From:	Alison Coluccio
To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	Don"t let listening and LEARN stall needed action
Date:	Monday, July 6, 2020 8:51:29 AM

I'm writing to thank our city council for the listening they have already done and now to urge a response to the abundant information that speaks loudly and clearly in our community. Please do not fall into the well-meaning trap of prolonged "listening" and committee meetings, when the call for action and change is urgent.

For reference, I would ask you to reflect on what kinds of change merits a listening period and what doesn't. Was there a listening phase and public comment period when Missoula Police partnered with Live PD? Is there a listening period or a committee of concerned citizens that reflects on every increase in the police's budget, that waits and weighs the potential consequences of each piece of weaponry or SWAT gear our police procures to deepen the militaristic divide between the populace they serve and themselves? That experiment in policing has been happening for years now, without public input, without "listening."

So it's time to hear what's been said loud and clear and not demand repeated rehashing from an already traumatized population. There are abundant examples of cities who have broken from the mold and taken action in support of their most vulnerable. Look at Eugene, Oregon's CAHOOTS program. Let's take practical, compassionate steps forward to bring about a change in the way Missoula conceives of public safety; let's begin now.

Thank you,
Alison Coluccio
Lower Rattlesnake