western North Carolina for almost my entire life after what I have seen first-hand or Tuesday. Last week, I was horrified at the response that Asheville decided to give for our protests. I am extreme against the idea of increasing. Our police funding is a matter of fact, I believe that the funding needs to be cut and any money cut from the programs or any money proposed to be added to the police department should be used in other things like affordable housing child care services, not Emergency Services. And more affordable housing also suggest maybe putting money towards people of color, especially black people business. And I just have to say I'm very disappointed in our mayor, especially after she came out and supported our protest only four hours later and the police to tear gas as destroy medical supplies, and all of the things that have been happening over the last 10 days. Please do not get on the police any further. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:49 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Scott Branson. I'm calling about the proposed budget increase of the Asheville Police Department. Um not only do I think that it is absolutely irresponsible and vibrant to propose increasing the budget. I think we need to completely defund the police department and think of other ways of taking care of our community since I've lived in Nashville, the police have murdered man. They beat someone down a black man in the streets on video camera. They harass the people who live on the streets they harass everyone they come in contact with them. So giving them money is not only Reckless and irresponsible, but dangerous for the citizens of this town. The only thing it does is maybe make the city more comfort for tourists to see more police, but all the police do and we saw this last week is beat and arrest or citizens without any accountability. So I've vehement Lee dead.</p>	6/8/2020 4:49 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Patrick balls. And I'm a resident of Nashville. I live in zip code 28803. I'm calling the comments on the upcoming city council meeting regarding the city's budget for 2012 or 2021. I would like to in the strongest possible terms suggests that the council delay a vote on this budget in order to take the time to to re-vision and re-envision ways in which police can be policing can be done in our community in the wake of high-profile deaths like George Floyd and Brianna Taylor. It's become more clear than ever ever before wage the iniquities and our police system. I think it's important that we examined the role of the police play in our society and find new ways to take the funds and support the police department to support other programs programs that support educational Equity programs that support affordable housing programs that support mental health and substance abuse. There are so many of these roles that are taken on by police that can be much more able to logBy other offices and other resources. So again, please the latest on the upcoming fiscal Year's budget and take the time to re-examine the ways in which we can make our students better off. Thank you for your time and your service to our community.</p>	6/8/2020 4:49 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Amelia cuddle and I work in the city of Asheville. And I just calling on city council to divest from the police department and invest more in Black start up businesses and support systems to pull the actual police department accountable wage and support the struggling communities around our town who are experiencing extreme justices and just feel that um wage. I am among the majority of people here who feels that being long-term safety of black. Ash villians would be improved by reallocating the budget from the police towards more support systems in our community. Thank you. So assuming</p>	6/8/2020 4:49 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hi, my name is Trinity Isola. I'm a resident of Swannanoa and I'm calling to express that Asheville the Asheville Police Department and redirect. Those resources toward supporting members of our society who do not have policies or food. Thank you.	6/8/2020 4:49 PM	Budget
My name is lynell Mendoza, and I want the officers responsible for the destruction of the medic station on Tuesday, June 2nd held accountable for the actions. Thank you.	6/8/2020 4:49 PM	Opencomment
Hi, my name is Abigail Baker, and I'm calling because you are planning to increase the budget for the actual City police department, and I believed that is wrong our Police Department who has enough funding. I have been to the protest. I have seen the kind of gear and materials and resources that are often has access to and increasing their spending and their budget is not going to keep our cities safer training on the escalation will off and on racial Justice will I think that that money could be much better spent on education or health care or public services? Yep. That's all I think. Thank you. Bye.	6/8/2020 4:50 PM	Budget
Hello, this is Grace going and I'm a former resident but current employee of Asheville and Buncombe County and I don't actually work for the city, but I work with in it and I am me pays taxes. Um, I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance for Thursday. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to vesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including playing Black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in the Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the actual lease department into an individual officers accountable. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my	6/8/2020 4:50 PM	Budget
Hello, this is Ashley Spiro. I'm a resident of Henderson County. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting back black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Jersey City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee. Eliminating the opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you so much for taking the time and solidarity the wild.	6/8/2020 4:50 PM	Budget
Hello, my name is Michael Cohen, and I am in Nashville resident. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the choice is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking the the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and took this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into these programs.Do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you.	6/8/2020 4:50 PM	Budget
Hi, my name is Trevor Jackson, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville Esther manheimer fiscal year 2021 budget proposal wage. I'm asking that the city council make a more alert invisible commitment to racial Justice. I demand that the budget will be delayed so that the council may find ways to redirect money away from Ashville PDS over inflated budget tire pressure. The city manager's office towards an ethical and equal reallocation of the Cities expenditures away from APD and towards faith is the facilitate the dismantling a racial and class inequality research shows. They're living wage access to holistic health services and treatment educational opportunity and stay will housings are far more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons.Do not forget our poor and communities of color. Justice will only be served in the police the reformed and this will not be possible until we defend them. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget Mom? Let's just focus on social service programs.	6/8/2020 4:50 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Greg Parlier. Asheville, North Carolina was just calling to encourage city council to do everything they can to figure out how to divest some of our wage budget away from police officers from the police department rather and into more Community Services. We still need a police department, but we need to drastically limit its funding which many other departments are interested need of including education and uh part back and minority services and I would just encourage us to figure out a way to uh move that money to where it is needed most and away from buying more guns and police cars. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:50 PM	Budget
<p>This is Brandon, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of Asheville Department's budget me invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable tires every council member to support the central policy shift at The crucial Junction and our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:50 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Heather Lynch place. I currently reside in Flat Rock North Carolina used to reside in Asheville for many years and I support increasing Asheville firefighter pay to Fifteen dollars an hour these men and women work endless hours at anytime night and day to serve and protect our community. Um, I've seen directly the effects of what they get paid, which is horrible. It's very stressful on Family Life paid \$11.\$12, how can anybody support a family on that? Please? Do what's right and increase the minimum pay to Fifteen dollars an hour pretty brave men and women who are there for us at all times again, I support the increase of Asheville Firefighters pay to Fifteen dollars an hour.</p>	6/8/2020 4:50 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Julia christgau, and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-21 budget in the wake of the page scaling of George George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless other black Americans before him. I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and Thursday this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville Police Department over inflated budget into the actual Public School Systems. Don't forget about our poorer and poorer and communities of color. Hope I can count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that says a priority on social programs. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:50 PM	Budget
<p>I just this is my city and I want please to go away and I want to only nice people and can be allowed here and nobody thinks that police are off. And I mean, please meet me. I want them to be mean and I just I mean not mean and I want to be nice, but they're not.</p>	6/8/2020 4:50 PM	Opencomment
<p>My name is lynell Mendoza, and I want the officers responsible for the destruction of the medic station on Tuesday, June 2nd held accountable for their actions God. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:50 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is James Hoban. I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina, the 2021 fiscal year opening budget as far as I know. There's about fifteen million dollars going into the actual police department fund and that's only going to increase. I believe in defunding the police reallocating those funds into colors community-owned businesses. caller own businesses in my community Also just like gets that Zack Snyder out of there and it's an error here. Is this your the worst? In reality, I don't care what you do with the money as long as you're not giving it to the police to further militarize and further. Use it to stifle our first amendment rights and disproportionately affect colors of community. God, dammit. Anyway, you know what? It's about. Thanks guys.</p>	6/8/2020 4:51 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Susanna bomb. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins to investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up pack says eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a pedia individual officers accountable. Can I count on your support is essential policy shift at this crucial in juncture in our City's history? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:51 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Esme Russell and I am a resident of Swannanoa and I am calling in regards to to comment on the fiscal year 2012 or 2021 annual operating budget. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next to us budget need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police. Department's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee along with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member to support the central policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:51 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, I'm calling because I'd like to demand this divestment from the police and investment in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be investing long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with Howard to hold the APD and individual offers officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 4:51 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Elizabeth. She'll I live on the south side of Asheville and I'm a downtown business owner of pearls yarn Emporium. I'm here to speak about the budget the time has come to make some long-overdue changes in relation to the APD. You may not be ready to disband. So you could wonderfully surprised us but please I implore you to not give a dime more to this overzealous racist over militarized out of control not serving the people at all police force this force that like many of you sadly seems only interested in protecting property owners and Rich interests. Please bare minimum do not give one more penny to a PDA the new 2021 budget but even better take away some money is black Asheville leaders have demanded divest from APD and invest in the black community diverted funding from the APD off this mental health education public transportation affordable housing much-needed funds for covid-19 related support. Hey, how about some money towards tearing down some monuments to racists basically anything that would actually benefit the pig.Of Asheville and most especially that would benefit the black people of Asheville who have been harmed by the APD and decisions of this Council and its previous incarnations for far too. Long many downtown business owners, like yourself support the movement for black lives. We believe in people over property. Do you please stop giving in to hoteliers and rich people who profit on the destruction of our community over and again and you just helped wage do it just as police have attempted to sweep under the rug all their murders and misdoings for all these many years. They have worked hard to limit free speech in the street including hours. But if they really wanted to show us that took only a few bad apples, then they would clean house fire them all change their policies and practices that protect murderers and let the protest happen unfettered and people black people especially off.Pursue the right to freedom and being in the being in the streets being themselves on a daily basis. He does not deserve one more Penny let alone the full budget. They already have it has to stop. How will you help it stop. Do you find reinvest in the community? Please take a stand. We are in a moment like no other which side of History. Do you want to be on? Thank you for listening.</p>	6/8/2020 4:51 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Evan Ekstrom. I'm a resident of Asheville and I am calling to urge the city to use the funds from the CARES Act CDBG for re-assistance. Also, I believe the city should adjust the budget allocation to divest from the police department and invest in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget Thursday. I believe should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the Asheville Police Department and individual police officers accountable for their actions and their composure on duty.This is the time to act Asheville. This is the time to act please show up for your citizens and what they believe in. Thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:51 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Craig Tracy. I am a citizen here in Asheville, North Carolina. I demand that the budget vote be delayed so that Council may find ways to redirect money away from Asheville Police Department over inflated budget and would like it to go to other things like education such. Um, so just want to put my input on that.</p>	6/8/2020 4:51 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Jennifer McMillan. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling in support of the Black Rose demands that were presented in Saturday with the budget up for consideration. Am I charged city council to divest to the police and invest in Black communities 50% of atps budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including black startups business and eliminate eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold and individual officers accountable. I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:51 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Michael heard. I am a citizen of North Asheville resident of North Asheville, and I'm calling to support the the black Asheville demands that were presented on Saturday. I would love for the city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities. I'd lost 50% of the actual police department's budget to be transferred to long-term strategies that include supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in city schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with real power to hold the actual police department and individual officers accountable for their actions. I don't want to get rid of the police department completely, but I do want to reallocate a significant portion of their funding 50% toward strategies that will address the The social problems that really are are being handled by police. Now that really would be much better handled by preventing them rather than waiting for them to be problems and then trying to fix it afterwards. I want to be preventative and proactive and support our community. Just being a better place to live where people are just dead have more access to resources, um can get their needs met and they don't need to resort to Measures that that bring them into contact with the police also want to send a really clear message to our community and to the police that that violence in a policing and Punishment are in effective strategies in the long run and that we I just I just want our money to be spent elsewhere. I want to make the world. I want to make Asheville a better place where crime and violence are just much less common because people are getting what they need Em. I'm sure that's cheaper overall. But even if it weren't it's obviously better certainly we'd all agree that it would be better for folks to be able to eat and have jobs meaningful work. And have less less motivation to resort to. Violence or other measures? Yeah. Thank you much. Take care.</p>	6/8/2020 4:51 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is dr. Leslie first and I'm a resident of Asheville like to leave a comment about the post 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis. Countless. Black Americans before him I'm asking that they Asheville city council make the commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect the money away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget into Asheville social work and um public health programs</p>	6/8/2020 4:52 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Taylor. I've been a resident of Asheville North Carolina for ten years and calling about the police budget and seeing that there was an increase would like to see some of those funds diverted towards our educational resources, especially as more of our teachers have had to learn so quickly on how to do online education and our students need more money sources as do the teachers and our police force does not mostly because we we need is that money diverted towards people more like social workers people who deal with mental health issues substance abuse issues, whatever it is that you know, the non-violent crimes that are mostly reported. After when the police get called to thank you for your time again. I hope that you take into consideration all of What the residents of Asheville are telling you right now with. Um certain years have much more angrier voicemail. So, thank you again for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:52 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Trina Larson. And I am a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act the Community Development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies include not supporting black start-up businesses or eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:52 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Michelle since I and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling about Asheville mayor Esther manheimer budget proposal for fiscal year 2021. I believe we should delay the budget vote and find them to redirect money away from Asheville Police Department over inflated budget. I would urge you to pressure the city manager's office towards an ethical and equal reallocation of the Cities expenditures m d and towards sectors that facilitate the dismantling of racial and class inequality. The fact is police and prisons do not prevent crimes research shows that living wages Health Care education housing all reduce crime the fact that the current proposal plans to increase the police budget while decreasing other areas of the budget due to covid-19 demonstrates a misunderstanding of our community and its needs are working class Citizens need that money instead. Moreover these steps can begin to rectify. The many wrongs of the police department is important to point out that people of color are disproportionate targets of police violence in light of the response to recent drug tests and his handling of the situation including the use of tear gas and the destruction of medical equipment are both war crimes, according to the Geneva Convention. I'm also counting on mayor Mannheim the police chief and our city manager to resign. I believe all of this is an excellent opportunity for Asheville city council to follow the lead of Minneapolis and begin to disband the Asheville Police Department. Thank you so much for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:52 PM	Budget
<p>This is Morgan Carney. I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to encourage the city to adjust next year's budget by wage increasing well decreasing the amount of money going to the police and putting that money elsewhere like investing black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including a supporting black business startups as well as eliminate em, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee off the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I hope every councilmember considers this essential policy ship shift and thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:52 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Alex. I live in Hawk Creek. And I really think that we need to be listening to our black community leaders as to how we should be appropriating funds and not just willy-nilly give our police more money in their budget when it's been shown and demonstrated that they cannot use it responsibly.</p>	6/8/2020 4:52 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Julie McGuire a resident of Asheville and I am I'm calling to comment in support of uh what I'm sure you're hearing a lot of right now. It's nice and supportive black actual residents demands that were presented to the accounts on Saturday specifically related to the budgets up for consideration and the wage increase amount of dollars going toward the police force. I am I'm calling just to urge a divestment from the police force and investment into social programming in Black communities in Asheville, North Carolina, and I I'm in full support of of that money being invested in long-term safety strategies and social programming like Mental Health Care social workers and um supporting black startups and businesses and and working to eliminate the racial. Opportunity Gap in Asheville City Schools. Um, and also I want to voice my support for funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold and individual officers accountable for them. Again. My name is Julie Maguire's and I'm a resident of Asheville. I have eight year old son and Asheville City schools, and I would be horrified and embarrassed for Asheville assist, uh budget proposition to increase police force spending money is actually pushed through and I'm again urging city council to divest from the police force and consider. Strongly how to how to move forward with funding pouring those funds into into organizations and systems and program and education for our actual communities for the fact that live in East communities, um in this Asheville Community think so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:52 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Chris Szymanski. Again. This is a continuation of the message that I was just leaving. I apologize my service got cut off and had a hard time hearing and leaving continuing that message. Um again, though, I um in support of defunding, um the law enforcement here in town along with the use of teargas. It is a chemical weapon abandon war and has no business being used by enforcement in the United States or anywhere. So I appreciate your time and thank you very much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:52 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi there. My name is Allison. I'm I'm a business owner and Asheville. I'm calling in support of the black actual demands that were presented on Saturday. But the budget up for consideration. I heard city council to divest wage the police and invest in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our school district.</p>	6/8/2020 4:52 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Daniel Smallwood. I live in Belmont North Carolina. I would like to support increasing the Asheville firefighter pay to a minimum of \$15 per hour for all their hard work and dedication and rescuing and everything that they do they deserve to have higher pay and I really hope that this will be considered and that are firefighters Nashville will will offer you \$15 an hour pay. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:52 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Cara growing. I live in Nashville. I'm a resident here have been for almost a decade and I'm just calling in support of the black ones that were presented on Saturday with the budget up for consideration. I just urge the city council to divest from the police and invest into black communities saying as Asheville is one of them I graduated cities and the black population is present and it's here and it is consistently being pushed out and gentrified out and put on two islands and Ed tucked away in two places that cannot be seen or accessed. And fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses since this is a town that says month that it runs on businesses and why not reinvest into your black community. I also urge city council to eliminate the racial opportunity gaps in Asheville City Schools to fund an Australian oversight committee with a powerful and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for the December issue at this crucial juncture in our City's history and our cannot express enough the importance of giving a seat at the table to the black community here in Asheville. I also want to urge the consideration of following Minnesota's lead in defending the police and birth investing in public like true Public Safety Not in police not in people that feel inherently violent. I am a white woman and I myself have never felt any kind of safety or security from the police and I think if you truly want to make this town Progressive liberal, we play that we are off all of these things need to be heavily heavily heavily shifted. Thank you so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:52 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Claire. I'm calling in regards to the police brutality event that happened on June 2nd in downtown Asheville, clearly, identified doctors and Medics. We're out of City approved medical station outside One World Brewing. When Asheville Police Department burst into the peaceful medic station and through innocent people against the wall and pushed them out into the street. If you did then intentionally slash the entire stash of water bottles and medical supplies at the station and finish this Rampage by spraying medical supplies to prevent medical surprised with chemicals to prevent any further. Use these supplies could have easily been moved out and taken to a shelter a p d is inciting violence and it must be stopped. We want a p d and the Asheville city council to know that not only our city but the entire country has the intention of holding them accountable for their job. We're all watching and they will not get away with this show your black community that you care.</p>	6/8/2020 4:52 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hi, my name is Matthew Sherwood. I'm a 30-year resident of Asheville. Um, I want to make public comments that I am supporting all of the black box that were presented on Saturday. city council investing from police and investing in Black communities would be a wonderful use of time and resources fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools in funding civilian oversight with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. It is. Hi time for change. Thanks.</p>	6/8/2020 4:53 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, this is Christy Tanger. And I'm in Nashville resident. I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. The city council needs wage adjust the budget so that it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting both startups and businesses eliminate eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officer accountable. I in particular am a public school teacher who used to teach at the alternative Middle School called Randolph Learning Center in Asheville City Schools 98% at the students in the Alternative Center who were sent they're not elected to go where African-American they were disproportionately represented in this community wage.As children who are not served by our public school system. If we don't invest in our black communities, what will these children do read Asheville needs to take this seriously, and we need to begin to start to look at supports in the community that will lift people up not I'm not seeing them not violate their civil rights and not subject them to abuse.Can I count on your support for this Central policy shift as this crucial juncture in our at this crucial juncture in our City's history. It is never been more important black matter.</p>	6/8/2020 4:53 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Carol in May and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the Care is active Community Development block grant home and serve until assistant furthermore. I think so cancel needs to adjust the budget. So if it inside messing from the police and investing in black community 50% of the tip needs should be invested in long-term safety strategies.What start up businesses and eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and plumbing all civilian oversight committees with the power tools accountable life. Thank you for your time. Have a good day.</p>	6/8/2020 4:53 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Michelle de Nicholas. I'm a resident of West Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the actual police department's budget should be invested in a long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses and limiting eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I urge every council member member to support this essential to policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:53 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Pamela mumbi. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget to begin to vesting from the police and investing more in a community. Uh, most of the police department's budget should be invested in various safety measures just to keep people from needing to involve police. Um, uh presents such as working on Mental Health addiction treatment in other social issues. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:53 PM	Budget
<p>This is Abby insa. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to the city to use the full amount of the care that Community Development for for block grant funds for assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So begins to investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black Stardust and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thanks.</p>	6/8/2020 4:53 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Paul Choi from Asheville North Carolina. And it's time for a change the old system and the old way of doing things is not working and it's time to look at it in a way of doing things and and moving forward in a way that benefits people who the least of us and the people who need the money need help and and and the and um an equal voice in this world. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:53 PM	Opencomment
<p>Yes, this is Linda Evans. I just heard that there is a meeting tonight on increasing the police budget by \$400,000 a month and seems like it's come up kind of suddenly and without much notice. I'm concerned about that and I'm also concerned that thumb the right people get to give input on this. So I'm asking that you postpone that decision and be in contact and widely advertised to the the population of Asheville, that would be appreciated.617-820-8973. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:54 PM	Budget
<p>We demanded the vestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% of the apts budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start up the businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 4:54 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hi, my name is Dresden Simmons. I live in bureau county and sometimes and I am requesting that the 2021 police budget proposal be reconsidered the 13th. You'll have already is way to much and the community relief is so underfunded. So I'd love if that happened. Thanks again for mistrust in a sentence.	6/8/2020 4:54 PM	Budget
Hi, this is Grayson Jenkins. I'm currently living in a Asheville and was calling about the APD budget cuts. Next year and I think there's a lot of money going there that could be going to better causes and different strategies and supporting like black start businesses. And I think it would be a huge moment for Asheville and huge. importance for us to stand up and other communities do the same as well and I would love to see y'all support and doing this because it would need a lot and long overdue. Thank you.	6/8/2020 4:55 PM	Budget
Hi, my name is Nicole Gian Marco. I'm a citizen of Asheville. My zip code is 28805. I'm calling in regards to the emergency city council meeting tomorrow regarding a potential \$400,000 increase in the police budget and I want to note my absolute, um opinion against that please do not increase the police budget not by \$400,000 and not by any dollars. That is where I stand and again, my zip code is 28805. Thank you very much.	6/8/2020 4:55 PM	Budget
My name is Lindsey far I urge city council to postpone the city budget decision in order to allow the city council time to reallocate funds away not towards the actual police department which has put us in the eyes of the nation by being violent with the citizens of our of Asheville, you know off to reallocate those resources towards education towards housing towards social services that actually benefit our community rather than put it towards about Force who has shamed our city. My name is Lindsey far. My number is 601-832-1316 again, I am urging a city council to delay off the budget decision urge them to find allocations for these funds that better benefit our community because Asheville Police Department is not benefiting our club.	6/8/2020 4:55 PM	Budget
Hi, my name is Madison. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to Port a black men's running on Saturday with a budget of consideration. I urge to be canceled to the best way to invest in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups business page businesses and eliminating their racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding an all citizen oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope that I can count on your support for this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.	6/8/2020 4:55 PM	Budget
Hello, my name is Anastasio spondylolysis. I'm a resident of Weaverville North Carolina mostly lived in Nashville, and I work in Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust the next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police in investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be invested in long-term strategies, including supporting Blacksborg startups and businesses limiting the racial opportunity cap in Asheville City schools and Sunday and all civilian oversight committee with a power to hold the APD and individual authors accountable. In addition may also be very helpful to have expanded mediation services available and crisis Management Services available and for community members wage by urge every council member to continue to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Thank you.	6/8/2020 4:55 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Carmelo and I've been a resident of Asheville for ten years. I'm calling about the fiscal year 2021 budget proposal. There are many beautiful things about this city. But the longtime economic disparities in racial Injustice has are coming to a head now throughout the past years and especially over the past week. Our city has done little to uphold its image of being a progressive inclusive and community-oriented place off the Asheville Police Department over-inflated proposed budget of 30057325 dollars would be the highest expenditure accounting for 22.3% of the city's total proposed budget. There's no evidence that it's caused is proportional to the community services and resources that it in turn provide. I'm demanding that fifty percent of the apd's budget be reallocated the strategies that ensure the long-term health safety education and development of the black community and black businesses and demanding that we invest in an independent police oversight committee. I'mDemanding that the city of Asheville pieces to revolve around the Confederate slave-owning Zebulon the Advanced Auto which does not simply memorialize history, but rather glorified slavery while dragging the artistic ideals of white supremacy straight into the twenty-first century and then rubbing them into the faces of my black brothers and sisters the monument needs to go. There are more sophisticated ways to memorialize history such as anything that would honor many of the black Ashley aims that literally built this city with their hands and demand that the budget vote be delayed so that Council may find ways to properly redirect money away from the apd's over-inflated bag proposal urge you to pressure the city manager's office towards towards an ethical and equal reallocation of the Cities expenditures away from APD and towards sectors that actually faciliate the dismantling of racial inequality Americans have had enough there are protests in all 50 states and nineteen countries worldwide making this the largest civil rights movement in history. There's something fundamentally wrong with an organization that wageParts to complaints of abuse with more abuse if any other City organization committed similar atrocities. So what we've seen from the police historically and recently they would have been defunded disbanded and their member reprimanded fired and jailed long ago this social economic judicial asymmetry must stop now such an immunity from actual consequences must stop now. This is what the long road to a Justice looks like. I'm asking that the city council make a strategic commitment to racial and economic Justice to prioritize The Liberation and the hard earned respect of community members and to step up and be a game in this worldwide movement to bring about radically positive change. Please hear your constituents. Please hear your people. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:55 PM	Budget
<p>Hello. Anyway, I'm sure you know that I was reading a script, but I do support those. I do support following the recommendations that were made at the patient Gatherings, particularly the the rally and gathering this weekend to the best friend funds from the police department and make changes in our city government that will protect all people in our city. My name is Lisa and r a last name w r a y and I hope that you will keep Asheville a diverse and respectful place. We will respect all our community members and treat them all equally. Thank you. Bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:55 PM	Opencomment
<p>Hello, this is Kayla hill and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant cdbg wage rental assistance. Furthermore. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So begin divesting from the police and investing in the black communities 15% of the apd's budget should be invested in a long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and flooding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the TV and individual officers accountable.We expect more from our city.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Jennifer Woodward. I am a resident of Asheville. And the item on commenting on is the fiscal year 2021 annual operating budget off the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin to investing from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the Asheville PD budget should be invested in a long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups businesses, uh-uh, eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding in all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our city mystery. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Amanda Bush and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget and the wake of the police killing of George Floyd Minneapolis and countless black American choice for him. I'm asking the actual City Council made committed to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the actual police officer over inflated budget into the equity and inclusion Department And the planning and Urban Design Department as well as any other department, that would help.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Bill Molly. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for research assistant. Furthermore. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins possessing from the police and investing in Block communities 50% of the ADB AP D's off. It should be invested in the long-term safety strategies, including supporting block startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all citizen oversight committee with the power to hold the APD individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Molly schlager. I live in Asheville. I live in Buncombe County. My zip code is 28806. I'm calling about the money going wage that's being discussed to go towards the police force, and I just want to say that I'm strongly against that do not think that's where our money should be going right now. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Scarlett Simmons, and I live in Brooklyn County and I'm requesting that the 2021 police budget proposal to be reconsidered. There are already Thirty million dollar budget, and it's way too much funding the early child childhood public education is only three point six million in Grants for African American historical districts and museum is only a hundred thousand please reconsider. Thank you for your time.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
<p>My name is Rachel gray and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling because I'm appalled by the way Asheville City representatives and police have treated my black brothers and sisters of color of the tax paying citizen. I demand Swift and I will change the urge city council to support black actual demands by adjusting the city budget for the coming year. I also demand a divestment from excessive police force. I do not consent for my taxes to be used to pull your eyes are police force military grade Vehicles weapons and equipment are not necessary for peacekeeping operations a demand that all funds that have been used to militarize our police force be divested to support long-term safety strategies, including an all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold a p d and individual officers accountable. I also think these funds should be invested in black and underprivileged communities including supporting Iraq business and equality in Asheville City Schools. I also demand reparations for the black community Adam and that Vance and Robert E. Lee memorials be torn down and replaced with community-created art that represents the real Spears.And finally, I demand an end to the war on black people police officers for the history of racial profiling homophobia and transphobia abuse of power and aggressive behavior off immediately fired. Thank you for taking me back and for taking immediate action to bring true equality and safety tall actual citizens.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Jon Acuff. And I am a resident of Asheville. I am calling to urge the city to use a full amount of the cares Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore I think city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins devastating. From the police or divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invented invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold up the apda the individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Andrew Reed, and I'm a resident of Hendersonville now, but I used to be a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed budget for the twenty Twenty-One years in the wake of police's killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless other black Americans before him currently, and I'm asking that the actual city council make a commitment faith in Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to read redirect money away from the Asheville police departments over inflated budget into mental health wage and tactics and overall there needs to be a serious demilitarization of the police and the funding back into Community programs. Do not forget our poor and communities of color, please please please do this. It's very necessary. And as you can see around the country club done dead</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hi, my name is Blake Webster. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm commenting on the proposed budget increase for the APD. My comment is directly from the black asphalt man. I stand with the black community of Asheville and support their demands one hundred percent. We demand a divestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the bulb and individual officers accountable. Please do not allow the budget increase for the APD. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Megan Luca and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police killing of Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote tomorrow and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the actual police department into a mental health programs. Please do not forget our and communities of color as well. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs and not the police officer. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Joshua lot and I'm a resident of Asheville North Carolina and acted so since 2004. I am requesting that city council delay allocations of funds for the 2020 Dodge 2021 year until further scrutiny further scrutiny can be employed into the over inflation of funds to the Asheville Police Department found the under allocated funds in poor and minority neighborhoods. Again, my name is Joshua lot and I'm a resident of Asheville since 2004 and I sincerely hope that this budget meeting will be postponed until further review in the wake of of George Floyd's murder and other murders by police officers toward black men in the United States at this time. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Alice Barry and I live in Black Mountain in Buncombe County and I'm calling to talk about fiscal year 20 20 20 21 annual operating budget. Just wanted to reach out and urge the city to look at next year's budget and how we can begin by fasting from police and and finding alternate ways to invest in communities of color. Um, as I understand 50% of the actual police budget is invested in long-term, but should be invested in long-term safety strategies and creating better equity and oversight to hold the actual police department accountable. So I'm hoping that every Council mobile number will consider supporting this policy shift. I know that it's a big step to take and it's uncharted waters. But I think you know with Minneapolis taking the lead on this move. In their enormous City the actual certainly has ways of looking at making similar shifts. So, thank you so much for the consideration, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is May. I live in Asheville. I want to comment on the public hearing item of the budget. I would like to ask the city council make a more overt invisible commitment to racial Justice. I need the cancel to find ways to divest money from the actual police department and into Community organizations that help lift black and indigenous people of color Latin X people and low-income people a living wage access to holistic health services and treatment education opportunities in stable housing are much more successful at reducing crime than police or prisons. So I think that the budget should take those things into account instead of spending Thirty million dollars on people wage think water bottles are a threat and are happy to hurt children and vulnerable people with chemicals that are permitted to be used in Warfare for what? Define the police. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Sara hooker and I'm a resident of West Asheville. I'm calling to ask the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget. I think the city council needs to adjust the same budget, um to start investing in Black communities and not in the police fifty percent of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and business rep eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. I hope I can count on your support for the Samsung policy shipped at this crucial juncture juncture in the city's history be on the right side of History.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Chris Mackey. I am calling to offer my input. I would like a reduced funding for the Asheville Police Department and a reinvestment in the office actual black community. And I also would like to say that I support the demands as listed by the Marchers on Saturday the 6th. That's where I stand and that's why I'd like to see. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
Hello, this is William Burke of Asheville, North Carolina. I am commenting on public hearing item. D. Uh I request. That funds from the Asheville Police Department be redirected toward long-term safety strategies, including black startups and businesses working on eliminating the rep opportunity Gap in the Asheville City school system and funding a oversight committee made up of of civilians with the power to hold the police department accountable as well as individual officers office.	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Budget
Yes, this is Kerry Von from County. Please do not defend our police force do not cut back on our police. This is wage insane that they want to cut our police budget. Do not do this. It is just an invitation for more crime while I agree that something needs to be done socially reducing the police force is not the answer. Thank you.	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Opencomment
Hello, my name is Cheryl Dalton. I am a native of Asheville North Carolina. Since nineteen fifty-nine. I formerly quiet native. I've lived a law-abiding life and you had probably never heard my name. I am deeply disturbed by what I have seen them coming from the police department in the city of Asheville involving the protests for human rights.in our town and in our country I am calling city council to let you know that I do not propose to have the answers, but I know that a change needs to happen there needs to be more money allotted to community involvement and supporting underserved communities and less money. Allotted to a militarized police force. As I said, I don't have the answers, but I am very interested in seeing change as soon as possible. I have not been proud of our town this week. And this is the first time in my 61 years that I feel the need to say that thank you. Please use good judgment for every Citizen's behalf.	6/8/2020 4:56 PM	Opencomment
My name is Darlene is Army and I am calling today to uphold the demands of black community that will to divest from police and invest in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the rate of opportunity Gap in Nashville schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power of to hold a p d and individual officers accountable in the area of reparations demanding that the city government removed the Vance and Robert E. Lee monuments and replaced them with monuments that honor many of the black Asheville and to build the city and also to demand that the streets named after former slave owners be replaced with the names of historic black leaders generally ending the war on black people. There's a demand that not just individual accountability for officers after birth.Violent use of force incidents before the entire police department as well as demanding an end to systemic harm inflicted upon all black people, especially including black Trans queer and non-conforming people. I also am wondering in terms of transparency and accountability in funding what the \$4,000 increase in the police budget is four there have been consistent increases in budget and recent years and along the lines of the previous system and there have been implementations of different policies and use-of-force trainings, but there has not been a measurable decrease and in fact from the data perspective, they've been increases in violent incidents in Nashville. So it's critical that the city of Asheville begin to comply with the recommended data reporting that code for Asheville has been advocating.For four years now beyond that to reallocate the \$400,000 to refuse the \$400,000 increase and reallocate it to other areas of of training for the police department is is critical at this time given recent decision making and advancements since protests have occurred and I am also wondering about the increase in transit expenses. Um, if those are being offset from the cares act it seems that there's a lot of money coming in from the cares act that is not easy being accounted for or disclose publicly. So in short the budget went from over a hundred twenty Pages last year down to thirty seven pages this year and there needs to be you know, immediate wage and more thorough explanation of why that is to the public black lives matter and I hope that especially white leadership on Council will acknowledge.	6/8/2020 4:57 PM	Opencomment
Hello, this is Kayla hill and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares at Community Development block grant cdbg funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think the city council needs to adjust the budget. So it begins divesting from the police and investing in Black communities 50% of the apd's budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminate the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committee with the power who hold the TV and individual officers accountable.	6/8/2020 4:57 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Hannah as in I live in Weaverville, North Carolina. I've lived in Asheville in the surrounding area since 2013 and I'm calling to urge the mayor and city council Tom know and their increased budget for the Asheville Police Department. I would like to see these funds be reallocated to equity and inclusion initiatives and sustainability initiative. I vote to decrease and defund.Asheville Police Department and to delay the budget meeting so that we can find ways to use this money to create our community. To be stronger and more resilient and peaceful.</p>	6/8/2020 4:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Andrea Parkins. I'm a Nashville native and I'd like to leave a comment about your proposed 2021 budget in the wake of the police is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless many other black Americans including Brianna Taylor and more before him. I am asking of the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial just wage. Yes. All sorts of Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the actual police departments over inflated budget into those programs. Do not forget our poor communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an altar alternate alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on supposed social programs. I hope so. Please do to help us. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Megan Monopoly. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget that's being discussed tomorrow in June 9th. I think in the wake of George Floyd's death and all the other black Americans would have been killed by police and everything that's going on in today's climate. I am asking that the actual City Council made commitment. Who are communities of color and delay the budget vote? I think this money should be redirected away from Asheville police departments over inflated budget and should be put back into the community and focus on affordable housing and jobs education opportunity, especially in our poor communities and communities of color. So like you to consider an alternate budget proposal. As I'm sure so many more people in Nashville are thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Danielle wiggle. I live in Montgomery County Asheville, North Carolina. I am commenting on the budget no more funding to m p d. We need to put the we need to put that money into communities services to help our black community. thrive I hope you you can see it to to not put any more money into the police. And and see it another way and also for the cares act we need rental assistance for these communities. And some some monetary. Aid to help the communities through this pandemic. All right. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Karen. I am just calling to request that you do not increase the budget for the police for the next fiscal year and consider investing in other parts of the community, um, uh such as education affordable housing and focusing on the safety of the black community here in Nashville. Thanks so much.</p>	6/8/2020 4:57 PM	Budget
<p>For my name is Noah Levinson. I'm a resident of Asheville to 8804. I'm calling today in support of the black Asheville demands that are presented on Saturday with a budget of consideration. I urge city council to divest from the police and invest in Black communities and other communities of color 50% of these budgets should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable of the day County support of this essential policy ship a crucial juncture in our City's history.</p>	6/8/2020 4:57 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Frank Andrews, and I'm a resident of Asheville and I'd like to like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-21 budget in the wake up killing George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless other black Americans for him and asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from Asheville Police Department. Two programs that offer restorative justice to the community and people of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:57 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, my name is Mike story and I am a local Asheville resident and I wanted to urge the city council to please investigate law enforcement excessive use of force over the last week and a particular. I was rather Disturbed that we had to call in Sheriff's from another County to support our law enforcement and am concerned that those individuals were not necessarily providing by the policies and practices of our Enforcement Officers. So thank you for your help and buy.</p>	6/8/2020 4:57 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>My name is Hannah McKinley. I'm a resident of Asheville. I am commenting on the proposed budget increase for the Asheville Police Department might comment is directly from the black Asheville demands. I stand with the black community of Asheville and support their demands one hundred percent. We demand a divestment from the police and investment in Black communities 50% of the Asheville Police Department's budget should be investing long-term safety strategies, including supporting black start-up businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap in Asheville City schools and funding all civilian oversight committees with the power to hold the actual service department and individual officers accountable. Please do not allow the budget increase for the Asheville Police Department. Thank you Hannah McKinley.</p>	6/8/2020 4:58 PM	Budget
<p>Yes, my name is Nancy Turner. P as in Peter E R N A N D. I am calling to voice my opposition to increasing the police budget, and I also feel folks that didn't not have computer access. There was no fear wanting the this was going to happen for the meeting that I had seen and I am always asking about. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:58 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Matt Townsend. I'm an ash West Asheville residence and I'm calling to urge the city to divest from the police beginning with next year's budget and hoping to encourage the city council to reinvest that divested money into the community of Asheville focusing specifically on the black community a.m. And our education system.</p>	6/8/2020 4:58 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, this is Sadie strain and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think a council needs to adjust the budget. So It Begins by vesting from the police and investing in Black communities fifty percent of the budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting Black start up Sandburg is eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville City schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable.</p>	6/8/2020 4:58 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Rod Smallwood. I live in Nashville, and I want to make a comment about public hearing item D regarding the wage of Nashville firefighters. I do believe these men and women who risk their lives and lots of different ways and and certainly deserved a little greater pay scale than they were being paid right now. Thank you, bye-bye.</p>	6/8/2020 4:58 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Candace Watterson, and I am a resident of Asheville for my full Thirty-One years. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police is kind of George in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him. I'm asking of the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the actual Department over inflated budget into programs that will help the community, especially the black community to for better education officer for assistance when they need it to better opportunities and access to these things. Please do not forget our foreign communities of color. I'm hoping I can count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal at the priority on social programs. We the People asked us to you, thank you</p>	6/8/2020 4:58 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, this is Michael Breen. I'm a resident of Asheville, North Carolina. I'm calling to urge the city to adjust next year's budget. We need to begin divesting from the police and investing in community support em, especially for black communities in Western North Carolina and Asheville 50% of the Asheville Police Department budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including support for black startups and businesses eliminating the racial opportunity Gap and Asheville schools funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold Asheville Police and individual offers countable. I'm sorry Officers Club every council member to support this essential policy shift at this crucial juncture in our City's history. Seriously, we're paying attention. Thank you. My name is Michael Green.</p>	6/8/2020 4:59 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Sarah Grace Dalton. I'm in I'm a resident of Asheville and a student at Carolina Day School. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2022 21:21 budget wage in the wake of the police is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless black Americans before him I am asking that the actual city council make a real commitment commitment to racial Justice scheduling the budget vote using this time to find ways to redirect money away from actual police departments over inflated budget. Do not forget our poor in communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternative budget proposal that puts a priority on social program? Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:59 PM	Budget



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, this is Sarah and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'm calling to urge the city to use the full amount of the cares act Community Development block grant funds for rental assistance. Furthermore. I think city council needs to adjust it. So it begins the best thing for the police and investing is our communities 50% of a budget should be invested in long-term safety strategies, including supporting black startup slash businesses elimination opportunity Gap in Nashville Community Schools and funding and all civilian oversight committee with the power to hold the APD and individual officers accountable. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:59 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Elizabeth cane and I'm a Nashville city residence and I'm calling in reference to a public hearing item v. Am. I am married to one of the 77 Nashville City Firefighters who makes \$11.65 an hour. I am in North Carolina public education school teacher and I make \$10,000 more per year than my husband does and frankly that is just sad to be a public school teacher and be the main Breadwinner in the family package. All of the Asheville City Firefighters. I have met.Are selfless kind and brave human beings. They're they're the type of people we want to keep in our community. There's some of the office working individuals we have here in Asheville. They risk their lives every day to ensure the community is safe and you know Asheville has a reputation for being very Progressive, but I challenge that idea how Progressive can a city really be if we value the economy more than we value the helpers in Arkham. Yep.What we pay individuals and how we treat them says a lot about the values in our society. I urge you Asheville City Council Members to do the right thing here and raise the pay for the 77 fire fighting Heroes. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:59 PM	Budget
<p>Hi there. My name is David cheshier. I live here in Asheville requests and demands of the Asheville black community and black lives matter movement to divest City budget funds next year's budget away from anything and um towards black communities and towards supporting black communities. And I really hope that you all know we'll start the process of reallocating the budget towards blacks startup and businesses towards education and off limiting the opportunities that's in Asheville City Schools, which we know existed for ages and keeps black children and students in Asheville wage.From being able to achieve and then be able to be successful later on and off like to see the budget also allocated towards funding and also some of you with the power to hold the actual police police department accountable and to hold individual officer accountable. I know many of you have been that the recent marches or have tuned in virtually, and I hope you recognize that name is a crucial moment in our City's history in our country's history at the moment to say what size your on and I hope you take your side of justice and equity and a lot of people's lives are depending on it says, thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:59 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Charles Tiffany. I live in Nancy County in Green Mountain in the Brushy Creek Township. I came to Asheville from Charlotte Durham in ninety and ninety-one for college and fell in love with this town and have lived elsewhere and come back and now we live and have bought the house and land and I see this request for information on public comment on the destruction of the medical stations and the George Floyd Memorial downtown. And if you are wondering if people want you to look into this, yes, in fact, actually, yes, you don't should not need to ask that of course. We want you to look into it, please and took her eyes the police across this country.They are here to help us not to imprison us in our own land. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 4:59 PM	Opencomment
<p>This is Sydney Marquez. I was a recent Resident of Asheville, North Carolina, and now I live in Florida and it is getting around the news what a pidhi has been doing and I honestly cannot believe it. But at the same time I can believe it with everything that's going on right now. I am showing that you colors and those cops I believe deserve to be held accountable. And so I hope your city council do the right thing and took them there. Define maybe, not necessarily that but you know, they need to pay back and give back to the community, especially after doing something like a game that they wasted so much and you know, Asheville supposed to be so environmentally friendly and hippy dippy and think about all those plastic bottles was just got thrown away completely unused and as someone who's a big environmentalist that kind of pissed me off. So, yeah, I really think something should be done about them. That is Jeff. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 5:00 PM	Opencomment



June 9, 2020 City Council Meeting
Voicemail Public Comments

Comment	CommentDate	Tags
<p>Hello, my name is Amanda Bush and I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2020-2021 budget in the wake of the police is killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and countless of black Americans before him I'm asking that the Asheville city council make a commitment to racial Justice by delaying the budget vote and using this time to find ways to redirect money away from the Asheville police departments over in a budget into the equity and inclusion Department the planning and Urban Design department and also into Community Management style resources that include resources for homelessness drug courts Mental Health Resources and similar social programs. Do not forget our poor and communities of color. Can I count on you to consider an alternate budget proposal that puts a priority on social programs?</p>	6/8/2020 5:00 PM	Budget
<p>Hi, my name is Catherine. I'm a resident of the city of Asheville and I'm putting my input about budgets the Marshall Police Department accounts for 22% of the city's budget, and we would like to not further increase that we demand that these funds be allocated to. black communities support black businesses start-up Workforce Development and programs to eliminate The opportunity Gap in Nashville schools and also to invest in a citizen oversight committee. I think that the using a forced the militarization of the Asheville Police Department the destruction of The medical tent during the protests this week is uncomfortable and quite a disgrace and I hope for the investments in health department and reinvestment into our community. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 5:00 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Francis rasa. I'm a resident of Asheville. I'd like to leave a comment about the proposed 2021 budget in consideration of the police murder of George Floyd historical violence against black people by police in this country and the commitment of the Minneapolis city council to disband their Police Department in order to deliver a community safety the alternative structures. I'd like to see at least fifty percent of the APT budget redirected towards Community programs and supporting uh, redressing the black wealth Gap in addressing racial justice issues in support of the demand set black cable demand. Org. I'd also like to call upon Vijay Kapoor to abstain from voting as he's going to be leaving us and I'd like to call upon marim a timer the police chief David Zack and the city manager offered to resign for their handling of the protest situation. It was Reckless and predictable that police would respond as they did when a curfew was put in place. It's Reckless to failed to confirm.How police are going to ask considering all the examples have shown us. So please resign mannheimer Chief sack and city manager. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 5:00 PM	Budget
<p>Hello, my name is Lauren Billings. I live in the city of Asheville. I'm calling with public comments. I am appalled at how the city of Asheville Police Department has addressed are a peaceful protests and I'm appalled that the police chief has outright lied about destroying a Mexican. I have not attended any protests. However, his handling of these events have made me feel unsafe. I know that he has not been in office very long yet his commentary and lack of apology has shown us that he is not fit to lead and he should resign.please support resigning having a police chief resign. Thank you.</p>	6/8/2020 5:00 PM	Opencomment