

Edwards,Michelle

From: T.J. Hellmann <tjhellmann@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:56 AM
To: Edwards,Michelle
Subject: *Ext!* Public comment for 6/11/20 city council meeting

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- Helpdesk

Members of the City Council,

Our country has had a mirror held in its face by the protests and demonstrations across the country and the world. In that reflection we see 400 years of terror and trauma inflicted upon Black people in this county. The voices of this nation, in this state, and in this county are rising up our voices to say enough. We are at a national crossroads and it's time to take a different way forward.

City Councils across the country are meeting just like you are tonight and using the power that you have to be part of that change. How will you use your power to help bring equity to our city? How will you step up in this moment to lead us towards justice? We're looking for concrete actions, investments, and policy changes.

How will you invest the Public Safety Local Income Tax money towards healing, recovery, and a way out of poverty and addiction for people in our city? We must reimagine what public safety and policing looks like in this city and invest in mental health, in addiction recovery, in restorative justice.

Black lives matter and it's beyond time that we have city policies, budgets, and leaders that reflect that fact.

T.J. Hellmann
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