From:	Zak Clare-Salzler
To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	Missoula City Budget Comment
Date:	Thursday, July 23, 2020 10:17:03 AM

Good morning,

My name is Zak Clare-Salzler and I am a Missoula resident who resides in the Heart of Missoula neighborhood. I saw allocations of funds in the proposed city budget and I am appalled by the difference of allocated funds for police ($19M, $633,356 increase) versus housing and community development ($2.2M, $88,966 increase). I am a data analyst at Partnership Health Center and I work with the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council of Missoula County. I can say from my experience with both of these groups that Missoula will not benefit from a police budget that is nearly ***five times*** that of housing and community development. Police are neither trained nor equipped to support the vast social service, mental health, and substance use disorder needs of people in our community. Affordable housing and access to social services will have a far greater benefit to our community than further militarizing our police force.

This kind of budget disappoints me and only erodes my support of and trust in Mayor Engen and the City Council.

Zak Clare-Salzler
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