

Asheville City Council August 24, 2021 Email Comments

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Text

Citizens should not have to guess whether city leaders support the police department. We EXPECT a fully-staffed, well-trained, capable, and motivated police force that will enforce our laws and protect citizens and our property. If this is an invalid expectation, please clearly describe what expectation we should hold instead. At the July 27 City Council meeting, nearly a dozen people spoke to reduce funding support for APD. We have also heard these demands in the local media.

Do we need to be worried that the city no longer sees the protection of citizens and their property as an essential priority? Do we need to wonder which laws are deemed worthy of enforcement by a liberal city manager and elected officials?

We demand a strong and effective police force. If the city of Asheville is unable or unwilling to provide that essential service, you need to let us know.

If you intend to maintain a solid police force, please reveal your plan for addressing officer retention and training.

Please ensure that ARPA funds are appropriately used to address the effects of covid. Why is so much money being spent to support people who were homeless despite covid rather than those who suffered as a result of covid? What outreach does the city intend to make to landlords and small business owners to help them recover from the virus's business failures and expenses directly resulting from the virus?

Please govern WISELY.

Regards,

Jim Cowmia

South Asheville